



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News index](#)

UniSA News

A newspaper of the University of South Australia

March 2002 issue

Extras (additional online stories plus cross word puzzle solutions)

Regular sections

- [From the Vice Chancellor](#)
- [News in brief](#)
- [Five to nine](#)
- [Browserbriefs](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Classifieds](#)

Main stories

Smart planning right in the palm of your hand

When the 1700 visitors to one of the world's biggest IT forums converged on Adelaide, retailers and hoteliers were set to have them literally in the palms of their hands. [full story](#)



Baby project a booming success

You don't have to be a student to benefit from UniSA's midwifery program – just ask nine-month-old Connor McCarl. [full story](#)



Gene therapy breakthrough

Researchers at UniSA's Ian Wark Research Institute have made an important discovery for use in gene therapy that has the potential to improve access to diseased cells.

[full story](#)

Peace, prosperity and democracy

With many South Australians still inspired by President Clinton's recent visit to the state, UniSA PhD researcher Daniel Baldino is completing the last stages of a thesis that will more than likely conclude Clinton was one of the most innovative leaders of the post-Cold War period. [full story](#)



Unravelling the mysteries of the mind

Zorica Nedic has a lot on her mind. Figuring out just how the mind works is at the core of her PhD research into artificial intelligence – a project that is at once stimulating and exciting but also complex and mysterious. [full story](#)



Other stories

[Fringe forum champions a green economy](#)

It may not be easy being green, but if the will is there, it is possible. That was the consensus of the panel that spoke at the Famous Spiegeltent on February 24 as part of a forum addressing the question, Do green technologies offer a future for South Australia?

[UniSANews responds to readers' survey](#)

The review of UniSANews carried out in 2001 has now been finalised.

[Brainstorming the future of manufacturing](#)

It has been a long held view that technological progress is an autonomous and benevolent force along the lines of 'science discovers, technology applies, society adapts, humanity benefits', with research and development viewed as a matter for scientific and engineering insiders alone.

[The price of life](#)

First year art student Akira Tamura has just sold his life for \$1,500 – and he couldn't be happier.

[New policy for a safer workplace](#)

Workplace accidents and injuries have the potential to cost the University millions of dollars in lost time, litigation and extra insurance premiums, but aside from financial reasons, it is in each person's interests to work in a safe and healthy environment.

[Easter - there is more to safer driving than just sticking to the limit](#)

It seems these days we are keen to exploit certain commercial opportunities earlier and earlier.

[Forget growing old gracefully](#)

[Cultivating a new era in farming](#)

Australia leads the world with a new generation of farming practices that use sound waves to control the depth of seed in the soil, laser beams to level the land, and satellites for automated control of equipment.

[Our people - Rosemary McKay](#)

Learn how to grow old with a smile on your face and a skip in your step.
Be a part of UniSA's free Successful Ageing Seminar program in 2002.

[BillBoard](#)

[Academic Board](#)

[Research update](#)

April 2002 issue of UniSANEWS

Closing date: 25 March 2002

Distribution: 15 April 2002

Copy should be sent via email
to unisa.news@unisa.edu.au

Copy should be sent by email to unisa.news@unisa.edu.au

or disk to UniSANEWS, Marketing and Development Unit, City West.

Include all related files, such as pictures, non-standard fonts (screen and printer), logos, other graphics.

Editor:

[Charlotte Knottenbelt](#), ph (08) 8302 0578

Research and Events columns editor

[Karen Williams](#)

Design:

Visual Communications Consultancy

South Australian School of Art

Desktop publishing:

[Karen Williams](#)

Advertising:

External organisations wishing to advertise in UniSANEWS may contact KRL Media Services
ph (08) 8231 5433.

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

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

UniSA News

A newspaper of the University of South Australia

March 2002 Issue

Extras

[Procter awarded for transcultural mental health project](#)

Associate Professor Nicholas Procter from the School of Nursing and Midwifery has been acknowledged for his role in leading the project Community Education in Transcultural Mental Health, with a Chancellor's Award for Community Service.



[Family owned in a globalised environment](#)

How do Australian family-owned businesses respond to the pressures of globalisation? Do they sell out to larger companies that have a stronger strategic position, compete offshore or take a niche position in the value chain?

[Ethics a competitive advantage for business](#)

A commitment to ethical behaviour can actually be a competitive advantage for Australian businesses, claims Howard Harris from the School of Advanced Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering. Gone are the days when business decisions were thought to have no moral content and there were few constraints on the single-minded pursuit of profits.

[Crossword Puzzle Solution](#)

▲ [Back to top](#)

[For staff](#)[For the media](#)[For alumni](#)[For potential donors](#)[For prospective international students](#)[> Publications > UniSA News March 2002](#)

From the Vice Chancellor



Staff and students have begun experiencing the outcomes of substantial progress made on the University's student-centred learning environment and e-learning environment.

Campus Central and Learning Connection, established in 2000 as 'one stop shops' for administrative and personal student support services have been very successful.

Now the University's new student and academic information system, Medici has had its first test. Medici has been developed to allow substantial improvements in administrative processes and service provision to all students.

For the first time this year, students were able to enrol directly onto the Medici database from any web-enabled computer. Computers could be found outside Campus Central Offices throughout early February with 'Enrolment Buddies' in blue T-shirts assisting hundreds of students with their inaugural online enrolment experience. The new student and academic information system will also enable students to enroll directly into lectures, tutorials and practicals at the class level and to print their personal timetables. Seventy percent of continuing and 40 percent of commencing students took the opportunity to enrol off campus. While implementation of this new system was not without its hiccups, overall it was successful. Formal evaluation of the implementation will now occur to allow us to improve performance next time.

The Flexible Learning Centre (FLC) continues the move towards placing student services online. There are now 26 interactive study support workshops and 25 learning guides available to support students around the clock. Students will receive Get Connected again this year, a CD-ROM that enables Internet access, downloadable study resources, the full range of Learning Connection student support, a range of web-browsers and other software to ensure a smooth transition to the online environment.

In addition, FLC have developed a range of online tools for assignment submission, course evaluation, and for staff and student surveys. The Information Technology Services Unit and FLC have redeveloped LookUp to provide a personalised and customisable student portal.

University-designed software, named transcript2, has been trialled in pilot projects in each Division. The software enables students to record their study, personal and work achievements against the University's seven graduate qualities. This year students will be able to link their transcript2 records with Experiencebank.

The University's new online careers centre, Experiencebank, went live in early January this year. Located at www.unisa.edu.au/experiencebank, it is a unique online career community where staff, students, recent graduates and employers can use the site to:

- participate in virtual careers fairs
- search for potential employers
- place and access resumes and portfolios incorporating transcript 2 records
- place job advertisements
- profile their business
- email students and employers directly

Much has been accomplished and there are further challenges ahead in the development of the University's online and e-learning environment. It is an exciting period of evolution in an environment of constant change.

