

UniSA News

September 2005

A newspaper of the University of South Australia



Gearing up for the Tour

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Gearing up for the Tour

by **Rebecca Jenkins**

The race might not start until next year but UniSA is already gearing up for the Jacob's Creek Tour Down Under.

For the first time, Mawson Lakes will play host to all the colour and excitement of the cycling festival when it stages the start of the second day of racing. Cyclists and fans from around Australia and the world will congregate for the start of the 148km stage, which finishes in Tanunda, in the Barossa Valley.



UniSA already has strong links with the tour, having sponsored a team in the event since 2000 and with a growing band of staff riding in the Be Active Tour for recreational riders. The University is also planning The 2nd Thinking on Two Wheels Cycling Conference to coincide with the tour.

Team UniSA's Adrian Laidler, who is the rider featured in stunning posters for next year's tour, said it was great that Mawson Lakes had been chosen as the starting point on January 18.

"This year there was a start in Salisbury and the amount of people who turned out for that was incredible. It brings a lot of tourists into an area, which is fantastic," he said.

Laidler, who has ridden in the tour for five years, said the atmosphere for spectators and riders was unique.

"Many of the riders say it's the best race of the year – it's a great atmosphere. It's relaxed, the sun is shining and the people in South Australia really get into the spirit of it."

Since it began in 1999, the Tour Down Under has continued to grow in popularity. Latest figures show this year's event attracted 11,607 international and national visitors and generated at least \$13.2 million for the state's economy.

Institute for Telecommunications Research business manager Jeff Kasparian is looking forward to the Be Active Tour, where he hopes to build on UniSA's fantastic turnout this year.

Kasparian urged all UniSA staff to think about taking part in the recreational ride – especially those who would usually feel daunted by such an event.

"The shortest distance this year is 24km, with the other two options being 93km or the full 154km – whatever the distance, we are encouraging people to just get out there, try it and experience the atmosphere," he said.

"You don't have to be an elite athlete with a \$5000 bike – there's no pressure to go quickly."

Organisers hope to tap into expertise within the University to offer riders expert advice on various aspects of training for the big day, including nutrition. There will also be training rides to help prepare people for the various course distances that take in the 154km Strathalbyn to Yankalilla stage.

Following the success of this year's inaugural Thinking on Two Wheels Cycling Conference, the University plans to stage another event at the Hilton Hotel, Adelaide, on Monday, January 16, the day before the race starts.

Conference convenor Dr Stuart Clement said the conference was an ideal forum to explore the broad

range of issues around cycling.

“Whether people cycle for recreation, competition, to commute or to maintain a healthy lifestyle – cycling benefits our community in numerous ways,” Dr Clement said. “The conference reflects UniSA’s strong commitment to promoting cycling.”

UniSA's Tour Down Under website : www.unisa.edu.au/tdu

The Tour Down Under website : www.tourdownunder.com.au

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From the chancellery

Dr Anna Ciccarelli,
Executive Director and Vice President: International and Development

July is that time of the academic year when the University engages international and transnational graduands and alumni through award presentation ceremonies and alumni events. We visit Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Hong Kong and Taiwan.

This year more than 1100 graduands participated with 800 students in Hong Kong alone. As with all our graduation ceremonies, it is a time to celebrate a special rite of passage with family and friends as well as University staff.

This year Professor Robyn McDermott, Pro Vice Chancellor of the Division of Health Sciences, and Professor Michael Rowan, Pro Vice Chancellor of the Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences, were two of our three occasional speakers. Each year we invite speakers to give the occasional address on a topic or issue relevant to the particular audience. Prof McDermott spoke of public health issues and the need to think differently. Prof Rowan gave a philosophical address, reflecting on graduation ceremonies as a significant rite of passage.



Our third speaker, Mr Simon Wong, Dean of the School of Continuing Education at our partner university in Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Baptist University, was the recipient of an honorary doctorate from UniSA in recognition of his contribution to lifelong learning and continuing education provision in Hong Kong. Dr Wong spoke powerfully of the importance of lifelong learning for the individual and for the development of a knowledge society.

Our alumni chapters in all four countries are alive and well, testimony to the connection most of our alumni feel for their university. The chapter presidents and committees run on camaraderie and voluntary labour.

All our alumni chapters have distinctive qualities, due in large part to the personalities of the presidents, but also shaped by their distinctive discipline affiliation. Clearly, the very nature of the MBA generates a passion for networking and organising. The MBA clubs are very strong and, dare I say, an enterprising segment of every chapter.

For three years now I have met a group of former masters students at the annual alumni event in Kuala Lumpur and caught up on what's happened in their lives since the previous year; new jobs, promotions, marriages and yes, even divorces.

This year's round was characterised not only by the award ceremonies and alumni events but also by celebrations of longstanding partnerships and new beginnings. We celebrated the 10th anniversary of our relationship with Hong Kong Baptist University, one of a number of international partners with whom we have enjoyed a ten-year relationship. The Vice Chancellor signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Taylors College in Kuala Lumpur to collaborate in the area of business and arts programs. As the Chair of the ATN, the Vice Chancellor signed a MOU with the International Strategic Technology Alliance (ISTA). This is an alliance coordinated by Hong Kong Polytechnic University and includes many prestigious Chinese universities with only three members external to the Peoples Republic of China. The ATN was honoured to be invited to join and will participate in the ISTA conference later this year.

