

# Adelaidean

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

August 2007 | Volume 16 | Number 6

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Photo by Erik Dungan

## Is the media unhealthy for our children?

### The Forum

What is it about today's society that's making our kids obese?

Child obesity is a serious health problem throughout the world, and the rate of child obesity in Australia is one of the highest in the world.

Just how big is the problem? What effect has the media had on the rates of childhood obesity? And what are the major health problems associated with obesity?

These are all questions being posed by The Forum, a series of free public discussions being held at the University of Adelaide

during Open Day – Sunday 26 August.

The Forum sees panels of leading researchers tackle issues of importance to our society. Each one-hour Forum contributes to public debate, enabling the community to interact with experts in their fields, ask questions, and have a say on the issues.

To be held in the Eclipse Room, Level 4, Union House, The Forum is one of many reasons to visit the University of Adelaide's North Terrace Campus on Open Day.

The two topics being discussed at The Forum this year are both highly topical and extremely relevant to Australia today:

### 11.00am – Childhood Obesity: Is it a product of our media culture?

**Panellists:** Professor Graeme Hugo, Professor Mary Griffiths, Dr Lisa Kettler, Professor Pascale Quester

### 2.00pm – Is the Australian Government doing enough to ensure the long-term sustainability of the country?

**Panellists:** Professor Andrew Lowe, Professor Timothy Doyle, Professor Christopher Findlay, Professor Gus Nathan.

The Forum is free and open to all.

For full details of The Forum and other information about what's happening on Open Day, see our special Open Day feature on pages 12-14.

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■ From the Vice-Chancellor

It's no surprise that Open Day is one of the biggest events on the University's calendar. Judging by the crowds in recent years, we're in for another spectacular Open Day this year (in terms of numbers of attendees – I can't promise anything about the weather!)

I very much enjoy Open Day because it's such a great opportunity to showcase the University, and the North Terrace Campus in particular, to the wider community. The tours of heritage buildings and new and refurbished buildings alike, the sense of student life on campus, the many displays of education and research endeavours spread right across the campus, the bands, the food, and the information talks and expos – they all blend together to provide visitors with a perfect picture of the University of Adelaide and what we're all about.

But let's not forget the University's other campuses – Roseworthy, Waite and Thebarton. Each of these is in some way represented at Open Day on Sunday 26 August, and Roseworthy itself has a Careers and Course Information Day on Friday 24 August, which is well worth attending if you're interested in studying agriculture and animal science.

Each one of the University's campuses plays an important role in the bigger picture of the University of Adelaide and how we – students, staff, volunteers, friends and colleagues – are all Living Life Impact.

Having an event like Open Day means putting on a special show for the wider community, and it means that we get a chance to shine for our visitors, some of whom might not come to the University any other day of the year.

I would hope that this year we give the public an opportunity, desire or excuse to return to the University

more often – either by becoming a student, or a volunteer, or by attending the many public events we have on offer throughout the year.

The Research Tuesdays are a perfect example of this – events designed to show members of the business, government and general communities the quality of research being conducted here at the University of Adelaide across a broad range of fields. With only one Research Tuesday per month we barely scratch the surface of what the University and its people are achieving, but we hope to give the public a taste of how our work is relevant to the lives of many.

I'm pleased to say that August is a bit different. This month we have not one but two Research Tuesdays – one of them being held on the 'traditional' second Tuesday of the month, the other being held specially as a 'Research Tuesday on Sunday' for Open Day. You'll find the details of each of these talks within this issue of the *Adelaidean*.

Whether it's attending one of the many drawcard events on Open Day, or the Research Tuesdays, concerts or other events on the University's calendar, I hope to see you around! Our doors are open to you.

**JAMES A. McWHA**  
Vice-Chancellor and President

## Art & Heritage Collections

Sir George Murray was one of the University's greatest benefactors. During his time at the University, he was both Vice-Chancellor (1915) and Chancellor (1916-1942) and served for more than 50 years on the University Council.

Throughout his life and in his bequest, Murray gave large sums of money and the majority of his personal art collection, as well as furniture and silver to the University.

A collection of more than 40 silver tableware objects from Murray's bequest was recently discovered stored in two trunks under archival volumes in one of the University safes. The discovery gives Art & Heritage Collections hope that there are still undiscovered treasures hiding in darkened corners of the University.

■ Anna Rivett, Collections Officer, Art & Heritage Collections



This collection of silverware is now on display at the back of the Mitchell Building, North Terrace Campus, and will be open to the public during Open Day on Sunday 26 August.



# Short film competition puts young people in the picture

## Media

Above:  
Accessibility of media  
technology puts filmmaking  
within reach of many young  
people today

Photo by Charis Tsevis

Young South Australians are being urged to try their hand at becoming our next generation of filmmakers, thanks to a new short film competition being run by the University of Adelaide.

The competition – part of a Festival of Short Film being held by the University during Open Day on Sunday 26 August – is encouraging young South Australians to tell their stories about the life and culture of the city of Adelaide, even if they've never made (or considered making) a movie before.

With the theme 'Adelaide's Street Stories', people under the age of 25 will need to make a short movie of five minutes or less that tells a story about the streets of Adelaide. They could be stories of danger, excitement, or romance, quirky tales, quiet moments, or amazing but unnoticed features of Adelaide.

All finalists will have their stories screened during a dedicated half-hour program on Channel 9, Adelaide, and will be streamed online at the AdelaideNow website ([www.adelaidenow.com.au](http://www.adelaidenow.com.au)), giving the short films instant exposure to a wider audience. The finalists' films will also be screened during the Festival of Short Film at the University of Adelaide.

All finalists will go into the running for a grand prize: the use of professional equipment and editing assistance sponsored by Kojo Group, valued at \$4000, and free membership to the Media Resource Centre for 12 months.

There is no entry fee for the competition – but you've got to hurry! The deadline for entries is 5pm Friday 10 August.

"The kinds of technology available to young people today put making stories within the grasp of many, with schools and homes alike kitted out with some of the latest, publicly available equipment and software," said the University of Adelaide's Head of Media, Associate Professor Mary Griffiths.

"We're hoping this accessibility of media technology and a strong awareness of media amongst young people will empower them to step forward to tell creative stories about Adelaide that are relevant and interesting," she said.

"The competition could make a real difference to young movie makers in South Australia, because of the chance to have their work seen and appreciated by a wider public, and because of the industry exposure they will receive at an early stage in their budding careers".

Dr Griffiths said South Australia had been home to some fantastic filmmaking talent "and continues to play an important role in the nation's film industry".

"We see such talented and aspiring young people studying Media at the University of Adelaide, that I have no doubt that this competition has the potential to unearth South Australia's next generation of great directors, writers, producers, actors and animators," she said.

Mark Colson, General Manager of Channel 9, Adelaide said: "As a local station we are thrilled to have the opportunity to promote young South Australian talent, and we look forward to showcasing the winning entries in a half-hour television special."

■ Story by David Ellis

For more information about the competition and the Festival of Short Film, visit the website: [www.adelaide.edu.au/openday/festival](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday/festival)

For more information about Media at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)



**You could win one of these!**

If you're graduating from the University of Adelaide, it doesn't hurt to fill out the Australian Graduate Survey, as one of our graduates found out recently.

The Australian Graduate Survey (formerly known as the Graduate Destination Survey) provides important information about students' experience at university and where their studies are leading.

All University of Adelaide graduates who completed the 2006 survey within the allotted timeframe automatically were entered into the draw to win a new Vespa scooter.

The winner of the draw was Dana Gifford, a 2006 Bachelor of Arts graduate from Gawler East.

Dana, who majored in English, is pictured here taking delivery of her new Vespa.

The Vespa 2006 LX 50 is valued around \$4000 and, at five litres per 100kms, it won't cost Dana a fortune to run.

If you're one of the thousands of students to graduate from the University of Adelaide this year, consider filling out the 2007 survey – you never know your luck!

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## Celebrating 10 years of science in action

### Science

The University of Adelaide is a major sponsor of National Science Week, which is now celebrating 10 years of raising awareness about science in the general community.

National Science Week will be held in South Australia from 15-26 August, and a number of events are based at or involve the University of Adelaide.

With such a strong focus on science education and research, the University of Adelaide is

always promoting science to the wider community.

In the lead-up to National Science Week, the University is playing a major role in Science Alive! – a free, fun expo of science that feature more than 40 displays of entertaining science, education activities, and study and careers and information.

Science Alive! will be held at Stirling Angus Hall, Adelaide Showgrounds, Wayville over the weekend of 11-12 August from 10.00am to 4.00pm each day.

Key University of Adelaide events during Science Week include:

## Are women safer at work? \$20,000 says they are.



If you've made a difference to safety in the workplace or you have undertaken OHS improvements for the benefit of women, there are two \$10,000 Scholarships to be awarded to two worthy individuals.

Thanks to Augusta Zadow, the first female inspector of factories in South Australia in 1895, the type of improved working conditions that we now take for granted were initiated. The Augusta Zadow Scholarships are her legacy.

If you're a small business and would like assistance preparing a submission, contact Jo Emms on (08) 8204 9814.

**Nominations close 5pm Friday 31 August 2007.**

To apply, visit [www.safework.sa.gov.au/sw07](http://www.safework.sa.gov.au/sw07)

*Safe Work 2007 Working Together. Supporting Safe Work Australia Week*



Government of South Australia



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#### Event: **Dr Jack Bacon – the new Carl Sagan**

Visiting international scientist and author Dr Jack Bacon, one of America's most requested speakers, explores the scientific world with his presentation "The Parallel Bang".

