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UniSA 'zooms up' international rankings



## UniSA zooms up in THE world rankings

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by Michèle Nardelli



Improvements in research and teaching, the right mix of international students, industry and professional partnerships, and enhanced citations of UniSA research, have combined to send UniSA "zooming up the charts" in the 2016 *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings, a fitting cap to the University's 25th birthday year.

UniSA broke through two bands from its 2016 ranking, to be positioned in the 251-300 band.

The lift also comes in a bigger pool of assessed universities this year – with another 180 in the mix in 2016 – and places UniSA, one of the nation's youngest universities, at number 11 in Australia.

This result comes on the back of a rise to 24 in the QS World's Top 50 universities under 50 years-old announced in the same week.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says both results reflect the ongoing commitment by University staff to excellence in teaching and research and to engagement with industry.

"These results means UniSA is now ranked in the top three per cent of world universities in the two most recognised measures – the *THE* and QS University Rankings," Prof Lloyd says.

"This is a stellar achievement for any institution, but for one that is just 25 years old, it is remarkable."

UniSA showed improvement in its ratings for research and teaching and a significant improvement in the *THE* citations measure.

"I am especially pleased that *THE* is considering a broad spectrum of research achievement by assessing books and book chapters in its calculations, rather than confining its scope only to journal articles," Prof Lloyd says.

"It means the full range of research from disciplines such as law, education, social sciences, economics and

finance are included in the analysis and are recognised as valuable international research contributions."

Prof Lloyd says he hoped to build on this performance in the next few years.

"Continuing on this trajectory will see us move into the nation's top 10 in the coming years - an outstanding achievement for one of the country's youngest universities," he says.



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## A boost to overseas student opportunities

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by Mary-Jane McArdle



Commerce and Applied Finance student Zakia Dostizada had never been out of Australia prior to her exchange to Singapore.

UniSA has secured \$449,400 worth of funding in the 2017 round of the Australian Government's New Colombo Plan Mobility Grants Program.

Clinical placements in Cambodia, business internships in China, nursing practicums in the Cook Islands, IT internships with Hewlett Packard in India and creative writing in Malaysia are just some of the opportunities available to UniSA students as a result of this recently announced Federal Government funding.

Deputy Vice Chancellor & Vice President of External Relations & Strategic Projects Nigel Relph says this program provides funding to support Australian undergraduate students to participate in semester-based or short-term study, internships, mentorships, practicums and research in 38 host locations across the Indo Pacific region.

"This funding will help 146 UniSA students to broaden their education with international experiences and we are pleased to have secured an extra 20 per cent more funding on last year across 12 projects," Mr Relph says.

"On top of this we also received funding under two consortium applications of at least \$21,000, plus \$36,300 for the second year of multi-year projects that were approved in 2016."

Civil engineering student Daniel Clohesy, who travelled on exchange to Nanyang Technological University in Singapore last year as a result of this funding, says spending an extended period surrounded by people from many different countries has inspired him to approach a career in engineering as a 'global citizen' rather than just an Australian. "I believe that travelling is one of the most important and fascinating things to do as a student," Daniel says.

"A student exchange is relatively straightforward to arrange and there is a strong support framework to facilitate the process.

"I would consider travel as an essential part of professional development for an engineering student who is working towards an internationally recognised qualification.



Civil engineering student Daniel Clohesy on exchange to Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

"Singapore is a fast paced city for engineering and I would be excited to make the most of any opportunity to live and work there in the future."

Commerce and Applied Finance student Zakia Dostizada had never been out of Australia prior to her exchange to Singapore.

"It was somewhat daunting to think I was going by myself to a new country for five months, but without a doubt the exchange experience has made me more independent and able to adapt to new environment and cultures," Zakia says.

"I have always wanted to go on exchange to either Europe or South East Asia because of the difference in cultures and it was the perfect opportunity as NTU is one of the top university business schools in Asia."

"Prospective employers in almost every field, especially in business, look favourably upon experience gained while living overseas and knowledge obtained of other cultures. The leadership and cultural intelligence courses that I studied there will also make a big contribution to my career.

"Furthermore, the exchange experience has changed my outlook and given me a wider perspective about living and working abroad. I am definitely open to living and working in Singapore as a result of the exchange experience.

According to Mr Relph, UniSA has also been very successful with the prestigious individual New Colombo Plan Scholarships for 2017.

"All 10 nominated students have advanced through the rigorous selection process to the interview stage," says Mr Relph.

"These scholarships are for language study, one to two semesters of university study and a 6-month internship in the Indo-Pacific.

"UniSA students are aiming to head to Korea, China, Malaysia, Thailand, Fiji and Sri Lanka. Successful scholarship awardees will be announced at the end of November 2016."

Bachelor of Nursing student Lucy Osborn, who has always wanted to work overseas, says a study tour to the Cook Islands (with New Colombo Plan funding) was life changing for her.

"My highlights were immersing myself in the culture of the Cook Islanders and learning about their health care system, in particular the community health care group who do home care visits," Lucy says.

"We participated in a Rheumatic fever screening across the local school, and helped perform echo cardio grams on over 2000 children, an amazing experience that I will never forgot."

Fellow nursing student Joseph Denton-Shone says being able to immerse himself in the Cook Islands culture and way of life was fascinating and for students considering travel he says definitely give it a go as you may never get another opportunity like it.



New Colombo Plan funding enables nursing students to gain practical experience in the Cook Islands.



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National awards acknowledge outstanding teachers at UniSA



# National awards acknowledge outstanding teachers at UniSA

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by Mary-Jane McArdle



**INSIDE UNISA** 

UniSA's national teaching award recipients Nayana Parange, Lois McKellar and Cathy Kempster.

Three academics from UniSA's Division of Health Sciences have been recognised on the national stage for their outstanding teaching achievements.

Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning are awarded through a highly competitive process by the Commonwealth Government's Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT).

Midwifery Program Director Dr Lois McKellar and Lecturer Cathy Kempster were acknowledged for leading the development of a sustainable model of tailored support and innovative resources to enhance the clinical learning experience for midwifery students.

Dr Nayana Parange who is Program Director of Medical Sonography in the School of Health Sciences was awarded for fostering sustained, authentic learning among tomorrow's obstetric and gynaecologic sonographers in a fully online postgraduate course.

The citations recognise and reward the diverse, scholarly contributions made by individuals and teams who have had a significant impact on the quality of student learning in a particular area of responsibility over a sustained period.

Dr McKellar says it is a real honour to be recognised at a national level.

"It is humbling but also rewarding to know that what you do makes a difference and reflects excellence," she says.

"It is also so good to have the profession of midwifery recognised at a national level and while we were recognised for this award, there is a team of amazing midwifery lecturers who are passionate about what they do

and the students they teach."

Dr McKellar and Kempster were recognised for their work transforming the clinical learning experience for midwifery students by addressing the unique but challenging accreditation requirements where midwifery students follow women through their pregnancy.

"Through a comprehensive revision of curriculum this requirement was embedded as a critical learning strategy and an ongoing model of support was implemented with a dedicated website, brochure, comprehensive workshops and virtual facilitation," Dr McKellar says.

"Now, purposefully aligned across the program, students find this requirement meaningful and the support invaluable."

Kempster says the most rewarding part of teaching is being able to guide and educate students through purposeful reflection on their experience and helping them connect theory with practice.

"I love to see the light bulb moment when it all comes together and it is so good to be a part of educating the next generation of midwives – taking them from the beginning of learning to flourishing in their knowledge."

Dr Parange says it took a few days for the news to sink in that her teaching had been recognised by peers nationally and she was now a national award winning teacher.

"I am overwhelmed, honoured and more than thrilled to be recognised nationally," Dr Parange says.

Her postgraduate program is delivered completely online and she was recognised for using a range of studentcentred teaching strategies where students immerse themselves in authentic tasks and real world 'messy' clinical situations and dilemmas, to develop cognitive and affective domains, cultivate problem solving skills and learn clinical diagnostic reasoning in obstetric and gynaecologic ultrasound.

"These methods have motivated students and transformed learning in the online environment," Dr Parange says.

"This has led to meaningful interaction, effective learning and impact beyond the classroom, equipping graduates for successful clinical practice as sonographers."

Dr Parange says it gives her immense satisfaction to see students develop, thrive and succeed.

This award was actually the third for Dr Parange in recent months. In early October she was announced as a recipient of a 2016 Effective Practice OLC international award from the Online Learning Consortium in the United States. This will be awarded during the 22nd International conference on online learning, OLC Accelerate, in Orlando Florida in November.

The Online Learning Consortium is a highly respected professional organisation dedicated to quality online learning worldwide and she was one of only eight to receive this prestigious award.

"It is very humbling to be recognised as an effective online educator on an international platform," Dr Parange says.

The OLC Awards recognise the tremendous advances in online learning that result from the ideas and initiatives of individuals, colleges and universities around the world.