The July offshore ceremonies and alumni events are a logistical and organisational challenge for staff from Student and Academic Services; Marketing and Development and the International Office. It is no small thing to coordinate events at a distance and move a sizable group including the Vice Chancellor and Chancellor. However, for many of our transnational graduands, it is the one opportunity to participate in a symbolic and celebratory rite of passage with the University. They and their families clearly appreciate our presence.

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In brief

New head of research and innovation

Professor Caroline McMillen has been appointed UniSA's Pro Vice Chancellor and Vice President: Research and Innovation from early December 2005. A science and medical graduate of Oxford and Cambridge universities, Prof McMillen is Head and Professor of Physiology at the University of Adelaide and Director of a research centre funded by an NHMRC Program Grant for work in the developmental origins of adult health. She is also a key leader of the ARC/NHMRC National Network for Genes, Environment and Development and the multidisciplinary research cluster "Healthy Development Adelaide". Prof McMillen has been Chair of ARC and NHMRC project review panels and has extensive experience in national and international research and academic policy and development. She is currently Chair of a major commission within the International Union of Physiological Societies - the only Australian Commission Chair in this peak body. Prof McMillen will take up her position following Professor Ian Davey's retirement in October this year.

Study at UniSA website relaunched

The Study at UniSA website has been revamped. The redevelopment, aimed at enhancing navigation and quality of content, includes a new Future Students website for prospective domestic students, a new International website, a more user-friendly program search page, and top-level access to information on scholarships. The Future Students website provides quick and easy access to relevant information for other user groups such as year 12, adult entry, TAFE and postgraduate applicants, as well as parents and student advisers. The International site consolidates content for diverse user groups such as prospective international students, international partners and agents, and staff. Its home page incorporates an attractive and dynamic design featuring links to testimonials, virtual tours and news. The website is located at www.unisa.edu.au/inthome



UniSA graduate first woman to head the AEC

UniSA Business Studies graduate Kay Mousley has been appointed Electoral Commissioner for South Australia. Mousley has worked for the Australian Electoral Commission for the past 25 years, and is the first woman to hold the post. She took over from former Commissioner Steve Tully, and has less than eight months to prepare for the state's first fixed-terms elections in March 2006. Mousley said she is "excited and looking forward to" her new job, and has had significant previous experience, will place her in good stead, having worked extensively in federal, state, local and industrial elections as well as overseas. "I bring direct experience as a former divisional returning officer for a number of elections," she said. "I have also had international experience working in elections in Papua New Guinea. What I'm looking forward to is conducting a successful state election in March next year."

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Classifieds

For sale

Holden Commodore VT 1998, 5 litre, white 148,000 km, 17" mags, 10 stacker cd player, fe2 suspension, exc. condition 13,500 ono Call Mark on 0438 457 791.

Peugeot 405 SRI Series II 1994, metallic silver, electric sun roof, one owner, excellent condition, full service history, \$6500. Call Claire (08) 8302 4760.

Mountain Bike, Giant Warp DS-3, 18.5 inch aluminium frame, dual suspension, new tioga tyres and da bomb riser bar. Perfect condition. \$700 ono. Call Andrew on 0403 897 379.

Firewood, Level 6x4 trailer load of gum cut into manageable sizes. Seasoned for 1 year. \$100 or \$150 delivered and stacked at your place in the metro area. Call Hugh on (08) 8302 2702.

Accommodation

Housesit Wanted 40-something, reliable, responsible, clean and tidy female UniSA employee, seeks housesit accommodation from January 2005 onwards. Email annette.mezzino@unisa.edu.au

North Adelaide, 2 bedroom unfurnished cottage, pets negotiable. Adjacent to the North Adelaide Railway Station, North Adelaide golf links and Bonython park with only a 4 min. train trip into the city. Off street parking for 2 vehicles and undercover entertaining area out the back. \$230/week. Email cathy.renigers@unisa.edu.au

Got something to sell?

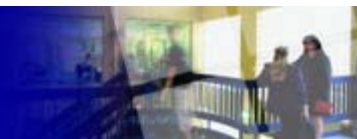
Notices in the UniSANEWS classifieds are free to UniSA staff and students (space is allocated on a first-come first-served basis). Email your notices (keeping them shorter than 30 words) to unisa.news@unisa.edu.au

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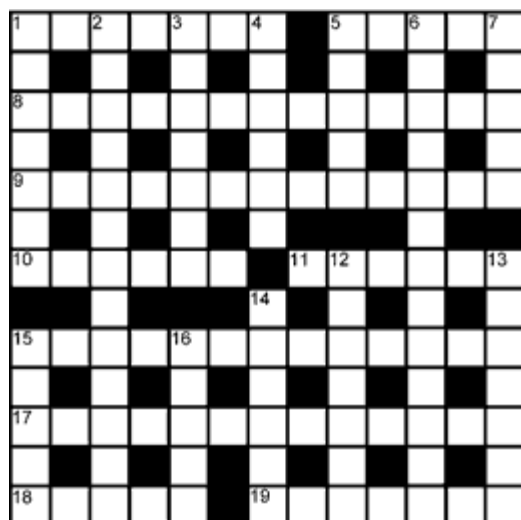
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Colgan's Cryptic Crossword



Across

1. Strip brings blushes (7)
5. Youngster carries cold relative to central point (5)
8. Fools with precarious act maybe rue falls (7,6)
9. Showers for bursary students (13)
10. Arrange insurmountable boundaries for Mission (6)
11. Red-brown rich heart of the country (6)
15. Become more familiar, having realised that girl is wearing strides (5,3,5)
17. Moral decline levels out, takes on better development (5,8)
18. Holding the head of Timotheus, blessed with fervour (5)
19. Fit for discharge (7)

Down

1. Many advances of funds (7)
2. One in school coat (7-6)
3. Wretched, but has one old figurine (7)
4. Mark seen in pool is about right. It created spray (6)
5. Give up, in place of effort (5)
6. Upholders of the law distribute merits to outstanding police (5-8)
7. Soldiers on weights to keep loafers in shape? (5)
12. Just one of the goal posts (7)
13. Quiet couple holed up in island without money (4-3)
14. Electrical problems for those accompanying the main attraction (6)
15. Stagger into a real predicament (5)
16. Curious opposing (contradictory) opinions (5)

Wine to win

For your chance to win a bottle of fine wine, fax your completed crossword to (08) 8302 5785 by Friday September 23.