**Cost:** free  
**Date:** Tuesday 21 August  
**Time:** 7.00pm  
**Venue:** Room G04, Napier Building, North Terrace Campus, University of Adelaide  
**Contact:** rona.sakko@csiro.au or phone (08) 8463 5937

#### Event: **Sciences @ Adelaide: Activities & Display**

Part of the University of Adelaide's Open Day for 2007, you can follow the Science Trail, experience the South Australian Virtual Reality Centre and discover the origin of mass in our universe, learn how to make biodiesel, or witness smoke, sparks and noise with a chemistry demonstration!

**Cost:** free  
**Date:** Sunday 26 August  
**Time:** various, from 10.00am to 4.00pm  
**Venue:** start at the Sciences Hub, Sciences Marquee, North Terrace Campus, University of Adelaide  
**Contact:** melanie.bagg@adelaide.edu.au or phone (08) 8303 5673

[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday/activities/sciences/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday/activities/sciences/)

#### Event: **Science, Fun and the Future – with Deane Hutton**

Part of the University of Adelaide's Open Day for 2007, this show includes fantastic science demonstrations by one of Australia's best science communicators.

**Cost:** free  
**Date:** Sunday 26 August  
**Time:** sessions at 10.00am, 12.30pm and 2.00pm  
**Venue:** Room G04, Napier Building, North Terrace Campus, University of Adelaide  
**Contact:** donna.fiegert@adelaide.edu.au or phone (08) 8303 5741

Other events include a Discovery Tour of Civil Engineering at the University, the AIP Super Science Quiz, and The Great Debate hosted by the University of Adelaide Science Club

For more information about these and more National Science Week events, visit the website: [www.scienceweek.info.au](http://www.scienceweek.info.au)

To find out more about Science at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)



# echallenge

ENTREPRENEURS' CHALLENGE 2007

## Challenge to young SA entrepreneurs

Young entrepreneurs with innovative ideas are encouraged to enter the University of Adelaide's 2007 echallenge competition.

The Entrepreneurs' Challenge aims to foster the successful development of new ideas into investment-ready, start-up companies, creating genuine commercial prospects that benefit the State.

Targeted at all South Australian tertiary students (university and TAFE), the echallenge is open to teams of up to six students who must develop a business plan for a new, previously unfunded concept.

Run by the University of Adelaide's Education Centre for Innovation and Commercialisation (ECIC), echallenge has kick-started some innovative local companies since its inception in 2002, such as:

- 2004 finalist Microbric, an electronic construction set company which has gone on to launch the hugely popular i-bot, Ai2 and viper products;

- Adelaide organic clothing store The Purely Cotton Company, which sells environmentally friendly underwear;
- 2006 winner Vinetology, a robotic grapevine pruner.

"Cutting-edge, blue-sky technologies are run through some pretty rigorous grilling from the judges," said ECIC Deputy Director Antonio Dottore.

"The echallenge helps build entrepreneurial culture and is an effective way of creating employment opportunities and stimulating the business community."

Semi-finalist teams are offered an experienced business person as mentor and the final plans are judged by a panel of high-profile executives from business and government.

**Deadline for registration: Monday 13 August.**  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/echallenge/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/echallenge/)

■ Story by Candy Gibson

### News in Brief

#### Award for Urrbrae House

Heritage work undertaken on Urrbrae House has received a Merit Award from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects at their annual awards presentations.

Brasse Architects won the highest award level in the Heritage category for their restoration work to repair salt damp in 116-year-old Urrbrae House, located on the Waite Campus.

The citation applauded the architects' skill in removing the salt damp, while still retaining the design principles employed more than a century ago.

#### Electrical Engineering Expo

The School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering is hosting its annual Research Expo on Monday 3 September.

The expo showcases state-of-the-art research being conducted at Adelaide, and will cover a wide range of research areas, such as sensor signal processing, microwave radar, RFID, biomedical engineering, microelectronics, control systems, internet communications and power engineering.

Registration is free. For more information and to register, email [expo@eleceng.adelaide.edu.au](mailto:expo@eleceng.adelaide.edu.au) or visit the website: [www.eleceng.adelaide.edu.au/expo](http://www.eleceng.adelaide.edu.au/expo)

#### Censorship and Secrecy

Dr Barry Jones AO, well known for his contribution to Australian politics and science, as *Pick A Box* champion and on *The Einstein Factor*, will give the John Bray Oration at the University of Adelaide on Tuesday 4 September. His talk is "Censorship and Secrecy: threats to an open society in an insecure age", 5.45pm in Union Hall, North Terrace Campus. Admission is via banknote or gold coin donation. To RSVP, contact Gaynor Tyerman on (08) 8303 6356 or email: [tyerman@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:tyerman@adelaide.edu.au)

#### Golden Anniversary celebrated in music

A concert featuring graduates and staff from the University of Adelaide will help to celebrate the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Emeritus Professor Trevor Wilson (History) and wife Jane - and raise money for a worthy cause.

Organised by the Wilson Family and Soroptomist International of Adelaide, the concert of classical and jazz music, to be held on Sunday 2 September, will raise funds for Be Strong Be Safe - a project for young refugee women run by the Australian Refugee Association.

Donation: adults \$25, concession \$15, family: \$50. For more information contact Jane Wilson on 8344 7925 or email: [tjwilson@aapt.net.au](mailto:tjwilson@aapt.net.au)

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## Sweet music a treat for lunch times

The ever-popular Friday Lunch Hour Concert Series returns to the University of Adelaide in August.

The second series for 2007 starts on Friday 3 August with a very special concert of chamber music. Led by Terence Tam, Concertmaster of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, the program features the beautiful Horn Quintet K407 by Mozart and a new work by Philip Hall which was composed especially to complement the quintet.

Once again, the Lunch Hour Concerts feature a diverse range of music performed by staff and students from the University of Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium of Music, and a range of exciting new artists.

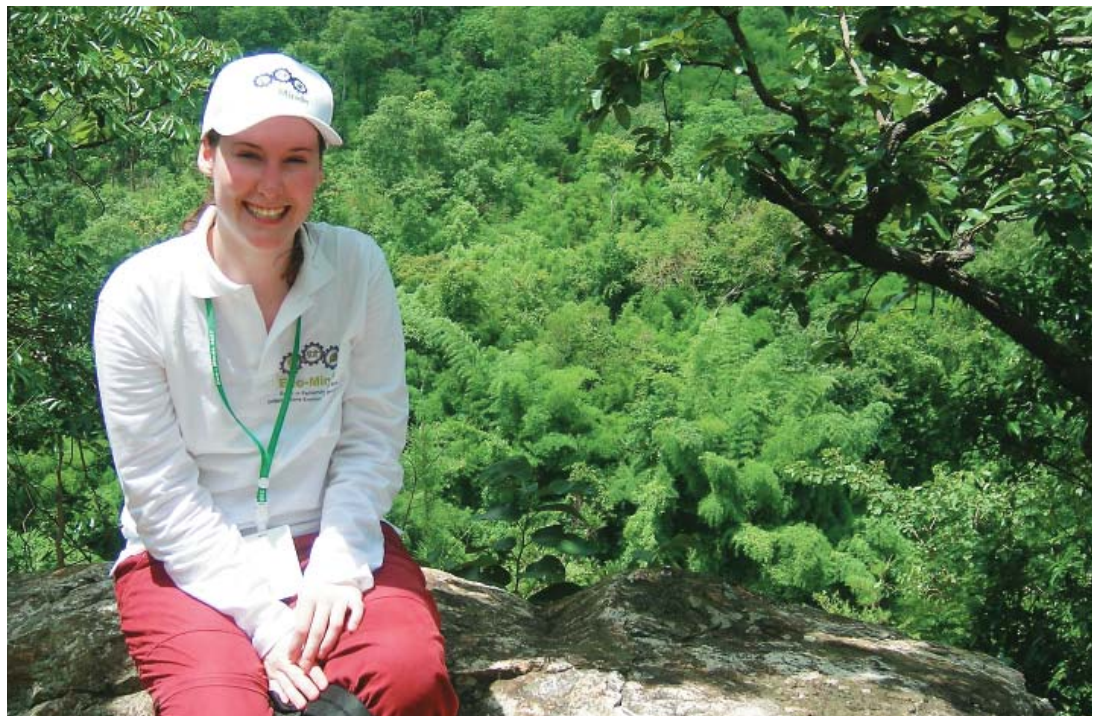
The Benaud Trio, named after the famous Australian cricketer, has established a fine reputation and will perform the magnificent Piano Trio No.1 by Brahms in September. The TinAlley String Quartet will also visit from Melbourne later in the same month.

Marija Bajalica, a Yugoslav-born pianist now resident in Adelaide, will give her first solo recital for the concert series in early November, and organist Christopher Wrench will visit from Brisbane to perform on Elder Hall's stunning Casavant Frères organ.

The concerts will be held every Friday from 3 August until 16 November in Elder Hall from 1.10–2.00pm. Admission is only \$6 and tickets are available at the door from 12.30pm on the day of each concert.

If you want to reserve a seat, a Gold Pass is also available for just \$75. For more information contact the Concert Office on (08) 8303 5925.

**Full program details are available at:**  
[www.music.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.music.adelaide.edu.au)



# Rachel takes on global eco-challenge

## ■ Environment

“The main contentious issue is that people downstream are missing out on the water for use for their livelihoods”

Above:  
Rachel Cain

Double degree Law and Environmental Studies student Rachel Cain was one of just a handful of young people from the Asia Pacific region invited to bring a new perspective to the sustainable management of Thailand's Mae Klong River Basin.

With two other Australian students, Rachel was selected to attend Eco-Minds, the Asia Pacific youth environment forum organised by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in partnership with Bayer, the multi-national chemical, healthcare and technology corporation.

In Thailand, the group of 27 young people heard from a variety of speakers including Clean Up Australia founder and environmentalist Ian Kiernan AO, before heading for on-site study of the river basin, west of Bangkok.

“We started upstream where the river is dammed for hydro-electric power generation and then worked our way downstream,” Rachel said. “Further downstream is a diversion to supply drinking water for Bangkok. The main contentious issue is that people downstream are missing out on the water for use for their livelihoods – it sounds familiar, doesn't it?”