[Professor Denise Bradley AO](#)

Vice Chancellor and President

[▲ Back to top](#)

[For staff](#)[For the media](#)[For alumni](#)[For potential donors](#)[For prospective international students](#)[> Publications > UniSA News March 2002](#)

News in brief

New international alliance to broaden access to research libraries

Providing equitable access to scholarly publications is one of the main aims of a new alliance formed by eight research library organisations, including the Council of Australian University Librarians, of which UniSA is a member.

The International Scholarly Communications Alliance (ISCA) represents more than 600 research libraries worldwide, and plans to create policies to ensure open and affordable access to scholarship across national boundaries.

ISCA's stated aims include supporting the creation of alternatives to scientific journal publishing and the establishment of publicly accessible archives.

Members of ISCA include the Association of Japanese University Libraries; the Association of Research Libraries; the Canadian Association of Research Libraries; the Consortium of University Research Libraries (UK); the Council of New Zealand Librarians; the Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche; and the Joint University Librarians Advisory Committee (China).

Collaborative agreement brokered in Bangladesh

A new collaborative agreement reached between UniSA and the American International University Bangladesh (AIUB) will open up study abroad opportunities for students from both institutions.

Professor Andrew Nafalski, head of the School of Electrical and Information Engineering, visited Bangladesh last month, where he delivered a General International Agreement (signed earlier by Research and International Pro Vice Chancellor Ian Davey) to be signed by AIUB Vice Chancellor Carmen Lamagna.

The agreement, negotiated by UniSA's Dr Mahfuz Aziz, will allow AIUB engineering graduates to gain entry to UniSA postgraduate programs. UniSA undergraduates in computer engineering, computer science electronics, communications engineering and business administration will also be able to gain credit to study at AIUB.

UniSA artists scoop Helpmann awards

Two UniSA graduates swept the prize pool at the opening of the 2002 Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition on February 28.

Julie Kovatseff won the City of Adelaide Award, while Tracy Cornish took the Hill Smith Fine Art/Malaysia Airlines Travel Award. Both artists are South Australian School of Art honours graduates.

Kovatseff was chosen unanimously by the selection panel for her mixed media installation Untitled 3, and received \$3,000 to hold a solo exhibition.

Cornish's winning installation was a light display exploring the differences between analogue and digital photography. She plans to spend the \$3,500 prize to take up a seasonal school or residency in Paris.



Award-winning artists Julie Kovatseff and Tracy Cornish at the opening of the Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition

Both installations can be seen at the Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition on the second floor of the Miller Anderson Building, 12 Hindley Street, until March 17.

Staff celebration

A University-wide celebration will be held on July 1 for staff who have a service period of 25 years.

The celebration will be a continuation of a service award program introduced last year. "We want to continue to acknowledge those staff members who have been employed by

the University and its antecedent institutions for 10 years or more," said Vice Chancellor, Professor Denise Bradley.

"Award ceremonies and celebrations will be organised and held at the Division and Portfolio level during the year for staff who have been employed by UniSA and its antecedent institutions for 10 years."

"The events will be a formal recognition of the continuous effort and commitment of our staff and will enable us to pass on the University's thanks for their work over many years," Prof Bradley said.

Information about the awards and eligibility will be distributed to staff in the near future.

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Five to Nine

Hare raising event sparks devotion to wildlife



Denise with her adopted possum, Syd

Exactly 12 months ago Dr Denise Wood was in the national spotlight when she spent more than 48 hours trapped at the bottom of a mineshaft on her Strathalbyn property. Five to Nine recently met with Dr Wood to discover how she combines her role as a lecturer in Professional Development for the Flexible Learning Centre with her passion for rescuing native animals.

For Denise, the most traumatic part of her nightmare ordeal was worrying about how Holly, her paralysed pet ringtail possum, would survive without her.

"I had reared Holly from the time she was a baby," Denise said.

"Her mother was killed by a car and Holly had a broken back. I took Holly with me everywhere. She became a celebrity at work where I kept her in my crocheted handbag.

"I think Holly was even officially minuted as being present at some of our meetings."

Denise's involvement with native animals began by chance.

"I was living at Golden Grove at the time and I was taking my dogs for a walk," she said.

"We were hit by a wild summer storm. A tiny, totally drenched bunny appeared from nowhere and seemed to adopt my German shepherd. I tried to keep the bunny from my dogs but she was not to be put off.

"Reluctantly, I put her in my top pocket and took her home. Next day, she was extremely chirpy as she settled into her new home.

"I purchased a hutch and a visit to the vet revealed that the 'bunny' was in fact a new born hare."

Denise fell in love with the hare and her passion for rescuing native animals had begun.

A planned move to Strathalbyn followed soon after. Unfortunately, the hare could not adjust to the new surroundings and died within days. With a large enclosure built for a hare, Denise pursued her new found passion.

"I rang local vets to let them know that I was interested in caring for a hare if they came across one," Denise said.

"The floodgates opened as I soon became the guardian of mostly orphan possums, geese, kangaroos, potoroos and sugar gliders. I now have a colony of six hares. I became known as 'the hare lady of Adelaide'.

"I have built aviaries around the perimeter of my property to accommodate all the animals."

Denise currently has more than 50 animals on her property and spends more than three hours a day feeding and caring for them. Local shops help Denise by keeping spoilt fruit for the animals and a vet from a neighbouring area does not charge her for treating the native animals. The local community worked out a roster to feed the animals while Denise was in hospital recovering from her mineshaft ordeal.

Denise still manages to find time to breed alpacas. She finds them delightful, curious creatures that bond well with the other animals.

That chance meeting with the baby hare has transformed Denise's life.

"Caring for the native animals has become a way of life for me," she said.

"I love the involvement. It also gives me plenty of exercise and fresh air."

Denise is yet to put the 'full house' sign up on her property and is unlikely to do so.

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

[▲ Back to top](#)

For queries relating to links contact: [UniSA Webmaster](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) (c) 2000 | Latest content revision: October, 2002

[For staff](#)[For the media](#)[For alumni](#)[For potential donors](#)[For prospective international students](#)[> Publications > UniSA News March 2002](#)

Browser Briefs

One for the girls

This site will be of great interest to at least half of the population. Covering topics from career resources to plastic surgery to pregnancy to recipes for feel-good food, this site just about covers it all. While it is true that you cannot believe everything you read, many of the library articles on this site are from legitimate sources, such as plastic surgeons and some links to universities, as well as first person articles on individual members' life experiences. Categories include entertainment, career, food and leisure, face and body, bridal, relationships, pregnancy and baby, shopping, and library. So whether you are searching for articles about job seeking or makeup tips or how to cope with your pregnancy, you'll find something here. As par for the course, there is a strong commercial presence (ie. flashing ads), but if you do a bit of digging, you are likely to find something which meets your need. Check it out.

www.thelounge.com.au

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Classifieds

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

For rent

Beautiful fully furnished four bedroom two and a half bathroom home. Situated amongst the tree tops in Crafers with resident koala. Available April-June 2002. Suit visiting academics. Phone (08) 8339 8318

For sale

Ladies bike, Ricardo 12 speed, blue \$50

Portable drawing board approx 600 x 850 mm (A2) with T-Square \$50

For either of the above items, phone Stewart on 8302 3048 or after hours on 8261 4630

EH Holden Special, 1964, hydromatic, original A1 condition, must see to believe, Reg: 122 903. \$9000 negotiable. Phone Joe on 0419 840 582

Services

Uni-formed Signs, based at City East Campus, can supply you with all your signage needs. We can create anything from car stickers to corporate signs, designed to your needs. Contact Ben or Victoria on 8302 1538 or email victoria.berekmeri@unisa.edu.au

Wanted

Office desk suitable for computer. Contact Adam on (08) 8302 0513 or email adam.barclay@unisa.edu.au

▲ [Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Smart planning right in the palm of your hand

by [Michèle Nardelli](#)



IT innovation: Todd Simcock (left) and Stephen Hillenbrand celebrate the realisation of their research
Photo: Sam Noonan

When the 1700 visitors to one of the world's biggest IT forums converged on Adelaide, retailers and hoteliers were set to have them literally in the palms of their hands.