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. S: strip = colours (in soccer, football, etc)
S: blushes = colours
5. C: youngster (foal) carries cold (contains "c")
S: relative to central point = focal
- 8 C: precarious act (feat) maybe rue (herb) falls (rains)
S: fools = feather brains
9. C: show-ers (exhibitioners)
S: bursary students = exhibitioners
10. C: arrange (sort) insurmountable boundaries (i e)
S: mission = sortie
11. C: red-brown (rust) rich heart (ic)
S: of the country = rustic
15. C: realized (earnt) that girl (her) is wearing strides (covered by "lopes")
S: become more familiar = learn the ropes
17. C: levels out (rakes) better development (progress)
S: moral decline = rake's progress
18. C: holding the head of Timotheus (containing "t") blessed (holy)
S: with fervour = hotly
19. S: fit = satisfy
S: discharge = satisfy

Down

1. C: many (C =100) advances (offers)
S: funds = coffers
2. S: one in school (leather-jacket, a fish)
S: coat = leather jacket
3. C: wretched but has (anagram of "but has") one (I)
S: old figurine = ushabti
4. C: Mark seen in pool (Spitz) about right (around "r")
S: spray = spritz
5. C: in place of (for) effort (go)
S: give up = forgo
6. C: distribute merits (anagram of "merits") outstanding police (coppers, outside)

S: upholders of the law = crime-stoppers
7. S: soldiers on = lasts
S: weights to keep loafers in shape = lasts
12. S: just = upright
S: one of the goal posts = upright
13. C: quiet couple (sh, sh) holed up in island (inside "cay")
S: without money = cash-shy
14. S: electrical problems = shorts
S: those accompanying the main attraction = shorts
15. S: stagger = lurch
S: real predicament = lurch
16. C: opposing contradictory opinions (no, facing 'yes' reversed)
S: curious = nosey

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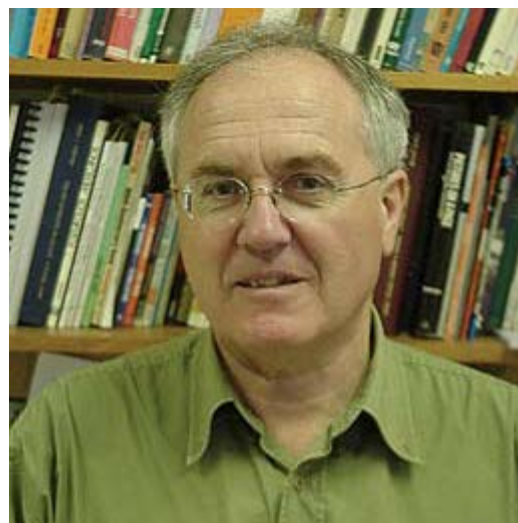
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Our people

Peter Bishop

Born in Tottenham, London, I graduated in Civil Engineering from Nottingham University in England in 1967 and then emigrated as a penniless working-class youth, on my own, to the only country that would pay my fare without conditions – South Africa. Only marginally aware of apartheid, I experienced both shock and renaissance, and after about two years of structural design work in Johannesburg – which paid for extensive travels through a country experiencing bitter conflicts and anti-colonial struggles – I left wiser, but as penniless as I'd arrived. Back in England for two more years of engineering, mainly on bridge construction, I emigrated in 1971 as a 10-Pound-Pom to Australia and the tin huts of the Glenelg migrant hostel.



After a year as an engineer with the SA Engineering & Water Supply Department, I left the profession and went back to uni, taking on postgraduate study in sociology at Flinders with Bob Connell.

I did two years field work in Buddhism in Asia and Europe and returned at the end of 1977 to a short stint of teaching maths at Gilles Plains High School and then a three year lecturing contract in sociology and sociology of education at Hartley CAE. I have been at the Magill campus since then and it, like me, continues to change and metamorphose. In 1989 I completed a PhD in studies in religion at Queensland University. When Magill became a campus of UniSA I shifted from sociology into communications and cultural studies.

I enjoy teaching students across all levels and across diverse disciplines. For many years I taught courses on social control, sociology of knowledge, environment and culture, plus photography and society, but for the past decade nearly all of my teaching has been in cultural and communication studies.

All of these threads are a part of my scholarly and academic activities. I continue to undertake postcolonial research on both Tibet and Buddhism, and I've been contracted to write an interdisciplinary book on bridges taking me back full circle to my first profession.

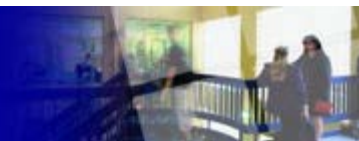
Peter Bishop is an Associate Professor in Communication and Cultural Studies.

