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UniSA News

A newspaper of the University of South Australia

July 2003

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Main stories



Sonic synergies to converge at UniSA

More than 120 researchers looking at everything from terrorism to Chinese cinema, Aboriginal art and Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Bjork, Harry Potter, girl power and hip hop will converge at a cultural conference extravaganza to be held at UniSA this month. [Full Story](#)

Clean heat – as simple as sunshine

Researchers at UniSA have developed a revolutionary heating system that is effective, cheap to run, environmentally friendly, and designed to be discretely tucked away inside the roof of the home or office. [Full Story](#)



100 years of history

If the walls of the Brookman Building could speak they would tell a fascinating tale of the metamorphosis of technical education in South Australia over the last century. [Full Story](#)



Winchester welcomed to UniSA

She's an experienced administrator, a social geographer, an auditor for the Australian Universities Quality Agency and the reigning State champion in the veteran women's 800m run. [Full Story](#)

Waiting for fog to clear on higher education reform

The federal government's plan for higher education reform – which in its broadest translation will inject \$1.46 billion into Australia's universities over the next four years, contingent on a raft of reforms – has met a mixed response as stakeholders wait for legislation to reveal more detail. [Full Story](#)

Extras

[Library treasures exhibition a crowd pleaser](#)

From 'prime ministers to pelicans' some of the most fascinating treasures from UniSA's library were on display in David Jones last month as part of a joint exhibition by the libraries of the South Australian universities.

Other stories

[UniSA study highlights retirees' financial squeeze](#)

We all hope that we'll have choices in our living arrangements when we retire, but the disturbing truth is that many lifestyle choices may be limited to an increasingly small group – home owners in long-term relationships who have a history of continuous, stable employment.

[Secret science a powerhouse in SA](#)

The *Secret Life of Us* may have captured the youth market in TV viewing but it is the secret life of nanoparticles that is really set to 'rock their world.'

[Bringing designer trolleys to market](#)

Redesigning what has become a post-1960s suburban icon – the shopping trolley – was the major project for more than 30 UniSA Industrial Design students in semester one.

[Thinking about sustainability](#)

Adelaide Thinkers in Residence and UniSA's Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre presented the first of a dynamic public lecture series designed to bring fresh ideas and plans into South Australia at the Adelaide Town Hall on May 27.

[UniSA scores major Thai valuation consultancy](#)

[Hawke Institute research fellows welcomed](#)

UniSA's Hawke Research Institute announced its two research fellows for semester two, 2003, at a celebration held in May.

[Old scholars look back](#)

There's the official history of the Brookman building and then there's the R-rated version.

UniSA has scored a major contract to improve the standards of the valuation profession in Thailand. The consultancy, worth US\$139,035, was commissioned by Thailand's Office of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

[Our people - Dan Corbett](#)

"I started out my career as one of the software engineers who designed and implemented the launch software on the Space Shuttle."

[August 2003 issue of UniSANews](#)

Closing date July 25

Distribution August 15

[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.

Editor:

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

Web author:

[Edmund Boey](#)

Research and Events columns editor:

[Karen Williams](#)

Original design concept:

Visual Communications Consultancy

South Australian School of Art

Desktop publishing:

[Karen Williams](#)

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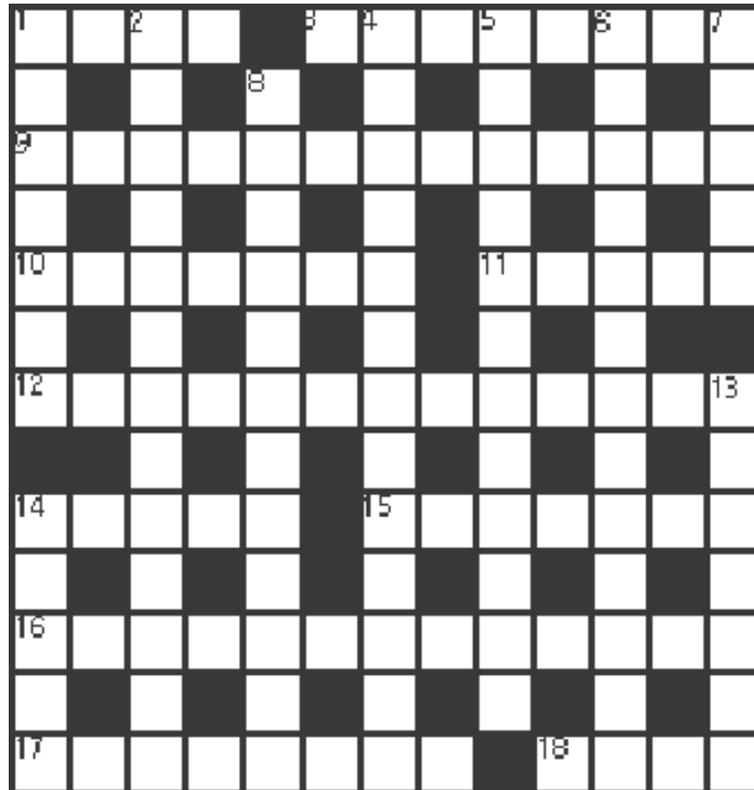
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Colgan's Cryptic Crossword



ACROSS

- 1. Frame the band! (4)
- 3. Touch tailless animal open to mistreatment (8)
- 9. Be in support of toothpaste! It has long-term value (9,4)
- 10. Bandit gang captures doctor (7)
- 11. Narrow high pressure zone in watershed (5)
- 12. Amazed how roars carry (13)
- 14. Smooth turns needed by vessels (5)
- 15. Release single unfinished gem (7)
- 16. Settled back to provide maintenance and assistance to new parents (6,7)
- 17. Attack request to impose a challenge (3,1,4)
- 18. Those in *Me, Myself, I* (4)

DOWN

- 1. Funds outlaid by backer of team? (4,3)
- 2. Place one holding vessel before mate (13)

4. By mistake, kisses arms (13)
5. Heads for neat district; about to! (6,6)
6. Frightful deputy leader interrupted ancestral game (13)
7. Bear has no right to invest (5)
8. Shining result of Spanish conquest (12)
13. Those accepting deliveries at the zoo (7)
14. The capital of Dubai is involved in its market's rising prestige (5)

Win a bottle of wine

For your chance to win a bottle of fine wine, fax your completed crossword to Len Colgan at (08) 8302 5785 by Wednesday, July 23.

The winners of the July competition were Peter Hutchinson and John Stevens.



Answers and 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) S: frame = sash (on window) S: band = sash
- 3) C: touch tailless (abut, without 't') animal (sable) S: open to mistreatment = abusable
- 9) C: be in support of toothpaste ('be' inside 'denture bond') S: it has long term value = debenture bond

- 10) C: gang (band) captures doctor (contains 'rig') S: bandit = brigand
- 11) S: narrow high pressure zone = ridge S: watershed = ridge
- 12) C: roars (thunders) carry (truck) S: amazed = thunderstruck
- 14) C: smooth turns (sleek, backwards) S: vessels = keels
- 15) C: single (unwed) unfinished gem (ge) S: release = unwedge
- 16) C: settled back (repaid, backwards) to provide maintenance (service) S: assistance to new parents = diaper service
- 17) C: attack (set at) request (ask) S: to impose a challenge = set a task
- 18) POW: Those in *Me, Myself, I* = egos

Down

- 1) POW: funds outlaid by backer of team = side bet
- 2) C: place (lieu) one holding (tenant) vessel before (sub, beforehand) S: mate = sublieutenant
- 4) C: mistake (blunder) kisses (busses) S: arms = blunderbusses
- 5) C: neat (steers) district (ward) about to (around 'to') S: heads for = steers toward
- 6) C: deputy leader (d) interrupted ancestral (blood) game (curling) S: frightful = bloodcurdling
- 7) C: bear (endure) has no right (missing 'r') S: invest = endure
- 8) C: result of Spanish conquest = Incan descent S: shining = incandescent
- 13) S: those accepting deliveries = keepers S: at the zoo = keepers
- 14) S: capital of Dubai (d) is involved in its market rising (inside "souk", upwards) S: prestige = kudos

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From the Chancellery

Experience. The Difference.

