

news

September 2017

> from the University of South Australia



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Neuroscientists' work offers hope for people living with dementia

Two UniSA researchers are hopeful of major breakthroughs in preventing and treating dementia, the second leading cause of death in Australia. [more](#)



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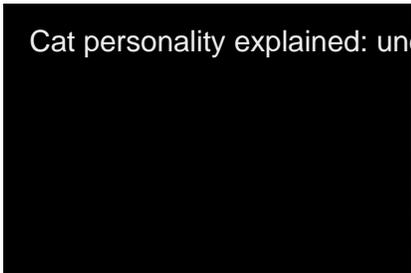
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Is back stiffness just a trick of the mind?

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by Candy Gibson



HEALTH

Dr Tasha Stanton treats a man with lower back pain.

Could back stiffness be a trick of the mind?

New scientific evidence from a UniSA researcher shows – for the first time – that feelings of back stiffness may be a protective mechanism to avoid further injury.

A paper published in [Scientific Reports](#) by Dr Tasha Stanton, Senior Research Fellow in UniSA's School of Health Sciences, provides evidence that the perception of back stiffness has no bearing on the actual state of the joints and that feelings of stiffness can be eased by certain sounds.

The clinical pain neuroscience researcher undertook a series of experiments, building on experiences of amputees who still report stiffness in joints which they no longer have.

Fifteen people with chronic lower back pain who reported feelings of back stiffness had pressure applied to the spine, paired with different sounds. Another control group of 15 healthy individuals with no back issues were also tested.

“We know that millions of people around the world have chronic lower back conditions but the feeling of stiffness may not actually reflect how bad their back is,” Dr Stanton says.

“In theory, people who feel back stiffness should have a stiffer spine than those who do not. We found this was not the case in reality. Instead, we found that that the amount they protected their back was a better predictor of how stiff their back felt.

“People with chronic back pain and stiffness overestimated how much force was being applied to their backs –

they were more protective of their back. How much they overestimated this force related to how stiff their backs felt – the stiffer the back felt, the more they overestimated force. This suggests that feelings of stiffness are a protective response, likely to avoid movement.

“Secondly, we found that these feelings could be modulated using different sounds. The feeling of stiffness was worse with creaky door sounds and less with gentle whooshing sounds. This raises the possibility that we can clinically target stiffness without focusing on the joint itself but using other senses,” she says.

The breakthrough provides hope for the 632 million people worldwide who suffer from low back pain (approximately 10 per cent of the global population) and cannot find any relief.

“The brain uses information from numerous different sources including sound, touch, and vision, to create feelings such as stiffness,” Dr Stanton says. “If we can manipulate those sources of information, we then potentially have the ability to manipulate feelings of stiffness. This opens the door for new treatment possibilities which is incredibly exciting”.

The paper [Feeling stiffness in the back: a protective perceptual interference in chronic back pain](#) is available online in *Scientific Reports*, a Nature research journal.

The authors are Dr Tasha Stanton and Professor Lorimer Moseley from UniSA and Dr Arnold Wong and Dr Gregory Kawchuk from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and University of Alberta.

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UniSA becomes youngest Aussie uni in world's top 250 institutions

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by Candy Gibson



UniSA's star continues to rise after leaping into the world's top 250 institutions in the latest [Times Higher Education World University Rankings](#), released earlier this month.

The ranking places UniSA in the top 10 universities in the country and the youngest Australian institution in the world's top 250, continuing an upwards trajectory for the State's largest university, already positioned in the world's top 50 universities under 50 years of age.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says UniSA's jump into the 201-250 band reflects the commitment that UniSA staff have made to improve both research and teaching and to build a connected and outward looking university community.

"I'm also delighted to see that UniSA ranks in the top 100 for international staff and for our industry engagement," Prof Lloyd says.

"As Australia's University of Enterprise, these two areas, encompassing a global outlook and a deep engagement with real world issues and finding solutions for industry problems, are core to UniSA's 'DNA'."

UniSA is ranked joint ninth in Australia out of 35 institutions.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings list the top 1102 universities in the world, across 77 countries, representing five per cent of the world's higher education institutions.

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Latest content revision: Tuesday, 12 September 2017



**University of
South Australia**

More than \$1m for UniSA students to learn in Indo-Pacific

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by Adam Joyce

Design Construct - Tanna Island

UniSA students will continue a project to build visitor accommodation on Tanna Island in Vanuata thanks to funding from the New Colombo Plan.

Almost 300 UniSA students will get to study in one of Australia's neighbouring countries next year, after UniSA was awarded more than \$1 million for an Australian Government initiative to increase knowledge of the Indo-Pacific region.

UniSA will receive its biggest amount to date under the [New Colombo Plan](#), which supports Australian undergraduates to study and undertake internships in the Indo-Pacific.

The funding will allow 276 UniSA students to undertake study, internships, mentorships, and research in 16 host locations across the Indo-Pacific region during 2018; comprising 250 short-term programs, and 26 semester-long experiences.

UniSA received just over \$1m of New Colombo Plan funding for 2018 – the highest of any institution in South Australia.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says the University's success means more opportunities for students to experience and learn from Australia's neighbouring countries.

"The valuable overseas projects put forward by UniSA staff for funding under the New Colombo Plan has seen the University more than double the funding it will receive under the scheme," Prof Lloyd says.

"This is an outstanding achievement and means there will be more opportunities for more students to combine study and travel in the Asia Pacific region.

“The hundreds of UniSA students who take part in a New Colombo Plan project will work with leading academics and organisations in their field of expertise, whilst helping strengthen ties with our neighbours.”

UniSA works with partner organisations across the region, such as universities, government agencies and non-government organisations, to provide opportunities for students through the [New Colombo Plan Mobility Program](#).

For example, 44 UniSA students will take part in a study tour to Vanuatu in 2018 to continue a project to [build visitor accommodation on Tanna Island](#) (see the video at the top of this story), in partnership with the Port Resolution community. The community hopes the accommodation will attract visitors to the area, generating income to help local villagers afford education for their children. One of the features of the island is Mt Yasur volcano that attracted Captain Cook in 1774.

The funding will support UniSA study visits and internships to the following countries in 2018:

- Brunei
- India
- Malaysia
- China
- Indonesia
- Myanmar
- Cook Islands
- Japan
- Philippines
- Fiji
- Kiribati
- Vanuatu
- Hong Kong
- Laos
- South Korea
- Vietnam

The New Colombo Mobility Program is open to Australian university undergraduates aged between 18 and 28.

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news

September 2017

> from the University of South Australia

From the Chancellery

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INSIDE UNISA

Intercom: *What's going on down there? Come in!*

Han Solo: *Uh, everything is under control. Situation normal.*

Intercom: *What happened?*

Han Solo: *[flustered] Uh, had a slight weapons malfunction. But, uh, everything's perfectly all right now. We're fine. We're all fine here, now, thank you. How are you?*

Bear with me. There's relevance here, beyond referencing one of the funnier scenes in the original and best from the Star Wars series.

I have said before that the current higher education policy debate is about finances and budget repair, not reform, and that the most disappointing thing is that it isn't really about painting a picture of the future we want for our sector.

So while that debate goes on, UniSA, as it has always done, is electing to chart its own course. While there might be turmoil and uncertainty on many fronts right now, over the next few months, what better time for us to start a conversation about what will be in our next strategic plan and the direction we'll head?

On one level, in that new plan, there could be an argument for little change, 'we're all fine here...how are you?'.

Right now, the dashboard for UniSA is green - our graduates are getting jobs (in difficult circumstances) and we are proud to be consistently rated as South Australia's best university for graduate careers.

The Times Higher Education rankings have just announced us as Australia's youngest university in the top 250 and placed us in the top 10 in Australia - at number nine no less.

Our international students report high praise for our services in recent surveys; we have just launched UniSA Online, our new online study service; our researchers are working on solutions for society's challenges such as dementia, diabetes and clean energy technologies, as you'll read in this edition of UniSA News.

Coming out of the ground are the new Pridham Hall and Health Innovation Building which are transforming our city's west and are emblematic of the new industries and jobs of the future.

All these strategic actions and improvements were challenges we set ourselves in our last plan, *Crossing the Horizon*. That was born from the world's first *unijam* conversation and much discussion on our campuses. Although being told frequently that you can't actually cross a horizon, I concede on that one, by the middle of next year, we will have largely set that body of hard work and challenging stuff in train – and the horizon will be in the rear view mirror.

So the challenge for us in our next plan is to maintain the spirit of adventure and experimentation that characterises us as Australia's University of Enterprise.

Speaking a couple of weeks ago at a gathering of senior staff from the Australian Technology Network of Universities - we were meeting in Parliament House just as the higher education debate was kicking into its final stages - I was asked what worries me the most for the future of our university.

