



# UniSA News

July 2005

A newspaper of the University of South Australia



## Research boost builds SA capability

[Full Story](#)

### Regular sections

- From the Vice Chancellor
- In brief
- Classifieds
- Colgan's cryptic
- Five to nine
- Our people
- Academic board

### Main stories



Dr. Basil Hetzel shares his life story



Wanganeeen has power to inspire



Oysters open up opportunities for students



Good teachers know their stuff

### Other stories

[UniSA leads industry linked research](#)

[Discovering a leading light](#)

[Cocoa and exercise, a popular choice](#)

[Virtual wards help nursing skills](#)

[UniSA staff and alumni honoured in birthday list](#)

[Check before taking medication](#)

[top^](#)





## UniSANEWS

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

### Research boost builds SA capability

UniSA is launching an exciting phase of research and innovation, boosted by more than \$15 million invested by the State Government.

The funding includes \$8 million towards establishing the Mawson Institute for Advanced Manufacturing, a further \$4.7 million to start the Centre for Excellence in Defence Industry Systems Capability and \$2.5 million for the Ian Wark Research Institute to set up a headquarters for the Australian Mineral Science Research Institute.



The announcement comes as UniSA also prepares to use its expertise to help South Australian companies fulfil the air warfare destroyer contract won by SA shipbuilding firm ASC.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor Denise Bradley said it had been rewarding to work with the State Government and industry to build the important alliances that underpin these research institutes in SA.

"The Government's approach is visionary because it is investing in areas where we are strong and innovative and in industries that promise long term economic growth for South Australia," she said.

The Mawson Institute will build on the high level of research already happening at the University's Centre for Advanced Manufacturing. The new institute, at Mawson Lakes, will work closely with industry to develop innovative technologies that will support manufacturing, and the automotive and defence industries.

Professor of Strategic Manufacturing Leadership Ross Bensley has been instrumental in developing the institute's research programs, which fall into four categories: transformational and virtual engineering, new materials for manufacturing industry, new products and emerging industries and sustainability in manufacturing and products.

UniSA's Systems Engineering and Evaluation Centre (SEEC) will be a lead player in the new Centre for Excellence in Defence Industry Systems Capability (CEDISC), which will also be based in the Mawson Lakes technology precinct.

The DSTO Professor of Systems Engineering at SEEC, Stephen Cook, said the new centre aimed to up-skill industry engineers so they can undertake the complex design and integration tasks associated with large scale projects, like the air warfare destroyer contract. He went on to say that in addition to its educational role, CEDISC would also provide a range of contract research and consulting services to support its mission.

"The new centre will have its heart in SA and follows the successful model pioneered by SEEC that provides research services, coursework and consultancy across the nation," he said. "We are proud to be involved in this initiative, which will have a vital role in successful defence project outcomes. There is a rosy future for highly qualified systems engineers and UniSA has recognised the demand for these skills and responded with an exciting range of postgraduate educational opportunities."

UniSA's Ian Wark Research Institute will use the \$2.5 million in State Government funding to set up a headquarters for the Australian Mineral Science Research Institute at Mawson Lakes.

The institute, led by Professor John Ralston, will conduct research into major technical challenges facing the global mining industry over the next 25 years.

It is made up of three ARC Special Research Centres at UniSA, the University of Melbourne and the

University of Newcastle and one of the world's best engineering centres at the University of Queensland.

The Wark Centre Manager Dr Terry Wilks said the funding would provide for vital establishment costs, such as laboratory refurbishments and equipment.

The institute's partners include BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto Ltd, Anglo Platinum Ltd and other companies which have already committed \$7.5 million to the institute through AMIRA International.

[top^](#)

---

[Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Web accessibility](#) | [CRICOS Provider no 00121B](#) | [Contact UniSA](#)

[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)

Latest content revision: Monday, 7 September 2009

## UniSA News

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

## From the Vice Chancellor

### The changing higher education landscape

Policy churn is a consistent feature of the environment for higher education but the pace of review and announcements from Canberra is hectic at present. Every aspect of higher education – governance, teaching, research, relationships with government, with international partners and with communities, is being scrutinised and is open to possible change. As it is very hard to predict how these separate policy initiatives will come together to position any institution for the future, we have held a retreat for the University's leaders, initiated forums on each campus and are maintaining a website to ensure staff have access to information about what is happening and to UniSA's position on each of these issues.

Of particular importance is the discussion underway about a new approach to evaluating the quality of research. Education Minister Brendan Nelson has established a group, chaired by Sir Gareth Roberts from the UK, to recommend a new framework for evaluation of the quality of research in Australia. The group is moving towards finalisation of a proposal for the Minister's consideration and representatives from each University attended the final public event – a National Stakeholder's Forum last month in Canberra.

There was a surprising level of agreement at the Forum about a preferred model and acceptance that it would be used to drive allocation of funds for support of research in Australia's universities. However, the devil is always in the detail and there is no clarity yet about how the agreed broad approach might translate into a workable model for funding research. There will be pilots in a number of universities later this year and we can expect close attention nationally to what they demonstrate about the interrelationship of parameters within the model.

UniSA will need to be very vigilant as the new model is developed and trialled. While our research performance is improving and our research income is on a par with older universities like Latrobe, Macquarie, Deakin and Wollongong, we are still new to this game. The established universities have had decades to build research infrastructure, recruit staff and position themselves for any policy turbulence.

While we sit somewhere in the middle of Australian universities on a range of performance measures and can demonstrate substantial increases in research income, publications and research degree completions in the last decade, we are still developing research capacity across the entire academic profile.

UniSA is on a trajectory of change and has some nationally and internationally competitive areas of research excellence but much of our strength is in applied rather than blue sky research and meaningful measurement of the quality of such research does not lie in citation indices or international peer review. It lies with feedback on whether the research has proved useful to those wishing to solve problems in industry and in communities.

