

news

March 2018

> from the University of South Australia



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

How social media can predict protests and strikes

UniSA researchers have built a forecasting system which analyses millions of social media posts each day to predict the likelihood of civil unrest events in Australia and the Asia-Pacific. [more](#)



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Young and old join forces to beat dementia

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by Annabel Mansfield



HEALTH

Unley Primary School students Zara Rodda (left) and Aachan Dwivedi (far right) with ECH clients Iris Halley and Pat Albon.
Photo courtesy City of Unley.

Primary school students are being paired with people living with dementia in the community to raise awareness about the condition and to potentially aid the cognitive development of participants.

UniSA has partnered with the [City of Unley](#), [Unley Primary School](#) and aged-care provider, [ECH](#), to develop a new intergenerational dementia education program – called *Forget me not*.

The eight-week program is delivering weekly lessons about dementia to 90 Year 4 and 5 Unley Primary School students.

The students have also started collaborative art lessons with people living with dementia at the ECH Day Program at Henley Beach.

Lead UniSA researcher, [Dr Ashleigh Smith](#), says the immersive program will help build a dementia-friendly community.

“Dementia is a national health priority, with one in 10 people aged over 65, and three in 10 aged over 85 living with dementia,” Dr Smith says.

“Dementia is a clustering of neurodegenerative conditions, affecting cognitive development, memory, and behaviour with no cure.



Nine News Adelaide spoke to UniSA researcher Dr Ashleigh Smith and the City of Unley's Alyssa Hill about the *Forget me not* program.

“And while many people living with dementia live well, they do benefit greatly from social interactions as these generate memories, creativity and imagination, all cognitively stimulating factors that can help slow the progression of the disease.

“The *Forget me not* program provides many opportunities for social interaction, and enables primary school students to learn from older people living with dementia, while the older people are able to take on a role as teachers and mentors through positive interactions.

“We’re not only building a dementia-friendly community, we’re also creating greater acceptance and understanding of a condition that affects thousands of Australian families.”

Unley Primary School Principal Peter O’Sullivan says the program offers significant benefits to students and their families.

“With people living longer, more families are exposed to dementia and are often ill equipped to explain its complexities to their child,” O’Sullivan says.

“This program teaches children lifelong skills such as communication, empathy and compassion whilst also educating them about the ever-growing issue of dementia.”

City of Unley acting Mayor Peter Hughes says that all the organisations involved are excited about the program and the potential positive impact it will have on the participants, the community and the school.

“People living with dementia report that the key to a dementia friendly community is a positive and accepting community,” he says.

“It is therefore important to provide opportunities for these values to be formed in children at an age when they are developing their world views.

“We are particularly excited to be teaching dementia education early in life and hope the program helps improve knowledge and attitudes towards dementia in the students now, and in the future.”

The *Forget me not* program has been developed with support from the State Government’s [Office for the Ageing](#) and the [UniSA Research Themes Investment Scheme](#) grants.

Following an evaluation by UniSA, *Forget me not* may be extended to other schools in South Australia.

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Research reveals the 'silent treatment' hurting bereaved parents

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by Candy Gibson

Stillbirth: the silent tragedy affecting 2.6 million parents

UniSA PhD candidate Danielle Pollock is calling on health providers to provide more information about stillbirth during antenatal classes.

New research has uncovered the biggest obstacle facing bereaved parents after losing a child at birth – the silent treatment and stigma surrounding stillbirth.

Four years ago, UniSA PhD candidate [Danielle Pollock](#) gave birth to her first child, Sofia.

Sofia was a perfectly normal baby but for some reason her heart stopped beating two days before she was born.

“I got to kiss her, hold her, sing to her and tell her I loved her,” Danielle says. “I couldn’t take her home but every day I think of her. It doesn’t get any easier.”

What has made the experience harder for 28-year-old Danielle and her husband is the wall of silence surrounding stillbirth.

“Women who experience stillbirth are constantly misunderstood. People avoid you because they don’t know what to say and you are made to feel like a leper.

“Society does not encourage us to talk about the child we lost and, instead, we are encouraged to put the experience behind us and move on. No-one asks me my child’s name, her birthday, or to see photographs of her. We are completely shut down.”

Four years on, Danielle now has a three-year-old son, Charlie, and a newborn, Zoe. She is also in the final year

of her PhD, exploring the stigma around stillbirth, which affects six families every day in Australia and 2.6 million worldwide each year.

Despite these numbers, the stigma around stillbirth is entrenched, Danielle says, and not helped by the lack of information from healthcare providers about stillbirth or how to reduce the chances of it happening.

“Babies aren’t meant to die – and most in Australia don’t – but, unfortunately, six babies are stillborn every day. We are not told about this in antenatal classes and neither are we told how to relate to a bereaved parent who has lost a child at birth.

“I didn’t know if I was a mum. Sofia was my first child, but I wasn’t encouraged to acknowledge her. When people ask how many children you have, what are you supposed to say without making the conversation awkward for other people?”

Danielle’s research to date has found that more than 80 per cent of bereaved parents and more than 60 per cent of women who had a live birth were not told about the possibility of a stillborn child during their pregnancy. Of the former, they were only told because they had complications.

“Healthcare professionals are very comfortable talking about Down syndrome, spina bifida, listeriosis, even domestic violence. But stillbirth is a subject they avoid. It’s probably because they don’t want to create any anxiety, but it would be more helpful if it was discussed in antenatal care.”

Danielle hopes to address this in the last stage of her PhD which involves obstetricians, midwives and GPs giving their feedback about stillbirth and how best to educate people.

“I want healthcare professionals to be able to openly discuss with pregnant women the possibility of stillbirth, but not in a way that will scare them. That is the wrong approach.

“I also want people in general to understand how to relate to bereaved parents and not resort to unhelpful comments such as ‘you can always have another’. Babies can’t be replaced but they can be acknowledged.”

The chief executive officer of stillbirth prevention charity [Still Aware](#), Claire Foord, says Danielle’s research is “critical for informing change in the way we address stillbirth in Australia”.

“The results of her study could be pivotal for understanding why awareness of stillbirth on a large scale is imperative for prevention,” Foord says.

Danielle has been invited to address the [Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand](#) annual congress in Auckland from 25 to 28 March, to discuss her research findings.

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Doors open to the future of learning

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by Michèle Nardelli



HUMANITIES

UniSA's Samsung SMARTSchool at Magill.

One of the most technologically advanced teacher-training facilities in the country, the Samsung SMARTSchool, has opened its doors at UniSA's Magill campus.

Powered by [Samsung](#) technology, the \$4 million facility will equip Australian students and teachers with the skills and tools that are shaping Australia's future.

Combining Samsung's innovative technologies with UniSA's own world-class research into teaching practice, the Samsung SMARTSchool will provide an enriched learning environment for students from Reception to Year 12.

The Samsung SMARTSchool will also be used as a facility for advanced teacher training, informed by practice-based learning and research into the future of learning.

The purpose-built facility incorporates Samsung technology including large-format display screens, interactive whiteboards, tablets, Galaxy S8 smartphones, Gear VR and Gear 360 virtual reality products.

Head of UniSA's School of Education [Professor Stephen Dobson](#) says the new SMARTSchool is a boon for teacher education in South Australia and for the thousands of students who will have access to the facility.

"The school will benefit teachers, education researchers,



The official opening of the Samsung SMARTSchool was attended by both the state and federal education ministers, the Governor of South Australia, and a range of other dignitaries.

students studying to become teachers and school students from across Australia,” Prof Dobson says.

“Flexible in concept and design, while emphasising STEM, the Samsung SMARTSchool is all about teaching students to become problem-solvers and innovators.

“The Samsung SMARTSchool has been designed to encourage team-based learning and creativity. From data collection and analysis for sports science, to learning about radar and GPS technologies applicable for defence and civilian settings, or the future of manufacturing through 3D printing, the Samsung SMARTSchool will give school students access to practical, career-focused learning.”

Samsung Electronics Australia Head of Corporate Social Responsibility [Tess Ariotti](#) says it’s critical to equip our students, teachers and the wider community with the skills, knowledge and tools that are important to the workforce of the future.

“Our close collaboration with UniSA has helped us to create a purpose-built learning environment which will support teachers and encourage students to think creatively, work collaboratively and solve real-world problems,” she says.

UniSA Vice Chancellor [Professor David Lloyd](#) says the collaboration with Samsung is another example of how UniSA’s partnerships with industry are delivering important gains for the State.

“The Samsung SMARTSchool will support the development of new generations of experts in the sciences and engineering who can fill and create future jobs because they have the skills and passion to make a difference in society, but also, the ability to work creatively in teams,” Prof Lloyd says.

The Samsung SMARTSchool is now accepting bookings to bring students and their teachers from around the State into the new technology-rich spaces.

Federal Education and Training Minister [Simon Birmingham](#) says the partnership is an excellent example of how universities and business can work together to boost STEM engagement through new ways of learning.

State Education Minister [Dr Susan Close](#) says the facility will give teachers the hands-on experience needed to inspire students and help them develop the skills they’ll need to prosper.



Students can shoot a ‘virtual hoop’ as part of data collection for sports science.



