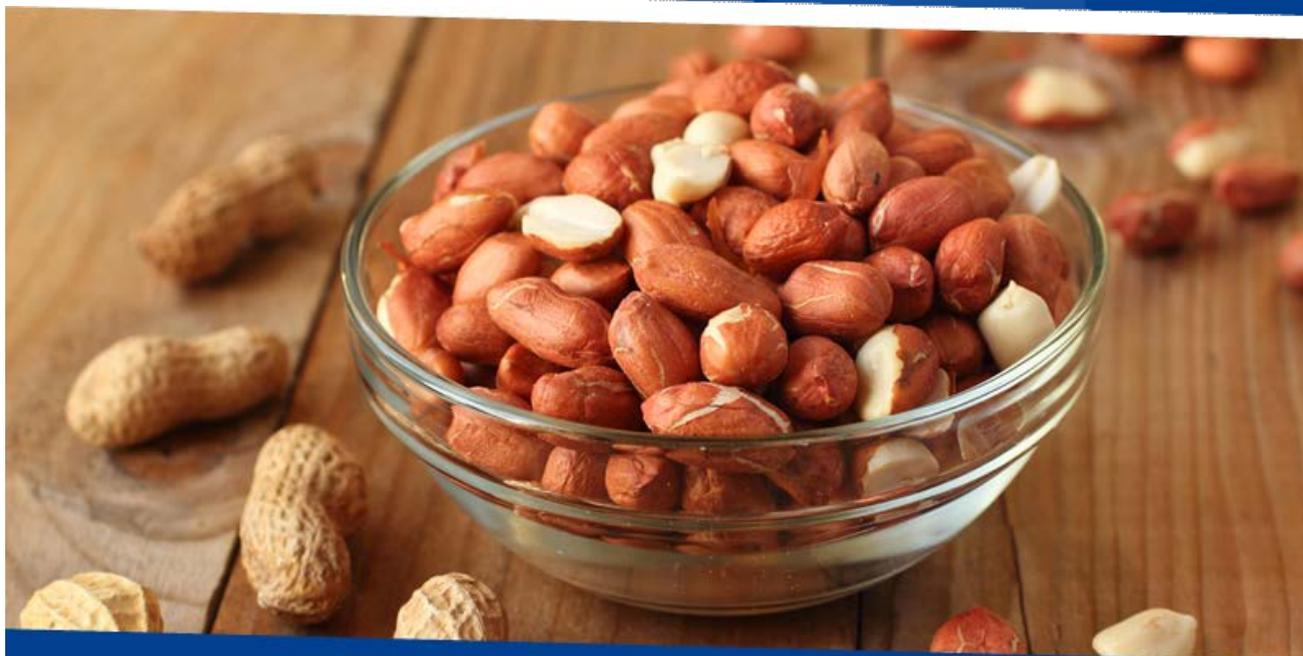


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Career experience makes UniSA #1 for graduate employment

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by Michèle Nardelli and Katrina Phelps



INSIDE UNISA

(L-R) Michael Browne, Ailsa Young, Olivia Colombo, Dan Calio and Jade Yang.

Close links with industry and an ongoing commitment to initiatives that help prepare students for the workforce are a core part of the UniSA student experience.

So it is perhaps no surprise that the *2017 Good Universities Guide* published late last month found UniSA well ahead of the pack in South Australia for graduate employment outcomes, at 74 per cent, with the University of Adelaide at 66 per cent and Flinders University at 55 per cent.

UniSA also returned five-star results for social equity and skills development.

UniSA Vice Chancellor, Professor David Lloyd, says the University's consistently high 'social equity' performance relates directly to its commitment to providing talented people with opportunities, regardless of their background.

"Making opportunities for more Australians, and more Australians from a diverse range of backgrounds, not only to come to university but to be successful when they graduate, is a core UniSA value," Prof Lloyd says.

One of the largest of UniSA's initiatives to support students to gain career skills beyond their curricula learning is the [Business Career Mentor Program](#), which offers close to 200 current students the opportunity to work with an industry mentor before they graduate.

A key industry partner in the program is one of Australia's leading professional services firms, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). Retired partner of PwC Michael Browne – who is also a UniSA Business School graduate and has been an active mentor since 2014 – views the mentoring program as an opportunity to shape emerging stars.

"The job market is difficult so the benefit of mentoring is to help students be better prepared for the opportunities

before them,” Browne says.

He has helped mentees such as UniSA accounting graduate and Graduate Accountant at BDO Olivia Colombo, beyond practical job application and interview tips.

“Michael’s constant support and advice meant I had total confidence in my ability as a future professional, and in myself,” Olivia says.

“I achieved my ultimate goal of being career-ready before I graduated and honestly don’t believe I would be where I am today had I not chosen to be a part of the mentoring program.”

Under the program, students are paired with experienced industry professionals, which UniSA Senior Consultant of Careers and Alumni in the Business School, Jo Slade, says provides immense benefits.

“The mentoring program is growing our future talent and helping to build a valuable student experience,” Slade says.

“There is also mutual value in the program – the mentors get immense satisfaction from helping our workers of the future; but they also gain an insight into what graduates look for in a job.”

Find out more about the program [here](#).

UniSA is also involved with mentoring students before they even reach university, such as the [Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience \(AIME\) program](#), where right now 265 university student volunteers are mentoring more than 400 Indigenous high school students.

Through AIME – a national group set up several years ago by youth pioneer Jack Manning-Bancroft – UniSA students run regular sessions with South Australian high school students to give them the skills, opportunities, beliefs and confidence to finish high school at the same rate as their peers.

The inspirational program not only helps high school students but equally benefits the university mentors, for example second year Bachelor of Education (Primary and Middle) student Chris Roberts, who says the AIME program provides the opportunity to give back.

“AIME offers me a challenging and rewarding path into a school environment and also offers me the opportunity to give back to the community,” Chris says.

“I am passionate about bridging the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students in regards to education outcomes.”



AIME mentors Chris Roberts and Sarah Boraso.

Fellow AIME mentor and Bachelor of Education (Primary and Middle) student Sarah Boraso is also passionate about closing the education gap with Indigenous youth.

“I am constantly learning more about Indigenous culture through the (AIME) program,” Sarah says.

“I’m inspired by the kids that come along to the sessions; it’s so rewarding to make a difference but I’m also learning heaps and having fun.”

Native American Echo Soldier Wolf, who is in second year of a UniSA Bachelor of Arts (Indigenous Cultures and Australian Society), “jumped” at the chance to be part of AIME.

“I heard about AIME in my first year,” Echo says.

“As I am Native American myself, I jumped at the chance to mentor local Indigenous students.

“I have always had a passion to help other Indigenous cultures as I see the similar difficulties that my culture faces. And having a program that targets the young Indigenous community to help them graduate from high school and further their future – it’s kind of hard not to become involved as a mentor.



AIME mentor Echo Soldier Wolf.

“I feel a great sense of pride when I see quiet students exceed out of their comfort zone.”

UniSA also offers a peer-to-peer support program for students across all courses. For more information see the [website](#).

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**University of
South Australia**

New nursing research centre to address industry challenges

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by Mary-Jane McArdle



HEALTH

UniSA Professor of Cancer Care Nursing Marion Eckert; ANMF (SA Branch) Director of Operations and Strategy Rob Bonner; retired past-President of the RANF (SA Branch) and ICN Dr Rosemary Bryant AO; ANMF (SA Branch) CEO/Secretary Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars AM; Head of School of Nursing & Midwifery, UniSA, Professor Carol Grech and President of International Council of Nurses Judith Shamian.

A new UniSA research centre developed in partnership with industry is anticipated to become a flagship for health research in South Australia and nationally.

The result of a partnership between UniSA and the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) (SA Branch), the Centre will be named in honour of Dr Rosemary Bryant AO, a former president of the national nursing federation and immediate past president of the International Council of Nurses.

The *Rosemary Bryant AO Research Centre* will be based in [UniSA's School of Nursing and Midwifery](#), and Head of the School Professor Carol Grech believes it will be a boom for the State to undertake research that is informed, leading-edge and relevant to the needs of the health industry now and into the future.

