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# UniSA News

November 2012



## Preventative medicine the key to long-term health

Preventative medicine holds the key to enjoying a long and healthy life, according to new Sansom Institute for Health Research Director Professor Richard Head. [More...](#)



## International approach to researching urban issues

A new collaboration between UniSA and China's Tianjin University aims to promote joint international research into urban issues across Australia and China. [More...](#)



## Carmel's award-winning Stile

As a little girl, Carmel Siciliano was always busy sketching houses and playing with building blocks, while her classmates were drawing love hearts and playing with dolls. [More...](#)



## Work placement with a difference

Working in an orphanage in the hot, dusty capital of Cambodia proved a rewarding experience for OT students. [More...](#)

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## From the Chancellery

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The Federal Government's recent Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook shone a light on some of the challenges that loom for Australia's higher education sector.

In particular, it confirmed significant reductions to the Sustainable Research Excellence program (that helps cover costs associated with conducting research) as well as the abolition of Facilitation Funding. While the impact of these decisions will ripple throughout the sector, the most effected will undoubtedly be the nation's research intensive Group of Eight universities.

Of course, the University of South Australia will not be exempt from the pain emanating from these changes. However, the Outlook contained elements of good news that – when coupled with some impressive national accolades earned recently by UniSA – provide cause for optimism as we enter an exciting new era.



In addition to retaining indexation for student numbers, the Government foreshadowed no changes to Australian Research Council (ARC) funding or the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) scheme. These programs are integral to our research ambitions and help us directly engage with industry in ways that maximise our impact.

Similarly, the Government retained its commitment to the highly-competitive, highly-prized National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funding. The latest round of these grants has just been announced and UniSA recorded it's best-ever result.

Indeed, we secured more than \$8.6 million in support for 17 new NHMRC fellowships and projects, which is more than double that received from the national funding body in 2011 and a remarkable outcome for an institution that does not house a medical school.

This is a tremendous achievement by our staff, from early career researchers through to our most senior professors. It also represents deserved recognition of the University's commitment to excellence and relevance in research.

Equally pleasing were the results that UniSA posted in the 2012 Australian Graduates Survey, with its particular emphasis on the key indicators in teaching and learning performance.

Our rating for 'Overall Satisfaction' increased from 82 per cent (in 2011) to 86 per cent, and even greater improvement was recorded in the 'Good Teaching' category, in which we recorded 67 per cent compared to 62 per cent last year, with encouraging rises in all four of our academic divisions. These are outstanding results by any measure and all staff should be very proud.

Our students also performed impressively at the recent Australian University Games held in Adelaide, where UniSA recorded its best overall placing since 2003 (finishing 14th, up from 30th in 2011). In addition, a number of our teams – including the gold medal-winning women's basketball outfit – have been promoted to the Games' top division as reward for their performances.

To help students make the most of their time with UniSA, both in and out of their coursework

requirements, we continue to explore new ways of maximising their campus experience.

The introduction of 'Food Truck Tuesday', whereby mobile food outlets bring their quality wares to City West campus, has proved hugely popular and we are looking to expand this initiative to include other campuses in the new year. And the University's inaugural O-Week music festival 'Gear Up', which will be free for UniSA students, will be staged at City West on February 27, 2013. We are in the process of signing some very exciting live acts and will make further announcements soon.

With our new Vice Chancellor and President, Professor David Lloyd, to take up his appointment on January 21 next year, we can reflect with pride on our continued strong performance across a range of indicators that ensure we approach the changing landscape of 2013 with confidence and with clarity.

**Professor Joanne Wright**  
**Acting Vice Chancellor and President**

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Latest content revision: Tuesday, 13 November 2012

## Matteo joins climate change conversation in Qatar

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by Rosanna Galvin

A UniSA student is calling for fairer international negotiations on climate change as he prepares to depart for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's 18th Conference of the Parties (UNFCCC) in Qatar this month.

One of only seven tertiary students selected from hundreds of applicants, Matteo Gagliardi (pictured right), will form part of the official Global Voices Youth Delegation to the UNFCCC, taking place from November 26 to December 9.



Gagliardi, whose research paper as part of the delegation investigates the impact of international climate change negotiations on developing countries, says he is looking forward to witnessing negotiations taking place within diverse, international assembly.

"As an international relations student, my main objective is to see how these multilateral negotiations actually work and to get a feel for it. I want to understand how these countries interact face-to-face, speak to each other and negotiate to arrive at a sustainable solution," he says.

"I think one of the main threats the world is facing in regards to climate change is the actual global negotiations that surround it. There are 192 countries in the UN and they all have different economic, ethical and political interests so it can be very difficult to come to a reasonable compromise considering the mix of different interests."



As part of his role on the delegation, Gagliardi attended an intensive two day briefing in Canberra in August, where he met with key politicians including former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd; Foreign Minister and Senator Bob Carr; and Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Minister Greg Combet.

In addition, the International Studies and Journalism double degree student has submitted a 4000-word research paper to Global Voices outlining his policy suggestions on climate change.

"My research has been into the impact climate change negotiations have on developing countries. That's a whole issue in itself. Developing countries don't have the financial capacity or the responsibility to reduce emissions," Gagliardi says.

"Historically it has been the developed countries producing all the carbon emissions yet these developing countries are being asked – if not forced – to commit to emissions reductions by countries

such as the United States.

“This is a complicated issue – we are talking about fairness. China is our case study and they are now one of the biggest economies in the world, producing the most carbon emissions. The problem is that if you consider per capita emissions, China is still a developing country because wealth distribution is so concentrated.

“This needs to be taken into consideration when all the nations are trying to reach a sustainable and fair compromise. The scary thing is if they don't come to a solution, it could potentially have a really bad impact for all of us, which is the underlying threat to the whole problem.”

Qatar will not be the first international destination the third year student has found himself in since commencing his studies at UniSA. In 2011, Gagliardi undertook a student exchange to Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada.

He says travel has not only enhanced his educational and professional experiences but has played an important role in his personal development.

“Travel is such an eye-opening experience – not just in terms of international relations – but more broadly in life,” he says.

“In Adelaide, we can have a very narrow minded view of society and of life. Going overseas and travelling gives you a different perspective and a different outlook. Travel is one of my main aims – to go around the world, to find different outlooks and see different places.”

Gagliardi's upcoming trip to Doha in Qatar for the UNCFCCC is supported by Global Voices, a not-for-profit organisation committed to promoting young Australians' engagement in international diplomacy. For more information on Global Voices, [click here](#).

UniSA's International and Development portfolio provided a scholarship to Gagliardi to fully support his part in the delegation.

[@mgagliardi\\_92](#) is on Twitter.

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Sky-high start to UniSA graduate's career

[Back to story index](#)

by Will Venn

All the hours of flying experience Kafu Chan clocked up as an aviation student at the University of South Australia gave him the confidence to remain calm when a plane he was flying stalled with single engine failure.

Chan was circuit training in a Cessna 172 aircraft at just 800ft above the ground at Parafield airport when he attempted to adjust the throttle to bring the aircraft in to land.

When the throttle failed to respond, Chan's instructor took control of the aircraft and brought it in to land with limited power.

"This experience was exceptional, it was all over in a minute but it gave me an insight into how it really looks in an emergency situation," Chan said.

"I didn't panic and it actually consolidated my willingness to become a pilot as I believe I can handle such a situation, which clears up the doubt at the very beginning."

Chan's cool and professional approach in the face of a potential catastrophe led him to graduate with an aviation degree from the University in 2009.

Since then Chan has undertaken a cadetship at Cathay Pacific Airlines, where, in recognition of his exceptional flying skills, he was recently presented with a Boeing flying trophy.

The trophy is awarded to the Cathay Pacific Airlines cadet pilot who has performed the best among the whole course, in terms of flying performance.

"The cadet program from Cathay Pacific involves flying licenses of Hong Kong that include commercial pilot license and multi-engine command instrument rating, which is closely related to the Australian one which you can obtain through UniSA," Chan said.

"The aviation academy shares the same airport as the cadet course. For the theory part, basics are more or less the same as what we learnt from UniSA.

"I would say the course in UniSA was such a big help, at least to me, for my study at Cathay. If I can choose once again, I would still take the same course to prepare myself."

Today, as a second officer on board commercial Boeing 777 aircraft, Chan has already travelled the world pursuing the career of his dreams, across cities including New York, Milan, Paris and Hong Kong.

"Being a pilot is a responsible discipline and also an enjoyable job. You need to have effort in the right area and passion about this industry," he said.



“However, this is a very fun, enjoyable and rewarding career. Every flight is different.”