Technology includes large-format display screens, interactive whiteboards, tablets and virtual reality products.

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From the Chancellery

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INSIDE UNISA

At the beginning of the month I attended the annual [Universities Australia](#) Conference in Canberra. It is a big event on the Australian higher education calendar and it's where you'll find the nation's vice-chancellors, chancellors, senior university representatives, government representatives, industry representatives, members of the research community, international education specialists, and media, all under one roof, for one week only. It's where we go to think – and to find out what the [Department](#) is thinking.

I chaired a panel session called *Staying Ahead of Disruption*. So many people keep saying that universities are educating students for jobs that won't exist when they graduate, the organisers wanted a take on how universities continue to deliver on their core purpose while disruptions abound. But rather than just have universities talking to universities, this session had senior industry representatives on the panel to let us know what they thought. As chair, I got to give the introductory remarks. I had originally intended on extolling the virtues of an end-user informed education and partnered research and the value of graduate qualities – but the preceding day of the conference had been doom laden with dystopic views of the rise of the robots and the demise of face to face education – it seemed disruption was upon us.

So I improvised. And said this:

"Yesterday was the last day of summer, so I believe I can now state, without fear of hyperbole, that winter is coming.

The more astute among us have known this since before Christmas. But take heart in the hope that the warming sun of the demand-driven system may one day rise again.

In the meantime we need to deal with the disruption.

The People of the North – those of you who read the books or watched *Game of Thrones* on TV, you'll know, those of you that haven't, just nod along. It's popular culture. You'll pick it up by osmosis. For the uninitiated, or

those that dwell under rocks, it's not a board game, but it does somewhat mirror university politics and management, if you cross it with *The Office*.

Earlier today, [Dame Anne Glover](#) (former Scottish Chief Scientist, biologist and academic at the University of Aberdeen) warned what happens when we don't value knowledge.

The People of the North knew winter was coming. But they didn't plan for it. They weren't prepared for its arrival, and, as a consequence, they were significantly disrupted.

Most recently by a big blue dragon and visual FX supplied by [graduates of my university](#).

What we have seen over the last few days is that disruption **can** and **should** be anticipated;

disruption to funding streams;

disruption from policy change;

disruption from technology shifts;

disruption from shifting stakeholders' expectations.

Fail to plan, plan to fail runs the old idiom. Anthony McLaren, Chief Executive of [TEQSA](#) (the Australian Government's Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency), said yesterday that good governance of a university should include a doomsday scenario plan (my paraphrasing), the plan of what you would do in the face of terminal disruption – how to wind up your business.

Our strategies should be plans to prevent ourselves going out of business, but are more often plans which are predicated on the continuity of business, incremental innovation and growth – none of which can be guaranteed.

We heard yesterday how our humanity – and the soft skills we can cultivate in our graduates – will be our only differentiator against the backdrop of technological disruption.

Will that be sufficient to allow us to stay ahead of disruption, or will it merely provide a coping mechanism for us to endure being disrupted?

We know that culture eats strategy for breakfast, which means that clever organisations must place culture at the heart of strategies to deal with disruption.

Can the attributes of awareness and agility in institutional culture keep us ahead? Is it enough to keep our heads above water or should we be seeking to surf the waves of inevitable disruption?"

Then I introduced my panellists and we had a very nice chat about what [Australia Post](#) had done and what [Cisco](#) are doing to stay ahead of disruption.

The lesson from the panel – you can adapt to deal with change. The lesson from my introduction – not everyone finds Game of Thrones references amusing, but I do, and it was my intro.

The hidden message in the intro, and why I'm sharing it here again – ours is an outstanding institutional culture, it will stand us in great stead in the months and years ahead as we deal with the reality of external disruption and get on to deliver on our plans.

Professor David Lloyd
Vice Chancellor and President

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ACHIEVEMENTS

Improving quality of life for older Australians

Australia's ageing population represents a significant challenge for aged care, with new methods, techniques and evaluative frameworks needed to overcome resource constraints that will help maximise the quality of life and wellbeing of older Australians.

UniSA's [Professor Julie Ratcliffe](#), with the [Institute for Choice](#), has recently been acknowledged for her work in this area, receiving one of six 2018 Australian Research Council *Linkage* grants as the lead investigator, to develop a new 'quality-of-life' instrument that will improve the care and wellbeing of older Australians. The investigator team also includes [Dr Rachel Milte](#), an early career researcher from the Institute for Choice, and research leaders from Australia and the UK with expertise in quality of life research, health economics, choice modelling, aged and dementia care policy and practice.



Collaborating with *Ech* Inc; Uniting (NSW, ACT); Uniting Agewell Victoria; Helping Hand Aged Care Inc; and Presbyterian Aged Care, Prof Ratcliffe says the \$406,665 grant will deliver a 'quality of life' instrument that enables economic evaluation and comparison across the aged care sector.

"Economic evaluation offers a rigorous, systematic and transparent framework for measuring quality and efficiency across the aged care sector, but there's no composite mechanism for incorporating older people's values into the measurement and valuation of quality of life," Prof Ratcliffe says.

"This project will address this fundamental gap, using state of the art methods to develop a *Values in Quality Of Life* instrument for older people.

"The tool is the first of its kind – co-created from inception with older Australians – and will be widely applied across quality assessment and aged care decision making systems."

Helping Hand Aged Care Director for Research and Development, Megan Corlis, says they were very excited to be involved in the project, particularly with the contribution of older Australians.



"The Values in Quality Of Life instrument for older people will incorporate older people's contribution to what they believe quality of life means to them," Corlis says.

"It's very unique in that it focuses on both health and lifestyle, including independence and control, social participation and safety and dignity.

"From an industry viewpoint, producing a scoring system that has wide applicability for economic evaluation is a critical feature.

"At the moment, we cannot routinely measure our activities from a dollar perspective, and as such are unable to justify new activity for its economic benefits.

"The Values in Quality Of Life instrument has real potential to change policy and funding programs in both health and ageing.

"It is anticipated that the new instrument will be ready for testing in late 2019 and available for widespread rollout across the Australian aged care sector in 2021.

Professor awarded prestigious mathematics medal

Emeritus [Professor Phil Howlett](#) has been recognised for sustained and outstanding contributions to the theory and application of mathematics by the [Australian and New Zealand Industrial and Applied Mathematics \(ANZIAM\)](#) society.

Prof Howlett was presented the society's most prestigious award, the ANZIAM Medal, at the annual ANZIAM conference in February.

The award recognises research achievements, wide-ranging activities enhancing the discipline of applied and industrial mathematics, and contribution to ANZIAM.



Dr Frank de Hoog and Prof Phil Howlett.

Professor Brenton Dansie, Head of the School of Information Technology and Mathematical Sciences, says Prof Howlett has had a distinguished career since joining UniSA more than 50 years ago.

"Phil was one of the driving forces behind the Scheduling and Control Group which has a worldwide reputation for its work in optimising train performance. Phil has made significant theoretical contributions to this work as well as being a driving force behind its implementation into various systems which now sees it being used in trains across the world," Prof Dansie says.

"Phil has also been a mentor to many PhD students and early career academics who have gone on to establish their own outstanding careers and played a significant role in lifting the national profile of ANZIAM through his leadership in activities."

Prof Howlett says he was proud to win the award.

"I was very pleased to win the medal and was delighted that the great work of the Scheduling and Control Group had also been recognised by ANZIAM."

The citation for Prof Howlett is on the [ANZIAM website](#).

Marketing graduate takes out top award

An innate sense of curiosity and a passion for learning has placed UniSA student, Yolanda Nguyen, at the forefront of Australia's top marketing graduates, taking out the coveted 2018 Nestlé Marketing Future Leaders Award, at the recent [GradConnection Top100 Awards](#).

Run in partnership with Fairfax's [Australian Financial Review](#), the awards challenge Australia's top-performing students in a full graduate recruitment process modelled on those of leading companies, with the goal of identifying Australia's future leaders.



Both Yolanda Nguyen, a Master of Business (Research) student with UniSA's [Ehrenberg-Bass Institute for Marketing Science](#) and fellow student, Michael Pivato, a UniSA Information Technology (Honours) student, entered the competition, and from a pool of nearly 4000 applicants, were selected as finalists in the top 100.

Yolanda was named the category winner in marketing. She says the competition provided invaluable insights into the graduate recruitment process.

“Understanding contemporary recruitment processes is critical as a new graduate, especially as an increasing number of companies are adopting similar graduate selection protocols,” Yolanda says.

“The Top100 Competition challenged me to demonstrate perseverance and determination across a range of recruitment and leaderships scenarios – from simulated online interviews, to in-depth group discussions.

“Experiencing these first-hand, and under competitive conditions, was the ultimate way for me to become truly ‘career ready’.”

As part of her preparation, Yolanda received valuable guidance from [UniSA Career Services](#) team, contacting her to congratulate her on being named a finalist and offering help if she needed.

“UniSA’s Careers Services team provided some top tips on how to succeed at Assessment Centres—what to expect, and the specific behaviours that are typically favoured by panels,” Yolanda says.