That is called "impact" and, while citizens and government can articulate why it is important, the international academic community has taken a very conservative view about "impact". That conservatism was apparent among some of our colleagues at the National Stakeholders Forum and UniSA will need to be careful that, within any framework for quality that is implemented, the impact of research is given



equal status with its “excellence” internationally.

[top^](#)

---

[Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Web accessibility](#) | [CRICOS Provider no 00121B](#) | [Contact UniSA](#)

[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)

Latest content revision: Monday, 7 September 2009



## UniSANews

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

### In Brief

#### Wolfe reveals art work

As director of the Samstag Program, Ross Wolfe is best known for supporting other artists to develop their talents. But this month Wolfe is showcasing his own artistic skills at an exhibition in the city. Called *Mystery of Forgetting*, the exhibition pairs Wolfe's recent paintings, including *Holy Man 2003* (pictured), with selected works from the Flinders University City Gallery at the State Library. Wolfe said he was curious to see how people would receive the exhibition, which is strong in religious and social themes, but also celebrates history and landscape. "At one level it's a project of complex ideas but, regardless of this, it's a visually rich exhibition and most people should find it a fascinating and enjoyable experience," he said. Kate Gould, Adelaide Bank Festival of Arts artistic associate and program manager, opened the exhibition on June 23. It runs until August 3 and is open Monday to Friday from 11am to 4pm and Saturday and Sunday from 1pm to 4pm. The Samstag Program is a renowned bequest administered by UniSA which assists Australian artists to study overseas. Entries for the latest round closed at the end of last month.



#### Kaurna building venue for property awards

One of UniSA's newest buildings played host to a prestigious property awards presentation recently. The Kaurna building, at City West campus, was chosen as the venue for the Property Council of Australia Rider Hunt Awards, which recognise outstanding property developments. UniSA Chancellor David Klingberg and South Australia's Deputy Premier Kevin Foley presented the awards on the night. The State Library South Australia won the Property Council of Australia Rider Hunt Award for 2005. A special commendation was awarded to Adelaide Oval Eastern Works Project and presented to Mike Deare from the South Australian Cricket Association. The awards, which are presented in each state, recognise efficient use of capital in property development and maximum community benefit from the building. Rider Hunt Managing Director Stephen Knight also announced that, in addition to a current undergraduate scholarship through the Australian Institute of Quantity Surveyors, Rider Hunt has renewed a three-year commitment to sponsor an undergraduate in a Transitional Scholarship with UniSA and the Smith Family. UniSA Property Director Brian Phillips said it was a great compliment for a Blueprint 2005 building to be chosen as the venue for the ceremony. The University's new developments will be eligible to enter the awards next year.



[top^](#)







## UniSANEWS

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

## Classifieds

### For sale

**2001 Magna**, dual fuel wagon, Advance V-6, 3.5L auto, dual air bags, anti-lock brake system, auto climate control, cruise control, pewter colour. Under extended warranty. 56,000km, auto windows, CD and stereo. \$16,500 ono. Contact (08) 8645 2091 (Whyalla) or 0417 871 706.

**1980 Triumph TR7**, auto w/Rover 3.51 V8. Professional conversion done in 2004, inc. all engine, trans., diff., exhaust, and cooling systems. Mechanically A1. No rust, factory sunroof, new CD and 3-way speakers, tinted windows, central locking/alarm, sports exhaust, receipts. Regretful sale: \$11,900 ono. Contact Rob on 0419 550 543.

**Double bunk**, good quality tubular steel (fire-engine red) in excellent condition, \$100. Contact [julie.read-packham@unisa.edu.au](mailto:julie.read-packham@unisa.edu.au)

### Accommodation

**Single professional male**, (friend of Rick Sarre) looking for house sitting opportunities during July and August in Adelaide. Contact 0407 431 077.

**For rent**, Mile End two-bedroom house with small gdn; 10 min. walk to City West campus; \$230 pw; no pets. Contact 0421 144 297 or (08) 8340 7795.

**Accommodation needed**, Swedish family (two academics and two small children) will be in Adelaide at UniSA and Flinders from January 2006 until June 2006. They are looking to rent accommodation preferably somewhere between the two universities. Contact Rick Sarre 0407 431 077.

**Furnished accommodation**, needed from December 1, 2005 to May 14, 2006 for three persons. Need two to three bedroom house or apartment with minimum steps, wheelchair-friendly, shower that allows for seated bathing. Contact [georghagglund@cs.com](mailto:georghagglund@cs.com)

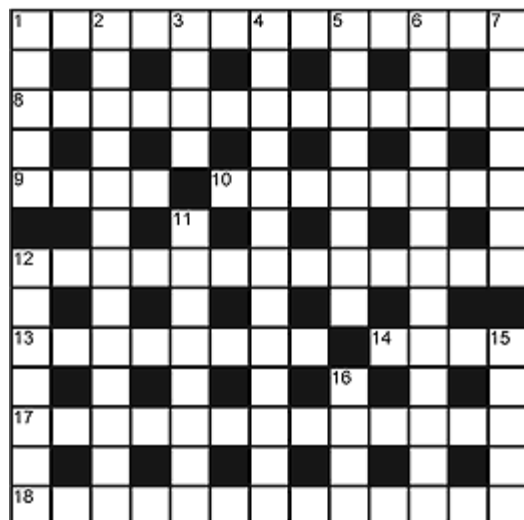
Email your classies to [unisa.news@unisa.edu.au](mailto:unisa.news@unisa.edu.au)

[top^](#)


**UniSANews**

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

## Colgan's Cryptic Crossword



### Across

1. Engineer is constricted by extra expenses (8,5)
8. Agitated thief, 13, makes admission of depression (4,2,3,4)
9. Aces found in 11 (4)
10. Skited about limits of the data store (8)
12. Championship held in large enclosed area? Well, at least for a day or two (7,6)
13. PT remains without compassion (8)
14. Stated aim of member of religion (4)
17. Manoeuvre has sailor go overboard and drift about (9,4)
18. Mauls soccer players following abuse (13)