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Academic Board

June 2005
by Peter Cardwell

E-Research implications for the University of South Australia

Academic Board noted that in mid 2004, the Australian Research Council (ARC) announced that it would provide substantial funding for e-Research over the next few years. DEST also issued a discussion paper earlier this year for public consultation entitled An e-Research Strategic Framework A Discussion Paper.

E-Research advances rather than replaces traditional research methodologies. However, there is a growing dependence on e-Research capabilities to discover knowledge, whether in digital or physical forms, and to access a growing number of research tools to manipulate or analyse that knowledge.

E-Research embraces research methodologies emerging from the increasing access to: distributed high-performance computing resources and data resources, research instruments and facilities utilising the grid, internet and local area networks and advanced communications technologies.

The Director of the Institute for Telecommunications Research, Prof Andrew Parfitt, introduced a report commissioned by Research Policy Committee (RPC) entitled e-Research: Implications for the University of South Australia.

This report makes four recommendations: that RPC should provide a mechanism to ensure that researchers can access information for e-Research opportunities; that RPC, in collaboration with ISTS, define a base level of IT infrastructure for researchers interested in engaging in pilot projects or test-beds; that the Pro Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) ensure that the University is engaged in any state-wide or national discussions on middleware for e-Research; and that the Corporate Planning Group ensure that its Blueprint planning process for infrastructure included e-Research capability through the formal campus planning processes.

The report concludes that the University is well placed to participate in e-Research, particularly given its robust broadband communications network. In order to advance the report's recommendations an e-Research Implementation Group has now been established, which is chaired by the Director of the Institute for Telecommunications Research.

Some of the issues for consideration in the short and medium terms are access to infrastructure, accessibility to data and research outputs, collaboration between researchers and research communities to maximise take-up of e-Research and the need to build it into the University's capital planning.

Pearce Family transition grants

The Board approved the establishment of the Pearce Family Transition Grants. The Grants are for disadvantaged rural and metropolitan students. A total of \$15,000 will be allocated to successful candidates from 2006.

Program Development

The following program development proposals were approved:

Division of Business

- Category B Amendment – Undergraduate Business Degree Core Courses
- Category B Amendment – Master of Business (Tourism)
- New Programs – Bachelor of Business and Enterprise and Nested Associate Degrees (Whyalla)
- New Program – Graduate Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship

New Program – Master of Human Resource Management

Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences

Category B Amendment – Graduate Certificate in Languages Education

Category B Amendment – Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) in Hong Kong

Category B Amendment – Master of Social Science (Counselling) in Hong Kong

New Program – Graduate Certificate in International Education

Division of Health Sciences

Category B Amendment – Master of Nursing and Associated Nested Postgraduate Awards

Division of IT, Engineering and the Environment

Category B Amendment – Master of Project Management

New Program – Bachelor of Computer and Information Science with TAFE

New Program – Master of Water Resource Management and Associated Nested Postgraduate Awards

Program Withdrawal – Master of Management Information Systems

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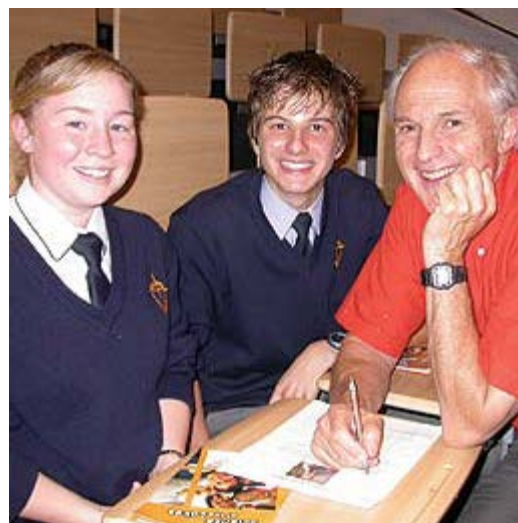
Science at the Lakes – it's all in the chemistry

by Emma Masters

It's not every day you can say you've met a Nobel Prize winner, let alone met an English Knight – but the school children who visited this year's UniSA Science at the Lakes will be able to brag for years to come they've done those very things.

But a visit by Professor Sir Harry Kroto – who was knighted in the same year he was awarded a Nobel Prize for chemistry – was just one of many exciting science activities at Mawson Lakes.

For two days more than 1000 school students and the general public visited Mawson Lakes campus to see presentations and displays, and take part in activities and hands-on experiments – from test driving a flight simulator to looking at stars, from operating robots to learning about bugs and slugs.



Coordinator of Science at the Lakes, Ian Forster, says the National Science Week event was about taking science and technology to the community.

"We're taking science out of the classroom and engaging students through hands-on learning – showing them that science is important and fun," Forster said.

"Special themes were carefully chosen to reflect current issues in society such as sustainability and the natural environment, technology and communications."

Science at the Lakes also focused on the broad range of challenging and exciting careers in the field.

"The diversity now in science and technology means there's a growing need for young people to have a keen interest in pursuing science careers in order to meet the next generation of industry requirements," Forster said.

And Prof Kroto (pictured above with Endeavour College Year 10 students), who discovered the largest symmetrical carbon-containing molecule known to man, commonly called the "buckyball", couldn't agree more.

Aside from telling a packed theatre of school students about atoms, molecules and the importance of chemistry to everyday life, he also encouraged the students to consider a career in science.

Prof Kroto told the students that science is the key to solving major problems in the world – from saving the environment to finding cures for diseases.

"We make mistakes – that's human nature. But you have to keep asking questions. And doubt and questions are the basis of science," Prof Kroto said.