"Considerable challenges exist across the health system and there are significant gaps in evidence to inform nursing and midwifery practice," Prof Grech says.

For example, the State Government has committed to improving the quality of the local health system through its 'Transforming Health' initiatives and Prof Grech says many of these initiatives will need to be evaluated through robust research into system planning and resourcing, appropriate models of care, nursing and midwifery workforce requirements and clinical outcomes.

"Under the leadership of Professor Marion Eckert – Professor of Cancer Care Nursing in the School – we believe the Centre's work will complement the research already undertaken in the School and offer increased opportunities to attract higher degree research students and support early career researchers," Prof Grech says.

Prof Grech says for Dr Rosemary Bryant AO to have bestowed her name to the Centre and to the not-for-profit Foundation the ANMF (SA) has established, signifies the importance and relevance of this partnership in her eyes.

Dr Bryant was Director of Nursing at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and was the first Chief Nursing Officer in the Commonwealth Department of Health, a position she held until her retirement last year.

Under her leadership, many advances were achieved in the continuing development of nursing policy, practice and research in South Australia.

Dr Bryant says the ANMF (SA Branch) recognises evidence-based research is vital in influencing government policy in the health sector.

“I would like to see research that develops evidence around the relationship between the numbers of nurses and patient outcomes, also research directed and informed by nurses who have intimate knowledge of the different environments in which they deliver care,” Dr Bryant says.

“As we face an increasing pull on the health system, being able to provide the highest standard of care for the amount of money available is vital and the more thoroughly we understand how to get the best outcomes for patients, the better.”

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says the Centre will support research that is deeply connected to the issues and challenges faced by nurses and midwives.

“This is an exciting partnership for the State because it will raise the profile of nursing and midwifery research, a field that has grown enormously in the past 10 years,” Prof Lloyd says.

“Working in partnership with the ANMF, we can support research that is both relevant and quickly translatable into health settings. It also gives us an opportunity to lead the nation in developing the kind of research that will influence and inform modern nurse education and practice.”

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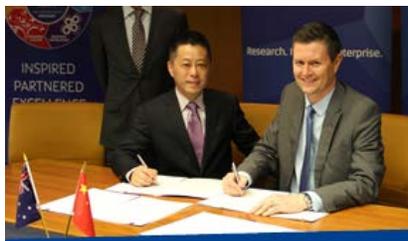
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Vatican spotlight on new definition of responsible leadership

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by Michèle Nardelli



HUMANITIES

St Peter's Square in Vatican City. Iaranik/Shutterstock.com.

UniSA Professor and Head of School of Management, Thomas Maak is in Rome this week to talk about responsible leadership at an international symposium.

The symposium – *Jubilee of Universities and of Research Centres and of Institutions of Higher Arts and Music Education, XIII International Symposium of University Professors* – will respond broadly to Pope Francis' second Encyclica, *Laudato si – On care for Our Common Home*, in which he critiqued 21st century consumerism, irresponsible development, environmental degradation and global warming.

Prof Maak (pictured right) from UniSA's Business School will make his presentation as part of a management stream at the symposium, which specifically looks at companies and businesses and how their leadership can influence better global outcomes.



Prof Maak says following the shock of the global financial crisis and the continuation of intractable and devastating problems such as war, the global refugee crisis and the less than inspiring political landscape – there is a new spotlight on what constitutes responsible leadership.

"There is an expectation that leaders need to do better and do more," he says.

"We are looking beyond governments and expecting that other influencers and in particular business leaders need to take a share of the responsibility for the well-being of the communities, constituencies and societies in which they operate.

“More often than not, deeper debate or discussion around these issues has been removed from executive education curricula.

“What we confront is that notions of responsible leadership are not necessarily the same for everyone – while some leaders have endorsed the broader responsibilities of business in a world full of complexity, disruption and increased disparity, others are hesitant to accept the full scope of economic, social, environmental, and indeed political responsibilities.”

Prof Maak says to develop a deeper understanding of leadership we need to understand who is impacted by that leadership.

“Leadership has to be considered as something less about leaders and more about those who are affected by the leadership – followers, stakeholders, organisations and communities or even nations,” Prof Maak says.

“I argue that a key responsibility for leaders, whether in business or other walks of life, is the promotion and advancement of human dignity because human dignity is our most far-reaching moral concept.

“It is a moral source for our values and interactions everywhere and for everyone, and the ultimate objective of moral action, in considering human, civil or social rights and in ensuring respect and recognition at the workplace.”

Prof Maak says despite its place as a moral source for people worldwide, human dignity is under-researched in business ethics education.

“More often than not, the importance of human dignity, respect and recognition, is acknowledged only when they are absent in workplaces or communities,” he says.

“At the symposium in Rome I will be arguing that responsible leadership qualities can be developed – one effective way is through international service-learning assignments, outside the comfort zone of ‘executive suites’.”

Prof Maak will also present insights from his involvement in an executive program to develop the next generation of responsible global leaders.

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INSIDE UNISA

A University of Enterprise is all about innovation, building a risk embracing culture and working collaboratively across disciplines and with industry and the professions that play such a vital role in making sure our programs are relevant to current practice and our research is cutting-edge and relevant. One part of our mission is to stimulate economic growth and contribute to a vibrant and successful society.

Those of you who can recite verbatim from our strategic action plan, *Crossing the Horizon*, will know the level of importance we place on our external relationships so that we can help build economic growth and prepare our students to be active participants in that growth. We already have more than 2500 partnerships working with us to address research questions in a range of priority areas, including engineering, materials science, IT, business, finance, communication, social science and health science.

We're particularly proud of our record in collaborative and solutions-focused research through the Commonwealth's Cooperative Research Centres Scheme, where we now sit at number two in Australia for funding received from Commonwealth grants to CRCs.

And now the world knows how collaborative and creative we are. We have just been named as one of Asia's most innovative universities in the inaugural Reuters Top 75 Most Innovative Universities list for 2016; we're one of only six Australian universities to make the list (and the only one in South Australia). The ranking identifies the educational institutions that are doing the most to advance science, invent new technologies and help drive the global economy. It does this by analysing scientific literature and patent data across 10 criteria from the period 2009 to 2014. Those criteria include the volume of patents filed (UniSA has filed more than 100 very successful patents in the past five years), their success, their impact and the number of times other patents have cited them. Particularly important is the percentage of industry collaborative articles which shows the amount of research activity conducted in collaboration with industry because that indicates the future economic impact of the joint research.

This accolade, on top of last year's ERA results which saw 97 per cent of our research judged as world class or above, gives a big jolt to our reputation in Asia which is vital, not just because of the international students that it helps attract, but also because of the opportunities it gives us for more partnerships with those universities that are the science, technology, biotech, cultural and economic powerhouses of the world.

One of the great things about being a young and vibrant university is that our practices are not set in stone. We're able to build upon a history of collaboration with industry partners dating back to the days of the South Australian Institute of Technology. We're considered very easy to work with as we break new ground, and deliver fresh thinking. And, as honoured as they should be, we're not reliant upon having a history that once included a Nobel Laureate or two. Perhaps in our next 25 years.

People in this university are doing some extraordinary work and I would encourage you to find out more about it. We're not shy about it; we even have public lectures for the community, and that includes you. Check out the [events calendar](#) and see what some of your colleagues have been working on.

It was always part of our mission to create the interdisciplinary teams that can tackle significant real-world challenges and I think we have found the people who will make that happen.

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

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Australia's youngest university innovator in Asia

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by Michèle Nardelli



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

UniSA is just one of six Australian universities to make the Reuters list of Asia's top 75 universities for Innovation.

As the youngest Australian university named in the list, UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says it is further confirmation of the University's commitment to innovation and excellence in research and a culture of enterprise and industry engagement.

Using data from Thomson Reuters IP & Science, the ranking analysed scientific literature and patent data across 10 criteria from the period 2009 to 2014 to determine which Asian institutions are the most innovative.

Prof Lloyd says he is delighted with the result and to see evidence of UniSA's growing reputation in the Asian region for quality research.