“They were extremely helpful and supportive, particularly with understanding the importance of finding a good balance between participating, talking, and listening in the Assessment Centre.

“The advice I received made a world of difference in my performance in the competition, and was truly instrumental in my success.”

Yolanda says the award has helped build her confidence in her skills and abilities as an emerging marketer.

“When you reflect on today’s competitive job market, it is really easy to become doubtful within yourself and your own abilities. For me, this award is a tangible symbol that reminds me of my capabilities, and that anything is possible if I set my mind to it.”

GradConnection Top100 Awards were announced in Sydney in February. Following the 2018 Nestlé Marketing Future Leaders Award winner, Yolanda was offered a fast-tracked recruitment process for the Nestlé NextGen Graduate Program for 2019 in Sydney, but is instead exploring opportunities with Nestlé in Adelaide.



UniSA lecturer receives early career pharmacist award

UniSA pharmacy lecturer [Dr Jacinta Johnson](#) has been identified as a future pharmacy leader by the [Pharmaceutical Society of Australia](#).

Dr Johnson has been presented the 2018 SA/NT Early Career Pharmacist Development Award.

The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) award recognises early career pharmacists with a vision to influence the future of pharmacy and the potential to lead and inspire others within the profession.

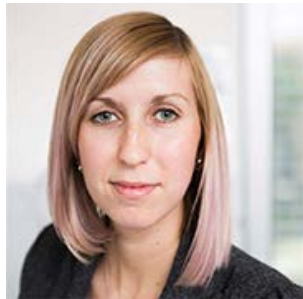
The award was announced at the South Australian and Northern Territory Pharmacist Awards in late February.

Dr Johnson was recognised for her leadership and mentorship through the SA/NT [Early Career Pharmacists Working Group](#). Dr Johnson is a lecturer in the School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences where she coordinates Pharmacy Practice 2 and 3 in the second and fourth years of the Bachelor of Pharmacy with Honours program.

Dr Johnson says she’s found it rewarding to help facilitate programs and activities through the working group to improve professional satisfaction for early career pharmacists.

“It’s important to provide strong leadership and support for early career pharmacists, not only to ensure pharmacy remains a career of choice, but also to ensure early career pharmacists are able to provide the best possible care for their patients,” she says.

“It’s a privilege to be recognised through this award by the peak national body for pharmacists, and I look forward to continuing my work in supporting the pharmacy profession as well as teaching the pharmacists of the future.”



UniSA graduates take the lion's share of art awards

Twelve UniSA graduates have received accolades at the [2018 Helpmann Academy Graduate Exhibition Awards](#).

Now in its 23rd year, the Helpmann Academy's exhibition featured 29 graduate artists from its visual arts partner institutions including UniSA's [School of Art Architecture and Design](#).

The exhibition provides an opportunity for graduating artists to gain public recognition in a prestigious setting, alongside their peers. Participating artists are eligible for awards with a combined valued of \$60,000.

The 2018 award recipients include:

Sera Waters, a textile artist and PhD candidate received **The Hill Smith Gallery / University of South Australia Postgraduate Award** (\$10,000 cash), which recognises the achievements of a Masters of PhD candidate.

Brianna Speight, UniSA graduate, received **The Undergraduate Award for Excellence supported by Roger and Helen Salkeld** (\$7500 cash). The award is new in 2018 and is the top undergraduate award recognising the winner as an artist with a promising future.

Yusuf Ali Hayat, UniSA graduate, received **The City of Adelaide Award** (\$7500) cash. The award is new in 2018 and enables the work of an emerging artist to be showcased through the City of Adelaide's Contemporary Acquisitions Collection.

eDuard Helmbold, UniSA graduate, received **The City Rural Insurance / Helpmann Travel Award** (\$5000 cash). The award provides the recipient the opportunity to travel, informing their practice with new ideas and experiences.

Kate Little, UniSA graduate, received the **Bluethumb Online Gallery Award** (\$5000 cash). The award is new in 2018 and recognises artistic excellence and talent.

Molly Willson, UniSA graduate, received **The Raffin Award** (\$5000 cash), through which her work becomes part of a significant private collection.

Khoa Edgecomb, UniSA graduate, received **The Rob Lyons Award** (\$3000 cash). The award recognises artistic excellence and talent.

Joseph Haxan, UniSA graduate, received **The Bluethumb Photography Award** (valued at \$5000, including a \$2500 cash reward). The award is new in 2018 and is presented to an artist working in photography. The award provides in-kind support, including being featured in the curated Bluethumb Photography online gallery, and an exhibition in Bluethumb's gallery space in Melbourne.

Arviégail Cahilig, UniSA graduate, received **The Peter Walker / Helpmann Encouragement Award** (\$1000 cash). The award goes to an artist who deserves particular encouragement to continue their practice.

Hannah Vorrath-Pajak, UniSA graduate, was presented with **The SALA Award** (valued at \$1000 including a \$530 cash reward). The award provides premium registration for the 2018 SALA Festival and is given to an artist who will benefit from exhibiting their work at SALA.

Imogen Porteous, UniSA graduate, was named the winner of the **Portia Valley Wine Label Competition**, (valued at \$2000).

For the first time ever, two recipients were also announced for the Helpmann Academy British School of Rome Residency (BSR) program valued at \$25,000 each. Both UniSA graduates, **Yusuf Hayat** and **Tamara Bailie** will each undertake three-month residencies in Rome during 2018 and will be allocated studio space at the BSR, including residential accommodation.

The [Helpmann Academy](#) provides professional development opportunities including grants and awards, mentorships, masterclasses, advisory services and international artist residencies tailored for South Australia's higher education students, tertiary graduates and emerging artists.



Sera Waters, *Basking*. Photo by Grant Hancock



eDuard Helmbold, *Die Spore van Raka (Echoes of an Ancient Sorrow)*. Photo by Grant Hancock.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spin-out company to tackle Western diseases

A spin-out from the [Centre for Cancer Biology](#) (CCB) has been launched to develop new therapies to target conditions relating to an unhealthy Western diet, including serious and highly prevalent diseases associated with obesity.

[Cincera Therapeutics Pty Ltd](#) is focused on the discovery and development of new, small molecule drugs to treat difficult inflammatory and fibrotic conditions associated with obesity and metabolic disorders, with potential application in other disease areas including cancer.

The company will initially focus on treatments for the emerging epidemic of a liver disease termed 'NASH' (non-alcoholic steatohepatitis).

Cincera will harness high-potential research from the CCB, an alliance between UniSA and [SA Pathology](#), and Monash University's Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (MIPS).

The company's founding scientists, [Professor Stuart Pitson](#) from the CCB, and Associate Professor Bernard Flynn from MIPS, have been developing novel therapies that set an important target involved in a number of diseases.

Professor Pitson says that through the Monash collaboration, they have "drug candidates that are potent and broad-acting anti-inflammatory and anti-fibrotic agents that show strong potential to become new treatments".

"There are many aspects of the disease that could be improved by these drugs, from treating liver or kidney dysfunction through to possible treatments for certain cancers," Prof Pitson says.

"Making a difference is what drives researchers at the CCB and forming a company like Cincera will be important for translating our research into better treatments for patients."

The company is funded through a \$7 million venture capital commitment by the [Medical Research Commercialisation Fund](#) (MRCF). The MRCF promotes the creation of early-stage medical technology companies across Australia and New Zealand.

Research to boost regional leadership

A three-year research project to measure the strength of leadership in regional communities to identify the places in greatest need, has received \$60,000 in government funding.

The project will be undertaken by UniSA Business School Dean for Research and Innovation, [Professor Andrew Beer](#), in partnership with Professor Markku Sotarauta from the University of Tampere in Finland.

'Mobilising Community Leadership' is aimed at providing important resources for Australian governments to help prioritise resources, design and delivery, along with empowering community organisations and local governments to provide community leadership.

The State Government has provided \$60,000 towards the research from its [Regional Development Fund](#). The project will require funding from the Australian Research Council to proceed.

Prof Beer says there is a lack of knowledge that can be addressed to guide how governments, associations and community organisations can mobilise local leadership.

"This research aims to address that and deliver practical guidance tools," he says.

"Globally, many economies are experiencing unprecedented levels of structural change.

"Australia's regions and communities are experiencing and responding to these structural changes unevenly and many are at risk of not transitioning to a more sustainable economic base."

He says effective community and place-based leadership is essential to addressing this.

Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock says South Australia's regions have many talented and passionate community leaders. The program would help develop leaders of the future and equip regional communities with the tools to bolster regional development.



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MOOC guru on learning in an age of disruption

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by Michèle Nardelli



HUMANITIES

Professor George Siemens has joined UniSA from the University of Texas.

> [Conference looks at big data, AI, the Internet of Things and the future of learning](#)

When experts say we need to be equipped for lifelong learning, it is sometimes hard to gauge just what that means. The thought of constantly taking on more studies in any formal capacity can seem a bit a daunting – there is an implicit pressure to perform.

But UniSA's new [Crossing the Horizon](#) professor and a pioneer of the concept of [Massive Open Online Courses](#) (MOOCs), George Siemens, believes the future of learning is synonymous with the future of living.