### Down

1. One encounters mostly darkness in dome-shaped structure (5)
2. How investigators of change distinguish themselves (13)
3. Hurl abuse at bird (4)
4. Swaggering over a narrow strip of land is likely to cause hurt (7,1,5)
5. Investigates if king's under threat (6,2)
6. Double vision after falling in shower (8,5)
7. Sally, entirely not with it, holds up operational processes (7)
11. Half fool around, and criticise small Australian carry-all (5-3)
12. Disagrees with sittings after work (7)
15. Tramps concerned with price rises (5)
16. Dutch town buried the hatchet (4)

### Wine to win

For your chance to win a bottle of fine wine, fax your completed crossword to (08) 8302 5785 by Friday, July 22.

### Solution



### 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: engineer is constricted (anagram of 'is constricted')
- S: extra expenses = indirect costs
8. C: agitated thief, 13 (anagram of 'thief pitiless')
- S: admission of depression = life is the pits
- 9 C: found in 11 (ones)
- S: aces = ones
10. C: skited about (anagram giving 'disket') limits of the (t,e)
- S: data store = diskette
12. C: championship (open) in (in) large enclosed area (grounds)
- S: at least for a day or two = opening rounds
13. C: PT remains (pit, I less)
- S: without compassion = pitiless
14. C: stated aim (spoken 'seek')
- S: member of religion = sikh
17. C: sailor (tar) go overboard (before 'board') drift about ('stack ' (snow) around the outside)
- S: manoeuvre = starboard tack
18. C: soccer players (Hammers (= West Ham)) following abuse (after 'sledge')
- S: mauls = sledgehammers

### Down

1. C: one (I) mostly darkness (nearly 'gloom')
- S: domed-shaped structure = igloo
2. POW: investigators of change differentiate (in mathematics)  
& distinguish themselves (differentiate)
3. S: hurl abuse at = rail
- S: bird = rail
4. C: over a narrow strip of land (above 'a swath') is likely to cause hurt ('cutting', as a remark)
- S: swaggering = cutting a swath
5. C: king's under threat (check's on)
- S: investigates = checks on
6. C: vision (image) after falling in shower (after 'spitting')
- S: double = spitting image

7. C: sally, entirely not with it (sally, without 'all') holds up (stems)  
S: operational processes = systems
11. C: half fool around (half of 'dilly-dally') criticise (bag)  
S: small Australian carry-all = dilly-bag
12. C: sittings after work ('poses' after 'op')  
S: disagrees with = opposes
15. S: tramps = hikes  
S: price rises = hikes
16. C: buried the hatchet (made up)  
S: Dutch town = Edam

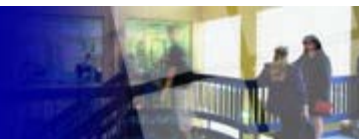
[top^](#)

---

[Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Web accessibility](#) | [CRICOS Provider no 00121B](#) | [Contact UniSA](#)

[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)

Latest content revision: Monday, 7 September 2009



## UniSANews

[Archives](#)

[Contacts](#)

[Media Centre](#)

[UniSA Home](#)

## Life is sweet in this bloomin' garden

by **Rebecca Jenkins**

With names like chocolate capsicums and strawberry guavas, some of the things growing in Jayne Ayliffe's garden sound more like confections from Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory than humble fruit and veg.

But in her quest to create an edible landscape, there is no variety the disability adviser at UniSA's Learning Connection isn't prepared to try.

Ayliffe and partner Mark Wittervan, who is the Flexible Learning Centre's online projects manager, have transformed their front garden into a bountiful vegetable patch, with peas, eggplants and bush tomatoes just a few of the many foods now in season.

"My papa is my inspiration. He had a big veggie patch and fruit trees as well as compost bins and worm farms," Ayliffe said.

"I have fond memories as a kid picking food from the garden and eating lots of homemade jams, sauces and preserved fruit – they always taste better and you know what is in them."

The pair bought their Millswood home about three years ago, after almost a decade in Sydney. Ayliffe had recently completed a permaculture course which helped her with the basics of designing the vegetable patch in the front garden.

They also have fruit trees, planted strategically around the property, chickens and a compost heap.

Ayliffe said she was always keen to try different varieties, hence the chocolate capsicums which are a beautiful cocoa colour and the strawberry guava, an exotic fruit which tastes similar to a pineapple.

The garden has helped to teach their two children, Jordie aged six and Jaimee aged seven, where food comes from and has encouraged them to try different foods – jam made from the berries of lilli pilli trees was a smash hit.

"It is so satisfying to be eating food that you have grown from seed," Ayliffe said.

"I just love to sit on the patio, drinking a cuppa and just watch the garden grow and change – the smells, the sounds, the colours. It is so beautiful and relaxing."



[top^](#)



## UniSANEWS

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

### Our People - Andy Koronios

It is hard to believe I have been at UniSA and in Adelaide for more than three and a half years; the saying "time flies when you are having fun" certainly rings true with me.

I am incredibly privileged to be leading the School of Computer and Information Science, which has nearly 100 staff. The Greek philosopher Socrates said "you cannot put your hand into a pot of honey without some of the honey sticking to it". At UniSA we are immersed in an environment of scholars and dedicated administrative staff who present us with great opportunities for learning and personal growth. I feel very lucky to be a part of such a community.

As a head of school my role is diverse and requires me to have a number of "balls up in the air" at the same time. This, although challenging, is what I find most exciting; the opportunity to get involved in so many innovative initiatives. The role of the contemporary head of school is not only as an academic leader and manager but also an entrepreneur in achieving the financial viability and success for the school.



