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UniSA News

A newspaper of the University of South Australia

April 2003

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Main stories



UniSA helps Grote Street go eco-friendly

Traders in Adelaide's Grote Street precinct are on a mission to increase their sustainability by reducing energy, water and waste, with the help of researchers at the University of South Australia and Energy SA. [Full Story](#)

SAIBT celebrates record intake

With 333 students hailing from 13 countries now enrolled in diploma, certificate and Masters qualifying programs, the South Australian Institute of Business and Technology (SAIBT) is celebrating its largest intake of students. [Full Story](#)



Waves of war hit hard at home

In the modern communications environment we can become lounge room spectators and armchair commentators of the war in Iraq. The slick broadcasts of bombs and blasts on all channels have the quality of virtual reality – another war game. But there will be many Australians who will really fear and feel the conflict at a much deeper level. [Full Story](#)



Adey farewelled after 31 years

More than 150 colleagues and friends gathered on March 11 to farewell Professor Kym Adey, who has retired after 31 years with the University. [Full Story](#)

Muscling in on headaches

Next to back pain, headache is one of the most common health ailments known to humankind, but until recently medical science has offered few cost effective non-pharmaceutical solutions to ease the pain of sufferers. [Full Story](#)

Bringing immunisation education to the world



In tiny villages across Qinghai Province near the Tibetan highlands of western China, you'll find some of UniSA's finest medical programs at work. It's a long way from Adelaide to the Qinghai Province but two of Adelaide's leading immunisation educators, Dr Colleen Smith and Ann Kempe, have made the journey. [Full Story](#)

Other stories

[New building adds to ambience at Magill](#)

Staff and students at Magill are enjoying improved facilities following the opening of a new Learning Connection building on March 14.

[What's eating at men's health?](#)

It's well-documented that in the areas of nutrition and health, men have often fared worse than women, experiencing lower life expectancy and higher rates of obesity and heart disease.

[Crowley joins Hawke Research Institute](#)

Former federal senator Dr Rosemary Crowley has deposited her personal papers in the collection of the Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Library and begun a new role as adjunct research fellow at the Hawke Research Institute.

[Does Australia need a new defence policy?](#)

The war in Iraq has brought a keen focus on Australia's defence strategies and capabilities. Do we have the systems and attitudes to face a vastly-changed world? Or do we need a radical change in our defence policy? Defence intelligence expert, Professor Paul Dibb will bring special insight to these vital questions at the next SA Press Club luncheon on Wednesday May 7.

[Beijing's best may make UniSA their classroom](#)

A three-week visit to Adelaide by 24 top Chinese departmental directors and deputy directors could be the start of something big for South Australia and UniSA.

[Debunking mobility myths](#)

Older people need more encouragement to explore different mobility options, rather than feeling that their life is over if they can no longer drive a car.

[Our People - Namita Roy Choudhury](#)

Researching beyond the tried and true

[School students come out to UniSA](#)

Students from high schools in Adelaide's north got to let loose their artistic flair and satisfy their scientific curiosity as part of UniSA's involvement in the Come Out youth arts festival last month.

May 2003 issue of UniSANEWS

Closing date: 24 April 2003

Distribution: 15 May 2003

[2003 UniSANEWS schedule](#)

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.

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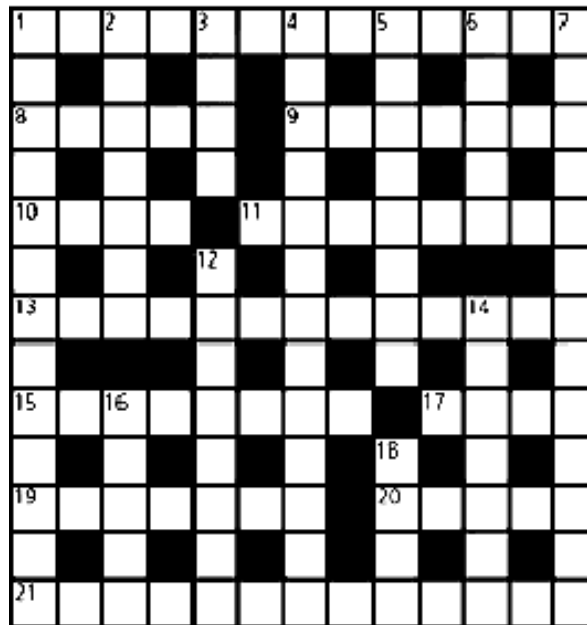
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Colgan's Cryptic Crossword



ACROSS

1. Hook one running around erratically (8,5)
8. Outer North American division (5)
9. Climber has fish for preserving (7)
10. It's crazy backing an uninformed effort (4)
11. A sentimental lover dismisses new perfume (8)
13. Shouted and shouted at (7,6)
15. Decorate unfinished area after reconciling blame (8)
17. Hardly the place for an ostentatious person (4)
19. This covers the accommodation (7)
20. Outstanding success in a turn-up (5)
21. Deny wrongdoing to Bar (6,2,5)

DOWN

1. Adds up, falls down, but got back a number (5,8)
2. Prepare group for mourning (7)
3. To steal is a racket! (4)
4. Cut the long grass ahead of time; may not be necessary after this (6,7)
5. The heart-land rises and is held with affection (3,5)

6. Should a ruffian have his time suspended? (5)
7. A person of enterprise gets a quid at smart Scottish town (13)
12. Compacts down in tests (8)
14. University Head rejects carbon actinide (7)
16. Hoodwink the Head (5)
18. Caught lifting a garment (4)

Win a bottle of wine

For your chance to win a bottle of wine worth around \$100, fax your completed crossword to (08) 8302 5785 marked attention Len Colgan by Thursday April 24. Bronwyn Ellis of Whyalla campus was the lucky winner of the last competition.

Solution

H	E	A	D	L	E	S	S	C	H	O	O	K	
A		R		U		E		O		U		I	
N	A	M	E	R		V	I	N	E	G	A	R	
G		B		K		E		A		H		K	
S	T	A	B		A	R	O	M	A	T	I	C	
T		N		T		E		O				U	
O	R	D	E	R	E	D	A	R	O	U	N	D	
G					E	R		E		R		B	
E	M	B	L	A	Z	O	N		L	A	I	R	
T		L		T		U		T		N		I	
H	O	U	S	I	N	G		O	W	I	N	G	
E		F		E		H		G		U		H	
R	E	F	U	S	E	T		O	A	D	M	I	T

EXPLANATIONS (C = cryptic part of clue + S = straight part of clue;
or S + S = clue holding answer twice with two different straight meanings;
or POW = play on words.)

Note that joining words may or may not be an integral part of the clue.

Punctuation and capital letters are irrelevant.

The art of the setter is to make it non-obvious how and where to split the clue, and to mislead the solver along an irrelevant path.