"There is nothing linear about the way we will continue to learn," Prof Siemens says.

"We will move from learning, to working, to learning, across our lives and while some of that will be structured, much of it won't be, we will learn through our myriad connections – through friends, clubs, workplaces – online and in communities," he says.

How we adapt to the faster and faster expectations about what we need to know and how quickly we need to know it, is a focus for some of the research at the Centre for Change and Complexity in Learning which he will lead at UniSA with Professor Shane Dawson.

"I am interested in how we equip people with the skills to navigate the complexity and uncertainty of an increasingly technological world – what that means for employment, for learning and importantly, for our sociological and psychological wellbeing," Prof Siemens says.

"I'm also interested in how new technologies have disrupted our notions of teachers and learners. In a world where every tweet and every podcast is an opportunity to connect and learn, we need to reframe our traditional understanding of learning.

“Our ability to connect with others has never been easier and that amplifies our capacity for learning through those connections. When we learn transparently in these environments we also have the opportunity to teach.

“Universities and other institutions of learning will need to adjust to this new environment where networks and connections drive learning and where the lines between the teacher and the pupil are blurred.”

Based in the [Teaching Innovation Unit](#), Prof Siemens will lead interdisciplinary research in formal and informal learning, learning analytics, and personalised and adaptive learning processes and results of that work will inform the development of UniSA programs and support services for students. The research will also broadly focus on networks, analytics, wellbeing, and open connected learning.

Professor Siemens has been the lead and co-lead researcher on grants totalling more than \$15m, with funding from NSF, SSHRC (Canada), Intel, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Boeing, Intel, and the Soros Foundation. He has collaborated on a range of international research projects in the European Union, Australia, Senegal, Ghana, and the UK and has received numerous awards, including honorary doctorates from Universidad de San Martín de Porres and Fraser Valley University.

Conference looks at big data, AI, the Internet of Things and the future of learning

How we integrate learning into every part of our lives is a key focus for global experts at the 2018 Digital Learning Summit, hosted by UniSA this month.

The summit, concluding on Friday 16 March, features presentations from 19 key researchers from around the globe who are exploring how learning is being transformed by the digital world and how new technologies are impacting, not only where and when we learn, but also how we learn.

UniSA Crossing the Horizon, Professor George Siemens, who has joined UniSA from the University of Texas, says the influence of technology and new media on education, on organisations, and on wider society has been fundamental.

Prof Siemens has been joined at the Summit by an array of experts in the field including keynote speaker, Assistant Professor in the School of Computing at the National University of Singapore, Joseph Jay Williams, whose work with learning algorithms aims to underpin new personalised learning systems, which could be designed to adapt according to the users' learning progress.

UniSA Provost and Chief Academic Officer, Professor Allan Evans says the Summit has brought together some of the world's leading thinkers and innovators in online and digital learning.

“As a student and equity focused university, UniSA has always considered how we reach out to students - considering their location, their life circumstances and their prior learning - in ways that will give them the best chance of success,” Prof Evans says.

“Now, in an age where connection is more possible and easier than it ever has been, we are keen to explore the next phase of learning, to find the best ways to deliver education that is relevant, personalised, and most of all, engaging for our students.

“I am delighted to welcome Prof Siemens to UniSA – as an international leader in this space – he will bring his curiosity, expertise and experience to the whole of the University, ensuring we are at the leading edge of digital learning.”

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Editor

Adam Joyce , ph (08) 8302 0965

Web author

Edmund Boey

Graphic designer

Alison Hookway, ph (08) 8302 0028

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Media Contacts

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

Jacinta Mazzarolo
Media Liaison Officer
Ph: (08) 8302 0578
Mobile: 0435 099 535
Email: Jacinta.Mazzarolo@unisa.edu.au

Candy Gibson
Media Liaison Coordinator
Ph: (08) 8302 0961
Mobile: 0434 605 142
Email: Candy.Gibson@unisa.edu.au

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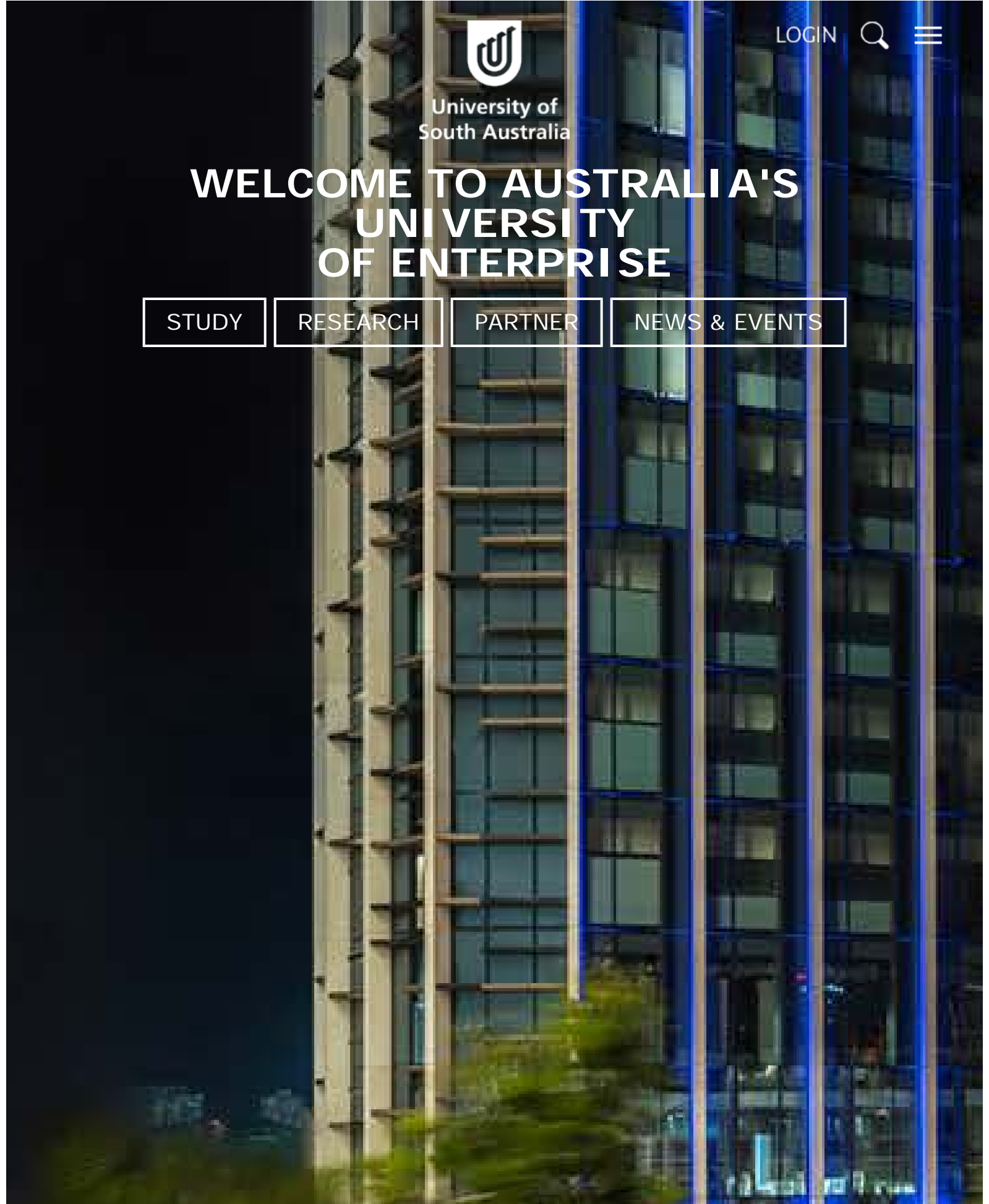
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How social media can predict protests and strikes

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by Candy Gibson



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

UniSA researchers have built a forecasting system which analyses millions of social media posts each day to predict the likelihood of civil unrest events in Australia and the Asia-Pacific.

Sifting through open source data from websites, Twitter and Facebook streams, the system – called Carbon – filters vast amounts of information which provides clues about possible protests and strikes.

[Dr Wei Kang](#), from UniSA's [School of Information Technology and Mathematical Sciences](#), says the system, built in collaboration with big data company [D2D CRC](#), is designed to alert relevant authorities and the public.

“Based on the data we collect and analyse, we can generate fairly accurate predictions, so the police can plan for disruptive events and hopefully divert them. We can also warn the public ahead of time,” he says.

Researchers generate a dictionary of keywords that are commonly used in relation to protests and strikes and the system uses these to filter several hundred million tweets and Facebook posts across Australia and Asia each day.

Carbon demonstrated its accuracy in 2017 when it forecast a planned bus strike for Adelaide after analysing records and tweets in the weeks before. On 1 April, commuters were warned of a planned bus strike on 4 April, six days after the UniSA system issued the prediction. The strike would have thrown 50,000 commuters into chaos but, fortunately, was averted after the bus operators and drivers reached an agreement.

The system uses clustering techniques which group together common words. Once these reach a threshold, it signals a pattern which alerts researchers to a possible event.

UniSA PhD candidate Jeff Ansah, working alongside Dr Kang, says the research shows that humans are creatures of habit, repetition and patterns.