We've all seen the advertising on billboards and buses. I've been intrigued and amused by its ambiguity. Now after seven weeks, I'm getting the hang of what it means for me.

UniSA is quite different from any of the universities I've worked in both in Australia and overseas.

The first difference is a hugely satisfying sense of purpose. The University knows where it's going and what it has to do. My first few days were spent in Divisional and Unit reviews, assessing the last year, evaluating performance, asking questions and setting directions. It's a terrific insight into how the University works. I found a great sense of commitment to a shared vision, demonstrated not only by the annual planning and review cycle but also by our vision of 2010, the shape of the future academic profile and the blueprint for the development of buildings and facilities.

The second difference, which assails me daily, is the extent to which we are working in an online environment. This is not just the case for our teaching and learning activities but for processes, documents and communication. My email inbox may be a constant source of horror but it's quick to reply to, easy to file and it is compensated for by a much reduced paper flow. It also enables a genuine flexibility of working in both time and place. As we are all aware, email is a tool that can be empowering or overwhelming. I have to make serious work decisions about its impact on my life.

Allied to the online and strategic focus are the terrific possibilities opening up in data management and the provision of online information. A corporate priority identified for next year will be to make more effective use of the University's management information systems to support decision-making. We all need to convert data into meaningful information in order to work more effectively.

The final difference for me is the energy and capacity being directed towards quality staffing support. UniSA actively supports personal and professional development, a

family-friendly workplace and a sense of human priorities in workforce planning. I am impressed by the focussed commitment to diversity, and to the development of informed and empowered individuals. A further priority for 2004 will be to build individual and institutional capacity.

I am looking forward to my new role as PVC: Organisational Change and Development, working with Planning and Assurance Services, Information Strategy Technology Services and Human Resources, to making a difference to our experience at UniSA.

Professor Hilary Winchester

Pro Vice Chancellor: Organisational Change and Development

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News in brief

Wilkinson appointed to advisory council

UniSA's Pro Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences, Professor David Wilkinson, has been appointed to the Health and Medical Research Advisory Council of South Australia for a two year term.

The newly established council was created to provide leadership and advice on health and research issues to the Minister for Health and the Department of Human Services.

"I see this as a tremendous opportunity for our state to develop a coordinated and integrated approach to medical and health research," Prof Wilkinson said.

Queen's birthday honours

UniSA's Chancellor David Klingberg has been made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM). Named on the 2003 Queen's Birthday Honours List, Klingberg received the award in recognition of his contributions to the tertiary sector and through engineering projects designed to improve infrastructure and services.

Professor Wendy Schiller, Head of UniSA's de Lissa Institute of Early Childhood Education, was awarded an OAM in recognition of her service to early childhood education.

New appointment

Professor Ed Carson has been appointed Dean of Graduate Studies at UniSA for a five year term. He was previously the Dean of Research for the Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences.

Fringe focus for arts management

UniSA's International Graduate School of Management (IGSM) has joined forces with the Adelaide Fringe Incorporated to produce a teaching aid that comes as close as possible to the reality of putting together a world class festival. Launched on June 12,

the CD Rom – Fringe Benefits – is a full case study following all the complexities of running a major festival using materials as diverse as TV commercials and news reports, through to minutes from meetings and contracts with artists and venues.

Tertiary management conference

Registrations are now open for the 2003 Tertiary Education Management Conference, to be held in Adelaide from September 28-October 1.

This year the conference's theme is 'Public good and market commodity: underpinning the academic enterprise.'

For more information and registration, visit the website at www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/tem2003

UniSA joins InnovationXchange

UniSA is part of a new initiative which aims to promote scientific research via the internet.

InnovationXchange (www.innovationxchange.com.au) offers online resources covering topics such as new technologies, business services, education and training, funding, and government assistance.

Researchers interested in contributing to the site should contact their division's business development manager or marketing and alumni officer.

Indigenous college renamed

Following a managing change process UniSA's support for Indigenous education and research will be refocused and strengthened.

The College of Indigenous Education and Research will now be known as the Indigenous College of Education and Research (ICER). The college is set to appoint a Dean by next year, who will oversee ICER's development with a specific responsibility for research and ensuring college activities are well known among and supported by Indigenous communities. (Professor Paul Hughes is currently the Chair of the College Executive and is undertaking the duties of the Dean).

A new position – Senior Research Fellow for Nunga Research – will be established to support and expand the ICER's research activities.

UniSA's Pro Vice Chancellor for Education, Arts and Social Sciences says that ICER will continue to have University-wide responsibilities through the work of the Aboriginal and Islander Support Unit (AISU), and will work with schools in all

Divisions to increase Indigenous enrolments.

“While the changes being implemented are small in some ways, they are also highly symbolic of the University’s continuing commitment to ensuring Indigenous students achieve success and the University supports the development of Indigenous research,” he says.

“The University aspires to leadership in Indigenous education and research and these changes are part of a plan to boost our performance.”

TR spin-off company a rising star

Iterative Connections, a spin-off company from UniSA’s Institute for Telecommunications Research, has come runner up in the 2003 South Australian Rising Star Awards.

The awards recognise emerging private companies that have made a significant contribution to the technology sector. Iterative Connections specialises in technology to create superior performing satellite modems.

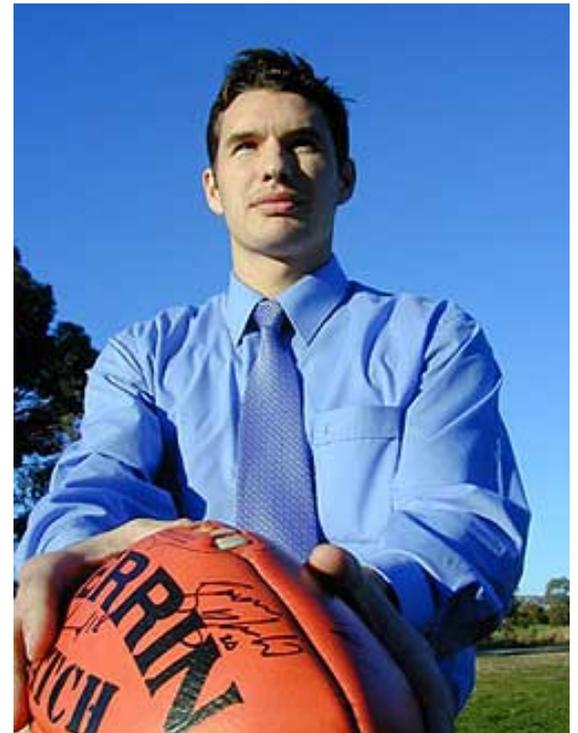
[!\[\]\(30072721fe92392a2d7c953be68f714a_img.jpg\) **Back to top**](#)

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Five to nine - A passion to play

by [Gerry Clarke](#)

After finishing work as a scholarships officer for Research Services, Andrew Beveridge hops in his car at Mawson Lakes and makes the long trek to Unley Oval. This is the ritual he goes through each Monday, Wednesday and Friday so that he can play league football in South Australia.