ACROSS

1. C: hook (chook, missing the head)

S: one running around erratically = headless chook

8. C: North (N) American division (divide American = amer)

S: outer = namer (one who outs someone else)

9. C: climber (vine) fish (gar)
S: for preserving = vinegar
10. C: crazy backing (bats, backwards)
S: uninformed effort = stab
11. C: a sentimental lover (a romantic) dismisses new (removes 'N')
S: perfume = aromatic (it is also a noun)
13. C: shouted (ordered a round)
S: shouted at = ordered around
15. C: unfinished area (zone, missing the 'e') after (following) reconciling blame
(anagram of 'blame')
S: decorate = emblazon
17. C: hardly the place (lair)
S: ostentatious person = lair
19. S: this covers = housing
S: accommodation = housing
20. C: success (win) in a turn-up (inside a 'go', turned up)
S: outstanding = owing
21. S: deny wrongdoing = refuse to admit
S: bar = refuse to admit

DOWN

1. C: falls down (hangs) got back ('got', backwards) a numb-er (ether)
S: adds up = hangs together
2. C: prepare group (arm band)
S: for mourning = armband
3. S: to steal = lurk
S: racket = lurk
4. C: cut (severed) long grass (rough, as in golf) before time (before 't')
S: may not be necessary after this = severe drought
5. C: heart (core) land rises and is held (Oman, upwards, and is held inside)
S: with affection = con amore
6. C: ruffian (tough) has his time suspended ('t' is suspended below)
S: should = ought
7. C: A person of Enterprise (Kirk) gets a quid (cud) at smart (bright)
S: Scottish town = Kirkcudbright
12. C: down (eat) in tests (inside 'tries')
S: compacts = treaties
14. C: University (U) head rejects carbon (cranium, rejecting 'C')
S: actinide = uranium
16. S: hoodwink = bluff

S: head = bluff

18. C: caught lifting ('got', going upwards) a (a)

S: garment = toga

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From the Chancellery



Working together in unsettled times

2002 was a great year for us. We could demonstrate major achievements across the board and we finished the year in a healthy financial position. Our results for 2002 were a demonstration that all the things we have been doing to improve our performance are beginning to bear fruit.

Institutionally, three issues are at the forefront of our minds as we contemplate 2003. These are the outcomes of the Nelson Review of Higher Education, preparation for our quality audit by the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) in early 2004 and the start of a new round of bargaining to establish an Enterprise Agreement. The results of each of these processes will have a big impact on our future as an institution and it is easy for people like me to believe they are the most important issues for 2003.

However, while they are important for our future, they seem relatively trivial when we look more broadly. It's important to get things into perspective. A single issue dominates the international landscape – war and its consequences, personal and global. In an institution where almost a third of our students are international – from nearly 60 countries – the global becomes personal.

- Suddenly we are confronted with questions we have never had to address since our establishment:
- What will happen to those members of our university community who are Iraqi citizens?
- How do we support students whose family members are fighting for their country in the armed forces?
- How do we handle the fact that we have strongly held and opposing views about the justness of this war within our student community?
- How do our staff handle situations where there is disagreement, even conflict, between students on these issues on campus and in

classes?

While there are no simple or universal answers to any of these questions we have been working to ensure that people are aware that the University has resources available to help with the issues that might arise in the next few months for individuals or groups within our university community. Once war was declared, we identified for both students and staff what assistance is available within the university and urged them to take advantage of it.

But we have also made clear that universities, with their commitment to rationality and free speech, are places where substantial and contentious issues like the different views about the justness of this war must be aired and debated.

Our university community, staff and students, must continue to embrace some core values – respect for others and their points of view, recognition of the full diversity of our global community and its expression within our university and commitment to an institution which is inclusive, fair and humane.

This is not a place where intolerance, prejudice or racism are either supported or condoned.

All through 2003 we have an opportunity to show the world that as a community with people from nearly 60 countries working in it and as an organisation operating in nine countries we can work together on shared objectives and with shared values. Perhaps together we need to demonstrate we can do it and then we might reasonably ask why our political leaders in all countries can't.

[Professor Denise Bradley AO](#)

Vice Chancellor and President

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News in brief

Collaborative research grants announced

Three multidisciplinary research projects have been awarded a total of \$90,000 in the 2003 UniSA Collaborative Research Grants.

The grants aim to provide seeding funding for high quality, innovative projects that will lead to multi-disciplinary research activities.

A project looking at solar commuter research, design and development has been granted \$30,000, and will bring together Dr Peter Pudney, Peter Murphy, Richard Coker, Professor Phil Howlett, Gerhard Schurer, John Boland, Associate Professor Wasim Saman and Dr Rocco Zito.

Associate Professor Allan Evans, Dr Lingxue Kong, Dr Hung-Yao Hsu and Dr Robert Milne will receive \$40,000 for their project looking at the development of novel systems for the delivery of drugs to the eye, while Dr Paul Arbon, Dr Bruce Gurd, and Tony Weideman have been granted \$20,000 for their project looking into the impact of management structures and approaches on public safety agencies in Australasia and the Pacific Rim.

New Pro Vice Chancellor appointed

Professor Hilary Winchester has been appointed as UniSA's new Pro Vice Chancellor for Organisational Change and Development.

She will be responsible for the Human Resources, Information Strategy and Technology Services, and Planning and Assurance Services Units from late May.

A graduate in Geography from Oxford University, Prof Winchester has held academic appointments in a number of Australian and UK universities, and is currently Academic Pro Vice Chancellor at Flinders University.

In other appointments, Dr Ingrid Day will be the Dean of Teaching and Learning and International for the Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences for the next 12

months.

Dr Day's research interests and teaching areas have included networked learning and international media communications. She has regularly taught offshore in Singapore and is the recipient of several teaching and learning grants and a UniSA supported academic teacher award.

Long service staff awards to continue

UniSA's staff service awards will be continued this year following their successful introduction in 2001.

Award ceremonies and celebrations will be organised and held during the year for staff who have been employed by UniSA and its antecedent institutions for 10 years, and a University-wide celebration will be held on August 5 for staff who have a service period of 25 years.

"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 the Vice Chancellor, Professor Denise Bradley.

"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.

More details about eligibility and celebrations for the Staff Service Awards 2003 will be distributed in the near future.

UNIFEM breakfast funds to help Afghani women

This year's UNIFEM Breakfast has raised more than \$10,000 to go towards improving the legal rights of Afghani women.

The traditional International Women's Day breakfast to support UNIFEM (the United Nations Development Fund for Women) was held on March 8 and attracted more than 1,000 women, including 60 UniSA women.

The breakfast was hosted by Senator Penny Wong, with Adelaide-born journalist and film maker Carmel Travers as the guest speaker. Travers' speech centred on her experiences as a foreign correspondent based in East Africa, where she established the East African News Agency.

Funds raised from all the International Women's Day functions around Australia will support legal reform in Afghanistan and make a difference for the women and girls of

one of the world's most deprived regions. The 2003 project, in partnership with the Afghan Ministry for Women's Affairs, is to support the process of 'engendering' judicial reform in Afghanistan by women law professionals and activists. Women law trainers from Australia will be travelling to Afghanistan to share their expertise.