"Given the evidence of the Excellence in Research for Australia ranking in 2015, where 97 per cent of UniSA research was assessed as world class or above, this simply confirms our genuine commitment to delivering research makes a difference in the world," Prof Lloyd says.

"Our commitment is two-fold – to strive for excellence in the quality and rigor of our research but also to deliver solutions for industry.

"We do this as part of a wider strategy of engagement and partnership with business and industry and through collaborations with other researchers around the world – including some key links across the Asian region.

"UniSA is playing a pivotal role in supporting innovation in South Australia, nationally and internationally.

"In the past five years UniSA has filed well in excess of 100 successful patents making it consistently one of the most prolific in the State.

“Across the same period, we have grown the IP licenses we complete each year three-fold and have started nine new companies on the basis of technologies developed at UniSA.

“In partnership with the State Government, we have led on initiatives such as Venture Catalyst, which seeks to encourage student entrepreneurship and the creation of local start-ups by providing funding for early-stage ventures founded by UniSA students and recent graduates.”

The latest round of funding in the [Venture Catalyst program](#) has just opened, inviting students and entrepreneurs who are looking for financial assistance to turn their business ideas into reality.

“We have developed our Innovation & Collaboration Centre, a strategic partnership between the University, the South Australian Government and Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) to support technology-based business incubation and growth,” Prof Lloyd says.

Ferranova – UniSA’s cancer fighting research moves to market

As an example of UniSA’s commitment to collaboration, researchers at the [Future Industries Institute](#) recently joined forces with New Zealand based nanoparticle specialist [Boutiq Science](#) and major IP investor, [Powerhouse Ventures](#) to develop an improved system for cancer detection that relies on magnetic rather than radioactive tracers.

With backing from the highly experienced IP investor/commercialisation company, a new company Ferranova Pty Ltd has been established to take the innovations and develop them into a system that clinicians and cancer patients can benefit from as soon as possible.

While traditional radioactive tracers have been a mainstay for detecting the spread of both breast cancer and melanoma in lymph nodes, they have proved less effective in other cancers such as head and neck, gastrointestinal and oesophageal cancers, where nodes are closely packed or clustered.

Research to develop the new technology – an ultrasensitive magnetometer probe designed to be about the size of a ball-point pen – evolved from the doctoral work of young UniSA researcher, Dr Aidan Cousins.

Operating in the same ways as traditional gamma probes, the Magnetometer Probe is much more accurate for complex cancers and cheaper to operate than existing probes.

Working with nanoparticles specialist, Boutiq Sciences Ltd in Wellington has refined the development of next generation magnetic tracers, capable of delivering magnetic fields up to three times that of other magnetic tracers. Together the new tracers and the new probe represent cutting edge technology that delivers a much more accurate and affordable system for the staging of deep or complex cancers.

The technology also offers logistical benefits for hospitals. The switch to magnetic tracers means there is no need for the specialised rooms, equipment and training currently required for radioactive agents.

Magnetic tracers have a much greater shelf life than radioactive agents – years rather than hours – reducing storage and supply complications and costs. Both factors mean it is likely that smaller and regional hospitals and medical services will be able to employ the technology locally, reducing stress and expense on cancer patients who would otherwise have to travel to major city hospitals for treatment.

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**University of
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Space school opportunities

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by Katrina Phelps



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program participants in 2017 launched a stratospheric satellite that rode a high-altitude balloon to the edge of space before returning to Earth by parachute, bringing back images and data that can be used to improve agriculture and food security.

UniSA's collaboration with the International Space University has been further strengthened with five graduates from this year's Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program recently completing a research project that has earned them the new Graduate Certificate in Space Studies.

The 2016 projects involved proposing innovative solutions to problems in the fields of space medical science, space law, space biology, advanced propulsion and advanced remote sensing.

The students - from Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney are the fifth group to complete the Graduate Certificate. The program is accessible to all students who take part in the Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program – an annual program held at UniSA's Mawson Lakes campus for five weeks in January to February.

It is also available to graduates of [Space Studies Programs](#) from the International Space University (ISU) who collaborate with UniSA in the delivery of the program.

UniSA course director in 2016 and International Space University (ISU) Faculty member, Associate Professor

David Bruce, says the Graduate Certificate is another great outcome from this unique international partnership.

“Participation in the Graduate Certificate enables participants to explore in detail space topics or problems of deep interest stimulated by their ISU studies,” Assoc Prof Bruce says.

“They can also use the Graduate Certificate as an entrée to Masters programs such as the ISU Master of Space Studies and further research studies at Master’s or PhD levels. In 2016 one of the graduates has gone on to PhD research in Japan working with JAXA (Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency).

“In 2016 our group of students submitted a very high standard of research.”

The next [Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program](#) session is scheduled next year for January 9 to February 10. The residential component of the Graduate Certificate course in Adelaide will run from February 13-15, 2017. Registrations of interest from SSP alumni are now being accepted.

Meanwhile, a new Australian space company, SAS Global Australia, has announced a new scholarship for the 2017 Southern Hemisphere Space Studies Program.

SAS’s Chief Operating Officer, Maya Glickman-Pariente (pictured right) says that a similar scholarship for the program had helped build her career in the space industry.

“When I was accepted for the Southern Hemisphere Program in 2004, I had the privilege and honour to receive a scholarship, so I know how much this helps young space enthusiasts touch their dreams,” Glickman-Pariente says.

“Sky and Space Australia wants to promote space education in every possible way.”

The scholarship, worth almost \$13,000, covers all tuition, accommodation and meals for the entire program.

For further information about the program and scholarship please contact kasmira.gregory@mcpartners.com.au or by phone on 0415 050 526.



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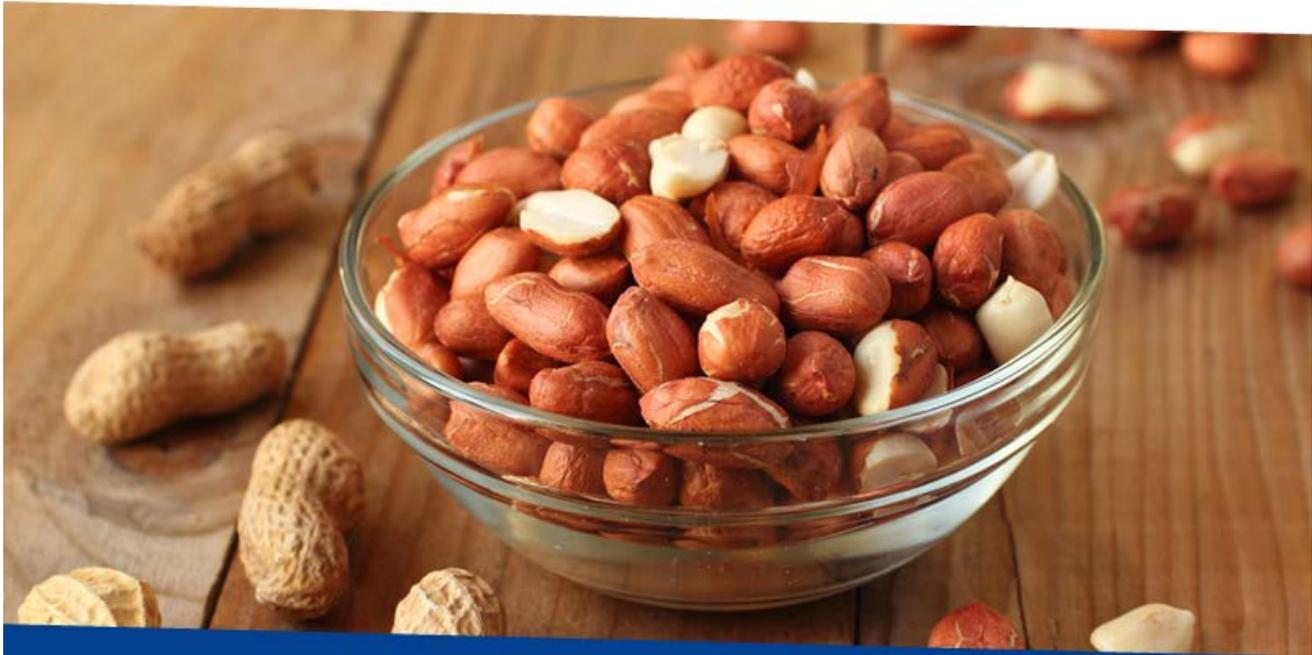
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Aussie peanuts are good for our brains

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by Katrina Phelps



RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

In a world-first study, research undertaken by UniSA has shown that eating peanuts every day can improve some aspects of memory and information processing.