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## How a good night's sleep can start in the classroom [Back to story index](#)

by Will Venn

Whether it's designing social media apps to encourage new mums to exercise, or making sleep a subject worthy of school study, Dr Carol Maher's research is aimed at improving people's quality of life.

As a research leader in the University of South Australia's Health and Use of Time (HUT) group, Dr Maher's work has a strong focus on activity behaviours and the sleeping patterns of children and adolescents.

"The average Australian child is not getting enough sleep. Examining why that is and what interventions can be made to improve sleep quality and duration are key projects I am involved in," Dr Maher said.

A recent survey of the sleeping habits of children aged nine to 16 has revealed that those who go to bed later may develop less healthy lifestyles than those who sleep earlier.

"We have found that children who stay up later in the evening and get up later in the day are more prone to eat foods that are high in fat and less likely to exercise than those who go to sleep and rise earlier," she said.

"The reason for this is that staying up late may mean snacking in front of the TV or other sedentary behaviours, whereas children who rise early have greater opportunities to engage in physical activity at a time when they are alert and refreshed.

"Sleeping patterns are an ingrained part of people's lifestyles."

So important, in fact, is the need to develop healthy sleeping habits that Dr Maher believes children would benefit from regular lessons on sleep hygiene in the classroom.

In a study that is currently taking place across Adelaide, groups of students in Years 6 and 7 are undertaking a six-week course on healthy sleeping and are being monitored to determine whether they are sleeping better as a result of what they have learnt.

"The importance of developing healthy sleeping habits extends from childhood into adulthood," she said.

"When sleep is compromised, for instance, new parents whose quality and duration of sleep is reduced, this may negatively impact lifestyle in other ways, including the desire and motivation to eat healthily or exercise regularly."

Developing interventions that take into account different lifestyles and changes in people's lifestyles, to promote healthy living, is a main outcome of Dr Maher's research.



One such intervention that Dr Maher is working on is the creation of a Facebook app which is designed to be used with a pedometer, to encourage new mums to engage in physical activity.

Using a pedometer, new mums will be encouraged to take 10,000 steps a day and the Facebook app will aid motivation by enabling them to record their progress, track their friends' progress and develop friendly competition.

"Physical activity tends to appeal to those who want to do it and for many new mums this may be less of a priority, as the time pressures and responsibilities they face are considerable," Dr Maher said.

"The advantage of social media though is that they can be invited to use this app by friends who are in a similar position. That sort of group support can be a positive motivational factor in encouraging exercise to occur.

"A pedometer can track the numbers of steps that are taken in any almost any environment, it adds flexibility into exercise routines. By inviting a friend to join or liking what a friend has achieved – that positive feedback is another motivational tool."

Useability testing on the new app is starting this month (November 2012), and a full trial, which will determine whether the app is effective in increasing women's physical activity, will start in early 2013.

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Latest content revision: Wednesday, 14 November 2012

## Ultrathin designs reflect a safer future for motorists

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by Will Venn

If you drive a new car in the next few years, when you check your side mirrors, take a close look; the reflection may appear courtesy of some cutting-edge technology developed by researchers at UniSA.

Dr Drew Evans is a research fellow whose expertise in ultrathin film technologies and work with the Thin Film Coatings Group at the Mawson Institute, has seen the development of plastic side mirrors designed to make cars both safer and more environmentally friendly.



"By developing a reflective thin film coating, which is less than the width of a human hair and which can be used on plastic, the application in cars has several advantages," said Dr Evans.

"As soon as you replace glass with plastic you can effectively reduce by half the weight of the car mirror. This has a flow-on effect – the motor that adjusts the mirror can be made lighter as can the housing that encases the mirror.

"These weight savings add up to fuel savings which means the vehicle becomes more energy efficient."

Environmental benefits are not the only advantage of using plastic mirrors.

"Plastic is inherently safe; the mirror is shatter proof. You can do things with plastic that you can't do with glass. This gives car manufacturers freedom to redesign their cars around the fact they have this flexible material," he said.

Dr Evans highlights the move in production from flat glass headlights to plastic headlights on cars as being instrumental for the development of more sleek, aerodynamically designed vehicles.

"This change was possible due to the moulding properties of plastic and the same analogy can now be applied to side mirrors," he said.

By working in collaboration with industry partner SMR Automotive, the first commercial roll-out of side mirrors using the thin film coating technology is due in the US in the next few months.

"It will take about 18 months to two years to see its uptake in the consumer market place and we have confidence the product will be taken up," said Dr Evans.

Earlier this year, Dr Evans was a finalist in the SA Science Excellence Awards and won a People's Choice Award in recognition for his work in thin film coatings, particularly the development of the thin film mirror from design inception to product development and commercialisation.

“Our expertise is putting coatings on plastic; these don't necessarily have to be reflective, another stream of our work is developing polymers that conduct electricity,” he said.

“When you put these onto flexible plastics they can be used in mobile phone technology, flat panel displays and solar cells.”

Dr Evans' research, at the new \$50 million Materials and Minerals Science Building and Plazzo at Mawson Lakes campus, has also proved encouraging to undergraduate students.

“Being in an environment like this, where there are floor to ceiling glass laboratories, is fantastic,” he said.

“The philosophy of the M<sup>2</sup> building is to create a portal from undergraduates to postgraduates; you can see the inspiration it gives to the next generation of scientists coming through, to see you do something.

“Science is not about being stuck in a dark lab somewhere, doing some experiment that doesn't mean anything. You can see that we're doing fundamental science that has real world applications.”

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## 'Visual eyes' an inspiring internship in Vietnam

[Back to story index](#)

by Beth Scott

Five UniSA Public Relations students and their lecturer Kim Groves (pictured middle right), recently returned from an inspiring PR internship in Vietnam, where they volunteered at a blind school in Ho Chi Minh City.

Groves began the 'Visual-eyes the Future' initiative after she won an ING Direct competition in which she mapped out a proposal to teach blind students computer skills, English and music.

With the \$10,000 prize money, Groves created an internship to fund a third-year Bachelor of Public Relations student to travel to Vietnam to assist her at the Nhat Hong Centre for the Blind.

Student Beth Scott (pictured right LHS) won the internship, while Groves also decided to partly fund the trip for another four students – Amy Weber, Josh Dalay-On, Annabelle Fabriczy and Illona Schultz.

Scott said the PR students taught a range of marketing and communications lessons to carers and teachers at the school, some of whom were visually impaired, leaving them with lasting skills to help promote the cause of the centre.

"Teaching 'how to write a newsletter' to those who were visually impaired was a challenge but we adapted verbal dialogue to the visuals, giving everyone an idea of what a successful newsletter looks like," said Scott.

"I will be forever grateful for this opportunity. I was able to get to know some of the bravest people in the world. We hope to continue to support the students at the centre by helping them apply for student scholarships throughout Australia."

Scott said students at the centre were aged from three to their mid-20s, their disabilities an example of the lasting effects of Agent Orange, a poison used during the Vietnam War.

"I met Tam (pictured right), a 19-year-old who lost his sight at age 13 from a bomb," she said.

"His dream is to teach English and science to those who are visually impaired. He has an inspirational outlook on life, waking up each day to



ask himself, 'What should I do today?'

"We hope to continue to support the centre by helping students gain scholarships and hopefully one day creating their own newsletter so they can promote the amazing work they do."



Six RMIT students from Ho Chi Minh City acted as translators for the team, further bringing Groves' vision to life.

"The students from RMIT were caring and engaging with the children and assisted us when we travelled overnight to Vung Tau, a rare seaside excursion for the kids," Groves said.

Thanks to the generosity of those back in Adelaide, Groves and the team were able to take over three iPads, eight Lamaze Octotunes and a range of donations for the centre.

"One of the highlights for me was seeing the kids learn how to use the Lamaze Octotunes, a musical octopus, designed for the visually impaired," Groves said.

Groves, who was adopted from an orphanage in Vietnam when she was six months old, said the internship was designed to help a charitable organisation in a developing country, while also giving the PR students an insight into global public relations.

To find out more like the [Facebook](#) page 'Visual-eyes the Future.'



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# Electrifying win by Mawson Institute researcher

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by Catherine Moore and Rosanna Galvin

Dr Tony Aitchison (pictured right), will travel to the United States next year to develop a lithium ion battery able to withstand extreme temperatures, after he was awarded the Dow Chemical Fellowship from the American-Australian Association at a ceremony in New York on November 14.

In collaboration with Michigan State University (MSU), Dr Aitchison will develop a new form of electrolyte that will increase the upper and lower operating temperature limits of lithium ion batteries. He will spend 12 months at MSU working on this project and aims to extend this work into a range of real life applications.