Andrew juggles full-time work with UniSA with his part-time role as a league footballer for the Sturt Football Club. A game on Saturday and a recovery session on Sunday round out his footy commitments during the football season. Of course, during the off-season the workload increases with six or seven running, weights or skill sessions each week.

“There is a significant time commitment in playing league football,” Andrew said. “The days can seem pretty long, particularly in the middle of a cold, wet winter, but I love to compete at the highest level possible.”

It was Andrew’s eagerness to test himself in a better football competition that saw him move from his native Tasmania to Adelaide in 2000. The dream of eventually playing in the AFL was still alive.

Andrew joined Campus Services that year and found UniSA and South Australian football to his liking. However, at the end of 2001, Andrew thought it was time to

return to Tasmania.

“Going home gave me the opportunity to put my aquaculture training into practice,” Andrew said.

“I worked as a commercial diver on marine Atlantic salmon farms in southern Tasmania. I enjoyed the work but the lure of again playing football in South Australia and having a South Australian girlfriend convinced me to return to Adelaide.”

Andrew has quickly settled back into the Adelaide lifestyle, enjoying his role with Research Services and thriving on the challenges football offers. Any spare time he gets is spent relaxing with friends, fishing or camping. Andrew has only a passing interest in AFL and, unlike many of us, is not afflicted by the football tipsters ‘curse’ – he steers clear of footy tipping.

The AFL dream may be gone, but you can tell by the look in Andrew’s eyes that he retains the passion for playing football at the elite level and that he is determined to be part of a Double Blues premiership team.

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Browser briefs

by [Karen Williams](#)

Scientifically speaking

Perhaps an online ballet dictionary or the periodic table of the elements is not your thing, but you are bound to find some useful links at this website. A reference website with a scientific slant, it is run by Jim Martindale in California, and is hosted by UCI Science Library. Jim states that he is the 'sole owner, operator, designer, site maintainer and head of the complaints department of Martindale's The Reference Desk'. It is a full-time job for him to maintain the 'over 45,000 sites' located within the various centres linked to his site. Links are many and varied, and are classified under headings ranging from a World Wide Overview to Entertainment and the Arts to Astronomy to Materials Science Center. Under 'World Wide Overview' you have links to sites pertaining to countries of the world, and you can click on the map to show the sun's current position, or you can find out the local time anywhere in the world. You can even do a tutorial on radiocarbon dating or other forms of dating under 'Time Measurement – Geological Scale' under the Science Tables heading. There's also a link to virtual health centres containing topics ranging from nutrition to radiology. It would take a long time to exhaust the resources here, and with a bit of digging, you're bound to locate that gem of information.

www-sci.lib.uci.edu/HSG/Ref.html

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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

Floral lounge suite 2 seater plus 2 armchairs: very well made, in mint condition \$900. Phone 8302 0096

Futon folds out into a double bed; two years old; in very good condition; black metal frame; navy blue cover; \$100 ono. Contact Grazia on 8302 3247 or 8336 6440

Honda Integra 1994. WWN 630. Immaculate condition, auto, air, 6-CD, sunroof, 96,000 km, white, full service records. \$16,200. Phone 8272 1253 ah

Playstation 2 games excellent condition, boxed with instructions etc. Gran Turismo 3 (A-spec) \$20; Warriors of Might and Magic \$20; The bouncer (no case/instructions) \$10. Please contact Stuart on 0410 796 381

Renovation sale at Henley Beach. For the following items phone: 8235 0551:

Drapes – full lined, cream, English damask, 2 pair, 2700 x 2350 drop \$600/pair

Matching pelmets x 2, 2700 x 420, with track, \$400 each

Retro kitchen – late 1950s cream cupboards with speck laminate benchtop, demounted \$200. Great for shack.

Washing machine – Pacific by Gorenge, exc cond just serviced \$250

Dryer – Simpson Duet, old but in vgc, heat element just replaced. Only problem is knob has fallen off \$80

Clothesline - collapsible umbrella \$50

Accommodation wanted

Housesitters – family looking to housesit. Prefer 3-4 bdrm home near city or inner Southern suburbs. Keen gardener, references available. Ph Jane 8277 7225.

For rent

North Adelaide large 2 storey house, walk to Melbourne St, 3 br, 2 bathrm, 3rd toilet, living/dining, family rm, ducted rc air, dble remote lu garage and alarm system. Rent \$380 per week. Contact Francis 0411 3510 76

North Adelaide pristine, spacious 2 storey cottage in heart of Nth Adelaide, close to O'Connell St. Polished timber throughout, 2 dble bedrooms (robes), 7.3x 4m living area (open fire), large eat-in kitchen with French doors to c/yard, gas cook, d/w, laundry, 2 toilets, balconies, parking, security system, 3 R/C A/C. Close to major bus routes for all university campuses. Available now, \$350 per week. Call John on 0413 969 519 for brochure and photos.

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Academic board

UniSA 2010

The Vice Chancellor introduced the draft *UniSA 2010*. Since 2000, the University has used the *UniSA 2005* statement as a guide to our longer-term intentions and targets.

Prof Bradley reported that the Corporate Planning Group has now drafted a statement for discussion, which includes revised targets for 2010 and reflects the outcomes of various corporate initiatives including the University's Research Strategy, Academic Profile 2010-2015 and the Teaching and Learning Framework 2010.

Key policy committees, including the Teaching and Learning Committee, have considered the draft statement, and during the consultation process the CPG encouraged Divisional Boards and Executives of Administrative Units to provide feedback.

The context in which *UniSA 2010* was developed assumes that higher education will continue to be a mass system, with participation rates climbing to 60 per cent, while facing increased competition and the challenges of deregulation and globalisation.

UniSA will have to excel at what it does best by developing centres of excellence, increasing our collaborative efforts, forging new partnerships, embracing internationalisation, social responsibility, technological change and the innovative community.

In 2010, UniSA will be a distinctive, internationally competitive institution in a global market for students and research contracts. We will have an internal culture that embraces change, and will continue to be recognized for education and research undertaken in collaboration with industry and the professions.

Our students and staff will be in an environment which reflects the University's commitment to quality, diversity, sustainability and equality, and the creation, application and communication of knowledge which delivers economic and social

benefits.

While the University will still be based in South Australia, research and teaching will increasingly be conducted in many countries through innovative use of e-learning and e-business.

Commercialisation of intellectual property will increasingly provide an income stream and support the growth of new business enterprises.

UniSA 2010 has been developed on the assumption that there will be little change in Australian student numbers, and that the University will be pressed to retain existing domestic student numbers. In relation to international onshore and offshore student numbers, the CPG modelled three scenarios, settling for a mid-level target.

So by 2010, it is anticipated that there will be 4,500 international students studying on local campuses, and 17,000 international students studying in programs in their own countries. The growth in the numbers of students on campus raises some serious capital planning issues.

Growth in research degree student numbers will be dependent on Commonwealth Government policies for higher education and research funding. The CPG has gone for relatively conservative projections, with a target of 1,200 research students, of whom 20 per cent will be offshore, being set for 2010.