The answer was easy - complacency, the 'we're all fine here...' thinking that can beset any organisation (or any industry or profession). It was a similar theme explored only a few days later when the senior staff of UniSA gathered, as we regularly do, in a poorly named but great spirited 'retreat', to debate and discuss our future.

A consistent thread in our discussions was that we were ready for the next stage of change and challenge – to look above and beyond the horizon.

The underlying understanding among us was that future success and benefit to those we serve cannot be guaranteed by simply repeating the practices of the past – however recent they might feel.

This is a conversation that I know many organisations and business in many sectors are having right now given the wider changes in our economy and society. But the capacity of our organisation to consistently embrace that notion is something I see every day and is one of the special UniSA characteristics of which I am most proud.

So in coming months, we will be having a range of conversations across our campuses about our mission and vision for the future, about how we can further improve the experience for our students and organise ourselves better to work and engage with our community partners.

We'll be thinking hard about how we make sure we provide the very best programs of study, how we best equip our people, and best organise our places. And, as we open our new City West facilities around May next year, we intend to simultaneously unveil some new thinking and exciting plans for our future.

I flag right now that we won't be having a *unijam* this time around; although we will still mine all the thoughts we have collected to this point through two rounds of whole-of-enterprise conversation. But in customary UniSA style, we very much welcome the suggestions and observations of our community and friends as we begin to shape our next frontier, our next horizon – informed by our successes to date and taking us further forward still.

Feel free to join in the coming conversations – but maybe avoid the intercom. (Han shoots it at the end of the scene).

Professor David Lloyd
Vice Chancellor and President

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**University of
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Achievements and Announcements

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AWARDS

Aboriginal educator wins prestigious London fellowship

One of Australia's most prominent Aboriginal educators, Professor Lester-Irabinna Rigney, has been awarded a prestigious fellowship through a new collaboration between UniSA and [the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies](#) at King's College London.

Professor Rigney is the inaugural recipient of the Aboriginal and Contemporary Australian Studies Fellowship (see [UniSA News May edition](#)), which he will take up at King's College (KCL) in 2018.

The partnership supports fellowships for UniSA researchers in Europe's leading centre for Australian studies. Fellowships are in the broad area of Aboriginal and Contemporary Australian Studies, and will serve to promote deeper understandings of Australian history, culture and contemporary society across the UK and Europe.

Before taking up the fellowship, Professor Rigney will fly to London this month to give the inaugural [David Unaipon Lecture](#) at KCL on Monday 18 September.

His topic, *Decolonizing Pacific Schools: Toward an Australian Culturally Responsive Pedagogy?*, will focus on poor educational outcomes for Aboriginal children and the need for new teaching methods.

"Despite Australia promising to fix the 'curriculum alienation' and teaching methods, learning outcomes for Aboriginal children have not improved since 2008," Prof Rigney says.

"The 2017 Closing the Gap report shows that Australia has failed on six out of seven key measures to bridge the gap between Indigenous children and other Australians, including child mortality, early childhood education, school attendance, employment, and students' reading and numeracy skills."

Professor Rigney's lecture will examine how culturally responsive teaching can be implemented in Australian schools with high student diversity, drawing on the experiences that students bring to school classrooms.

Postgraduate international student of the year

UniSA Master of Design (Interior Architecture) student Valérie Baya has been named 2017 Postgraduate International Student of the Year by the Council of International Students Australia (CISA).



The award recognises international students who make outstanding achievements and contributions to the international students' community.

Since arriving in Australia in 2015, Valérie has been an active member of the international student community. She was elected as an USASA International Student Representative in 2016 and is also the Pioneer of the African Society at UniSA and the African Students Council of South Australia Inc.

Valérie says she was very proud to receive the award, "as a UniSA student, person of African origin, and as a Mauritian".

"I created the African Students Council of South Australia to help facilitate better linkages between the three universities here in SA," Valérie says.

"My aim is to mentor and empower young people of African origin in South Australia and promote tertiary education as a valuable choice.

"This award shows me that my hard work, commitment, and sacrifice towards my studies and extra-curriculum activities have paid off."

Valérie says she hopes to undertake a PhD in Australia and become a lecturer in Interior Architecture, and ultimately to own her own interior architecture company.



CISA Welfare Officer of CISA 2016---2017 Prash Magandren, Valérie Baya and Navitas Corporate Affairs Officer Helen Zimmerman.

Double celebration for high achievers

Thirty high achieving domestic and international UniSA students were presented scholarships at a special awards ceremony in August.

The academic merit scholarships are awarded to new UniSA students for academic excellence in previous studies.

Seventeen domestic students were presented a [UniSA Excellence Scholarship](#) at the ceremony, which was also attended by family and friends. The \$5000 scholarships are awarded to South Australian school leavers who obtained an ATAR of 99. The majority of this year's recipients are studying health science degrees. It's the second year the scholarships have been awarded.

Provost and Chief Academic Officer Professor Allan Evans says UniSA plays a crucial role in educating and rewarding outstanding school leavers in South Australia.

"Any support we can provide to help in their studies is always greatly appreciated," Prof Evans says.

Law student Bridget Costello says she felt honoured to receive the scholarship.

"This scholarship allows me to enjoy life whilst studying," Bridget says. "I am grateful for the support I received from my family over the past few years which has allowed me to achieve my goals."

Medical Radiation Science student Jordan Sims says she wants to undertake further studies after completing her bachelor degree.

"I aim to continue on with post graduate study in medical sonography whilst beginning to work in the health industry," Jordan says.

UniSA also presented 13 international students with the inaugural [UniSA Vice Chancellor's International Excellence Scholarships](#) at the ceremony. The scholarships are awarded to international students who obtain outstanding academic results in previous studies. Recipients receive a 50 per cent reduction in their tuition fees.

This year's recipients come from India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Singapore and are studying

undergraduate degrees in Commerce, Engineering, IT, Pharmacy, Health Science, and master's degrees in Teaching and Data Science.

Commerce student Mytheli Parthiban says she was honoured and grateful.

"It has not only given me the financial support to achieve my desired career in the accounting field but it has also given me the opportunity to study in this prestigious university," Mytheli says.

"I would like to thank my parents as well as my brothers for motivating me and helping me to obtain this scholarship.

"I would also like to thank UniSA for giving their support and for encouraging international students like me through such scholarships."

Prof Evans says UniSA values the significant contribution international students make to the University.

"These students are primed to make a positive impact on the global economy," he says.



Recipients of the UniSA Vice Chancellor's International Excellence Scholarships. Photo: Cath Leo



Recipients of the UniSA Excellence Scholarships. Photo: Cath Leo

Image of burping baby wins People's Choice award

An image of an eight-week-old baby being burped has won the People's Choice category in UniSA's 2017 Images of Research photography competition.

The photo was taken by midwifery student Jessica Begley. Her image, *Burp baby, burp*, features Noah, who was bottle fed. His mother tried breastfeeding but found she was uncertain that he was receiving enough milk. She discovered that he (and she) settled better with a bottle.

Her image is about the influence of diet and nutrition on the health and wellbeing of mothers and babies.

You can see works by the 16 finalists on the [Images of Research photograph competition page](#).



Burp baby, burp by midwifery student Jessica Begley, won the People's Choice Award in the 2017 Images of Research photography competition.

UniSA's *Enterprise* magazine recently spoke to a range of UniSA experts to help people [sort through parenting advice](#).

Lorimer Moseley receives fellowship from college of anaesthetists

Professor of Clinical Neurosciences and Chair in Physiotherapy Lorimer Moseley has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the Faculty of Pain Medicine.

The award was presented by the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) at a ceremony in Brisbane and is in recognition of his contribution to the field of pain science and management.

Prof Moseley was the second allied health professional, and the first physiotherapist, to receive the recognition.



Carol Maher recognised for research excellence

Associate Professor Carol Maher has received the 2017 Healthy Development Adelaide Women's Excellence in Research Award.

The award is awarded to [Healthy Development Adelaide](#) mid-career women members for excellence of research achievement by women working in the field of developmental health.

Assoc Prof Maher works in the [Alliance for Research in Exercise, Nutrition and Activity \(ARENA\)](#) and gave a guest lecture about children's health, activities and lifestyles around the world when she received the award.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

UniSA forges closer ties with Singapore's National Institute of Education

UniSA's School of Education has signed a memorandum of understanding with Singapore's internationally renowned [National Institute of Education \(NIE\), Singapore](#) to develop stronger collaborations in research, academic and student exchanges and professional symposia, based on innovation and best practice.

The agreement was signed at the National Institute of Education, Singapore in August.

An autonomous institute of [Nanyang Technological University](#), NIE has a reputation for excellence and for global collaborations.