Back in Bangkok, the students worked together to form recommendations on how the river basin should be managed sustainably, presenting these

on the final day to a panel of local university professors and representatives from UNEP and Bayer.

“We hope the recommendations will also be presented to the Thai Government,” Rachel said.

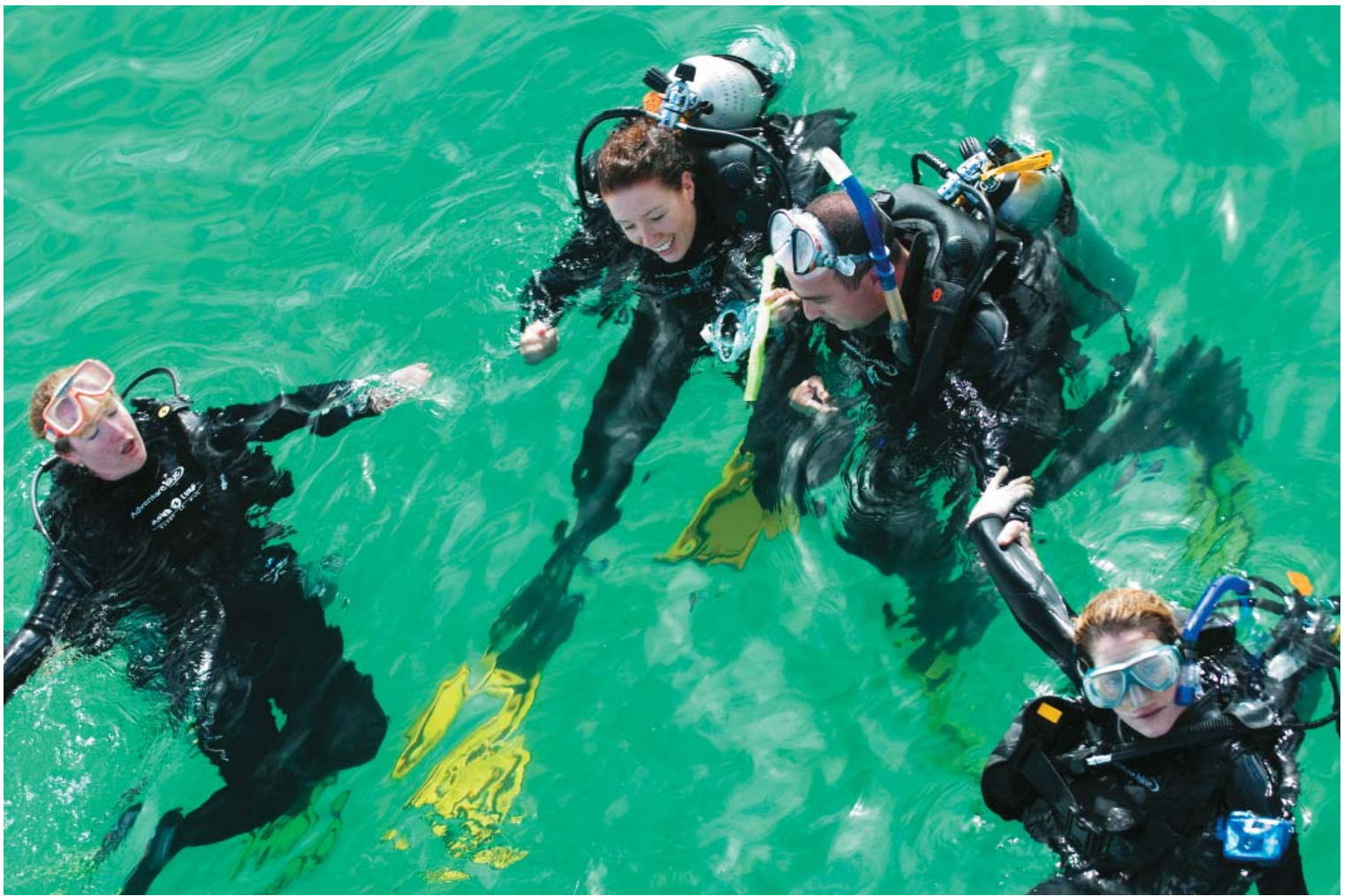
For the fourth-year student, the environmental forum was another step in what has been a driving passion since primary school. At just 14 Rachel joined the Youth Environment Council of SA, where she still mentors other members. This work, together with her academic abilities, helped win her the title of Lions Youth of the Year for SA in 2003.

At the start of 2007 Rachel travelled to Costa Rica on a voluntary program to help save endangered leatherback turtles. Over the past two years she has also worked part-time for the Department of Environment and Heritage in environmental education.

Further information on the Eco-Minds program can be found at: [www.eco-minds.bayer.com](http://www.eco-minds.bayer.com)

■ Story by Robyn Mills

To find out more about Law or Environmental Studies at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)



# Marine biology students dive into study

## ■ Marine Biology

Students on one of the University of Adelaide's newest Bachelor degree programs needed little encouragement to get thoroughly immersed in their study environment at the start of their degree.

The Bachelor of Science (Marine Biology) started this year and within a few weeks students were undertaking the "dive experience". The first session took place in a pool and then students took to the reef at Port Noarlunga.

"Following this session, we encourage students to get their open water certificate," said Gerald Buttfield, School Manager, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences. "Students need their certificate if they want to take part in underwater research opportunities and be inducted as a scientific diver."

Although actively encouraged, diving is not a requirement. "We try to get students who want to dive into the water wherever possible but

there are also plenty of shore-based areas of study," said Mr Buttfield.

The School has a large aquarium facility and a boat fleet, including two six-metre marine vessels and a variety of smaller craft.

Marine biology students benefit from close interaction with the University's large marine biology research group. The group has been very successful in winning research grants and has a variety of research projects, in areas such as sub-tidal and macro ecology, ecological history, fisheries, deep sea environments, parasites and human impact on habitats. The research group and the Marine Biology program have close links with SARDI Aquatic Sciences, and there is collaborative research with all government departments and agencies involved in this area.

"The students gain an insight into research and experience with the major current issues of

importance in marine ecology," said Mr Buttfield.

The course coordinator is Associate Professor Sean Connell. He and fellow researcher Associate Professor Bronwyn Gillanders together edited Australia's first textbook on marine ecology. *Marine Ecology* was recently published by Oxford University Press Australia and reviewed as "setting a new standard in text books". It has been adopted by Australia's experts as the most authoritative text in the discipline.

■ Story by Robyn Mills

To find out more about Marine Biology at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)

Above:  
There's real depth to the study of Marine Biology at the University of Adelaide, as these students can attest

Photo by Ben Searcy



# Engineering a renaissance in Adelaide

**Major new developments are on the horizon for engineering at the University of Adelaide, with potential students set to benefit from the changes, as ROBYN MILLS reports.**

Engineering is undergoing a renaissance at the University of Adelaide fuelled by the high demand for skilled graduates and exciting new areas of study.

Two new programs – Mining Engineering and Pharmaceutical Engineering – recruited above expectation this year and another six new bachelor degree programs are in the pipeline.

A bid has gone in for 200 new Commonwealth-supported student places starting in 2008, on top of the extra 100 places filled this year. The University recently announced a \$100 million new building to cater for the significant growth.

Leading this rapid development is Professor Peter Dowd, Executive

Dean of the University's Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences.

Professor Dowd explained the increasing demand: "The first major reason is that there is a booming economy at the moment and a serious skills shortage in areas such as resources, manufacturing and processing – all areas which require engineers. There is a very clear link between an engineering degree and an exciting, well-paid career, and that means it is an attractive study option.

"There is also another more fundamental reason. Everything we do is moving towards what an engineer would call a systems approach to things. The idea of

a system is to look at the total problem, and look at how the component you're interested in interacts with everything else, how it affects the wider picture. That concept – systems engineering – has meant the introduction of whole new areas of study emerging at the interface between disciplines, for example biology and engineering."

The new Pharmaceutical Engineering degree is an example of a "first step" towards an interdisciplinary systems approach.

The other new degree last year was Mining Engineering. "The whole mining operation is a complex system – exploration, discovery, extraction, construction, processing, sales, marketing etc. We are developing plans for a major new initiative in this area – an integrated, inter-disciplinary centre for extractive resources which would incorporate research, education training and consultancy in all these areas." ▶

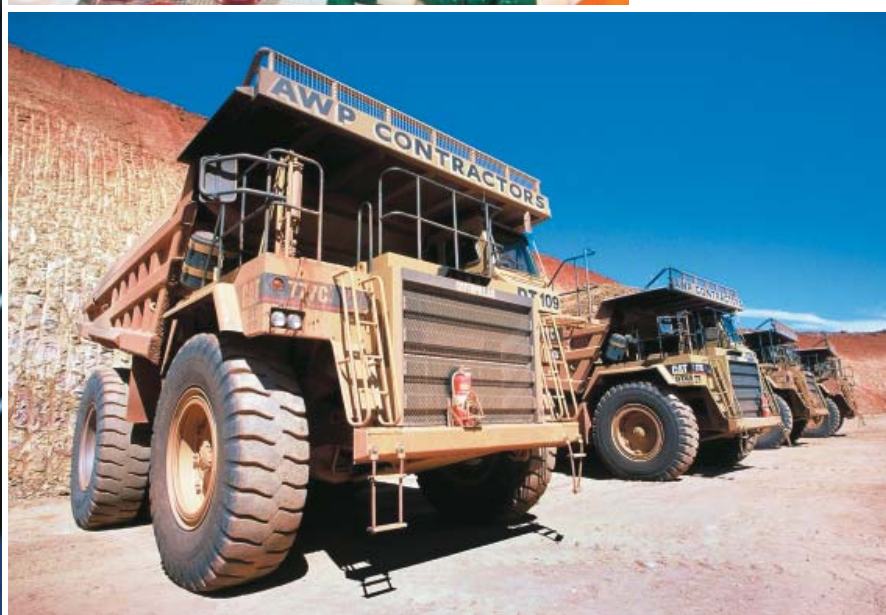
**"There is a very clear link between an engineering degree and an exciting, well-paid career, and that means it is an attractive study option"**





Left:  
Pharmaceutical Engineering  
is one of the new degree  
programs this year

Far Left:  
Sports Engineering is  
among the proposed new  
areas of study



Above:  
Mining Engineering was  
extremely successful in  
recruiting new students  
this year

Opposite page:  
Students work on a solar-  
electric hybrid car

Photo by Randy Larcombe

Another six new programs are planned for 2008, subject to final approvals – Bachelor of Engineering degrees in Sports Engineering, Architectural Engineering, Avionics and Electronic Systems Engineering, Sustainable Energy Engineering and Computational Engineering, as well as a Bachelor of Computer Graphics.