Staff numbers will be dependent on the resources available and models of teaching adopted. If the current Commonwealth funding regime continues the University will certainly need larger numbers of general staff.

UniSA 2010 is premised on the belief that the University's teaching and learning environment will continue to be student-centred, flexible and technologically mediated, with the assumption that students will continue to want high tech equipment.

South Australia's demography and fragile economy will continue to impact on UniSA, as will shifting assumptions about whether higher education is an asset or a cost. The pace of change in the sector and the sustainability of the University's current teaching model will continue to present challenges, and to survive and prosper we will need to support and capitalise on innovation and enterprise.

Program Development

The following new programs were approved:

- Master of Business Administration

- Executive Master of Business Administration
- Master of Rehabilitation Counselling
- Doctor of Human Service Research
- Doctor of Information Technology

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 Natalie.Thorpe@unisa.edu.au

New grant opportunities

Australian Research Council

Linkage-International Program – Readvertised

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

Closing date ongoing

Linkage-Projects Round 2 – Preliminary Notification

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

Application forms will be available on GAMS shortly.

Internal closing date 14 Nov 2003

External closing date 28 Nov 2003

Autism Victoria

2004 Apex Trust For Autism Grant

Sponsors research into the incidence, cause, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of children with autism. To obtain an application form, please contact Natalie Thorpe on 8302 3954.

Internal closing date 17 July 2003

External closing date 31 July 2003

Apex Foundation

The Apex Foundation for Research into Intellectual Disability Research Grants

www.apexfoundation.org.au/

Internal closing date 17 July 2003

External closing date 31 July 2003

IELTS Australia

IELTS Australia Research Program

www.idp.com/globalexaminationservices/article399.asp

Internal closing date 17 July 2003

External closing date 31 July 2003

River Basin Management Society

Ernest Jackson Memorial Research Grants

The River Basin Management Society will provide grants of up to \$2,000 to assist research in the field of river basin management. To obtain an application form, please contact Natalie Thorpe on 8302 3954.

Internal closing date 11 July 2003

External closing date 25 July 2003

Criminology Research Council

General Grants

www.aic.gov.au/crc/applications/

Internal closing date 8 July 2003

External closing date 22 July 2003

International funding opportunities

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

Special Joint Project Funding Australia and Britain – readvertised

www.humanities.org.au

Internal closing date 20 Sept 2003

External closing date 30 Sept 2003

Exchange Program – Netherlands – readvertised

www.humanities.org.au

Internal closing date 8 August 2003

External closing date 15 August 2003

Visiting Scholars Program with the Former USSR - readvertised

www.humanities.org.au/international/russia.htm

Internal closing date 14 Nov 2003

External closing date 30 Nov 2003

Visiting Scholars Program – Indonesia/Southeast Asia – readvertised

www.humanities.org.au/international/Indonesia.htm

Internal closing date 14 Nov 2003

External closing date 30 Nov 2003

Program for International Research Linkages (PIRL) – readvertised

www.powerup.com.au/~acsanz/

Internal closing date 31 Oct 2003

External closing date 15 Nov 2003

Australian Academy of Science

Grants for international collaboration in scientific research

Offers grants-in-aid for Australian researchers to undertake collaborative research in North America, Europe, and Asia.

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

Closing dates – various – internal closing date for Europe is 18 July 2003. Check website for further details

Australian-American Fulbright Commission

2004 Fulbright Symposium

www.fulbright.com.au/nav/11frame.htm

Internal closing date 17 July 2003

External closing date 31 July 2003

Fellowship and award opportunities

Dialogica

Excellence in Written Communications

www.swin.edu.au/research/sgrs/DialogicaGuide.pdf

Internal closing date 11 August 2003

External closing date 25 August 2003

Australian Academy of Science

Awards and research support

<http://www.science.org.au/awards/awards.htm>

Internal closing date 16 August 2003

External closing date 30 August 2003

Foundation For High Blood Pressure Research

10th Anniversary Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

The foundation is offering a two-year postdoctoral fellowship for a research project at an Australian Institution. Applications from biomedical, clinical and public health researchers are invited. To obtain an application form, please contact Natalie Thorpe on 8302 3954.

Internal closing date 4 July 2003

External closing date 18 July 2003

Ian Clunies Ross Memorial Foundation

ATSE Clunies Ross Award 2004

www.cluniesross.org.au/Award.htm

Internal closing date 17 July 2003

External closing date 31 July 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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Sonic synergies to converge at UniSA

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)



More than 120 researchers looking at everything from terrorism to Chinese cinema, Aboriginal art and Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Bjork, Harry Potter, girl power and hip hop will converge at a cultural conference extravaganza to be held at UniSA this month.

From July 17-22 scholars and practitioners hailing from as far a field as the USA, Canada, UK, China and Africa will come together for the inaugural *Sonic Synergies, Creative Cultures* conference, and its two sister symposia – *Staking a claim: Global Buffy* and *Local Identities and Globalisation: responses to uncertain times*.

If you doubted the depth and breadth of communication, cultural and popular music studies as academic disciplines then a quick scan of some of the issues to be discussed would make you think again: keynote speaker Professor Douglas Kellner from UCLA will speak about how global media forces affected our interpretations of world events post September 11; Professor Tommy De Frantz from MIT will explore global hip hop and the art of performance; Professor Meaghan Morris from Lingnan University in Hong Kong will discuss the impact of SARS on world trade, education and senses of safety; Professors David Lavery and Rhonda Wilcox from the USA will examine the power and complexity of cult television program, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*; while UniSA's own Professor Alison Mackinnon and Danni Nicholas-Sexton will explore the possibilities and limitations of 'girl power' through a study currently being conducted in Adelaide and Melbourne.

Other special guests will include Channel 7 producer and programmer David Franken, and South Australia's Minister assisting the Premier in the Arts, John Hill, who will open the main event in Brookman Hall.

Conference convenor Dr Gerry Bloustien says that the three events will explore "the nature and impact of cultural synergies."

"It's about how creative industries, music, identity and new technologies together make a whole much larger than their individual parts."

Dr Bloustien says one of the best things about the events is the opportunity they give to local emerging scholars to communicate with longer established academics in their field.

"A huge number of UniSA students are presenting papers and are involved in the conferences organisation," she says. "They get their work heard, they get a chance to meet the people whose work they've read and they get to debate with experts in their field – and we're bringing it all to their doorstep."

"I think in the current academic climate where humanities often have to struggle to be recognised, it's very important to celebrate the level of scholarship that is occurring in these areas and to show how issues of popular culture bring together so many different disciplines and have such an important part to play in education in general."

Dr Bloustien says some of the conference highlights will include forums using broadband linkups to the US and UK, and the launch of four new books – two showcasing the work of UniSA scholars.

"But it's not just about academia – it's about bringing together academics, the community and creative industries for five days of discussion, debate and sharing of ideas and knowledge," she says.

Presented by the Hawke Research Institute in association with the International Association for the Study of Popular Music (IASPM), the conference incorporates the 10th Conference of the Australia-New Zealand branch of IASPM. For more registration and more information, visit the website at www.com.unisa.edu.au/sonic/



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Clean heat – as simple as sunshine

by [Geraldine Hinter](#)



Researchers at UniSA have developed a revolutionary heating system that is effective, cheap to run, environmentally friendly, and designed to be discretely tucked away inside the roof of the home or office.