Program Director for UniSA's Master of Education, Dr David Caldwell, says the new agreement will help to spearhead research into teacher education, drawing on insights from both institutions and offer more opportunities for pre-service teachers to experience teaching in an international context.

"We're delighted with this new collaboration and look forward to all the opportunities it would present for both students and staff," he says.

"It ties in wonderfully well with the Australian curriculum's focus on Asia as a cross-curriculum priority.

"And it exposes our staff and students to some of the world's best practice in terms of numeracy and literacy teaching and learning."

UniSA tops the state with graduates finding work the fastest

UniSA graduates find work the fastest in the State, according to the 2018 Good Universities Guide.

The guide found 72.1 per cent of UniSA students find full time work within four months of graduating – significantly higher than other South Australian universities.

The [Good Universities Guide](#) also awarded UniSA five-star ratings for social equity, student demand, learning resources and skill development.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says having industry partners and being up to date with the latest industry practice is important in helping graduates secure



The Advertiser, 29 August 2017.

work.

“As Australia’s University of Enterprise, UniSA is deeply engaged in a broad range of partnerships with industry and businesses and that means our students make great connections with industry through mentorships, industry placements, master classes, and special projects,” Prof Lloyd says.

“We strive to equip our graduates, not only with the knowledge, but also with the qualities to take on successful careers and work really hard to ensure our curriculum is relevant, contemporary and based on excellence – tailored to providing our students with the skills they and their employers want.

“Our teaching is always informed by the latest industry practice and we make an effort to continue to measure what we teach against what is expected in industry.”

UniSA MBA makes top 10 for tenth year

UniSA’s Master of Business Administration (MBA) has been ranked in the top 10 MBAs in Australia for the tenth consecutive year.

UniSA Executive Director for MBA and Executive Education Peter Stevens says it’s a great achievement to be ranked number seven in Australia in 2017 in the Australian Financial Review’s BOSS MBA Rankings.

“Our MBA has been consistently ranked in the top 10 for student satisfaction, graduate satisfaction and value for money,” Stevens says.

The success follows the 5-star rating of the UniSA MBA for the ninth consecutive year by the Graduate Management Association of Australia (GMAA), one of the nation’s most rigorous and highly-regarded MBA ranking schemes. UniSA’s MBA program is one of just two in Australia to reach such a milestone.

“Additionally UniSA’s Business School has been confirmed as being in the top 1 per cent of Business Schools with EQUIS accreditation, maintaining our place as a leading global business school,” Stevens says.

UniSA has been awarded a five-star rating in QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) Stars for program strength in the MBA. For more information on the MBA visit the [website](#).

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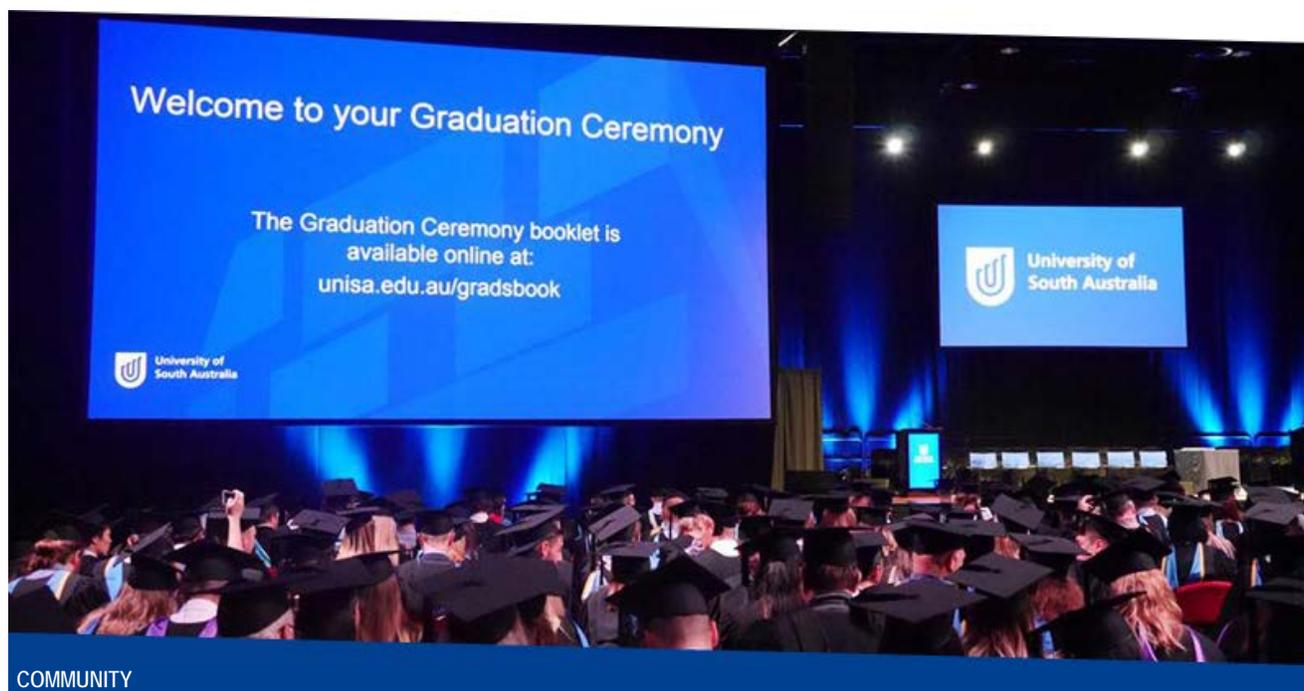
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Graduates start new chapters in their lives

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by Georgia Aish



COMMUNITY

The culmination of hours of study, assignments and exams for more than 1050 students was celebrated in August at UniSA mid-year graduation ceremonies.

Two ceremonies were held at the Adelaide Convention Centre where family and friends watched loved ones graduate and celebrated their hard work.

Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd told graduands they were part of the one-third of the population who has been given the gift of education that comes with an obligation to make the world a better place.

“You are about to enter the world with fascinating challenges and great career opportunities,” Prof Lloyd said.

“You have been taught how to be ready for tomorrow ... and how to learn and keep learning.

“I ask that you keep that flame burning and soak up as much learning as you can, now and for the rest of your lives.”

See the photos from graduations on [UniSA's alumni network](#)

Eight honorary awards were presented at the ceremonies, recognising exceptional achievement and acknowledging significant and eminent contributions to scholarship, professional practice and service to the University and its community.

The 2017 mid-year recipients were:

[Kevin O'Loughlin](#)

[Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC](#)

[John Mansfield AM](#)

[Emeritus Professor David Corkindale](#)

[Emeritus Professor Kerin O'Dea AO](#)

[Emeritus Professor Roger Harris](#)

[Emeritus Professor Claire Woods](#)

[Ruth Blenkiron](#)

[Kevin O'Loughlin OAM](#)

Highly respected Narungga-Kaurna elder, Kevin O'Loughlin OAM, was acknowledged for his contribution to Aboriginal education over 50 years, with an Honorary Doctorate.

Educator, storyteller and cultural consultant – affectionately known to many as Uncle Dookie – O'Loughlin has been a champion for cultural understanding and the value of Aboriginal knowledges.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd said the University was proud to recognise the outstanding achievements of an Aboriginal leader who has given so much to students, staff and the community.

"Kevin is well-known and loved for his generosity in teaching of Aboriginal culture to students and staff in our Divisions of Information Technology, Environment and Engineering; and Business," Prof Lloyd said.



[Sir Angus Houston AK, AFC](#)

One of Australia's most distinguished military officers, retired Air Chief Marshall [Sir Angus Houston](#) AK, AFC, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from UniSA for outstanding service to the community.

The former head of Australia's defence force oversaw military operations in East Timor, Iraq and Afghanistan before retiring in 2011 and going on to lead Australia's efforts to respond to two aviation disasters involving Malaysia Airlines in 2014.

UniSA Vice Chancellor [Professor David Lloyd](#) said Sir Angus's celebrated military career and his unstinting service to Australia was an inspiration to all.

"Sir Angus's service to his country has been exceptional, across so many different fields. Not only has he served the military with distinction – his leadership skills have proved invaluable in so many other areas," Prof Lloyd said.



[John Mansfield AM](#)

One of Australia's most respected judges and an expert in Native Title, the Honourable John Mansfield AM, was recognised for his commitment and service to the law, judiciary and wider community.

Sworn in as a Justice of the Federal Court of Australia in September 1996, Mansfield served for nearly 20 years on the bench before retiring in August last year.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd said the Honorary Doctorate acknowledged not only Mansfield's enduring commitment to the University but also his significant contribution to legal education and to building stronger societies.