UniSA is a major sponsor of the UNIFEM Breakfast. For more information contact Carol Sutherland on (08) 8302 4681 or go to the UNIFEM Adelaide website at www.unifem.org.au/~adelaide/

Name change and new head for mathematics

UniSA's School of Mathematics is welcoming a new head and a new name.

The school will now be known as the School of Mathematics and Statistics, the name change acknowledging the importance of statistics in the school's teaching and consulting services.

Meanwhile Associate Professor David Panton has been appointed as the new head of school for the next three years. Prof Panton's research interests include scheduling, personnel management and industrial mathematics.

Prof Panton has witnessed the emergence of consulting activity within the school via Techsearch, and the coming of age of the school with a competitive research profile. Examples include research in collaboration with the Centre for Sleep Research on rostering techniques, major projects involving train scheduling and fuel minimisation through the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) in Railway Technology and Engineering, defence related projects with DSTO and the US Air Force, and projects involving environmental modelling.

Current environmental research involves modelling the distribution of sea grass and its influence on fish populations, and the use of solar energy in urban environments. Much of this work is being conducted in collaboration with researchers from other universities throughout the world.

Hypatia scholars announced

The School of Mathematics and Statistics would like to congratulate the three Hypatia Scholarship recipients for 2003; Alice Bednarz, Mimi Duong and Vu Han Duong.

The scholarships are provided to mathematically talented women and recipients receive payment of their first year HECS fees, paid summer employment opportunities and the opportunity to complete their program overseas, as well as extra study resources throughout their degree program.

Visual communicators scoop awards

Visual Communication students from UniSA scooped the prize pool at the 2003 AGIdeas International Design Event last month.

Honours student Yianni Hill won first place in the Seven Network Award for Interactive Media, with Luke Golding and Nick Lewis coming second and third respectively.

Third year visual communication students Tom Drewer and Johanna Hallgren came second and third respectively in the Collie Trust award for 2D or 3D.

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Five to Nine - Scott soars with the eagles

by [Gerry Clarke](#)



“I’ve got a meeting in Adelaide – I’ll just get the keys to the plane.”

With those words, Dean of Whyalla campus, Scott Bowman heads to Whyalla airport to pilot a Piper Cherokee single engine aircraft to Adelaide. Cruising at 222 kilometres an hour, the trip takes about an hour rather than five hours by road.

Scott has had a passion for flying for many years. “I flew gliders and ultralight aircraft back in the UK for about 10 years,” Scott said.

“Flying the ultralights was good fun and very economical. Piloting a glider for hours at a time was wonderful and gave me a great sense of achievement. In the UK to be able to soar with the eagles was a dream. In Australia it became a reality. I am able to fly with the eagles and even follow them to find thermals.”

After experiencing the travel demands in his first year as Dean, Scott thought there may be benefits in combining his passion for flying with his everyday work.

“I developed a business case which showed that there would be considerable savings in time and money if I rented a plane and flew it myself,” Scott said.

“In time alone, it will save me more than two weeks over a full year. Senior management were very supportive so I converted my ultralight license to a full private pilot’s license.

“As well as at least one return trip to Adelaide each week it also gives me far greater opportunities for regional engagement. I am able to fly to the Pitjintjara lands to meet with Aboriginal communities, to Ceduna and to Broken Hill.

“Having my pilot’s license gives me far more flexibility with my travel. I am not restricted by flight times and I am able to travel direct to many locations rather than taking the indirect routes provided by the airlines. I am able to land at all major airports as well as on landing strips on properties.”

As well as flying the Cherokee, Scott also continues to fly his own Chinook ultralight aircraft. “I use the Chinook for fun and the Cherokee for work” Scott said.

Next time you run into a smiling Scott Bowman you will know why – he has found the perfect way to combine business and pleasure.

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Browser Briefs

Is that decaf really healthier?

Have you ever considered that coffee has been charged guilty until proven innocent in connection with various diseases? And are you convinced that that decaf you are drinking actually is healthier for you? Did you know that there is an Antidairy Coalition claiming that milk is nothing more than a “deadly poison”? Or maybe you’re after some tips about a healthy diet and don’t know where to turn because you’ve read so much conflicting information. You could try this site for some home truths. While the Wellness Letter is US-based and you can subscribe, you don’t have to be a subscriber to access some of the information. The Wellness Letter was founded in 1984 and relies on the expertise in the School of Public Health at the University of California Berkeley. It aims to put health news in perspective rather than reporting quick health stories of the day – particularly it aims to clarify the often conflicting and superficial health information presented by the popular media. Categories covered include fitness, nutrition and longevity. Check it out for some unbiased information.

www.berkeleywellness.com

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Classifieds

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

For sale

Furniture sale – houseful – moving interstate. Beds, sofas, tables, desks, chairs, bookshelves, wardrobes, exercise paddle, bbq trolley, bicycles, garden trimmer, outdoor settings and more Ph 8431 5830

Moving house 100 sq mtrs apricot carpet + underlay; ktchn cupbds + sink; older Dishlex dishwasher. Wdn bar + 2 cupbds. 2 wdn single bed bases + bedhds and cabnts. Wdn dble bedhd + cbnets. Wdn builtin cupbds 5 doors. 3 wall mnted mirrors. 15 wdn doors and 2 sliding doors. Stnless stl Indry trough + cupbd and taps. All offers considered. Contact Rocco on 8302 1863

Toyota corolla (1979) white 4 speed manual. Only 126, 000 km on the clock. 3 lady owners. Excellent condition. Very reliable and cheap to run. Great first car. \$2000 ono. Phone 0402 841 148

UHF antenna second hand \$30 Ph 8302 0096

For rent

Golden Grove furnished 3bdrm house available 1 April – 30 Sept 2003 due to study leave. No pets. \$200 pw. Contact Andrew 8302 3932

Kingswood house 6 km from city, lge rooms, high ceilings, can be let furn or unfurn. Available anytime. \$250/\$230pw. Call (08) 8302 2921 or 0417 192 983

Room for rent share with male. Furnished house, large yard + shed. Very close to public transport & shopping centre. 10 mins or 5 km from city. Available now \$90 per week + expenses Contact Ben on 0439 381 552

Seaside accommodation 3 sc units at Baudin Beach, Kangaroo Island 10 km from

Penneshaw. From \$50 pn (double) Phone 8553 1442

Share accommodation – Cumberland Park. Looking for honest female to share art deco house, f furn. \$85 plus expenses. Ph Stella x 21720 or 0417 330 467

Victor Harbor 2br bch aptmnt in historic stone building. Sunlit living room, balcony, bbq, aircon, computer/internet, pool, minutes to beach, cafes. Linen/towels provided. Sleeps 4. \$140 per night (UniSA discount and weekly rates available). Phone 0414 239 784 email ingrid.day@unisa.edu.au

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Academic Board

The following was noted at the March meeting of the Academic Board.

