THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE MAGAZINE

# lumen

SUMMER 2005

INSIDE:



# Roseworthy rules
## the future of global agriculture

LIFE IMPACT THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

LUMEN - The University of Adelaide Magazine
Registered by Australia Post No 56500/00097

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE AUSTRALIA

**The recent naming of University of Adelaide alumnus Dr Robin Warren as the joint winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine highlights the significant impact that graduates of this University have had, and continue to have, on the community.**

Dr Warren won the award for his work with Barry Marshall on the link between a particular type of bacterium and stomach ulcers, and becomes the fifth member of the University's extended community to receive a Nobel Prize.

The continuing impact of the University's staff, students and alumni is strikingly illustrated in the diverse mix of stories featured in this issue of *Lumen*.

This year, the Roseworthy campus celebrated 100 years of affiliation with the University, and the feature story in this issue looks at the vital role that Roseworthy is playing in the future of global agriculture research and education.

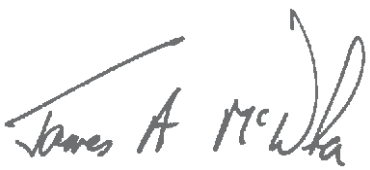
Awareness of the environmental impact of the choices we make in infrastructure and housing is growing, and it is illuminating to read of the visionary work of two Adelaide graduates, Effie Best and Paul Downton, in the Christie Walk architectural development in Adelaide's city centre.

The University of Adelaide has a long tradition of Life Impact, and we are reminded of that in a story on the life of Laura Margaret Fowler, the University's first woman medical graduate who, with her husband Charles Hope (also an Adelaide graduate), devoted thirty years of her life to the cause of public health in Bengal.

Traditions also inhere in buildings, and the University's iconic heritage buildings are the focus of another article, which explores the importance of built heritage and the efforts we are making through the Development and Alumni office to ensure it is preserved and maintained for future generations.

From Singapore and Sabah to Adelaide's Vietnamese community and the remote South Australian town of Karcultaby, Adelaide graduates can be found actively contributing to the advancement of knowledge and the betterment of their communities.

In this issue of *Lumen*, we tell some of their stories. I hope you enjoy it.



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

# lumen contents

SUMMER 2005



The Lumen masthead is derived from the University of Adelaide motto "Sub Cruce Lumen" – the light (of learning) under the (Southern) Cross.

Lumen Online: **www.adelaide.edu.au/lumen**

Executive Editor: **John Edge**
Editorial Committee: **John Edge, Ben Osborne, Nicole Stones and Kim McBride**
Contributors: **Lana Guineay, Kim McBride, Ben Osborne, Lisa Reid, Howard Salkow, Nicole Stones, Natalie Townsend**
Photography: **Development and Alumni office, Tam Van Doan, Tony McDonough** (courtesy of Raw Image)**, Sarah Pfennig, Wayne Pitchford, Festival City Photography, Ben Osborne, Lisa Reid, Howard Salkow**. Other photographs courtesy of **Effie Best and Paul Downton, Dr Adrian Cheok, the University of Adelaide Archives, the University of Adelaide Sports Association and the Barr Smith Library Special Collections.**
Design: **Chris Tonkin** Pre-press & Printing: **Newstyle Printing**

Editorial Enquiries: **Marketing and Strategic Communications Branch** • Phone: +61 8 8303 5174 • Fax: +61 8 8303 4829
The University of Adelaide SA 5005 Australia


ISSN 1320 0747 • Registered by Australia Post No 56500/00097

# Roseworthy rules

## The future of global agriculture

*In 2005 Roseworthy campus celebrated 100 years of affiliation with the University of Adelaide. Lumen looks now at some of the research areas in which Roseworthy is playing a major role in the future of global agriculture.*

In a speech made to the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association at their annual dinner this year, Professor James McWha, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, reflected on the role of agriculture in society.

"Agriculture is, in fact, the single most important activity of all time, and the one with the greatest impact on human existence. Without agriculture, we would all be hunter-gatherers and the sort of civilisation we know could not exist. Agriculture is, quite simply, an organised system of food and fibre production that began to emerge about 11,000 years ago.

"Townies (and today that's most of us) think that agriculture is less important than sports, than entertainment, than having a good time, or indeed most other things. They are seriously confused, but I suppose security of food supply and lifestyle does that.

"In the 1950s one person in four in the world didn't have enough to eat, so simple arithmetic suggested that a 25% increase in food production would solve the problem. Well, this is an appropriate occasion on which to say congratulations to all of us involved in agriculture, because we did it. Since 1950, food production has increased not by 25%, not even by 100%, but four-fold."

Professor McWha went on to say that, with increases in population, the existence of poor economic management and even government corruption in some developing countries, as well as an increase in super-sized, super-convenient foods, the definition of "enough" food has changed.

As Professor Phil Hynd, Director of Roseworthy campus, points out, despite the tremendous advances made by agriculture in the past 50 years, we are still in a situation where the world needs to double its food output over the next 25 years in order to be able to feed everyone.

"Roseworthy will play a vital role in the future of global agriculture both in research and education," he said.

The challenge facing future agriculture is to compete in a global market in which consumer demands are increasingly stringent and include concerns about sustainability, animal welfare, and product quality as well as price.

"Gone are the days when consumers discriminated solely on the basis of price," Professor Hynd said. "Today they are asking about the practices used in the production systems. Questions like: is it organic?, was it produced humanely?, was it produced with no genetic modification?, and so on.

"At Roseworthy we are committed to providing solutions and technologies that will allow these consumer concerns to be addressed. Much of our research is aimed at increasing the efficiency and quality of food and fibre production using the latest biotechnologies, but always within the context of sustainable systems."

This approach has been successful to date, as measured by the success of Roseworthy researchers in attracting competitive research grants and being invited to participate in seven Cooperative Research Centres, including the Pork CRC, whose headquarters are at Roseworthy.

"By collaborating closely with the agricultural industries and state government agencies such as SARDI and PIRSA, we can deliver a 'whole-of-chain' solution to problems," said Professor Hynd.

This is also attractive to overseas students who are increasingly choosing Roseworthy for their postgraduate training.

"One of the paradoxes of agriculture is that despite a burgeoning job market for agriculture graduates, we have had difficulty attracting school leavers into agriculture degrees," Prof Hynd said. "We are aiming to turn this around at Roseworthy with better marketing and education campaigns that highlight the exciting, interesting and high-technology careers that are available in agriculture and related fields.

"Our graduates in agriculture, animal science and agronomy are in high demand, with many employers approaching students before graduation!" he said. ■

Story **Lisa Reid**

"The way I see it, you can change the grain or change the pig. We're going to do both."