The principles of solar air space

heating systems have been known for decades but until now none could be used practically in a modern home. The simple principle of the system is to capture the sun's heat during the day, transfer that heat to a storage facility and then retrieve it later when needed.

The challenge for researchers at UniSA's Sustainable Energy Centre (SEC) was to develop a system that complemented contemporary Australian housing design while providing a practical and affordable alternative to fossil fuel dependent heating systems, according to SEC Director, Associate Professor Wasim Saman.

Through a close collaboration between the South Australian Housing Trust, BHP Steel and UniSA, a new environmentally friendly innovation in home space heating was created, with research programs funded through the SA State Energy Research Advisory Committee and the Australian Research Council.

"With the cost of electricity and gas on the rise, the Solar Air Space Heating System is a most attractive alternative that can reduce average conventional heating bills by half," Prof Saman said.

"Other benefits include low dependence on fossil fuels, free energy from the sun, the fact that it blends with contemporary home design, is almost invisible, makes use of standard building and air conditioning design and installation practices, and is easy to install in new and existing homes."

The solar heater comprises two major components – an air based solar roof integrated collector and a thermal storage unit.

The solar collector is a roof made from Corbond® Steel, which has been glazed with a clear plastic material that's hardly noticeable. On sunny days the collector heats up as it absorbs sunlight. Air is then passed through the collector and is heated. This hot air warms the home or passes through the thermal storage unit, where the heat is captured in an innovative system of phase change materials that store energy by changing from a solid to a liquid at a desired temperature.

Because phase change materials have high energy storage capacity per unit mass and volume, heat can be stored efficiently in a compact system contained fully within the roof space, according to UniSA research engineer, Martin Belusko.

“When there is no sunshine, cool air inside the house is passed through the storage unit where it is heated and then circulated back into the house, introducing fresh air during operation. When the thermal storage is ‘empty’, a gas heater is used as the auxiliary heater,” Belusko said.

UniSA's Sustainable Energy Centre is a world leader in developing applications of phase change materials for both heating and cooling and has established a reputation for applied and innovative research across a broad range of sustainable energy applications.

The first prototype of the system has been installed on a house at Windsor Gardens. UniSA researchers will monitor the system's performance in the home over the next six months.

“UniSA's solar heating system is the first of a series of applications for both domestic and commercial markets. As the full family of innovative systems is demonstrated and commercialised over the next two years, the energy use and associated environmental impact for a typical Adelaide home will change forever,” Professor Saman said.

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100 years of history

If the walls of the Brookman Building could speak they would tell a fascinating tale of the metamorphosis of technical education in South Australia over the last century.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the official opening of the building – that imposing Federation-Gothic structure situated on the corner of North Terrace and Frome Road at UniSA's City East campus – and is an ideal time to reflect on the layers of changes and reforms that have transpired during its lifetime.

In 1899 when wealthy industrialist

George Brookman donated £10,000 to the SA School of Mines and Industries to help fund a new building, the industrial revolution was finally coming home to roost in South Australia. The SA School of Mines and Industries, founded in the 1870s to address a need for technical education, had 1,000 students and was outgrowing its accommodation in the nearby Exhibition Building, so Brookman's donation (which he originally made asking to remain anonymous in any press references) was a major coup for the school's president, Sir Langdon Bonython.

Bonython used the donation as leverage to gain £25,000 in government funding, and so with a total budget of £40,000 (Brookman had added an extra £5,000) a tender to build the three storey structure with a basement and large meeting hall was accepted from Frederick Fricker. Plans were drawn up by Charles Owen Smyth and FC Krichauff, and three years later the building was complete – made from South Australian sourced materials such as Hallett bricks and Auburn bluestone – for the exact sum of £37,114, 14 shillings, and 8 pence. With electrical and physics labs,



lecture rooms and mechanical workshops it was designed to be a place of learning for the emerging technical professions of the time.



Opened on February 24, 1903, the new building was originally known as 'The Main Building', with the hall named 'Brookman Hall'. It facilitated the expansion of the School of Mines, particularly the growth of the newly-established prep school (which in 1918 became known as Adelaide Technical

High School). Thanks to various

donations, facilities at the school were improved over the years, with Bonython funding a metallurgical laboratory, the Noyes brothers an electrical engineering lab and John Angus a wool lab.

As the school's popularity grew so too did demands on the main building's limited space. Despite earlier calls for a separate building for the high school it wasn't until 1963 (three years after the South Australian Institute of Technology formally replaced the School of Mines and Industries) that the Adelaide Technical High School moved to another site at Glenunga.

The 1970s were a time of expansion for SAIT, with degrees in disciplines such as occupational therapy, physiotherapy, accountancy and social studies established. To facilitate this growth new buildings were constructed, with the Levels campus opening in 1970.

The Brookman Building was added to the State Heritage Register in 1981. In 1991 SAIT amalgamated with the South Australian College of Advanced Education to form the University of South Australia and the rest, as the cliché goes, is history.

One hundred years after it was first opened and the Brookman Building in many ways still represents the heart and soul of the institution to which it belongs. It now houses the Student and Academic Services Unit (formerly Registry), the City East library, the Centre for English Language at UniSA (CELUSA) and the South Australian Institute of Business Technology, and Brookman Hall is still used for important University functions.

As part of the University's major capital works program, Blueprint 2005, the Brookman Building will be retained, with the planned health sciences building and plaza adjacent designed to complement its unique heritage aspects.

This article uses information from The People's University (Aeuckens, 1989) and The Brookman Building Conservation Management Plan (Swanbury Penglase, 2001).

[More on Brookman: Old scholars look back](#)

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Winchester welcomed to UniSA

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)

She's an experienced administrator, a social geographer, an auditor for the Australian Universities Quality Agency and the reigning State champion in the veteran women's 800m run.

Professor Hilary Winchester is also UniSA's new Pro Vice Chancellor for Organisational Change and Development, and with a career that has seen her work for no less than six universities from Oxford to Wollongong, she is no stranger to change herself.

Born in England, she studied geography at Oxford University and held various academic posts in the UK before coming to Australia in 1987, initially as a research fellow at the University of New England. She moved to South Australia in 2001 after a decade at the University of Newcastle, during which time she held various positions including Head of the Department of Geography and Environmental Science, and President of the Academic Senate.

Her research interests lie in human geography, with particular focus on issues such as homelessness, poverty and migration. In her spare time Prof Winchester can be seen jogging along the River Torrens and hopes to compete in the Corporate Cup later this year.

Prof Winchester began in the newly-created position in May, coming to UniSA from Flinders University where she was Academic Pro Vice Chancellor.



With a portfolio encompassing three administrative units (Human Resources, Planning and Assurance Services and Information Strategy and Technology Services) the new role at UniSA represents a change in direction for Prof Winchester.

“It moves me from academic administration, which I have been doing for quite a long time, into a different area, but one that is equally critical to the University,” she says.

“The units I am responsible for are all key areas in terms of upholding and improving the overall quality of the University, and I think pulling those areas together is really exciting – there are only two positions like this in Australia.”

A key part of Prof Winchester’s role will be to lead UniSA’s preparation for an Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) audit due to take place in 2004.

Prof Winchester is one of Australia’s most experienced university auditors with two full audits and two trial audits under her belt. She has just been chosen to chair the audit of UNE later this year, and says the experience will be invaluable for UniSA’s audit preparation.