“The aim with these programs is to excite and motivate young people with new and innovative applications of engineering based on our core engineering disciplines,” Professor Dowd said. “For example, students doing Sports Engineering will be qualified in Mechanical Engineering but with a focus on an application that is likely to appeal to a wider range of year 12 students.”

Sports Engineering will initially look at the Mechanical Engineering aspects of design and optimisation of sports equipment but could be extended to include areas of Structural and Civil Engineering

with the design and construction of sporting facilities.

Professor Dowd also believes the take-up of these sorts of engineering degrees will encourage more high school students into the science and maths areas over the longer term.

“We’ve seen evidence for that with the Pharmaceutical Engineering degree,” he said. “The core of this degree is Chemical Engineering and there was a risk that we would be taking students from Chemical Engineering – but it didn’t happen. Chemical Engineering numbers went up too.”

The new \$100 million building will be crucial to the expected growth in engineering. It will also act as a “living laboratory” and showcase for, particularly, the new Architectural Engineering degree with teaching tools incorporated in the construction of the building.

Professor Dowd came to the University of Adelaide in 2004 from

the University of Leeds in the UK where he was Professor of Mining Engineering and Head of the School of Process, Environmental and Materials Engineering.

His distinguished international contribution to theory and application of geostatistics and mathematical geology and his leadership in engineering education was recently recognised with his election as Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

■ Story by Robyn Mills

To find out more about the range of studies in Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/opacity](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/opacity)



## Careers and Course Information Day

### Roseworthy Campus Friday 24 August

Do studies in Agriculture, Agricultural Science or Animal Science interest you?

The Careers and Course Information Day at the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus is ideal for discovering the opportunities available in these areas.

The day puts you in touch with current students and staff, who will answer your questions about studying at Roseworthy and the career opportunities that study can lead to.

Tours of the campus will include visits to the residential college, library, computing facilities, farm, and lecture theatres.

You'll find out about student life on campus, as well as scholarships, fees and other important information.

The Roseworthy Campus of the University of Adelaide is an internationally renowned centre for excellence in dryland agriculture and animal production.

Campus partners include TAFE SA, Primary Industries and Resources South Australia (PIRSA) and the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI). Roseworthy is also the location for collaborative centres such as the Livestock Systems Alliance, Pig and Poultry Production Institute, Sheep Industries Development Centre and Roseworthy Information Centre.

School groups interested in arranging a tour should contact Judy Tucker on (08) 8303 7812 or email: [judy.tucker@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:judy.tucker@adelaide.edu.au)

Enquiries about studies in Agriculture, Agricultural Science or Animal Science should be directed to the Student Centre: phone (08) 8303 5208, country and interstate callers toll free on 1800 061 459, or visit the website: [www.adelaide.edu.au/student/current/enquiries/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/current/enquiries/)



# Why we're warming to geothermal energy

## ■ Geoscience

Above:  
South Australia is a haven for hot rocks, with the Flinders Ranges a prime location

Photo by Ged Unsworth

The University of Adelaide has been awarded \$250,000 from the State Government to help develop an international research facility into geothermal energy.

SA Mineral Resources Minister Paul Holloway said the seed funding would allow the University to host Australia's first research cluster examining all aspects of hot-rock-based geothermal systems.

The geothermal research facility will be based within the University's Australian School of Petroleum (ASP).

"The Government sees geothermal as an energy source for the future and by helping the University establish the research facility here, it will ensure that South Australia is in the vanguard of all facets of developing and demonstrating hot rock systems," Mr Holloway said.

Professor Richard Hillis, Chair of Petroleum Geology at the ASP, said the University would collaborate with the Australian Geothermal Energy Group and the Department of Primary Industries and Resources of South Australia.

Geothermal energy is generated by converting hot water or steam from deep beneath the Earth's surface into electricity.

Mr Holloway said South Australia represented a "hot rock haven" for renewable, emissions-free power.

"The State could provide a very significant part of Australia's base load power needs by 2030," he said.

"This investment will complement future developments that the other States, the Northern Territory or the Commonwealth may implement."

Australia-wide, 27 companies have applied for 166 geothermal licences. Between 2002 and 2012 these companies are expected to invest more than \$650 million in exploration.

South Australia has attracted 17 companies to apply for 142 geothermal licences, with work programs worth more than \$550 million for the term 2002-12. That is more than 80% of the national tallies for geothermal licence applications and forecast investment in Australia.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

To find out more about Geoscience at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)



# Tassie Tiger dung probed for extinction clues

## ■ Ancient DNA

A University of Adelaide project led by zoologist Dr Jeremy Austin is, examining 50-year-old animal dung to try to answer one of the nation's great mysteries – did the Tasmanian Tiger live beyond its reported extinction in the 1930s?

Dr Austin, from the Australian Centre for Ancient DNA, is extracting DNA from animal droppings found in Tasmania in the late 1950s and 1960s, which have been preserved in the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.

"The scats (droppings) were found by Eric Guiler, Australia's last real thylacine expert, who said he thought it more probable they came from the Tasmanian Tiger rather than a dog, Tasmanian Devil or quoll," Dr Austin said.

The Tasmanian Tiger, or thylacine, was widespread in Tasmania when European settlers arrived in 1803.

Resembling a large, long dog with stripes, a heavy stiff tail and big head, the thylacine was the world's largest marsupial carnivore at the time of its extinction in 1936, when the last one in captivity died in Hobart Zoo.

"If we find thylacine DNA from the 1950s scats it will be significant," Dr Austin said. "The last Tasmanian Tiger killed in the wild was in 1918, so there's a 20-year gap between a wild sighting and one in captivity. It's a long shot that they were still around in the 1950s, but we can't rule it out at this stage."

Dr Austin is also extracting DNA from bones of both the Tasmanian Tiger and Tasmanian Devil found on mainland Australia. Scientists believe the Tiger lived on the mainland 2000 years ago and the Devil 500 years ago.

"The DNA may be able to reveal they were different species to the Tasmanian animals, although it's unlikely," he said. "It's only

been 10,000 years since Bass Strait flooded and Tasmania was separated from the mainland. That's not a long period of time in evolutionary terms.

"The main reason people think they may have been different species is that the Tasmanian Tiger was much bigger than its mainland cousins. That's not surprising given the climate, because the colder the environment, the larger the animal."

Dr Austin is working in collaboration with Oliver Berry from the University of Western Australia, another zoologist who is extracting ancient DNA from scats in Tasmania to find evidence of foxes.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

Above:  
Dr Jeremy Austin with a mounted specimen of a baby thylacine from the SA Museum

Photo by Candy Gibson

To find out more about world-class research at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)



# Living Life Impact



## The Forum

The Forum is one of the most popular additions to Open Day in recent years.

In The Forum, leading University of Adelaide researchers address big community issues in a panel format that gives members of the community the chance to interact, ask questions, and have their say.

**VENUE:** Eclipse Room, Level 4, Union House, North Terrace Campus

**TIME:** 11.00am and 2.00pm – each Forum will run for approximately one hour

**COST:** Entry is free



### 11.00am

#### **Childhood Obesity: Is it a product of our media culture?**

The rate of childhood obesity in Australia is one of the highest in the world. Just how big is the problem? What effect has the media had on the rates of childhood obesity? What are the major health problems associated with obesity?

#### **Panellists:**

**Professor Graeme Hugo** is one of Australia's most respected demographers. He is a Federation Fellow, Professor of the Discipline of Geographical and Environmental Studies and Director of the National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems at the University of Adelaide.

**Professor Pascale Quester** is Executive Dean of the Faculty of the Professions and is the Inaugural Professor of Marketing at the School of Commerce at the University of Adelaide. She has published two leading academic texts on the topic of marketing and consumer behaviour.

**Dr Mary Griffiths** is Head of Media at the University of Adelaide. Her research is in e-democracy, digital arts, and other new forms of participatory and mobile media. She runs the mini-track in e-democracy at the annual European Conference of E-Government.

**Dr Lisa Kettler** is a lecturer in the School of Psychology at the University of Adelaide, and is also a practising psychologist. She has a research and clinical interest in the underlying psychological and behavioural mechanisms that may contribute to the development of obesity in childhood.

### 2.00pm

#### **Is the Australian Government doing enough to ensure the long-term sustainability of the country?**

There is little doubt that Australia will face the effects of climate change in the future. How this change will affect different regions is unknown. What we need to know is if the Australian Government is doing enough to ensure the survival of regions in the long term.

#### **Panellists:**

**Professor Andrew Lowe** holds a joint position as Chair of Plant Conservation Biology at the University of Adelaide and Head of Science at Adelaide Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium. Professor Lowe has an international reputation in plant ecological and evolutionary genetics.

**Professor Gus Nathan** leads the Turbulence Energy and Combustion (TEC) Group in the University's Faculty of Engineering, Computer & Mathematical Sciences. This group has been responsible for the development of combustion technology that halves NOx emissions from rotary kilns.