"As a scientist you realise before long that if the future is in anyone's hands, it's in yours. That's why we need young people doing science."

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Policing the demands of resourcing

by Emma Masters

In an interesting twist, UniSA researchers are set to investigate the police and the allocation of police resources.

Associate Professor Maureen Dollard and Professor Tony Winefield from UniSA's Centre for Applied Psychology, along with international fellows Professor Jan De Jonge and Professor Arnold Bakker of Utrecht University, have won a prestigious Australian Research Council grant to investigate the issue of work stress for front line police officers in South Australia and Victoria.

"A lot of research looks inside organisations at job content and context, and the way jobs are designed, but we're also looking at stress factors coming from outside of the organisation," Prof Dollard said.

"We are looking upstream to the pressures on the organisational system to see how it eventually turns up in police officers' reduced capacity to work, due to poor health and stress-related issues.

"Police resourcing is dependent on certain drivers. Socio-economic factors and the demographics of the community should determine how many police are needed but these factors are not used by police forces to allocate resources, resulting in a mismatch between the demands for police services and police resourcing."

A pilot study of 710 Victorian police officers has already found levels of stress are quite high, particularly among senior sergeants.

"Sergeants identify that they don't have enough resources to do the job, and then this leads to heavier work demands and higher levels of stress," Prof Dollard said.

"It's not just exposure to typical police operational demands like attending violent events and investigative work that are associated with wellbeing and morale in police. Levels of stress and morale are also directly attributable to community drivers for police presence, such as population size. These demands are not being offset by resources given to the officers, like time and people.

"What we're seeing is consistent with other stress research, but few studies have examined the obviously important impact of upstream factors."

The study is a collaboration between The South Australian Police Association and The Police Association, Victoria. It will run for three years, matching different types of psychosocial and economic data to get a detailed picture of the work environment of today's police.

"We're using socioeconomic data to predict resource allocation requirements and then we're testing the model using data from surveys and interviews with the police officers," Prof Dollard said.

"Discrepancy ratios between estimated numbers of officers required and those allocated will also be used to predict wellbeing in police officers.

"What we're hoping to find out is whether the demands police officers experience from the day-to-day



operations of the job, the job context, and upstream factors, can be offset by adequate resourcing.

“Our big hope is that we will see the best outcomes for officers in terms of wellbeing and morale when the type and level of available resources corresponds to existing demands.

“To put it differently, the discovery of optimal demand-resource combinations will help us better understand how specific demands threaten and how specific resources protect officers from developing strain or even enhance their wellbeing.”

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Sparking a new way to learn science

by Michele Nardelli

Sometimes the best educational outcomes are born out of a desire to fix a problem. Michèle Nardelli reports.

When Associate Professor Brenton Dansie began working on the Robotics Peer Mentoring Program the problem was an observable decline in people qualified in engineering and electronics.

And just under the skin of that was a steady decline in the uptake of maths and sciences at high school level.

At the other end of the spectrum, South Australia needed more expertise in those very fields. Electronic engineers are still in demand and new business development in the state, across some major engineering, telecommunications and electronics companies is still growing at a rate of eight to 10 per cent.

In nutting out a long-term solution to the problem Associate Professor Dansie has been at the helm of one of the most successful educational programs around – one which has gathered the threads of school education, university education, industry partnership and state economic goals and sewn up a success story.

That success has been rewarded with an Institutional Award in the 2004 Australian Awards for University Teaching and just this month Associate Professor Dansie won the SA Premier's Science Excellence Award for Educator of the Year for his role in leading the program.

Today some 25 South Australian Schools and seven businesses take part in the mentoring program and in the three short years since it began as a pilot involving just a handful of students; more than 1500 high schools students have had a "hands-on" opportunity to learn more about electronics and engineering in the real world.

Associate Professor Dansie says while the hands-on approach is one of the key success factors for the project with school students, it is the strength of the partnerships that underpin the program that have made it a success.

"This is a systemic model of learning that has a huge benefit to the community at every level," he said.

Put in the simplest terms the program enlists university students to go out into schools and work with years 10, 11 and 12 students on robotics activities which include industry based projects. These projects involve students in developing products and solutions for prominent South Australian companies. The undergraduates also deliver 20 hours of curriculum in the schools which takes the students through building and programming small robotic vehicles. This engages their students in a way that would ordinarily be difficult in the everyday running of the school and it gives teachers a unique professional development opportunity at the same time.

"The project has layers of positive outcomes," he says.

"We are about to start measuring what sort of take-up to university and other tertiary education we have



from our first school students who are now just reaching school leaver age and that is something we will continue to monitor.

“With our own university students the program has a transformational impact. It really does nourish their development of graduate qualities – communication, leadership, problem solving, project management – and it does that at both the commercial or business end and the teaching and people management end of the project.”

Associate Professor Dansie says the next step is to ensure the sustainability of the project beyond the three years of significant government and industry funding that it has attracted. The project team is working on ways to further embed the program into school and University curriulums.

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Health barriers for Timor-Leste

Helen Bradley is a senior lecturer in UniSA's School of Nursing and Midwifery with a special interest in health inequalities for disadvantaged groups, especially woman and children. Here she reports on a recent trip to Timor-Leste, our closest neighbour and one of the poorest nations on earth.

"When I saw the massacre of Santa De Cruz in East Timor on TV in 1991, I never imagined I would one day be there myself. However, through contacts in the Public Health Association of Australia was invited to do a needs assessment to prioritise the health needs of the people living in the mountainous coffee-growing Emera district.