In the lead-up to the audit, a draft quality portfolio will be circulated around mid-2003, with a trial audit planned for later in the year. Prof Winchester will be visiting each campus over the next few months getting to know staff and sharing information about the process.

She says that preparation for the audit should not mean a lot of extra work for schools and units.

“The corporate review and processes that we already have in place mean that most of the work has already been done,” she says.

“The audit will benchmark us against the other 38 Australian Universities and show the rest of the country how well we measure up.”

“The AUQA process is something we can look forward to as an opportunity to be proud of our accomplishments and be publicly commended for our achievements”.

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Waiting for fog to clear on higher education reform

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)

The federal government's plan for higher education reform – which in its broadest translation will inject \$1.46 billion into Australia's universities over the next four years, contingent on a raft of reforms – has met a mixed response as stakeholders wait for legislation to reveal more detail.

The Australian Vice Chancellors Committee, while supporting the proposed reform direction in principle, has called for a number of changes. Labor spokesperson for education Jenny Macklin has vowed to oppose an increase in HECS and the introduction of a new loans scheme that will charge students interest, while student unions are protesting moves to allow universities to increase their fees.

One thing all parties agree on is to raise the HECS repayment threshold – the government proposes to \$30,000, but the AVCC says it hasn't gone far enough and is calling for the threshold to be raised to \$35,000.

Released in May, Federal Education Minister Dr Brendan Nelson's policy statement, *Our Universities: backing Australia's future*, promises universities a 2.5 per cent funding increase for each of three years, but only if universities comply with new governance protocols and workplace relations policies – the details of which were unclear at the time that UniSANews went to print.

Other key aspects of the reform package include allowing universities to set HECS up to 30 per cent higher than the standard rates set by the government (excluding education and nursing programs); an increase in the allowable share of full fee paying students; 25,000 new Commonwealth-funded university places; a new scholarships scheme aimed at rural, low income and Indigenous students; and two new loans schemes – one for full fee paying students and another for students studying overseas.

In its response paper, *Excellence and Equity: Foundations for the future of Australia's universities*, the AVCC has indicated its support for the Commonwealth's "policy

direction and fiscal commitment”, but lists a number of weaknesses that they say need attention.

They oppose the proposed link between increased funding and changes to governance and workplace relations and argue that equity initiatives need to be stronger and wider ranging. The AVCC is also arguing for indexation to maintain the value of the Government’s investment, it opposes real interest charges on the new student loans and has made calls for the government to improve student income support arrangements and to raise the loan repayment thresholds to the average graduate starting salary.

UniSA’s Vice Chancellor Professor Denise Bradley AO, argues that change is long overdue, welcoming increased support for Indigenous education and applauding the establishment of a well funded program to reward good teaching in higher education. However she says the failure to index the core grant from the Commonwealth and tying any increases in the next three years to workplace relations changes mean that UniSA’s medium term financial outlook is unclear.

The government’s challenge over coming months will be to introduce and pass legislation through the senate, which will be no mean feat, considering Labor and Democrat senators are likely to oppose moves to allow universities to increase HECS.

For more information:

The government’s proposals: www.backingaustraliasfuture.gov.au/

The AVCC response: www.avcc.edu.au

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Library treasures exhibition a crowd pleaser



Held from May 23 to June 13, the inaugural *Treasures @ David Jones* exhibition featured a veritable feast of interesting selections from the three universities collections – from UniSA’s replica of the 1947 Panther motorcycle owned by Bob Hawke as a student to Percy Grainger’s viola and a safari suit worn by Don Dunstan.

Another highlight from UniSA’s collection was books and other items associated with renowned children’s author Colin Thiele. A collection of pelicans was situated on the second floor in children’s wear, with the main display in the Gallery featuring a pictorial quilt made for the *Storm Boy* author by school children.



UniSA senior librarian (image and communication) Carol Dungey said public response to the exhibition had been overwhelmingly positive. “We had 1405

visitors and many complimentary comments,” she said.

Excerpts from the visitors’ book support Dungey’s observations:

“Wonderful to see these items out on display and to relive old memories. Great to be able to bring the grandchildren to share with them.”

“An interesting mixture of exhibits representing different walks of life, parts of history and the ‘everyday’. There is something here that everyone can relate to and enjoy.”

“Magnificent – this should be an annual event.”



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Bounded choices

UniSA study highlights retirees' financial squeeze

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)

We all hope that we'll have choices in our living arrangements when we retire, but the disturbing truth is that many lifestyle choices may be limited to an increasingly small group – home owners in long-term relationships who have a history of continuous, stable employment.

That is the major finding of a UniSA study looking at how people's life and health choices are affected by a range of factors from government policy to individual circumstances and attitudes.

The project, *Bounded choices: limits on decision making about life transitions by older people*, brings together nine researchers from disciplines ranging from psychology and social work to nursing and management.

Researchers conducted in-depth interviews with 60 participants (half aged between 45-65 and half older than 65) covering topics such as work history, financial security and living arrangements – and have now produced five papers discussing the results and their implications.

One of the project's chief investigators, Dr Rob Ranzijn from UniSA's School of Psychology, says that while the research confirmed that those with a stable employment history who were in long term relationships were able to exercise a greater degree of choice in their retirement, many of those that fell into this group still felt financially insecure.

"Of the sample, 50 per cent felt financially insecure and I think that's a real worry. Even those who had done 'the right thing' by saving and investing didn't necessarily



feel secure,” Dr Ranzijn says.

“Two thirds of the participants expected that they would have to rely on the government to some degree, and half of that group think they will be totally reliant.”

In a political climate where it has been made clear that we cannot expect the government to ‘look after’ us with a pension in our old age, Dr Ranzijn says the policy implications are huge.

“The bottom line is unless the government becomes more interventionist, there may be many people in their old age with a poor quality of life.”

It all sounds pretty bleak, but there are solutions, according to Dr Ranzijn.

He says renewed government support for public housing and public transport will be crucial to many older people’s quality of life in the future – and that both the government and employers are going to have to “look closely at the structure of working life.”

“People are living longer and are going to have to work longer to support themselves in retirement, but at the moment there are a lot of barriers stopping middle aged people from re-entering the workforce which need to be addressed.”

Dr Ranzijn says employers need to be made aware of the advantages of older workers and the value to be gained from employing more permanent workers instead of following the trend towards short term contracts.

But it’s not all down to institutional change – one finding from the study was that while many people who experienced enforced redundancy did not recover professionally, for others the experience spurred them on to excel in a new career. Precisely what it was that made some people able to bounce back is an area that warrants greater research, says Dr Ranzijn.

Bounded choices: limits on decision making about life transitions for older people, is a cross disciplinary project involving Dr Ranzijn, Dr Jackie Jones, Associate Prof Margaret Patrickson, Dr Lorraine Kerr, Dr James Juniper, Associate Prof Ed Carson, Prof Alison Mackinnon, Alison Ballantyne and Eddie Le Sueur. The findings of the study were presented to a group of government policy-makers at a recent symposium.