An innovative software program developed by two UniSA IT (software engineering) honours students and applied by telecommunications giant Motorola, ensured delegates to the World Congress on IT had an interactive palm-sized guide to Adelaide at their fingertips.

The 2001 graduates Stephen Hillenbrand and Todd Simcock say there is a strong sense of satisfaction in seeing their work applied and being used in the real world in such a short time frame.

"Our aim was to develop a framework that would be really easy to use and adapt to different locations for people who don't have a real background in IT," Hillenbrand said.

"Our prototype included a tourist guide to Mawson Lakes and UniSA's campus and another application for North Terrace in Adelaide. The way the software works would make it quite possible for a graphic designer to insert maps and tourist information for any city in the world," Simcock, now with RLM Systems, said.

The electronic tourist guidebook, which works with software extensions to the regular handheld personal digital assistant (PDA), is a walking guide to food, wine, art galleries, museums and retail outlets.

Two key aspects of the guidebook include its global positioning system, which relies on satellite interface and its link to a futuristic wireless network being built in Adelaide by local consortium, mNet.

About 100 of the guidebooks were sold at a special conference price of about \$1200 and Motorola made demonstration models available for visitors to trial while they were in Adelaide.

UniSA researcher in Computer and Information Science, [Dr Bruce Thomas](#), says this is really the first stage in the development of smart technologies that have the potential to move beyond the tourism market and into the everyday lives of workers worldwide.

"This application meant that people attending the conference had access to the internet through their PDA within the area that was 'wired' which included the Adelaide Convention Centre precinct taking in the Radisson Hotel, the Hyatt International, the Wine Centre and the museum," Dr Thomas said.

"Beyond that field which is the first stage of the mNet communications network planned for the Adelaide CBD, the GPS connected guidebooks will allow people to take a stroll down North Terrace and track where they are, which local restaurants or retail outlets are nearby, where they can catch a movie, what is on display at the gallery or museum and a host of other information matched to their location.

"The next phase of this research is to enhance the GPS mode so that it is interactive with a person's own scheduled diary information. This will give your PDA the 'smarts' to cross-reference information, so that if you are in the city and have a meeting scheduled for 11.30 at Mawson Lakes, instead of notifying you 15 minutes before the meeting time, it will assess how long it will take to drive there and let you know 45 minutes beforehand that you have to leave.

"You will be able to ask it to remind you when you are near a post office so that you can get stamps or pay bills. And when it comes to choosing a restaurant you will be

able to key in that you want to eat lunch, at such and such a price range and the food you feel like is Italian and the organiser will find the nearest restaurant that fills those criteria."

Dr Thomas said research into personalised, intelligent computer software and communications technologies was reaching a crest, with developments set to come thick and fast in the next five years.

"It is highly likely that many of the innovations made in IT and information systems and software development will be based on university research and quite possibly research done here at UniSA."

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

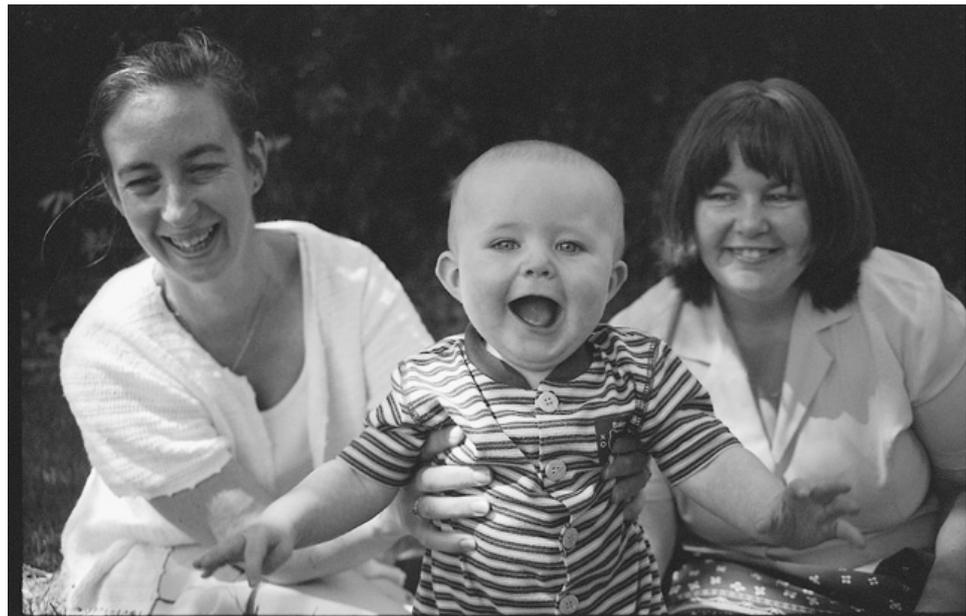
[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Baby project a booming success

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)



No more baby blues: Connor McCarl with his mum, Sarah (right), and midwifery graduate Kris Davenport

You don't have to be a student to benefit from UniSA's midwifery program – just ask nine-month-old Connor McCarl.

The baby's involvement with UniSA stretches back to when he was in the womb early last year and his parents decided to take part in a unique learning project being trialled by senior midwifery lecturer [Heather Hancock](#).

The Continuity Midwifery Project offered expecting parents the opportunity to be matched up to a midwifery student who provided support for the duration of the pregnancy, at the birth, and at follow-up visits in the months after delivery.

Hancock said last year's trial program was so well received by the students and the parents involved that it would be incorporated into the curriculum of the new Bachelor of Midwifery degree this year, and extended to soon-to-be parents living anywhere in South Australia.

"The project is the first of its kind in Australia," she said. "It has been such a success that we are hoping that all UniSA midwifery students will be able to have continuity experiences as part of their education program."

First-time parents Sarah and Paul McCarl were matched up to Kris Davenport, who with the support of Hancock, saw them regularly throughout this important time. The McCarl's say the program exceeded all expectations.