Although stunningly beautiful, Timor-Leste, is underdeveloped and one of the poorest countries in the world. There are few cars and if you're lucky you have electricity between 6pm and 12pm. There is no hot water and few luxuries.

I worked with the Saint Bahkita, a community centre which gave shelter to 406 East Timorese refugees fleeing the destruction of their country following Independence. The centre runs courses in computing, English and dressmaking. There is a new health clinic, all built by locals led by skilled Australian volunteers with support from organisations like Rotary, St John of God, as well as individuals.

The clinic has made an amazing difference to the lives of the people in the district. Health services are provided by both local and expatriate volunteers and donations have funded two ambulances to transport patients to the clinic and to hospital.

My colleagues from the School of Nursing and Midwifery provided a donation prior to my departure which among other things paid for fuel for ambulance transport to hospital for several women in labour, probably saving both them and their babies' lives.

It was such a privilege to be invited into the villages and meet these wonderful people in their own environment. But development is about sustainability, so I will be returning to Timor to run a training course to develop their health workers.

If anyone would like to know more about St Bahkita Centre the web site can be found at www.bahkita.org/health.htm

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More tall poppies

Researchers at UniSA have again received accolades at the recent Tall Poppy Science awards ceremony. Last year UniSA had three winners, and this year, Dr Kutluyil Dogancay and Associate Professor Libby Roughead won Tall Poppy awards in recognition of their research.

Dr Dogancay, senior lecturer and program director in telecommunications in the School of Electrical and Information Engineering said he was humbled by the award.

“It was really great to be acknowledged for the research I’ve been doing for a number of years,” he said. “It’s a privilege to get the award and a very nice reward for my research team.”

Prof Roughead, co-director of the Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans’ Medicines Advice and Therapeutics Education Services project said she was delighted to win recognition for her research.

“It was a bit of a surprise to receive the award because my discipline is often considered to be on the edge of science,” she said.

“It was great for the discipline to get the attention and great for the team of people I work with to be recognised for their hard work.” The annual awards, first introduced as part of the celebration of Sir Howard Florey’s 100th birthday in 1998, acknowledges the young researchers’ achievements and provides them with an opportunity to demonstrate their value as role models by promoting and encouraging an interest in science within the education sector.

Prof Roughead also had the distinction of receiving the overall award – as chosen by Adelaide Thinker in Residence, Professor Baroness Susan Greenfield – and will be presenting a lecture entitled Australia’s National Medicines Policy: What’s the Prescription? as part of the Body of Knowledge public lecture series on September 28.

Further details available at www.unisa.edu.au/hsc/bok/seminar3.asp

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Ten great years

Apart from Australia, where else in the world does the University of South Australia graduate up to 600 students a year? What is one of the most enduring and successful relationships UniSA has internationally?

Well if you answered Hong Kong to the first question, you probably know the answer to the second – Hong Kong Baptist University – the university that UniSA has partnered in Hong Kong for a little more than a decade.

Recent celebrations of that partnership not only highlight the 2000 students who have graduated during the collaboration over the past 10 years, but also provided an occasion to renew the memorandum of understanding that underpins this highly successful collaboration.



A special afternoon tea at the Royal Garden Hotel was held on 22nd July to celebrate the beginning of a second decade of collaboration between HKBU and UniSA.

Speaking at the event UniSA President and Vice Chancellor Professor Denise Bradley said the mutual commitment from both institutions to the unique partnership was the envy of other international education providers worldwide.

“In a volatile international market influenced by dramatic world events – from currency fluctuations and infectious disease to natural disasters and threats to world peace – our relationship and success has remained robust to the benefit of both institutions,” Prof Bradley said.

“The real strength of a long term relationship between large institutions is found in the detail and in the people. Friendships have been forged between staff and students of our organisations and these relationships have been of enormous benefit to UniSA’s internationalisation objectives and to our cultural understanding of Hong Kong.”

Prof Bradley said there were many opportunities yet to be explored to their full potential, especially in the areas of cultural exchange and research. As an example, this year UniSA and HKBU submitted a successful application for a Cheung Kong Student Exchange scholarship. Created under the Australian Government’s Endeavour Program, the scholarships encourage high quality intercultural and educational experiences for Australian and Asian students.

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Indigenous issues at the Hawke Institute

by **Andrew Lees**

He might come from the other side of the world, but Doctor Peter Skold proved there was much we could learn from each other on a recent trip to UniSA's Hawke Research Institute.

Dr Skold, of Sweden's Umea University, was here to discuss the Sami, Scandinavia's Indigenous people and their experience with colonisation and modernisation.

An internationally respected historical demographer, Prof Skold has taken a keen interest in Australia's Indigenous people and said the links between Umea University and the Hawke Research Institute would help to develop a broader international understanding of Indigenous issues.

"I strongly believe in the international context," he said. "What Sweden might learn from Australia is the respect that is so carefully paid to Indigenous people here. That's important, not only from practical point of view but also for reasons of paying respect."



It is this form of reciprocal learning that the Hawke Institute is famous for.

Institute Director Professor Alison MacKinnon said a large number of international academics share their knowledge and methods with their Australian counterparts through the Hawke Research Institute.

"I think we learn a great deal from each other's methodologies," she said. "Visiting academics link us in to significant debate and we often find they are very interested in our research and what we're developing."

"The wellbeing of Indigenous people is very much a part of a sustainable society, so Peter's presentations are very informative."