**Professor Christopher Findlay** is Head of the School of Economics at the University of Adelaide. He has worked on Australia's trade policy and its effects on our relationships with Asia, particularly in the APEC process.

**Professor Timothy Doyle** is Professor of Politics and International Studies at the University of Adelaide. He has been a dedicated environmental and human rights activist since the late 1970s and is currently President of the Ecopolitical Association of Australasia.

## Tours

Want to know what's so unique about the University of Adelaide's North Terrace Campus, its buildings, facilities, and public artworks?

Tours are an ideal option for those curious enough to find out, and there are so many tours available that there's bound to be something for everyone:

- Campus tours will enable you to become more familiar with the University grounds and buildings of interest;
- Public Art and Heritage Tours will take in specific buildings and public artworks in detail;
- Self-guided tours of the historic Mitchell Building;
- See remarkable ancient treasures on display on a tour of the University's Museum of Classical Archaeology;
- Tours of laboratories in Sciences and Engineering;
- Tours of the various accommodation facilities, including the residential colleges and The Village.

For more information about any of these tours, as well as the wide range of Art & Culture programs and displays available at the University on Open Day, visit the Open Day website:

[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)



## Food

You can't have an Open Day without food – it will be available at various locations across campus, so why not follow your nose (or your stomach)!

There are four main food locations to tantalise your taste buds – Rumours Café (Level 6, Union House), Union Bookshop Café (Ground Floor, George Murray Building), Mayo Refectory (Ground Floor, Union House) and the food vans on Goodman Lawns.

Food will also be available at some of the many teaching and research displays on campus, including the Wilto Yerlo Indigenous Feast at the Walter Young Gardens.

# OPEN DAY 07

Sunday 26 August 10am-4pm

The University of Adelaide, North Terrace [www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)



## Student Life

### Hughes Plaza

Becoming a member of a club or sports team makes your time at the University of Adelaide even more enjoyable and is a great way to make friends and meet people. Stop by Hughes Plaza to find a club or sports team that suits your interests. Never tried it before? Here's the perfect chance to get involved. Check out the demonstrations too – it's all happening on your way down to Union House.

### Union House

Head down to the Cloisters and absorb the carnival atmosphere provided by the Adelaide University Union (AUU). While studying at the University of Adelaide, students flock to the Union for campus culture – that is, all the fun stuff about being a student! Grab something to eat and drink, and check out the live music, dancing, face painters, and general tomfoolery!

## Entertainment

Open Day offers a wonderful range of entertainment right across campus. From formal orchestra rehearsals to international music, the University will be alive with something to entertain everyone.

The entertainment includes:

### Festival of Short Film

VENUE: Scott Theatre  
TIME: 12 noon–2.00pm

See page 3 for more information.

### Science, Fun and the Future

VENUE: Room G04, Napier Building  
TIME: 10am, 12.30pm and 2.00pm

One of Australia's favourite science communicators, University of Adelaide graduate and former *Curiosity Show* host Dr Deane Hutton, explores the future with science and technology.

### Theatre Guild

VENUE: Barr Smith Library Reading Room  
TIME: 11.15am, 12 noon, 12.45pm

Catch short performances by the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild, performing work by Creative Writing Students.

### Wilto Yerlo (Centre for Australian and Indigenous Research and Studies)

VENUE: Walter Young Gardens  
TIME: 12 noon–3.00pm

Enjoy an Indigenous Feast, watch performances by the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM).



### Elder Conservatorium of Music

VENUE: Barr Smith Library Reading Room  
TIME: all day

Enjoy performances by talented vocal and classical groups within the Barr Smith Library's impressive and historic Reading Room.

VENUE: Elder Hall  
TIME: 2.00pm–3.00pm

Listen to a Chamber Orchestra rehearsal of Vivaldi's Four Seasons.

VENUE: Madley Studios  
TIME: 11.30am–12.30pm

Watch an open rehearsal of the Jazz Big Band in the Madley Rehearsal Space.

### Battle of the Bands

VENUE: Goodman Crescent Lawns  
TIME: 10.30am–4.00pm

Featuring bands from across the Adelaide metropolitan area and the country, Open Day's Battle of the Bands competition will once again bring the lawns to life with music. The performances will be judged by a panel from the University of Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium of Music.

Turn to page 14 ▶

## Watching evolution in action

A Research Tuesday on Sunday with Professor Alan Cooper



### Open Day Sunday 26 August at 1.00pm

**Watching evolution in action: Using ancient DNA to study climate change, meteorites, and mass extinctions.**

Ancient DNA provides a unique means to observe evolution occurring in real time. By tracking genetic changes in ancient populations from around the world we can examine the effects of major climatic changes on animal and plant populations through time, and compare these to human impacts, as well as other evolutionary phenomena such as volcanic eruptions and meteorites.

#### Venue:

Napier Building LG28 (Lower Ground) on the North Terrace campus. Duration is approximately one hour. Admission is free.

#### Bookings essential:

Email: [research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au)  
Phone: (08) 8303 3692

#### Further information:

Visit the University of Adelaide's Open Day website:  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)



CRICOS Provider Number 00123M

Life Impact The University of Adelaide

# Living Life Impact OPEN DAY 07

Sunday 26 August 10am-4pm

The University of Adelaide, North Terrace [www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)

## Studying at the University of Adelaide

Everything you need to know about becoming a student at the University of Adelaide is right here on Open Day.

The Bonython Hall Expo is a key location for information about the various study options available at the University. Talk with staff and students about your interests and find out what's right for you.

For a hands-on feel (and sometimes taste!) of what the University is all about, visit the many activities and displays hosted by the University's five Faculties: Engineering, Computer & Mathematical Sciences; Health Sciences; Humanities & Social Sciences; Professions; and Sciences. Staff and students will be available to talk to you about their areas of teaching and research.

Information Talks are a must for anyone who's serious about studying at the University.

There are talks that provide general information about being a student at the University – such as *A Beginners Guide to Uni*, *Undergraduate Scholarship Opportunities*, or *Adelaide Abroad: Overseas study as part of your degree* – and there are Faculty-specific talks that provide you with more detailed information about your chosen areas of study.

There's also information about different pathways into university, how much it costs to study, and how to apply and enrol.

For those looking for a postgraduate and research opportunity at the University, there are specific talks for you.



A full program of the general information and Faculty talks is presented below.

For more information about any of these – or for details of the Faculty-specific talks – visit the University's Open Day website:

[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)

## Timetable of Program/Information Talks

	Elder Hall	Union Hall	Fientje Lecture Theatre	Napier 102	Rennie Lecture Theatre	Horace Lamb Lecture Theatre	Napier Lower Ground LG29
10.00 am	<b>Beginners Guide to University</b>						
10.30 am	<b>Studying your Passion, Impacting our World</b> Humanities & Social Sciences	<b>Excellence in Clinical Practice</b> Nursing	<b>Careers of the Future</b> Engineering, Computer & Mathematical Sciences	<b>Pathways to Teaching in Secondary Schools</b> Teaching			<b>Overseas study as part of your degree</b> Adelaide Abroad
11.00 am		<b>Pathways, Goals and Careers</b> Psychology		<b>A Degree for Life</b> Economics		<b>Undergraduate Scholarship Opportunities</b>	
11.30 am		<b>The Science Experience at the University of Adelaide</b> Sciences	<b>Who put the civil in Civilisation?</b> Civil & Environmental Engineering	<b>Our World: Challenges, Choices, Changes</b> Development Studies	<b>International Students</b> A guide to the University of Adelaide for Year 12 and Foundation Studies Students	<b>Applying to and Enrolling at Uni</b>	<b>Finding Your Feet at University</b> Humanities & Social Sciences
12.00 pm		<b>Taking Care of Business</b> Commerce/Finance	<b>No, I'm not a Petrol Pump Attendant</b> Petroleum Engineering	<b>The World at Your Feet</b> International Studies		<b>What does it cost to Study?</b>	<b>Not coming directly from school? Information on Pathways to Uni</b>
12.30 pm		<b>The Role of Lawyers in Contemporary Society</b> Law	<b>Chemical Engineering in the 21st Century</b> Chemical Engineering	<b>Talk Your Way to the Top</b> Languages	<b>Life at University and Beyond!</b> Young Graduates	<b>Growing the Future</b> Agriculture, Food & Wine	<b>Live to Succeed</b> Accommodation Service
1.00 pm	<b>A Profession for Life</b> Music		<b>Careers of the Future</b> Engineering, Computer & Mathematical Sciences REPEAT	<b>Making Waves, Making Sense</b> Media	<b>Your Life on Campus</b> Adelaide University Union	<b>Life's Building Blocks</b> Molecular & Biomedical Science	<b>Taking Action: A Better National and Global Future</b> Environmental Studies
1.30 pm		<b>Pathways, Goals and Careers</b> Psychology REPEAT		<b>People Matter</b> Social Sciences		<b>From NanoScience to Space Science</b> Chemistry & Physics	<b>Postgraduate Scholarships &amp; Research</b>
2.00 pm		<b>The Worldwide Health Industry Degree</b> Health Sciences	<b>Design Studies, Architecture &amp; Landscape Architecture</b>	<b>Putting Your Passion to Work</b> Arts	<b>Beginners Guide to University</b> REPEAT	<b>Our Environment, Ecology, Marine Biology and Natural Resources</b> Earth & Environmental Sciences	<b>Where can a Degree in Maths take you</b> Maths and Stats
2.30 pm		<b>Make the World Smile</b> Dentistry and Oral Health		<b>Pathways to Teaching in Secondary Schools</b> Teaching REPEAT	<b>Applying to and Enrolling at Uni</b> REPEAT	<b>Computer Science on the Silver Screen</b> Computer Science	<b>Overseas study as part of your degree</b> Adelaide Abroad REPEAT
3.00 pm		<b>Excellence in Clinical Practice</b> Nursing REPEAT		<b>A Degree for Life</b> Economics REPEAT	<b>Undergraduate Scholarship Opportunities</b> REPEAT	<b>Bioinspired Chips, Renewable Energy &amp; New Technologies for Medicine</b> Electrical Engineering	
3.30 pm				<b>Taking Care of Business</b> Commerce/Finance REPEAT	<b>What does it cost to Study?</b> REPEAT	<b>Space Stations, Robots, Cars and Toothbrushes</b> Mechanical Engineering	

# River Murray faces grim future

■ Environmental Science

The River Murray is in crisis, receiving 80% less water than it needs to maintain its ecological balance and prevent it salting up, according to a University of Adelaide PhD student.