“Currently lithium ion batteries have a limited temperature range in which they operate; if the battery is too hot, it will degrade and if it is too cold the battery will stop working,” Dr Aitchison said.

“One example where this would be of benefit is that if the new electrolyte significantly lowers the battery’s lower operating temperature limit then it could be used in lithium ion battery cars throughout the world. Currently, there are limitations for such cars in snow climate countries, because it is too cold.”

The Fellowship is awarded to those who display intellect, vision and innovation in their research, and will provide Dr Aitchison with the sum of \$30,000 to achieve the project goals.

Dr Aitchison is currently based at the Mawson Institute where he works in Dr Stephen Clarke’s research team in the Clarke Laboratories. The team’s research is based in polymer science with a focus on developing new plastic materials to combat the growing issues surrounding energy consumption and climate change. Dr Clarke’s research team is involved in several industry-funded research projects, valued at \$2.6 million.

Until Dr Aitchison’s tenure in the United States, he is undertaking intraocular lens research, which is a prosthetic replacement for the natural lens in the eye.

“It is used to correct an individual’s sight by the removal of cataracts or increasing the eyes’ accommodation so that glasses or contacts are no longer needed,” Dr Aitchison said.

Dr Aitchison will begin his Fellowship in the United States starting June next year. For more information on the Clarke Laboratories at the Mawson Institute, [click here](#).



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## M<sup>2</sup> gives UniSA research a competitive edge

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by Charlotte Chalklen

If anyone knows that innovation doesn't necessarily originate in a rarefied ivory tower – or for that matter, cold-war-style research bunker – it's Professor Nico Voelcker (pictured right).

The Mawson Institute-based research professor has many exciting projects underway, but perhaps none so close to his heart as one designing non-toxic, biodegradable nanoparticles targeted to kill cancer cells.

He was propelled to advance the idea when his mother was diagnosed with a glioblastoma multiforme, one of the most fatal types of brain tumour.

While Prof Voelcker's mother and other brain tumour patients' best chances today lie with surgery and highly toxic radiotherapy or chemotherapy, he and his collaborators are bringing us closer to a cancer-fighting therapy without the side effects of the presently available treatments.

It's a project that Prof Voelcker says will make full use of the seamless laboratory facilities in the new Materials and Minerals Science (M<sup>2</sup>) building at Mawson Lakes campus.

Another key project that will be advanced in the new labs is work utilising stem cell technology to create living implants to restore the sight of people blinded by ocular surface disease, one of the most common forms of blindness in the developing world.

Prof Voelcker, who relocated his international team of over 20 researchers to Mawson Lakes last year, says the new facilities were a big attraction.

"The fact that we have fantastic new labs in a state-of-the-art building is definitely a draw card," he says.

"The labs have been set up to work at a high standard of certification in biomaterials cell culture work, and we don't have to change labs to obtain that certification. The laboratories have also been designed to interface bench work with the work you do in the office, so it's a much more efficient way to work."

Proximity and face-to-face interaction are more important than ever in forming and incubating good ideas.

That's the message of Associate Professor Benjamin Thierry (pictured right), a French bioengineer who is working on technology that can efficiently isolate cancer cells from blood, opening the door to more accurate cancer biopsy and diagnoses



and a better understanding of the metastatic nature of cancer.

Even in this technologised world, he states – maybe even because of it – real effort needs to be made to bring people together to form and develop ideas and products that will succeed on the world stage.

“Scientists are much more likely to generate blue skies ideas when sharing a cup of coffee in a space designed to stimulate such discussion,” he says, standing on the new walkway that links the Ian Wark Institute with the new M<sup>2</sup> building.

Assoc Prof Thierry, whose team is also working on a project that could provide a safe alternative to amniocentesis testing of babies in-utero, says that the new M<sup>2</sup> building is already attracting an array of scientists from engineering, molecular health and nanotechnology who are giving The Wark<sup>TM</sup> and UniSA a competitive edge.

“With the new facilities so close to the Australian National Fabrication Facility (the ANFF produces many of the high tech microfluidic chips and other parts that are essential to the work of researchers utilising surface modification technology) a critical mass is starting to build and it’s exciting,” he says.

“We’re definitely going in the right direction.”



### NHMRC funding success

Assoc Prof Benjamin Thierry was among a suite of successful UniSA researchers in recent National Health and Medical Research Council funding announcements, in which the University doubled its funding for innovative health research.

The University won more than \$8.6 million in support for health research from the NHMRC for 17 new fellowships and projects.

Project grant recipients were: Assoc Prof Ben Thierry (nanomedicines), Dr Hannah Keage (dementia), Prof Corey Xian (bone tissue), Prof Lorimer Moseley (chronic pain), Prof Michael Roberts (improved drug delivery), Dr Karen Murphy (Mediterranean diet and brain function), Prof Shudong Wang (less toxic cancer treatments), and Prof Mark Daniel (environment and cardiometabolic disease in Indigenous communities).

Early Career Fellowships went to Dr Tom Wycherley (nutrition intervention in Indigenous communities), Dr Natasha Stanton (osteoarthritis and brain training for pain management), Georgina Crichton (cross national comparisons of diet and cardiovascular risk), and Dr Stephanie Reuter-Lange (improving the treatment of infectious diseases).

Prof Corey Xian won a Research Fellowship (bone growth and regeneration), Dr Paul Anderson won a Career Development Fellowship (action of vitamin D in bone) and Prof Leonie Segal won a Partnership grant (community and mental health care).

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## Announcements and Achievements [Back to story index](#)

### Diverse success in ARC research funding

Five projects from across the University were successful in winning funding in the November grants announcements from the Australian Research Council.

**Professor Suzanne Franzway** will lead a team of researchers from the Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences in a \$210,000 Discovery Project to examine the impact of intimate partner violence on women's mental health, housing and employment. The research will look at the impacts over time and focus on women's active and diverse responses to violence and new understandings of gender, violence and citizenship.

At UniSA's Institute for Telecommunications Research **Professor Alex Grant** and his team will be working on developing more reliable wireless technologies for the future. He says the \$352,036 ARC project support will help to deliver new technologies that enable lower cost, through more efficient use of the radio spectrum to deliver reliable higher speed wireless broadband.

And in a data mining project designed to unravel relationships between complex systems such as those between genes, gene regulators and cancer, **Professor Jiuyong Li** from the School of Computer and Information Science will develop methods to reveal complex group relationships from heterogeneous data. He says the crucial research will have wide applications across a range of fields.

**Dr Svetlana Bogomolova** from UniSA's School of Marketing has won more than \$370,000 in a Discovery Early Career Researcher Award to research the impact of retail price promotions in Australia. She will be looking at the variety and number of price promotions, and how they impact consumer decision-making with a view to improving consumers' understanding of retail promotions.

Under Discovery Indigenous grants **Dr Irene Watson** has been awarded \$650,000 to research law reforms that will aim to include Indigenous knowledge to help to resolve matters that come before the courts and help to redress social disadvantage. The project will assess existing programs in the courts and help build institutional capacity for more positive engagement with Indigenous knowledges on law and society.

And while not the lead institution, UniSA's Ian Wark Research Institute and Mawson Institute researchers are at the heart of two further successful grants in state-based collaborations.

The first is a \$1.2 million project to enhance and broaden the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy technology in South Australia. Led by Adelaide University, the team will include **Professors Hans Griesser** and **Magnus Nyden** and **Nico Voelcker** and **Dr Stephen Clarke** from UniSA and several researchers from Flinders and Adelaide Universities.

And in a second local collaboration, \$450,000 has been secured to establish a scanning auger microprobe facility as part of the Australian microscopy and microanalysis research facility. **Professor Bill Skinner**, **Associate Professor David Beattie**, **Dr Sarah Harmer-Bassell** from The Wark™ will work with colleagues from Flinders and Adelaide Universities to complete this project.

### A healthy take on dress-ups

Visitors to UniSA's City East Campus on October 29 would be forgiven for thinking Halloween had come early when staff and students donned school dresses to raise funds to send girls to school in Sierra Leone. The UniSA *Do it in a Dress* team collectively raised more than \$36,000, giving 151 girls access to education scholarships in the West African nation.

Inspired by a presentation by not-for-profit organisation *One Girl* at the recent Future Health Leaders conference co-sponsored by UniSA, Drs Natalie Parletta and Andrea Gordon set a challenge for staff and students in the School of Health Sciences – 'do it in a dress' and raise \$10,000 for *One Girl* during October.



Health Sciences staff (L-R) Jordan Kostadinov, Dr Sheridan Gentili, Craig Phillips, Ricky Critcher, Dr Andrea Gordon and Dr Natalie Parletta do it in a dress.