Dr Roger Campbell

*(from left) Professor Neville Marsh, Dr Roger Campbell and Minister for Agriculture Peter McGauran at the opening of the Pork CRC*

# Pork:

## big breakthroughs, big differences

The Australian hub for pork research opened at Roseworthy campus in October, launched by the federal Minister for Agriculture, Peter McGauran. The University of Adelaide hosts the $81.5 million Pork Cooperative Research Centre, headed up by CEO Dr Roger Campbell.

"The Pork CRC gives the Australian pork industry the opportunity to improve its global competitiveness and ensure long-term sustainability and profit. We used to be world leaders, but we've dropped back. The role of the Pork CRC is to put us back on top. I know the American market well, having worked there for the past eight years, and I'm ready to take on the challenge," Dr Campbell said.

"The way I see it, you can change the grain or change the pig. We're going to do both. The goal here is to create a radical shift in pork production. We want big breakthroughs and big differences.

"We need to look at ways of reducing the costs of production. We will be looking at how we use grains as feed, how we can identify better, more efficient feed and systems for feeding. We are competing with the US where there is access to cheap grain. We don't have that – we don't have the subsidies and we are not able to import grain, so we have to create efficiencies.

"In terms of genetics, the industry needs to rethink its direction and identify where we want to be in five years. Our focus is on financial returns for the industry. Research like this is expensive but there are big returns on that investment.

"This research has to be cooperative and coordinated in a centre such as the Pork CRC. Outcomes will be assured if everyone's goals are linked."

Research work started at the Pork CRC in November 2005. ■

Story **Lisa Reid**

"Roseworthy is at the forefront ... in finding a humane solution to flystrike."

"This research is all about developing the right product for the right market."

Professor Phil Hynd

Dr Zbigniew Kruk

# Sheep:

## finding alternatives to mulesing

There is a strong emphasis on sheep research at Roseworthy because sheep products are worth $5 billion annually, without multipliers, to the Australian economy.

Researchers are looking at the genes of sheep to see how they can improve efficiency and quality of lamb products. Value-added products are growing in popularity and even in the case of the standard product, it is clear that it is of a much higher quality, with less fat than the roast leg of lamb of the 1950s.

But beyond the lamb that makes its way to our tables, it is what's on the sheep's back that is making headlines around the world at the moment.

Roseworthy is leading the way in solving one of the most contentious practices in the agricultural industry today.

Mulesing is a preventative measure for flystrike, but it is a cruel practice that involves stripping skin from the area surrounding a sheep's anus, where flystrike occurs, creating an open wound that eventually heals as a wool-free scar.

Professor Phil Hynd, Roseworthy Campus Director and leader of the Sheep Genomics Program said, "The practice of mulesing is horrendous – no-one wants to do it, but it is better to subject the animal to this than flystrike, which is an infestation of the flesh by blowfly maggots. It is one of the most common diseases affecting sheep in Australia.

"Roseworthy is at the forefront of animal welfare technology in its work, finding a humane solution to flystrike. The PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) campaigns highlight the problems with mulesing, and quite rightly. The industry is looking for alternatives and we are working on a solution at Roseworthy right now.

"In the short term, we are conducting trials with a naturally-occurring protein that prevents growth of wool around the sheep's rear end, so the 'mulesing' occurs naturally, without blood, and there is no wound and no chance of infection."

A field trial commenced in October, testing thousands of sheep all over Australia.

"If all goes well, the treatment will be due for commercial release in 2008, which is well in time for the deadline that has been set for Mulesing to cease as a farming practice in Australia by 2010."

Beyond this intervention treatment, there is longer-term research dedicated to breeding sheep without wool around their tail region.

Research into sheep genomics, headed up by Professor Hynd, plays a pivotal role in the $30 million national Sheep Genomics Program, a joint initiative of Australian Wool Innovation and Meat and Livestock Australia. His Wool Genomics subprogram brings $4million worth of funding to Roseworthy campus. ■

Story **Lisa Reid**

# Taking our knowledge to the world

Dr Wayne Pitchford and Dr Bill Bellotti have both taken Roseworthy to the world, through placements with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and the Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research (ACIAR), a federal government authority that operates as part of Australia's Aid Program. Its focus is on poverty reduction and sustainable development.

Dr Pitchford is a quantitative geneticist, with a lot of his work revolving around identifying genetic markers for meat quality and feed efficiency. He has recently been made a National Program Manager of the Beef CRC, managing programs in feed efficiency, maternal productivity and responsible resource use.

"I always had a heart for development programs and was offered a sabbatical opportunity through the International Livestock Research Institute. I spent six months in Kenya, working in a totally different environment, which was a great experience for me and for my family, who relocated with me," Dr Pitchford said.

"The main issue there is disease control. It's an area I was keen to learn more about, as well as production systems in the developing world, where the agricultural industry operates on a much smaller scale but is far more closely tied to people's lives. ▶

## Beef:

### marbling in three dimensions

With Asian markets being key high-quality meat product consumers, the tender, succulent qualities of marbled beef are highly valued and potentially very lucrative for Australian producers.

Stories of the nurturing of Wagyu cattle in Japan are legend, with cattle fed on beer and regularly massaged to ensure tender, marbled flesh. But what we are still to understand is exactly how the marbling forms.

Dr Zbigniew Kruk explains that his research involves visualising the marbling through the flesh on a three dimensional level. "We think the fat might follow the blood veins, but that has always been just a theory. This research aims to prove whether that is true."

The process Dr Kruk and his team are currently exploring involves finely slicing through sections of beef in order to build up a three dimensional understanding of the components of the flesh: muscles, veins and the fat deposits that create the 'marbling'.

It is a painstaking and complex process. Ultrasound equipment is then used to closely examine the flesh structure. CAT scan is also an option, but it is a very expensive one, hence the exploration of alternative techniques.

"Once we have established how the marbling forms, we can start learning how to predict if an animal will produce marbling.

"When we've built up the whole picture, we can move on to developing better techniques for quality control and consistency in the quality of marbled beef."

Dr Kruk is travelling to Korea next month to examine Hanwoo cattle, a breed that has a disposition toward marbling. The breed is regarded as a national treasure, so Kruk must examine the cattle in Korea as they are not allowed to be exported. This research trip is being funded by the Beef CRC and the Australia-Korea Foundation.

He has also been invited to attend the APEC (Asia–Pacific Economic Cooperation) conference, specifically to explore investment opportunities.