OLC's Effective Practice Awards are peer reviewed and "recognise effective techniques, strategies and practices that are shared by members of the OLC community to advance quality and access to online programs".

"My students continually inspire me to think of creative and innovative ways to share and bring learning to life in an online environment, which can be quite challenging with students across different time zones in various parts of the country and overseas, especially while teaching a clinical course," Dr Parange says.

"I am surrounded by an excellent team of dedicated academics who care about students, and influence what I do."

In September Dr Parange was also presented with a national award from the Australian Centre for Leadership for Women, in the category of 'Empowers Rural, Regional and Remote Women in a Community or Organisation in Australia'.



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New focus on Korean language, culture and business



## New focus on Korean language, culture and business

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by Michèle Nardelli



**INSIDE UNISA** 

UniSA has been selected to establish a King Sejong Institute in Adelaide as a hub for Korean culture, business and language education.

UniSA was one of 40 applicants from 23 countries to bid for the foundation of a Korean studies hub under the program. Only nine applicants were successful and UniSA is the only one in Australia.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says the new Institute will build on already productive research and student exchange relationships with Korea and spearhead a local focus on the language and culture of what is one of the most innovative economies in the world today.

"We have given Korea a very high priority in our global engagement strategy as a country with great scientific and technological research and of growing importance in the Asia Pacific," Prof Lloyd says.

"We think it is vital that young Australians learn more about Korea and become proficient in Korean language and the King Sejong Institute will help UniSA to play a central role in making that happen.



Mayor of Strathfield Council, Councillor Sang Ok; Korean Ambassador to Australia His Excellency Kyoung-ha Woo; UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd; and South Australian Minister for Investment and Trade Martin Hamilton-Smith.

"We are also keen to support Australian – and especially South Australian – companies to be better equipped to do business in Korea and this will be a special mission for the King Sejong Institute here at UniSA."

The Kong Sejong Institute will strengthen the work already undertaken within the UniSA Business School's <u>Australian Centre for Asian Business</u>, which is building research connections and undertaking research in

relation to Korea, and through the <u>Asia-Pacific Centre for Arts and Cultural Leadership</u>, a collaboration with the Adelaide Festival Centre, which is establishing partnerships with performing and visual arts in Korea.

Korean Ambassador to Australia His Excellency Kyoung-ha Woo says he is pleased to see the Institute established at a university that is so internationally engaged.

"I am delighted that the University of South Australia will host the Institute because I can see this is a university that values cultural engagement through language and through fruitful partnerships. I look forward to meeting the new students who will be studying the Korean language," Ambassador Woo says.

The Institutes honour Sejong, the fourth king of the Joseon Kingdom credited with the creation of the Korean alphabet.

Established in 2007 the King Sejong Institute program now has more than 143 institutes in 57 countries.



Special guests at a formal ceremony for the signing of an agreement to establish the new Kong Sejong Institute at UniSA.

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Professor Irene Watson to head Aboriginal leadership and engagement



## Professor Irene Watson to head Aboriginal leadership and engagement

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by Michèle Nardelli



### **INSIDE UNISA**

UniSA has announced the appointment of Professor Irene Watson to a new senior management position created to further enhance the University's commitment to Aboriginal engagement.

A Tanganekald, Meintangk-Bunganditj woman, solicitor, representative for First Nations Peoples at the United Nations and researcher, Prof Watson has been appointed as Pro Vice Chancellor for Aboriginal Leadership and Strategy, and Unaipon Chair.

Announcing the appointment, UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says the new position will have responsibility for leading the development of a whole-of-institution approach to the recruitment, support, retention and success of Aboriginal people at the University and meeting its ambition to be Australia's university of choice for Aboriginal people.

"We want to ensure there are not only more opportunities for Aboriginal people to attend university and pursue the full range of career programs we offer, but also that they are successful here and leave with the knowledge and skills to build both strong careers and strong communities," Prof Lloyd says.

"Irene will provide strategic leadership and advice to staff at the University to develop the kinds of relationships across the community – in business, government and professional bodies – that support Aboriginal student and staff engagement.

"I am delighted to welcome Irene to the senior management group, a person who in her own career has shown great leadership locally and globally in advocating the rights and recognition of First Nations Peoples."

Prof Watson says she is eager to take on a position, which has so much potential and opportunity.

"I am excited at the possibilities that the position presents to enhance and further the engagement between First

Nations Peoples and the University," Prof Watson says.

"There is much work to be done and action to be directed and I look forward to the day that UniSA is not only the first choice of First Nations scholars, but is also integral to the future of our communities."

Prof Watson graduated with a Bachelor of Law from the University of Adelaide and received the Bonython Law School prize for her doctoral thesis in 2000.

She was awarded a three-year postdoctoral fellowship by the University of Sydney and took up an appointment with UniSA in 2008.

Since 1989, Prof Watson has taught in all three South Australian universities and she continues to combine teaching with academic research today.

In 2013, she received an ARC Indigenous Discovery Award and has recently completed the project – Indigenous Knowledge: Law, Society and the State.

Prof Watson has published extensively in both law and Indigenous Knowledges and recently completed two books *Aboriginal Peoples, Colonialism and International Law: Raw Law,* (Routledge 2015) and *Indigenous Peoples as Subjects in International Law,* (forthcoming publication Routledge 2016).

Prof Watson has had a close relationship with the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement in South Australia since its inception in 1973, serving as a member, solicitor and director.

She served as a front-line solicitor advising the legal service on the *Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody* and has advised numerous communities across Australia on law and justice issues.

Since the 1990s, Prof Watson has made a number of interventions on behalf of First Nations Peoples to the United Nations and she continues to attend UN meetings as an invited expert on the rights of First Nations Peoples.



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Professor Irene Watson to head Aboriginal leadership and engagement

Are Aussie kids letting the side down?



## by Katrina McLachlan



## HEALTH

Aerobic fitness has long been known as a good marker of health in both kids and adults but how do Aussie kids stack up against the rest of the world?

According to a recent international study led by UniSA School of Health Sciences researchers, Dr Grant Tomkinson and Professor Tim Olds, Australian children are not performing well.

The most commonly used test of aerobic fitness in kids is the 20 metre shuttle run test known as the "beep test" and the study used beep test data on more than 1.1 million children from 50 countries.

Researchers from UniSA's Alliance for Research in Exercise, Nutrition and Activity (ARENA) and the Sansom Institute for Health Research teamed up with researchers from Canada and the United States in a huge multinational study that found Australian kids are 'also-rans' in regards to cardiorespiratory fitness.

"If all the kids in the world were to line up for a race, the average Australian child would finish somewhere in the middle of the pack," Prof Olds says.

"They'd be a long way behind the fittest children in the world, from Tanzania, Iceland and Estonia, but a long way ahead of the Mexicans, Peruvians, Latvians and Americans."

The research was recently published in the *British Journal of Sports Medicine* and has since gained widespread media attention in Australia and across the globe.

Dr Tomkinson says there are big disparities across the world and clusters of countries that either perform well or badly, but Australian kids are just below average, ranked 35th out of 50.

"Cardiorespiratory fitness is an excellent indicator of good health and there's evidence showing that kids with high fitness levels are healthier and tend to live longer," Dr Tomkinson says.

"One of our key findings was that income inequality – the gap between rich and poor – was strongly linked to cardiorespiratory fitness, with kids from countries with a small gap between rich and poor having better fitness."

Dr Tomkinson is the Chair and Prof Olds is an Executive Committee member of Active Healthy Kids Australia – a collaborative initiative between physical activity researchers from around the nation who are developing approaches to increase the physical activity levels of all Australian children and young people under the age of 18.

"The second Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Young People produced by Active Healthy Kids Australia is being released in a couple of months and will shed further light on how active our children and young people really are," Prof Olds says.

"One thing we're focusing on this year is what we call 'physical literacy' – the knowledge, skills and motivation kids have (or don't have) to be physically active in all sorts of different ways – everything from competitive sport to catching waves and riding bicycles.

"We're asking whether Aussie kids have all the tools they need to be active."

On the back of Australia's recent Olympic performance, Dr Tomkinson says these results also point to the fact that there's some work to do to support Australia's next generation of elite athletes looking for future Olympic success.



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UniSA expertise delivers SA-first Chinese language education



## UniSA expertise delivers SA-first Chinese language education

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by Katrina McLachlan



### HUMANITIES

Internationally recognised UniSA experts in bilingual, multilingual and intercultural education will play a key role in South Australia's first Chinese bilingual school.

<u>UniSA's Research Centre for Languages and Cultures</u> is developing the language and content curriculum for <u>William Light R-12 School's</u> bilingual program, which introduces Mandarin Chinese to students, building up towards the curriculum being offered half in Chinese and half in English.