"John's leadership and service to the law has been exceptional, both at UniSA and across local and international communities," Prof Lloyd said.



[Emeritus Professor David Corkindale](#)

Emeritus Professor [David Corkindale](#) has been a leader in marketing and management at UniSA and a senior marketing scientist with its Ehrenberg-Bass Institute for Marketing Science.

During his career at UniSA, Prof Corkindale has held a number of roles including leading the marketing discipline, which culminated in the foundation of the School of Marketing and the Ehrenberg-Bass Institute for Marketing Science, now considered an international authority on marketing by many of the world's biggest brands.

He was part of the team that gained one of the first research grants to develop programs in marketing and exporting for small and midsized wineries – the seed of



what was to become UniSA's global research leadership in wine marketing.

Emeritus Professor Kerin O'Dea AO

Emeritus Professor Kerin O'Dea, AO, was recognised for her work in health research.

Former Director of the University's Sansom Institute for Health Research, and now Professor of Nutrition and Population Health at UniSA's Centre for Population Health Research, Prof O'Dea has made major contributions to understanding the relationship between diet and chronic diseases, particularly Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

She has spent many years researching diet and chronic disease in Indigenous Australians, and undertook novel research on the health impacts of traditional diet and lifestyle on Aboriginal people – discovering beneficial health impacts.

She has also been a strong advocate of the health benefits of following a Mediterranean diet, has warned of the risks of high sugar convenience foods and drinks, and worked actively as a Board member of Outback Stores to develop a better economic model for healthy food supply to remote Aboriginal communities.



Emeritus Professor Roger Harris

An international leader in adult and vocational education research and now an adjunct professor at UniSA, Emeritus Professor Roger Harris is co-leader of the Leadership, Teaching and Learning Research Group, one of the research clusters within the Centre for Research in Education, as well as being a member of the Professorial Group in the School of Education.

He was also director of the national consortium on vocational education and training research.

Prof Harris edited the Australian Journal of Adult Learning for almost 23 years, bringing the journal to international recognition and rating.

His 42-year career at UniSA in vocational teacher education and research focused on training reform, workplace learning and professional development.

In 2008 his work was recognised with the inaugural award – VET Researcher of the Year – at the Australian Training Awards.



Emeritus Professor Claire Woods

Retired Professor of Writing and Communication, Director of International programs in the School of Communication, International Studies and Languages, and Director of the Narratives of War Research group, Emeritus Professor Claire Woods led a teaching team to develop the successful BA (Professional Writing and Communication).

She was awarded the national award for University Teacher of the Year in Arts and Humanities and the Prime Minister's Award for University Teacher of the Year in 2000.

Emeritus Professor Woods established UniSA's Narratives of War Research Group examining stories of war through interdisciplinary focus through literature, writing, film, theatre and music.



Ruth Blenkiron

Recently retired Executive Director of Human Resources Ruth Blenkiron, was acknowledged for her service to UniSA by being made a Fellow of the University.

One of her notable achievements was to lead the establishment of a centralised recruitment service as the foundation for the creation of a culture of excellence at UniSA.

By building a whole-of-institution notion of preferred staff attributes – she worked tirelessly to progress the development of a culture of enterprise at UniSA.



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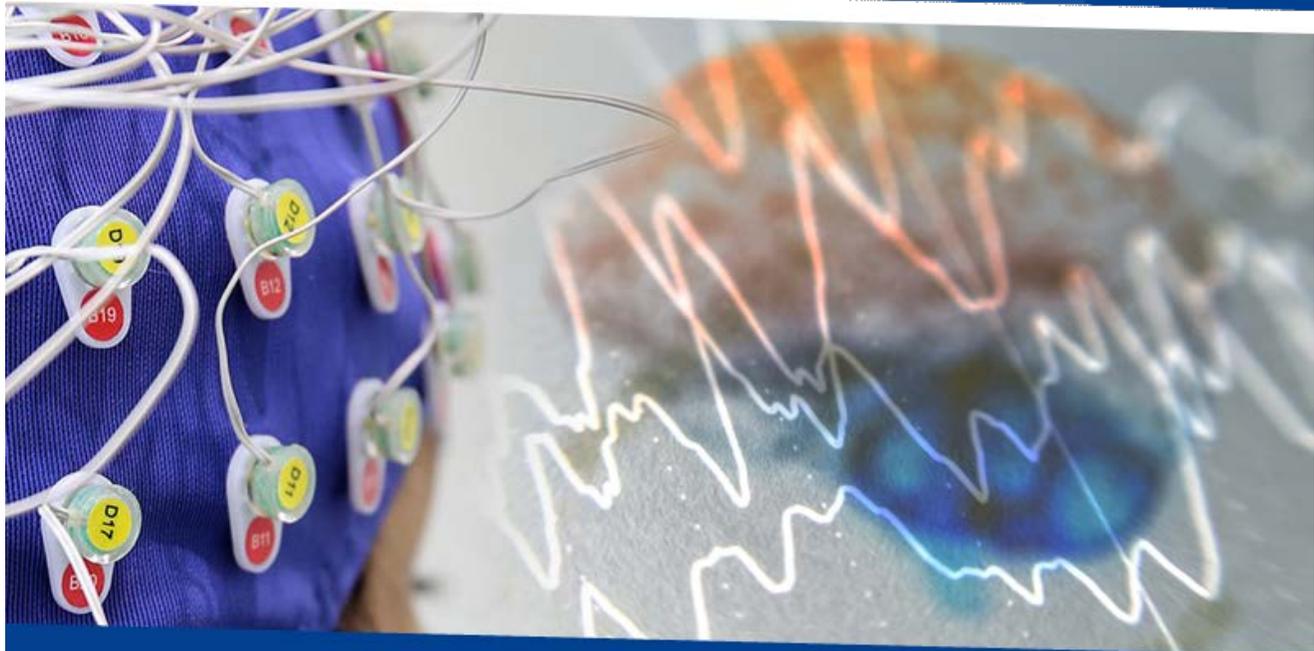
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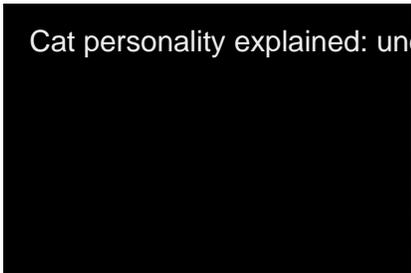
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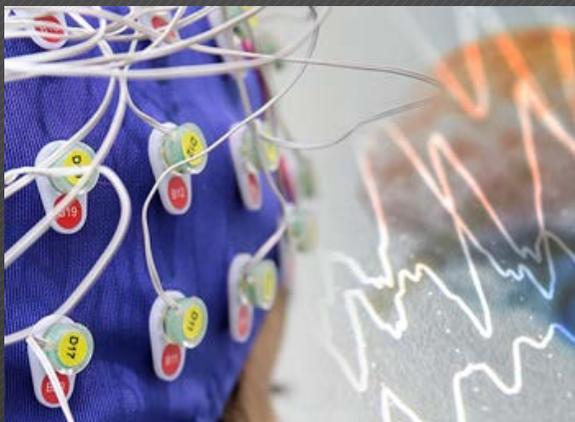
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By Siobhan Banks, Associate Professor, University of South Australia



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Neuroscientists' work offers hope for people living with dementia

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by Candy Gibson

Dementia and heart surgery: how are they linked?

> [The numbers show dementia is a growing problem](#)

Two UniSA researchers are hopeful of major breakthroughs in preventing and treating dementia, the second leading cause of death in Australia.

Cognitive neuroscientists Dr Hannah Keage and Dr Tobias Loetscher have been collectively awarded \$1.4 million by the Federal Government as part of plans to urgently scale up dementia research.

Dr Keage and Dr Loetscher will use their [NHMRC Fellowship](#) funds to investigate the link between visual impairments and dementia, and strategies to help those at higher risk of developing dementia because of cardiovascular disease.

Over the next four years the researchers – who are based in UniSA's Cognitive Ageing and Impairment Neurosciences ([CAIN](#)) Lab at the Magill campus – will undertake a number of studies to tackle several issues related to dementia. Dementia is the single greatest cause of disability in Australians aged 65 years or older.

Helping those at higher risk because of cardiovascular disease



Dr Hannah Keage wearing an EC cap to measure brain activity (used to predict delirium risk in older people) and Dr Tobias Loetscher wearing tracking glasses (used to see how people with dementia focus on certain subjects).

Dr Keage's \$718,000 project will look at the cognitive impacts of heart surgeries in older adults, with approximately 10,000 people over the age of 65 undergoing such operations in Australia each year. These individuals are typically vulnerable to developing dementia due to long histories of cardiovascular disease.