Both staff and students quickly took to the cause with Professor Roger Eston, Head of School of Health Sciences wearing a dress on his bike ride home from work while Professor of Clinical Neurosciences and Chair in Physiotherapy Lorimer Moseley delivered a keynote address in a school dress at the International Pelvic Pain Society in Chicago, singlehandedly raising \$17,000 in the process.

Dr Parletta says the response to *Do it in a Dress* has been overwhelming as the University community came together to support a girl's right to an education.

"The support the campaign has received in the University has been incredible. We had senior professors presenting their lectures in school dresses and an entire lecture of students donning school dresses," she said.

"The campaign concluded with a barbecue at City East campus, where staff and students enjoyed lunch prepared by amateur chefs in school dresses. Even some native wildlife got involved in the fun community event.

"We set out with the goal to raise \$10,000 and have some fun along the way, but to more than triple that amount is fantastic. The money will give girls in Sierra Leone the chance to get an education, something taken for granted here in Australia. Sixty million young girls around the world are not getting an education but the simple act of doing it in a dress can change that."

In Sierra Leone, only one in six girls has the chance to attend high school, and almost one third of girls born there will be married and pregnant before their 15th birthday. Empowering girls through education has many positive outcomes – girls will marry later and have fewer but healthier children and increase their income by 10 per cent for every year they stay in school, investing 90 per cent of this back into their families.



*Do it in a Dress* is part of a global movement by *One Girl*. Established in 2010, the NGO provides education scholarships to girls and sanitary pads to women in Sierra Leone. For information, [click here](#).

### Social scientist heads up Hawke Research Institute

Professor Anthony Elliott (pictured right), is the new Director of UniSA's Hawke Research Institute, where he will provide leadership for an enhanced program of publicly engaged social science – both in Australia and globally.

"The Hawke Research Institute is unique in Australian higher education," says Prof Elliott.

"It is Australia's largest centre of social science research and over the years has made a vital



contribution to informing public debate.”

Engaging with significant national and international issues is fundamental, and Prof Elliott says the Institute will now develop an even more intensive global outlook.

He says his appointment, along with a large team of researchers he has brought with him to the Hawke, represents a significant new investment in the Institute and its role as a leader in social science research.

A world-renowned social scientist, Prof Elliott was previously Chair of Sociology at Flinders University and Visiting Research Professor at the UK’s Open University. He is an Australian citizen – but has lived and worked for many years in the UK.

### **Hawke lecture gives insights into our Asian future**

In its 15th year, the Annual Hawke Lecture, delivered by former diplomat and expert on Australian-Asian relations, Richard Woolcott AC, again filled the Adelaide Town Hall this year.

Founding Director of the Asia Society AustralAsia Centre and a member of the Australian American Leadership Dialogue since 1992, Woolcott is a member of the International Council of the New York Based Asia Society and worked closely in support of Australia’s successful bid to join the United Nations Security Council.

In his warmly received address, Woolcott highlighted the significance of Australia’s place in the Asia Pacific region.

“Australia is permanently situated in the South East Asian and South West Pacific region. This has always been a geographic reality but some Australians have yet to come to grips with the implications of this fact,” Woolcott said.

He said the rise of China was a seminal development of recent years and key to the massive transfer of wealth from Europe to the East and the Asia Pacific.

“This is a positive development for Australia and creates enormous economic opportunities for our region,” he said.

“It also puts a focus on the need to get the appropriate balance between our relationships with both the US and China.”

Woolcott said the growth of the middle-class in China and the emerging economies of India and closer neighbours such as Indonesia offer great advantages for Australia in the 21st century.

He said old notions of power are changing and that we are entering a more interconnected multi-polar world and we need to work towards cooperative arrangements in our region.

He said key issues for Australia included a revisiting of the ANZAS treaty in the context of the modern economy and geopolitical environment, better handling of the refugee issue in Australia and a move towards becoming a republic.

You can hear the entire lecture by listening to the [podcast here](#)

### **Lecture to examine value of information**

Professor of Mathematics and Professor of Ecology Hugh Possingham from the University of Queensland will examine the value of information



at the next Barbara Hardy Institute Distinguished Lecture later this month.

Prof Possingham, who is also Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Environmental Decisions, will discuss the ideas of active adaptive management and value of information theory in the context of biodiversity management at the lecture, being held at the Basil Hetzel lecture theatre at City East campus on Tuesday November 27 at 6pm.



"In particular I will speculate about the value of information on counting koalas and birds in the Adelaide region. How much counting should we do, how should we do it, who is going to analyse it, and what are the roles and opportunities for citizen scientists?" he says.

This lecture is being held the night before Great Koala Count day – read the Great Koala Count media release [here](#).

Register for the Distinguished Lecture [here](#).

### **Football United® supports Indigenous Football Festival**

UniSA's Football United® program (FUn-UniSA) recently teamed up with the Division of Health Science's Indigenous Support Unit to support the inaugural Football Federation SA State Indigenous Football Festival.

The event, for which Football United® provided volunteers and side activities, took place in the northern suburbs at the brand new FFSA Burton Football Centre.



The tournament catered for around 140 young players from metropolitan and regional schools including Port Augusta, Wiltja Residential Program, Kaurna Plains School, Fremont Elizabeth City High School, Blakeview Primary, and Roma Mitchell Secondary College.

Indigenous Support Unit equity lecturer Kemerli Lievano says there are over 70 Indigenous Health Sciences students at UniSA who are strongly committed to closing the gap in their own local communities, and this initiative generated strong student interest.

"The Division of Health Sciences' Indigenous student group sent a half a dozen students from different degree programs to represent them at the event," she said.

"Students from Human Movement, Nutrition, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy worked together to develop activities to engage the kids and their families.

"Community building and cultural identity are strong values which our UniSA Indigenous volunteers want to share with the community – building inspiration and aspiration in school-age kids for healthy living, education and active participation.

"The Football United® program has a great reputation already in outreach to culturally and linguistically diverse pockets of the school-aged community and its relationship with FFSA gave our students a great springboard for exploring their own interests in community engagement and social inclusion."

Football United® project officer Dr Edoardo Rosso said FUn-UniSA provided 12 volunteers, including five Indigenous students and four UniSA staff members.

"Our volunteers worked as team liaison officers and venue facilitators and ran a UniSA site with small football games, fitness testing, health promotion, nutrition and drawing activities," he said.

Meanwhile, the Football United® program has collected a 2012 OPAL Award from the City of

Playford.

These awards recognise programs that are occurring in the community to promote eating well and being active. FUn-UniSA won the '*Supporting children and families to be active*' category, for making significant changes and developing initiatives that support children and families to be more active.

OPAL (Obesity And Lifestyle Program) is a proud partner of FUn-UniSA and has contributed to several community events organised by Football United® in the City of Playford.

Football United® runs weekly football activities at Uley Oval at Elizabeth Downs, engaging around 40 young people from an African refugee background.

### **ITEK spearheads Chuulangun agreement signing**

UniSA, ITEK Ventures Pty Ltd and the Chuulangun Aboriginal Corporation have formed a commercial partnership for the development of a natural therapy for the treatment of inflammatory skin conditions.

The three parties recently signed a historic agreement in Sydney, which was hosted by law firm Bartier Perry.

Signatories to the agreement were David Claudie from Chuulangun Aboriginal Corporation, Professor Jason White from UniSA and Dr Stephen Rodda from ITEK. Also travelling to Sydney for the signing were ITEK Commercial Manager Stephanie Agius and UniSA researcher Dr Susan Semple.



Dr Semple is leading the research, along with Mr Claudie, which uses compounds extracted from the Indigenous plant *Dodonaea polyandra* or '*Uncha*' to develop a natural cream to treat skin conditions such as dermatitis and psoriasis.

ITEK Chief Executive Dr Stephen Rodda said ITEK was proud to formalise the partnership at the signing.

"ITEK is proud to be working collaboratively with the Chuulangun Aboriginal Corporation and UniSA for the commercial development of a natural therapy for the treatment of inflammatory skin conditions," Dr Rodda said.

"This collaboration is setting the benchmark in Australia for working together with Aboriginal communities to utilise Indigenous knowledge in an ethical and socially responsible way that respects the origins of that knowledge to foster the growth of an entrepreneurial enterprise and make important contributions to the economic and social development in the Cape York area."

Mr Claudie said the signing of the agreement was very important for the Chuulangun community.

"The agreement brings together the ancient and the new – it correlates the Indigenous and the western science in a way that will benefit our people and land into the future," he said.