This innovative approach to Chinese language education comes in response to China's rapidly growing role in Australia's economic, cultural and strategic future. Enormous opportunities exist, yet very few Australians are proficient enough in Chinese languages to begin to be able to benefit from economic, educational and cultural links with the Asian giant.

Currently there are about 130 proficient adult speakers of Chinese in Australia of non-Chinese background and yet last year only 400 Year 12 students studied Chinese as a second language – 20 per cent fewer than in 2008.

Associate Professor Angela Scarino and Associate Professor Kathleen Heugh, together with PhD researcher Anne Li, bring to the project truly unique expertise in linguistics, languages education, bilingual and multilingual education language and learning.

"We are very pleased to have been chosen to undertake William Light's curriculum and assessment development, evaluation and research, as well as teacher development," Assoc Prof Scarino says.

"The development of South Australia's first bilingual school represents both recognition of the linguistic and cultural diversity that surrounds us and the engagement that every Australian is going to have to have now and in the future with people who speak different languages and who see, interact with and respond to, the world in

different ways."

The program will initially be offered to Year 3 students, who will gradually move towards learning bilingually in Chinese and English.

At the same time, reception to Year 2 students will have a daily lesson of Chinese to prepare them to enter the bilingual program when they reach Year 3, and a lesson a day of Chinese will also be offered to Year 8 students.

Assoc Prof Heugh says UniSA has the only research centre in Australia that focuses on the role of languages and cultures in education, and bilingual and multilingual education.

She also says that the research centre has the only expertise in Australia in the training of both teachers and teacher educators for bilingual and multilingual education.

"Given our own interest in the way people learn and acquire languages, the relationship between language and content, and the way in which people interact with one another in the context of diversity, the opportunity that this project actually provides the Research Centre for Languages and Cultures is also very exciting."

All William Light R-12 School students, no matter their year level, will be able to learn Mandarin Chinese as a second language and engage with Chinese language and culture across much of the curriculum.

As well as providing Chinese curriculum development in the selected content areas, UniSA's Research Centre for Languages and Cultures will be working in the areas of teacher professional learning and the training of education administrators in bilingual and multilingual education.

"We know very well that you can't just take a program and insert it as a new intervention into a school because to be successful it requires the whole school community to engage with and contribute to the program," Assoc Prof Heugh says.

Assoc Prof Scarino adds that across many learning areas, it is hoped that children at William Light will be exposed to a variety of multilingual learning opportunities so that, from the learners' point of view, the two worlds will be dancing before them.

A ceremony was held recently celebrating William Light School receiving Confucius Classroom status with Shandong Province representatives taking part in demonstrations, workshops and school tours.

Minister for Education and Child Development, Dr Susan Close who was in attendance at the event made the announcement earlier in the year that William Light would be the State's first Chinese bilingual government school.

"Having the first Chinese bilingual school in our state is further developing our relationship with China, and presenting opportunities for sister-school relationships, and teacher and student exchanges in the future," Minister Close says.



A ceremony was held recently celebrating William Light School receiving Confucius Classroom status with representatives from Shandong Province and the State government in attendance.



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## From the Chancellery

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No doubt you all got plenty of practice blowing out candles on the night of the once-in-a-lifetime State blackout recently. If so, pucker up again. Our 25th birthday party happens on the night of October 13th. It will be a family celebration, not just of our birthday, but of the massive amount of work that everyone has put in this year to get us to this point.

We have celebrated all year, and will continue to do so until the new year turns. We connected and re-connected with all the people who mean so much to us: our staff, our students, our local, interstate and international alumni and the community at large.

On the night of October 13, UniSA's 25th Birthday Festival takes over the City West campus with a range of entertainment that runs all evening.

Come along and enjoy the festivities with live music, street performers, food vendors, a pop up bar, outdoor cinema, art market and art exhibitions. Bring your families and friends and show them where it is that you spend most of your working hours.

**From 5:00pm-7:00pm, the Samstag Museum of Art** is opening its doors for two incredibly unique exhibitions – *Quicksilver: 25 years of Samstag Scholarships*, which celebrates the remarkable Samstag bequest and *Meet the Samstags*, giving you a rare glimpse into the lives of Anne and Gordon Samstag through a display of archival treasures. The Samstag will also launch a new book, *The Samstag Legacy: An Artist's Bequest* which charts the lives and careers of Anne and Gordon Samstag and the rich legacy they left to the Museum and future artists.

From 5:00pm to 7:00pm, Art After Dark featuring JamFactory's Homeland Returning, Remembering, *Reimagining*, which is an exhibition curated by UniSA's Associate Professors Joanne Cys and Jane Lawrence. *Homeland* invites alumni and associates of the 50 year history of UniSA's Bachelor of Interior Architecture to consider the meaning of homeland in relationship to their professional practice and/or their personal lives and situations.

It will also be your last chance to see the Australian Experimental Art Foundation's OzAsia exhibition, *Unworldly Encounters*. If you still have the stamina, head next door to the Mercury Cinema by 7:00pm to see *Tarzan of the Apes*. This one was made in 1918. It was the first of the Tarzan movies and is still considered the most faithful to the novel of all the film adaptations.

**From 5:00pm to 8:00pm, the Art Market** is open between Fenn Place and George Street where you can see art installation, buy a unique piece of handmade craft from one of the market stalls, or record your presence for posterity in the photo booth.

**From 6:00pm to 7:30pm** join us for a stimulating conversation about climate change at a session titled *Voices from the Climate Front Line*, at which young Pacific Islander and Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander leaders talk about their experiences of climate change and the determined efforts of their communities to drive stronger action.

From 8:00pm to 10:00pm Outdoor Cinema is running the 1984 cult classic, *Ghostbusters*. There's free popcorn and fairy floss.

Until 8:00pm music and food will be in great supply with Sound Sessions and Food on Fenn.

The City West campus will have a real carnival spirit.

Come along and join in the festivities. Who knows, spring may have arrived by then.

Professor David Lloyd Vice Chancellor and President Chair of the Australian Technology Network of Universities



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## ACHIEVEMENTS

## National conference for PASS leaders

Three UniSA students were recently shortlisted for national awards for their achievements in the Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) program.

While they didn't come away with the win, being shortlisted provided the opportunity to attend the 12th Annual PASS conference in Sydney with a number of UniSA staff and students.

PASS is an academic assistance program offering free study sessions run by students in a relaxed environment that are designed to enhance students' understanding of course content. It began in the UniSA Business School in 2007 but has been expanded to the divisions of EASS and ITEE, with further expansion planned throughout the University.



October 2016

> from the University of South Australia

UniSA staff and students pictured at the PASS national conference are Lorraine Overton,Peter Andrinopoulos, Monamee Ishika, Nicole Vincent, Alex Lazar, Emma Samardzic, Dr Nina Evans, Jordan Aburumma, Megan Brewer and Tristana Sidoryn.

UniSA law students Alex Lazar and Nicole Vincent were one of just two teams in Australia to be shortlisted for the 'team educator' award.

"The shortlisting of our application has given us the opportunity to attend the national conference where PASS leaders from around the country gathered for two days of learning and celebration of outstanding achievements," Alex says.

Masters of Management student Monamee Ishika is a new PASS leader this year who has been facilitating sessions for postgraduate students and was shortlisted for the Outstanding New PASS Leader category.

PASS program coordinator Peter Andrinopoulos says he was very proud of the three students who were shortlisted.

"It was wonderful to see them immersing themselves and networking so enthusiastically with many of their peers while they were at the conference," Andrinopoulos says.

He says a big focus of this year's national forum was around employability and career-developing experience as a result of being involved in PASS.

"It was another successful and informative conference which presented many innovative practices from our colleagues around the Australian and South East Asian regions," he says.

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"With about 26 institutions represented at the forum, we had the opportunity to network with some very successful program coordinators and participants to discuss our practices and developments.

"I believe we all came away with some interesting ideas and one of the great things to know is that while the program at UniSA is still quite small, it is quite high up in the community in terms of quality."

Students are employed as PASS leaders to provide the sessions to students.

Coordinator of Student Transition at UniSA Business School Tristana Sidoryn says that 94 per cent of 2015 Business School participants would recommend PASS to other students.

"There is extensive literature regarding the benefits of peer to peer mentoring programs and this was discussed at unijam and has been actioned in the Vice Chancellors Crossing the Horizon document," Sidoryn says.

"UniSA is working collaboratively across the divisions and with the Student Engagement unit in expanding the program.

"PASS is running at 37 universities across Australia and globally, and UniSA is benchmarking our programs with other universities, such as The University of Adelaide, Sydney University and the University of Wollongong."

More info about the PASS program can be found here.

## Midwifery student receives 2016 Cochlear™ Graeme Clark Scholarship

UniSA midwifery student Brooke Michalanney (pictured right) has never let the challenges that come with a profound hearing impairment get in the way of her competitive spirit, nor her professional ambitions and was recently given a career boost receiving this year's Cochlear<sup>™</sup> Graeme Clark Scholarship for Australia and New Zealand.