"Older adults with cardiovascular disease and associated conditions such as Type 2 diabetes, obesity and hypertension are at risk of dementia," Dr Keage says. "They are also at risk of needing heart surgery, which is an additive risk factor for cognitive decline, and we can look at intervention strategies to help arrest that after surgery.

"We are going to undertake experiments in Adelaide hospitals to increase older patients' cognitive function after cardiovascular surgery and also try to develop tools where we can identify people at a higher risk of delirium, which often accelerates dementia onset," Dr Keage says.

There are preventative strategies for delirium but they are expensive and if the researchers can identify those at higher risk, these strategies can be targeted to treat the more vulnerable patients.

Exploring the link between visual impairments and dementia

Dr Loetscher will use his \$712,000 NHMRC grant to understand the visual problems that people with dementia experience, so that changes can be made to their environment.

"More than half of people diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease are affected by visual impairments, particularly perceiving contrasts, depth and also motion," Dr Loetscher says.

"These visual problems may appear before signs of memory loss, so part of my research will involve recruiting older people and assessing their eye movements and cognitive function over a period of a few years to see if certain visual abnormalities predict the development and progression of cognitive impairments."

The researcher will also work with [Helping Hand](#), one of South Australia's largest aged care providers, to investigate what changes can be made to environments to make life easier for people living with dementia.

"Simple things like ensuring there are clear contrasts between the colours of walls and doors so they can find their way around, and also making sure that dinner plates are contrasted with table cloths," he says.

"People with dementia often don't drink or eat enough. It may not always be because they forget or aren't hungry, but simply because they can't see their food clearly if there are not distinct contrasts on a dining table."

Dr Loetscher's findings will not only help inform the design of aged care homes, but also to adapt the individual homes of people living with dementia.

The two researchers are keen to recruit masters and PhD students in the [School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy](#) to help work on the projects. Email [Hannah](#) or [Tobias](#) for more information.

The numbers show dementia is a growing problem

More than 410,000 Australians are living with dementia, with the number expected to grow to more than half a million by 2025, according to [Alzheimer's Australia](#).

Dementia is the second leading cause of death in Australia after heart disease, contributing to 10.6 per cent of deaths in women and 5.4 per cent of deaths among men.

Projections suggest that by 2025 about 255,800 dementia carers will be needed in Australia.

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Cat personality explained: understanding the Feline Five

New study grants available to help regional online students

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by Michèle Nardelli



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UniSA is offering up to \$500,000 in study grants to students from regional and remote communities, as part of the launch of 11 new 100 per cent online degrees.

[UniSA Online](#) is a suite of 11 new career-focused degrees – in business, health, construction, information technology, psychology and sociology and communications and media – which have all been designed specifically for the online environment.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says one of the distinct advantages of online study has always been that it is flexible and accessible, even to those isolated by distance or economic disadvantage.

“However, for some people, affording the extra technology or other equipment or Internet access that they might need to get their study underway, is not always possible,” Prof Lloyd says.

“With that in mind, we are making \$1000 study grants available to rural and remote students and those with economic barriers to education who enrol in one of our online programs.”

Commencing in 2018, up to 500 [UniSA Online Study Grants](#) will be available to students across Australia who live in rural or remote areas or are financially disadvantaged. To be eligible for the grants students must be enrolled with UniSA Online and studying at least two subjects of a bachelor’s degree in their first study period.

Each of UniSA Online’s new bachelor degree programs is designed specifically for online education accompanied by unrivalled dedicated student support. Tutors and student advisors will be available seven days a week for extended hours, plus a 24/7 IT support service.

Director of UniSA’s Teaching Innovation Unit and founding executive member of the Society for Learning Analytics Research, Professor Shane Dawson, says personalisation in online learning has come of age.

“There are a number of new tools that are improving the online learning experience,” Prof Dawson says.

“At the heart of our innovation are technologies that allow us to give students personalised support to be successful.

“These are the kinds of innovations that we are adapting for UniSA Online, along with technologies that allow students to interact with video presentations, discuss learning and ideas with fellow students all around Australia, as well as accessing online tutors and student advisers all in real time across any device.

“Most importantly, we have developed each and every one of these degrees specifically for online learning – at every point, considering how we can teach the subject to the highest standards in that environment, while maintaining a focus on developing the skills employers are looking for today.”

For more information visit the [UniSA Online website](#) or the [study grants page](#).

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Three minute talk on wound healing for diabetics takes top place

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by Candy Gibson

Three Minute Thesis winner Hannah Thomas

Watch Hannah Thomas's award-winning three-minute presentation.

A novel approach to tackle the complications of diabetes – the biggest health challenge confronting Australia – has won UniSA student Hannah Thomas this year's Three Minute Thesis competition.

The competition requires participants to condense an 80,000 word thesis into just three minutes, with a single PowerPoint slide, in a bid to showcase their research to a non-specialist audience.

PhD candidate Hannah Thomas, from the [School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences](#), took out the overall prize as well as the People's Choice award on 24 August, pitching her research which focuses on key cells in the healing process of diabetic wounds.

An estimated 1.7 million Australians have diabetes, and that number is increasing by around 100,000 each year due to a combination of factors, costing the country an estimated \$14.6 billion annually.

Hannah's presentation focused on the crucial role that vascular muscle cells known as [pericytes](#) play in diabetic wound healing.

“Every three minutes, nine diabetics will lose a limb due to complications with wounds on their legs and feet,” Hannah told the audience.

“There appears to be a link between the absence of a key cell type – pericytes – and the failure of diabetic wounds to heal.

“Under normal, healthy circumstances these cells help to build blood vessels and to regulate the body’s inflammatory responses to combat infection. In diabetics, pericytes are missing and both of these processes are compromised – damaged blood vessels can’t be rebuilt and the inflammatory response is heightened and prolonged.”

Hannah is working on therapies to help restore these pericytes in diabetics so that wounds heal a lot faster. Hannah will now go on to compete in the [Asia-Pacific 3MT Grand Final](#) hosted by the University of Queensland on 29 September.

“Preparing for the 3MT has been an eye opening and rewarding experience for me,” Hannah said after her win.

“It is becoming increasingly important for us as researchers to be able to clearly and accurately articulate our research not only to other researchers, but also to a broader audience which has the potential to include industry, collaborators and, most importantly, members of the public who may be directly impacted by the results of our work.”

“This competition has also provided me with the opportunity to tackle head-on – in a supportive and topical environment – some of the public speaking nerves and difficulties I have always experienced, fostering a skill set that I know will prove invaluable in a research career.”

Second prize went to Alex Wade from the [School of Health Sciences](#), who discussed her research on the link between a Mediterranean diet and a lower risk of dementia. Charlotte Gupta, a PhD candidate in the [School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy](#), took out third prize for her presentation explaining why a midnight snack helps night workers stay alert, improving their concentration levels.

The five other finalists were:

- Xi Yu (School of Commerce): The Good, The Bad and The Ugly Academics;
- Victoria Fielding (School of Communication, International Studies and Language): Political Narratives: competing for media attention in an industrial dispute;
- Roya Rudd (School of Engineering): Tiny particles pack an optical punch;
- Ava Huang (School of Marketing): Understanding how online distribution impacts luxury brands;
- Farzana Kastury (School of Natural and Built Environments): Lead lock in.



Dean of Graduate Studies Professor Pat Buckley paid tribute to all eight finalists, congratulating them on the quality of their research and their outstanding presentations.

“Distilling years of research into just three minutes is a very difficult task but communicating this research to an audience beyond the academic world is essential,” she says. “That’s why this competition is so valuable for students. It builds important career skills and can lead to some exciting opportunities for research collaborations. The benefits last well beyond the competition.”

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Research deal with Malaysia to underpin smarter, cleaner, greener automotive industry

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by Michèle Nardelli



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Professor Peter Murphy holding a sample thin film plastic coating – work that will be built on through the new Automotive Innovation Centre.

UniSA will become home to a new automotive innovation centre that will develop lightweight, heat reflecting, coatings for windows on electric vehicles and buses, as part of a new \$5 million international agreement.

The University has signed a five-year, \$5 million collaboration agreement with the [Malaysian Automotive Institute \(MAI\)](#) to establish an Automotive Innovation Centre (AIC) dedicated to developing both technological and sociological innovations in the automotive sector that promote sustainability.

Announcing the partnership, UniSA Deputy Vice Chancellor: Research, Professor Tanya Monro says the new institute will be headquartered at UniSA's [Future Industries Institute \(FII\)](#) and will support research into mobility with a broad focus - encompassing new technologies and social sciences.

One of the first projects researchers will be working on is the development of lightweight, heat reflecting, coatings for windows on electric vehicles and buses.