Anne Jensen, from the School of Earth & Environmental Sciences, said the river was declining in front of our eyes and there was very little hope of repairing the damage.

"The community needs to understand the consequences – if the river system is in trouble then our water supplies are also in trouble. It needs water just as much as people do," Mrs Jensen said.

Mrs Jensen is one of several University of Adelaide academics working specifically on River Murray projects, looking at the long-term future of the river, which provides 50% of Adelaide's water needs.

"Since 2001 our scientists have been saying that the river needs a minimum of 1500 gegalitres returned to it from the Murray catchment each year. Ideally, 3000 gegalitres are needed for a high chance of recovery. In 2007 we are struggling to return even 20% of the minimum needed," she said.

"We need enough water to keep the river and floodplain in balance, to prevent algal blooms and salt accumulation, as well as

maintaining the health of our river red gums and other species. A zero allocation for the environment is just as devastating as for irrigators, with a decline in quality for all water users.

"To maintain the river's health we need to use less water through more efficient irrigation and industry use, recycling, more effective use of rainwater and reduced demand for public parks and gardens.

"Some people believe that using less water will mean a lower quality of life, but that's not true. It just means being smarter in our water use, valuing it more as a resource, and adapting better to living in a dry country," she said.

Mrs Jensen said most of the magnificent red gums along the River Murray would not survive and many plant and animal species would be lost unless more water was delivered back to the system.

"The Coorong – a wetland of international importance – has become so salty that only a handful of species can live there now and the Chowilla floodplain is also threatened. It is crucial that we listen to the scientists and get smarter with our water use."

■ Story by Candy Gibson



To find out more about Environmental Science at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August. [www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)

Top and above: What a difference some water makes! Two images of Pilby Creek on the Chowilla floodplain

Photos courtesy of Anne Jensen



# Radio Adelaide 101.5 FM

[radio.adelaide.edu.au](http://radio.adelaide.edu.au)



enrich your mornings!

## breakfast

with peter godfrey

weekdays 6:30 - 9am

Hear it 5:30pm weekdays and repeated 6am Tues – Fri the following day

## thewire

independent current affairs on community radio around Australia

produced in association with Sydney's 2SERfm & Brisbane's 4EB

## Live Music Fest

six days of live music radio

[myspace.com/livemusicfest](http://myspace.com/livemusicfest)  
[radio.adelaide.edu.au/lmf](http://radio.adelaide.edu.au/lmf)

## September 10-15

Dare to be different



# Graduate Entrepreneurial Program



## Dare to be different

### Are you considering your career options for 2008 and beyond?

Do you have a genuine desire to develop the highly regarded skills of Idea/Opportunity Assessment, Innovative Thinking, Business Enterprise and Entrepreneurship around an idea for your own business venture?

#### Are you:

- A University or TAFE graduate
- A final year, honours or postgraduate student
- A PhD or Masters candidate at the mid-point or approaching the completion of your candidature?

If so, you are invited to prepare yourself for an Entrepreneurial Career through the University of Adelaide's Graduate Entrepreneurial Program and receive up to \$30,000 support!

Participants in the suite of programs are offered the opportunity to develop a business idea as a core project within a Master of Entrepreneurship/ Master of Science and Technology Commercialisation over a 2 year period. Participants receive 12 month tax free scholarship support, business/ academic mentoring and office accommodation within a business incubator facility at Adelaide University Research Park at Thebarton.

#### Special Events:

### 1/2 - day Workshop

### 'How To Turn A Great Idea Into An Even Greater Application!'

#### Thursday 23 August at Thebarton Campus

Participants will be given a basic understanding of how to assess and develop ideas and opportunities, together with a basic understanding of the business creation process. Entrepreneurs from the Program will discuss their business creation experiences, and information will be provided about the application process.

Funded by the University of Adelaide's Office of Industry Liaison in association with the Education Centre for Innovation & Commercialisation.

**Book a place now on (08) 8303 4468**

For further information contact Megan Llewellyn

Phone: (08) 8303 4159

Email: [megan.llewellyn@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:megan.llewellyn@adelaide.edu.au)

Web: [www.adelaide.edu.au/OIL/business/grad\\_ent/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/OIL/business/grad_ent/)

A better future for South Australians

## Help us reduce road injuries and deaths

### 2007 SPONSORSHIP CALL

The Motor Accident Commission (MAC) is South Australia's Compulsory Third Party Insurer and provides \$360 million each year in compensation to road crash victims. MAC is responsible for the State Government's road safety communications program and provides road safety sponsorship funding.

You may be eligible for a crash prevention sponsorship, grant or donation if you have a project that helps to reduce the number and impact of road injuries and deaths in SA.

MAC also offers grants, donations or in-kind support for initiatives that aim to improve the treatment of road crash victims to accelerate recovery and improve their quality of life.

Please visit [www.mac.sa.gov.au/goto/sponsorship](http://www.mac.sa.gov.au/goto/sponsorship) to learn about MAC's sponsorship program and how to apply.



**APPLY NOW - Applications close 5pm, Friday 17 August 2007**



Government of South Australia



MOTOR ACCIDENT COMMISSION





One of the benefits of studying at the University of Adelaide is the opportunity to interact with students from around the world. This helps to broaden local students' experience of other cultures and, in turn, helps students from overseas to better understand Australian culture. It also helps to improve international students' English language skills.

The University's Centre for Learning and Professional Development (CLPD) runs a volunteer program aimed at helping overseas students to gain confidence in their English communication skills. It does this by matching the students with a local volunteer who may be a student or a member of the general community. The program recently received international praise, as Coordinator Josephine Sando explains.

# Volunteer program wins international praise

## ■ Commentary

Earlier this year I was fortunate to present a paper at the 10th Annual UNESCO Engineering Education Conference in Bangkok. The paper describes the Volunteer Learning Support Scheme for International Students, which is based in the Centre for Learning and Professional Development (CLPD) at the University of Adelaide. As Coordinator of the Scheme, I co-authored the paper with one of our volunteers, a retired engineering academic, Ron Seidel. Ron was particularly enthusiastic about promoting our learning program internationally, and the delegates from 26 countries at the conference received our initiative very well. Of 70 papers presented, we were given a silver award, which includes publication of an extended paper in an international education journal.

For me, one of the most delightful aspects of my time in Bangkok was the extraordinary welcome I received there from a number of former students of our program. These young people, mostly postgraduates, are now lecturing at local universities in Bangkok, working in highly responsible positions in government or contributing to the rapidly expanding Thai economy. Without exception, they spoke of the great benefits to them of working with one of our volunteers during their time at the University of Adelaide.

One of the former students, who was present at the conference, spontaneously took the microphone in the audience after my presentation and announced: "I'm a product of this program and want to tell you all how my confidence in my communication improved because of the time I spent with my volunteer. I also received a great deal of help in understanding the Australian way of life. I am very grateful." This was a most surprising public tribute but certainly clearly demonstrated the effectiveness of our volunteers' work. Most of the former students still keep in touch with their Adelaide volunteers.

The CLPD Volunteer Learning Support Scheme began in 1995 and since then has given hundreds of international students the opportunity to become more proficient in English communication and, perhaps more importantly, to gain a local friend. Through regular, usually weekly, 1:1 meetings with a volunteer, students become more familiar with the Australian culture and way of life and feel more comfortable in their new environment. The emphasis is on informal oral exchange, though volunteers may discuss academic issues, as well as refer them to the more formal academic language and learning programs offered each Semester by the CLPD.

The volunteers' support is largely complementary to students' formal studies.

In 2007 there are 60 volunteers working with approximately 100 students. The volunteers are trained and are matched with one or more students, with meetings being arranged to suit individual needs and time availability. Volunteers are men and women from all walks of life – from those who are actively engaged in work or study but spend some lunchtimes with their students, to retirees with a broader range of time options.

With increasing numbers of international students there is a greater demand for volunteers. Anyone interested in becoming a CLPD volunteer is welcome to contact me (see details on this page).

One of our 2006 students stated in her feedback: "I wish every international student could have this cherished chance." I, too, would love to see this!

Above left:  
Josephine Sando

Photo by Chris Tonkin

To find out more about becoming a Centre for Learning and Professional Development (CLPD) volunteer, call Josephine Sando on 0405 053 494, email: [josephine.sando@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:josephine.sando@adelaide.edu.au), or call the CLPD office on (08) 8303 5771.

To find out more about Student Support services at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)

# Against a nuclear future

## Alumni

One of the University of Adelaide's high-profile graduates was back in Adelaide in July to continue her 36-year campaign against nuclear power and weapons.

International anti-nuclear activist Dr Helen Caldicott, who graduated from medicine in 1961, has made her life's work the education of others about medical hazards of nuclear power and the potential threat of nuclear war.

Dr Caldicott was a guest speaker at the Australian Medical Students' Association's 48th annual national convention organised by University of Adelaide students.

She told the more than 1000 medical students at the convention of her fears that Australia is about to embrace the nuclear age and the dire medical and environmental consequences of that. She also told the students the threat of nuclear war remains high.