"This research is all about developing the right product for the right market. There is a high demand for marbled beef in Korea and Japan, but there is a lot of competition from producers in Japan as well as the US. What we are learning now will help drive us ahead in the market." ■

Story **Lisa Reid**

*Kenya: smaller-scale agriculture more closely tied to people's lives*

# Taking our knowledge to the world

▶ "Agricultural development often stimulates economies like Kenya's toward development, and livestock plays an important role. Often, a cow or a goat is the only tradable, capital resource a family might have. These animals are the pathway out of poverty. A herd of cattle is effectively the family bank account," Dr Pitchford said.

ILRI is developing research in laboratories and getting very good feedback, but the link between laboratories and farmers is poor.

"In Australia we have a stud sector which means that genetic improvement is controlled and livestock with desirable traits are easily disseminated through the marketplace. In the developing world, we have to be able to operate at village level, as livestock is traded in small markets.

"Because of the importance of the animal to the farmers, they know their animals extremely well. What I was able to do is help farmers with strategies to improve the accuracy of selecting animals with desirable traits – the most important being resistance to disease, in this case Trypanosomiasis, a disease that reduces meat and milk production, carried by the tsetse fly."

Dr Pitchford worked in the field to train farmers to use ranks and ratings to select animals for breeding.

"I guess the main difference is that here in Australia, we are often finding ways to create more wealth, but in the developing world we are working to alleviate poverty."

Dr Bill Bellotti has just returned from China, where he leads an ACIAR-funded project that aims to improve the productivity and sustainability of subsistence farms in the western province of Gansu.

Again, the project involves working closely with local farmers. Local farms are just one hectare in area on average and farmers grow crops for their own family's consumption. Income is derived from any animals bred on the farm as well as the sale of some grain.

Dr Bellotti's focus was on improving farm productivity while reducing erosion, which is a major problem for the region.

"It was a fascinating process. The scientific principles like water efficiency and nitrogen cycling apply the same in Australia and China, but farm size, reliance on manual labour and the lower level of ability for farmers to take risks meant we constantly had to adapt our way of thinking," Dr Bellotti said.

"Coming from Roseworthy has been a distinct advantage as we are experienced in climate variability, rainfed farming and the crop and pasture species are similar.

"We worked to introduce crop rotation and also encouraged farmers to sow into the stubble left behind from the previous crop, a measure that helps stop soil erosion and also reduces the need to plough, saving money on fuel.

"This required a cultural change, as the farmers use the stubble to build fires for heating and cooking.

"We also researched the importance of crop rotation, using legumes to fix nitrogen in the soil

"From an academic point of view, I worked with Chinese collaborators from the Gansu Grassland Ecological Research Institute, which has now merged with Lanzhou University, and the Gansu Agricultural University, to build capacity in research skills;

## continued

building long-term experiments and simulation models, as well as improving their publication skills.

"They need to get that recognition to attract further research funding. Now that the project is six years along, some good things are starting to happen."

In recognition of his work, Dr Bellotti was awarded the prestigious Dun Huang award, which is given to foreigners making a major contribution to the region.

Roseworthy has a history of teaching students from developing countries, with a number of students coming from Nigeria, Kenya, New Guinea, Indonesia, South Korea and China. Additionally, Roseworthy and Waite graduates are being sent to the regions regularly, attached to ACIAR projects. Sharna Nolan, an Australian Youth Ambassador from Roseworthy, worked alongside the farmers for ten months in 2003 and Matt Kennedy, Honours graduate from Roseworthy, has worked in Gansu in 2005 as an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development. ■

Story **Lisa Reid**

# "Super duper" kids
## and a passion for science

**University of Adelaide graduate Sarah Pfennig has made a real impact at the Eyre Peninsula remote area school at Karcultaby since starting there in 2004.**

Her passion for science and teaching saw her take out the Helen Castle Memorial Award, named in honour of the country science teacher who died in the bushfires in January 2005. The annual award recognises "an inspiring and highly motivated teacher of science from a country area."

Her motivation and passion for teaching science was palpable in discussion with her, as she spoke about what led her to her chosen career.

"I had fantastic teachers in high school and science really interested me. I just thought, wouldn't it be fantastic to teach science every day of the year!"

Sarah Pfennig started a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Adelaide, convinced that Physics and Chemistry would be her forte, but a compulsory subject in Biology during first year saw her ambitions change course.

"I'd never studied Biology at school, but I loved genetics and really got into environmental stuff. It was a whole new direction for me and I didn't even end up doing Physics and Chemistry in the end.

"Biology is not abstract, you can experience it all around you and when you're teaching you can take the kids out and let them observe everything that's going on all around them."

After finishing her degree, she continued at the University of Adelaide, studying teaching.

"It was a very different experience. At a very basic level I loved it that there were no exams, but it was great to be surrounded by so many mature-age students. Science was mainly for people who were school leavers just beginning their lives, but I really loved talking with people about why they came back to university and what they had done in their lives, and why."

The Helen Castle Award allowed Sarah to come to Adelaide to attend the SA Science Teachers Association conference.

"It takes seven hours to drive to Adelaide, so a two-day conference becomes a four-day trip. The award made it possible for me to make the trip."

Karcultaby Area School is based half way between Minnipa and Poochera and was set up to service both areas – the school is not in a town. It is attended by 88 students ranging from Kindergarten to Year 12 and staffed by 15 teachers.

"It's such a great community here and the kids are super duper. There are about ten kids in each class so you really get to know the kids and form relationships with them as people, rather than just as students."

Sarah will be extending her original three-year tenure with the school to stay an additional year. ■

Story **Lisa Reid**

# Our stories, our

*Anne Gribbin is that rare breed of individual who understands how to raise funds. More importantly, and especially in her case, she goes about her business with finesse and utmost diplomacy.*

It is therefore no surprise that Ms Gribbin, who two years ago joined the University as Director of Development and Alumni, has raised in excess of $80 million during her working career, where fundraising has been a key component of her job description.

And she is at it once again, this time a campaign that focuses on the University's Heritage Buildings.

"When you think of the University of Adelaide, it is possible that the physical expressions of the University immediately come to mind – the Mitchell, the Elder Conservatorium, Bonython Hall and the Barr Smith Library, just four of the 29 Heritage-listed buildings on the North Terrace campus.

"As these buildings underpin our present and future, we need to do something about their upkeep and repair. To this end we have established a Heritage Foundation, with the major objective of raising $20 million; money which will be invested.

"The interest gained will fund the ongoing development, restoration and preservation of the Heritage Buildings. The University will then be able to free up capital to focus on providing inspiring environments and facilities, where we can nurture innovative, world class research, and attract the best staff and students from around Australia and the world," she said in an interview with *Lumen*.

Ms Gribbin readily agrees this is no small task. But this is where the passion and the LIA Principle – linkage, interest and ability – come in.