"We feel very fortunate to have been a part of the program," said Sarah. "The level of care was very high. When I saw the hospital midwives it was usually a 10 to 15 minute appointment, but with Kris and Heather if I was out in an hour it was a quick appointment. I've already said I want Kris to be there for my next pregnancy!"

"They wanted our input, and asked us how we felt. They were there for us and it was great."

Sarah is allergic to latex, and said having Kris and Heather at Connor's birth was a relief.

"They arrived at the hospital at the same time as me and were there the whole time, which ordinarily would have been three midwives' shifts. I didn't have to keep explaining that I was allergic to latex ... Kris and Heather had collected a big box full of alternatives for everything that could possibly be required. We called them our latex police!"

As one of two midwifery students involved in the program (the other was Donna Gullickson), Kris provided support to four sets of parents.

"It's an excellent way to learn," said the mother of five. "It let me put all the things I learnt in books into practice, and because Heather was there all the time, I got to ask her questions as they arose."

Hancock acknowledged the support of the Women's and Babies' Division at the Flinders Medical Centre, where the project was conducted, the strong commitment of students Donna and Kris, and the enthusiasm of the couples involved, as contributing to its success.

Expecting parents who are interested in continuity by being matched up to a midwifery student should phone [Heather Hancock](#) at the School of Nursing and Midwifery on 8302 6494.

[For staff](#)[For the media](#)[For alumni](#)[For potential donors](#)[For prospective international students](#)[> Publications > UniSA News March 2002](#)

Gene therapy breakthrough

by [Geraldine Hinter](#)

Researchers at UniSA's Ian Wark Research Institute have made an important discovery for use in gene therapy that has the potential to improve access to diseased cells.

Gene therapy targets diseases in the human body through the introduction of genetic material, known as DNA, into the nucleus of diseased cells to repair or replace defective genes that cause major illnesses such as cancer and cystic fibrosis.

However the uptake of DNA by the cells is difficult and inefficient without a carrier. Because viruses have a structure that is specially designed to get into cells, they are the most widely used method of carrying DNA into diseased cells, according to Minh-Uyen Trinh, a PhD student at the Ian Wark Research Institute.

"But viruses can present some problems – they may revert back to their active form, some are potentially carcinogenic and may cause immunological responses in some patients, and their DNA carrying ability is limited," she said.

Trinh has made some important discoveries using lipids to replace viruses as carriers of the DNA into cells. A lipid is a special type of molecule that helps to transport the DNA inside the cell to the nucleus where the DNA is released. By studying the interaction between DNA and a special type of synthetic lipid developed by the CSIRO, Trinh discovered that the lipid-DNA complex, when mixed with salt, which is found in significant quantities in the body, formed particles that were too large to pass through the cell membrane.

In addressing this problem, Trinh's research uncovered a special compound that stabilises the lipid-DNA complex in salt, while maintaining small, dense particles that can penetrate the cells.

"This important discovery could lead to cures for diseases such as cancer, with doctors using the lipid-DNA complex to transfer good DNA through the patient's blood across

the cell membrane and into the nucleus of the diseased cells where regeneration of healthy cells could take place," director of the IWRI, [Professor John Ralston](#), said.

Trinh was awarded an Australian Postgraduate Award Industry (APAI) scholarship to conduct the research under the supervision of [Associate Professor Daniel Fornasiero](#) and [Professor Ralston](#). Financial and in kind support was received from F H Faulding and Co Ltd.

Now the Ian Wark Research Institute is keen to secure further research funding for laboratory trials that could lead to the implementation of this potentially life-saving technology and make a huge impact on the health of our nation.

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Peace, prosperity and democracy - Clinton's quest

by [Michèle Nardelli](#)



Innovative leader: Bill Clinton, during his recent visit to Adelaide

With many South Australians still inspired by President Clinton's recent visit to the state, UniSA PhD researcher Daniel Baldino is completing the last stages of a thesis that will more than likely conclude Clinton was one of the most innovative leaders of the post-Cold War period.

The first Democrat president in more than 60 years to be awarded a second term by the American electorate and leader during the longest period of economic expansion in US history, Bill Clinton was the keynote speaker at the World Congress on Information Technology 2002 held in Adelaide this month. Baldino says Clinton's vision for the US included positive benefits globally in a post-Cold War period fraught with the potential for conflict and destabilisation.

"Clinton's foreign policy was drawn on a clear understanding of global shifts from authoritarian regimes and was directed towards supporting fragile democratic systems that were evolving in the post-Cold War environment. His vision was one in which domestic policy and foreign policy were inextricably linked. Supporting new democracies was not an idealistic crusade but intended to advance US interests and create a more peaceful world"

"It was a sophisticated strategy based, in part, on banishing the poverty and disenfranchisement that sustains terrorism and it was a strategy which even post-September 11 many are still arguing should be strengthened rather than dismantled.

"My research shows Clinton had a clear agenda – three pillars of action that included promoting democracy abroad, updating US security arrangements and increasing the US economic competitiveness. The research also shows that despite suggestions from his detractors that his policies were 'naïve', his grand design to advance democracies was both pragmatic and sensible."

Baldino says Clinton was a strong advocate for the theory that democracies were a central mechanism for conflict resolution and sustainable development. He attempted to sustain the momentum of historic movements towards freedom, arguing that nurturing democracies resulted in a much safer and prosperous world.

Winner of a prestigious research internship with the Congressional Research Service in Washington DC, Baldino spent three months working in the US in 2000 posted to the Foreign Affairs, Defense and Trade Division at the Library of Congress. He wrote a special report on Australia's domestic developments and relations with the US for the US Congress while he was there which the Library of Congress published. Baldino is completing his PhD thesis in International Studies, which examines US foreign policy under President Clinton's administration and the promotion of democracy assistance as a central US strategic goal.

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Unravelling the mysteries of the mind

by [Michèle Nardelli](#)



Sparking enthusiasm: Zorica Nedic believes the best educators are those who want to learn
Photo: Sam Noonan

Zorica Nedic has a lot on her mind. Figuring out just how the mind works is at the core of her PhD research into artificial intelligence – a project that is at once stimulating and exciting but also complex and mysterious.

Before joining UniSA's School of Electrical and Information Engineering, Zorica worked in industry for six years, first as a graduate and then as a research and development engineer in automation and industrial processes with the company, Institut Mihajlo Pupin in Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

"My work there involved the design and development of real-time systems for various applications including the development of modern, microprocessor based measurement and control equipment for mining, defence and food industry as well as for medical and trading buildings," she said.

"The experience I gained in industry is so important to my teaching practice now.

"It has given me the confidence and the experience to be able to point out to my students that young engineers with a strong theoretical background who can put their knowledge into practice, progress through their career much faster than others who do

not take the full advantage of their undergraduate studies."

Now in the final stages of her PhD, Zorica says her research work in artificial intelligence is taking her to the frontiers of engineering science.

"From what I know of the scientific and technological developments that have taken place in just the past 10 years I can see that our graduate engineers will be taking part in some of the most exciting technological developments.

"As educators we need to equip them with as much knowledge and skill as possible. And to be able to do that well we must realise that technological changes and today's electronic environment significantly affect the way new generations of students learn, think and communicate.