“On social media the word ‘protest’ is often used in a very loose way, but our system is so advanced that it can filter the noise from useful information and then predict behaviour,” he says.

Carbon’s use could potentially be extended to predicting health outbreaks, especially pandemics, Jeff says, as people are prone to discussing their health using hashtags such as #flu.

The same analytics have transferable applications in the stock market, with the system able to mine public sentiment about products, thereby influencing company stocks.

The model could also be adapted to predict the next season’s fashions as well as forecasting traffic gridlocks for motorists on their daily commute.

“Its uses are endless,” Jeff says. “The main challenges are in storing and processing such vast amounts of data to extract the right information.

“Data mining is extremely complex but on a very basic level, these prediction models are the scientific version of a fortune teller, if you like.

“They specialise in telling us when, why and where an event is going to take place and who is likely to be involved.”

The project is being funded by the [Data to Decisions Cooperative Research Centre](#).

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Who and what to watch in the Commonwealth Games

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by Adam Joyce



COMMUNITY

Kurtis Marschall in action at the IAAF World Indoor Championships in Birmingham where he finished fourth with vault of 5.80m (equalling his outdoor personal best). *Photo courtesy Athletics Australia.*

Three UniSA students will be competing in next month's [Commonwealth Games](#) – and they are in high contention to deliver Australia one or more gold medals.

Track cycling sprinter Matthew Glaetzer, who's studying a Bachelor of Human Movement with UniSA, is still celebrating after storming to his maiden sprint world crown at the [2018 UCI Track World Championships](#) in the Netherlands earlier this month.

Matthew's electrifying speed tore through the field, with the 25-year-old claiming the Australian Cycling Team's first gold in the men's blue riband event in 16 years.

"I have been wanting to pull that jersey on for so long, so to see the Australian flag raised above me was such a special moment," Matthew told [Cycling Australia](#).

Matthew has earned five top-six finishes at the World Championships since 2013, including the 2016 silver medal. He also finished just outside the medals at both the Rio 2016 Olympic Games (fourth) and the 2014 Commonwealth Games (fifth).

"I have finally backed up the speed, finally put the money where the legs are so to speak," he said.

Australian platform diver Taneka Kovchenko, who's studying a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, has earned a place in Australia's [14-strong diving team](#).



Matthew Glaetzer won the men's sprint at the world championships in the Netherlands. *Photo courtesy Cycling Australia / Casey Gibson.*

Taneka says she's excited to be in the team and is hoping for a top showing in her events which include the 10m and the 10m synchro with champion Melissa Wu.

"It will be nerve-wracking competing at home but we are ready to show Australia what we can do," Taneka says.

National coach Michel Larouche says the [South Australian Sports Institute](#) (SASI) athletes have done a great job to make the team.

"It's been a great accomplishment and exciting for all of them and certainly for Taneka to make the diving team in two events, the women's platform and women's synchro platform after only three-and-a-half years of diving on the 10m platform," Larouche says.

Bachelor of Human Movement student Kurtis Marschall, 20, is a strong contender for a gold medal in pole vault.

His personal best in the event, 5.80 metres, was set earlier this year in Perth. He equalled this height at the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) [World Indoor Championships](#) in Birmingham, where he placed fourth.

Kurtis is coached by former national championship medallist Kym Simons. [Athletics Australia](#) says pole vault has been the strongest event in South Australia's history with the State producing and developing six of the top 10 Australian pole vaulters.

Kurtis is aiming for gold in the Commonwealth Games.

Marathon runner [Jessica Trengrove](#), a UniSA physiotherapy graduate, is also a strong contender for gold at the Games.

Last year, the 30-year-old recorded the best-ever finish by an Australian woman in the marathon at the [world championships](#) in London, and she was subsequently named [The Advertiser/Channel 7 Sport Star of the Year](#) for 2017. Trengrove represented Australia at the 2012 London Olympics and 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics. She won bronze in the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

UniSA program director for Exercise and Sport Science Dr Alyson Crozier says she's looking forward to insights from the commentating.

"What most commentators don't realise is that a lot of their reporting and commentary is actually drawing on sports psychology principles," Dr Crozier says.

"It's a fascinating exploration of what goes into becoming and excelling as an elite athlete."

The Commonwealth Games will be held on the Gold Coast between 4 and 15 April.



Australian platform diver Taneka Kovchenko at the FINA/CNSG Diving World Series in Japan.
Source: Instagram.



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UniSA Online degree to help prepare the digital stars of tomorrow

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by Georgia Minarelli



COMMUNITY

Associate Professor Jodie George says almost all employers require staff skilled in digital media.

Fuelled by new technological developments and a burgeoning digital workforce, Australia's digital economy is forecast to grow from \$79 billion in 2014 to \$139 billion in 2020.

With the digital media landscape dramatically changing the way people work, learn, play and communicate, new digital roles are being created and existing roles are evolving.

There's growing demand for people skilled in digital media.

Associate Dean: Online Education, [Associate Professor Jodie George](#) says although the profession is in demand, the labour market has been challenged to keep pace with the field and to neatly define their digital media needs in the way they advertise such roles.

"A lot of the time, digital media staff aren't called digital media officers – they're comms officers, journalists or public relations officers – they're covering a range of areas," Assoc Prof George says.

With digital media becoming increasingly important across many industries, job roles are diverse. Sectors include some not typically associated with digital media, including health, government and education.

"Digital is an element of so many roles now that if you ask an organisation whether they're a digital graduate destination, and you speak to them and get a sense of what they need, the answer would be yes every time," Assoc Prof George says.

"The degree will give students a portfolio of work as well as the language to speak to prospective employers about the range of skills they bring and what they could do for that organisation."

Designed for people who want to balance study with their lifestyle, UniSA Online's [Bachelor of Digital Media](#) means students don't need to go on campus for any part of their study.

"We know people who are doing digital media tend to be people who like to engage with the screen – as you can imagine," Assoc Prof George says.

"UniSA Online is making possible the idea that you can engage with your studies at your leisure, in a space that is comfortable for you, that's easier for you, at a time that's convenient for you."

With more than 25 years' experience as a journalist, educator, digital media specialist and multi-media storyteller, [Katrina McLachlan](#) is the Online Course Facilitator for the Bachelor of Digital Media.



The Bachelor of Digital Media has been developed in recognition of growing demand for digital media professionals.

McLachlan says the degree has been developed to fill a growing demand for digital media professionals across a rapidly expanding range of industries and sectors, from large corporations to small businesses, government, not-for-profit and community organisations.

"Advancements in technology, most notably the Internet and the interactive nature of digital media communications, have transformed the way we create, consume and respond to information, news, marketing and entertainment content," McLachlan says.

"All businesses need digital media specialists who not only know what it takes to achieve messaging outcomes but can plan and create exceptional digital media content across a range of platforms.

"With a diverse range of industry experience under their belts, the teaching team in this degree is firmly focused on preparing industry connected, job ready graduates who can apply innovative digital media design thinking across a range of industries or professions," McLachlan says.

"Our students can also complete electives from a number of other disciplines including business, marketing, IT and data analytics, communications and journalism, thereby setting themselves up for a successful career in a growing digital media employment marketplace."

[UniSA Online](#) study terms are in 10-week blocks allowing students to start their study four times throughout the year with small windows in between for breaks.

The Bachelor of Digital Media Online is structured to make it easier for students to integrate study into their lives and McLachlan says the cleverly scaffolded and interactive online learning in this degree has already facilitated some amazing digital media project outcomes.

"Our first cohort of students has just completed the introductory digital media course and the teaching team have been blown away by the quality of digital media assets created in the first 10 weeks," McLachlan says.

"We know that rapidly evolving digital communications channels require practitioners who are technologically literate, adaptable, innovative and have digital media skills they can apply to achieve any communication outcome.

"That is exactly what is happening with the selection of courses and the range of skills our students are learning from day one.

"Across the degree our students then practice all these skills to develop a large portfolio of digital media assets that will not only support their employment aspirations, but will also clearly showcase their imaginative, synthetic and analytical capacities across diverse technological platforms."

Completion of the Bachelor of Digital Media will prepare students to pursue entry level employment opportunities in areas including:

- Social media
- Digital storytelling and journalism
- Video and audio production
- Publishing
- Photography

- Animation
- Web and graphic design
- Digital advertising and marketing
- Corporate and community communications
- Education and training
- Multimedia specialist
- Content creation
- App design.

Likely employers could include:

- Government
- Marketing/creative/advertising agencies
- Media – newspapers/online/magazines
- Museums/libraries/galleries
- Interactive media design firms
- Not-for-profits.
- In fact, any business that communicates with an audience through digital channels.