"Seeking funds for any project, even heritage, is always about identifying those people who have some LINK to the cause or project. For example, they are graduates, or there is a family connection of graduates, or some friends have a connection to the University, the buildings, and the grounds – and these people valued their time at University and what it did for them and now want to give something back in return.

"They have an INTEREST in the University: that is, they have a love of education, learning, old buildings, the city, heritage buildings, beautiful things. Or, maybe they never went to University, but wished they had.

"And they have an ABILITY to give to the campaign, especially a significant gift, and want to."

Ms Gribbin says a natural part of what she does is akin to that of a storyteller – telling compelling stories about the University of Adelaide.

"Good stories have tension and conflict. They have character, plot, dialogue, scene, place, point of view and sensory detail. The characters even have flaws.

"I will tell the University's Heritage 'stories' for the Campaign by focusing, in the first instance, on the three North Terrace Heritage Buildings – the Mitchell, the Elder and the Bonython – and how these buildings have been used, some of the characters involved in the buildings, and the special events, inventions or celebrations that took place in them.

"I will also talk about the special features of the buildings – from an architectural perspective, if relevant, and from an artistic or design aspect," she said.

Ms Gribbin says the Heritage Working Party will be seeking to identify people who fit the LIA principle.

"We will be seeking individuals who are passionate about any aspect of the principle, some who may then take on a leadership role in the campaign.

"We will also be looking at ways of recognising the generosity of individuals, families, companies, businesses and governments, who wish to support the University and thus play a special role in its work, and by so doing, become part of the University's ongoing and far reaching story," she says.

Ms Gribbin says the University was founded on benefaction and genuine philanthropy, and was sustained thus for many years. But she is mindful of changes, and for this reason is following a proactive path.

"We have not told our stories about our heritage buildings – "home" to many of our students and staff.

"Now that government funding is decreasing and will continue to do so, we have to be self-reliant, more active, more open in informing our communities about our work, our dreams and how we wish to achieve these. Seeking funds for Heritage is but one way.

"We need to invite our friends to help us, for today's generations of students and the next." ■

Story **Howard Salkow**

# heritage

# Christie Walk

## eco-dream an incredible

**"It's not a utopia. It's a working example of what you can do in a real place with real people."**

Paul Downton, Architect, Christie Walk.

Christie Walk is tucked away in a pocket of Adelaide's city centre, just behind Sturt Street. It might be hidden amongst anonymous apartment and townhouse developments, but it is a beacon pointing to an ecologically sustainable future and an alternative way of living. Christie Walk was a finalist in the World Habitat Awards 2005, run by the Building and Social Housing Foundation.

The project was born of the remains of Urban Ecology Australia's Halifax Project, a much larger development that showed massive levels of community and council support for sustainable development, but stopped short of becoming a reality.

Despite its unfortunate demise, the Halifax Project showed there was a genuine, committed interest in sustainable living bubbling away in Adelaide. The results can be seen today in a cluster of aerated concrete and straw-bale houses and apartment buildings nestled amongst gardens that form meeting places and opportunities for Christie Walk residents to work side-by-side.

Two people who helped make Christie Walk happen are University of Adelaide graduates; Paul Downton, the architect, who has a PhD from Adelaide, and Effie Best, who achieved her Bachelor of Science (Hons) in 1954. Downton's studies were about 'ecological cities' under the auspices of Geography and Environmental Studies (his Architecture degree is from Wales) and Best's ongoing interest in ecology saw her become one of the editors of seminal Australian high school textbook, *Biological Science: The Web of Life*.

Along with a handful of others committed to the idea of eco-cities, they have formed the backbone of the project, with Downton designing the project and providing its theoretical base, and Best in recent years chairing the cooperative that acted as developer to create a development that is run by its community in a much more hands-on way than a standard, strata-titled apartment complex.

Downton describes the experience of bringing Christie Walk to life as an incredible learning process.

"Christie Walk has been created as a model for environmentally sustainable living in the city. The entire project has been a fascinating learning process, where we became developers, builders – whatever was needed to carry the project forward," Downton said.

"We challenged the conventional approach to development by taking an almost traditional approach to building."

The project came together, physically, through the cooperative effort of owners and workers committed to seeing the environmental principles of the project come to life.

"None of us had ever been a developer before. It is a brutal industry to be in, but everyone involved had an attitude that was almost antithetical to the industry.

"What we have learned can be used by other groups to create similar projects. We host tours through here

# journey

for groups who are interested in doing the same thing," Downton said.

The differences between Christie Walk and a mainstream development occur at every level. Best and Downton outlined these on a tour of the site.

"Christie Walk has more density than a conventional development. There is community space and common space that includes productive as well as decorative garden areas that the residents work on together. There are several natural 'meeting places' in the garden area that become resting areas during working bees, and just lately there has been a group of residents who meet for a few glasses of wine in the evenings," Best said.

"This community attitude towards the garden space also improves security, as people who live here all know each other and keep an eye out. There is public access through the garden, and people often ask questions about Christie Walk as they walk through. By the same token, if anyone was hanging around or acting suspiciously, it would be very hard for them not to be noticed," she added.

The apartment building at Christie Walk features a roof garden. This may not seem like an unusual concept, except that it is a genuine garden with deep soil covering the whole roof.

"The roof garden acts as insulation for apartments on the top floor that, in a typical apartment building, would be very hot during summer and dependent on air-conditioning. The layer of soil and plants forms a barrier against the heat and provides another gardening area and meeting place. We have an excellent view of the New Year's Eve fireworks up here. It is really delightful through the summer," Downton explained.

"This insulation works alongside the natural cross-ventilation and passive solar management that has been designed into the buildings. Even the vines on the balconies serve a purpose, providing extra shade during summer, dropping their leaves in winter, allowing more sunlight in to heat the dwellings."

The project performs well above building code requirements, capturing stormwater for garden irrigation and toilet-flushing. All dwellings use solar hot water. Stage three of the project will see solar energy captured to generate electricity.

The location of Christie Walk means it is within walking distance to the Central Market, public transport, and CBD offices. This makes cars a less important part of life for the residents.

Effie Best said, "One of the great things about Christie Walk is that it is not centred around driving and parking cars. This has meant we have more space to live in, with a few car parking spaces on the perimeter of the block. There is also ample street parking in the area for visitors.

"Christie Walk feels like an oasis. There are plants, birds; people walk past one another as we move to and from our dwellings. The second and third floor apartments have two balconies so residents can spend time on the balcony that faces inwards, or on one that looks outwards over the pathway so they can interact with the other residents." ▶

# Christie Walk
## eco-dream
### an incredible journey

story continued

▶ "I love looking out of my living room windows and being able to say hello to my neighbours. Living here requires a commitment and extra work, but we are rewarded in so many ways."