David Klingberg Chair in Advanced Manufacturing at UniSA's FII, Prof Peter Murphy, says the project goal is to deliver a heat reflecting plastic window that is 50 per cent lighter than glass, but still retains the durability and performance characteristics of glass.



Professors Tanya Monro and Peter Murphy sign an agreement with the Malaysian Automotive Institute for research collaboration.

“The heat-reflecting coatings we are developing allow lighter-weight window options than traditional glass at the same time as reducing heat load into the interior of the vehicle,” Prof Murphy says.

“The knock-on effects of this one innovation will be to improve the efficiency of the air-conditioning system (it will not need to run as much) and in the case of an electric vehicle, this will correspondingly enhance battery life and hence the range of the vehicle.

“This partnership with MAI is an exciting development for us and will see us engage research expertise across UniSA to deliver innovative solutions that will drive the development of the vehicles of tomorrow.

“Our work will be informed by the Malaysian automotive sector to understand their future technological needs and aspirations.”

Prof Monro says the partnership with MAI will tackle cross-disciplinary research problems that have the capacity to deliver disruptive innovation to advance the development of the next generation of electric and autonomous vehicles.

“These breakthrough manufacturing technologies have huge potential for the global automotive industry but recognising that in applying research to problems in the real world, we uncover complexities that go beyond a single field of expertise,” she says.

“Our research projects will straddle the physical and social sciences, with a particular emphasis on a clean, green automotive future around electric and autonomous vehicles.”

The collaboration builds on strong links with MAI through the work UniSA has been contributing as part of the [Automotive Australia 2020 Cooperative Research Centre](#) and the University’s innovations in thin film plastic coatings for the automotive industry.

“We are excited to be moving to deepen our collaboration and consolidate some of the plans we made when we signed an MOU to collaborate with MAI in 2016,” Prof Monro says.

“While our own automotive industry is on the verge of permanent closure, in other countries it is growing from strength to strength.”

MAI Chief Executive Officer Madani Sahari says the partnership with UniSA will work on \$1 million worth of projects each year for the next five years.

“This will be an invaluable partnership between UniSA and MAI and we look forward not only to direct implementation and commercialisation of current technologies, but also this platform will be used to conduct further research into new technologies,” Sahari says.

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Aboriginal graduates on path to new careers

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by Katrina Phelps

Southern Cross News SA - Monday September 4

The graduation in Port Lincoln was featured on Southern Cross TV news.

Five Aboriginal students from regional South Australia are on the road to a university degree after becoming the first people to successfully complete UniSA's [Indigenous Participation Pathway](#) program.

Completion ceremonies were held in Mount Gambier and Port Lincoln over the past month to celebrate their achievement.

The five graduating students began the 18-month program in 2016, which is modelled on UniSA's [Foundation Studies](#) and can lead to entry into a UniSA degree (grade point average dependent).

For Mount Gambier graduating students Laura Long and Janeth Andrews, the completion of the course is a step towards a new career. Both Laura and Janeth have been accepted into a [Bachelor of Social Science Program](#) next year.



Graduates (centre) Kashay Mahomed, Veda Betts and Delise Sampson with lecturer Dr Paul Oldham (left) and program director Tanya Weiler (right).

"I'll be the first in my family to study at university," Laura says. "I undertook this program to challenge myself, to make a change and to allow the next generation to believe that no dream is too big. The only limit is your imagination."

Laura aims to become a social worker in her

community as does Janeth who wants to focus on working with Aboriginal children.

In Port Lincoln, graduates Kashay Mahomed, Veda Betts and Delise Sampson also intend to complete further study at UniSA.

Veda Betts, a respected elder in the Port Lincoln community, has been a strong role model for her peers. She hopes to share her knowledge and continue on her learning journey by undertaking a [Bachelor of Arts Program \(Aboriginal Studies and Australian Culture\)](#).

“Learning is endless and there are no limits,” she said.

“Every day I discover new things and I believe that everyone can achieve their dreams.”

Veda has been achieving her dreams alongside her granddaughter, Delise Sampson, who hopes to become a psychologist in Port Lincoln.

During her speech at the completion ceremony, Delise said that studying has opened her eyes.

“The course hasn’t just helped me with my studies, but has changed the way I see the world,” she said.

Fellow Port Lincoln graduate Kashay Mahomed is a proud Adnyamathanha woman from the Flinders Ranges and is the youngest to complete the course at 21-years-old.

She has already begun a [Bachelor of Business Program](#) and hopes to combine her passion for business and visual arts to forge a career in visual arts administration, leadership and management; as well as providing motivation for others.

“Using my own experience in the program, I’d like to influence others to go on to further their education and attend university one day so they can find out how great it really is,” Kashay says.

The graduating students have undertaken nine courses over the past year-and-a-half, learning to develop academic and digital literacy skills, research and communication, as well as numeracy and discipline-specific knowledge.

While many of the courses in the Indigenous Participation Pathway program (which is being renamed the Aboriginal Pathways Program) are also offered in the Foundation Studies Program, three have been developed specifically for the program; Aboriginal Knowledges, Learning and Culture; Land Management; and Building Academic Success.

Students work in a mixed delivery of intensive all-day classes and weekly tutorials.

The program is offered in Port Lincoln and Mount Gambier as well as Whyalla and Ceduna, with the next intake in early 2018.

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Latest content revision: Wednesday, 13 September 2017



**University of
South Australia**

Passion for plants cultivates top honour for enviro science graduate

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by Katrina Phelps



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

For environmental science graduate Michael Dyer – a self-confessed “plant nerd” – following his passion for plants has led to overseas opportunities and won him one of UniSA’s highest honours – the UniSA Honours Medal.

The honours graduate from the School of Natural and Built Environments, who received the medal for his outstanding honours thesis, says he “just worked hard and challenged myself to do the very best I could in every piece of work”.

“I was proud to be awarded the [UniSA Honours Medal](#). I felt like being a recipient of the medal shows how important environmental science at UniSA really is,” Dyer says.

Dyer collected data for his honours project in Fiji after taking up a [New Colombo Plan Scholarship](#). In Fiji he researched an invasive palm tree – *Pinanga coronata* – which is threatening Fiji’s rare and unique biodiversity.

The palm was the focus of his award-winning honours thesis: “The distribution of the invasive palm *Pinanga coronata* and its effects on native tree ferns in the Colo-i-Suva area, Viti Levu, Fiji”.

Dyer spent several months in Fiji. His research provided the first set of results in an ongoing project between leading scientists from universities in Fiji, Australia, the Caribbean and Europe.

Research helps protect pristine habitat against invasive palm

“The topic is important to me because I am interested in plant conservation around the world and Fiji has a very unique flora biota, however invasive species in the Pacific Islands is the second leading cause of species extinctions,” Dyer says.

“I am certain that the palm is threatening rainforest biodiversity but there is still a chance to control it.

“I have also made many great discoveries about some of the rarest plants in the Pacific region.

“This study highlights the importance of planting native species and restricting the transportation of potentially invasive species around the world.

“It also shows how invasive species threatens some of the most pristine and beautiful habitats around the world, including Australia, and there should be a greater emphasis on protecting them.”

The results of this work are now in the process of being published in several journals, as well as being used by the Fijian Government to address the invasion of the palm.

After Fiji, Dyer undertook work at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in Samoa, and is now in Indonesia until the end of the year on an internship focused on forest surveys and protection in Northern Sumatra.

“The greatest thing about interning is improving your skills but for me it’s also been about working with so many international colleagues to address global issues,” Dyer says.



“A highlight was hiking through Fiji’s lowland rainforest with a small team – day and night – to help bat conservation. I would suggest other students take any opportunities they can.

“Internships are great because they are flexible – sometimes short – you get to experience many different things and learn many skills.

“Not in my wildest dreams did I ever think about establishing a framework for Marine Spatial Planning in the Pacific – which I did during my work at SPREP in Samoa – especially considering I am just a plant ecologist.

“Internships also allow you to network and they open many more doors abroad and at home.

“Students should take any opportunity to challenge themselves and should try to experience as much as possible, in their local community and abroad.

“With access to great education, we should be inspired to learn as much as possible and contribute our knowledge to shape the world for the better, on every scale.”

His thesis was a cross-institutional arrangement with the [University of the South Pacific](http://www.unisa.edu.au), supported by the New Colombo Plan Scholarship.

Honours thesis supervisor Dr Gunnar Keppel says Dyer is a great example of what can be achieved in environmental science.

“It was a pleasure assisting Michael to achieve his goals and dreams, and his counterparts at the University of the South Pacific are raving about his accomplishments,” Dr Keppel says.

“Michael’s story shows that students have amazing opportunities in environmental science at UniSA and that, with dedication and perseverance, they can excel.”