Keeping up with that means we constantly need to explore the most effective teaching methods. So while we are teachers we are also students."

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Fringe forum champions a green economy for SA



Green future: UniSA's Richard Blandy talks up the economic benefits of environmental responsibility

It may not be easy being green, but if the will is there, it is possible. That was the consensus of the panel that spoke at the Famous Spiegeltent on February 24 as part of a forum addressing the question, *Do green technologies offer a future for South Australia?*

Presented by UniSA's Hawke Centre and Imprints Booksellers as part of the Salon des Intellectuels series, the forum began with chair of UniSA's Centre of Applied Economics [Professor Richard Blandy](#), who espoused the need for governments to adapt regulations to allow green industries to flourish.

Using the example of Finland – a population of five million that is reaping the benefits of early government support for the development of mobile phone technology – Blandy argued that legislation encouraging the development of environmental technology would allow technology to develop in SA that could be sold to the world.

Vice president of the Nature Foundation, Barbara Hardy, spoke next about the prohibitive cost of installing solar power, urging utility companies to bulk buy solar hot water heaters and lease them on to customers. Lecturer in gastronomy at the University of Adelaide, Barbara Santich, said that while demand for organic food was growing worldwide, its high cost prevented it from competing with mainstream-food production methods.

Santich said minimum-till farming and value adding were more realistic ways to improve South Australia's environmental and economic credentials in the area of food production.

A convincing argument that environmental sustainability and economic growth are not mutually exclusive came from Euan Cameron, managing director of Wind Prospect, one of the UK's leading independent developers of wind power. Cameron, who worked in the oil and gas industry before turning to renewable energy, said that wind power was becoming viable thanks to a "kick start" in the form of non-fossil fuel obligation standards introduced in the UK.

"I believe wind power to be a good business, and my aim is that it become a mainstream business ... it has to be up there with gas and uranium," he said.

With Cameron in South Australia to contribute to major wind turbine projects being developed in the South East and the Eyre Peninsula, and 1000 turbines already producing energy in the UK, it seems wind power may soon outgrow its 'alternative' energy tag.

Finally, [Professor Jennifer McKay](#), director of the Water Law and Policy Group at UniSA, spoke about sustainable water policy and made a call for our leaders to encourage urban and rural Australia to work together to find solutions.

"We have to get some leadership to get the urban and the rural community to reach some understanding of what sustainability means," she said.

"Our Federal and State Governments need to take a long term approach to this issue to safeguard our soil and water future."

[For staff](#)[For the media](#)[For alumni](#)[For potential donors](#)[For prospective international students](#)[> Publications > UniSA News March 2002](#)

UniSANews responds to reader' survey

by [Gerry Clarke](#)

The review of UniSANews carried out in 2001 has now been finalised. As part of the review more than 500 readers completed a survey questionnaire letting us know what they like or would like to change about UniSANews. Focus groups were also conducted with groups of readers.

The overwhelming message from our readers was that they want UniSANews to remain a hard copy publication. This will certainly be the case, with UniSANews also being available online for those who wish to access it that way.

There was strong reader support for the editorial direction, look and content of UniSANews. Some of the major changes that have resulted from reader feedback are:

- the introduction of a feature page in each issue of UniSANews to showcase the work and achievements of schools and units across the University. The first feature page appears on page five of this issue.
- greater engagement with, and involvement of, staff will be encouraged – our back page will have a strong people focus with Our People, Five to nine and Bill Board bringing you different perspectives on UniSA life and also giving you the chance to contribute to UniSANews
- a publication directed at students – Students@UniSA – will be introduced in April. The publication will be an insert to UniSANews and will also be distributed direct to students. Students@UniSA will be produced three times a year.

We would like to thank readers who completed the survey or who took part in a focus group and trust that the changes introduced will provide you with an improved coverage of UniSA news, information, people and events.

▲ [Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Brainstorming the future of manufacturing

by [Thel Krollig](#)



Vice Chancellor Denise Bradley with Rob Lucas and Grier Lin at the inaugural International Manufacturing Leaders Forum

It has been a long held view that technological progress is an autonomous and benevolent force along the lines of 'science discovers, technology applies, society adapts, humanity benefits*', with research and development viewed as a matter for scientific and engineering insiders alone.

It is against this background that some of the world's leading manufacturing academics and business people came together to challenge the practices of the manufacturing industry in the current global economy, aiming instead for a way of doing business that is consistent with an inclusive and socially aware society.

In today's competitive global market, with world markets changing at an ever-faster pace, the manufacturing industry is under pressure to move towards efficient, intelligent and flexible systems. For most companies, it is one of the utmost necessities to survive and thrive in today's global environment. This, coupled with the need to adapt quickly to the changes in consumers' demands, and their desire for services at a lower cost, drives companies to seek new and innovative solutions for success in the 21st century.

Australian manufacturing academic, UniSA's [Professor Grier Lin](#), says the way forward for the manufacturing industry is to embrace the challenges and issues inherent in manufacturing by building stronger partnerships with researchers who can develop improved outcomes both economically and environmentally.

In a keynote lecture, *Leadership in the Technological Age*, at the Inaugural International Manufacturing Leaders Forum 2002 held in Adelaide last month, Professor Lin highlighted the need to fast-track the relationship between the manufacturing industry and academic institutions to maximise problem solving and best practice.

"The collaborative research involving both industry and research institutions on intelligent manufacturing must be conducted with full vigour to help industries attain excellence, thereby enhancing the economic and social wellbeing of the people, and the health of the environment," Prof Lin said.

"Today manufacturing leaders worldwide need to provide leadership at all levels. They can not afford to underestimate the vital role they play in determining the future quality of our lives, our businesses, our organisation, our environment and our society," Professor Lin said.

"The domain of leaders is the future and their unique legacy is the creation of valued institutions that survive over time. Leaders of the future will be the ones who create a culture centred upon principle. Creating such a culture will be a tremendous and exciting challenge in this new century and will be achieved by leaders who have vision, courage and the humility to constantly learn and grow."

With these sentiments setting the tone, the key feature of the forum was a series of "think tanks" that addressed some of the key issues facing the manufacturing industry.

Future of international collaboration, e-manufacturing/e-business and green manufacturing, provided the subjects for the three brainstorming sessions.

Professor Chris Cook from the University of Wollongong led the think tank on the future of international collaboration (industry and academic institutions). His group looked at future actions required by individuals, institutions and governments if international collaborations are to be developed and sustained sufficiently to make a significant contribution to Australian industry.

Professor Hartmut Kaebnick from the University of New South Wales led the session on green manufacturing, examining the current status of green manufacturing research

and what still remains to be done.

Professor Jay Lee from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee led the think tank on e-manufacturing and e-business. This group examined the way companies develop new products, process as a result of changing global economic structures and the emergence of e-business.

The IMLF 2002 was sponsored by UniSA, Dynek Pty Ltd, the Centre for Innovation, Business and Manufacturing, the Cooperative Research Centre for Intelligent Manufacturing Systems and Technologies and the University of New South Wales.