This accolade is awarded to an outstanding person who has received a Cochlear<sup>™</sup> implantable hearing solution and will provide financial assistance towards her degree.

Brooke has had hearing difficulties all her life and in 2008 received a Cochlear Implant, which helped her to attend mainstream schooling where she achieved an impressive ATAR of 92.3.

"Hearing impairment, for me, has never been an excuse not to do my best to succeed and conquer all obstacles," Brooke says.



"I want to be a good role model for young people and show them that having a hearing impairment does not mean you have to settle.

"We will all encounter challenges throughout our lives that we need to overcome and I don't ever intend on letting my hearing impairment hold me back from experiencing what life has to offer."

After experiencing hearing difficulties identified when she was 18-months-old, Brooke's hearing loss worsened after she suffered a blow to her head when she was five-years-old.

"My older brother hit me, accidently, with a cricket bat and at that time I suffered total hearing loss in both ears," she explains. "While I did regain some hearing back a week later, I was reported at this time to have a moderate-to-severe hearing loss in my right ear and a severe-to-profound hearing loss in my left ear."

Diagnosed with Enlarged Vestibular Aqueduct, and later Pendred Syndrome, Brooke's speech quickly deteriorated despite wearing behind-the-ear hearing aids before her Chochlear implant in 2008.

"Schooling has definitely been one of my biggest challenges I have had to face," she says.

The Australia and New Zealand Cochlear Scholarship honours Professor Graeme Clark, the inventor and pioneer of the world's first multi-channel cochlear implant and he says Brooke embodies Cochlear's ideals of leadership and humanity.

"I am proud to recognise this remarkable student and reward her with this accolade," Prof Clark says.

"Like so many of our past scholarship recipients, Brooke has overcome remarkable challenges, and has already achieved so much in her young life. I am excited to see what is in store for this inspiring young woman."

## Two UniSA researchers recognised in latest Tall Poppy Science Awards

The Young Tall Poppy Awards recognise individuals who combine

excellence in research with a passion for science communication and this year UniSA had two representatives in South Australia's top nine.

Dr John Arnold was recognised for his podiatry research that is investigating foot pain in osteoarthritis. This condition destroys the joints of the foot, causing trouble with balance, walking and daily activities. Dr Arnold is trying to determine why these joints break down and how it can be Dr John Arnold with his fiancé Hannah Clarke. stopped.

Dr Tom Raimondo was recognised for his research on the geochemistry of fluids in deep parts of Earth's crust and their contribution to seismic activity and instability.

In particular, his work focuses on the way that fluids move through complex migration networks in rocks, a fundamental process that has implications for geothermal systems, carbon sequestration, nuclear waste storage and the formation of ore deposits.

Dr Raimondo's science communication activities include representing UniSA at Science Meets Parliament, developing interactive mobile apps and virtual field trips for key South Australian geological sites, performing educational and public outreach activities through the Geological Society of Australia and BioBlitz, and presenting on Channel Ten's Scope.

The awards ceremony was hosted by the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia, at Government House.

As well as the Tall Poppy Award, Dr Tom Raimondo was also recently awarded the 2016 Walter Howchin Medal. The medal is awarded to a researcher, in the early stage of their career who is distinguished by their significant published research work within the Earth Sciences in South Australia, or from a South Australian base. The medal was presented at the Geological Society Annual Dinner in September.

## Artist selected to exhibit at Sydney's Museum of Contemporary Art

UniSA Visual Arts graduate Steven Cybulka has been selected as one of eight young Australian artist to exclusively exhibit at Sydney's Museum of Contemporary Art.

The Primavera exhibition, running from 29 September to 4 December, aims to physically connect visitors to the art through their senses, and draws on theories about embodied cognition, that knowledge may begin in the body, not the brain.

Steven says it is a huge privilege to be a part of the exhibition.

"The opportunity to create a large scale sculptural work within such an outstanding gallery as the MCA, and to work so closely with the exceptional installation team, and amazing fellow Primavera artists has been guite phenomenal," he says.

Steven's work titled Divisions (2016) creates a vast architectural intervention, serving as the 'skeleton' for the exhibition and confounding the visitor with subtle yet disorientating shifts in angle and gradient.

His influence is drawn by a skeletal system, intertwined within other bodily systems, which integrates, adapts, grows and responds to the twitches of nervous energy.

Steven transitioned from a carpenter into a high successful, award-winning sculptural artist who also has a series of public large scale sculptures at the Ergo Apartments on Sturt Street, Adelaide.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## APEC experience in China inspires UniSA student

UniSA Business School student Garlina Yan had the opportunity to step







Dr Tom Raimondo receives his Tall Poppy Award from the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia.



Steven Cybulka, Divisions, 2016, installation view, Primavera 2016: Young Australian Artists, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney, 2016, image courtesy and © the artist, photograph: Christopher Snee.

into the shoes of APEC officials when she attended the 7th Model APEC conference in China.

The event is designed to engage young leaders in APEC and was held as a side event of the 6th APEC Education Ministerial Meeting in Beijing, China.

Garlina was successful in her application to attend the conference and was fortunate to receive funding to support her trip from the Pro Vice Chancellor UniSA Business School student Garlina Yan and of the UniSA Business School, Professor Marie Wilson.



"Developing graduates for global professional careers is at the forefront of everything we do in the Business School.

"In this global economy, where international experience is highly regarded by employers, Garlina can now boast firsthand familiarity as a young leader in developing global solutions to universal problems.

"Garlina will be able to bring that experience back and apply it to her studies going forward, as well as maintain the important networks she gained while in China."

As the Australian delegates, Garlina and Samuel Reiser from the University of Queensland were awarded the 'Most Potential Prize' as a result of their performance at the conference.

Joining students from the 15 attending economies was a highlight for Garlina who says the event was a great opportunity to gain more experience in public speaking and broaden her horizons.

"We were also very fortunate to hear from a variety of speakers from different areas including the Ministry of Education of China, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China, Head Principle of Beijing Foreign Studies University, Tesla Motors, VIPKID and more," she says.

"This experience has given me a greater understanding of education on a global level and has inspired me to pursue further studies in this area where I hope to be able to contribute to improving education competencies on a cross border basis.

"At the completion of my Bachelor of Business (Economics, Finance and Trade) and Bachelor of International Relations, I hope to be able to pursue further studies abroad in a language and the area of international relations.

Garlina was also successful in gaining scholarship funding from the organising committee of the Model APEC conference and this along with the UniSA funding made it possible for her to attend.

## Indonesian agreement and alumni event

An agreement has been signed between the Australian Technology Network and the Indonesian Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education (Ristekdikti).

The agreement, was signed by UniSA's Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research and Innovation, Professor Tanya Monro on behalf of the Australian Technology Network, during a visit to Indonesia at the end of September.

UniSA's Professor Tanya Monro signs the new agreement.

"This agreement will offer fantastic opportunities for Indonesia's talented researchers and will build vital international research connections between both countries," Prof Monro says.

"The ATN has research strengths and expertise that align with Indonesia's research priority areas and we look forward to future collaboration to deliver innovative solutions with significant benefits to both the Australian and Indonesian communities."

The agreement signing was part of an ATN 'Inspiring International Research Excellence' workshop held in Indonesia.

UniSA researchers ran several seminars including Dr Sekhar Somenahalli on efficient built environments; Professor Shudong Wang on health and drug technologies; Prof Monro and Professor Ajayan Vinu on advanced



Samuel Reiser from the University of

Queensland were the Australian delegates at the 7th Model APEC conference in China.



materials and sensing; Dr Stephen Berry on a low carbon built environment; and Associate Professor Angela Scarino on language education in linguistically and culturally diverse societies.

While visiting Indonesia, UniSA also hosted an alumni networking dinner in Jakarta for 80 alumni, students and stakeholders with guest speaker Prof Monro and UniSA Master of Human Resource Management graduate Aria Pangestu giving a welcome address from alumni.

Event photos can be viewed here.



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South Australia

25th Birthday Festival celebrates Samstag success



## 25th Birthday Festival celebrates Samstag success

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by Mary-Jane McArdle



Linda TEGG, Tortoise (detail), 2013, HD video, 11:00 min.

UniSA's birthday year may be drawing towards a close but the celebrations continue with this month's 25th Birthday Festival at City West featuring a special opportunity for reflection as the Samstag Museum of Art opens its doors for two incredibly unique exhibitions.

Visitors to the 25th Birthday Festival from 5pm on Thursday October 13, can enjoy exhibitions, live music, street performers, food vendors, a pop up bar, outdoor cinema and an art market. Find out more about all of the festivities in the <u>Vice Chancellor's column</u> or on the <u>event website</u>.