Prof Mackinnon also said such exchanges with Umea University help to strengthen the links between UniSA academics and the world.

"We have a considerable number of researchers coming here, and our researchers cross a range of interests. It gives us the benefit of a Scandinavian perspective on our research and they also very much enjoy our perspective," she said.

Prof Skold said he hoped to follow up on his new contacts in Australia and initiate research to tackle the problems faced by Indigenous people.

"These issues are very complex and can be handled in many different ways. That's what I'm here to learn," he said.

"I've already met several very skilled researchers and I'm sure that several new projects will be initiated."

"I have a great hope that not only one, but many researchers from UniSA will stay at Umea, helping to strengthen the international environment at our institute."

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Looking through glass

It was the chance to work on big projects in a country in love with public art and to become more intimately engaged with art in South East Asia that drew B. Jane Cowie to Singapore.

Today she lives in Singapore, working for the Synergraphic Design Company, one of Singapore's leading specialist glass producers.

A glass artist with impressive international experience, Cowie recently graduated from UniSA with a Master in Visual Arts, examining the history and practice of glassmaking in SA from the glassmaker's perspective.



Cowie certainly has the credibility for that specialist research. She worked for 10 years at SA's premier glass art centre, The Jam Factory, owned and operated the Spinifex Glass Studio in SA, and founded the Blue Pony glass makers' cooperative studio in Adelaide.

"I am not just a glass artist and designer – I am a maker who is a thinker and some of those thoughts are controversial," Cowie said.

A great advocate for artist's rights, Cowie's approach to her thesis was ethnographic, looking at glassmaking from the perspective of the artists and their community engagement.

"I have always believed that the art is secondary to the community in which I practice and that influences my approach heavily."

Cowie has exhibited in Australia, Europe and Asia and her work is included in a number of public and private collections. And very much in keeping with her ideas about place and community and its role in influencing and shaping art, she has worked around the world to learn more.

In glass studios and factories in England, Europe, USA and Japan, Cowie has been keen to develop her technical skills and gain a more intimate understanding of glass. She has also taught in Turkey and Germany.

"I thought my experience and my approach might be a bit challenging for many visual arts educators but UniSA's lecturers were encouraging and really supportive of my research," she said.

"Choosing to study with UniSA for my Masters turned out to be the right decision and I was really proud to cross the stage at the Singapore graduation in July to receive my Master in Visual Arts."

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Text book perfect

by **Tim Horn**

When the subject of psychology was introduced to South Australian high schools in 2004, potential dilemmas arose.

No textbooks had been written for the specific curriculum of the new subject, so Essentials Publishers approached UniSA's School of Psychology for help.

A team of 25 staff from the School of Psychology worked together to create textbooks for the subject, which is offered at both Year 11 and Year 12 levels.

Each of the authors wrote about their area of expertise for the project, and the textbooks are proving to be successful. They cover topics ranging from social cognition to states of awareness; the structure and function of the brain, as well as ethical issues faced by psychologists.

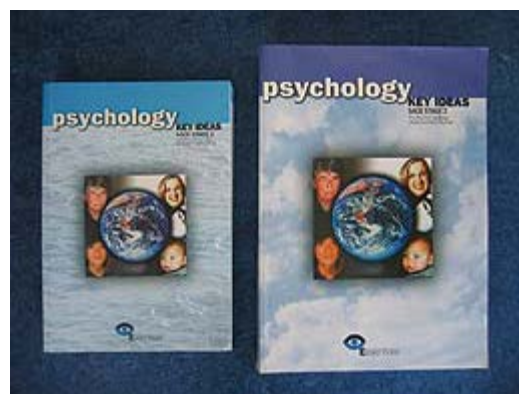
"The real strength of the texts is that people know what they are talking about," says Dr Paul Whetham, from UniSA's School of Psychology. Dr Whetham coordinated and edited the textbooks along with Dr Andrew Day, a fellow clinical psychologist.

"Two textbooks in two years is a great achievement for the School of Psychology, and a great outcome for the community."

Dr Whetham said three in four people with a mental illness will experience an onset before 25 years of age, and only one in ten of these will seek help. For this reason we see the high school textbooks as "an important educational and health promotional tool for young people," he said.

The Year 12 text was one of the few awarded Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia's highest rating for teachers and it has sold more 2000 copies in its first year. The Year 11 text has been introduced this year and promises to be just as successful.

The quality and success of Year 11 and 12 South Australian psychology texts has attracted the interest of the International Baccalaureate's main publisher, IBID press. Earlier this year, the School of Psychology agreed to write an International Baccalaureate Psychology textbook that will go to print by mid 2006.



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First PhD nurse to Head of School

by **Geraldine Hinter**

UniSA's first PhD graduate from nursing, Professor Helen McCutcheon, has been appointed Professor and Head of the School of Nursing and Midwifery.

Currently Acting Head of the Department of Clinical Nursing at the University of Adelaide, Prof McCutcheon has a background in midwifery, neonatal paediatrics and aged and palliative care nursing. She also researches with clinicians at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and in selected residential care facilities. Prof McCutcheon is particularly interested in aged care and how elderly people are cared for in acute care and also the types of services and facilities available to them in residential care.

With more than 60 per cent of people treated at the RAH considered to be senior, Prof McCutcheon has been working on a project called Towards a senior friendly environment in an effort to make the RAH more "senior friendly".



"We have evidence to show that elderly people can become malnourished and dehydrated when in hospital because the environment, food, portion sizes, meal times and interruptions mean that their daily routine changes.