Downton sums up the Christie Walk experience, saying, "A project like this requires interested people, investment without an expectation about the bottom line or government support to drive the outcome. These conditions all need to be aligned. That's why there's not another Christie Walk, yet.

"Many of us did not initially appreciate the critical element of time, which resulted in cost blow-outs. The project has taken three years longer to come to fruition than was originally expected, and this was during a time when construction costs were rising.

"It was almost a magical moment of enough people coming together with enough resilience to see the project through.

"It was quite a journey. One that maybe not a lot of people are prepared to make yet, but one that is becoming increasingly necessary." ■

Story **Lisa Reid**

architect

# Australian experience
## builds global perspective

**Architecture graduate Francis Wong is one of many success stories to emerge from the Colombo Plan, and one who counts his "Australian experience" as a major factor in his successful career.**

The father of Senator Penny Wong – Australia's first Chinese-Australian woman to be elected a Labor MP – received his B Arch (Hons) in 1967 and has since practised as an architect in Sabah, Malaysia.

Beginning in 1950, the Colombo Plan – pushed energetically by Australia – saw Commonwealth countries pro-actively assisting in the development of newly independent Asian nations such as India and Ceylon (now Sri Lanka).

A significant proportion of the foreign aid involved scholarships to Britain, Canada, New Zealand and Australia, and thousands of students took advantage of them. An estimated 18,000 to 20,000 Colombo Scholars ventured to Australian universities between 1950 and the mid-1980s.

For Francis Wong, the Colombo Plan provided a great deal of comfort.

"In the 1960s, the Australian public was extremely humanitarian and Christian in their relationship with Asian students. And the Colombo Plan office, at the University of Adelaide, was a real comfort to us because they genuinely cared for our needs.

"This kind of support never wavered even when we got entangled with the law for not declaring a transistor radio to Customs," he said.

The Customs incident is still fresh in his mind, although he concedes being ashamed of his stupidity. "The Colombo Plan Chief Executive saved the day when he convinced the Customs officials not to take further action."

Francis says the Colombo Plan offered opportunities for poverty-stricken students from third-world countries to obtain the best education, and then use this knowledge in the development of their respective countries.

"Because the selection of the Colombo Plan was based on academic ability, it ensured a high success rate, therefore minimising the cost of manpower development.

ure

"My contribution as a qualified architect in Sabah ranges from government to public service in local councils, and also being instrumental to private sector economic and social development.

"Without my professional training in Australia, I would not have achieved as much as a citizen of my country. This says a lot about the Australian contribution to the ideals of the Colombo Plan," he said.

Francis Wong makes the point that foreign students, who had spent a number of their impressionable years in Australia, have a special affinity with the country.

"As a young man in Adelaide, I thought the Australian public was helpful, kind and generous.

"Lecturers would give whatever help required to those who were keen to learn. Farmers and factory owners were happy to provide summer jobs to Asians, and paid them fairly.

"And Rotary clubs were constantly inviting us to attend their functions where we sampled the best food and wine," he said.

During his architecture course (1961–1966), he was a conscientious student and was awarded the James Hardie Prize in Architecture in 1965 and also the South Australian Gas Company Prize in Architecture in 1966. He graduated in 1967, married Jane Chapman of Mt. Pleasant SA, and returned to Sabah to work for Public Works. From then on, his career path went through a wide spectrum.

"From 1969–2000, my career consisted of architectural practice, project management consultancy, real estate development, hotel and tourism operation. For a number of years I had employed some of my Australian friends from the University of Adelaide to help me design some of my projects.

"During the early 1970s, Sabah was short of technical expertise. Upon the formation of the Sabah Chapter of the Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM), I started a 'drafting school' to train supporting staff of architects offices, acting as 'principal' for five years until other new graduates from overseas could take over," he said.

Francis has a particular interest in architectural history. "I had redrawn many colonial buildings destroyed during World War II from rudimentary information from the archives and had donated these to the Sabah Museum for safe-keeping. During my sabbatical leave in the early 1980s I had spent sketching trips in Europe and elsewhere while taking Penny and her brother on holidays."

"I always believed in public and voluntary services. Gladly, I have been appointed since 1994 as one of the councillors to the local authorities to assist in the processing of development plans and to review building regulations. Currently, I am one of the advisers of the mayor of Kota Kinabalu, contributing towards city planning and building industry issues."

Francis retired from active architectural practice and other business interests in 2002 to take up a position in teaching architecture and interior design as Dean of Studies at the Sabah Institute of Art.

"I am enjoying passing on my life's experiences to young people in the classroom while acting as advisory consultant to a few property developers. I have recommended to a number of my students to continue tertiary education in Australia," he said.

"In my 'twilight years', I can say that my contact with western culture has enriched my understanding of the world in all its complexities. My daughter Penny is the epitome of the international person, crossing cultural boundaries with ease.

"I had orchestrated her upbringing and education to become a comfortable East-West blend. I am certain her contribution in Australia in whatever she does would be invaluable."

In summarizing his life in one statement, he says: "I owe a lot to Australia. From a World War II victim who lost his father and two sisters, with a mother working as a servant to an English family to bring up her three surviving children, the Colombo Plan was my turning point. Being married once to an Australian Caucasian and subsequent friendship with her family (which is quite a big Chapman Clan) has indeed enriched my understanding of western thinking on an intimate level. The influence of my university professors towards the value of education has come one full circle. It is now my turn to prepare the younger generation for globalization." ■

Story **Howard Salkow**

{*Some of the quotes in this article are taken from: Geoffrey Sauer (ed), The Colombo Plan for cooperative economic development in South and South East Asia 1951–2001, The Malaysian Australian Perspective, Australia Malaysia Cultural Foundation, Adelaide, 2001*}

**Adelaide graduate Adrian Cheok gets mixed results from his research at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore – and he couldn't be happier.**