Review of research education

The Pro Vice Chancellor (Research and International), Prof Ian Davey, introduced a report on the Review of Research Education undertaken in August-September 2002.

Over the past five years there has been a rapid expansion in research degree student numbers at the University of South Australia.

There are currently 1,000 research students, with around 150 thesis examinations conducted each year. Nearly 400 scholarships are paid fortnightly, funded either by the Commonwealth Government, Divisions, Whyalla, industry partners, or as part of the University's corporate priorities.

The University's prime strategic directions are to provide a high-quality research education environment, increase research degree enrolments and improve completion times and rates – while at the same time maintaining University-funded scholarships for both domestic and international students, as well as providing a policy and quality assurance framework conducive to achieving our strategic goals.

It is important for the University to maintain its research degree profile, especially with the DEST funding regimes: Research Training Scheme (RTS) and Institutional Grants Scheme (IGS), which place an increased emphasis on research degree completions.

Senior Management Group (SMG) have endorsed the recommendations arising from the review and an action plan, which will see the establishment of a full-time Dean of Graduate Studies within the Research and International Portfolio.

A Graduate Studies Office will be established and co-located with Research Services at Mawson Lakes to enable close communication between the two areas, and to facilitate the mutual use of financial, human resources and management information systems.

The Graduate Studies Office will be a high profile and welcoming shopfront. In addition, a virtual one-stop shop web presence will be created for the benefit of offshore and external research students and supervisors, building on the Framework for Educational Resources for Research Students (FERRS) funded through a University Teaching Grant.

The resourcing implications of establishing a Graduate Studies Office will be considered in the context of research education as a priority for the Corporate Plan 2003.

Code of Good Practice: Supervising Research Students

Academic Board approved a new Code of Good Practice: Supervising Research Students and a supporting document outlining key responsibilities in research degrees management.

The new code is an aspirational document and will supersede the current Code of Good Practice: Research Degrees Supervision.

The code will apply to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), PhD by Portfolio of Publications, Masters by Research and Professional Doctorate degrees.

The code provides a list of general principles underpinning good supervision, with some examples of effective strategies for putting these principles into practice.

A detailed list of strategies is not given, since it is recognized that research supervision is highly context specific and shaped by different disciplinary cultures, as well as by the requirements of particular degree programs, and the diverse needs and expectations of students and supervisors.

Supervisors are encouraged to examine the principles and consider how they might best be applied to their own research and teaching contexts.

State of the State: Higher Education

The Board noted the University's response to *State of the State: Higher Education*, the State Economic Development Board's Sub-Committee on Higher Education Discussion Paper.

The University response expresses disappointment at the paper's gloomy analysis of the state of South Australia's universities and its recommendations for increasing State Government intervention in their governance, and has encouraged the

government to increase investment in higher education particularly in the area of research and development.

[Program development](#)

The following new programs were approved:

Division of Business and Enterprise

- Le Cordon Bleu Master of Business Administration (International Hotel and Restaurant Management)

Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences

- Advanced Certificate in Education (Anangu Education)

[Peter Cardwell](#)

Executive Officer

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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 international funding opportunities

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

Current research 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

Australian Research Council

Discovery-Indigenous Researchers Development Program - readvertised

Provides support for Indigenous Australian researchers to undertake research projects which may lead to an advance in the understanding of a subject or contribute to the solution of an important practical problem.

www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/discovery/ird/default.htm

Internal closing date 18 April 2003

External closing date 2 May 2003

Linkage-International Program – readvertised

The Linkage-International program provides funding for awards to build links between researchers, research teams and research centres of excellence in Australia and overseas by funding extended collaborations.

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

Applications accepted continuously

Linkage – Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) – readvertised

LIEF provides funding to institutions for research infrastructure that will be used to support high quality research projects. The Program is managed on an annual basis and funding is normally provided for one year only.

Internal closing date 18 May 2003

External closing date 2 May 2003

www.arc.gov.au/grant_programs/linkage_infrastructure.htm

Linkage-Projects (LP) - Round 1

LP supports research and development projects which are collaborative between higher education researchers and industry, which are undertaken to acquire new knowledge, and which involve risk or innovation.

Internal closing date 24 April 2003

External closing date 9 May 2003

www.arc.gov.au/grant_programs/linkage_projects.htm

The Australian Brewers' Foundation

Alcohol-Related Medical Research Grant Scheme

Grants may be given to researchers to support research on the medical, social and public health aspects of moderate, hazardous or harmful alcohol consumption. Of special interest will be studies offered with respect to the health of Aboriginal populations.

Internal closing date 25 April 2003

External closing date 2 May 2003

The Brain Foundation

Research Grants for 2003

Supports research projects in the clinical neurosciences. The Foundation does not encourage applications that imply an ongoing commitment beyond a single year.

www.brainaustralia.org.au/research/grant_applications_2003

Internal closing date 16 May 2003

External closing date 31 May 2003

The Cancer Council South Australia

Applications are invited for cancer research in the fields of laboratory, clinical, epidemiological and behavioural science. Relevance to cancer causation, prevention, education, treatment or support, together with scientific merit and research project feasibility are the major selection criteria.

External closing date 16 April 2003

National Health and Medical Research Council

NHMRC Development Grants - Round 1

The NHMRC is now calling for funding under its Development Grants Scheme - Round 1. The aim of the scheme is to support the development of health or medical research that has commercial potential and which has the potential to benefit the Australian community.

www.nhmrc.gov.au/rao/rao2003/devgrants.htm

Internal closing date 16 May 2003

External closing date 30 May 2003

National Breast Cancer Foundation

Kathleen Cuninghame Research

Supports research projects in breast cancer from researchers in biomedical, clinical, psychosocial, epidemiological, behavioural and health service areas.

External closing date 23 April 2003

www.nbcf.org.au

International funding opportunities

Rolex

Rolex Awards for Enterprise 2004

Aims to encourage a spirit of enterprise in individuals around the world by supporting outstanding efforts in areas that advance human knowledge and well being.

External closing date 31 May 2003

www.rolexawards.com

Fellowship and award opportunities

The Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG)

Research Awards – 2003

The AAG is offering two awards to researchers in the formative phase of developing a research profile in gerontology. The purpose is to recognise the achievements of South Australian researchers, to encourage people to undertake and continue their research activities, and to encourage the dissemination and promotion of current research.

www.aag.asn.au/SANT.htm

External closing date 24 April 2003

Searching for a scholarship?

The Joint Academic Scholarships Online Network (JASON) is a national online system of postgraduate scholarships. Load your own profile and obtain regular

updates.

www.jason.unimelb.edu.au/

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UniSA helps Grote Street go eco-friendly

by [Geraldine Hinter](#)

Traders in Adelaide's Grote Street precinct are on a mission to increase their sustainability by reducing energy, water and waste, with the help of researchers at the University of South Australia and Energy SA.

The Grote Street Business Association's sustainability project, Grote Eco, is one of many major research projects on sustainable and renewable energy undertaken by Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at UniSA's Sustainable Energy Centre (SEC), Monica Oliphant, who was recently named South Australian of the Year in the environment section – the first time that the environment award has been presented for sustainable and renewable energy research.