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Secret science a powerhouse in SA

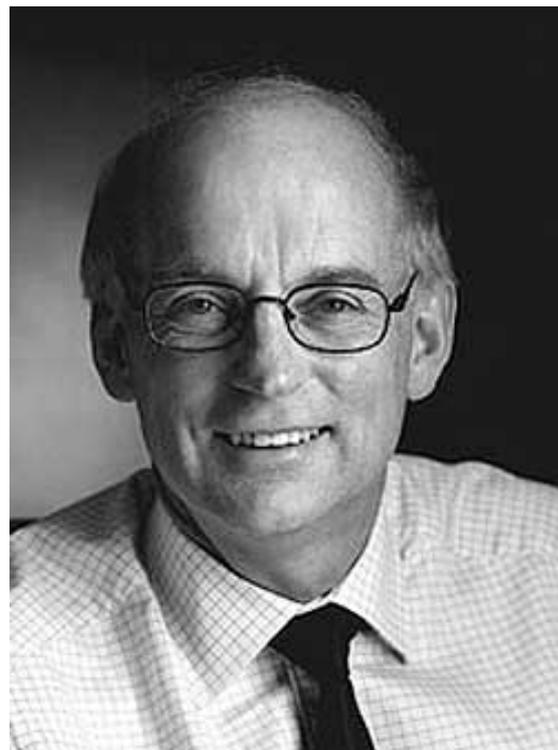
by [Professor John Ralston](#)

The *Secret Life of Us* may have captured the youth market in TV viewing but it is the secret life of nanoparticles that is really set to 'rock their world.' Most South Australians will be blissfully unaware that this state is making a name for itself in one of this century's most exciting fields of science – an area with astoundingly broad potential to make a real difference to our lives.

This June the Ian Wark Research Institute (IWRI) at UniSA was awarded a \$1million Federal Government grant to establish a Centre for Nano and Bio-materials to develop new products and materials using nanotechnology.

Already named an Australian Research Council Special Research Centre for Particle and Material Interfaces, since its foundation just nine years ago, the IWRI has built a dynamic reputation for innovation. The centre brings together some of the best in the field from around the world – all working in an environment that fosters endeavour and discovery. From its unassuming suburban headquarters at Mawson Lakes, specialists at the Institute are uncovering more and more about the potential of nanoparticles, items so small they are beyond the view of a light microscope.

So what can we look forward to as this minute and fascinating nano-world unfolds? With nanotechnology, everything that has been thought about in our world today could be reduced in scale. The technology is at the heart of some of the biggest advances in biotechnology – in the delivery of drugs at the cellular level to help fight



major diseases such as cancer – in the development of computational circuitry, waterproof materials, micro conduits and biointerfaces that will change the nature of medical diagnosis and DNA analysis, increasing the power of technology in medicine.

We are on the verge of a nano-technological revolution that promises to be more powerful than both the IT and biotechnology advances of the past 20 years put together. That revolution will be characterised by all things smarter, faster and smaller. It is a world of microscopic machinery, of button sized computers, of new materials capable of producing self filtered water, joint replacements that won't wear out, windows that clean themselves, of medicines with no side effects.

As Director of the IWRI, I am proud to be leading a group of talented researchers who in collaboration with some 65 institutions and companies around the world will help unlock the exciting secrets of nanotechnology.

In SA alone key organisations such as Solar International, Schefencker, TGR Biosciences, and Research Laboratories of Australia will work together with UniSA and the SA Research and Development Institute to commercialise developments using nanotechnology. When you look beyond the state, the group will include two of Australia's leading research universities, Monash and Sydney, and on the world stage the partnership will lock in the Max Planck Institute for Colloids and Interfaces in Berlin, other key institutions in Zurich, Stockholm and Lausanne and many more research and development organisations and companies.

We define our state as a centre for culture, an exponent of top winemaking and marketing and a hotbed of multicultural culinary innovation, and just a wonderful place to live. I look forward to a time when that definition will include a broader understanding of the enormous power of nanotechnology and the fine SA minds that are applying this science on the world stage.

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Bringing designer trolleys to market

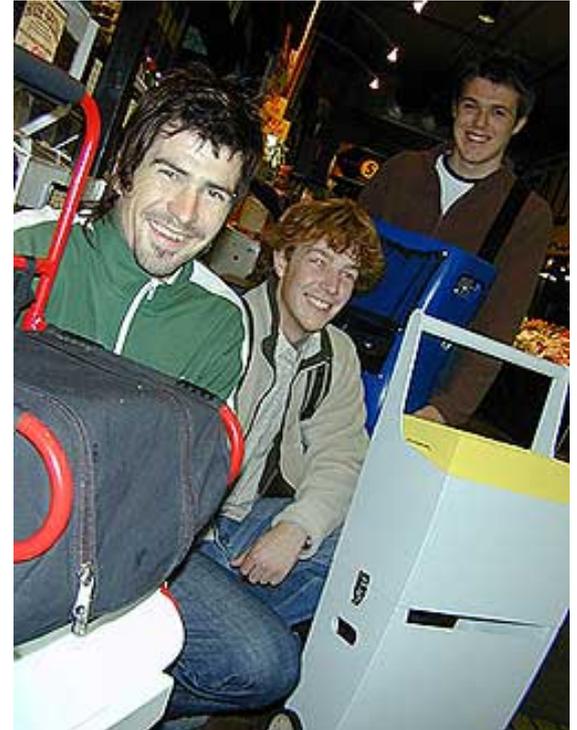
by [Michèle Nardelli](#)

Redesigning what has become a post-1960s suburban icon – the shopping trolley – was the major project for more than 30 UniSA Industrial Design students in semester one.

Their hours of shopper research surveys and concentrated innovation were put to an appropriate test in June at the Adelaide Central Market when the student designs were showcased for shopper reaction.

UniSA industrial design lecturer, Peter Schumacher, says the real challenge for the students was in getting into the mind of shoppers.

“The students need to master user-centred design and in this instance that has meant really nutting out all the aspects of shopping trolleys or bags that are important for market shoppers – from how they look, to what they can carry, how easy they are to manoeuvre and how they can be stowed away,” Schumacher said.





“The preparation for that included students surveying about 200 regular Central Market shoppers on what they needed from a shopping carry-all, before they even began to think about what to design.

“Part of the process has also been to reject and reshape the stereotyped notions of shopping trolleys which in have, in the main, been designed for aisle shopping in large supermarkets.

“The students’ goal was not only to develop a product that was functional but also to bring in some design factors that took into account the need for convenience and even pleasure in market shopping. Specifically they needed to understand the way people shop at the market – to look at foot traffic and shopper habits.”

Schumacher says the designs range from ingenious collapsible trolleys through to innovative backpacks and roller bags and even an adventurous cobra shaped wicker basket.

“Many of the designs include intelligent details that make the trolleys really easy to use,” he said.

“We hope to inspire some shopper reaction in this market testing stage, to see if the designs actually do meet consumer needs,” he said. “This is one of the most important testing phases for any new product and it will help students to rethink their project or to expand or maintain some of their most successful or appropriate innovations.”