# Mixing with

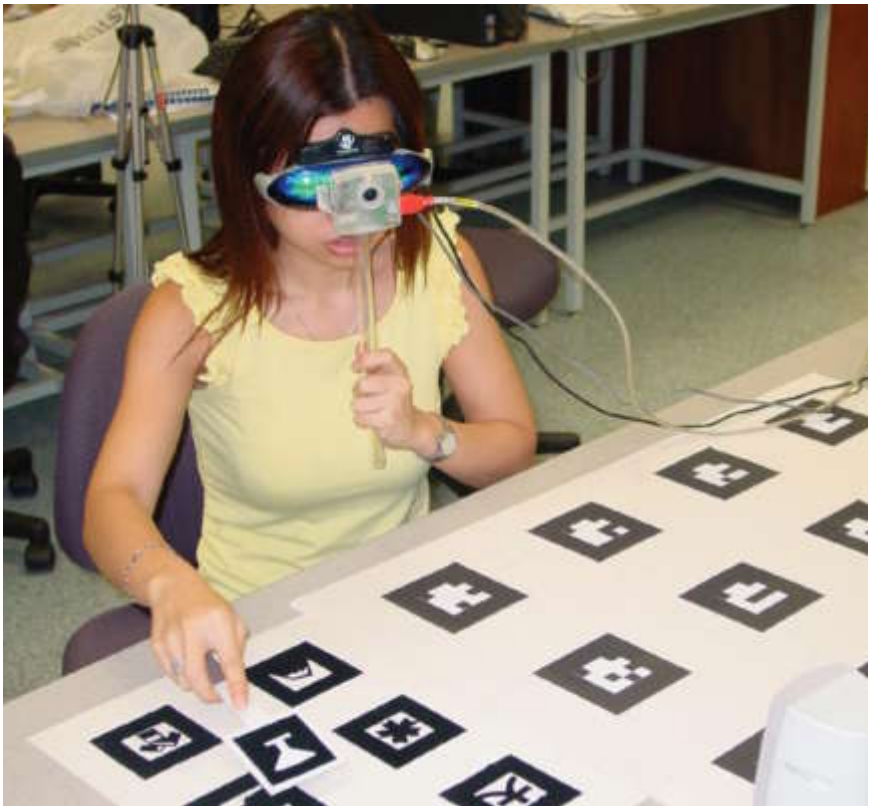
Dr Cheok started and heads the Mixed Reality Lab, a high-tech research facility which broadly aims to improve the way humans communicate with computers.

Dr Cheok, who was born and raised in Adelaide and graduated from the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical and Electronic) in 1992 and an Engineering PhD in 1998, heads a research team of more than 20 Nanyang staff and students and is regarded globally as a pioneering figure in the Mixed Reality field.

Among his many awards and accolades, he was the Singapore Young Scientist of the Year in 2003, and the Singapore Young Professional of the Year in 2004. He also holds the title of Associate Professor with two different Schools at Nanyang: the School of Computer Engineering, and School of Art, Design and Media.

"Mixed Reality has a different focus to Virtual Reality, which is the one that everyone associates with computer interaction," Dr Cheok says.

"Virtual Reality removes you completely from your real environment



# reality

and puts you in an entirely virtual one. What we do with Mixed Reality is combine, or mix, the virtual and real worlds together so the user's experience is that much more vivid and enhanced.

"The way we communicate and interact with computers is still the same as it was in the 1980s, with the keyboard and monitor being the main interface: you punch something in on the keyboard and the results come back to you via the monitor.

"Mixed Reality is all about trying to change that interface, by making our use of computers as natural and user-friendly for us as possible."

A project which showcases the Mixed Reality concept and has attracted attention from around the world is Human Pacman. As the name suggests, it is a human version of the popular 80s arcade game.

It features users clad in wearable computers (in the form of backpacks) and special goggles playing as "Pacmen" or "Ghosts" in a real environment.

"The Pacmen in the game see the little cookies and the glowing energy pills through their goggles – if they eat the energy pills, for a short time they are able to 'eat' ghosts, which they do by tapping them on their backpack," he says. "A ghost can also eat a Pacman in the same way, by tapping them on the backpack.

"What we've also done is add the role of Helper, who can take part in the game through the Internet. By equipping each of the players with a GPS, we can track their movements and in real-time translate this to a two-dimensional space which can be viewed on the Internet."

"So you could be across the other side of the world and watching a real-life game of Pacman – and as a Helper, you can also message or text the game players to advise them on their next move or that someone is about to eat them."

Other Mixed Reality Lab projects are no less novel.

Poultry Internet allows humans to interact with poultry remotely and in real time. A chicken, housed in a space with multiple webcams, wears a special electronic "jacket" which, when activated, creates a sense of being touched. The human has a chicken "doll" which is wired to the chicken's jacket and moves accordingly. By stroking the doll, the human can use a computer to see how the real chicken responds via the webcams.

Human Electronics allows users to communicate digital information simply by touch. For example, by each having a particular "chip" inserted in their shoe, users can transmit their business cards or small JPEG files into each other's chips just by shaking hands.

"What I really like is that the applications of Mixed Reality are so broad," Dr Cheok says. "It can be incorporated into just about any aspect of someone's life, and the interest we've received reflects that – for example, we've produced things for Singapore schools and the Singapore military.

"We're really only just starting to scratch the surface of what Mixed Reality is capable of, and it's a really exciting time to be involved with it." ■

Story **Ben Osborne**

# New land, new life, new passion

## Vietnamese graduates' remarkable journey

*Taking a snapshot of the life of Tam Van Doan and Thanh-Tam Pham reveals a remarkable picture.*

The University of Adelaide medical graduates are refugees from Vietnam, General Practitioners, budding photographers, and husband and wife.

Born and raised in Vietnam, they met and married while studying medicine at Saigon University in the 1970s. They graduated in 1979 and spent as long as they could under the Communist regime before making the life-changing – and endangering – decision to leave Vietnam.

"After we got married and finished our studies, we wanted to stay in Vietnam and help our country rebuild after the war," Dr Tam Doan says.

"But after a while it became obvious to us that our philosophies on life weren't compatible with those running the country, and we made the decision to escape.

"My brothers and I organised for us to escape – it took a lot of planning over a long time, about a year, for it to occur. But the whole time, we knew we were doing the right thing for us and it was worth taking the risk."

On March 26, 1981, Tam, Thanh-Tam and their six-month-old son Hieu left Vietnam in a boat with 66 other people and headed across the South China Sea for Malaysia. The journey took seven days, and was perilous from beginning to end.

"We were escaping from Vietnam illegally, so if we had been discovered by Vietnamese authorities in Vietnamese waters, we would have been in a lot of trouble," Dr Thanh-Tam Pham says.

"When we were very close to Malaysian waters, we were intercepted by some Thai pirates – it was frightening as we could see Malaysian islands in the distance and we were so close to our goal.

"Luckily, they just wanted our possessions so we gave them all we had and they let us go."

The family stayed in a Malaysian refugee camp and then in June 1981 came to Renmark in South Australia's Riverland. There, along with other refugees, they were looked after and supported by Father Philip Carter of the Anglican Church and his wife

*Thanh-Tam Pham and Tam Van Doan.*

*The landscape above, entitled Earth Spirit, was photograped by Tam Van Doan.*

Helen, who is also a University of Adelaide medical graduate.