"Society is practising manic denial," Dr Caldicott said. "We are not attending to the risks that confront us every second of every day. I'm very worried, that's why I



do this work. I'm worried for my children and grandchildren and I'm extremely concerned about the continuation of life on the planet."

At the convention, Dr Caldicott announced a new organisation she is establishing – Doctors for a Nuclear Free Australia (DNFA) – and said she was pleased that many of the medical students joined.

Her views on nuclear energy include wanting to see a complete ban on uranium mining and no nuclear power at all in Australia. Australia should instead be developing solar, wind and geothermal energy, she said.

Her own answer to global warming is being launched this month by her Washington-based organisation, the Nuclear Policy Research Institute – *A roadmap for a carbon-free, nuclear-free future*. The roadmap outlines a strategy for the United States to reach 90% reduction of CO2 emissions by 2050, with no nuclear power.

■ Story by Robyn Mills

"Society is practising manic denial, we are not attending to the risks that confront us every second of every day"

Above:  
Helen Caldicott

Photo by Heide Smith

## Development & Alumni Events

### Friends of the University of Adelaide Library

**Event:** "From first inkling to first draft: putting together a novel", by author Jane Rogers

**Date:** Thursday 16 August

**Time:** 6.00pm for 6.30pm

**Venue:** Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, Barr Smith Library, North Terrace Campus, University of Adelaide

**Cost:** Gold coin donation

**RSVP:** By Tuesday 14 August to email: karen.hickman@adelaide.edu.au or phone: (08) 8303 4064

### MBA Alumni Association

**Event:** "Fairness Test – is it really fair?", by Sonia Albertini, Senior Associate, Minter Ellison Lawyers

**Date:** Wednesday 22 August

**Time:** 6.00pm for 6.15pm start

**Venue:** NAB Room, Level 5, 233 North Terrace, Adelaide

**Cost:** \$20 members, \$25 non-members (drinks and nibbles included)

**RSVP:** By 12.00 noon Friday 17 August to Development & Alumni, phone (08) 8303 6356

### Friends of the University of Adelaide Library in conjunction with The Advertiser Big Book Club

**Event:** "The Upside of Down: catastrophe, creativity, and the renewal of civilization", by author Thomas Homer-Dixon

**Date:** Thursday 30 August

**Time:** 6.00pm for 6.30pm

**Venue:** Bragg Lecture Theatre, North Terrace Campus, University of Adelaide

**RSVP:** Essential on (08) 8348 2311

### Adelaide Uni Alumni – West Malaysia Chapter

**Event:** James Crawford Biennial Lecture Series on International Law: "Debating Democracy in International Law", by Professor Hilary Charlesworth – live video broadcast in Kuala Lumpur from Adelaide

**Date:** Tuesday 11 September

**Time:** 4.45pm-6.30pm (Malaysian time). 7pm (Adelaide time)

**Cost:** RM 3000 (approximate)

**Venue:** Menara Telekom, 18th Floor South, Jalan Pantai Baharu, Kuala Lumpur

**RSVP:** Contact Mathew Thomas Philip's legal office by phone: +603 6201 5678, fax: +603 6203 5678, or email: ros@thomasphilip.com.my

See also News in Brief for more events

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# A love of jazz began right here in Adelaide

## ■ Music

Acclaimed Australian jazz singer Michelle Nicolle is returning home to Adelaide to perform the annual evening jazz concert at the very place where her love of jazz began – the University of Adelaide.

The evening jazz concert on Saturday 11 August at 7.30pm in Elder Hall will feature Michelle performing some of Henry Mancini's most famous songs, including *Moon River*, *Days of Wine and Roses*, and *Charade*, among other works. She will perform alongside a premier student jazz ensemble and the Elder Conservatorium Big Band directed by Dusty Cox.

The University of Adelaide's Elder Conservatorium of Music will benefit enormously from Michelle's return to her alma mater, with a week-long residency generously supported by a Helpmann Academy grant. During the week she will present workshops and master classes to current university music students, with the week culminating in her evening concert performance.

An acclaimed arranger, band leader and award-winning jazz vocalist, Michelle completed her Diploma in Jazz Voice at the Elder Conservatorium in 1989.

"These two years (at the University) were probably the most

important of my musical life as they laid the foundations for me wanting to make a career in playing jazz," she said. And what a career it has been!

She has been involved in several musical ventures, including the five-piece vocal group Vo-Cool and her own quintet. Tours to festivals around the country, and gigs in Melbourne's jazz clubs, introduced Michelle to the broader Australian jazz scene. She has also toured extensively overseas, including Italy, Taiwan, Korea, Singapore and Turkey.

"I didn't develop an interest in jazz until 1986 when I started singing with the Conservatorium's Adelaide Connection Jazz Choir," Michelle said. "Hearing for the first time about Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and Chet Baker, I immersed myself in their music, deciding that this was the music that my heart wanted to follow, and in 1987 I swapped my major to Jazz Voice."

In 1995 Michelle moved to Melbourne to live and to further her music career. She leads the hugely successful Michelle Nicolle Quartet and currently teaches vocal studies at the Victorian College of the Arts, Monash University and is a regular guest teacher at the Elder Conservatorium of Music.

Michelle has several successful recordings to her name, the last one being a specially commissioned album for ABC Jazz (Universal), called *The Crying Game*, an eclectic collection of songs from films including *Midnight Cowboy*, *Sound of Music* and *Trainspotting*. It was a finalist in the ARIA Awards (Jazz Album of 2004).

**Book for this concert to ensure a seat, or subscribe to the last three concerts to save.**

**Tickets are \$25 adult/\$20 concession/\$14 student, available from BASS or dial'n'charge 131 246. University of Adelaide Staff at concession price.**

**For more information or to subscribe, please contact the Manager, Evening Concert Series, on (08) 8303 5286 or email: [helen.simpson@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:helen.simpson@adelaide.edu.au)**

To find out more about Music at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August. [www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)



Above: Jazz vocalist and University of Adelaide music graduate Michelle Nicolle

Photo by Andrew Raszevski, courtesy of Ecco Music

# New HRT study sheds light on risks, benefits of treatment

Health Sciences

“Our findings support the view that HRT is a safe treatment for younger women in early menopause to relieve symptoms and improve quality of life”

New research involving the University of Adelaide has confirmed that women aged 65 and over should not start hormone replacement therapy (HRT) as a possible prevention for heart disease and other conditions.

The latest findings of the WISDOM research team (Women’s International Study of long Duration Oestrogen after Menopause) have been published on the international medical journal website [www.bmj.com](http://www.bmj.com).

The results show that older women who were not already on HRT are not likely to gain any health benefits from taking it – instead, there might be increased risks of cardiovascular and other serious conditions if they start taking HRT for the first time.

The international research team – led in Australia by Professor Alastair MacLennan from the University of Adelaide’s Discipline of Obstetrics & Gynaecology – studied more than 5600 women in the UK, Australia and New Zealand from 1999 to 2002 in the hopes of assessing the long-term effects of HRT.

That study was cut short in 2002 when another study found that elderly post-menopausal women taking HRT had more heart attacks and strokes than non-HRT users.

As a result, millions of women around the world stopped taking HRT.

However, the WISDOM team’s findings and those from recent trials suggest that these risks only apply to older women who have established heart disease, Professor MacLennan said.

“Our findings support the view that HRT is a safe treatment for younger women in early menopause to relieve symptoms and improve quality of life,” he said.

“Women commencing HRT under age 60 have a reduction in heart disease because oestrogen prevents thickening and hardening of the coronary arteries, but cannot reverse this once arterial disease is established after about age 65.

“Based on our studies, HRT only has adverse effects for women over 65 who are taking HRT for the first time.”

The 5600 women studied by the WISDOM team were monitored for an average of 12 months and main outcomes such as cardiovascular disease, osteoporotic fractures, breast cancer and deaths were recorded.

The results show that there was a significant increase in the number of major cardiovascular events (angina, heart attack or sudden coronary death) and blood clots in those

taking combined hormone therapy (oestrogen and progestogen) compared with the placebo group. Rates for cerebrovascular disease, breast or other cancers, and overall deaths, were not significantly different in these two groups.

“The study confirms an early increase in blood clots and cardiovascular risk in older women starting hormone replacement therapy on average 15 years after menopause,” Professor MacLennan said.

“However, these results cannot necessarily be applied to younger menopausal women starting HRT to relieve symptoms such as hot flushes and night sweats. For these women, recent studies suggest there are cardiovascular benefits of taking HRT around the time of menopause.

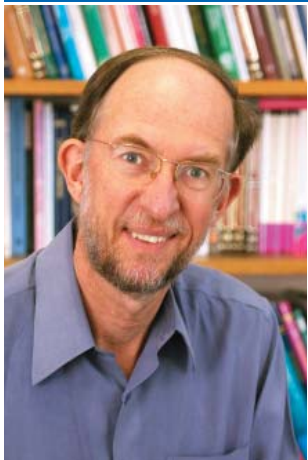
“More research is needed to assess conclusively the long-term benefits and risks among these women,” he said.

■ Story by David Ellis

To find out more about Health Sciences at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)

## The Reproductive Revolution Have we gone too far?



### A Research Tuesday with Professor Robert Norman Tuesday 14 August at 5.30pm

We are in the middle of a reproductive revolution that is changing the way we think about fertility and social aspects of families. We have also developed new technologies in stem cells that will affect regenerative medicine. Are our technologies in reproduction too far ahead of the social consequences and ethical decisions found in our society?

**Venue:**

Lecture Theatre G04, ground floor, Napier Building on North Terrace campus. Admission is free.

**Bookings essential:**

Email: [research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:research.tuesdays@adelaide.edu.au)  
Phone: (08) 8303 3692

**Further information:**

Visit the University of Adelaide’s Research website:  
[www.adelaide.edu.au/research](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/research)



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Life Impact The University of Adelaide



# Can business use science to make good decisions?

## ■ Computer Science

Groundbreaking work on new systems that could revolutionise the way businesses make decisions has earned national recognition for a professor in the University of Adelaide's School of Computer Science.