The research project, led by [UniSA's School of Health Sciences](#) including Associate Professor Alison Coates, involved participants eating two to three handfuls of Australian peanuts a day for 12 weeks.

"In the nut world, looking at cognitive function is still quite new, even though peanuts are a staple food in many countries," Assoc Prof Coates (pictured right) says.

"This is the first study that has been undertaken with Australian peanuts – which have a similar profile to olive oil in that they have a higher content of mono-unsaturated fatty acids – even though they are a legume and not a nut.

"After 12 weeks of eating two to three handfuls a day of unsalted peanuts with skins, our study participants had noticeable improvements in their cognitive function and an increased ability of blood vessels in the brain to respond to stress.

"Specifically, participants had improvements in short-term memory, speed of processing and their ability to recall information.

"This is great news in a time where we are seeing an increase in dementia as well as a link between diminished cognitive functioning and heart disease.

"This is exciting data but it's just the first step in investigating how peanuts are beneficial for our brains."

The research – recently published in the *Nutritional Neuroscience* journal – was funded through a grant from the Australian Research Council in partnership with the Peanut Company of Australia who provided the peanuts for



the study participants.

“We are very interested to keep researching in this area,” Assoc Prof Coates says.

“The next step will be to undertake further research but with a lower dose of peanuts as two to three handfuls of peanuts a day is quite high – varying from between 56 and 84 grams a day for our participants – and 30 grams is generally the recommended daily serving for adults.

“Peanuts are quite high in calories and we were worried about weight gain but the average weight gain was only half a kilogram over the 12 weeks – likely because the participants were replacing some of their normal snacks with peanuts, but other factors could be that they stayed fuller for longer on the peanuts and that the mono-unsaturated ‘good’ fat in the peanuts is not completely digested in the gut.

“In general, people who eat healthy peanuts and nuts more often tend to have a lower body weight.”

For now though, Assoc Prof Coates is turning her attention to almonds, to see if people can achieve similar improvements in cognition and cardiovascular health by eating almonds.

The UniSA research team is now looking for middle-aged and older adults who live in the Adelaide area to take part in the 12-week almond study.

Assoc Prof Coates says that the testing undertaken for both of these studies is similar to brain training.

“With the short term memory test, we provide a series of pictures and words, then ask participants to recall as many as they can, and we use other tests to see how quickly they can process information,” Assoc Prof Coates says.

“The participants aren’t being compared to anyone except themselves.”

Assoc Prof Coates also says that participants are counselled on their diet to ensure that the nuts are replacing existing snacks, rather than adding onto their daily food intake.

Anyone who lives in Adelaide who is interested in being involved with the 12-week almond study can contact Assoc Prof Coates on 8302 1365 or email sansom.researchvolunteers@unisa.edu.au.

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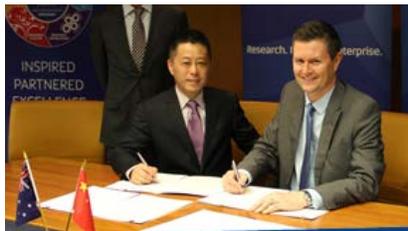
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China-UniSA partnership to spearhead pharmaceutical innovations

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by Michèle Nardelli



HEALTH

D&R Pharmaceuticals General Manager Dr An and UniSA VC Prof David Lloyd sign an MOU to collaborate on the development of new pharmaceuticals.

UniSA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with one of China's leading drug development and pharmaceuticals manufacturers, to support the development of new drugs, and treatments in stem cell biology and drug reformulation technology.

Based in Nanjing, D&R Pharmaceuticals is a group of companies that includes Real Pharma which has at least 20 products available in the Chinese market.

With a plan to establish an Adelaide-based company, D&R is expected to make significant further investments in high potential UniSA-based research projects.

D&R Pharmaceuticals has already committed significant funds to contract research focused on stem cell applications in regenerative medicine – research led by Professor Xin-Fu Zhou at UniSA's School of Health Sciences.

UniSA Vice Chancellor, Professor David Lloyd says the partnership with D&R Pharmaceuticals holds exciting promise.

"Working together with D&R Pharmaceuticals we are going to be in a position to fast track our research," Prof Lloyd says.

"This is cutting edge research that has the potential to make an enormous impact in the treatment of a range of conditions including Parkinson's disease and acute spinal cord injury and to devise new applications for stem cells in a range of therapies.

“At the same time UniSA will be licencing the Ceridia drug reformulation technology, developed here at UniSA and led by Prof Clive Prestidge. This research has focused on solving the problem of drug absorption in the gut using sophisticated nanotechnology that improves the efficiency of medications.”

Prof Lloyd says the benefits to the partnership extend beyond the University.

“Being able to attract successful partnerships to SA is very important because once the links have been made, there is potential for an expansion of relationships and in the case of D&R Pharmaceuticals, I know they will be keen to see how they can foster connections between SA research and pharmaceutical companies in China,” he says.

Guests to the signing event held at UniSA’s City West campus last month included members of the Chinese Consulate Wang Xiaowei and Rao Hongwei; Managing Director of D&R Pharmaceuticals Hao Lei; General Manager of D&R Dr An Lufan; and Research Scientist at the Jiangsu Key Laboratory of Drug Screening at China Pharmaceutical University, Professor Liao Hong.

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ACHIEVEMENTS

Ranked in the world's top three per cent of universities

In a larger field of contenders this year, and with 31 out of 35 of Australia's universities taking a slight fall in the 2016 QS rankings, UniSA retained its position at 288, which places it in the top three per cent of universities worldwide and 15th in Australia.

The QS ranks UniSA number one in Australia for its international faculty profile and improved in four key areas with higher scores for academic reputation, faculty to student ratio, citations per faculty and international students.



Award winning Venture Catalyst Program open for business

UniSA's Venture Catalyst program has won two 2016 Knowledge Commercialisation Australasia (KCA) Research Commercialisation Awards.

The successful program has also just opened up its next round of funding, inviting students and entrepreneurs who are looking for financial assistance to turn their business ideas into reality.

Deputy Vice Chancellor and Vice President of Research and Innovation, Professor Tanya Monro, is delighted the program was acknowledged as the Best Entrepreneurial Initiative and also won the People's Choice Award at the recent awards.

"These awards are wonderful recognition of UniSA's deep commitment to facilitating the transfer of knowledge into outcomes for the broader community," Prof Monro says.

"The Venture Catalyst collaboration between UniSA and the South Australian Government accelerates the delivery of economic, societal or environmental impact by providing teams of entrepreneurs with the support required to pursue their ventures."



Previous Venture Catalyst winner, Rachel Kidwell from TC Pinpoint.

Venture Catalyst supports the brightest of UniSA's student and recent graduate led start-ups by providing up to \$50k to novel and scalable enterprises as a grant.

The scheme takes an 'IP and equity free' approach and encourages students to collaborate with different disciplines and external agencies to encourage a diverse skill set for the benefit of the new venture.

UniSA's Innovation & Collaboration Centre manager Jasmine Vreugdenburg says it is a great opportunity for students and recent graduates to develop their entrepreneurial skills and make an impact in South Australia through their new commercial ventures.

"What is so exciting about Venture Catalyst is that it provides funding, resources and support to student ventures with no expectation of equity or ownership of the venture. Our only interest is in its success," Vreugdenburg says.

"Through past funding rounds, we have awarded \$300,000 to six companies that have used the funding to build amazing results for their businesses."

Previous winner, Rachel Kidwell (pictured above) from TC Pinpoint, used the \$50,000 grant to enhance the business's cloud-based software management tool for retail tenancies in shopping centres.

For more information including videos of all of the six success stories, see the [ICC website](#). Applications for Expression of Interest close on September 30. Those who are shortlisted will then be asked to submit a final application.