The Grote Street project encompasses about 420 businesses and 60 residences in Grote, Franklin and Gouger Streets. It is a mix that includes retailers, schools, churches, the Franklin Bus Depot and the Hilton Hotel, according to Oliphant, who is working collaboratively with SEC researcher Lachlan Mudge.

"Improving sustainability is the traders' idea themselves," Oliphant said.

"With funding from a State Energy Research Advisory Committee grant, Lachlan Mudge and I have compiled a survey that will help to establish a baseline of what the traders' energy, water and waste usage is now. In a few years time the survey will be repeated so that we can see how successful the project has been.



“The survey will also try to find out from the traders themselves what they would like to get out of the Grote Eco project. Hopefully, later we will be able to be a bit more proactive and help the traders not only to increase sustainability in the running of their businesses but also to sell more sustainable products.

“One furniture retailer is already looking at setting aside an area to showcase furniture made out of recycled timber or from plantation wood and using varnishes that are environmentally benign to see if there is a market for eco-friendly products.

“We would like to be able to prove that sustainability pays. Not only does it reduce energy costs but we would like to believe that it brings in more customers and increased revenue as a result,” Oliphant said.

Energy SA will do eight energy audits of large, medium and small businesses in the area and other traders will be invited to observe the auditing process in a workshop situation.

Everybody in the precinct will receive a fact sheet on energy saving tips and an energy audit kit is available on request.

“A waste recycling scheme has already started and it is hoped with time that this will become more extensive,” Oliphant said. “As part of the baseline study, we are asking the traders to sign a release form so that electricity, gas and water bills can be collected from the respective utilities. This data will then be used to determine energy consumption and water use averages and patterns across the precinct. Survey results will be grouped in such a way that individual businesses cannot be identified, that is, we’ll group the houses together and also group businesses selling similar products and providing similar services. It is important to maintain confidentiality and anonymity.”

“UniSA is strongly committed to the project and when we see some successes, hopefully more funding will be made available to expand. We expect to have some results within a year.”

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SAIBT celebrates record intake

With 333 students hailing from 13 countries now enrolled in diploma, certificate and Masters qualifying programs, the South Australian Institute of Business and Technology (SAIBT) is celebrating its largest intake of students.



It is a huge leap from the inaugural class of 16 students that enrolled in 2001, and testament to the increasing demand for alternative pathways to university, both from local and international students.

Based at City East campus, SAIBT offers diploma courses in IT and business, which once completed, offer students a direct pathway to enrol in the second year of UniSA degree programs in business, computing and IT. SAIBT also offers a Masters qualifying program in IT.

Tahn Crawford is a SAIBT student who plans to study for a degree in international business when he completes his diploma.

“I decided to study at SAIBT because I was interested in business but I hadn’t studied it at high school, and wanted something that would prepare me for university,” he says.

“It was an excellent choice – the class sizes are small, so you receive more one on one contact with lecturers, and I also really enjoy the international environment.” (Half of SAIBT’s students are from overseas.)

SAIBT graduate (and now UniSA Bachelor of Management student) Josephine Tew Pei Ling came from Malaysia to study at SAIBT and says she couldn't have hoped for a better introduction to university.

"Before I went to SAIBT I had been working for many years and had lost touch with study. The small lecture and tutorial groups helped me cope with my studies more effectively," she said.

Deputy director of SAIBT, Robert Koehne, said the partnership between SAIBT and UniSA was a good example of a mutually beneficial affiliation between a university and a privately-run institution.

"The university gets the benefit of committed students who continue on to the second year of a degree course once they've gained their diploma, and SAIBT has the advantage of being based on a university campus, so we can offer students access to UniSA facilities such as computer pools, libraries and the gym."

Koehne attributes SAIBT's growing popularity to its clear positioning as a credible, alternative guaranteed pathway into University, in a learning environment characterised by small classes and easy access to quality teaching staff (most of whom also teach at UniSA).

"Traditionally students who haven't fulfilled the degree entry requirements but still want to go to university have gone to TAFE first or repeated Year 12, but SAIBT offers another pathway," he said.

For more information on SAIBT programs, visit the website at www.saibt.sa.edu.au

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Waves of war hit hard at home

by [Nicholas Procter](#)



Some years ago I studied the effects of war in the former Yugoslavia on people living in Australia with emotional ties to the region. That research showed that while the Balkan war was devastating for the people living there, it was also a traumatising and distressing life event for people living thousands of miles away here in Australia. A kind of long distance devastation and suffering was silently happening in our own towns and suburbs.

The health effects included sleeplessness, irritability, inability to concentrate, feelings of frustration, loneliness, sadness, worry, anxiety and bouts of extreme emotional exhaustion and depression.

In the modern communications environment we can become lounge room spectators and armchair commentators of the war in Iraq. The slick broadcasts of bombs and blasts on all channels have the quality of virtual reality – another war game. But there will be many Australians who will really fear and feel the conflict at a much deeper level.

People with cultural and emotional ties to the region identify completely with the plight of family and friends who they fear will be caught up in the fighting. In the weeks leading up to war they will have had troubled telephone calls to family and friends or email contact about the safety of former colleagues and acquaintances.

If we use what happened in the former Yugoslavia as a guide, many Iraqi Australians will have a heightened and intimate sense of the pain and anguish in response to what they see and hear night after night on the television screen. Images and stories of conflict and scenes of carnage, and heavy bombing raids will shock and terrify them in a very personal way, causing much grief and dislocation.

And Iraqi Australians will not be the only ones to feel the mental health

impacts.

The mental health effects of war on Iraqi children are the focus of a new report released in Canada last month. The report entitled, *Our common responsibility: The impact of a new war on Iraqi children* is based on interviews with more than 100 families in January 2003.

It revealed that Iraqi children were now more vulnerable and at risk to mental health problems than at any other time. Iraqi children were found to have a great fear of war. They were fretful, anxious, moody and depressed in response to the prospect of conflict. They reported nightmares and stress, and 40 percent reported that they did not think that life was worth living.

When calculating the costs of war – economic, political, and human – it is salutary to remember that war dislocation effects both locally and globally are likely to continue well beyond the time frame of the conflict itself. War has generational mental health impacts that are difficult to measure.

More information about the impact of war on Iraqi children is available at <http://warchild.ca>

Associate Professor Nicholas Procter teaches mental health at UniSA and is the author of Serbian Australians in the Shadow of the Balkan War (published by Ashgate).

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Adey farewell after 31 years

More than 150 colleagues and friends gathered on March 11 to farewell Professor Kym Adey, who has retired after 31 years with the University.



Professor Adey

began at Salisbury Teachers College as a lecturer, and went on to hold a range of appointments including Head of Planning and Policy, Head of School and Campus Dean at the South Australian College of Advanced Education, and then the foundation Dean of Education and most recently Pro Vice Chancellor and Vice President for Access and Learning Support at UniSA. He was also national president of the Australian Council of Deans of Education for four years.