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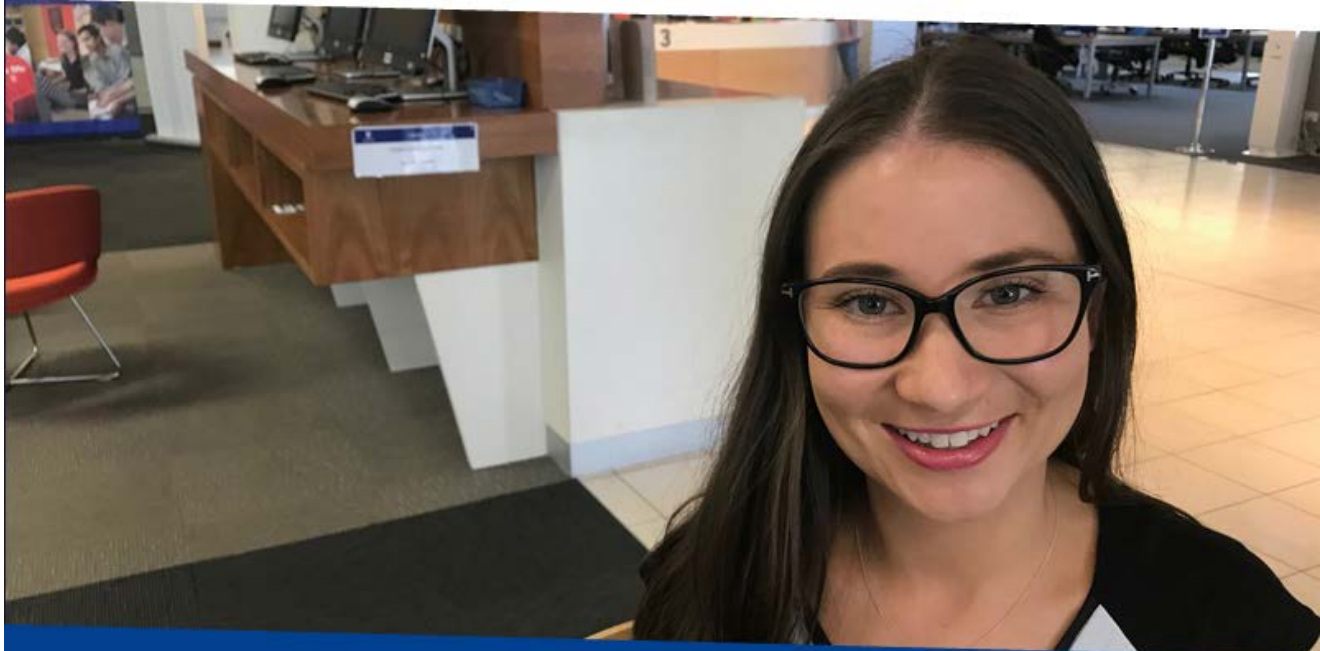
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Speed equals distance over time: using sport to make sense of maths

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by Candy Gibson



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

PhD candidate Rebecca Marrone is using her childhood experience to help young girls excel in maths.

It's not often that a Year 8 experience leads to a PhD, but for UniSA Psychology student Rebecca Marrone, the seeds of her thesis were sewn after failing a maths exam in secondary school.

"I was an A-grade student in every subject except maths. I knew I was competent and could do the work, but it took an insightful teacher to recognise what was happening," Rebecca says.

As it turns out, creativity was the key. Once she applied her own passion – sport – to her maths lessons, she excelled.

"Once I started turning generic equations into creative problems for me to solve, maths became meaningful. Using the equation, *speed equals distance over time*, I could work out how many metres per second I was covering if I ran 100 metres in 12 seconds. Something just clicked, my confidence started to grow and I developed a passion for maths."

A decade on, the PhD candidate is using her childhood experience to help young girls excel in maths by encouraging teachers to adopt a more creative and novel approach in lessons.

Her thesis involves working with South Australian primary schools to make maths more relevant to young girls who, historically, have been steered towards the humanities.

"Research shows that girls start to develop negative attitudes towards maths pretty much from birth. Parents are still more likely to give females a doll to play with, while males get building blocks.

"These views are spread – often unconsciously – by primary school teachers. Most students model the attitudes of the person in authority and in western countries where 82 per cent of primary school teachers are female, this

is where the stereotypes are reinforced. By the time they get to high school, the differences are already there and the girls branch out into the non-STEM subjects.”

Creativity is usually associated with self-expression and the arts, but it is more about thinking outside the square and generating novel and effective solutions to problems, Rebecca says. This includes tapping into girls’ interests and weaving that into a maths equation, rather than just using a logical method to teach maths.

“I think with females, maths is a confidence thing. If we can get them to feel more positive about maths then they are more likely to continue with STEM subjects in high school and beyond.”

The fact that a female physicist, [Michelle Simmons](#), has recently been named Australian of the Year, will also help shift the perceptions, Rebecca says.

“Women like Michelle Simmons are so important these days as girls need more role models like her to show them it is possible to pursue a successful career in the maths, engineering and science fields and be applauded for it.”

Rebecca is due to finish her PhD, titled *Solving sex differences in mathematics through creativity*, in 2019.

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Research suggests peers more motivating than health in 'stepping up'

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by Annabel Mansfield



HEALTH

Three of the posters installed at UniSA's City East campus to test which health messages are most likely to prompt people to take the stairs instead of the lift.

If you frequently travel between floors, there's often a choice to make: take the lift or take the stairs. For many people, the lift is the easy option – whereas the stairs require extra effort and exertion.

Daily stair use has been associated with multiple health benefits including reduced cholesterol levels, decreased body fat and increased lower limb strength. Despite this, research suggests that fewer than 10 per cent of people choose the stairs over the lift.

But the work of [UniSA's School of Health Sciences](#) is challenging that by examining what motivates people to take the stairs more often. Using colourful point-of-decision stair prompt posters, the research examined whether social or health messages had a greater impact on an individual's decision to take the stairs.

Lead researcher, [Dr Alyson Crozier](#), says the results were surprising, showing that people were more likely to use the stairs when they considered it to be a typical and desirable behaviour valued by their peers.

"When we used posters with social messages – things like, 'We're doing it, are you? Join us in taking the stairs', we saw a distinct change in people's behaviours, increasing stair usage by four per cent," Dr Crozier says.

This increased the number of people taking the stairs by about 100 per day, or 500 per week.

"When you generally think about what would motivate people to use the



As a result of the study, the School of Health Sciences decided to install permanent large-scale messages on the lift doors in City East's Centenary Building.

stairs over the lift, it seems logical to think that health messages – like ‘Taking the stairs burns more calories than taking the lift’, or ‘Take the stairs for your health’ – would have a greater influence on people’s behaviours, but this was not the case.”

Conducted over a four-week period, the study is the first study to find evidence that social messages were more effective at increasing stair use than health-focused messages.

“Most stair intervention studies have used prompts that emphasise the health benefits of taking the stairs,” Dr Crozier says.

“And while health messages do influence people’s decisions they do so less than what we observed via social messages.

“Plus, when people perceive that others took the stairs, and that others approved stair use, the more likely an individual was to take the stairs.”

Conducted in UniSA’s historic [Centenary Building](#) on the City East campus, the research also sought to ease elevator traffic to the building’s first and second floors – those easily accessed via stairs –while concurrently increasing awareness of the buildings difficult-to-find stairways.

“The layout of the Centenary building is such that the stairs can be quite hard to find,” Dr Crozier says.

“This research has definitely helped people become more aware of our elusive stairways. And following the study, the School of Health Sciences decided to install permanent large-scale messages on the lift doors, to keep up the level of awareness.

“But we’re using a mix of health and social messages – just to make sure we’re covering all bases.”



Helping people to find the stairs.

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Young and old join forces to beat dementia [more](#)



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Why I volunteered at the Winter Olympics as part of my studies

[Back to story index](#)

by UniSA Business School student Hannah Kemp



BUSINESS AND LAW

UniSA student Hannah Kemp was one of 10 UniSA Business School students who secured volunteer placements to work at the Winter Olympics.

Volunteering at the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympics has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my study at UniSA.

Three years ago when I signed up for a combined degree in [Bachelor of Business \(Tourism and Event Management\)](#) and [Bachelor of Business \(Marketing\)](#) I had no idea about the amazing opportunities offered by the [UniSA Business School](#), and no clue I would ever be so lucky to volunteer at such a huge, world famous event.

My involvement in volunteering at the Olympics came about through the incredible professors and staff at UniSA working hard to offer students incredible opportunities, internships, scholarships and more. Through these amazing people and the UniSA Business School I started my journey with a [New Colombo Plan](#) funded Tourism study tour with [Dr Aise Kim](#) in 2016 to South Korea and Taiwan. We were lucky enough to tour the PyeongChang Olympic venues as they were being built at the time, and we got to talk to our guide about the event that I had no idea I would someday be a part of.

I was successful in continuing my journey in South Korea by winning one of 105 [New Colombo Plan \(NCP\) scholarships](#) through UniSA in 2017 to live, study and intern in South Korea for a year. Part of winning that scholarship meant UniSA could assist students such as myself in becoming a volunteer at the Olympics, and that I could even get credit for it towards my degree.



The UniSA students were based at the Alpensia Cross-Country Skiing venue.

The Event Services team at the Olympics involved a large group of people from across the world. Although our roles at the [Alpensia Cross-Country Skiing](#) venue changed every day, our tasks generally involved assisting spectators and media staff and providing information about all aspects of the event. UniSA volunteers were in the thick of things working with the crowds to ensure that the event ran smoothly.