** Michael Green, Australian National University*

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

The price of a life



Prize entry: Akira Tamura, winner of the Library Annual Art Purchase Prize

First year art student Akira Tamura has just sold his life for \$1,500 – and he couldn't be happier.

The 21-year-old has been announced as the winner of the 2001 Library Annual Art Purchase Prize, which was awarded for his oil painting entitled Life. It is Akira's first real sale, and the achievement is all the more sweet considering he only took up art when he moved to Australia from Japan three years ago.

"The painting is like a chronology of my life over the past five years," he said.

"I chose colours like black, red and blue to represent some of the hard times, but then layered it with green and then yellow, which are colours more in tune with how I have been feeling since I decided to follow my passion for art."

After completing year 12 Akira began a social work degree, but after a semester decided he would be happier studying visual arts.

"I felt my life was being threatened by not pursuing my dream of becoming an artist."

It seems the decision to switch to visual arts was the right one for Akira, who has sold a

painting and regained a sense of purpose.

"It was good to win the prize not only because my art work was recognised, but because the art was about my life, so I now feel a huge relief about my life."

Life is now on display on the fifth floor of the City West Library. The second prize in the Library Annual Art Purchase Prize went to Christian Lock's sculpture, *Magic Carpet Ride* (on display at Underdale) and the People's Choice Award went to David Washington for his painting *Babylonia*, now on display at City West

[▲ Back to top](#)

[For staff](#)[For the media](#)[For alumni](#)[For potential donors](#)[For prospective international students](#)[> Publications > UniSA News March 2002](#)

New policy for a safer workplace

Workplace accidents and injuries have the potential to cost the University millions of dollars in lost time, litigation and extra insurance premiums, but aside from financial reasons, it is in each person's interests to work in a safe and healthy environment.

UniSA has instituted a major review of occupational health and safety, which includes a new *Policy on Occupational Health, Safety, Welfare and Injury Management*.

Senior OHSW&IM consultant [Greg Thompson](#) says one of the major changes from previous policy is new procedures for managing hazards and reporting injuries.

"We have revised the incident report form and the injury management system to try to ensure that the hazards causing injuries are addressed," he said.

Other changes include new procedures to assist managers, supervisors and staff to meet their responsibilities, an updated website, and extra training for staff to identify hazards in the workplace.

The review follows a voluntary WorkCover gap analysis conducted last year that identified some weaknesses in the University's OHSW&IM system.

WorkCover will conduct an audit of the University's OHSW&IM this year, and failure to improve standards could result in the University losing its self-insured status – and a hefty insurance levy.

All staff members will be expected to be able to tell the auditor what their responsibilities are. If you are in any doubt of your responsibilities, ask your line manager or visit the new website at www.unisa.edu.au/hrm/occ_he.htm.

"We're looking for a change in culture, a change in behaviour," said Thompson.

"People have a right to report a hazard or an incident, and they need to be encouraged to do so. Without their input we have no way of knowing what the hazard is and failure to report incidents may result in more injuries down the track."

For further information contact the OHSW Services team on 8302 1635.

[▲ Back to top](#)

For queries relating to links contact: [UniSA Webmaster](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright \(c\) 2000](#) | Latest content revision: October, 2002

[For staff](#)[For the media](#)[For alumni](#)[For potential donors](#)[For prospective international students](#)[> Publications > UniSA News March 2002](#)

Easter - there is more to safe driving than just sticking to the speed limits

by Dr Jeremy Woolley

It seems these days we are keen to exploit certain commercial opportunities earlier and earlier.

We have been cheekily reminded of the upcoming Easter period with the presence of hot cross buns and Easter eggs in some shops as early as January! Yet there is one aspect to the holiday period where the community incurs a large cost and burden.

The arrival of the Easter holiday period also heralds a familiar round of police blitzes on our roads and an increased emphasis on road safety. A look at crash data since 1988 shows that on average, one extra life is lost during holiday weekends. It is unfortunate that the media wishes to report on road safety in terms of a yearly "death toll" comparison because this provides a narrow view of the problem and is not a good benchmark for people to understand the big picture.

For every fatality on our roads there are many more people injured and also considerably more property damaged. These all impose a high cost to the community and to counter this, governments spend millions of dollars on enforcement and information in an attempt to reduce crash numbers and ultimately bring about a desired behavioural change.

But the battle is complex and difficult.

At the root of the problem is the fact that virtually all of us drive or have a lifetime exposure to driving. This in a sense makes us all experts. And why not? We all drive every day; we make the occasional mistake and live to tell the tale almost every time. The fact is that serious road crashes in an individual sense are rare events and we are more likely to make errors and take risks and get away with them than be involved in a crash. This makes it difficult for road safety experts to convince people that their behaviour can be dangerous.

One way of looking at our road system is the fact that individuals should not be killed or maimed because of 'predictable' mistakes on our road system. This means that we should design systems to allow for human factors – for the fact that we can misjudge, have lapses in concentration and may feel tired on long trips.

What is happening at present is victim blaming – we are blaming people for predictable human behaviour when assigning fault in a crash. But to design road systems to overcome this would incur a huge cost and would require a quantum shift in social values.

We have of course progressed over the last 40 years. Cars have become safer, seat belts save lives, we are constantly re-engineering roads to make them safer, police enforcement keeps a tentative lid on the situation, attention to young drivers at the

licensing stage seems to be paying off and medical trauma response is constantly improving. The law of diminishing returns applies to road safety and we are now finding that traditional techniques are also not making the inroads that they used to.

So what is the way forward? It is vital that we maintain the current approach of information and enforcement – this should prevent the situation from getting any worse. Right now our research lacks a level of refinement in which the psychological factors of driving are taken into account. We can blame many of our crashes on speed, drink driving, road engineering, specific misjudgements or excessive risk taking but we speculate that there is a large component which is influenced by our state of mind while driving. We can relate to the dangers of tuning a radio or speaking on a mobile phone while driving. Less obvious is the influence of the state of mind we are in on our concentration (when emotionally upset or distressed) and the effect of fatigue in a general sense. These crashes are the most difficult to prevent and conduct research on.

We are finding that although speeds are generally higher at the beginning of the day when people are on their way to work, crash risk is lower than the journey home or in the evenings – even with the influence of drink driving put aside. One answer to this may be fatigue or state of mind. Many people associate fatigue with long distance driving in rural areas but the problem may be just as significant in urban areas.

So my advice on safe driving over Easter is about the same as for any other time: Whether on long trips interstate or a short hop to the corner store, take your driving

task seriously. Don't drive when emotionally upset, when using a mobile or when you have trouble concentrating. Crash risk increases as the day progresses.