Professor Adey says that while he will enjoy extra time with family and friends in his retirement, he is also looking forward to continuing his association with UniSA, after being made an Emeritus Professor.

“I’m very proud of what the University has achieved, and I’m very pleased that Council has conferred this honour on me,” he said.

“I’m not ready for complete retirement just yet, and will keep an active professional engagement with the higher education sector through consulting and review work.”

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Muscling in on headaches

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)

Next to back pain, headache is one of the most common health ailments known to humankind, but until recently medical science has offered few cost effective non-pharmaceutical solutions to ease the pain of sufferers.

However that looks set to change, with a unique device which addresses one of the most common causes of headaches currently being developed by UniSA graduate Dean Watson and the University's business incubator ITEK.



Watson's invention, a neck collar and method for exercising and monitoring the performance of the upper flexor muscles in the neck, has been 15 years in the making.

It started in the late 1980s when Watson's Masters research project, conducted at UniSA's School of Physiotherapy, was the first major study to demonstrate that deficiency in neck musculature was a common cause of headache.

"I was investigating clinical observations that have been made for decades, which suggested that a forward head or poking chin posture and weakness of musculature at the front of the neck could lead to stress on joints in the upper part of the neck resulting in headache," says Watson.

Watson went on to found The Headache Clinic, a physiotherapy clinic entirely devoted to the treatment of headaches, which gave him the opportunity to continue to develop, test and refine his apparatus.

“I’m hopeful that my invention is going to provide headache sufferers with a simple, relatively inexpensive and effective way of decreasing their headache symptoms and preventing recurrence, without the need to pay for a physiotherapy consult when and if their symptoms recur,” he says.

UniSA’s ITEK got involved last year, offering to help Watson develop his prototype and create a product tailored to market need.

ITEK’s director of technology commercialisation, Associate Professor Piet Beukman, says ITEK would project manage the process on Dean’s behalf to have a fully functional prototype designed and made and would then search for appropriate business opportunities to maximise the returns for Dean and the University.

And if public response is any indicator, then Watson’s method of dealing with headache is highly likely to be a commercial success.

“Several years ago The Headache Clinic received 7,000 phone calls from headache sufferers within a week of an appearance on Today Tonight where I spoke about physiotherapy as an option for headache sufferers,” he says.

“This suggests that headache is not well managed and interestingly, of those callers, 70 per cent had not considered physiotherapy before.

“I am hopeful that this apparatus will go some way to managing headache more effectively. Indeed recent research has demonstrated that after rehabilitating this specific muscle group in headache sufferers there was a significant decrease in severity and frequency of headache.

“As a physio I think it’s appropriate that headache sufferers go to see their GP and if appropriate go to a neurologist for a scan, but more often than not the scan comes back negative and the patient is put on medication. I would argue that before they are put on medication they should have their neck examined.

“I have made some simple versions of the neck collar that I’ve used in clinical and teaching situations in Australia and Europe, and the response I’m getting both from patients and other physiotherapists is overwhelmingly one of anticipation,” he says.

ITEK is the commercialisation company of UniSA, helping University staff, students and graduates to assess the commercial potential of their research. For more information on ITEK's services visit the website at www.itek.com.au or contact Debbie Thomson on (08) 8343 8404 or email debbie.thomson@itek.com.au

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Bringing immunisation education to the world

by [Thel Krollig](#)



In tiny villages across Qinghai Province near the Tibetan highlands of western China, you'll find some of UniSA's finest medical programs at work. It's a long way from Adelaide to the Qinghai Province but two of Adelaide's leading

immunisation educators, Dr Colleen Smith and Ann Kempe, have made the journey.

The UniSA duo designed and implemented an education program for Chinese immunisation health professionals on behalf of the World Health Organisation. The program is specifically for health professionals who plan and manage immunisation programs, or who administer vaccines in provinces, counties, townships or villages in remote areas of China. In a country where hepatitis and HIV have become rampant, mainly due to the lack of money available for significant syringe replacement programs, the need for education is vital.

The circumstances are unique. Remote areas of China are a long way from the safe and effective immunisation programs run in Australia. Smith and Kempe have had to be extremely creative in devising the World Health Organisation education programs.

"We are talking about places where the immunisation programs are run in tiny village huts, where the learning culture is so far removed from anything we had previously experienced," says Dr Smith.

Basic teaching tools became butcher's paper, pens, and a rich repertoire of creative role-playing scenarios.

Not content with just writing the materials for health professionals, Smith and Kempe

put their case to the World Health Organisation to undertake follow-up assessment on how the programs were working. In a first for such a program, WHO agreed to send Smith and Kempe back to China to assess their level of success.

“We didn’t want to just write a program and send it off into a vacuum. We needed to know that the approach that we had taken was being successfully implemented,” said Kempe.

“What we encountered in China was an enormous willingness to learn and a strong desire by health professionals to embrace best practice protocols,” said Dr Smith.

“We gained so much pleasure from working with the people in China. It was an enormous learning curve. We had to learn so much about their culture and their way so we could implement the best possible program.”

This year in a new joint-venture with the international office of the World Health Organisation in Geneva, Kempe and Smith will shift their focus to Africa, where 800,000 immunisation-preventable childhood deaths are recorded annually*. Here, based on their success in China, the SA team will put in place a new immunisation program for the managers of immunisation programs. This new 12-part immunisation course is being developed with the help of senior staff from the five regional offices of the World Health Organisation.

“We have been asked to travel to Africa later in 2003 to field test parts of this new course and if successful this course will be used in all countries that implement WHO-based immunisation programs,” said Kempe.

Dr Colleen Smith is a senior lecturer in UniSA’s School of Nursing and Midwifery and a member of the Socially Sustainable Health Research Centre. She has had extensive experience in program design, development and evaluation.

Her experience in this area ranges from coordinating the development of University award programs, to distance education packages and more recently online program development. An integral component of her teaching involves offshore teaching of Malaysian, Chinese and Indian students.

Ann Kempe until recently managed the South Australian immunisation program and before that, the ACT immunisation program. She is now employed full-time as a consultant on special health projects for the Division of Health Sciences, and is the author of many publications on immunisation including articles on adverse events following immunisation.

Together the two have taken best practice immunisation programs to remote and

disadvantaged areas around the world.

*Task Force on Immunisation in Africa, WHO.

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New building adds to ambience at Magill

Staff and students at Magill are enjoying improved facilities following the opening of a new Learning Connection building on March 14.

The building takes maximum advantage of the natural environment of the campus,

overlooking the creek and bank of red gums across the campus, with landscaping to complement the recent creek replanting.



Designed and built by Swanbury Penglase Architects and Sarah Construction, the building is fully accessible to people with disabilities, with wider doors and corridors, a disability access bathroom, wheelchair-user-friendly light switches, door handles and display areas, and reception desk access.