Highlights included the positive attitude and adaptability shown by the other nine UniSA volunteers in challenging environments in a new country. It was also great to be a spectator at multiple events including Big Air Snowboard, Ski Jump, Freestyle Skiing, and of course the inspiring crowd at Cross-Country. Some people turned up every day, in costume, ready to cheer for their cross-country athlete heroes.

I learned so much from my experience, both from a tourism and marketing perspective, and also about Korean people and their culture.

I hope to continue to learn even more as I continue the last few months of my New Colombo Plan scholar journey in Korea undertaking an internship with an events non-profit NGO in Seoul, before returning to Adelaide to complete the last semester of my undergraduate degree.



The UniSA volunteers also got to be spectators at events including Big Air Snowboard, Ski Jump and Freestyle Skiing.

So my advice for every new and continuing student ... studying at UniSA means you have access to some amazing exchange and internship opportunities. You just have to check your emails and apply to everything you are interested in because with the support and grants available you have nothing to lose! You never know where it might take you.

Hannah Kemp is studying a Bachelor of Business (Tourism and Event Management) and Bachelor of Business (Marketing) at UniSA's Business School.

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New Books

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> [Planning Metropolitan Australia](#)

Domestic Animals, Humans and Leisure

Half of you reading this story right now will have a dog, cat, horse or some other animal who shares your life and provides you with companionship, love and purpose.

Presumably you care for that animal and ensure it is healthy, happy and safe. But chances are you also believe you are the 'master' and your domesticated pet is subservient, albeit much loved.

That premise is challenged with the release of a new book edited by UniSA Health Sciences lecturer [Dr Janette Young](#) and University of Otago's [Professor Neil Carr](#).

[Domestic Animals, Humans, and Leisure](#) explores the shifting tide in human-animal relationships and whether it's time we addressed the power imbalance between the two.

More specifically, it asks whether domestic animals have a right to leisure that is separate from ours.

"By and large, humans make all the decisions about where and how their pets live," Dr Young says. "We have made them highly dependent on us without much regard for their own needs and rights and perhaps it's time we considered addressing that imbalance."

The book tackles several themes, including the use of animals as visitor attractions (i.e. farm stays), breeding, leisure activities including dog shows, horse riding establishments, pet-friendly holiday locations, and the darker side of human 'sport' – animal fighting.

It questions whether these human-designed leisure pursuits are in the best interests of animals or whether their benefits are solely for humans.

Different chapters draw experiences from across the world, including Canada, the US, Poland and Israel, as well as Australia. Authors discuss the legitimacy of caging small domesticated animals, the conflict between off-leash domesticated pets and wildlife, and whether it's time to challenge assumptions about how pets feel and perceive things.

"Walking the dog is presumed leisure for both animals and humans," the authors say. "But is that the case for all dogs? Does a horse feel just as fulfilled as we do by cantering across the countryside in a beautiful setting? Perhaps they do, but in some cases are we blind to animals' desires?"

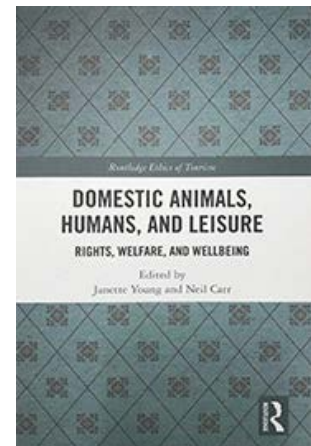
The authors point to the need for a more in-depth understanding of different breeds of animals, rather than a 'one-size-fits-all approach'.

"This is already quite sophisticated regarding dogs," the book points out. "For example, greyhounds are happy to snooze on a couch all day long; border collies require long, outdoor runs; while poodles really do like to parade."

The book calls for more research and input from qualified animal practitioners to advise on what leisure activities might suit different species and breeds, rather than humans taking the lead.

"This includes the possibility that some animals – especially those who have been selectively bred to work – may not actually like being idle but have a biological need for work."

The shift in human-animal relationships, from animal to pet, to companion and family member, is reflected in society in so many ways. Just witness the rise of pet-themed businesses, doggy day care centres and an



increasing number of pet-friendly holiday options.

Given their closer integration in our lives, the time is ripe for a deeper discussion about pets' rights, welfare and wellbeing, the book argues.

Domestic Animals, Humans, and Leisure is published by Routledge and is available [online](#).

Planning Metropolitan Australia

Metropolitan planning has a surprisingly long pedigree in Australia. Practices have evolved steadily in response to shifting large-scale urban problems. However, capital cities today present a suite of complex issues that challenge planning systems and demand better alignment between problem and response.

It's a topic explored in [Planning Metropolitan Australia](#), edited by UniSA [Emeritus Professor Stephen Hamnett](#), and Robert Freestone. Presenting essays from Australia's leading urbanists, the book examines the spatial strategies used by governments to manage metropolitan development in the 21st century.

"The most distinctive feature of Australia's contemporary settlement pattern is that the majority of Australians live in a small number of large metro areas within capital cities," Prof Hamnett says.

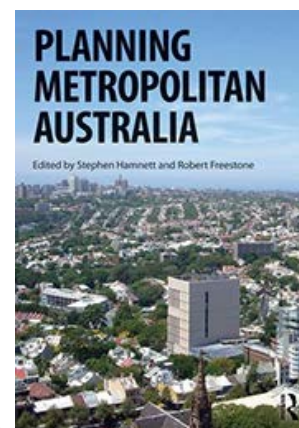
"But this presents significant challenges – as urban planning naturally occurs against a dynamic background of economic, spatial and population change, there's often a mismatch between the city's planning goals and their sprawling realities."

He says that cities are generally failing to deliver affordable housing and efficient public transport systems, and that this is largely due to, amongst other things, the preoccupation of Australians with housing as an investment vehicle and also inadequate spending on transport infrastructure.

Planning Metropolitan Australia reflects on the raft of planning challenges presented at the metropolitan scale, looks at what the future of Australian cities might be, and speculates about the prospects of more effective metropolitan planning arrangements.

It identifies a broad planning consensus around the notion of making Australian cities more contained, compact and resilient. It also observes a continuing gulf between the simplified aims of metropolitan strategies and the growing understanding of the complex functioning of the varied communities in which most people live.

Building on the editors' previous collection *The Australian Metropolis: A Planning History (2000)*, this new book examines the recent history of metropolitan planning in Australia since the beginning of the twenty-first century. Published by Routledge, the book is available [online](#).



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news

March 2018

> from the University of South Australia

Highlights from the Media Centre

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The identification of a genetic anomaly that caused the death of two unborn children; and new educational approaches to help prevent the onset of chronic pain. Here are some of the top stories from our [Media Centre](#) for March:

[Rare genetic breakthrough for UniSA and SA Pathology team](#)

An Adelaide couple's struggle to start a family has resulted in the discovery of a new rare genetic disorder, diagnosed by specialists from UniSA's [Centre for Cancer Biology](#) and the [Women's and Children's Hospital](#).

After losing two children before birth due to a lethal kidney condition, Associate Professor Christopher Barnett sent DNA samples to UniSA's [Professor Hamish Scott](#) whose laboratory identified the genetic anomaly.



Professor Hamish Scott

[UniSA welcomes giant of the literary world](#)

UniSA will play host to acclaimed West Australian novelist Tim Winton this month.

The literary giant has been confirmed by UniSA's [Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre](#) for a public speaking engagement on 26 March.

The UniSA-based Hawke Centre will host the author, whose theme will be "contemporary manhood," the subject of his latest book [The Shepherd's Hut](#) – a story about solitude, unlikely friendship and the raw business of survival.



(L-R) Geoffrey Robertson QC and Tim Winton.

Earlier this month, the centre hosted high-profile human rights barrister Geoffrey Robertson QC.

[Sparking a revolution in pain care in regional NSW](#)

New laws to restrict access to pain medications in Australia may save lives, but they have left many long-term sufferers of chronic pain wondering how they will manage.

Researchers from UniSA believe a whole new approach; a veritable pain revolution, can provide a solution to this problem.

[Pain Revolution](#) is an innovative new strategy that applies cutting edge educational approaches to help prevent the onset of chronic pain and help to treat it.



A team from UniSA is setting up a network of local pain educators in rural Australia.

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IN PICTURES

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O-Week and International Student Welcome Reception

O-Week was held on each of UniSA's campuses in February. Here are pictures highlighting some of the activities and entertainment.

[International student welcome reception](#)

[O-Week City East](#)

[O-Week City West](#)

[O-Week Magill](#)

[O-Week Mawson Lakes](#)

[O-Week Whyalla](#)

[O-Week Mount Gambier](#)

International student welcome reception

UniSA invited all new international students to join us for a welcome reception in Adelaide's Botanic Park.