Through necessity, I have had to acquire some of these skills. Having come from a very poor family, I have not had the luxury of a full-time education since mid-high school. Leaving a Greek village at the age of 17 and coming to Australia, I joined the Australian Army and continued my education by learning real Australian Army English, and how to play Aussie Rules Football. While in the army I went to night school to matriculate, studied electrical engineering and then discovered computers. After several years as an IT consulting and training firm manager director in Queensland, I was fortunate enough to become an academic and to continue to learn through postgraduate study, researching and teaching.

At UniSA, I am also the research program leader of the Systems Integration and IT of a CRC. This CRC looks at how large engineering assets can be managed and maintained so that they do not fail at the wrong time. We are working with DSTO, DMO and the Australian Navy to ensure that assets such as naval ships and aircraft operate efficiently and safely.

In my free time I love enjoying Adelaide's wonderful cafes as well as its parks, bikeways and the Adelaide Hills. I also spend lots of time at the beach with my eight-year-old son. The rest of my time I spend renovating our home; another of Adelaide's great features is its very old character homes. Renovating them can soak up lots of one's time and even more of one's money and somehow it appears to be never-ending; the results however, can be delightful.

*Andy Koronios is the Head of School, Computer and Information Science.*

[top^](#)



## UniSA News

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

## Academic Board

**February 2005**  
by Peter Cardwell

### UniSA regional engagement

The Director: Regional Engagement and Dean: Whyalla, Professor Len Pullin, gave a special presentation on the University's regional engagement initiatives.

Prof Pullin reported that regional engagement is a strategy utilising the University's resources to create sustainable university experiences in regional and rural South Australia. It is a holistic strategy comprising teaching and learning, research and community engagement.

The Centre for Regional Engagement, which has its headquarters at the Whyalla Regional Centre, is still forming and has recently been extended with the establishment of the Mt Gambier Regional Centre.

The organisation of the unit's structure, governance and policy framework is still developing. The centre has its own funded load and budget, but does not own academic programs. All programs and courses are sourced from divisions, and the three main programs offered are business, nursing and social work.

The University's regional engagement strategy has two main goals. Firstly, to contribute to the sustainability of targeted regions by providing access to higher education and research through community engagement, and secondly, to extend the University's equity mission by building greater access to the teaching and research capability in regional areas.

Current regional engagement projects involve putting Mt Gambier on a care and maintenance basis, scoping regional teaching and learning opportunities, exploring the delivery of the Bachelor of Nursing to regional Indigenous health centres, exploring the delivery of education in rural centres and implementing a regional seminar series.

The success of the Centre for Regional Engagement will be dependent on developing strong collaborative relationships with TAFE, professional association links and gaining regional community and industry support.

At the same time it needs to raise public awareness, recruit school and non-school and building community engagement. It is clear there is strong demand for tertiary education in regional SA. The 80 students already studying in three of the University's degree programs at Mt Gambier are strong testament to this.

### The Ehrenberg-Bass Research Institute

Academic Board approved the establishment of the Ehrenberg-Bass Research Institute, which will become the University's fifth research institute.

The new research institute is named after two eminent academics, Professor Andrew Ehrenberg from London's South Bank University and Professor Frank Bass from the University of Texas.

The institute will further the success of the Marketing Science Centre, which is currently the largest funded research centre in the University with \$2.3 million in research income

The centre already receives \$700,000 annually in R&D money from 60 companies.

The Gavin Wanganeen Indigenous Scholarship

The Board approved the establishment of the Gavin Wanganeen Indigenous Scholarship. The



scholarship is valued at \$5,000 and was awarded for the first time in 2005. (For more information please refer to the story on page 3).

### **Program Development**

The following program development proposals were approved:

#### **Division of Business**

Category B Amendment – Bachelor of Business (Management Information Systems)

New Program – Master of International Business

#### **Division of IT, Engineering and the Environment**

Category B Amendment – Bachelor of Information Technology (Software Engineering)

Category B Amendment – Bachelor of Financial Science

Category B Amendment – Master of Quantitative Science

Category B Amendment – Master of Science (Computer and Information Science)

New Program – Graduate Certificate in Engineering (Energy Management)

Program Withdrawal – Bachelor of Engineering (Mobile)

[top^](#)





## UniSANews

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

## Sitting one degree from greatness

By Rosemary Luke

It was August, 2001 and Dr Basil Hetzel was in his favourite North Adelaide restaurant, The Pink Pig.

He and others were celebrating the recent publication of a memoir of Peter Mathews, a charismatic former preacher and missionary, about whom each had written a chapter in the publication.

"You should write your memoirs, Basil," said Donald Sarre, uncle of UniSA's Professor of Law and Criminal Justice, Rick Sarre.

"I had thought about it," conceded Dr Hetzel quietly, "just for the family, of course".

Cries of protest indicated the assembled company thought a much wider audience would appreciate reading the story of Dr Hetzel's remarkable life.

I cheerfully volunteered to edit the book, with no idea of what a long but fascinating journey I was about to begin.

Four years later we are approaching publication day. *Chance and Commitment: Memoirs of a Medical Scientist* will be published by South Australia's Wakefield Press.

Michael Bollen, publisher at Wakefield, realised that Dr Hetzel's life and work had the makings of an important South Australian book.

The publication will follow this month's Festival of Ideas, which is dedicated to Dr Hetzel.

The memoir encompasses several distinct but related careers: medical research scientist, medical educator and clinician, public health researcher and advocate, and his post-retirement careers of Lieutenant Governor and UniSA Chancellor.

Alongside this sits a rich family life, international travel, lasting friendships and almost an entire library of publications.

Underpinning all these is Dr Hetzel's commitment to a robust and intellectually coherent brand of Christianity, his concern for the common good and doing what he could to improve the lot of humankind.