- Take frequent breaks on long trips. A good buildup of sleep in the nights before the drive (and especially the previous night) is a big factor with fatigue whether driving in urban or rural environments.
- There are many advantages to not speeding including less wear and tear on the car, less fuel consumption, increased safety and of course the avoidance of being caught in the first place! In the metropolitan area our traffic systems are so regulated by traffic signals that gains to be made from speeding are minimal; on longer trips gains of 20-40 minutes are all that can be expected and in the context of the journey this is not worth it.
- Drive in a manner that allows for your potential lapses and mistakes – to err may be human but our current road system is not very forgiving if you do. Even if you consider yourself a good driver you have to allow for the fact that you are sharing the road (and some of the roads are not great) with others who may not be.

Dr Jeremy Woolley is Road Safety Researcher, Transport Systems Centre

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Forget growing old gracefully

Learn how to grow old with a smile on your face and a skip in your step.

Be a part of UniSA's free Successful Ageing Seminar program in 2002.

Seminars featuring expert advice on how to improve your quality of life and your state of mind as you mature are being held this year. The seminars promise access to the latest information and research on a range of health and lifestyle issues. Register now and you will be kept informed about the dates, times and topics for this free series.

Contact [Desiree Utting](#)

Phone (08) 8302 0964

Fax (08) 8302 0970

Email desiree.utting@unisa.edu.au

▲ [Back to top](#)

[For staff](#)[For the media](#)[For alumni](#)[For potential donors](#)[For prospective international students](#)[> Publications > UniSA News March 2002](#)

Cultivating a new era in farming

by [Geraldine Hinter](#)

Australia leads the world with a new generation of farming practices that use sound waves to control the depth of seed in the soil, laser beams to level the land, and satellites for automated control of equipment.

At the forefront of these developments is Horwood Bagshaw, Australia's major tillage and seeding machinery supplier.

Now with its world class factory in Mannum, it's hard to believe that the company was placed into receivership in 1987. While harvesters were its main focus, seeding and tillage machinery proved the most profitable. But it wasn't until the current owner, Peter Sweeney, took control in 1997 that research and development came to the fore.

UniSA's expertise in machine design and knowledge of tillage and seeding systems matched Horwood Bagshaw's need for research and development leadership. Associate Professor [John Fielke](#), leader of UniSA's Agricultural Machinery Research and Design Centre, was appointed research and development manager on a half time basis.

The University's more objective and scientific approach to development has helped to remove inefficiencies and some of the guesswork, according to Sweeney.

"John Fielke brings a refreshing level of knowledge and exposure to new developments, as well as the benefits of contacts within the university system and by introducing other disciplines, we have been able to improve product quality to a higher level than previously," Sweeney said.

"We examine Horwood Bagshaw's ideas, assess market requirements and make recommendations to successfully implement their ideas," Professor Fielke said.

This teamwork has proved so successful that in just two years the Horwood Bagshaw/UniSA combination gained national recognition as the 1999 winner of the AusIndustry

Award for outstanding achievement in collaborative research and development, between a university and a company with a turnover of less than \$50 million, for the design and evaluation of tillage and seeding equipment.

"This includes an air seeder that utilises satellites to disperse seed and fertiliser at set rates and controlled depths. With the ability to switch itself on and off like a robot, this machine is seen as the forerunner to the driverless tractor and places Australian farmers at the forefront of technology," Professor Fielke said.

"The tillage machinery has been broadened to include sizes ranging from about three to 18 metres wide. A major achievement has been the ability to incorporate a double fold to a width of about seven metres for safer transport on roads," Professor Fielke said.

Horwood Bagshaw's association with AMRDC has given the company a greater understanding and knowledge of its products and total confidence in its machines.

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Our People - Rosemary McKay

A long and winding road



My journey started off a mere 30 years ago – it seems like just yesterday – when I began work as secretary to the School of Electronic Engineering at the South Australian Institute of Technology. I loved it immediately – the staff was like a family and everyone pulled together as a team.

Having a great interest in people, I applied for a transfer to the School of Social Studies. The first day there was my baptism by fire! On that very day The Aboriginal Task Force was launched, and the phones did not stop ringing. The office was the hub of all activity and there was I trying to use an electric typewriter for the first time, which was no mean feat I can assure you! My stay was brief having discovered that I was going to be a mum for the second time.

I returned to the institute in '76 to the School of Business, which was to become the Elton Mayo School of Management in '79. It was with a great deal of sadness that I saw it split up later into two schools – the School of Management and the School of Marketing.

I am a strong supporter of human rights and justice and was honoured to receive life membership of the South Australian Justice Administration Foundation (now the SA

Institute of Justice Studies). Being appointed vice president of the Australian Institute of International Affairs (SA) and facilitating the visits of Martin McGuinness and Jose Ramos Horta to our University have been highlights in my career. I was very pleased indeed to hear that our University had conferred an Honorary Doctorate on Nelson Mandela.

To be part of an organisation that leads the way in its commitment to social justice makes me very proud indeed.

[Rosemary McKay](#) is administrative officer at the School of Marketing at UniSA

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Bill Board



There's nothing like a warm welcome ... Professor Andrew Nafalski, head of the School of Electrical and Information Engineering, was greeted with this personalised banner last month when he visited the American International University Bangladesh, where he gave a seminar presentation on UniSA to 140 prospective students.

Bill Board has been introduced in response to UniSA News 2001 reader survey feedback asking for a column to keep people up to date about the events and personalities that make UniSA tick. Bill B will be relying on UniSA News readers to be his eyes and ears to keep him informed about what is happening around the University – particularly those humorous incidents that help to get you through the day.

Mixed media

A regular guest on Carol Whitelock's program on 5AN, [Dr David Lundberg](#) has been on air so often that his radio presentation skills are pretty finely honed, but this month he made a foray into a new kind of media interaction. Asked to be the online expert on US foreign policy available to ABC TV's Four Corners viewers after the show, he had a

taste of the whole 'interactive' media scene. The audience responses varied from hot-under-the-collar axe-grinders, to people with a real interest in intelligent exchange about the issues. So would he do it again? Yes, but next time he says he will draft a few likely responses to questions he can predict might arise so that he can quickly cut and paste responses rather than rely on his sometimes "limited" keyboard skills. All up David says the online expert gig was sharper than talk-back radio.

Radiation reflections

Senior lecturer and UniSA's radiation safety officer [John Pattison](#) faced a tough audience recently when he addressed the Skeptics Society of SA, speaking on the topic, Nuclear radiations: can you live without them?

With supporting evidence John argued that many nuclear radiations are not as scary as media portrayals would have us believe. He pointed out that although large doses of nuclear radiations are dangerous, this is not the case for low doses. In fact, studies have shown that small doses of radiation are not harmful, and appear to be necessary for good health.

Bill B can't be sure if the 80 Skeptics Society members present were convinced by John's arguments or not but he can report that they certainly asked plenty of questions.

ITS more than a game

As I write on this sunny afternoon it seems as if nothing could pierce the infinite blue of our summer skies. Wrong – already footballs are flying and Crows and Power supporters are getting their beanies out of mothballs. Soon the thunk of leather on boot will be heard in every suburb, park and street as we return to the Game. So while some of us will sigh, IT's [Stephen 'Rocky' Stone](#) is gearing up for his favourite time of year and the launch of the 2002 ITS AFL Footy Pools. For just \$22 staff can vie for fame and small fortune as 2002's top tipster. More than 130 staff and family members are expected to compete this year.