The Carters also helped with the Doans' subsequent move to Adelaide, where both Tam and Thanh-Tam enrolled into the University's medical school in order to obtain qualifications which would be recognised by the Australian health system.

Again, this was far from easy, with another two children born while they were both studying and being far away from family and support networks in Vietnam.

"It was hard work, bringing up three small children and both of us studying," Dr Tam Doan says. "But we were so happy to be in Australia, and to have another chance, that we were determined to make it work, and so we managed!"

For the last fifteen years, the couple have operated their own GP clinic on Hanson Road, Woodville North (opposite the Arndale shopping centre), in the heart of Adelaide's Vietnamese community.

It has allowed them to make a positive impact on the lives of many Vietnamese–Australians, particularly new arrivals to Australia who have little English and who are grateful to received medical advice in their first language.

More recently, the couple have begun specialising in an entirely different field: landscape photography.

It's a passion which has seen them set up their own photography business, Iris Photography, put on four exhibitions (including one at the Barr Smith Library) and often drive thousands of kilometres in a weekend to take photos.

"We just love it," Dr Thanh-Tam Pham says. "We've only started getting serious about it in the last couple of years. We see patients on a Saturday morning and once we've seen the last one for the day, we hop in the car, drive to where we're going and take photographs for the rest of the weekend!"

It's a life scarcely imaginable to them in the 1970s, when they were caught up in the Vietnam War and its aftermath.

"I can't begin to tell you what it felt like even just to get on the Qantas plane to come to Australia," Dr Tam Doan says. "I sat back in my chair on the plane and said to my wife, 'we are breathing free air now'!"

"I think sometimes people who have lived in Australia all their lives don't realise how lucky they are, that there are many people around the world who will never experience the freedom that is easy for Australians to take for granted.

"My family is very lucky to be in Australia and we have always been determined to make the most of it." ■

Story **Ben Osborne**

# Recognising **Excellence**

**Each year the Alumni Association recognises the significant achievements and contributions of its alumni and friends through a variety of awards and grants.**

*Magdalene Addicoat*

## Honours Alumni University Medallist

The Honours Alumni University Medal and the Postgraduate Alumni University Medal acknowledge outstanding academic excellence in students. One medal per award is granted each year and presented to the most outstanding student in that graduating year.

Simon Jonathan Tuke was the Honours Alumni University Medallist for 2005. Simon graduated Bachelor of Mathematical and Computer Sciences with First Class Honours in December 2004.

Simon had a remarkable undergraduate academic record in which he achieved a perfect set of High Distinctions in all courses. This feat is almost unprecedented within the Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Sciences.

## Mutual Community Postgraduate Travel Grants and the AUGU/RC Heddle Award

Mutual Community Postgraduate Travel Grants and the AUGU/RC Heddle Award support the research undertaken by doctoral candidates. Recipients are provided with funding to travel to a conference or research institution essential to the advancement of their research.

The first-round recipients of the 2005 Mutual Community Postgraduate Travel Grants are Miss Magdalene Addicoat (Chemistry) and Mr Samuel Peter Stacey (Earth and Environmental Sciences). The second round recipients of the Mutual Community Travel Grant are Ms Gretel Png (Electrical and Electronic Engineering) and Ms Lisa Jane Moran (Obstetrics and Gynaecology). Mr Matias Braccini (Environmental Biology) is the 2005 AUGU/RC Heddle Award recipient.

## Distinguished Alumni Awards

Distinguished Alumni Awards recognise alumni who have given outstanding service to the University of Adelaide and/or the Alumni Association, and have given outstanding service to the community or have made outstanding contributions in their chosen field.

Mr Maurice de Rohan and Dr Richard Brock are recipients of the 2005 Distinguished Alumni Award.

## Distinguished Alumni Award — Call for nominations

Each year the University of Adelaide Alumni Association formally recognises its outstanding alumni by bestowing up to three Distinguished Alumni Awards. These awards recognise outstanding service to the University of Adelaide and/or the Alumni Association, and outstanding service to the community or outstanding contribution in their chosen fields.

The Alumni Association is now accepting nominations for the 2006 awards. The rules for this award and information on the nomination process are available on our web site at: www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni or by contacting +61 8 8303 5800.

If you know of an individual who you feel is deserving of such an award please forward your nomination in writing to:

Secretary, Alumni Association
Development and Alumni
University of Adelaide SA 5005
AUSTRALIA

*Submissions must be lodged, in writing, no later than 31 MAY 2006.*

# A Nobel impact

*The University of Adelaide's most recent Nobel Laureate once again exemplifies the quality of graduates who have been recognised worldwide for their creativity, knowledge and skills.*

When 1961 MBBS graduate Dr J Robin Warren received the Nobel Prize for Medicine last month, he joined an impressive list of University of Adelaide scientists who have made an impact on people's lives through their research.

The University of Adelaide was a mere 41 years old when it honoured its first Nobel Laureates. In fact, it was a dual celebration when the father and son team of William Henry Bragg and William Lawrence Bragg – both were later knighted – won the 1915 Nobel Prize "for their services in the analysis of crystal structure by means of X-rays", and also became the first Australians to win the award.

In 1885 Sir William Henry was a Professor of Maths and Physics at the University while his son graduated at Adelaide before going on to Trinity College, Cambridge University.

Howard Walter Florey – later Lord Florey – who graduated MD in 1921 from the University of Adelaide, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1945, along with Sir Alexander Fleming and Ernst Boris Chain, "for the discovery of penicillin and its curative effect in various infectious diseases".

The University of Adelaide is now directly associated with four of Australia's 12 Nobel Laureates, and one non-Australian. South African Dr JM Coetzee, who won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2003, is an Honorary Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Adelaide's English department.

Of the other Australian Nobel Prize winners, two studied at Melbourne University – Frank Macfarlane Burnet (1960, Medicine) and John Carew Eccles (1963, Physiology); while Peter Charles Doherty (1996, Medicine) attended the University of Queensland; John Warcup Cornforth (1975, Chemistry) is a Sydney University graduate; and Professor Barry Marshall, who shared the 2005 prize for Medicine with Dr Warren, graduated in 1974 from the University of Western Australia.

Three Australian Nobel Laureates did not study in this country. Queensland-born Aleksandr Mikhailovich Prokhorov, who took the Physics prize in 1960, is a graduate of the Leningrad State University; German-born Bernard Katz, who won the Medicine prize in 1970, moved to Australia in 1939, was naturalised in 1941, and was educated in Germany and London; and Sydney author Patrick White, the 1973 Literature prize winner, was educated at Kings College, Cambridge

University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha congratulated Dr Warren on this exceptional achievement.