The Chuulangun Aboriginal Corporation represents the traditional owners of the Northern Kaanju homelands in Queensland's central Cape York Peninsula.

### **Gearing up for a brand new music festival**

A new UniSA music festival is poised to become Adelaide's biggest university social event with an inaugural launch planned for O-Week in 2013.

The Gear Up festival will feature special guest acts and is designed to welcome new and returning students to the University with a music and arts extravaganza.

Around 20 bands, comprising national and local talent, are due to perform across two stages at the one-day event, with other attractions including a silent disco, a crazy photo booth and various art installations.



The event, which will be free for UniSA students to attend, is expected to attract up to 4000 people to City West campus.

Event director Anne-Marie Parsons said the festival would be a great way for students to connect with the UniSA community, establish good friendships and begin the new academic year in a fun-filled, positive fashion.

"It doesn't matter what your background, your sex, your age, your political persuasion is – everyone can appreciate good music," she said.

"Gear Up will help contribute to a vibrant campus culture, bring students together to socialise, and convey the diversity of extra-curricular opportunities that are available.

"This is a very exciting initiative and it's certainly creating a buzz with students and staff. There's already been an enormous response to get involved and support the event."

The line-up for the event, which is planned for February 27 at City West campus, has yet to be announced but further details about Gear Up will be made available through [facebook](#).

### **Team UniSA triumphs on home turf**

UniSA has completed its best Australian University Games (AUG) performance since 2003 when 43 universities from across Australia competed in Adelaide this September. Placing an admirable 14th overall, the university's team improved their previous years' efforts by 16 places.



Lead by UniSA team captains Yoghan (Yogi) Chandra and Nicole Woortman, students competed in many sports ranging from lawn bowls to rowing, taking home the gold in both the Women's Basketball (Division 2) and the Judo Men's Individual Under 73kg (won by Sean Courtney). Ten UniSA students also received Green and Gold Awards, which acknowledges outstanding sporting performance at the games.

The sporting achievements of the students, as well as the contribution from staff and students who volunteered at the AUG, were celebrated after the games' conclusion with thank you drinks with Acting Vice Chancellor Professor Joanne Wright.

### **International students commended for their contribution to Adelaide community**

Two international students from UniSA have been recognised at the Governor's International Student Awards held at Government House recently.

Presented by Governor Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce, the Volunteer/Community Participation Award went to Canadian student Bruce Smith (pictured centre right), while Malaysian student Sim Jia Kent (pictured below), took home the Arts Achievement Award.



Smith, who is studying a Business degree, received the award for the volunteer work he is undertaking with several community organisations during his time in Adelaide, including Edge Assist Street Care and the Childhood Cancer Association.

"Adelaide and the people here have a special place in my heart. I am honoured to be able to have given back to this community and it's going to be so difficult parting ways when I return to Canada," he says.

Meanwhile Communication and Media Management student Kent is making an impact on the Adelaide arts scene. As well as performing at the 2011 Malaysian Carnival, the musician has performed at Xcuse! 2011, the School of Communications' Award night at UniSA and various open mic nights at the Daniel O'Connell and Grace Emily Hotels.



“I wanted to share the Malaysian music flavour with the rest of the world. Being able to perform in Adelaide has taught me so much and has prepared me for what is to come in the future for my music career,” he says.



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Latest content revision: Thursday, 15 November 2012

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# Calendar

Upcoming events  
in Norway

5 September 2016

Find out about studying at  
the University of South  
Australia and living in  
Adelaide.

Find out more

05  
SEP



## Current Events

23  
JUL

08  
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Upcoming events in  
India

23 July - 8 September 2016

Find out about studying at the  
University of South Australia  
and living in Adelaide.

05  
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Upcoming events in  
Australia

05 August - 3 September 2016

Find out about studying at the  
University of South Australia.

## Upcoming events

View:

September 2016 (14 Events)

Minimise

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SEP



Chemotherapy-  
induced mucosal

05  
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Upcoming events in  
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Sri Lanka

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From dd/mm/yyyy:

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UniSA Students

UniSA's 25th Birthday

ICT Innovation & Collaboration Centre

Academic units

Business and Law

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Health Sciences



**barrier injury**

2 September 2016

Professor and Dean: Academic within the Division of Health Sciences at the University of South...



**Upcoming events in Myanmar**

07 September - 11 September 2016

Find out about studying at the University of South Australia and living in Adelaide.



**The Futures of Waste - Keynote Address**

8 September 2016

The role of sustainability and materials in the new innovation economy: Green Materials from Waste...



**2016 UniSA Nelson Mandela Lecture**

15 September 2016

Discover a wealth of a different kind with Geraldine Cox AM



5 September 2016

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**Futures of waste**

07 September - 7 October 2016

This exhibition of photographs and accompanying seminar will address the origins and dimensions of waste...



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10 September 2016

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**Upcoming events in Kenya**

16 September - 24 September 2016

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07 September - 12 September 2016

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**Venture Catalyst Pitching & Information Session**

8 September 2016

Do you have a great idea or an existing company that needs a financial injection to turn in Adelaide's...



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14 September - 15 September 2016

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**NON-REPRESENTATIONAL THEORY: PERFORMATIVE, EMBODIED AND AFFECTIVE KNOWLEDGE**

21 September 2016

Masterclass by Sir Nigel Thrift

IT, Engineering and the Environment





**Foundations of active ageing**

23 September 2016

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**THE SENTIENT CITY**

28 September 2016

Hawke Research Institute  
Annual Distinguished Lecture



October 2016 (3 Events)

Minimise



**Art Talks With Jeffrey Tate, Principal Guest Conductor**

6 October 2016

Art Talks With Jeffrey Tate, Principal Guest Conductor In-conversation with Professor David Lloyd, Vice...



**CHART 2016, 'Shoulder to Shoulder'**

12 October - 4 November 2016

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31 October 2016

For the Hawke EU Centre Annual Lecture, Baroness Royall argues that the values of the European Union...



November 2016 (5 Events)

Minimise



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5 November 2016

Celebrate UniSA's 25th Birthday with Vice Chancellor and President, Professor David Lloyd and fellow...



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09 November - 30 November 2016

An exhibition exploring an 1887 Exhibition, held in the Jubilee Exhibition building, and tracks the...



**Welcome House**

09 November - 30 November 2016

An exhibition created by members of the refugee community, who receive support from Kilburn's 'Mercy...



**National Water Forum 2016**

11 November 2016

Are integrated decisions about water management better than stand-alone choices?



**Art Talks With Pinchas Zukerman, Artist in Association**

22 November 2016

Art Talks With Pinchas Zukerman, Artist in

Association. In-conversation  
with Professor Tanya Monro,...

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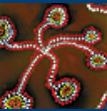
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AUSTRALIAN TECHNOLOGY NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES



## Preventative medicine the key to long-term health

[Back to story index](#)

by Kelly Stone

Preventative medicine holds the key to enjoying a long and healthy life, according to new Sansom Institute for Health Research Director Professor Richard Head (pictured right).

Prof Head, who joined UniSA from the CSIRO's Preventative Health Flagship, says substantial gains have been made in preventative health research and policy over recent decades.

Recently awarded a CSIRO Medal for Lifetime Achievement, Prof Head says the general public will reap the rewards as new knowledge and information is shared with the community.

"Preventative health is important for a number of fundamental reasons," he says.

"There are many advantages in preventing disorders and diseases early, rather than letting them take their course and treating them later in life, which is going to be more complicated, complex and costly.

"And gains made have also changed behaviours – like vaccinations from an early age, wearing bicycle helmets to prevent head injury – it's all part of a broader picture of collective research that says this is a seriously smart way to go."

Prof Head says while preventative medicine has come into prominence in the past decade, the notion of prevention is really a very old one. He says early work in prevention includes people understanding that certain foods are important for nutrition, with the importance of Vitamin C containing fruit for humans going back hundreds of years.

More recently, knowledge around cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity has improved significantly. Prof Head says research at institutions like UniSA will collectively play a key role in further preventative health gains.

"I think it's a matter of researchers being attracted to the field. It's about encouraging students and postgraduate students in the area and around a number of very important scientific pillars," he says.

"There's a need for ongoing research in early detection of diseases, such as cancer, while the other area is intervention, where intervention strategies can range from therapeutics at one end to lifestyle changes including food and nutrition at the other end.

"Another area which is really important in prevention is dissemination of knowledge and information. It's important to ensure that the net sum of peer reviewed research is translated to society so that policy makers and society can respond. That's where there's a key role for epidemiology and population health research, areas of key strengths here at UniSA."