City East









City West









Magill







Mawson Lakes









Whyalla





Mount Gambier



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- [Information for people with disabilities](#)
- [UniSA Online Accessibility Action Plan](#)
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- use style sheets for layout and presentation
- use tables to mark up tabular information, for example data tables (not for layout purposes)
- ensure pages are accessible when viewed in older browsers, for example a browser that does not recognise style sheets should be rendered so that it is meaningful
- use relative rather than absolute unit sizes so that text in a window can be resized to larger (see [Using this website](#))
- ensure that moving, blinking or scrolling text can be paused or stopped
- ensure that pages are usable when scripts, applets, or other programmatic objects are turned off or not supported
- provide clear navigation mechanisms.

For more detailed information please see the [UniSA Web Authoring Guide](#) for authors maintaining sub-sites within the UniSA website and developing online material.

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

General enquiries

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

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

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

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

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All hours 1800 500 911 – free call
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Future student enquiries

Ph: (08) 8302 2376
Fax: (08) 8302 0977
[Make an Enquiry](#)
Address: Level 1, 101 Currie Street, Adelaide SA 5000
Mail: GPO Box 2471, Adelaide SA 5001

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

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Ph: +61 8 8302 0114
Fax: +61 8 8302 9121
GPO Box 2471,
Adelaide,
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Contact one of the University's [Education Agents](#) who can provide information on applications, visa requirements and pre-departure arrangements.

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[UniSA Online enquiries](#)

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Student Advisers: 1300 148 812

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GPO Box 2471

Adelaide SA 5001

Ph: +61 8 8302 5880

Fax: +61 8 8302 0828

Email: research.degrees@unisa.edu.au

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Adelaide SA 5001

[City East - Campus Central](#)

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Adelaide SA 5000

Ph: 1300 301 703

Fax: (08) 8302 2466

Email: campuscentral.cityeast@unisa.edu.au

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Level 2 - Jeffrey Smart Building

Adelaide SA 5000

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Email: campuscentral.citywest@unisa.edu.au

[Magill - Campus Central](#)

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Magill SA 5072

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[Mawson Lakes - Campus Central](#)

Ground Floor - C Building

Mawson Lakes Boulevard

Mawson Lakes SA 5095

Ph: 1300 301 703

Fax: (08) 8302 3550

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or +61 8 8647 6161 (Local)*
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Email: campuscentral.whyalla@unisa.edu.au

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PO BOX 798 MOUNT GAMBIER 5290

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

Email: mountgambier.enquiries@unisa.edu.au

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Michèle Nardelli
Associate Director: News and Communications
Ph: (08) 8302 0966
Mobile: 0418 823 673
Email: michele.nardelli@unisa.edu.au

Georgia Aish
Media Liaison Officer
Ph: (08) 8302 0578
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Email: Georgia.Aish@unisa.edu.au

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Sansom Institute for Health Research

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- International Centre for Allied Health Evidence
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- Barbara Hardy Institute
- Centre for Research in Education
- Hawke EU Centre for Mobilities, Migrations and Cultural Transformations
- Centre for Islamic Thought and Education
- International Centre for Muslim and non-Muslim Understanding
- Research Centre for Languages and Cultures
- Zero Waste SA Research Centre for Sustainable Design and Behaviour (sd+b)

Environments

Research institutes

Future Industries Institute

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- Centre for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
- Defence and Systems Institute
- Natural and Built Environments Research Centre
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- Follow this link to download the latest version of [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#).

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

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



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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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Latest content revision: Thursday, 16 July 2009

A banner image showing two young women, one of Asian descent and one of European descent, smiling and looking towards the camera. They are wearing blue backpacks. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a university hallway or event space. Navigation arrows (left and right) are visible on the sides of the image.

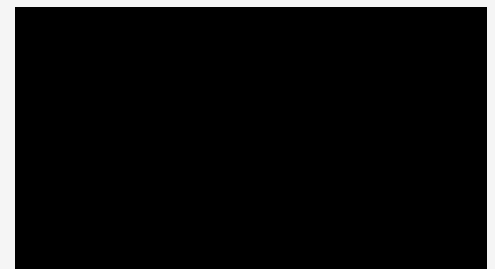
Open Day

Sunday 12 August 2018

Welcome to Open Day

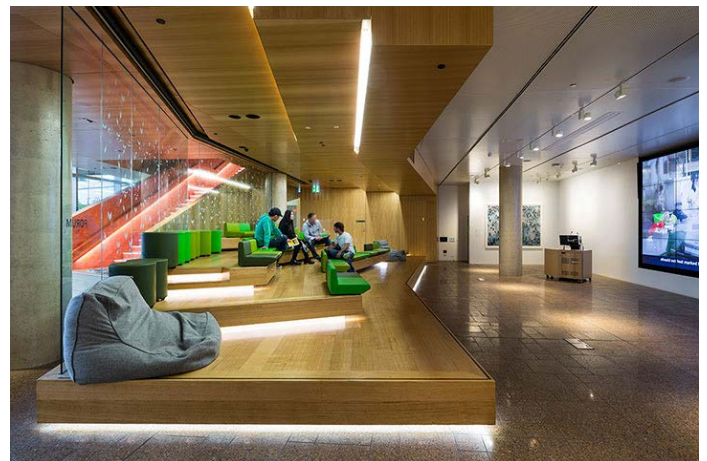
UniSA's metropolitan Open Day will be held on Sunday 12 August from 9.00 am until 4.30pm at our City West and City East campuses. The day will feature over 80 presentations and 50 information booths and a range of interactive activities and tours to help thousands of visitors make informed decisions 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](#).



Gallery of our campuses and facilities





Campus Days

Open Day is part of Campus Days, a series of events giving prospective students and parents a range of opportunities to ask questions about different degrees and careers, take a tour around campus, attend presentations, and talk to current staff and students.

[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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17 Apr

Win a trip to France! Global space competition [#ActInSpace](#) is landing in Australia for the very first time on the 25-26 May! Registrations are now open for [@ActInSpaceAus](#) which is being hosted by [@ICCUniSA](#). For more details: Visit



UniSA
@UniversitySA

16 Apr

Something in the way they move.... [@UniversitySA](#) Pridham Hall graduations in Hindley Street, not Abbey Road, earlier today! [@PaulMcCartney](#)

<https://t.co/JsUzj5UP0o>
#Startup #Innovation
<https://t.co/Q9bPnqWCM5>

<https://t.co/A8TAYkUSIN>

@CFSAlerts, giving fire-risk residents a real-life scenario of a #bushfire. CFS says the technology could be vital for future fire planning
<https://t.co/jxb0Gro4zz>
<https://t.co/Qw1yI4DLsl>



UniSA Alumni
@UniSA_alumni

13 Apr

Congratulations @UniversitySA
's Class of 2018 & welcome to

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



Home > Calendar

Calendar

18
APR

Aging of the Neuromuscular System and Fatigability

18 April 2018

Professor Sandra Hunter is an internationally recognised and outstanding exercise scientist with research expertise in sex and age differences in muscle fatigability and endurance performance,...



Current Events

28
MAR

24
APR



Food, Space and Place

28 March - 24 April 2018

This exhibition, presented by UniSA's School of Creative Industries and our partners, explores food,...

14
APR

06
MAY



Upcoming events in India

14 April - 6 May 2018

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

14
APR

24
APR



Upcoming events in Philippines


14 April - 24 April 2018

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

Upcoming events

View:

April 2018 (7 Events)

Minimise 

18
APR



Aging of the Neuromuscular System and Fatigability

18 April 2018

19
APR



Upcoming events in Sri Lanka

19 April 2018

Find out about studying at the University of South Australia


19
APR




SA's Place In The World: What Is Our Brand? and the Importance of Simplicity in

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

Professor Sandra Hunter is an internationally recognised and outstanding exercise scientist with...



Upcoming events in Bangladesh

21 April 2018

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

and living in Adelaide.



Professional & Personal: Does being a patient make you a better clinician?

23 April 2018

Presented by Dr Mark Henschke

Communications

19 April 2018

In-Conversation with Bill Muirhead AM, Agent General For SA...



Upcoming events in Denmark

30 April 2018

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



South Sea Islander and Australian Reflections on 'Blackbirding'

30 April - 18 May 2018

Presented by The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre, The South Pacific Islander Community of South...

May 2018 (4 Events)

Minimise



Upcoming events in Sweden

02 May - 3 May 2018

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



French Day @ UniSA

15 May 2018

Together with Alliance Francaise and the Embassy of France in Australia, UniSA is bringing a bit of...



The France-Australia Strategic Partnership in a Challenging International Environment

17 May 2018

Presented by His Excellency, Mr Christophe Penot Ambassador of France to Australia



UK Alumni Cocktail Reception

24 May 2018

Join the VC and fellow alumni

for an Alumni Cocktail Reception at The Royal Institution of Great...



June 2018 (3 Events)

Minimise

06 JUN

Australia and its Security Challenges – Near and Far

6 June 2018

Presented by Professor John Blaxland and Dr Rodger Shanahan

20 JUN

Sydney Alumni Cocktail Reception

20 June 2018

Join VC Prof David Lloyd for an alumni cocktail reception

21 JUN

Brisbane Alumni Cocktail Reception

21 June 2018

Join VC Prof David Lloyd for an alumni cocktail reception



Areas of study and research

+ Click to expand

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

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA



AUSTRALIAN TECHNOLOGY NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES



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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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