Dr Hetzel, as one of his former staff remarked at the opening of the Basil Hetzel Building at City East campus in May, is a great talker. He even suggested that other meetings were always scheduled two hours after departmental staff meetings, to ensure the staff meetings actually ended.

So the book is full of anecdotes: boarding school in Adelaide in the 1930s, being embarrassed by his children's pranks overseas, amazing experiences of international colleagues who survived WWII in Eastern Europe or the Cultural Revolution in China, and throwaway lines about meeting Kennedys in the White House, or Howard Florey in Dr Hetzel's own laboratory.

Dr Hetzel is a great man whose work has improved the lives of 2 billion people in 130 countries at risk of serious iodine deficiency disorders. But you'd never pick that from his gentle, modest, often impishly wicked, and always courteous conversation.

In the book, likewise, he is generous to a fault in acknowledging the contributions of others to his career. So it remained for the foreword's writer, Professor Stephen Leeder, to spell out Dr Hetzel's remarkable



stature.

For me the interest lay not in the six (or two) degrees of separation from famous people but in the privilege I had to sit just one degree from Dr Hetzel's particular form of greatness.

Chance and Commitment provides fascinating insights into the life of a remarkable 20th century scientist. It is a book to be read and enjoyed by those in the UniSA community who know and love Basil Hetzel.

*In her day job Rosemary Luke is Executive Officer to the Pro Vice Chancellor: Academic and Learning Support.*

*To order a copy of the book, price to be decided, email [sales@wakefieldpress.com.au](mailto:sales@wakefieldpress.com.au) with your credit card number.*

*Mention UniSANews to receive free postage and packaging.*

[top^](#)

---

[Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Web accessibility](#) | [CRICOS Provider no 00121B](#) | [Contact UniSA](#)

[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)

Latest content revision: Monday, 7 September 2009



## UniSANEWS

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

### Power to inspire Pt Augusta nurse

by Michele Nardelli

For Laurel Dodd, Bachelor of Nursing student at UniSA's Whyalla campus and huge Port Adelaide Football Club fan, there was nothing nicer than having Gavin Wanganeen award her a scholarship in person.

Dodd is the inaugural winner of the Gavin Wanganeen Indigenous Scholarship and she believes the champion footballer is doing something very special for Indigenous people.

"It is great – Gavin is a high profile, successful, Indigenous man and he is encouraging people to get an education and succeed and that is really important," Dodd said.

And Dodd knows better than most that role models make an impact. Once an unemployed mother of four, she took on the challenges of studying, working and keeping the family going with gusto.

"Not everyone gets an even break and it is not as easy as it sounds just to get up and get a job and a career," she said. "You need financial and emotional help and you need people to believe in you."

Dodd completed her enrolled nurse training in 2002 and today nurses at the Pt Augusta hospital.

"I am so pleased that since I finished my enrolled nurse training we've had a bit of a run on with young Aboriginal people starting to study – we now have girls and guys from Ceduna, Coober Pedy, Maree and Pt Augusta studying the course."

Dodd's example – in 2002 she was recognised as the NAIDOC National Apprentice of the Year and then won a top spot in the Nursing Excellence Awards – has been an inspiration to many people.

She was recently named South Australian Local Hero (Regional) for her contribution to the Pt Augusta community.

While not a university graduate himself, the Brownlow Medallist, Power Best and Fairest, two-time premiership player and the first Indigenous player to be granted AFL Life Membership, Wanganeen said it was vital that role models such as Laurel Dodd were rewarded and encouraged.

"I believe Indigenous kids need a range of role models – some in sport but also teachers, business leaders, nurses, researchers and other professionals," he said.

The Gavin Wanganeen Indigenous Scholarship, sponsored by Australia Post and Corporate Express, will support Dodd through a further three years study in nursing.

Additional UniSA scholarships presented during Reconciliation Week included the Shirley Harper Indigenous Scholarship in Education won by Jaqui Harfield (Smithfield). The Irene and David Davy Scholarships were won by Scott Kropinyeri, Lorna Woodley (Pt Lincoln) and Kenneth Lechleitner (Alice Springs, now Netley). The Aboriginal Advancement League Grants were won by Kim O'Donnell (Strathalbyn); Laura Winslow (Murray Bridge, now Myrtle Bank). The Division of Business Indigenous Scholarship was won by Sam McCann (Pt Lincoln, now Plympton).



[top^](#)

---

[Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Web accessibility](#) | [CRICOS Provider no 00121B](#) | [Contact UniSA](#)

[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)

Latest content revision: Monday, 7 September 2009



## UniSANews

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

## Marketing world is students' oyster

by **Rebecca Jenkins**

Marketing students Nathalie Larenas and Amy Quinn do not have a natural affinity for oysters – but they didn't let that stop them from exploring new overseas markets for the South Australian delicacy.

Larenas (pictured left) and Quinn have helped to develop an overseas marketing strategy for the South Australian Oyster Research Council as part of their marketing degree at UniSA.



They overcame their dislike of raw oysters for the project, which netted them each a high distinction – and also helped Quinn claim the title of top student in the Marketing Project program at UniSA's School of Marketing awards last month.

They were given the brief to help the South Australian Oyster Research Council look for new international export markets. South Australia's oyster production outstrips local demand by 45 tonnes every year.

The team met with South Australian growers before identifying Singapore as the most attractive market. They then spent two weeks in Singapore interviewing key seafood distributors and major retail outlets.

At the end of the project, they met with growers in Pt Lincoln to table their marketing plans and also pass on contacts and expressions of interests from distributors and buyers in Singapore. One new customer requested a minimum of 12 tonnes of live oysters a year.

They also found the Pacific oysters, the type grown in SA, were being grown successfully in tropical waters and were supplied to major hotels at an attractive price. It had been thought this type of oyster could not be grown north of Sydney.