The festival also includes the launch of a ground breaking new book that tells the story of Anne and Gordon Samstag who famously made one of the great cultural bequests in Australian history that has supported more than 130 Australian visual artists in gaining overseas study experience.

<u>The Samstag Legacy: An Artist's Bequest</u> is a major scholarly biography of the American artist Gordon Samstag and his wife Anne, developed especially for UniSA's 25th birthday celebrations. The book charts the lives and careers of these two enigmatic philanthropists, offering unique insight into their motivations, their 16 years of living and working in Australia from 1961, and their eventual return to America.

Exhibitions opening at the festival include *Quicksilver: 25 Years of Samstag Scholarships*, which celebrates the remarkable Samstag bequest, which led to the establishment of the Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarships, and another titled *Meet the Samstags*, providing a rare glimpse into the lives of Anne and Gordon Samstag through a display of archival treasures.

Director of Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, Erica Green, says that after 25 years, the historic gift – that led to establishment of the Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarships – still ranks as one of the very great bequests to visual arts education in Australia, and yet the couple left few clues for history's gaze.

"In Australia they effectively concealed themselves, conducting their lives, both privately and professionally, with such social reserve and ordinariness that few friends or colleagues gleaned much, if anything, about their surprisingly rich family histories. It was as if they had come without a past, not wanting to be known," Green says.



Anne and Gordon Samstag, Mamaroneck, NY, USA, 1986. Photograph gift of Mrs Robbie McBryde., Samstag Leagcy Archive, UniSA.

"We hope that our book pays worthy tribute to them as people and benefactors, and to their historic legacy to the Australian visual arts."

The Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarships are managed by UniSA, on behalf of Gordon Samstag's American trustee – Bank of America, Naples, Florida. Considered golden passports to success, the generous Samstag Scholarships have supported over 130 Australian visual artists in gaining great experience studying for lengthy periods overseas, at any institution of their choosing. Their total value has already exceeded \$10 million Australian dollars.

The Quicksilver exhibition reflects on the impact of the Samstag Scholarships on the trajectory of Australian contemporary art. Pivotal works by six distinguished scholars – Mikala Dwyer, Nicholas Folland, Shaun Gladwell, Christian Lock, Nike Savvas and Linda Tegg – highlight the exciting talent that the University has had the pleasure of assisting over the r



Gordon SAMSTAG, Tobacco, 1938, oil on canvas mural, 243.8 x 475.0 cm (96 x 187 in), Reidsville City Hall (formerly Reidsville Post Office), North Carolina, USA. Photograph by Melinda Stovall, Greensboro, USA. Image courtesy City of Reidsville and US Postal Services.

exciting talent that the University has had the pleasure of assisting over the past quarter century.

*Meet the Samstags: Artists and Benefactors* illuminates the enigmatic people behind the Samstag Legacy, showcasing the artistic talents of Anne and Gordon Samstag and many treasures from the Samstag Legacy Research Archive. The exhibition provides a glimpse into the rich lives and family backgrounds of two very private people, whose motivations have remained a mystery.

Anne and Gordon Samstag both enjoyed early artistic success in America; Gordon as a successful painter of the American Scene and 'New Deal' muralist, and Anne as an accomplished textile artist.

Married in Manhattan in 1933, they came to Australia in 1961 and stayed for 16 years. Gordon taught from 1961 to 1970 at the South Australian School of Art; after living in Cairns, Queensland, for a time, the Samstags retired to America. The Samstag bequest was their generous gift back to Australia.

See our new books section for full details of the book The Samstag Legacy: An Artist's Bequest.



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Tackling the decade differential in Aboriginal health



## Tackling the decade differential in Aboriginal health

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by Will Venn



The life expectancy gap between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians sits at around 10 years, a decade long difference which Prime Minister Malcom Turnbull described as "unacceptably wide" earlier this year, as he stressed the huge challenge involved in closing that gap.

It's a challenge however that the newly appointed Chair in Aboriginal Health within the Sansom Institute for Health Research at UniSA, Professor Alex Brown, is keen to resolve within the current life span of Aboriginal adults.

As a world recognised leader in Aboriginal health, and holding a dual position – combining his research role at UniSA with his continued role as Deputy Director and Program Leader of Aboriginal Research at SAHMRI – Professor Brown outlines the forensic focus of his research aimed at determining why the life expectancy gap exists, from which steps can be taken to narrow it.

"The reality is there are lots of gaps in Aboriginal health. What we've tried to focus ruthlessly on is the life expectancy differential because that's where we think we can make a big difference in a short to medium time frame," Prof Brown says.

"Going down this path has highlighted the role of chronic diseases in Aboriginal communities and individuals because that accounts for 80 per cent of that life expectancy differential. Heart disease accounts for a third of that 80 per cent, and that's why we are in the cardiovascular space.

"Our initial research was around understanding the burden and inequalities related to the treatments and outcomes of cardiovascular conditions in Aboriginal people."

Disparities such as higher rates of Aboriginal patients being discharged from hospital against medical advice, and the reduced likelihood of Aboriginal people receiving angiograms when they attend hospitals with cardiac

problems, are examples of the inequalities in health care and treatment plans that Prof Brown mentions.

Prof Brown's team has programs of work focused on heart disease inequalities, related to coronary artery disease, and rheumatic heart disease – particularly prevalent among Aboriginal children – and the focus of this research is in South Australia.

"The more you delve into the heart story the more you realise there are particular relationships with other chronic conditions. This has opened our diabetes research, the chronic kidney disease story, the role of chronic high inflammation, and our interests in psychosocial factors. We've become more broad in terms of the chronic conditions we focus on and the interplay of their determinants," Prof Brown says.

"We have a very strong program of work around diabetes – understanding it from a health system perspective – what is the health system's role in driving inequalities and poorer outcomes in the Aboriginal population, how can we improve the quality of care that is provided, including support services whether in primary care or hospitals.

"We have a focus on understanding the determinants, not just of the development of diabetes – many of those are known – diet, lifestyle, but we feel there's a role of exposure to stress and grief and loss and its propensity to facilitate develop of chronic disease in individuals.

"We also want to understand how different factors impact on the likelihood of people with diabetes developing complications such as end stage renal disease, heart attacks, retinopathy, the propensity to develop infectious diseases, and peripheral vascular disease.

"We have an interest in all of those areas with projects looking at diabetes and diabetic complications in Aboriginal people ranging from clinical factors to social and genomic factors. This will be a large focus of our work over the next five to ten years and this is flagship work in Aboriginal health in our State."

Research that Prof Brown has been engaged in, published last month, shows that despite the high prevalence of chronic disease, access to, and use of, primary healthcare services by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians is often far lower than would be expected.

The lack of culturally appropriate healthcare services, and the cost of seeking healthcare were cited as some of the broad reasons to explain the low attendance.

The impetus for healthcare providers to commit to the process of building and maintaining relationships was identified as one of the outcomes of this research, the result of which would lead to stronger Aboriginal engagement with healthcare services, with the consequent flow on effect of better provision of health care.

"It is enormously challenging work – Aboriginal people suffer major impediments to healthy development and healthy life and there are social factors at play.

"The ability of people to get ahead in life, coming from a starting point of disadvantage, is difficult – poverty plays a role in chronic disease development, as well as accessibility of services and care that can make a difference, and it influences outcomes once people have developed diseases.

"A lot of people say our focus should be on the next generation – Aboriginal children, and we concur and support that but the reality is you can't grow up kids without the support of parents, grandparents, strong communities.

"Making a difference to the lives of adults who have chronic disease now is the best way to help develop the next generation of Aboriginal children."

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University of South Australia

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## UniSA students contribute to global voices

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by Marina Barbaro



Kyle Reeve and Almira De Vera in Canberra for pre departure sessions.

Two UniSA students have been chosen to travel across the world to attend high-level diplomatic meetings as part of Global Voices – a program run by a non-profit organisation creating opportunities for young Australians to engage with international policy at home and abroad.

Kyle Reeve, who is studying social work and international relations, will head to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in New York, while law student Almira De Vera will attend the World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings in Washington DC.

Kyle was ecstatic to hear the news and believes the program will help foster his future career.

"As a social work and international relations student, I would love to one day work for an organisation such as the United Nations. So I jumped at this opportunity when I saw that Global Voices was sending a UniSA student to the UN in New York," Kyle says.

"This will give me a great opportunity to meet and network with professionals who work in the field that I aim to work in."



Kyle Reeve will be heading to New York next year to attend the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

It's not the first time UniSA students have participated in the prestigious scholarship program. Another two students attended global summits earlier this year in Paris and Shanghai with support from the University's exchange program.

Global Voices provides the scholarships by partnering with Australia's leading universities. Students not only gain exclusive access and exposure to high level foreign policy negotiations but also enjoy the opportunity to
network with business leaders, Australia government representatives and international decision makers.