Rocky devotes his Sunday nights to chronicling all the action and results from the weekends' games before announcing the weekly winners and the progressive tipping chart. For Rocky, it is a labour of love although he does insist in donating a portion of the annual takings to his favourite charity, the Salvation Army.

As they say – you've got to be in it to win it – so email Rocky now to get details and good luck for the season.

Please email all leads to [Gerry Clarke](#) – Attention Bill Board

[▲ Back to top](#)

For queries relating to links contact: [UniSA Webmaster](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright \(c\) 2000](#) | Latest content revision: October, 2002

[For staff](#)[For the media](#)[For alumni](#)[For potential donors](#)[For prospective international students](#)[> Publications > UniSA News March 2002](#)

Academic Board

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

Quality assurance and improvement

Late last year, Academic Board approved in principle a new *Quality Assurance and Improvement: Programs, Courses and Teaching Arrangements Policy*, on the understanding that evaluation procedures would be amended to include guidelines to protect student confidentiality.

Where academic staff collect data from students using a 'pen and paper' approach, the staff member will have to organise an independent administrator (such as a clerical staff member) to administer the questionnaire to students. Responses will remain anonymous.

Staff teaching the course will then arrange for an independent person to enter the data into an online Course Evaluation Instrument. Academic staff will not see the questionnaires completed by the students whom they teach – but they will be able to view the final results online.

To assist with the evaluation of program quality, the Planning Unit is in the process of providing Schools with viability data on all their programs.

Program directors will report to their Divisional Board on the data provided, and each Division and Whyalla will then identify 20 percent of their programs to undergo a quality review during 2002.

Research Degrees Committee

Academic Board approved amendments to the Academic Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Professional Doctorate and Masters by Research recommended by Research Degrees Committee (RDC), and endorsed a recommendation that the University's HECS Exemption Allocation Policy be rescinded.

The move follows the introduction of the Commonwealth Research Training Scheme (RTS), which shifted the emphasis from funding the University's research degree load to funding completions, leading to a reduction of funds allocated for higher degree by

research places.

The University does not receive funding for students who exceed their allocated RTS time (four years for a PhD and two years for a Masters degree), raising the issue of how to fund students who go over their time allocated.

The Board resolved that from January 1, 2002, all students holding RTS places who go overtime will be charged no less than a minimum fee equal to the relevant HECS band.

HECS exempt research students will be allocated four years funded tuition for a PhD and two years for a Masters degree before they are charged no less than the minimum fee equal to the appropriate HECS band. Divisions, Institutes and Whyalla will be permitted to pay part or all of the fees on a students' behalf should they elect to do so.

Research Policy Committee

The Board received a report from Research Policy Committee (RPC) and noted, inter alia, that the research budget for 2002 has been finalised.

The research budget incorporates the following changes: an increase in Divisional Research Performance Funds to \$1,000,000; allocation of \$110,000 for research education; an increase in funding to cover new applications in 2002; allocation of additional funds to Contingency to cover commitments to applications for a new Cooperative Research Centre and Centres of Excellence; a new Early Career Supported Research Initiative; and an Emerging Thematic Priorities Fund initiative.

Recommendations agreed to arising from the deliberations of the Research Institute and Centre Working Party include: to retain the three tier structure of Research Institutes, Centres and Groups within the Research Institute and Centre Policy; to maintain a central funding structure for Research Centres and encourage increased support of centres by Divisions; and to abolish the Enhanced Infrastructure Funding for Growth Fund and create an Emerging Thematic Priorities Fund.

It was agreed to call for applications for new Research Centres early in 2002, following the incorporation of recommendations into the Guidelines for Applicants.

Human Research Ethics Committee

The Board approved changes to the University's Ethics Policy, which will involve a revision of overseas ethics approval requirements. Previously the policy included a requirement that where data collection took place outside Australia the ethics protocol for Honours and Masters Degrees by Coursework had to be approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). It was decided a change to the policy would be timely, considering the recent rise in the number of overseas research protocols being

approved.

From February 2002, responsibility for overseas Honours and Masters Degrees by Coursework will be transferred to Divisional Ethics Committees. The HREC will retain responsibility for considering all contentious or invasive research.

Program development

The following new programs were approved: Graduate Certificate in Education, and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD by major studio project).

Peter Cardwell

Executive Officer

[▲ Back to top](#)



[For staff](#)

[For the media](#)

[For alumni](#)

[For potential donors](#)

[For prospective international students](#)

> [Publications](#) > [UniSA News March 2002](#)

Research Update

www.unisa.edu.au/orc/

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

Medical Benefits Fund of Australia Ltd (MBF)

MBF are now calling for submissions which focus on patient care: processes and systems that improve safety and quality of care in hospitals.

For further details please refer to www.mbf.com.au/about.researchfund.html

Internal closing date 29 March 2002

External closing date 5 April 2002

Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation

Clinical Investigatorships

Applications are invited for 'Viertel Clinical Investigator' awards of \$55,000, given on a once-only basis. Eligible applicants will be medical graduates or graduates of other clinical disciplines who have completed both their clinical and research training which will normally be at doctoral level and are commencing their first definitive career position, or have been in such a post for no more than 24 months on 30 April 2002.

Internal closing date 23 April 2002

International Grant Opportunities

Academy of The Social Sciences in Australia and The Australian Academy of the Humanities

Travelling Fellowships

The Australian Academy of the Humanities offers five Travelling Fellowships of \$2,500 for short-term research and consultation abroad in the coming year.

Closing date 30 June 2002

Overseas programs

China

Research scholars in the social sciences, who are Australian citizens, are eligible to participate in this program

Closing date 31 July 2002

Netherlands

The Joint Academes of Humanities and Social Sciences share an agreement of scientific and cultural collaboration with the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. The joint academies facilitate visits by scholars to specific research institutes and/or conferences in the Netherlands.

Closing date 15 August 2002

Sweden

The Australian Academy of the Humanities and the Swedish Royal Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities have an exchange agreement which provides for one established Australian scholar per year, who is able to cover travel to Europe independently, and who wishes to do research in Sweden, to visit for a month.

Website: www.humanities.org.au

Closing date 30 June 2002

Korean Federation of Science and Technology Societies (KOFST)

Postdoctoral opportunities in Korea – KOFST Brain Pool Program

Invitations are sought from outstanding scientists and engineers from all fields of sciences and technology from Australia to work in various institutes in Korea. Website:

www.kofst.or.kr/infor_4.htm

Applications accepted continuously

New Fellowship and Award Opportunities

Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation

Senior Medical Research Fellowships

Applications are invited for five-year Viertel Senior Medical Research Fellowships

valued at \$165,500 per annum to be held in Australia to commence in 2003.

Internal closing date 23 April 2002

External closing date 30 April 2002

[▲ Back to top](#)

For queries relating to links contact: [UniSA Webmaster](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) (c) 2000 | Latest content revision: October, 2002