Whyalla teacher named Adult Educator of the Year

UniSA's Sandra Walsh was named Adult Educator/Mentor of the Year at the 2016 Adult Learners' Week Awards Dinner.

Presented by the Honourable Susan Close MP, these awards are a State Government initiative designed to recognise and acknowledge the outstanding contributions of individuals, communities and organisations in re-engaging learners and connecting them to learning opportunities.

Walsh, who has been working in the Foundation Studies program since it began at the Whyalla Campus in 2006, says she is very humbled to receive this award.

"I think it is a testament to our Foundation Studies program and the students who have come through the program over the years and go on to pursue a variety of careers," Walsh says.

"I wasn't aware of the nomination, and to know that former students took the time to write testimonials about me, this means we are doing something right.

"I find teaching Foundation Studies to be both challenging and rewarding and I think that is the same for students who complete the program."

Walsh says adult learners arrive at university with a wealth of knowledge and experience already, with stories of success and disappointment, and with different levels of skills and abilities.

"The challenge is in working with each student in a way that enables them to achieve educational growth and success," she says.

"Working regionally allows me to see the success of our students, both at the campus and in the broader community.

"It is great to see students graduate from their undergraduate degrees and take up professional roles in the community and give back to the region – I am proud to be involved in each student's journey of lifelong learning."

Walsh has also taught in UniSA's Bachelor of Social Work and is currently studying a Graduate Certificate in Career Counselling and a Master of Aboriginal Studies.

UniSA's Olympic stars shine

Congratulations to UniSA's Olympic stars Kurtis Marschall and Jess Trengove who may have returned to Adelaide without medals but will bring home a once in a lifetime experience from Rio.

Kurtis, a 19 year-old human movement student, was 'pretty stoked' to place



Sandra Walsh with her award and Minister Susan Close, Malcolm Lobban from Adult Learning Australia and UniSA's Tracey Watson, Whyalla campus Marketing Officer.

15th in the men's pole vault after clearing 5.60m.

Only nine other athletes jumped higher and he just missed the 12-man final on a countback.

"Thinking about it, jumping 5.60 at the Olympic Games where a lot of people are under a lot of pressure, I reckon I'm pretty proud of myself," Kurtis says.

Kurtis's [Instagram post](#) after the event summed up his experience.

UniSA physiotherapist graduate Jess Trengove finished 22nd in the marathon – up 17 places from her result at the London Olympics.

Jess said she had squeezed everything out of the tank which is always her ultimate goal, and that she will keep looking to raise the bar.

Listen to her reflections after the event with team mate Milly Clark [here](#).



Second place for UniSA student in Merdeka awards

UniSA student leader Nabil Imran has won \$1000 for taking second place at the annual Merdeka Gala Dinner awards.

Each year the Australia Malaysia Business Council (SA) presents three awards to the most outstanding all-rounders currently studying at SA's three universities in any degree discipline.

Not only do they need to be excellent students, but they must obviously demonstrate a willingness to engage with their Australian experience in a meaningful way.

Nabil was originally a Taylor's College undergraduate transfer student and has been studying an International Business/Marketing double masters degree.

He is a past President of the International Students' Business Society Malaysian chapter and was an active mentor of previous winners of this award.

First prize went to Taiping-born Sabrina Ng Pei Qin of University of Adelaide, and Flinders University student Kasturi Vimalanathan was awarded in third place.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Professor Mohamad Abdalla's inaugural lecture marks new centre launch

Head of UniSA's new [Centre for Islamic Thought and Education \(CITE\)](#), Professor Mohamad Abdalla (pictured right) recently presented his inaugural public lecture at the University, exploring the interconnectedness between Islamic and Western societies across history.

Marking the launch of the new Centre, Prof Abdalla presented to a packed Alan Scott Auditorium at UniSA's City West campus.

He discussed how the impact of international and local events since the attacks on the World Trade Centre in 2001 and the rise of violent extremism among some Muslims, has led to mayhem and destruction in the name of Islam, and heightened both fear and a populist notion that there is an unbridgeable chasm between Islam and the West.

But Prof Abdalla says that view belies a long and engaged history between Western and Islamic civilisations, one that at many times has been fruitful, peaceful and collaborative.



"Textual analyses of the Australian popular media discourse demonstrates that both before and after September 11, Muslims have been demarcated from Australians based on an underlying assumption that Islam is hostile, not only to Australia's values, but also to the basic tenets of Western civilisation," Prof Abdalla says.

“Equally, the rise of violent extremism among some Muslims in the name of Islam has heightened this portrayal and promulgated a notion of an ‘us’ and ‘them’ divide.”

Prof Abdalla says not only has this been destructive and divisive, but perhaps more significantly, it ignores centuries of history rich with fruitful interactions between peoples of diverse faiths and backgrounds.

“While we are experiencing a period of uncertainty where extremists from all sides are attempting to argue that Islam and the West are incompatible and cannot co-exist, we need to debunk this fear-mongering myth, and work towards acceptance through wisdom, genuine engagement and appreciation of the ‘other’.”

Prof Abdalla is one of Australia’s most prominent and respected Australian Muslim leaders combining the roles of an academic scholar, public intellectual, religious leader and commentator.

You can view the full lecture [here](#).

Unleashed success at UniSA

More than 150 entrepreneurs, innovators, coders, artists and makers of all different ages recently converged on UniSA’s City West campus to participate in Unleashed, the annual international open data competition held across Australia and New Zealand.

Facilities and unique spaces used for the event included the Innovation & Collaboration Centre (ICC), Makers Studio and the Digital and Design workshops, which saw 30 teams compete and use government open data to create and develop new ideas, strategies and designs across the weekend.



Unleashed participants at the Innovation & Collaboration Centre.

UniSA Vice Chancellor, Professor David Lloyd said the University was delighted to be involved in *Unleashed*.

“There is a great deal of talk about the power of big data but this event threw down the challenge to the competitors to wrangle that data and make it meaningful, accessible and useable,” Prof Lloyd said.

Unleashed competitors now await their fate with the judges final decisions announced at the South Australian Unleashed Awards night, being held on September 16, followed by the National Awards held later in the year.

The event was heavily supported by UniSA staff, volunteers and mentors who gave up their time to collaborate and work together throughout the weekend, in particular, staff from ISTS, FM Assist, the School of Art, Architecture and Design, and the School of Engineering.

The ICC and Data to Decisions CRC sponsored and awarded three spirit prizes on the final day, to teams that best demonstrated the true spirit of Unleashed. The winning teams include, The Walking Hackers, Hack 5, and Bad Snakes.

Other Unleashed sponsors included Coca-Cola Amatil, Kytos Bakery, ACS, Buddy, Jemsoft and Podista.

UniSA Student Association nominations now open for 2017

Students who would like to gain hands on leadership experience while shaping the future of UniSA, are invited to nominate to be a representative on the 2017 USASA Student Board.

Nominations are now open until 4pm on September 16 and elections will be held in October.

The UniSA Student Association recently hosted an election information night, giving students the opportunity to understand what is involved in being a USASA representative and to participate in a Q&A with past and current student representatives.

Fourteen representative positions are available including President, Postgraduate, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, International, Metropolitan and Regional Campus reps.

A recording of the information night and more info can be found [here](#).

APPOINTMENTS

Prof Peter Buckskin to strengthen Aboriginal ties

Professor Peter Buckskin has been appointed to the newly created senior staff position

of Dean: Aboriginal Engagement & Strategic Projects at UniSA.

Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says Prof Buckskin will play an important role in promoting UniSA nationally and internationally, and providing advice to the University on building and strengthening relationships with Aboriginal communities.

“This new position will build on the momentum of Professor Buckskin’s previous achievements in developing university-wide strategies on issues of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teaching, education, participation and retention of Indigenous students,” Prof Lloyd says.

“He will work closely with the DVC and with the Dean: External Engagement, and the Directors in the portfolio, to advance engagement and projects of importance to the University, with a special focus on work connected to Aboriginal communities.”

Prof Buckskin’s previous role was Dean of Indigenous Scholarship, Engagement and Research, where he led significant change in creating meaningful connections with Aboriginal communities at a State and national level.