The building design has been submitted by Swanbury Penglase to the prestigious Royal Australian Institute of Architects 2003 Architectural Awards.

“The improved facilities of the new Learning Connection building provide a range of services for students ensuring not only greater access to, but greater success in higher education,” Vice Chancellor, Professor Denise Bradley said at the launch.

Professor Bradley noted the importance of maintaining the existing central site for the new building because of the importance of Learning Connection to student life and its links to other essential student services provided by Campus Central, the Library,

Students Association office, UniBooks and the Student Bar.

Carol Sutherland, manager of Learning Connection at Magill, said that students and staff on campus have responded positively to the new building.

“The central location, the accessibility and the welcoming design and feel of the building is bringing greater numbers of students in to ask about our services or just enjoy the landscaping and outdoor areas of the building.”

Learning Connection provides a range of services and resources both on campus and online for students including language and learning development, counselling, disability services, international student services and career preparation. Services and resources are provided both on campus and online.

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What's eating at men's health?

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)

It's well-documented that in the areas of nutrition and health, men have often fared worse than women, experiencing lower life expectancy and higher rates of obesity and heart disease.

But while many of the problems have been identified, specific research identifying practical recommendations to help prevent these problems in men has been lacking.

A UniSA study now underway aims to address this deficiency by identifying important issues affecting

ageing men's health and using the information to formulate real, effective strategies aimed at improving men's nutrition and general well-being.

Led by Dr Murray Drummond, a senior lecturer in physical education, exercise and sports studies, in conjunction with honours student James Smith, the study has been funded to the tune of \$11,500 by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dr Drummond and Smith are now about half way through 50 in-depth interviews with World War Two and Vietnam war veterans living in metropolitan and rural South Australia aged between 55 and 93, and say the emerging issues are likely to have implications not only for war veterans, but ageing men in general.



“We are asking ‘what are the physical and social factors that are impacting on men’s health’, and some of the major issues emerging include isolation, depression, social support networks, and polypharmacy,” says Dr Drummond.

“Many of our subjects have found themselves divorced or widowed later in life, and that can have a real impact on their health, particularly when the men haven’t been provided with the life skills to cook and shop for themselves.

“A lot of ageing men are on many different medications at once and although pharmacists tend to monitor that well, GPs often can’t because it’s specialists who are prescribing the medications.”

Many of the problems come back to social isolation, something which Smith says may affect the Vietnam veterans more than those from WW2.

“The WW2 veterans tend to be more involved in community organisations, whether it’s the Probus club or the RSL, whereas we’re finding Vietnam veterans don’t tend to be involved as much,” he says.

“However the Vietnam veterans tend to be more open about eating multicultural food, while the older men tend to go for more plain, easy to prepare food.”

Dr Drummond and Smith plan to finish the study this year, and present their findings and recommendations in a report to the Department of Veterans Affairs, as well as the National Men’s Health Conference to be held in Cairns in September.

“We’re excited because it’s an area where there hasn’t been a lot of research, so we really are breaking new ground in identifying health needs for ageing men,” says Dr Drummond.

“We hope to take it further and gain support to conduct a national study.”

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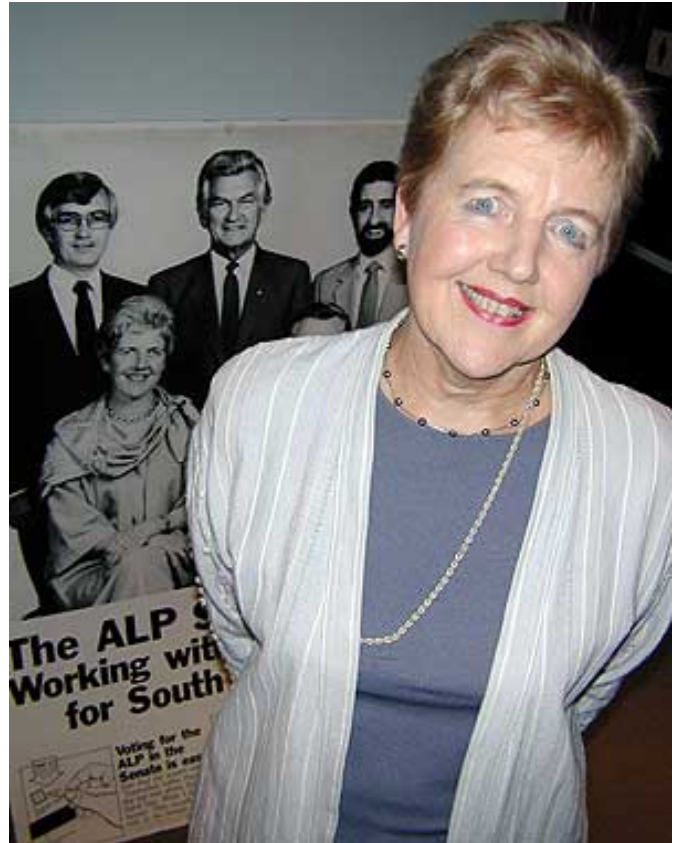
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Crowley joins Hawke Research Institute

Former federal senator Dr Rosemary Crowley has deposited her personal papers in the collection of the Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Library and begun a new role as adjunct research fellow at the Hawke Research Institute.



Dr Crowley (pictured), a senator from 1983 to 2001, was SA's first female ALP member to be elected to Federal Parliament, and was Minister for Family Services from 1993-1996 and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women in 1993.

She has donated 700 boxes of archival material to the Hawke Prime Ministerial Library, including personal papers, and an interesting array of books, photographs, and memorabilia from her time in politics.

Before entering the senate, Dr Crowley worked as a doctor in community health, child care, parent education, occupational health and safety, and women's health. She maintains an interest in many policy areas, including health, child care, education and women's sport. She is looking forward to helping forge stronger links between politicians, policy makers and academics.

“I’m constantly appalled by how little politicians learn from their academic colleagues,” she said at her official welcome at the Hawke Institute on March 27, “... and I think it might be good to talk about how we can improve the situation to get politicians and academics talking more – and I don’t just mean when the Minister is talking about cutting the education budget.”

Dr Crowley will help Hawke Institute researchers to develop a new policy web site and ensure it gets to the right eyes and ears.

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Does Australia need a new defence policy?

The war in Iraq has brought a keen focus on Australia's defence strategies and capabilities. Do we have the systems and attitudes to face a vastly-changed world? Or do we need a radical change in our defence policy?

Defence intelligence expert, Professor Paul Dibb will bring special insight to these vital questions at the next SA Press Club luncheon on Wednesday May 7.

Professor Dibb is Chairman of the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre in the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University. Previously he was deputy secretary for strategy and intelligence with the Defence Department, and Director of the Defence Intelligence Organisation.

What: SA Press Club Lunch, featuring Professor Paul Dibb (AM) speaking on *Australia's Defence Policy: Does it need radical change since the war with Iraq?*

When: Wednesday, May 7, 12noon for 12.30 start.

Where: Hilton Adelaide, Victoria Square, Adelaide.