Dyer plans to return to Australia at the end of the year to undertake a PhD studying changes in plant distributions and ecosystem change in response to climate change and human migration.

“My work and study is inspired by the beauty and complexity of nature,” Dyer says.

“Understanding and obtaining knowledge about the complexities of nature is the most rewarding experience.”

The UniSA Honours Medal is awarded annually to graduands in each division for outstanding academic merit throughout all years of an honours degree program.

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Pratchett Scholarship recipient to explore online “small gods”

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by Georgia Aish



COMMUNITY

A UniSA graduate will use a \$100,000 scholarship started in memory of Sir Terry Pratchett to examine people’s behaviour in online environments, using concepts from some of the author’s critically acclaimed novels.

Freyja Stokes, a long-time fan of Sir Terry Pratchett’s books, has been awarded the [Sir Terry Pratchett Perpetual Scholarship](#).

“What brought me to UniSA is predominantly my love for Sir Terry’s work,” Stokes says.

“I recall this program (the scholarship) being announced and I was interested but not sure about throwing my hat in the ring. It’s really exciting that a university would have an opportunity like this – something that openly celebrates how important literature and the arts are to our lives as a whole.”

The Sir Terry Pratchett Perpetual Scholarship began in 2015 and is awarded by UniSA every two years to support a student to undertake a masters by research at the [Hawke Research Institute](#), covering stipend, travel and accommodation expenses as well as research costs.

Stokes is the second recipient and will use Pratchett’s concept of small gods – brought to prominence in his 1992 book of the same name – as a “tool or lens” to unpack and examine certain kinds of online group identities and behaviour.

Stokes says Pratchett was a massive part of her childhood and conducting research informed by his work was a great thrill.

|

"I used to raid my dad's bookshelves and many of Pratchett's books would migrate to my room," Stokes says.

"I grew up surrounded by his *Discworld* stories and it's amazing that other people think my idea, flowing from Sir Terry's small gods, is interesting enough to offer me this research scholarship opportunity.

"Small gods basically feed on human belief and shape themselves around the wants, assumptions and personalities of the people who believe in them.

"They create a sort of reflection of their followers, but are also separate entities of their own, and are focused on maintaining their own power and visibility."

She says at their most powerful, the small gods in Pratchett's works can warp or shape a person's language, perception of events or others, and, if their power base is challenged, elicit extremely strong reactions.

"These dynamics are really apparent in today's online environment," Stokes says.

"All of this is very human behaviour and these kinds of group identities are increasingly powerful. They make news headlines, inspire people to act or react in the real world and often feed into serious social conflict.

"I am hoping that using this perspective to try to improve our understanding of these kinds of small gods, we might be able to offer more constructive methods to engage with these groups and better understand the effects they can have on people."

Stokes completed a Bachelor of Arts (English and Psychology) followed by a Graduate Diploma in Education, allowing her to teach in non-English speaking classrooms in both Japan and Vietnam.

The Sir Terry Pratchett Perpetual Scholarship fund, from which a scholarship is awarded every two years, was bequeathed to the University of South Australia in accordance with the author's wishes.

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New Book

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Indigenous Peoples as Subjects of International Law

Aboriginal people have a long history with Australia and the land, and although several appeals for recognition have been attempted, Aboriginal laws have been disregarded since the establishment of the colonial governments from 1788 onwards.

Indigenous Peoples as Subjects of International Law, edited by UniSA Pro Vice Chancellor for Aboriginal Leadership and Strategy, and Professor of Law, Irene Watson, asks how interational law could be reconstructed and therefore liberated from its colonial origins.

The book presents legal theory and discusses international law, politics, philosophy and Indigenous history in relation to global justice.

Prof Watson says the book goes further than discussing Aboriginal people's rights alone.

"Indigenous people were not given any degree of legal recognition until the late 20th century," she says.

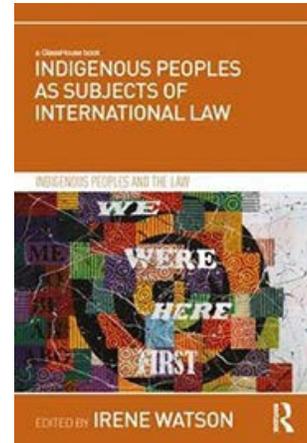
"This publication looks at how Indigenous people have experienced law – from a hugely oppressive system to self-governance.

"It looks at the experience of Aboriginal people and how their relationship with the justice system has evolved and changed."

This book is available to purchase [online](#).

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Hundreds of people visited UniSA's Magill campus in August for Magill @ Twilight. Prospective students and their families toured the facilities, learnt about the courses on offer and participated in a range of activities and sessions.





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Thousands of people visited UniSA's metropolitan City East and City West campuses on Sunday 20 August for Open Day. There were more than 80 presentations, 50 information booths and a range of interactive activities and tours to help visitors make informed decisions about their futures.









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Fax +61 8 8302 2466

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Mail: GPO Box 2471, Adelaide SA 5001

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Magill - Campus Central

Level 1 Building B

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Magill SA 5072

Ph: 1300 301 703

Fax: (08) 8302 4090

Email: campuscentral.magill@unisa.edu.au

Mawson Lakes - Campus Central

Ground Floor - C Building

Mawson Lakes Boulevard

Mawson Lakes SA 5095

Ph: 1300 301 703

Fax: (08) 8302 3550

Email: campuscentral.mawsonlakes@unisa.edu.au

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Navigation

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

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

Accessibility

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

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

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[Site help](#) | [Open Day](#) | [UniSA Events Calendar](#) | [Read this page](#)
Latest content revision: Thursday, 16 July 2009



Welcome to Open Day

UniSA's metropolitan Open Day was held on Sunday 20 August at our City West and City East campuses. The day featured over 80 presentations and 50 information booths and a range of interactive activities and tours to help thousands of visitors make informed decisions about their future careers.

If you have further questions regarding studying at UniSA contact our Future Student Enquires Team on 8302 2376 or [Make an Enquiry](#).

UniSA's Open August Event Series

Missed Open Day or want to visit your future home campus? Attend one of our Open August events to ask questions, get a feel for what it's like being a UniSA student and find out more about course selection, pathways and careers.

Visit unisa.edu.au/openaugust for more information and to sign up to attend.

- 27 August: [Whyalla Open Day](#)
- 30 August: [Magill @ Twilight](#)
- 31 August: [Discover Mawson](#)

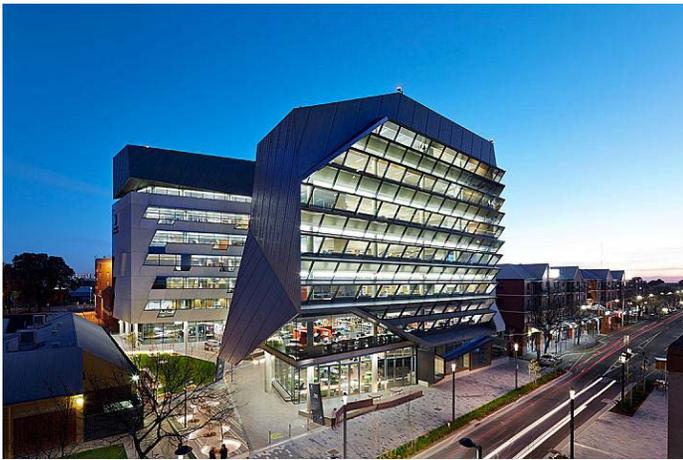
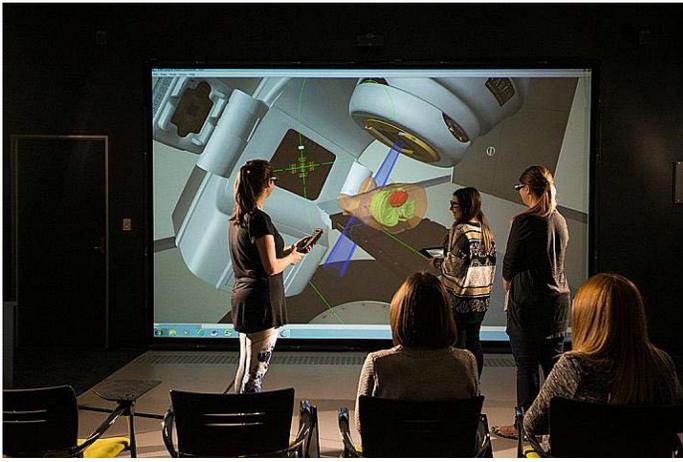
UniSA Open Day 2017

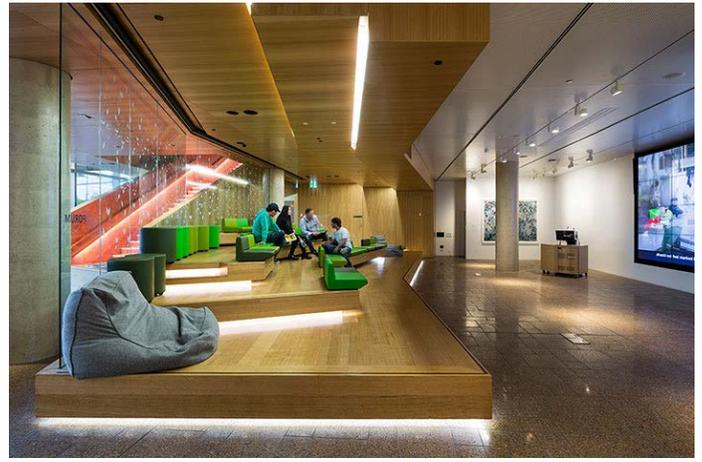
Application information

[Watch our How to Apply video](#)

Gallery of our campuses and facilities







Open August

Open Day is part of Open August, a series of events giving prospective students and parents a range of opportunities to visit our campuses, explore facilities, and ask questions.