Vivian Rivera, an international relations student at UniSA, was chosen to attend the Organisation for Economic Cooperation Development (OECD) Forum in Paris earlier this year and first heard about the opportunity via the University's Career Services portal.

"I'm constantly checking the opportunities and services available for UniSA students," Vivian says. "Earlier this year I received an update that UniSA was offering two full scholarships to attend the OECD Forum in Paris or the Y20 China Summit in Shanghai. I immediately thought it'd be a dream come true.

"As an international relations student I have closely followed the work of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Attending the forum was a way to crystallise all that academic understanding and experience what this means in practice."

As well as attending the forum, Vivian participated in meetings at Parliament House in Canberra, learning about international diplomacy.

"Global Voices organised business cards for all delegates, and provided several opportunities to network with policy-makers, government representatives and members of academia through pre-briefing meetings in Canberra and as part of the international delegation," Vivian says.

It's an opportunity Vivian knows will hold her in good stead once she finishes her studies.

"In today's world we need to look for opportunities to maximise our career, gain valuable experience and not only develop academic knowledge but also a whole range of skills that help us step into our workplace and give ourselves an edge."

Engineering student Jermone De Vera, who was chosen to attend the Y20 China Summit in Shanghai, was tasked with the job of focusing on the current challenges facing the energy sector and electricity services in Australia and other G20 nations.

"As soon as I saw the email from UniSA student exchange and found out that I met the requirements, I basically spent the rest of the day focusing on my application," says Jermone.

Although he found himself surrounded at the Summit by students studying political science and finance majors, he felt he was able to bring a unique perspective to the table.

"As an electrical engineering student, this scholarship has given me a global view on how decision making occurs in terms of policies and government procedures. It has definitely improved my communication and leadership skills," Jermone says.

The Summit delivered a number of highlights including meeting the Vice President of China, Li Yuanchao, and was an experience Jermone will remember beyond graduation.

"It was a once in a lifetime experience which has opened up new opportunities, allowed me to gain new friends, and provided unique experiences that will stay with me for a very long time," Jermone says.

Find out more about the university's exchange program including international study opportunities and travel grants <u>here</u>.



### RELATED STORIES



Vivian Rivera (third from left) at the OECD Forum in Paris with youth delegates and Australia's OECD ambassador Mr Brian Pontifex.



Jermone De Vera attending the Y20 China Summit in Shanghai.



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# It takes a community to raise a startup

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by Jana Matthews, ANZ Chair in Business Growth, Director, UniSA's Centre for Business Growth



There's an old saying that it takes a whole community to raise a child. Likewise, it takes a whole community to raise a successful startup company that can grow, scale and contribute to a healthy economy.

This was the message from Brad Feld, top global venture capitalist and TechStars co-founder, when he came to the Centre for Business Growth at UniSA to speak with venture capitalists, angel investors, growth entrepreneurs, politicians, community leaders and students.

His message was clear: startup communities can be built in towns that are 50,000 and larger. Although size does not matter, community attitudes and startup density definitely matters.

We talk a lot in Australia about our entrepreneurial ecosystems. We map them and analyse their strengths and weaknesses. Our analyses are clinical and data driven: numbers of companies that are started, numbers of colocation spaces available, amount of venture money invested each year.

After listening to Brad for a week, it's clear that isn't enough. Australia is still far too "arms-length" from the process of starting and growing companies.

We need more people to be willing to wade in and fully participate in the process. Starting – and more importantly – growing a company is not clean, tidy, or easy. It's not enough to be able to describe and diagnose. We need to get much more personally engaged with our Australian startups.

Over the last few years, we have gotten better at encouraging people to "give it a go" and start a new business. But we still have a long way to go to provide the support they need to become a high-growth company: knowledge, mentoring, access to money, markets and customers. And we're totally missing a big part of the picture: showing entrepreneurs how to fail gracefully, then supporting them when they try to do it again. In short, we need to build startup communities, not just startup ecosystems.

Brad outlined a number of essential elements to a vibrant startup community:

- people willing to start companies, as well as mentor and support the entrepreneurs who try, fail and try again;
- community leaders with a 20-year perspective who focus on building a culture where trying, risking, failing and helping CEOs succeed is the norm;
- people willing to set aside self-interest and focus on giving (ideas, time, advice, money) without the
  expectation of an immediate return;
- people who welcome outsiders and value diversity of sex, ethnicity, perspectives, cultures, knowledge and experiences.

We need to adjust our attitudes and shift our expectations about how many startups actually succeed, what valuations to expect, how quickly they will grow, and how much support they will need. Very few of the world's great entrepreneurs figured it out on their first "go"; it usually took them several failures and pivots to get it right.

Children do not grow into adults overnight, and not all become rocket scientists. Every investment cannot be a success – and we can't wait to invest until we are sure it will be.

At one point, Brad had made US\$25,000 angel investments in 75 startup companies and he doubled down on several of them. Did he lose money? Yes – he lost money on most of them. But the money he made on the few far surpassed the total amount he had invested in them all. Many of the entrepreneurs who failed the first time started another company, and he invested in them the second time – figuring they were much smarter about the startup process this time than when he made his initial investment. In his words: "you'd be an idiot not to back them" the second time around.

Unfortunately, there is no startup simulator where entrepreneurs can practice and experience all the things that can go wrong. So we all need to support them in their journey.

The stronger the startup community, the more likely it is to have companies that have grown and scaled who can help other companies understand how to grow and scale. We need to ensure our startups have access to tools, knowledge and frameworks to help them understand what is happening.

We must encourage experienced CEOs to "wade in", mentor, and share their experiences in starting, growing and exiting companies. We need to educate those who invest in venture capital funds, as well as VCs and angel investors to have more realistic expectations about timeframes for ROI. And if we build these kinds of supportive communities, then the startup density will increase, the numbers of successful companies will increase, jobs will increase, investors will do well, and Australia will thrive.

This article was originally published in <u>The Conversation</u>.



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While you were sleepwalking: The science of somnambulism



# While you were sleepwalking: the science of somnambulism

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by Will Venn



When David Kohler was 10-years-old he dreamt of climbing to the top of a sand dune and holding onto a bar at its peak, only to wake up having fallen more than two metres through the air to the ground outside his bedroom window.

With similar sorts of incidents occurring into adulthood, David – whose brother Dr Mark Kohler works in UniSA's Centre for Sleep Research – is one of seven per cent of people who have sleepwalked, or who will at some point in their lives.

His experiences, along with those of other volunteers who sleepwalk, are contributing to a growing body of research that has seen the Centre for Sleep Research publish seven papers on the subject of somnambulism this year alone.

Dr Helen Stallman, expert on the science of sleepwalking, says this research is adding knowledge about a condition which is often misunderstood, not least because of the unconscious state in which the act of sleepwalking occurs.

That knowledge will be shared at a lecture being presented by Dr Stallman at UniSA in mid-October, with a focus on epidemiology, medication-induced sleepwalking and violence during sleepwalking.

It will be an opportunity to unpack some of the more common myths associated with sleepwalking, including how prevalent it is among children and adults.

The fact that young children and married couples are reported to sleepwalk more than others could be explained simply, Dr Stallman says, by the fact that these groups of people tend to sleep in "observed" environments where vigilant parents, or restless partners are likely to take note of the nocturnal wanderings of their kids and spouses.

"About five per cent of children and one point five per cent of adults sleepwalk and if you are a sleepwalker it will typically start in childhood," Dr Stallman says.

"Somnambulism occurs in the deepest phase of our sleep, when it's harder for us to be roused, and it can relate to simple acts, such as sitting up in bed, to more complex behaviours, including being able to drive a car.

"One of the myths is that people have amnesia about sleepwalking but we now know that's not true. Dreaming is not limited to REM sleep. Different types of dreams can occur in non-REM sleep and for those who sleepwalk they can often be acting out their dreams in this stage of their sleep – which can look random and bizarre to an observer but would appear totally normal to a sleepwalker.

"The perception of the sleepwalker's environment is intense and they will see their environment as if they are in the dream, and this is what many remember in their waking hours.

"Traditionally it was thought that if you woke a sleepwalker you could cause that person severe mental problems but there's no evidence to indicate this. It is fine to gently guide a sleepwalker to go back to bed.

"Our research also indicates that sleepwalking doesn't affect daytime behaviour and emotions, unlike other sleep disorders such as sleep terrors. This may be because sleepwalkers do not tend to wake up, so the quality of their sleep isn't impaired."

Given its relatively minor impact during waking hours, Dr Stallman says cause for concern about this condition mainly exists when sleepwalkers actually injure themselves or others.

"This is when we tend to hear about sleepwalking in the media, when sleepwalkers injure other people – either from lashing out in a dream, killing someone or acts of sexsomnia," Dr Stallman says.

In Australia, a person cannot be guilty of an offence if they were unconscious or asleep at the time that the offence was committed, though as a defence goes, sleepwalking is hard to prove.