“He brings to the role a wealth of experience, having led a distinguished career in Aboriginal education and public policy for more than 30 years,” Prof Lloyd says.

Prof Buckskin says the position is another exciting initiative in furthering our capacity to engage more strategically with Aboriginal communities locally, nationally and globally.

Prof Buckskin is also Chair of the South Australian Aboriginal Education and Training Consultative Council and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education Consortium Aboriginal Corporation.

Joanne Cys appointed Head of School: Art, Architecture and Design

Associate Professor Joanne Cys has been appointed to the role of UniSA’s Head of School: Art, Architecture and Design, commencing in January 2017.

She will take on the role following the retirement of Professor Mads Gaardboe who has been with UniSA since 2004 when he began as Head of the Louis Laybourne Smith School of Architecture and Design.

Pro Vice Chancellor and Vice President of the Division of Education, Arts & Social Sciences (EASS) Professor Denise Meredyth has congratulated Assoc Prof Cys on her appointment.

“Assoc Prof Cys has held a range of senior positions at the University where she has developed deep institutional knowledge, providing a solid foundation for the position of Head of School,” Prof Meredyth says.

“Her academic leadership experience in research and teaching and learning give her a unique understanding of the quality and performance imperatives that the School of Art, Architecture and Design must attain in the coming years in an increasingly competitive environment.”

Assoc Prof Cys has been the Division of EASS Dean: Academic since 2013 and has a breadth of experience on national and international industry peak bodies.

This month, she is being inducted into the Australian Design Hall of Fame recognising her eminent contributions to design research and education.

New position to increase engagement with APY Lands

In support of UniSA’s commitment to Indigenous education, Samuel Osborne has been appointed to the position of Associate Director: Regional Engagement (APY Lands).

Pro Vice Chancellor: Student Engagement and Equity Dr Laura-Anne Bull says this position has been created to initially focus on consulting with Anangu communities in the APY Lands to reposition the nature of tertiary provision in the region and also work across communities, organisations and jurisdictions to establish a more accessible and diverse suite of programs for very remote communities in South Australia





Calling home from a homeland phone near Docker River, (Eagle Valley), NT.

“This will involve Sam working closely with the PVC: Student Engagement and Equity, PVC: Indigenous Leadership (when appointed) and the Dean: Aboriginal Engagement & Strategic Projects,” Dr Bull says.

“Sam will also undertake teaching, learning and research related activities in the School of Education that contribute to the School’s course and program development and enhance the School’s research profile.”

During the course of his professional career, Osborne has gained significant experience and has strongly engaged with Aboriginal communities.

He has held a number of positions at UniSA, including Senior Research Fellow: CRC Remote Economic Participation - Remote Education Systems Project, and more recently as a researcher in Indigenous Education and course coordination of the Pitjantjatjara Language Summer School.

In 2016 he taught in the social science subject area and has worked on a funded research project looking at Indigenous participation in tertiary STEM programs with the School of Education team and has lead research and evaluation projects with Aboriginal organisations in central Australia.

Commencing in the role this month, Osborne is based at Mawson Lakes campus.

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Child-focused reform could see SA lead world child protection

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by Michèle Nardelli



RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

UniSA Chair of Child Protection Professor Fiona Arney.

UniSA Chair of Child Protection and Director of the Australian Centre for Child Protection, Professor Fiona Arney recently delivered the first of the [University's Enterprising Partnerships Talks](#) where she suggested South Australia could become a global leader in caring for and protecting children by taking new evidence-based approaches to preventing child abuse.

Prof Arney's presentation came just after the handing down of the Royal Commission into Child Protection Systems Report, *The Life They Deserve* – and she argued that with a brave commitment, SA could transform itself from a broken system, into world's best practice in child protection.

"In the past decade there have been 40 Australian inquiries related to child protection and still we continue to invest in systems that respond poorly once harm has occurred to children," Prof Arney says.

"The Nyland report has emphasised the single principle that should guide our system reforms – children must come first. Including the experiences, voices and participation of children must be the cornerstone of a new approach."

The Royal Commission Report, handed down in August, made 260 recommendations for change, laying bare a dysfunctional system, struggling under the weight of an enormous caseload.

The Commissioner outlined that one in four children would be brought to the attention of the child protection system in South Australia.

"The Commission challenged one of the foundations of child protection system design – the assumption that the problem is rare and that screening reports to child protection services is akin to sorting the wheat from the chaff,"

Prof Arney says.

“What the report shows is that not only is the problem of child abuse widespread, but there is no fundamental difference between matters screened in and out of the child protection system.

“We need a radical rethink of our systems.

“If one in four children may be experiencing abuse and neglect, we need to treat this as the most significant paediatric public health problem our country is facing – an epidemic in its truest sense.

“We must dedicate the resources to child protection research and development which have significantly lagged behind investment in other paediatric fields. We need to attract the best and brightest to practice, to research and policy development, to carry out a generational plan for change with child abuse prevention as a focus.”

The full lecture is available to view [here](#).

The Enterprising Partnerships Talks showcases the vital partnerships that UniSA’s top thought leaders have with the end-users of their research. The series highlights the economic and societal impact of research that is inspired by real-world challenges.

The next three events planned for this year will focus on the topics of aged-care, building a strong brand identity and chronic pain research.

More details on the [upcoming events](#) will be available soon.

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Guide to choosing running shoes wins Three Minute Thesis grand final

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by Will Venn



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Making informed choices on running shoes to suit body mass and help avoid injuries was the theme of the winning presentation at UniSA's Three Minute Thesis (3MT) grand final this year.

Joel Fuller from the School of Health Sciences was awarded first prize for his three minute speech discussing a guide to selecting running shoes based on body mass, which had strong relevance.

This year's grand final competition proved as compelling as ever, with a snapshot of the range of research taking place at UniSA featuring presentations on subjects including astro-tourism, high dynamic range imaging and financial planning.

Eight PhD students had just 180 seconds to present a condensed outline of their research in a manner designed to appeal to an intelligent though non-specialist audience, and with the aid of just one presentation slide.

Following his winning presentation, Joel Fuller said trying to condense a research project into a three minute speech was challenging.

"Explaining your message in the short time available forces you to have a thorough understanding of your research, which is always important," Joel says.

"About two million Australians participate in running and each of them will typically buy two or three pairs of running shoes each year.

"That's a lot of people spending a lot of money on running shoes. Our research provides important guidelines for runners that will ensure they are spending their money on shoes that are appropriate for their body mass and to help people avoid running injuries. This will hopefully improve the way that different shoe types are marketed to runners."

As part of his prize, Joel will now go forward to compete in the Asia-Pacific Grand Final of the competition later this month.

To achieve selection as one of the top eight finalists in the 3MT competition, the students had already honed their skills by progressing through divisional and school stages.

The high calibre of their presentations was evident through the clarity and confidence of each student's delivery and the audience of 150 were clearly engaged and curious to find out more about the research that was presented, with a question and answer panel session after the main speeches, proving particularly popular.

The audience selected School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences student Lih Yin Tan as the People's Choice Winner.

Lih, who is undertaking research in the Vascular Biology and Cell Trafficking Laboratory at the Centre for Cancer Biology's presentation *Mission Immune Possible* examined immunotherapy as a treatment for cancer.

Second place in the grand final went to Abdullah Saed from the School of Information Technology and Mathematical Sciences for his presentation on Visible Light Communications, weaving in a topical reference to Pokemon Go.

Third place went to Amanda Richardson from the School of Health Sciences with a presentation on predicting the success of first-year university students titled '*Success needs more than just a good ATAR*'.

The other four grand finalists were:

- School of Commerce student Ammar Asbi explained how financial planning can help victims recover faster from natural disasters, including bushfires.
- Astro-tourism was the focus of third year School of Marketing student Samaneah Soleimani's presentation in which she considered the potential of locations which provide unhindered views of the stars at night, as holiday destinations.
- Aaron David of the School of Art, Architecture and Design talked about the value of collaboration, particularly in relation to the design of urban environments.
- Daniel Griffiths, founding President of the UniSA Mechatronic Engineering and Robotics Club, (School of Engineering) spoke on the subject of High Dynamic Range imaging techniques, prompting discussions about the potential commercial aspects of this research, in a question and answer session after the main speeches.