"In residential care one of the big issues is how to maintain adequate nutrition and hydration for people with dementia. These people often become agitated if required to sit down to eat a meal and ensuring an adequate intake of food and fluids is difficult," Prof McCutcheon said.

With an aging population, issues around chronic diseases and mental illness will need to be addressed by nursing, according to Prof McCutcheon, who sees gerontic nursing becoming increasingly specialised.

"My role in the school will be to produce nurses for the future health care system, not just for today. To do that we need a curriculum that's innovative and flexible and produces nurses with skills that the health industry needs. They will be critical thinkers, able to work in a range of different environments including acute hospital as well as community health settings, and have a big primary health care focus looking at prevention and wellness," she said.

Prof McCutcheon would like to see more students in clinical placements outside of acute care facilities, like cancer, asthma, arthritis and intellectual disability settings, as well as working with general practitioners, to gain experience in helping people to live well with a chronic illness, to manage their disease, enjoy a quality of life, and to do that in the community rather than in an acute care facility.

"As part of UniSA's hub of health care professionals focusing on prevention and wellness, not just illness and care, I would also like to expose nursing students to primary schools and involve them in educating children about health and wellness, good diet, exercise and hygiene standards as part of their lifespan development."

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Aerobic cover girl

UniSA student and national aerobics champion Kylie Halliday is leaping into homes across the city – she's the new cover girl of the Adelaide 2005-2006 White Pages directory.

The cover photo of Halliday is part of a series paying homage to young Australians who have displayed unique leadership qualities and strength of character throughout their lives.

Halliday, who is completing two degrees at UniSA, was chosen in recognition of her outstanding achievement as the number one female athlete in sport aerobics in Australia.



Last year, Halliday represented Australia in the World Aerobics Championships and won silver against 30 women from 20 different countries. And while injury prevented her from defending her title at the world championship this year, she says she is on track to getting back to the top of her game.

A young gymnastics champion, Halliday moved to aerobics seven years ago and said she's never looked back. Not that she had much help along the way – she trains and coaches herself.

"At the moment I have a personal trainer for gym work, but I've always done everything myself. I work out all my routines, my fitness schedule... everything."

Outside of competition, Kylie is keen to establish a school and community program on healthy lifestyles and nutrition, something she says will combine her love of aerobics with her areas of study.

"There's so much talk about Australians kids being overweight and unfit. I'd like to help by using my teaching and sports science degrees to implement programs that help kids become healthier and fitter."

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Social Inclusion secondment

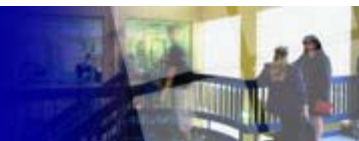
Hawke Research Institute member Dr Tom Stehlik has been awarded the position of Social Inclusion Research Fellow at the Social Inclusion Unit, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, where he will lead action research projects as part of initiatives addressing school retention. The secondment has been developed as part of a memorandum of understanding between the Social Inclusion Unit and the Hawke Research Institute.

Dr Stehlik's research forms part of "Making the Connections", the State Government-backed \$28.4 million School Retention Action Plan, which was developed to improve school retention rates in South Australia. The four-year strategy will establish programs that support children and young people to complete school to Year 12 or the vocational equivalent, and to find alternative and flexible ways for young people to engage in learning.

For Dr Stehlik the research fellowship presents an opportunity to contribute to further understanding of the factors that engage young people in education as well as the ways in which the Social Inclusion Initiative is encouraging collaboration between schools, local communities and government agencies to address the issue of school retention.

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New psychology framework to support Indigenous people

by Emma Masters

UniSA academics are leading a push to develop national curriculum guidelines that equip psychology graduates to work effectively with Indigenous people and communities.

Dr Rob Ranzijn and Dr Andy Day from the School of Psychology and Associate Professor Keith McConnochie and Wendy Nolan from The Unaipon School recently hosted a forum that attracted more than 80 academics, practitioners and Indigenous people from across Australia.

The one-day workshop looked at how to improve tertiary teaching so graduating psychologists will have the skills and understanding to work sensitively with Indigenous communities.

Dr Rob Ranzijn says history shows that the interaction between psychologists and Aboriginal people has often been destructive.

"Psychologists have played a part in the welfare system – from deciding when Aboriginal children are taken away to working with offenders – and they have been involved in counselling surrounding substance abuse, depression and suicide," Dr Ranzijn said.

"However when we did an audit of university psychology courses around Australia, we found there was very little being taught specifically on Indigenous issues.

"There were a number of schools of psychology that taught issues of cross-cultural understanding but nothing specifically aimed at increasing skills in working with Aboriginal people."

Dr Ranzijn said the forum was an important step toward developing national curriculum guidelines that he hoped would be endorsed nationwide within the next two years.

"We are working toward developing a guide that academics and teachers can refer to if they want to teach specific courses or incorporate elements into their psychology programs that cover Indigenous issues," he said.

"Another outcome will be to establish a national support and resource network to help implement the guidelines and foster ongoing collaboration between psychology and education professionals.

"There is no quick fix for some of the long-term problems facing Aboriginal Australians, however the forum was a great basis for working out ways to improve the role of psychology in Indigenous health and wellbeing.

"There are many good things happening and we know that psychology can have a more positive role in Aboriginal people's lives as long as we can learn to walk with Aboriginal people."

The UniSA team will present a case for national guidelines at the national Australian Psychological Society conference this month and hold discussions with the society about implementing the guidelines. The academics are also working to make the national forum an annual event.



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