"Sleepwalking is an interesting defence because usually the prosecution will have to prove that a person committed a crime, but if sleepwalking is used as a defence then the onus is on the defendant to prove that they were sleepwalking, and that's an incredibly difficult thing to prove," Dr Stallman says.

"What needs to be considered in those cases is whether there is a history of sleepwalking – has it happened before with that individual?

"The absence of motivation is also useful – if the individual had no reason to harm another person then it may be easier to prove, and the time of night is important as well. Most sleep walking occurs in the first third of the night – that's when we tend to have most of our deep sleep."

As to whether sleepwalking is a condition that can be cured, this is a question which will inform Dr Stallman's next area of research.

"We are preparing a systematic review on interventions for sleepwalking and we have found 27 different pharmacological and psychological treatments for sleepwalking. Even though these have been reported for over 100 years no-one has done a clinical trial to see if any of these are effective – we are about to recruit for a trial to look into these interventions."

If you have ever experienced sleepwalking and want to help with the anonymous study click here.

*While you were sleepwalking: A review of the science of somnambulism* will be presented by Dr Helen Stallman on October 14 at the Amy Wheaton Building, Magill campus. Registrations to attend can be made <u>here</u>.



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Going with the flow: wastewater treatment expert visits UniSA



# Going with the flow: wastewater treatment expert visits UniSA

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by Will Venn



Activated sludge aereation.

After washing the dishes or stepping out of shower, few may consider where the water that has been used drains away to, or the environmental and economic benefits attached to treating that wastewater efficiently.

Dr Michael Short, of UniSA's School of Natural and Built Environments, says it's worth thinking about, adding that wastewater treatment is an essential public service often taken for granted in developed nations.

"Historically, the key focus of wastewater treatment engineering and research has been on public health protection and mitigating environmental pollution," Dr Short says.

"While these remain cornerstones of today's advanced wastewater treatment activities, focus has in recent years increasingly shifted to energy conservation and recovery at wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs).

"This shift has been due to a number of factors, including the increasing market cost of energy, policy changes and tighter water sector regulation, but has also resulted from a broader recognition that wastewater contains a substantial amount of recoverable energy (chemical, thermal, kinetic) and that many wastewater treatment processes are not operating as efficiently as they perhaps could.

"As a consequence of this paradigm shift, there is great interest and enthusiasm in the water industry for WWTPs of the future to be 'energy neutral' or even 'energy positive' – i.e. energy producers.

"Energy is often the second highest operating cost for WWTPs – behind staff labour – and so there is great incentive to optimise wastewater treatment processes to be more energy-efficient."

A public seminar titled 'Energy-efficient wastewater treatment - current trends and

*future needs'*, will be held on October 18 at Mawson Lakes campus, presented by international expert in energy benchmarking and optimisation of wastewater treatment processes, Professor Jörg Krampe.

Prof Krampe is visiting UniSA for several weeks in October with funding from the UniSA Visiting Distinguished Researcher Award scheme. He will work closely with Dr Short and colleagues on a number of ongoing research projects, and also present a half-day master class for postgraduate research students and early career researchers titled 'Energy considerations for wastewater treatment plants'.

During 2008–2013, Prof Krampe was the Principal Wastewater Treatment Engineer at SA Water in Adelaide, where he initiated a number of key energy efficiency and process optimisation efforts for SA Water's WWTPs on a strategic level.



In mid-2013, Prof Krampe returned to Vienna to take up his current position as Professor for Water Quality at the Technical University of Vienna (TU Wien), Austria, where he also now heads the Institute for Water Quality, Resources and Waste Management.

"UniSA is fortunate to have Prof Krampe with us in October," Dr Short says.

Spaces for the master class event and the public seminar are limited, so interested attendees are encouraged to register their interest with <u>Dr Michael Short</u>.



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Valuable learning during Vietnam study tour



# Valuable learning during Vietnam study tour

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by Katrina Phelps



The Long Tan Cross in Vietnam. Photo courtesy Tom Edwards.

A group of students from the School of Communication, International Studies and Languages travelled to Vietnam in August as part of study tour that included plans to attend a commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan.

The study tour didn't go exactly as planned though when the Vietnamese Government decided not to allow the planned Battle of Long Tan commemoration, causing an uproar in Australia.

Study tour participant Tom Edwards says while this cancellation was interesting for the working media in Australia, the students decided to reflect upon the bilateral relations between Australia and Vietnam heading forward, in their work that stemmed from the trip.

"I will remember the experiences and memories from our week for a long time to come," Tom says.

"We shared in a lot of experiences – many of which simply cannot be taught in a classroom – that will stay with us forever.

"Being immersed in international affairs and business practices during the study tour helped me to envisage working in a foreign country either as a journalist, diplomat or businessperson."

For fellow participant Megg Mayger who is undertaking a Bachelor of Journalism, it was an unforgettable experience.

"It was really special to be able to go back to the spot where the Battle of Long Tan was fought," Megg said.

"All the research and preparation leading up to it didn't compare to actually being there.

"It was also great to meet some of the veterans and share the experience with them."

For Bachelor of Journalism/Bachelor of Arts (Writing and Creative Communication) student Zoe Walker, the study tour experience was invaluable.

"One of my favourite aspects of the trip was the learning curve we all experienced as journalism and media students," Zoe said.

"We gained an understanding and valuable insights that wouldn't have been possible otherwise."

The students were tasked by the Australian Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (AUSCHAM Vietnam) to produce communication content that showcases Australia's growing association with Vietnam.

Prior to the trip, AUSCHAM Vietnam Executive Director, Phil Johns said they were excited the students would be creating some tangible content to promote the strong links between Vietnam and Australia.

"There are an estimated 25,000 Vietnamese citizens currently studying in Australia," Johns said.

"Somewhere between 50,000 to 100,000 Vietnamese citizens have returned to Vietnam equipped with an Australian qualification and an emotional connection which augurs well for the future.

"AUSCHAM Vietnam is excited to be able to give Australian students opportunities to learn about the fastgrowing relationship between the two countries."

The Battle of Long Tan, on August 18, 1966, was one of the fiercest battles fought by Australian soldiers in the Vietnam War, involving 105 Australians and three New Zealanders from D Company 6RAR. A total of 17 Australians were killed in action and 25 were wounded, one of whom later died from his wounds.



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# **New Books**

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## The Death of Holden

For 2013 Law and Journalism graduate Royce Kurmelovs, writing a book about the demise of the Holden factory in South Australia, was a surprisingly personal journey.

Having grown up "five minutes down the road from the Holden plant at Salisbury Park" Kurmelovs was led to writing the book when a few years ago Federal politician (then Treasurer) Joe Hockey appeared on television "daring General Motors to leave".

"I knew it was going to be a big story, though I didn't know why at that stage," Kurmelovs says.

He then began "deep" reporting on the topic after picking up a commission through an Investigative Journalism Mentorship program, which led to writing the book.

The Death of Holden tells the story of the end of the car industry through the eyes of those living through it and covers the time from when Holden announced it would close in December 2013, which triggered the collapse of Australia's only complete manufacturing industry.



"The book sketches the lives of the people who I grew up around and the people coming up now, and it asks what the future is going to look like for them," Kurmelovs says.

"I didn't know it when I started, but in researching the book I learned I am like a lot of people in that it (Holden) has played a role in giving me the life I have today.

"The book is about the bigger picture – about the restructuring of class. Places like Holden haven't just been economic institutions but social ones that allowed ordinary people to make a better life for themselves and their kids."

The Death of Holden was published by Hachette and is now available to buy.

# Psychosocial Factors at Work in the Asia Pacific

A new book presenting innovative research from the Asia Pacific region addresses a gap in the global stock of knowledge about psychosocial factors at work.

Titled *Psychosocial Factors at Work in the Asia Pacific*, this publication provides a state-of-the-art review of the national status of psychosocial factors, interventions, legislation, frameworks, research and common perceptions of workers and workplaces in the Asia Pacific countries.

It also highlights innovations in research methods for studying psychosocial factors at work, covering topics such as momentary assessment of phenomena and time lags in longitudinal research.

One of book's editors is UniSA's Professor Maureen Dollard, who is Professor of Work and Organisational Psychology and Director of the Centre for Applied Psychological Research and the Work & Stress Research Group at UniSA.



Akihito Shimazu - Rusli Bin Nordin Maureen Dollard - Jodi Oakman - Editors

Psychosocial Factors at Work in the Asia Pacific from Theory to Practice Prof Dollard says the book introduces exciting new research on workaholism, bullying, work demands classifications, and psychosocial safety climate.

Insights regarding workplace psychosocial factors, worker health and well-being have evolved mainly within North American and European cultural contexts and developed industrial countries. This state-of-the-art account of knowledge development in the Asia Pacific region will stimulate new insights for researchers and policy makers to improve the quality of workers' lives worldwide.