Grand finalists in UniSA's Three Minute Thesis competition are pictured with the judging panel.

Dean of Graduate Studies, Professor Pat Buckley, congratulated all those taking part in this year's 3MT grand final, adding that communication is key to collaboration in the wider world.

"The 3MT competition aims to develop the student's ability to take complex research and communicate it in a fashion that a non-specialist audience can understand," Prof Buckley says.

“This is probably one of the hardest talks they will ever prepare. It is increasingly important for researchers to talk with a wide range of people from communities, industry and governments about their work in ways others can understand and appreciate.”

The panel – selected for their breadth of interests and achievements in academia, and beyond – comprised UniSA Chancellor Jim McDowell; Head of Postgraduate Programs at the Elder Conservatorium of Music at the University of Adelaide Associate Professor Kimi Coaldrake; Head of Business Development at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research Dr Julian Clark; and Director of UniSA’s Science Creativity Education Studio (SCi.C.ED) Dr Kristin Alford.

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University of
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Fiji's rainforest classroom

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by Isabella Domhoff



COMMUNITY

Participants from the three universities at Colo-i-Suva Forest Reserve.

Surrounded by tall green trees and being subject to regular rain showers in a Fiji rainforest is not the typical classroom experience for UniSA's environmental and geospatial science students.

But nine students recently joined others from Flinders University and the University of the South Pacific for two weeks in Fiji studying the area's biodiversity and gathering data through remote sensing.

Bachelor of Environmental Science student, Anthony Randell thoroughly enjoyed hiking through beautiful rainforests and experiencing spectacular mountaintop views.

"It has given me more field experience in a completely different environment – both culturally and ecologically – to South Australia, and with this comes new perspectives and views that could help me gain employment in Australia and overseas," Anthony says.

"My time spent on Mount Batilamu was one of those occasions that reaffirmed my chosen career path in helping to protect and restore natural environments."

Fellow Environmental Science student, Michael Blackie's experiences in Fiji have helped him realise his desire to be involved in sustainable management.

"My study in Fiji revolved around eco-tourism and trail interpretation, with a focus on the three pillars of sustainability," Michael says.

"I noticed a lot of waste disposed of unsustainably, which made me think there could be a better plan in place to monitor and manage the excess



Members of the Mount Batilamu vegetation survey team.

waste.”

Emilia Adams, who is studying a Bachelor of Geospatial Science, learnt a great deal through her hands-on experience using remote sensing to gather data.

“Not only have I learnt a whole new set of skills in the field I’m most interested in, but I have gained a greater appreciation for the fieldwork component of the environmental sciences,” Emilia says.

“The first week was spent on campus at the University of the South Pacific in Suva and we conducted surveys in the lowland forest of Colo-i-Suva.

“The second week was spent in the Abaca ecotourism village where we assessed the birds and vegetation biodiversity in the highland forest of Koroyanitu National Heritage Park.”

Walking the Mount Batilamu trail and reaching the summit were highlights for students and the second week spent at the Abaca ecotourism village exposed them to the richness of Fiji’s culture and customs.

“It was a real privilege to experience the hospitality and generosity of the people in the village,” Emilia says.

“Anyone interested in a study tour should go into the experience open minded and be willing to make the most of every opportunity while you are there.”

Trip organisers included UniSA’s Senior Lecturers Dr Gunnar Keppel and Dr Sharolyn Anderson.

Dr Keppel says interacting with students from two other universities was extremely beneficial for the UniSA students.

“Experiencing and sharing how students from other universities in the same field learn was very educational and resulted in mutual respect,” Dr Keppel says.

The trip was funded by the Australian Government through the New Colombo Plan.



Students set off from their accommodation at Abaca to begin studies.

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UniSA team delivers on nuclear design challenge

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by Simon Ruppert



ART AND DESIGN

UniSA students who helped design and create 3D models for the Government Ben Kilsby, Luca Dichiera and Sam Hastie are pictured with SA Premier Jay Weatherill.

Students, staff and graduates from UniSA's Industrial Design program were set a mammoth challenge recently – given a short timeframe to design, create and deliver 15 3D models to be used in one of the largest community consultation programs ever undertaken in South Australia.

UniSA Master of Architecture graduate Simon Modra, who led the project team, likened the task to compacting a full semester of studio into just 20 days.

The end result – three sets of five scale models depicting the nuclear waste disposal process – was actually delivered ahead of schedule and the models are now on display as part of a three-month nuclear engagement program visiting more than 100 sites across the State.

The models were produced on behalf of the State Government's Know-Nuclear Program for a series of public consultations to educate communities about the Nuclear Fuel Cycle.

Modra says the project was a unique opportunity for students to interact with a real client and realise real designs for a real audience, and the extraordinarily tight deadline meant it was also a real challenge.



UniSA project team members Sam Hastie, Ben Kilsby, and Simon Modra with Stephanie Wasley from the Premier's Department in front of 1:200 double hulled transport ship.

The process included researching the disposal of nuclear waste, digitally modelling the designs, sourcing suitable materials and creating the 3D models.

“We were given Friday and the weekend to research and begin digital modelling,” Modra says.

“Using a combination of CAD programs, the units were digitally modelled at a scale negotiated with the client which would best fit in the back of a Mitsubishi Pajero and still allow the public to get a good look at the process.

“The level of quality and workmanship expected for units that will be photographed by the media, shown on TV and toured around the State is far in excess of what might be expected in a studio submission.

“The students weren’t afforded the luxury of mulling over design, and working and re-working it.

“They had to move quickly and nimbly, and most importantly learn that critical moment when the time for thinking about something is over and it’s time to pull the trigger and make it.”

The project was initiated by creative agency KWP! who contacted UniSA’s Industrial Design Program Director Dr Peter Schumacher on behalf of the Government requesting the models be created on short notice.

Dr Schumacher assembled a team led by Simon Modra which included Industrial Design Lecturer Dan Mclean; Design and Construct Program Senior Lecturer David Morris; Bachelor of Design (Product Design) student Ben Kilsby; postgraduate students Sam Hastie and Luca Dichiera; Master of Architecture graduate Brett Abroe; and technical officer David Gordon.

Sam Hastie, who has completed a Bachelor of Design (Product Design) and is now undertaking a Graduate Diploma in Design, was honoured to take part in a project with such a high profile.

“It was a great experience to apply the knowledge and skills I have acquired over the last three years, and to use them in a real world situation,” Sam says.

“The experience was inspiring, gave me confidence in my ability and has confirmed that industrial design is the correct career for me.”

The designs depict an above-ground dry cask storage facility, an example of a nuclear fuel rod, a double-hulled transport ship, nuclear storage canisters and a nuclear transport cask.

Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission Consultant and Response Agency Chief Executive Madeline Richardson says the models are on tour as part of the roadshow visiting rural and metropolitan areas as well as remote Aboriginal communities.

“They are supporting the community discussion about the recommendations of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Royal Commission and topics raised by the Citizens’ Jury,” Richardson says.

She was pleased the models were designed locally and felt that having them made in SA provided a great opportunity for local students.

The University’s huge effort was greatly appreciated by the agency, who were delighted with the end result and have requested UniSA also model an underground geological storage facility.

To see the designs in person, see the [full event schedule](#).

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**University of
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Highlights from the Media Centre

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The past month has seen many accolades and achievements for UniSA and its people; as well as the release of new research and innovations. Here are some of the top stories from our [Media Centre](#):

[UniSA lighting the information innovation way](#)

UniSA's enterprising approach to research, digital innovation and industry engagement has been acknowledged with a win in the Consumer Category of the iAwards - Australia's leading awards program recognising and rewarding Australian innovation.

The Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA) recognised the outstanding work of researchers in UniSA's School of Information Technology and Mathematical Sciences who have developed the LiPo indoor positioning system using visible light.



Dr Siu Wai Ho

The "GPS like" indoor positioning system tracks movement with greater accuracy than contemporary RFID and Wi-Fi based systems using light from energy efficient LED bulbs to triangulate a person's location.