Professor Zbigniew Michalewicz has been made a Fellow of the Australian Computer Society (ACS) for his work into Adaptive Business Intelligence – a new family of systems that use science to help businesses predict and respond to issues related to their operations.

"In the modern information era, managers must recognise the competitive opportunities represented by decision-support tools," Professor Michalewicz said.

"Adaptive Business Intelligence aims to provide significant cost savings and revenue increases for businesses by providing them with a system that enables good, profitable decision-making."

Put simply, Adaptive Business Intelligence helps business to address fundamental questions: What is likely to happen in the future? And what is the best decision right now?

Professor Michalewicz said that in the business world, the "ability to

make smart decisions" was far more important than just "knowledge".

"Memorising an entire encyclopaedia will not necessarily help you make better decisions – it just means you have more knowledge," he said.

"In the real world, new data is coming in every day, so we need to be able to use that data to predict and respond to situations in ways that will enable us to benefit. This is extremely important for business, because the best decision today may not be the best decision for tomorrow."

Professor Michalewicz is co-author of the book *Adaptive Business Intelligence*, and the course based on this book was offered to University of Adelaide postgraduate students last semester. He has published more than 200 articles and 15 books on the subject of predictive data mining and logistics optimisation. He is well respected within business, and last year was appointed a Business Ambassador for South Australia by Premier Mike Rann.

South Australian business leaders and members of the public gathered to hear more about Adaptive Business Intelligence at last month's free Research Tuesday seminar at the University. At the seminar, Professor Michalewicz was awarded his ACS fellowship.

The ACS and a number of Australian-based companies have already adopted Adaptive Business Intelligence as part of their professional education programs.

"The support from the business world for Adaptive Business Intelligence has already been strong, and I suspect that support will grow as more people in business understand how it can help them," Professor Michalewicz said.

The book, *Adaptive Business Intelligence*, is published by Springer press and is available now via the publisher's website ([www.springer.com](http://www.springer.com)) and online bookstores (such as [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)).

The *Adelaidean* has two free copies of *Adaptive Business Intelligence* to give away to lucky readers. To win, be the first to call (08) 8303 5414 and answer this question: who is the speaker for the University's special 'Research Tuesday on a Sunday' during Open Day? Entries close 5pm Monday 13 August.

■ Story by David Ellis

To find out more about Computer Science at the University of Adelaide, visit Open Day on Sunday 26 August.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/opacity](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/opacity)

"The support from the business world for Adaptive Business Intelligence has already been strong"

## More Honours for our alumni

University of Adelaide alumni are always among the annual lists of official Australian Honours awarded to members of the community for their unique contributions in various fields.

The last issue of the *Adelaidean* contained a list of University of Adelaide alumni whose contributions to their field and their community were acknowledged in the 2007 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

After that issue went to print, we were notified of two Adelaide alumni who were not included on that list. They are:

### **Emeritus Professor Jillian I Roe** AO (BA (Hons) 1963)

Awarded the Officer in the Order of Australia (AO) for service to the community through the promotion of Australian history as a researcher and author, through executive roles in professional organisations, particularly as Chair of the Editorial Board, *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, and to education.

### **Lieutenant Colonel Andrew L McLachlan** CSC (LL B 1988, LL M (Gen St) 1993)

Awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC) for outstanding achievement as South Australian Panel Leader, Australian Army Legal Corps, in support of Australian Defence Force units in South Australia, in particular the 9th Brigade.

Congratulations to those members of the University of Adelaide alumni community on receiving their Queen's Birthday Honours.

Members of the public, or a community group, may nominate individuals for the Order of Australia and Australian Bravery Decorations. Meritorious Service Awards are based on nominations from a specific organisation. The Department of Defence also nominates individuals for a range of service decorations.

For more information about the individual awards in these categories, who is eligible and the nominations process, visit: [www.itsanhonour.gov.au](http://www.itsanhonour.gov.au)



## UN honour for alumni

### ■ Achievement

Above (from left): Professor Stephen Lincoln, Dr Rob Amery, Adelaide Lord Mayor, Michael Harbison, Heather Southcott and Joy de Leo

Photo by Candy Gibson

Four University of Adelaide staff and graduates have been honoured by the United Nations at a special function hosted by Adelaide Lord Mayor Michael Harbison.

The four were awarded certificates of achievement by UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) for their respective work in science, linguistics, human rights and education. The recipients were:

- Professor Stephen Lincoln, an expert on global warming and climate change;
- Dr Rob Amery, Kurna language specialist and reviver of endangered indigenous languages;
- Human rights advocate Heather Southcott OAM; and
- UNESCO delegate and education expert Joy de Leo OAM.

All were honoured at a civic reception at the Adelaide Town Hall last month to launch the Adelaide Chapter of UNESCO and the 60th anniversary of the organisation in Australia.

Professor Lincoln's award-winning work on energy use and climate change is highly regarded in Australia and overseas. In 2006 he published *Challenged Earth*, a scientifically based and comprehensive insight into the challenges facing humanity and Earth in the 21st century.

UNESCO honoured Professor Lincoln for his "scientific approach to the problems humanity faces and for ways of improving our stewardship of Earth".

Dr Rob Amery, a lecturer in linguistics at the University of Adelaide, has been credited with helping to revive the traditional Kurna language and raising awareness of Aboriginal languages in Australia.

In 1998 Dr Amery completed a PhD on Kurna, the language of the Adelaide Plains people, developing a range of innovative strategies to promote the Aboriginal language and a method for the reintroduction of 'sleeping' languages.

Dr Amery's UNESCO award was in recognition of "the documentation both of the Kurna language and aspects of the traditions of the Kurna Plains people and the development of language revival resources".

Heather Southcott, a pharmacology graduate of the University, is a member of Amnesty, the Coalition for the Bill of Rights and the International Human Rights Day Committee. She is also a strong advocate for social justice and children's rights.

UNESCO honoured Ms Southcott for her "services to the community, in particular as Chairperson of the United Nations Association of Australia".

Joy de Leo has been a member of nine Australian delegations to international UNESCO events since 1999 and a delegate and speaker on human rights education at more than 20 UNESCO conferences. She has a Graduate Diploma from the University of Adelaide and is currently studying for her Doctorate in Education at the University.

Ms de Leo promotes Values Education in Australia and throughout the Asia Pacific region, working closely with UNESCO in Bangkok. Her award was in recognition of her "services to UNESCO, in particular as Regional Vice President and as Australian Founding President of UNESCO".

■ Story by Candy Gibson

# Shock troupe prepares for French revelations



## ■ Theatre Guild

Those interested in a history lesson about the French Revolution – albeit a confronting one – are invited to snap up tickets for this month’s University of Adelaide Theatre Guild production, *Marat/Sade*.

Set in the aftermath of the French Revolution and directed by Harry Dewar, the internationally famous play by German dramatist Peter Weiss is considered a classic in theatrical circles.

Audiences should come with an open mind and be prepared to be challenged, lead actor Ben McCann warned.

Ben, a lecturer in French Studies at the University, plays one of two central characters in the play-within-a-play, which is based on actual characters pivotal to the French Revolution.

*Marat/Sade* is set in a prison and mental asylum just outside of Paris where the Marquis de Sade was imprisoned by Napoleon for 15 years for sedition and treason.

Sade, played by well-known Adelaide actor Peter Davies, passed his time in the prison and mental asylum by writing and directing plays, using his fellow inmates as actors.

The main story takes place on the eve of Bastille Day, 1808, after the French Revolution. The play

directed by Sade within the story takes place in 1793, culminating with the assassination of leading French revolutionary Jean-Paul Marat.

Sade used the inmates to put forward his version of the events just after the French Revolution – an interpretation that completely contradicts the stance taken by Marat, a passionate idealist played by Ben McCann.

“The play is based on this intellectual debate between Marat and Sade, which dominates the script,” Ben said.

“Sade is cynical and doesn’t believe that revolutions achieve anything. He is anti-church, anti-aristocracy and anti-royal. His view is that revolutions do not change anything; they just move the power base from one corrupt group of people to another.

“Marat is the antithesis of Sade. He was a revolutionary, politician and writer who urged people to take up arms against the bourgeois and free themselves from the chains of oppression.”

The debate itself is confronting, but made more so by the setting within an asylum which raises questions about control, suppression and responsibility to the less privileged.

“I expect the audience will feel quite uncomfortable when they walk into the theatre for the first time because the inmates will be mingling with them,” Ben said.

“As in any mental institution, they have no sense of personal space or political correctness when it comes to using bad language. This play will shock people out of their complacency.”

Seasoned Theatre Guild performer and University of Adelaide graduate Simon Davey agreed that this production would “ruffle a lot of feathers”. Davey, a police prosecutor, plays the asylum director, Coulmier.

Others in the cast includes Brett Carruthers, Anita Canala, Georgia Dodd, Steve Parker and April Stuart.

*Marat/Sade* will be held at the Little Theatre at 7.30pm on August 4, 7-11 and 14-18. Tickets are \$25 full/\$20 concession, and \$15 for University of Adelaide students and staff for Tuesday performances. Tickets available from the Theatre Guild on (08) 8303 5999, online at [www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/theatreguild) or from BASS on 131 246.

■ Story by Candy Gibson

The Theatre Guild will stage three short performances of work by creative writing students at the University of Adelaide’s Open Day on Sunday 26 August in the Reading Room, Barr Smith Library.

See page 13 for times.

[www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)

Above:  
Eugène Delacroix’s *Liberty leading the people* (1830)

“Audiences should come with an open mind and be prepared to be challenged”

# Living Life Impact

## OPENDAY 07

Sunday 26 August 10am-4pm



The University of Adelaide, North Terrace [www.adelaide.edu.au/openday](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/openday)