This discovery is significant for SA oyster producers who want to export to Asia.

Quinn said the project was a terrific opportunity to experience "real marketing".

"Everything was real and we had the opportunity to work through a marketing project from start to end. No other course offers this opportunity," she said. "It was a lot of hard work but was definitely worth it in the end."

One of the research council's directors, Theo Eleftheriou, said two other UniSA students had looked at domestic marketing for the council.

Following all the recommendations, the council has set up its own marketing group. Its focuses are branding, a website for the council and continuing to explore export markets.

"The students provided solid research and collated it for us, with specific recommendations on how we should go forward," he said.

He said the council would be keen to work with the University on collaborative projects again.

School of Marketing program coordinator John Hendrickson congratulated Quinn and Larenas on their work. He said the University's program allowed students to work full-time for a range of firms while they were studying.

"We're the only university in SA that offers this sort of program," he said. "This is not work experience ...

they work in the organisation as an in-house marketing consultant.”

[top^](#)

---

[Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Web accessibility](#) | [CRICOS Provider no 00121B](#) | [Contact UniSA](#)  
[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)  
Latest content revision:Monday, 7 September 2009

## UniSAnews

- Archives
- Contacts
- Media Centre
- UniSA Home

### Good teachers know their stuff

Everyone remembers their great teachers – the ones who turned the tedious into rewarding and left you wanting to know more. But what is that mysterious something that makes a good teacher? Rodney Magazinovic asked a group of UniSA academics who have all been recognised recently for their pursuit of teaching excellence.



It might sound obvious, but Associate Professor Özdemir Göl, from the School of Electrical and Information Engineering, believes one of the main qualities of a good teacher is to have knowledge.

“You have to have knowledge to be able to teach with authority. But a good teacher must also be a good student and must keep learning. Life-long learning must be an ingrained attitude. Knowledge is dynamic,” he said.

Prof Göl is one of six UniSA academic staff recently recognised for their approach to teaching in the University's Annual Scholarly Teaching Awards. The awards assess staff on the basis of good teaching and quality improvement, publication in the area of teaching and learning, leadership in teaching and learning, and other professional activity.

Prof Göl, together with fellow winners, Dr Julie Mills, senior lecturer in the School of Natural and Built Environments and Dr Nadine Pelling, senior lecturer in the School of Psychology, all spent time in industry before entering academia and they rate their real world experience as an invaluable part of their knowledge base.

“I intentionally use project based learning so that my students have the kind of knowledge they can apply practically when they get into the workforce. This is particularly important in engineering,” Dr Mills said.

Dr Pelling, Program Director for the Master of Social Science (Counselling/Counselling Studies), said students appreciated real life examples to reinforce the theory.

“My previous experience in clinical and counselling psychology means I can talk about real situations and students can apply what we are learning theoretically to those scenarios,” she said.

All three academics said the best teachers are passionate about their field of study and can communicate both the material and their enthusiasm.

Dr Pelling said academics must maintain an enthusiasm for their field of research.

“If you're not interested in it, you won't keep up with the current literature and advances in your discipline,” she said. “If you get bored, all you have to do is change the specialty area in your research and do something new. That's why it's hard to fathom the concept of a bored dry academic - there's really no need to be.”

Prof Göl agreed a good teacher had to be passionate about their field.

“Passion is contagious. It is passed on from teacher to student. The students need to be excited about what's being taught otherwise it is only cold facts,” he said.

Prof Göl believed the dynamic between students and teachers was another essential component of the education process. He said it was important for teachers to have their students' respect and in return had to show respect for their students.



“It is always wise to listen to what students are saying as you might learn a thing or two,” he said. “We need to have empathy for students; it goes hand in hand with respect. We need to acknowledge that students are people and sometimes they may need a hand and if there are circumstances that merit consideration then it should be given. Being fair is also a factor. We are not the absolute authority and we don't know everything. We are helping them to learn, while we keep learning ourselves.”

Dr Mills said the difference between good teachers and OK teachers was that the former “genuinely care about their students and genuinely want them to learn”.

Establishing a way to assess the quality of teaching has become increasingly important in recent times. UniSA's ongoing evaluation of teaching standards includes course evaluation instruments (CEI) that are handed to students at the completion of their course. Teachers and program directors can gain a strong understanding about how effective their teaching is from this feedback.

Prof Göl, Dr Pelling and Dr Mills, believe academics can't afford to rest on their laurels if they receive good feedback because there is always room for improvement.

The 2004 Annual Scholarly Teaching Awards winners were David Badenoch (senior lecturer, School of Education), Associate Professor Özdemir Göl (School of Electrical and Information Engineering), Jan Machotka, (Program Director, School of Electrical and Information Engineering), Dr Julie Mills (senior lecturer, School of Natural and Built Environments), Professor Andrew Nafalski (Head of School, Electrical and Information Engineering) and Dr Nadine Pelling (senior lecturer, School of Psychology).

[top^](#)





## UniSANEWS

[Archives](#)  
[Contacts](#)  
[Media Centre](#)  
[UniSA Home](#)

## UniSA leads industry linked research

by Michèle Nardelli

In their most successful showing on record, UniSA researchers have won just over \$6.5 million in funding to support 14 industry linked research projects – more than double that of any other university in South Australia.

About \$2.8 million of the funding comes from the Federal Government's Australian Research Council Linkage Grants and the matching \$3.6 million is provided by industry.

UniSA is now ranked seventh in Australia in industry partnered research with researchers exploring real world issues in many fields from social policy areas right through to water sciences, biochemistry, human health and wellbeing, nanotechnology and minerals processing.



Vice Chancellor Professor Denise Bradley said the results were a reflection of the University's commitment to vibrant, relevant research and to the strength of its partnerships with industry, both locally and internationally.