The iAwards recognise researchers, governments, students, SME's and large businesses who are at the cutting edge of technology innovation across the Digital Economy.

[UniSA partners on national 'Respect. Now. Always.' student survey](#)

UniSA has partnered with other universities across Australia in a groundbreaking national student survey on sexual assault and harassment.

The survey is an important part of the Australian university sector's 'Respect. Now. Always.' campaign to ensure students and staff are safe from sexual assault and sexual harassment.

UniSA Vice Chancellor, Professor David Lloyd says UniSA is participating in the survey as part of its longstanding efforts to keep improving policies and support services to keep students safe.

"As a University and as a community, the care, safety and wellbeing of our students is a chief priority and we want to know if our students have experienced any situations that are unsafe or threatening," Professor Lloyd says.



[UniSA keen to embrace new ATN-Indonesia partnership](#)

UniSA's highly successful 2016 Graduate Certificate in Data Analysis for Policy Review and Formulation is just one successful example of the kinds of collaboration with Indonesia that will flow from a new partnership forged by the Australian Technology Network of Universities (ATN).

The Graduate Certificate program saw 25 of Indonesia's senior public servants from key departments study data analysis at UniSA to build skills to ensure the highest possible policy evaluation standards in their departments.

The new partnership between the ATN and Indonesia's Ministry of Religious Affairs (MORA) signed last month strengthens ties between the



Deputy Vice Chancellor External Relations and Strategic Projects, Nigel Relph, shakes hands with a representative from Indonesia Ministry of

two countries and opens up more opportunities for Indonesian students to further their academic and professional careers across the five-state network of ATN universities.

Religion at the signing of the MOU.

[Youth homelessness project supporting at risk regional South Australians](#)

Homeless young people are often referred to as “street kids” and “runaways” but the reality is most young people experiencing homelessness are hidden from view and aren’t homeless by choice.

Young people at risk are often alienated from their families, school and community and especially in regional areas there is a desperate need for collaborative approaches like the UniSA Regional Homelessness Intervention Project, recently announced by the South Australian Government.

UniSA’s Associate Head of the School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy, Associate Professor Deirdre Tedmanson, says the collaborative focus of the project will see UniSA researchers working closely with key non-government sector agencies Uniting Communities, SYC and local schools, community organisations and youth services to identify young people at risk and map appropriate responses.

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news

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In Pictures

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UniSA's 'Open August' showcase

Last month UniSA opened its doors to future students at a range of events for Open August on offer across the metro and regional campuses.

Open Day attracted thousands of students to City East and City West campuses on August 14.

Magill @ Twilight was a buzz on August 24 where visitors took advantage of the opportunity to explore the campus and learn about degree and career options on offer.

'Discover Mawson' on August 25 revealed everything you need to know about engineering, information technology, environmental science, geospatial science, science and advanced materials, aviation and mathematics at UniSA.

In regional SA, the new facilities at Mount Gambier campus were on show on August 10 and Whyalla campus Open Day was on August 28.







Multicultural Day celebrations across the University

UniSA recently acknowledged 'Multicultural Day' by hosting a range of celebrations on each campus across a whole week, including free food, activities, music and dance performances, workshops, and sport demonstrations.

Multicultural Day is about celebrating 'Unity in Diversity' and cultures from around the world and the University took the opportunity to celebrate its diverse multicultural community.

See more photos from Multicultural Week on UniSA's [Facebook page](#).





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New Books

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New book explores South Sudan migration

A new book written by a UniSA academic in the School of Education, Dr Melanie Baak, explores the migration experience to Australia by a group of women from Dinka communities in South Sudan.

The book, *Negotiating Belongings: Stories of Forced Migration of Dinka Women from South Sudan*, provides an original, empirically-based exploration of a group whose experiences have not previously been represented in academic texts. The book explores how gender, race, class, colonisation and power all operate to shape the migratory experiences of these women.

For author, Dr Baak, writing the book was more than just a work project – it was an opportunity to work with a group of women whom she could learn from while sharing her own experience of marrying into the Dinka community.

“This book incorporates an auto-ethnographic reflection on my own experiences of negotiating belonging, having married into the Dinka community in Australia,” Dr Baak says.

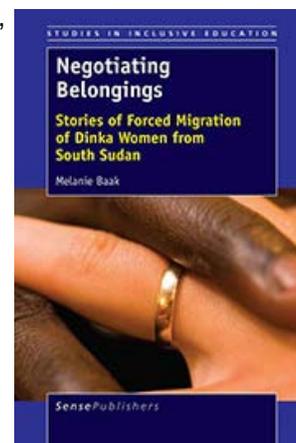
“Through developing an understanding of the women’s journeys to Australia, I have developed a deeper understanding of my own belongings both in relation to Australia and to the Dinka community.

“It has also been an opportunity to work with a group of women whom I greatly respect; to learn from them and present their stories and experiences in a way that makes them accessible to a wider audience.”

The book will be launched at the SA Migration Museum at the end of October. It has already received praise from respected scholar-activist, Professor Vron Ware from Kingston University London.

“This is an extraordinary book. Melanie Baak demonstrates what might be at stake when intellectual exploration of cross-cultural concepts such as ‘identity’ and ‘belonging’ accepts the intrinsic limitations of Euro-American forms of knowledge,” Prof Ware says.

“Her contribution to the emerging literature on this simple yet widely misunderstood term is all the more timely in the context of unprecedented movement of peoples displaced by war, poverty and the impact of climate change.”



New book explores the ‘complex’ Gospel of John

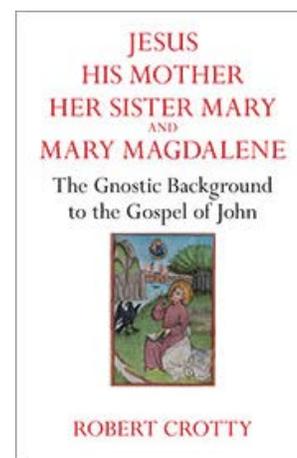
Emeritus Professor Robert Crotty from the School of Education, launched his 32nd book last month at UniSA’s Magill campus.

‘Jesus, his Mother, her Sister Mary and Mary Magdalene. The Gnostic Background of the Gospel of John’ is an historical and literary study of the complex Gospel of John.

It is written from a phenomenological point of view, analysing the historical currents in the late first century CE.

Prof Crotty says the Gospel of John has always been a difficult book to interpret, at the best of times.

“Sometimes, it has proved quite enigmatic and even opaque,” he says. “The differences between John and the Synoptics have always been a stumbling block for students.



“There have been rather simplistic attempts at exegesis: Jesus changed water into wine at Cana because he did not want the bridegroom ridiculed; he washed the feet of the disciples as an act of humility; he brought Mary and John together as mother and son at the foot of the cross because he wanted his mother cared for in her old age.”

This book takes up these problems. It demonstrates that the present text has followed a long and tortured journey from Jewish Gnosticism to a Christian Gnostic compendium, later extensively edited by Roman Christianity.

The result is a surprising re-reading both of the earlier versions of the text and the editing done by the Roman Christians.

Jesus, his Mother, her Sister Mary and Mary Magdalene throws light on a different Jesus to the canonical one (he is not human), a different Mother (she is Sophia, a divine emanation), a different Sister Mary (she is Eve), a different Mary Magdalene (she is the Beloved Disciple), a new Judas (he is not a betrayer and was the first to receive the Gnostic eucharist) and a festering confrontation between Peter and the Beloved Disciple. The Roman Christians disagreed on all these interpretations and heavily edited the gospel in order to silence its Gnostic statement.

This book will show how the Gospel of John should be read at the present time to take account of this complex tradition history.

Key features include an understanding of Christian Gnosticism in the history of early Christianity.

Prof Crotty says the content crosses the boundaries of religion studies, biblical studies, Gnosticism, early Christian history and all of these have international appeal.

“At the moment there is a search for the historicity of both Jesus and the early Christian Church and a growing interest in Christian Gnosticism,” Prof Crotty says.

Click [here](#) to order the book.

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