[View all events](#)

STUDY WITH THE BEST.
Apply now to study at SA's No.1 University for graduate careers*.

*QILT: Graduate Destinations Survey 2014-2016 Full-Time Employment Indicator.

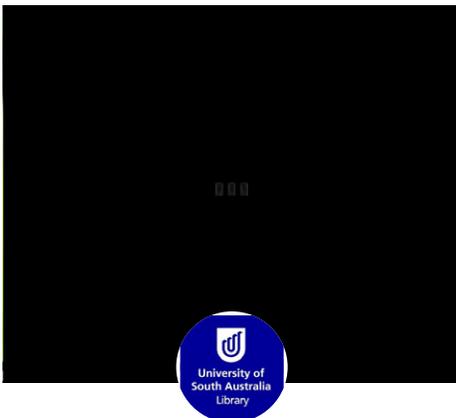
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60m

University of South Australia

The farming world is being revolutionised with intuitive sensors that detect nutrients in the soil 🌱☀️🔍 through a partnership between Sentek Technologies and #UniSA's Future Industries Institute. For the full story and more evolutionary innovations visit: <http://ow.ly/EYKG30fdWr9>.



3h

University of South Australia Libr

Aaaar ye scurvy dogs. We hope ye are enjoying ye holidays. Aaaaar. International talk like a pirate day be today. Aaaar. Don't feel like ye are marooned, ye can contact us through Ask The Library during the holidays



3h

UniSA City East Campus

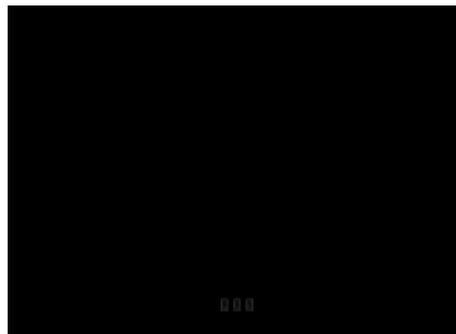
Everyday Hero Australia: Talk Like a Pirate Day 2017

Talk Like a Pirate Day™, nationally recognised as the major fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Support, is an opportunity to polish ye hook and say "AHOY there, me hearties" to all ye mateys, school crew and work mates.

AHOY there, me hearties! It's Talk Like a Pirate Day today - a day to help raise awareness for Childhood Cancer Support. Let us know what all ye mateys are getting up to, whether it's talking or dressing up like a pirate #talklikeapirateday 🏴‍☠️

<http://www.talklikeapirateday.com.au/>

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UniSA respects the Kaurna, Boandik and Barngarla peoples' spiritual relationship with their country.





Home > Calendar

Calendar

19 SEP

Enterprising Partnerships Talk: Feeling Sleepy?

19 September 2017

How to stay safe and healthy in a 24/7 society.

[Find out more](#)



Current Events

13 AUG
30 SEP



Upcoming events in India

13 August - 30 September 2017

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

18 SEP
21 SEP



Upcoming events in Denmark

18 September - 21 September 2017

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

18 SEP
29 SEP



Li Xu Chinese Typographic Poster Design Playing a Character

18 September - 29 September 2017

This exhibition by Associate Professor Li Xu from the Beijing Institute of Graphic Communication, is a...

18 SEP
22 SEP



EASS Research Week

18 September - 22 September 2017

The Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences Research Week celebrates the diversity of excellent...

18 SEP
25 SEP



Upcoming events in Kenya

18 September - 25 September 2017

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

19 SEP



9th Shared Learning in Clinical Practice Symposium

19 September 2017

The 9th Shared Learning in Clinical Practice Symposium is a joint initiative between UniSA's Mental...

Search for an event

Enter a keyword

From dd/mm/yyyy:



To dd/mm/yyyy:



View events by

Domestic International

Event type

Alumni

Future Students

Hawke Centre

Hawke Research Institute

Postgrad

Public Events

Research

Sansom Institute

UniSA Students

ICT Innovation & Collaboration Centre

Academic units

Business and Law

Education, Arts and Social Sciences

Health Sciences

IT, Engineering and the Environment

Upcoming events

View:

September 2017 (6 Events) Minimise 



19 SEP
9th Shared Learning in Clinical Practice Symposium

19 September 2017

The 9th Shared Learning in Clinical Practice Symposium is a joint initiative between UniSA's Mental...



19 SEP
Enterprising Partnerships Talk: Feeling Sleepy?

19 September 2017

How to stay safe and healthy in a 24/7 society.



21 SEP
Rethinking Pain and the Brain: New Insights from Pain Neuroscience

21 September 2017

As part of our Successful Ageing Seminar series, we invite you to attend this FREE seminar to hear from...



22 SEP
Let's talk about the brain: Modulating pain and stiffness using novel advances in neuroscience.

22 September 2017

Dr Tasha Stanton is a Senior Research Fellow with the BodyinMind Research group at the University of...



23 SEP
24 SEP
UniSA Australian HPV Super Series

23 September - 24 September 2017

Round 5 of the UniSA Australian HPV Super Series is to be held at Sturt Reserve, Murray Bridge on...



29 SEP
Open State Panel on Future News

29 September 2017

We're in a world of shrinking newsrooms. #fakenews and fact checking. Branded content and...

October 2017 (11 Events) Minimise 



05 OCT
27 OCT
Visualising Mental Health

05 October - 27 October 2017

Emerging designers to create engaging and informative mental health education materials for the general...



05 OCT
R&R

5 October 2017

Reflections of the Artist in Residency program at the Glenside Rural & Remote Inpatient Unit.



05 OCT
Responding to Future Migration Forum

5 October 2017

How are we going to build a better future together with the humanitarian entrants we are welcoming to...



12 OCT
14 OCT
15th Annual Competition Law and Economics Workshop

12 October - 14 October 2017

The School of Law at the



13 OCT
2017 UniSA Nelson Mandela Lecture

13 October 2017

The Centrality and Universality of Human Rights Norms both



17 OCT
Perth Alumni Cocktail Reception

17 October 2017

Join the VC and fellow alumni for an Alumni Cocktail

University of South Australia Business School and the Australian Competition...

Internationally and within Australia

Reception at Bells Functions, Upper Level Pier 3...



The Future of the EU Summit

18 October 2017

The Future of the EU Summit is a multidisciplinary forum, which engages the pressing issue of the...



Art Talks with Genevieve Lacey, Artist in Association

18 October 2017

A unique in-conversation with Genevieve Lacey, recorder virtuoso and artistic director.



Does the European Union have a Future?

19 October 2017

Does the European Union have a Future?



Geek Masculinity, Unprotected Settings and Cognitive Capitalism: the Political Economy of Online Harassment

24 October 2017

Drawing on work from a forthcoming book – NSFW: Sex, Humor, and Risk in Social



A Crowd of Digital Profiles: Privacy, Social Capital and Reputation in the Platform Economy

26 October 2017

In this seminar, the main findings of European research (conducted mostly in Italy) based on...

November 2017 (2 Events)

Minimise



Hong Kong Alumni Reunion Dinner

4 November 2017

Join the University of South Australia's Vice Chancellor at the Hong Kong Alumni Reunion Dinner...



CARMA Conference Australia

14 November - 17 November 2017

Join us for a unique and exciting opportunity to learn qualitative and quantitative research methods...

Areas of study and research

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UniSA Business School

Education, Arts and Social Sciences

IT, Engineering and the Environment

UniSA College

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AUSTRALIAN
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NETWORK
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Browsealoud

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

Features

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

System Requirements

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

PC users

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

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

Apple Mac users

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



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

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