Prof Head's Lifetime Achievement Award honours his work at the CSIRO's Preventative Health Flagship, which led the stimulus for a preventative approach to research at a national level.

The award citation also honours Prof Head for having established the most comprehensive collaborative Alzheimer's disease-directed research activity in Australia, and having conceived the largest Australian research group directly involved in the approaches to early detection of colorectal cancer and the identification of protective nutrients.

Prof Head says the Lifetime Achievement Award is an honour, and one which he is very pleased to receive.

After a long and distinguished research career – which also includes research into hypertensive disease and the importance of fish oil in the diet – Prof Head will be maintaining research activity at UniSA. However, his predominant role lies in positioning the Sansom Institute for Health Research through to 2015.

"I believe the Sansom holds a very important research niche in Australia and I'm interested in harnessing the unique scientific abilities across this university to open up a whole range of research capabilities. I'm passionate about bringing different skill bases together – like mathematics and biology, physics and biology, ICT and human health – to tackle different goals," he says.

And while researchers work on uncovering new preventative health measures to benefit the community, Prof Head says individuals can gain much by taking heed of what is already known.

"At all ages, from the primary school curriculum through to the elderly, there are valuable sources of information available from groups like the Cancer Council and the Heart Foundation, which have summary information on risk and minimising risk," Prof Head says.

"My advice to people is simply to take heed of what we know and live the healthiest life you can – and you'll reap the rewards later on."

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## UniSA and top Chinese university pioneer new approach to researching urban issues

[Back to story index](#)

by Nigel Relph

On 27 October 2012, UniSA and Tianjin University (P.R. of China) launched the joint China-Australia Centre for Sustainable Urban Development (CAC\_SUD) in Tianjin at a launch conference attended by senior Chinese officials from National and Local Government, academic experts on environmental science, management and urban planning, and the President and Vice President of Tianjin University.



A delegation from UniSA including Nigel Relph, Pro Vice Chancellor (International & Development); Professor Andrew Parfitt, Pro Vice Chancellor (ITEE); and Prof Steffen Lehmann (Director of the SA Zero Waste Research Centre for Sustainable Design and Behaviour and also Co-Director of CAC\_SUD) attended the event.

The Centre is part of a strategy to develop close research and educational links with top universities in China, with a view to establishing a sustainable engagement for UniSA in a country which is becoming increasingly important in science, technology and design. The importance of China is articulated in the new Commonwealth Government *Asian Century White Paper*.

Tianjin University is one of China's leading universities, ranked in the top one per cent in the country and is recognised as China's first modern university. It is located in a booming city of 12 million people, around 30 minutes by high-speed train from Beijing, which has been identified as a science 'cluster' by the Chinese Government.

"The launch event spelled out the strategic direction of the new joint centre and also posed the question of what it means to be an architect or urban planner in the Asia Pacific region in the 21st century," said Prof Lehmann.

"There is an interesting synergy and overlay between both universities and this builds on the close cooperation and memorandum of understanding between Tianjin University and the University of South Australia.



"The aim of CAC\_SUD is to build a world-class multidisciplinary research-intensive centre which will focus on sustainable urban development.

"Research areas that relate to urbanisation include looking at affordable housing, energy efficiency,



sustainable buildings, urban ecology and, as Tianjin is a port city, the impact of rising sea levels is another area of interest and concern.

“The launch of CAC\_SUD will facilitate cooperative activities in research and teaching and the conducting of joint research, publications and symposia.

“It will include the exchange of academic staff and students between both countries, the submission of joint research grant applications and the joint supervision of PhD students.

“CAC\_SUD will also provide consultancy services to industry and government.”

The China-Australia Centre for Sustainable Urban Development is a joint initiative between Tianjin University and the University of South Australia that will bring leading Chinese and Australian perspectives to research into pressing problems of cities in both countries. As China develops it has particularly acute problems in its urban areas, within which over 50 per cent of the population now lives. Air and water pollution, severe traffic congestion, quality of life issues, housing and health will all fall within the ambit of the Centre.

The Centre will host joint research projects, jointly supervised PhD students (supported by the China Scholarships Council) and will make bids for funding in Australia and China.

A delegation of colleagues and government representatives from China (including members of Tianjin University, representatives from ministries and national bodies and from Tianjin City Government) will visit the University next year, on 21-22 February 2013 for the Australian launch conference of the China-Australia Centre for Sustainable Urban Development.

The Premier of South Australia has agreed to give the opening address at the launch conference on 21 February 2013, which will also be attended by a number of academic, industry and government representatives.

UniSA colleagues who would like to be involved in the China-Australia Centre for Sustainable Urban Development are invited to contact [Professor Steffen Lehmann](#).

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Latest content revision: Monday, 26 November 2012

## Carmel's award-winning Stile

[Back to story index](#)

by Kelly Stone

As a little girl, Carmel Siciliano (pictured right), was always busy sketching houses and playing with building blocks, while her classmates were drawing love hearts and playing with dolls.

Now the successful Adelaide interior designer and UniSA graduate has been named South Australian Young Business Woman of the Year.

The owner of Stile Interiors at Stepney won the *marie claire* Young Business Woman's Award category at the 2012 Telstra SA Business Women's Awards held recently at the Adelaide Hilton.



"Ever since I was a little girl I dreamed of being an interior designer," Siciliano said.

"I believe it's something that has just always been part of me."

Siciliano graduated with a Bachelor of Interior Architecture from UniSA in 2003 and believes the degree helped her to achieve what she has so far in her career.

"I have always been creative and feel that during the degree I was able to bring my ideas to life through designing and building prototypes along with working on various design projects both in groups and individually," she said.

"While we were able to be creative with our studies, we also had the support of lecturers who were able to provide us with their advice and knowledge in the world of design.



"I believe that the degree has essentially been the foundation of my learning which I built on while studying, and continue to build on now as our industry is so dynamic and constantly changing. I think that it prepared me very well and also made the transition into the workforce easier."

Siciliano started her business out of her garage with a computer and some samples.

"As the child of Italian migrants, our parents did not live in rich suburbs and we could not afford the best schools, but they did teach me the value of hard work," she said.

Launching Stile Interiors in 2007 after five years at one of Australia's largest architectural firms, Siciliano drove her business by offering a unique design service and tailored packages for new homes, renovations, developments and commercial spaces.

"Working in a volatile industry and with the onset of the Global Financial Crisis, we developed packages to buy at a set price to better meet the needs of our clients," she said.

"I view my work not as a sacrifice but an opportunity to follow something I am passionate about."

Siciliano's advice to current Interior Architecture students is to "work hard, be motivated and make your dreams come true – the sky is the limit".

"Whether you want to start your own business, work in the largest architectural firm or work overseas you need to make sure you set your goals and be dedicated and determined to achieving what you want," she said.

"Don't expect things to fall in your lap, you need to be proactive and make things happen. I would also encourage students to undertake work experience while studying. This is a great way to put into perspective what you learn through your studies and to also gain some industry experience which is invaluable. This will also help with job prospects after graduating."

Kate McKenzie, Group Managing Director Telstra Innovation, Products and Marketing and Ambassador of the Telstra Business Women's Awards, said Siciliano won out because judges found she had grown her business with a dedicated team of professionals. She also had strong relationships with key industry stakeholders and a passionate focus on exploring new trends and implementing innovative tailored design solutions.

In addition to Siciliano's win, a number of UniSA alumni were finalists in various categories of the 2012 Telstra SA Business Women's Awards. They were Tracy Gornall of Jones Lang LaSalle (pictured right LHS), who studied a Bachelor of Business in Property with Honours; Abbie Allen of Lifestyle Elements (pictured right), who studied a Bachelor of Management (Marketing); and Amanda Smallacombe of Whyalla Foreshore Motor Inn, who studied nursing and worked as a clinical nurse in remote areas before switching to the tourism and accommodation sector.



Siciliano now represents South Australia in the national finals of the Telstra Business Women's Awards, which will be announced in Sydney on November 21. For more information on Stile Interiors, click [here](#).

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## Work placement with a difference

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by Rosanna Galvin

Working in an orphanage in the hot, dusty capital of Cambodia may not be a typical work placement but for several final year Occupational Therapy (OT) students the KPF-UniSA-interPART Project was a chance to complete clinical work experience while making a difference.

The project, a joint initiative between UniSA, Cambodian non government organisation Komar Pikar Foundation and Australian organisation InterPART, recently won a Chancellor's Award for Community Engagement for enhancing the training of graduates for the professions.

Headed by Sue Gilbert-Hunt and Susie Owens from the School of Health Sciences, the project sends fourth year OT students to KPF's Centre in an orphanage in Phnom Penh to provide community-based rehabilitation to young people with disabilities.