"Winning support for projects that industry partners need for them to remain competitive is particularly rewarding," Prof Bradley said. "Such relationships ensure our people can work to solve real problems in the community, make their research relevant and current, and strengthen the education environment for our students."

Key projects include a partnership with the SA Department of Education and the Women's and Children's Hospital.

This project will look at childhood obesity and how children understand fitness, exercise and activity so that better interventions and health messages can be developed that will be meaningful to children.

The study will research three to 13 year olds and develop a broader knowledge of how they understand physical activity.

And in an innovative environmental engineering project, researchers at UniSA will work with the Australian Water Quality Centre to develop a biotechnological treatment process for the wine industry that could take waste water to produce a by-product protein rich animal food, treat waste water, allowing for reuse in farm irrigation and reduce pollution in natural watercourses.

Projects also include research into getting unfit adults more active; how we can ensure improved health information technology is used by GPs; an evaluation of the effectiveness of domestic violence programs for men; and advanced drug delivery technology using nanotechnology.

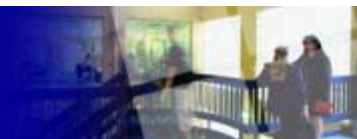
Other research involves exploring nanotechnology as a part of wastewater reuse systems; new technologies for improved early detection of missiles; a longitudinal exploration of the factors that lead to work stress; new systems for stormwater management; research into human vaccines for infections and allergies, and research into improved minerals separation for the mining industry.

More information about UniSA's success is available at:  
[www.arc.gov.au/funded\\_grants/selection\\_linkage\\_projects.htm](http://www.arc.gov.au/funded_grants/selection_linkage_projects.htm)

[top^](#)

---

[Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Web accessibility](#) | [CRICOS Provider no 00121B](#) | [Contact UniSA](#)  
[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)  
Latest content revision: Monday, 7 September 2009



## UniSANEWS

[Archives](#)  
[Contacts](#)  
[Media Centre](#)  
[UniSA Home](#)

### Virtual wards help nursing skills

UniSA's nursing and midwifery students are learning their craft in a true-to-life environment with the opening of two new nursing skills laboratories.

The two labs in the Centenary Building were designed to be as close to authentic wards as possible to help fully prepare students for their chosen careers.

Each lab contains 12 beds, complete with their own simulated oxygen, suction, call bell, light, and computer screen which is linked to a central computer.

The fully-equipped laboratories allow students to practise a range of skills and master techniques such as managing intravenous therapy, taking blood pressure or suctioning a tracheostomy.

Skills laboratories coordinator Michelle Cunnew said the new facilities offered a very realistic experience for student nurses and midwives.

"They are designed to be simulated clinical environments similar to wards in a hospital," she said.

"This is where the students gain experience before they undertake each clinical placement in hospitals."

Students from a range of courses will use the labs, including overseas educated nurses completing the 24-week Australian Registered Nurse Training Program.

"There are various things they need to learn as part of their hands-on experience," Cunnew said.

"One week they might be learning complex wound management or how to take blood sugar levels and administer insulin."

Students also use mannequins and a range of anatomical models to practise their skills.

The laboratories, one of which has been sponsored by NASANSB nursing agency as part of Blueprint 2005, will be officially opened on July 12.



[top^](#)

## UniSA News

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

### Discovering a leading light

Luisa O'Connor knows we all have hidden abilities and talents.

She was happy to discover some of her own during a week-long leadership course for Indigenous Australians in Canberra recently.

More than 100 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people applied for the prestigious scheme coordinated by the Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre.

O'Connor, UniSA's consultant HR services: Indigenous and employment schemes, was one of 21 people from around the country chosen to take part.

The intensive program put participants to the test in a range of activities designed to encourage and develop their leadership skills.

"It really brings out the confidence in you and some of those hidden abilities," she said. "No-one is there to hold your hand – you have to do it."

The program was designed as a one-week course for Indigenous men and women living in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and active in community affairs.

O'Connor attended the course with UniSA graduate and Masters student Rosney Snell.

The course covered a variety of leadership skills such as public speaking, lobbying, developing and maintaining relationships and conflict resolution.

It also focused on cultural issues, such as leadership and grief and healing in Indigenous communities.

A range of high-profile guests shared their experiences, responsibilities and tips for success, including former journalist Jeff McMullen, who is a director of Ian Thorpe's Fountain of Youth Trust.

A highlight for O'Connor was a visit to Government House where she was able to meet the Governor General Michael Jeffery.

"During the week, a wealth of knowledge was exchanged between presenters, participants and staff of the Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre," she said.

O'Connor is looking forward to using the experience to help her with her role at the University and within her community.



[top^](#)

## UniSANEWS

- Archives
- Contacts
- Media Centre
- UniSA Home

### UniSA staff and alumni honoured in birthday list

UniSA's Emeritus Professor Freda Briggs headed the list of UniSA staff and alumni in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Prof Briggs (pictured above) was made an Order of Australia Officer for her efforts to raise community and professional awareness of child abuse and neglect.

She was also recognised for her work as an advocate for effective child safety education programs.

Prof Briggs, who was the Senior Australian of the Year in 2000, said it was fantastic to see so many women included in this year's list.



"It doesn't quite seem real yet because the investiture isn't until September," she said.

However she came close to being unavailable for the ceremony – she was already booked that week speaking for National Child Protection Week, but has managed to rearrange her commitments.

UniSA's recently retired Director: Library Services, Dr Alan Bundy, became an Order of Australia Member for his service to librarianship in schools, universities and public libraries.

Brian Guthleben, non executive director of the University's commercial arm ITEK Pty Ltd, received an Order of Australia Medal for his service to small business and his work to develop customised powered wheelchairs.

Alumni honoured included Coopers Brewery executive chairman Glenn Cooper, who was made an Order of Australia Member for his service to the food and beverage industry, and to the community through his support of charity and sporting organisations. Cooper gained an Associate Diploma in Business (Marketing) in 1985.