Yawen Cheng from the Institute of Health Policy and Management in Taiwan says this very informative book highlights the significance and uniqueness of job stress problems encountered by workers of different countries in the Asia Pacific region.

"Occupational health researchers all around the world will find this book a great inspiration for future research," Cheng says.

The book is available to order online and will be officially launched in Shanghai, China on October 19.

# The Samstag Legacy: An Artist's Bequest

The Samstag Legacy: An Artist's Bequest is a major scholarly biography of the American artist Gordon Samstag and his wife Anne, published by the Samstag Museum of Art for UniSA's 25th birthday.

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The Samstag's famously made one of the great cultural bequests benefitting the arts in this country, enabling Australian visual artists to develop their skills and abilities internationally – through the Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarships.

Edited by Ross Wolfe, and co-authored by Wolfe with American scholar, Dr Lea Rosson DeLong, this exhaustively researched and richly illustrated publication charts the lives and careers of these two significant, enigmatic philanthropists, offering unique insight into their motivations, their 16 years of living and working in Australia from 1961, and their eventual return to America.

Intensely private, each boasting rich ancestral family trees, Anne and Gordon's story begins on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, in the earliest period of American colonisation, and the book examines Anne's father's rise as a tycoon who controlled turn-of-the-century coal mines in Harlan County, Kentucky, and the wealth that forged the Samstag legacy.

Gordon's triumphs as a prize-winning, high-achieving social realist artist and his wonderful murals – painted for the Roosevelt administration's New Deal program – are also comprehensively revealed, along with his growing artistic doubts and his change in values, following World War II.

As Wolfe says, by the time Gordon Samstag arrived in Australia he'd become disillusioned with his past practice.

"The art through which his reputation had been forged – the art of the American Scene – had been overwhelmed by New York-led Abstract Expressionism, and what was following," Wolfe says.

"There were many artists of his ilk who'd lost their way, or given up. In fact, Gordon hadn't given up. He came to work at the South Australian School of Art almost for a decade, and embraced teaching with great enthusiasm, later describing his time here as the happiest years of his life."

The Samstag Legacy: An Artist's Bequest is designed with two audiences in mind: Australian and American. A particular objective is to encourage increased scholarly interest in Gordon Samstag, the artist, among American scholars, and a heightened appreciation of his art-historically significant achievements, and to restore him to a deserved place of recognition in the history of American art.

The hardback book is richly illustrated with more than 190 images. RRP \$85. For information and orders email <u>samstagmuseum@unisa.edu.au</u> or telephone +61 8 8302 0870.

## War Memory and Commemoration

How do we now commemorate warfare, genocide and terrorism and what influence do such practices have on our responses to suffering and the politics of history?

A new book addresses these questions, presenting studies of commemorative practices from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe and the Middle East. The book titled *War* 

*Memory and Commemoration* has been edited by Associate Professor Brad West in the School of Communication, International Studies and Languages and was launched at UniSA's Magill campus in early October.

In a period characterised by an unprecedented cultural engagement with the past: individuals, groups and nations are debating and experimenting with commemoration in order to find culturally relevant ways of remembering.

In particular, the volume focuses on the ways in which recent social and technological forces, including digital archiving, transnational flows of historical knowledge, shifts in academic practice, changes in commemorative forms and consumerist engagements with history affect the shaping of new collective memories and our understanding of the social world.

The volume will appeal to scholars of sociology, history, cultural studies and journalism with an interest in commemoration, heritage and/or collective memory.

Assoc Prof West is also the author of *Re-enchanting Nationalisms: Rituals and Remembrances in a Postmodern Age* (Springer, 2015) and is a Faculty Fellow at the Center for Cultural Sociology at Yale University.

War Memory and Commemoration is available online.



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# **In Pictures**

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## Future Industries Institute on show at launch event

UniSA recently celebrated the launch of its Future Industries Institute (FII) with a special event including tours of the \$60 million Institute facilities at Mawson Lakes and a forum explaining how its research is making an impact in South Australia and beyond.

Announced in 2015, the Institute is now an established research hub working to connect with industry, develop innovations and support new enterprises in the State.

Director of the FII, Professor Emily Hilder said she was delighted to have the opportunity to welcome current and prospective industry collaborators to the Institute to give them a better understanding of its capacity and culture.

More than 100 guests attended the launch on September 14. Find out more about the Future Industries Institute <u>here</u>.



Professor Nico Voelcker, Professor Emily Hilder, Professor Tanya Monro, Professor Enzo Lombi and Professor David Giles.



Deputy Vice Chancellor: Research and Innovation Professor Tanya Monro with the discussion panel Mr Stephen Tomisich, Chief Executive Officer of Trajan Scientific and Medical; Mr Allan Morton, Chairman and Non-Executive Director of LaserBond; and Mr Darrin Spinks, Managing Director of Precision Components Australia Pty Ltd.



(L) Michael O'Brien. (R) Future Industries Institute Director Professor Emily Hilder and Minister for Science and Information Technology Hon Kyam Maher.



UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd, Hon Kyam Maher and UniSA Chancellor Jim McDowell.



Professor Allison Cowan presents to the tour group.



(L) A large audience celebrated the launch event.(R) Elke Kleinig, Sarah Cutbush and Kerry Mora.



Kerry Mora, Hannah Saldaris, Jess Sammut, Fiona DeRosa and Cindy McKee.

## Formal ceremony celebrates new King Sejong Institute at UniSA

UniSA has been selected to establish a King Sejong Institute in Adelaide as a hub for Korean culture, business and language education. UniSA's King Sejong Institute was launched at a special event at the City West campus at the end of September.







(R) UniSA Chancellor Jim McDowell and Jinah Lee (wife of Korean Ambassador to Australia His Excellency Kyoung-ha Woo).



Councillor Sang Ok, Mayor of Strathfield; Korean Ambassador to Australia His Excellency Kyoung-ha Woo; UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd; and the Hon Martin Hamilton-Smith MP.

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# **Highlights from the Media Centre**

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The past month has seen the release of new research, partnerships and innovations; as well as a number of achievements for UniSA. Here are some of the top news stories from our <u>Media Centre</u>:

#### Snapping the resistance of superbugs

Multidrug-resistant bacteria, or 'superbugs', are a serious global health concern.

To tackle this global health challenge, researchers from UniSA and the University of Melbourne have been working to develop the next generation of polymeric antibiotics, referred to as SNAPPs, because of their ability to kill bacteria by 'snapping' their membranes.

Gram-negative 'superbugs' are a particular threat to patient health outcomes because they are antibiotic resistant and very few new antibiotics are currently being developed by pharmaceutical companies.

In an article published in *Nature Microbiology* UniSA School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences Senior Lecturer, Dr Anton Blencowe, and the team of University of Melbourne researchers note there is an urgent need for alternative antibiotic treatments for pathogens that are responsible for the majority of hospital acquired infections.

The value of the community store as a health indicator in remote communities

The turnover of food and beverage products from community stores in remote Indigenous communities (RICs) is an excellent indicator of dietary intake estimates of populations in remote communities.

Research undertaken by UniSA health experts Dr Tom Wycherley and Professor Kerin O'Dea indicates that 98 per cent of food and beverages consumed in RICs is measured by turnover from community stores relative to other sources such as take-away and Aged Care services.

Professor O'Dea says that community stores are recognised as the primary vendors of food and beverage turnover in RICs, but whether that turnover

was sufficient to estimate community-level dietary intake, had not been previously established.

"Chocolate" - a sustainable silver lining in the fight against infection As far back as the ancient Greeks, silver has been considered medicinal.

Hippocrates himself wrote of the use of silver in wound care, and today, silver in its nano-particulate form has been shown to have powerful antimicrobial activity towards a large number of pathogens including bacteria, viruses and even protozoa and has been used effectively in medical instruments such as catheters and bandages to reduce infection.

Scientists have found that while silver ions and nanoparticles (AgNPs) have a complex mode of action against bacteria, which makes it difficult for microorganisms to build effective resistance against them, most conventional processes employed to synthesize AgNPs use hazardous chemicals.

But now, a group of UniSA School of Engineering researchers, led by Associate Professor Krasimir Vasilev, are looking at another iconic and traditionally medicinal substance – cacao – to see how it might be used to improve the efficacy of silver nanoparticles and reduce the potential for harm.







#### Genes and birth weight predict adult health

Results of a global research project published in the prestigious *Nature* journal at the end of September, shows there is a genetic link between birth weight and susceptibility to adult diseases, such as type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Director of UniSA's Centre for Population Health, Professor Elina Hypponen, was a senior collaborator in this ground-breaking study that also identifies the genetic differences that help to explain why some babies are born bigger or smaller than others.



"The role of maternal factors is well-known, however, this study has shown that genetic effects on birth weight are also very important," Prof Hypponen says.

Read more media releases from UniSA at unisa.edu.au/Media-Centre.

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