Cost: \$44 for journalists employed by media outlets, \$55 for all other guests.

Corporate tables of 10 available.

RSVP by Monday May 5.

Enquiries: ph (08) 8211 9400

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Beijing's best may make UniSA their classroom

A three-week visit to Adelaide by 24 top Chinese departmental directors and deputy directors could be the start of something big for South Australia and UniSA.



Guests of the SA

Government, UniSA and the City of Adelaide, the delegates last month sampled what Adelaide has to offer as a cultural and educational experience. Their seal of approval could pave the way for hundreds of Chinese public servants to study here.

Adelaide Lord Mayor Alfred Huang first cultivated interest from the Beijing Government in Adelaide as an education destination in his 2002 visit to China.

Following that visit UniSA was asked to submit a proposal to the Beijing Municipal Government to provide a four month Executive Management Development Program for their middle to senior managers which was submitted in person that same year by UniSA's Vice Chancellor, Professor Denise Bradley.

The first stage in sealing a deal with China saw a delegation of senior executives from the Beijing Municipal Government visit Adelaide late last year for further negotiations with the University and to view the study facilities. While in Adelaide the delegation requested a one-month Senior Executive Program in Mandarin as well as a cultural visit for the highest-ranking managers of the Beijing Municipal Government in 2003.

This group was in Australia for three weeks undertaking the same Executive Management Development Program they can expect their staff to experience if they

choose to study at UniSA.

Beijing's senior management delegation began their Senior Executive Program at UniSA on March 7 and graduated on March 27 at a ceremony at City West campus.

The program has included a curriculum derived from senior management topics delivered in Masters programs at UniSA both here and overseas and has included guest speakers from a range of Government departments.

Lecturers from the University covered legal frameworks, strategy and people management issues within organisations as well as risk and crisis management and public sector economics issues.

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Debunking mobility myths

Older people need more encouragement to explore different mobility options, rather than feeling that their life is over if they can no longer drive a car.

That's the verdict of a group of UniSA researchers who have taken an in-depth look at mobility as part of the project, *Being Safe, Mobile and Older*.

Bringing together researchers from occupational therapy, transport, and social work, the project team aims to debunk mobility myths and open people's minds to the links between transport policy development, issues of self identity and other transport options besides cars.

As part of the research, 67 older people from rural and metropolitan areas (including people identified as drivers, never driven and relinquished drivers) took part in focus groups and in-depth interviews to discuss issues of mobility and safety.

Research team member and occupational therapy lecturer Angela Berndt says that although those who had never driven were able to offer some useful insights into alternative forms of transport, there was still a commonly-held belief that the drivers licence held status above other forms of transport.

"The belief that we must hold onto the licence at all costs seems to be stopping people of all ages from exploring, experimenting and developing alternative and complementary mobility habits," says Berndt.

"Our research showed that driving capacity is too strongly linked to issues of self esteem and identity, when it needn't be."

Berndt says that there are a myriad of alternatives – from public transport to electronic scooters – but not all options are appropriate for everyone.

"We have looked closely at electronic scooters, and while they are becoming increasingly popular, there are some concerns regarding the suitability of these pieces of equipment for people who have poor vision or cognitive impairment."

“We think they should be promoted as mobility aids but not as replacements for cars, as this only reinforces the message that cars are the most elite form of mobility and if you can’t have one then you should find the next best thing.”

The research team also consulted with a group of key stakeholders, including representatives from the RAA, the Council of the Ageing, police, local councils and Motor Accident Commission, as well as examining driver crash patterns.

They plan to present their findings to the stakeholder group next month.

“The stakeholders will be given an opportunity to act together and with the research team to progress the work to a new level via grants, projects and partnerships,” said Berndt.

Being Safe, Mobile and Older was funded with a UniSA Collaborative Research Grant. It is a cross discipline project involving Dr Jeremy Woolley and Christopher Dyson from the Transport Systems Centre, Dr Jennifer Bonham and Cathy Jervis from the School of Geoinformatics, Planning and Building, Dr Peter Lumb from the School of Social Work and Social Policy, and Professor Esther May and Angela Berndt from the School of Health Sciences.

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Our people

Namita Roy Choudhury**Researching
beyond the tried
and true**

Man's mind stretched to a new idea never goes back to its original dimensions. This observation, originally made by OW Holmes, is not only true for the human mind but is equally true for the material I work with and research: so-called polymer material.

It is amazing to look back at and explore the journey that has brought me to where I am now. Born, brought up and educated in India, I was always intrigued by the term 'research'. To me research is like adventure, the sense of knowing unknown. I am also a great believer that change creates opportunities. Ever encouraged by my parents and later by my husband, I have worked in some premier research organisations and been exposed to different research environments. It is this exposure which has given me the opportunity to work with some of the world's eminent scientists, to understand the diverse research culture and to become resilient.

Before coming to Australia in 1994, I worked in CNRS (Centre Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique) in France for three years. My previous appointment at RMIT in Melbourne for two years involved mainly teaching in the inaugural Polymer Engineering course, as well as research and close interaction with students – interesting work but very different from what I am doing now.

It is now almost seven years since I first joined the Ian Wark Research Institute at Mawson Lakes. Since I've been here, the institute has grown and gone through major structural changes. For my part, it has involved some adjustment to the changing environment, but what is most important to me is I get to work with a bunch of dynamic people and be involved in research going beyond the tried and true.

Working in this University has given me opportunity not only to interact with a variety of people, from high school students to postgraduate students to backyard chemists and highly eminent professors of the world, but also allows me to stay tuned with the ever-changing, wonderful world of research.

I enjoy the diversity of my work and expect much growth for the institute's and University's research activities.

The most exciting part is that opportunities are mostly unknown and unlimited, therefore, the challenge is never ending!

Dr Namita Choudhury is sector coordinator of the Polymer Science Sector at the Ian Wark Research Institute at Mawson Lakes campus

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School students come out to UniSA

Students from high schools in Adelaide's north got to let loose their artistic flair and satisfy their scientific curiosity as part of UniSA's involvement in the Come Out youth arts festival last month.

More than 60 students from Salisbury High, Gepps Cross Girls High, Smithfield Plains High and Fremont-Elizabeth City High participated in the Be My Guest program, which saw the students attend the play *The Return*, and get a taste of university through hands-on workshops held at City West and Mawson Lakes campuses.

At City West the students created a charcoal mural reflecting the inner city landscape, while those that went to Mawson Lakes participated in interactive IT and scientific activities.

UniSA student liaison officer, Jen Clark, said the program aimed to provide positive arts and university experiences to students who might otherwise miss out on involvement in Come Out.

"The feedback we've received indicates that the students really enjoyed the opportunity, getting to see a more practical side to university." she said.

But perhaps the last word should go to Salisbury High School student, Sally Sheldon, who helped create the mural: "I'd never been to City West before, so it was great to



see the campus,” she said. “And I really enjoyed the drawing and the fact that we were encouraged to do whatever we wanted.”

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