UniSA student Prudence De Garis (pictured above), who returned from Cambodia in July, says the placement was a demanding but rewarding experience, where she worked for 10 weeks alongside Cambodian staff to implement programs and services for the local community.

"Our involvement at KPF was capacity building for Cambodian staff, therapy intervention for students and environmental modification where possible. There is a lot of work to be done," she said.

"Working within a different culture was quite challenging. We're brought up in such a different society and we almost have these innate values but when you're in another country, these values and ideas are challenged. On a daily basis, I encountered such differences in thought.

"However the relationships I built while there were amazing. The people are so welcoming and really proud of who they are and where they've come from. The trainers we worked with were so willing to adapt – they wanted feedback and were willing to share their views and experiences, as well as listen to ours. It was an incredible mutual learning ground."

Having never been to Asia before, De Garis says her placement in Cambodia was a life-changing experience.

"I am a different person now. I have matured a lot and my outlook on life has changed. Some people we met in Cambodia didn't have any materialistic things but they were the happiest people. It was a really good reminder to really appreciate the smaller things in life," De Garis said.



"The placement also taught me so much patience, things like listening and understanding that I previously took for granted. I was constantly put in the position where I had to exercise patience. I also learnt to prioritise and set realistic goals. Aiming to fix the world in one day just does not happen."

De Garis's sentiments are echoed by OT student Bethany Taylor who finished her placement in Cambodia last month.

"I feel as though I have gained so much from my time in Cambodia. Professionally I feel more confident in my abilities to work within another culture," she said.

"My adaptability has improved considerably, in terms of being able to change the way I do things or deliver information in a different way to help improve a person's understanding. Personally, I feel as though my confidence has improved generally in terms of the way I approach everything in life."

Since its inception, eight students have undertaken placements in Cambodia and a further 12 will be going over in 2013. Senior OT lecturer Gilbert-Hunt believes the project provides an invaluable opportunity for OT students to apply what they have learnt at university while working within a challenging, multicultural environment.

"The project offers students with a placement experience that enriches not only their professional knowledge but also contributes immensely to their personal growth. The response from returned students has been overwhelmingly positive," she said.

"Students have the chance to engage in a range of therapeutic contexts with young people who have diverse clinical conditions. Working in a foreign country also develops patience and a deep cross-cultural understanding, which is so important in the profession."

To raise funds for KPF, the returned students are hosting a quiz night with Channel 7 media personality Tim Noonan as quiz master on December 7 at the Walkerville Football Club. For more information and to get tickets, [click here](#).



### Chancellor's Awards celebrate UniSA's Community Engagement

A range of initiatives that strengthen the university's links with the wider community have been recognised at the Chancellor's Awards for Community Engagement ceremony.

The awards celebrate UniSA staff and student initiatives that promote the social, environmental, economic and cultural development of communities through collaboration with community partners. Chancellor Dr Ian Gould AM presented the awards to four outstanding projects, which were equal overall winners for their varied contributions to the community.

The KPF-UniSA-InterPART project in Cambodia was not the only overseas project to receive an award with the Port Resolution Community-Run Visitor Accommodation in Vanuatu also recognised for increasing participation outcomes in the community. The sustainable tourism project is carried out by the School of Art, Architecture and Design in collaboration with Australian National University, Tanna Cultural Centre and the Port Resolution community in Vanuatu.

Closer to home, the Mobile Allied-Health Clinic, a partnership with the School of Health Sciences, Shelter SA, Paralowie High School, Northern Futures and Country Health SA, was commended for offering practical learning experiences for students while providing a range of Allied Health services to the community.

The Football United-UniSA (Fun-UniSA) project also received an award for its inspirational work with disengaged communities. The project, which involves a number of community partners including Adelaide United Football Club and Amnesty International, brings people together through a shared passion for football (soccer).

For more information on the Chancellor's Awards for Community Engagement, [click here](#).

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## Contacts

### Editor

Rosanna Galvin , ph (08) 8302 0578

### Web author

Edmund Boey

### Graphic designer

Alison Albanese, ph (08) 8302 0028

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Phone: 61 8 8302 0966  
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The Conversation is an independent source of analysis, commentary and news from the university and research sector

Four common claims about education funding and quality that need explaining

By Alan Reid, Research Professor, School of Education, University of South Australia

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Super news -UniSA's Venture Catalyst wins best entrepreneurship support award AND people's choice award at the KCA conference awards.

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Patent prolific: @UniversitySA is in Reuters list of Asia's top 75 universities for innovation <https://t.co/x9IW3vICxW> #@unisaresearch

UniSA newsroom @UniSANEwsroom 29-Aug

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Art Talks With Jeffrey Tate, Principal Guest Conductor

05 NOV

UniSA Hong Kong Alumni Dinner

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The University of South Australia and the Indigenous Defence Consortium (IDC) formalised a new collaboration designed to advance and support business and education opportunities in the defence...

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Business growth, and driving innovation and entrepreneurship in South Australia is the focus of the new Innovation and Collaboration Centre (ICC), launched at the University of South Australia. A...

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*UniSA News* is a monthly online publication that shares news from around the UniSA campuses, and celebrates the achievements of our staff, students and alumni.

### Media Contacts

Michèle Nardelli  
Manager News and Media  
Ph: (08) 8302 0966  
Mobile: 0418 823 673  
Email: [michele.nardelli@unisa.edu.au](mailto:michele.nardelli@unisa.edu.au)

Katrina McLachlan  
Media Liaison Coordinator  
Ph: (08) 8302 0961  
Mobile: 0414 972 537  
Email: [katrina.mclachlan@unisa.edu.au](mailto:katrina.mclachlan@unisa.edu.au)

Will Venn  
Media Liaison Officer  
Ph: (08) 8302 0096  
Mobile: 0401 366 054  
Email: [will.venn@unisa.edu.au](mailto:will.venn@unisa.edu.au)

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Links to our previous and other news related websites

- > [Previous news & events home](#)
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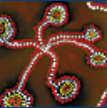
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Commonwealth Register of Institutions  
and Courses for Overseas Students

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**CRICOS has moved to [cricos.education.gov.au](http://cricos.education.gov.au). Please update your bookmarks.**

**Welcome to the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS)**  
This is the official Australian Government website that lists all Australian education providers to offer courses to people studying in Australia on student visas and the courses offered.

**Course Search**

Use this search to find information about courses offered by Australian education institutions.



**Institution Search**

Use this search to find information about Australian educational institutions.

**[Additional information about registration of institutions and courses for overseas students](#)** ➡

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# Further contact details

If you've got an enquiry and would like get in touch with UniSA, you will find our contact information and campus location details listed below.

## General enquiries

University of South Australia  
GPO Box 2471  
Adelaide, South Australia 5001  
Australia  
Ph 1300 301 703  
Fax +61 8 8302 2466

The University switchboard is attended from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. If you know the extension of the person you wish to contact, dial (08) 8302, followed by the last four digits of the extension. You can also search for staff telephone numbers in the [Directory](#).

## Dialling information for external callers

Please note that all standard landline telephone numbers throughout Australia are eight digits in length. Australian mobile and toll-free numbers will differ. The numbers listed within this directory are internal university extension telephone numbers (unless otherwise indicated.)

For example, to call a university extension 26611:

- within the university, dial 26611
- within Adelaide (local number) and/or the 08 region, dial 830 followed by the extension eg 830 26611
- within Australia but outside of the 08, dial 08 83026611
- outside of Australia, dial (your international access number), then 61 8 830 26611

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## Security

All hours 1800 500 911 – free call  
(Internal callers dial 88888)

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## Future student enquiries

Ph: (08) 8302 2376  
Fax: (08) 8302 0977

### Make an Enquiry

Address: Level 1, 101 Currie Street, Adelaide SA 5000  
Mail: GPO Box 2471, Adelaide SA 5001

Open weekdays from 9:00am to 5:00pm, excluding public holidays.