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Thinking about sustainability

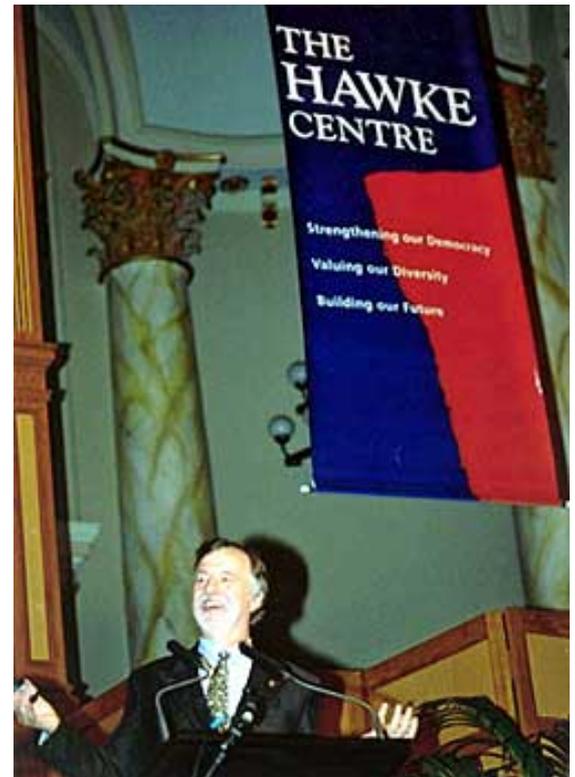
Adelaide Thinkers in Residence and UniSA's Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre presented the first of a dynamic public lecture series designed to bring fresh ideas and plans into South Australia at the Adelaide Town Hall on May 27.

The inaugural Adelaide Thinkers in Residence public lecture was opened by Premier Mike Rann and chaired by Professor Michael Rowan.

The first speaker and guest to the state, world leading urban ecologist Herbert Girardet, attracted more than 1,000 people to his lecture where he focused on renewable energy solutions.

Director of the Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre at UniSA Liz Ho said the centre was "committed to developing a sustainable society in all aspects so we were delighted to be able to present Mr Girardet."

Transcripts of the lecture are available on the internet at www.thinkers.sa.gov.au



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UniSA scores major Thai valuation consultancy

by [Geraldine Hinter](#)

UniSA has scored a major contract to improve the standards of the valuation profession in Thailand. The consultancy, worth US\$139,035, was commissioned by Thailand's Office of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

The lack of professional standards for valuers is an urgent problem in Thailand, resulting from a shortage of properly qualified valuers and property valuation trainers.

Compounding the problem is a lack of effective international standards of valuation, no appropriate professional organisation to govern property valuers, no clear regulations on the professional conduct of valuers and no database of reliable information on property transactions.

Valuation of major real estate assets requires a specialised and advanced level of qualification, according to UniSA's lecturer in valuation, Wayne Marano, who is coordinating the project.

"We have been asked to develop and deliver an intensive, specialised training course for about 60 selected valuers on the valuation of income properties, major real estate development projects including raw land slated for development and the main assets held by publicly traded real estate development companies," Marano said.

"Participants are Thai academics already teaching valuation at university level, SEC and Bank of Thailand staff, selected qualified valuers from local firms, The Valuers Association of Thailand and Thai Valuers Association and members of the Qualification and Standards Committee and the Enforcement Committee.

"UniSA's role in developing the pilot professional training course includes designing an examination process and exam on valuation methodology and standard and code of conduct for the certification of valuers of income-producing property. Participants will be required to demonstrate competency by taking an exit examination to achieve 'general accredited valuers' status, enabling them to appraise income and residential

properties held by publicly traded real estate companies,” Marano said.

The training course also includes international case studies incorporating hotels, office buildings, golf courses and shopping centres, as well as appraisal of distressed assets. After adoption of the standards and code of ethics, these registered valuers will take another exam to test whether they understand and meet the new standards and understand and follow the code of ethics. Registered valuers who pass the standards and code of ethics examination will become accredited valuers.

“UniSA’s involvement in upgrading Thailand’s valuation profession will help the country to establish a single set of standards for valuers based on internationally recognised best practice that is founded on a system of qualification and accreditation,” Marano said.

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Hawke Institute research fellows welcomed



UniSA's Hawke Research Institute announced its two research fellows for semester two, 2003, at a celebration held in May. Congratulations go to Dr Gerry Bloustien, from the School of Communications, Information and New Media, and Dr Robert Hattam of the School of Education. As fellows they will coordinate research, collaborative grant applications and interdisciplinary seminars on this year's major theme, 'ethics, values and cultures'.

From left: Hawke Research Institute Director Alison Mackinnon, with research fellows Gerry Bloustien and Robert Hattam, Lois Bryson and Vice Chancellor Denise Bradley at the Hawke Research Institute celebration.

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Old scholars look back

by [Charlotte Knottenbelt](#)

There's the official history of the Brookman building and then there's the R-rated version.

Well, maybe not, but with teenagers of both sexes studying in close proximity for most of the building's 100-year history, things were bound to get a bit steamy from time to time – although according to Chas Grimes, president of the Adelaide Technical High School Old Scholars Association, most young couples had to take their shenanigans elsewhere, with the Egyptian room in the museum a popular venue for a discreet rendezvous.



“We weren't allowed to mix with the girls at school, but there were most definitely ways and means,” he laughs.

Chas' story reminds us that for every word of official documentation on the history of the Brookman Building there are thousands of undocumented memories and anecdotes belonging to the people who studied and worked there.



The old scholars association is currently collecting information to produce a history of the Adelaide Technical High School, which was located in the Brookman building from 1918 until 1963.

The project coordinator Bryce Kohler – who studied at the tech, the School of Mines and also worked as a teacher and administrator in the Brookman building for 33 years – is calling for old scholars and staff to contribute their memories.

“I’m particularly interested in people’s comments about their teachers – anecdotes or opinions,” he says.

The old scholars are also trying to locate the school’s honour rolls from the war years. Anyone able to help should phone Kohler on (08) 8331 3214.

Friends of the Brookman Building will have a chance to remember times past at a 100th anniversary morning tea planned to take place later this year. To have your name added to the invitation list, contact Lali Parasuramar on (08) 8302 0962 or email lali.parasuramar@unisa.edu.au

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Our People - Dan Corbett



As an undergraduate student of Artificial Intelligence (AI) at the University of California, Irvine, I was quite excited by the prospect of creating intelligent computers. In the 1980s however, there was little in the way of AI jobs, and getting a degree in Information and Computer Science

usually meant either aerospace or defence projects. So I started out my career as one of the software engineers who designed and implemented the launch software on the Space Shuttle.

I returned to AI with my masters thesis, trying (with modest success!) to get computers to understand English. I soon realised that the real problem was in representing the knowledge and context of a conversation.

It was just like trying to get my department manager at work to understand computers – the language was there, but the lack of intelligence was the restricting factor. After moving to Australia, I pursued a PhD in AI and made research and academia my life.

My partner has a PhD in history, specializing in the Late Antique period (Roman/ Byzantine Empire). Most people wonder whether we have anything in common, but we've recently submitted a joint ARC proposal to fund research into creating a computer model that can be queried about the life of the average Roman citizen of the fourth century.

I enjoy working with my students to make new toys for the lab. My favourites are the territorial surveillance robots, the flying robots and the submersibles. Each of these exhibits some aspect of intelligence that we're trying to capture in our research, such as decision making, independent action or cooperation.

My favourite quote that I tell students is "Artificial Intelligence is the science of getting computers to act like they do in the movies." I've used this quote to motivate much of

my research. For example, some day you'll just type a phrase to Google, and it will understand what you really mean. The problem isn't the language, it's the lack of intelligence (I'll have to let my old department manager know what an inspiration he's been to my work).

July marks my tenth anniversary with UniSA. I've seen the Mawson Lakes campus really bloom into a pleasant place to work and an interesting community of students and researchers. My future work here will be in instilling intelligence in my students and creating an artificial department manager which is actually helpful and supportive.

Dan Corbett is a senior lecturer in the School of Computer and Information Science and director of the Intelligent Systems Laboratory

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