Other people honoured were:

#### Order of Australia Member

Professor Sybil McCulloch, for her services to the community through a range of organisations involved in health and aged care.

Deborah McCulloch, a Master of Social Science graduate in 2003, for service to the community as a proponent of equal opportunities for women, Indigenous Australians and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

Clive Kitchin, who graduated with a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice in 1984, for service to the community through the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the administration of health services for people in rural and remote areas, and to the legal system.

#### Order of Australia Medal

Janice Cass, an Adelaide Teachers College graduate, for her service to local government and the community in Loxton and Waikerie.

Valdek Kangur, a building technology graduate, for service to the Estonian community in Australia through the preservation of culture and language, and contributions to church, school and youth groups.

Dr Phyllis McKillup, graduate and Humanities and Social Science Foundation member, for service to the visual arts, as an artist and art historian, and to the community.

Malgorzata Skalban, a Master of Business Administration graduate in 1997, for service to the community, particularly through multicultural and aged care organisations.

**Police Service Medal, SA**

Sen-Sgt Michael Wright OAM, who graduated with an Associate Diploma in Business (Management) in 1990.

**Conspicuous Service Cross, Army**

Lt-Col Craig McCarthy, RFD, for outstanding achievement as Commanding Officer of the Adelaide University Regiment. He completed a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice in 1988.

[top^](#)





## UniSA News

- [Archives](#)
- [Contacts](#)
- [Media Centre](#)
- [UniSA Home](#)

## Cocoa and exercise, a popular choice

by **Geraldine Hinter**

A UniSA study that looks at the potential health benefits of combining regular exercise with daily chocolate consumption should have no shortage of overweight volunteers eager to be involved.

Current evidence suggests that a naturally occurring chemical, or chemicals known as polyphenols, found in the cocoa bean, an ingredient in most chocolate, when combined with exercise, may improve the elasticity of blood vessels and other risk factors for heart disease.

PhD health sciences student Kade Davison also hopes that drinking cocoa daily will improve the fat burning effects of exercise.

The study follows previous UniSA research, which shows that Omega-3 in fish oil, when combined with exercise, may provide significantly greater benefits in the fight against obesity than exercise or nutrients alone.

"The nutrients in these studies appear to enhance mechanisms involved in oxidising or burning of fat, but they need a driver (in our case, exercise) to increase the metabolic rate in order to lower body fat," Davison said.

He believes that combining cocoa with exercise can work in the same way to lower body fat.

Starting this month, volunteers aged between 18-65 years, who are overweight but otherwise healthy and not on treatment for blood lipids or blood pressure, will participate in the study to improve their body shape and heart health.

As part of the study, participants have to exercise for 45 minutes three times per week and drink cocoa twice-daily for 12 weeks. In addition, participants will need to attend the clinic at UniSA's City East campus for testing at the beginning, middle and end of the trial.

"During these visits we will perform an exercise test and a number of non-invasive tests of cardiovascular function and body composition," Davison said.

"We are expecting to see an increase in fitness, reduced body fat and lower heart disease risk factors in all subjects and an even greater change in those consuming a cocoa drink with a high polyphenol concentration."

The cocoa trial is one of three studies being undertaken at the Nutritional Physiology Research Centre, a joint initiative of UniSA and the University of Adelaide.

The Nutritional Physiology Research Centre's leader Professor Peter Howe will be presenting a lecture, as part of the Body of Knowledge public lecture series, on Wednesday July 27 at the Mutual Community Lecture Theatre, Basil Hetzel building, City East campus.

For more information about the lecture visit [www.unisa.edu.au/hsc/bok](http://www.unisa.edu.au/hsc/bok)

Anyone interested in joining the cocoa study should contact (08) 8302 1817 or



[kade.davison@unisa.edu.au](mailto:kade.davison@unisa.edu.au)

[top^](#)

---

[Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Web accessibility](#) | [CRICOS Provider no 00121B](#) | [Contact UniSA](#)  
[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)  
Latest content revision: Monday, 7 September 2009





## UniSANEWS

[Archives](#)

[Contacts](#)

[Media Centre](#)

[UniSA Home](#)

### Check before taking medication

More than 70,000 people in Australia are hospitalised each year because of side effects from medication.

Software developed by PhD pharmacy student Michael Ward, from UniSA's newly formed Sansom Institute, could drastically reduce side effects from these drugs and is already helping research into adverse reactions to cancer, mental illness, glaucoma and asthma treatments.

Being able to predict who will be affected would save time and money, according to Ward, one of this year's winners of Fresh Innovators, a national competition.

"We know that differences in people's genes can explain why some people experience side effects to certain medications and others do not. Sometimes multiple differences in many genes may be the cause," Ward said. "Currently, testing for these genetic variations is costly, cumbersome and slow."



Being able to identify genetic differences quickly and cheaply will enable many distressing side effects to be avoided. Ward's software allows users to design tests with the press of a button to scan multiple genes at once, eliminating months of laboratory development. The software can also be used with existing laboratory equipment without any significant increase in cost.

Researchers at the Sansom Institute are using the software to study cancer chemotherapy side effects such as vomiting and nausea, which can impact drastically on quality of life.

"If we could predict the side effects for an individual, we could prescribe something suitable for that person – a more personalised approach to healthcare," Ward said.

The Sansom Institute hopes to set up a diagnostic service that offers accelerated testing at reduced costs, using the new software linked to a growing database on genes linked to drug side effects.

In the future Ward hopes to see this type of testing become part of the routine in doctor's rooms and prevent thousands of hospital admissions each year.

[top^](#)

[Disclaimer](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Web accessibility](#) | [CRICOS Provider no 00121B](#) | [Contact UniSA](#)

[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)

Latest content revision: Monday, 7 September 2009