## International students enquiries

[Future student enquiries \(international\)](#)

## Graduate Studies Office (research degrees)

SM Building, [City West campus](#)  
GPO Box 2471  
Adelaide SA 5001  
Ph: +61 8 8302 5880  
Fax: +61 8 8302 0828  
Email: [research.degrees@unisa.edu.au](mailto:research.degrees@unisa.edu.au)

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## Campus postal addresses

University of South Australia  
GPO Box 2471  
Adelaide SA 5001

### City East - Campus Central

Level 3 – Playford Building, Frome Road  
Adelaide SA 5000  
Ph: 1300 301 703  
Fax: (08) 8302 2466  
Email: [campuscentral.cityeast@unisa.edu.au](mailto:campuscentral.cityeast@unisa.edu.au)

### City West - Campus Central

Level 2 - Jeffrey Smart Building  
Adelaide SA 5000  
Ph: 1300 301 703  
Fax: (08) 8302 0590  
Email: [campuscentral.citywest@unisa.edu.au](mailto:campuscentral.citywest@unisa.edu.au)

### Magill - Campus Central

Level 1 Building B  
Lorne Avenue  
Magill SA 5072  
Ph: 1300 301 703  
Fax: (08) 8302 4090  
Email: [campuscentral.magill@unisa.edu.au](mailto:campuscentral.magill@unisa.edu.au)

### Mawson Lakes - Campus Central

Ground Floor - C Building  
Mawson Lakes Boulevard  
Mawson Lakes SA 5095  
Ph: 1300 301 703  
Fax: (08) 8302 3550  
Email: [campuscentral.mawsonlakes@unisa.edu.au](mailto:campuscentral.mawsonlakes@unisa.edu.au)

### Whyalla - Campus Central

111 Nicolson Avenue  
Whyalla Norrie SA 5608  
Ph: 1800 808 957 (free call)  
  
or +61 8 8647 6161 (Local)\*  
or +61 8 830 26161 (Metro)  
Email: [campuscentral.whyalla@unisa.edu.au](mailto:campuscentral.whyalla@unisa.edu.au)

\* Note: interstate, overseas, SA country and Whyalla callers wishing to call the Whyalla extension should use 8647 (instead of the 830) followed by the last four digits of the extension, for example 26111 would become 8647 6111 (ie omit the 2).

## Mt Gambier - Campus Central

Wireless Road West  
Mount Gambier SA 5290  
PO BOX 798 MOUNT GAMBIER 5290

Ph: +61 8 8721 8900 (local)\*  
or +61 830 28900 (Metro)

Email: [mountgambier.enquiries@unisa.edu.au](mailto:mountgambier.enquiries@unisa.edu.au)

\* Note: interstate, overseas, SA country and MT Gambier callers wishing to call the MT Gambier extension should use 8721 (instead of the 830) followed by the last four digits of the extension, for example 28900 would become 8721 8900 (ie omit the 2).

## Media enquiries

Michèle Nardelli  
Manager News and Media  
Ph: (08) 8302 0966  
Mobile: 0418 823 673  
Email: [michele.nardelli@unisa.edu.au](mailto:michele.nardelli@unisa.edu.au)

Kelly Stone  
Media Liaison Coordinator  
Ph: (08) 8302 0963  
Mobile: 0417 861 832  
Email: [kelly.stone@unisa.edu.au](mailto:kelly.stone@unisa.edu.au)

Alan Brideson  
Director  
Marketing and Development Unit

## Areas of study and research

[+ Click to expand](#)

Health Sciences	UniSA Business School	Education, Arts and Social Sciences	IT, Engineering and the Environment	UniSA College
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### International Students

Enquire online  
+613 9627 4854  
Further contact details

### Australian Students

Make an enquiry  
08 8302 2376  
Further contact details

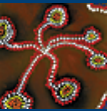
### General Enquiries

08 8302 6611  
Further contact details

### Links & legal

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA



AUSTRALIAN TECHNOLOGY NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES



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## UniSA site help

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### Software requirements

Several documents on this website are available in Portable Document Format (PDF). To view these files, you may need to download and install Adobe Acrobat Reader.



- Follow this link to download the latest version of [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#).

Software downloads available via links from this site are third party products. These products may be subject to a licence agreement between you and the relevant product owner. To the extent permitted by law, UniSA accepts no liability in respect of such third party products and UniSA provides no warranty and gives no endorsement in respect of such products or any party connected with them.

### Viewing options

The UniSA website has been designed to accommodate as wide an audience as possible. As such, all commonly available browsers are supported on this website. However, the site is best viewed with Internet Explorer version 5.5 or later at a resolution of 800 x 600 pixels. If you need to enlarge the screen the best way to do so is to use the zoom option located at the bottom right corner of your browser as this will not affect the layout of the page detrimentally.



- Follow this link to download the latest version of [Internet Explorer](#).

Please note that when viewed on Netscape there is some degradation to the look and feel of the site although navigation is not hampered. Users of Netscape should take note of the [Netscape end of support notice](#).



- Follow this link to download the latest version of [Firefox web browser](#).

### Navigation

There are a variety of ways to find information on this website. The groups of links at the top of the home page provide the main navigation to key areas of content. In sub pages, navigation menus on the left hand side link to more detailed information within the site.

The grey navigation bar at the top of the home page and every page provides quick access to frequently accessed information, including the search function. Privacy, disclaimer, copyright, contact, accessibility and CRICOS information is available from the footer. A web enquiry facility is available in the [Contact UniSA](#) page.

### Accessibility

If you have a disability, refer to our [web accessibility](#) information. The [Adobe Accessibility Resource](#)

[Centre](#) provides tools that can help people who use speech readers to read the content of PDF documents. If you are encountering difficulties accessing the UniSA Corporate website, please email [webenquiry@unisa.edu.au](mailto:webenquiry@unisa.edu.au).

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Latest content revision: Thursday, 16 July 2009

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**25**  
YEARS



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## Open Day was held on Sunday 14 August

This year's Open Day was the best yet with over 90 presentations, 80 information



booths and 43 things to see and do. We hope you enjoyed your time on campus and found all the information you needed about your pathway and study options. If you still have questions, make sure you attend our Open August Events or contact our [Future Student Enquires Team](#).

## Missed a presentation?

If you didn't manage to make it to Open Day, watch our [program overview videos](#) to find out more about the range of programs on offer.

## What's next?

### UniSA's Open August Events


Open Day is held at our City West and City East campuses and is a great chance for you to explore all the study options on offer at UniSA in the one spot. Once you have decided on your direction, you will have another opportunity to step onto our Mawson Lakes, Magill and Whyalla campuses. You can explore the facilities and hear from current students, staff and industry professionals. Attend Magill @ Twilight if you are interested in studying Education, Psychology, Social Work, Communication, Media & Arts. Discover Mawson is for those thinking about careers in the areas of engineering, information technology, environmental science, geospatial science, science and advanced materials, aviation and mathematics. Find out about education, nursing, social work, business and Foundation Studies at Whyalla Open Day.

Event	Date	Location
Magill @ Twilight	Wednesday 24 August	Magill campus
Discover Mawson	Thursday 25 August	Mawson Lakes campus
Whyalla Open Day	Sunday 28 August	Whyalla campus

[Further information and registrations](#)




Open August events



UniSA's Open Day is part of Open August, a series of events giving prospective students and parents a range of opportunities to visit our campuses, ask questions and assist with the selection of courses and careers.

[Open August events](#)


We're here to help



Contact Future Student Enquiries for more information on studying at UniSA.

[Contact Future Student Enquiries](#)

How to Apply



View our step-by-step video explaining how to submit your UniSA application.

[Learn more](#)

Future Student Enquiries Team

# Areas of study and research

+ Click to expand

- Health Sciences
- UniSA Business School
- Education, Arts and Social Sciences
- IT, Engineering and the Environment
- UniSA College

## International Students

- Enquire online
- + 613 9627 4854
- Further contact details

## Australian Students

- Make an enquiry
- 08 8302 2376
- Further contact details

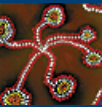
## General Enquiries

- 08 8302 6611
- Further contact details

## Links & legal

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## Browsealoud

[Browsealoud](#) is a text to speech tool that you can download and use on our website. It converts text to audio which allows the content of our websites and any Browsealoud capable website to be read to you.

### Features

- reads aloud all website content including PDF and MS Word documents
- words are spoken aloud as you move your cursor over them
- choose the voice to use
- change the reading speed
- create shortcut/hotkeys to start/stop reading
- have the program start when the computer starts



### System Requirements

In order to download and run BrowseAloud, you must have the following System Requirements:

#### PC users

Operating Systems: Windows XP, Vista and Windows 7  
Pentium 4 1.8GHz Processor 512 MB RAM (1 GB RAM recommended on Windows Vista and above)  
Sound Card + Speakers  
15MB Free Disk Space

Recommended Browsers: Internet Explorer 6, 7 or 8. Firefox 3.6  
For PDFs: Acrobat Reader 9

#### Apple Mac users

OSX 10.3.9 or later (now supports Mac OSX Snow Leopard)  
256 Mb RAM (512 Mb is preferable)  
Compatibility with Power PC or Intel processor.  
Browser: Safari v3 or later 20MB disk space



For more information or support please visit the [Browsealoud support](#) page.

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