"I congratulate Dr Warren for being awarded the Nobel Prize in recognition of his contribution to medicine," Professor McWha says. "It is always a proud moment when a graduate excels, especially on the world stage.

"I am sure everyone at the University will be as thrilled as I am at Dr Warren's achievement," Professor McWha said.

In 1979, Dr Warren first observed the presence of small curved bacteria on a biopsy of the gastric mucosa. Follow-up during the next two years showed that the bacteria were frequently present only on gastric-type epithelium, and were closely linked to a specific variety of gastritis.

In 1981, Dr Warren met Professor Marshall, registrar in the gastroenterology department at the Royal Perth Hospital, and a fruitful partnership followed which demonstrated the clinical significance of the bacteria. They cultured the bacteria, identified as a new species and now called *Helicobacter pylori*.

They demonstrated the association of *H. pylori* and peptic ulcers, particularly duodenal ulcers. Eradication of the bacteria resulted in healing of the gastritis and the ulcers rarely recurred.

This month, Dr Warren and Professor Marshall fly to Stockholm for the award ceremony where they will receive their gold medals, a diploma and a cheque for $1.7million. ■

Story **Howard Salkow**

# Milestones in Sport:
## THE TRADITION CONTINUES

*It's time to celebrate for the University of Adelaide Sports Association.*

Over the next two years, almost a third of the Association's 38 clubs will celebrate major milestone anniversaries – not to mention the Association itself, which next year will turn 110 years old.

Thousands of students have played sports through the University as part of their overall Adelaide experience, and all Sports Association Alumni are encouraged to take part in planned celebrations.

**To register your interest in taking part in the Sports Association's 110th birthday celebrations, or your particular club's celebrations, phone (08) 8303 5403 or visit: www.adelaide.edu.au/sport**

**Clubs celebrating milestones in 2006 are:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Boat | 125 |
| Football | 100 |
| Athletics | 100 |
| Soccer | 70 |
| Judo | 50 |
| Wing Chung Kung Fu | 30 |

**Clubs celebrating milestones in 2007 are:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Cricket | 100 |
| Golf | 80 |
| Basketball | 60 |
| Tae Kwon Do | 50 |

*Above left: The University lacrosse team in action in 1890.*

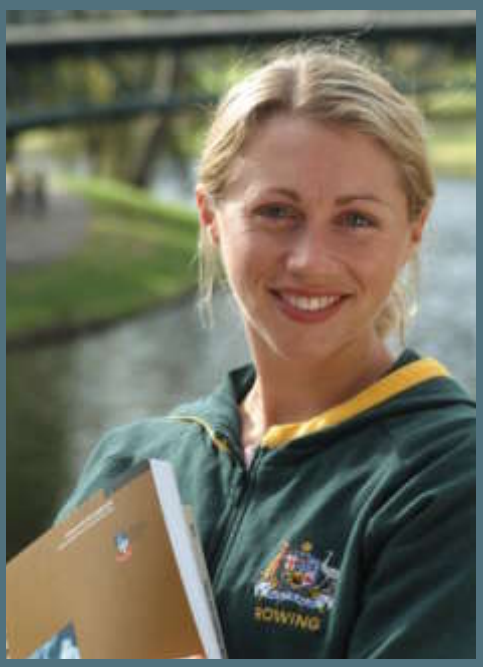
*Above: The University's Women's Hockey team in 1921: (back, from left) T.L. Cowan, V. Pinder, J. Leslie, F.W. Kleeman, (middle) M.I.O. Gault, R.M. Millar, P. Coulthard, (front) J. Fairley, A.S. Berriman, L.E. Morris and M.V. Macghey.*

*Left: The University's Inter-University Tennis Team in 1921 (back, from left) Nobel Laureate H.W. Florey, R.H. Berriman, F.R. Hone, A.W. Dawkins, (front) G.M. Hone and captain Dr C. Gurner.*

Since 1908, the Sports Association has recognised the sporting achievements and service of more than 4000 people by presenting them with Blues, Half-Blues and Club Letters.

Some of the more prominent of these recipients include:

- **Howard Florey** *(Blue for tennis, 1921)* – 1945 Nobel Prize winner for work with pencillin
- **Kate Slatter** *(Blue for rowing, 1996)* – Gold Medallist at 1996 Atlanta Olympics
- **Wayne Jackson** *(Blue for Australian Rules football, 1963)* – AFL CEO from 1997 to 2003
- **Ann Vanstone** *(Half Blue for hockey, 1976)* – Supreme Court Judge and QC



# A matter of **balance**

It can be difficult to find the right balance in a modern sporting world that demands a high level of commitment from its athletes.

A new University of Adelaide scheme established earlier this year aims to help its current and future student-athletes achieve excellence in both fields of endeavour.

The Elite Athlete Support and Information Service is designed to identify and help elite athletes trying to balance their sporting commitments with their studies, as well as promote the University to prospective student-athletes.

The project officer for the scheme is world champion and Olympic rower Amber Halliday (pictured), who also has two degrees from the University of Adelaide.

Vice-Chancellor Professor James McWha says the EASIS program continues the University's strong history of providing an environment where students are encouraged to enjoy the total university experience, which includes playing sport.

"For example, we have produced 98 Rhodes Scholars who have all excelled in their studies and their sport," he says.

"This program is designed not only to help those student-athletes who are already here, but also to promote the University to future students as a place to get the best out of yourself in both academic and sporting pursuits."

# Reunions – a one-of-a kind experience

*The University of Adelaide sees thousands of graduates pass through its doors every year. Thanks to a flourishing Reunions Program, we are delighted to see some of these alumni return, if only for a day.*

Reunion events invite all alumni – students and staff alike – to revisit the people and the places that made their time at the University of Adelaide unique. Whether compelled by nostalgia or curiosity, attending a reunion is a chance to renew old friendships, make new ones and discover the changes that have taken place both in yourself and your university.

Those who attended the Golden Jubilee 50-year reunion on 14 October this year had glowing responses to the day's events. "I enjoyed every single minute," Ruth Ketteridge (Diploma of Physiotherapy 1955) said. "All the speeches were so interesting, the organisation so superb and the happy atmosphere was tangible."

Robert Munday (MBBS 1955) was similarly impressed. "The most outstanding impression that my wife and I had of the whole day was that a lot of people went to a great deal of trouble to make our day a memorable one and they certainly succeeded," he said.

Feedback has shown that alumni are enthusiastic about rekindling their memories. A recent survey of graduates approaching their 10, 20, 30 or 40 year reunion showed that 73% of those who responded were interested in attending, and the majority would like to see school/faculty events rather than university-wide reunions (see page 24 for survey results).

Whether it is the chance to revisit the people and the places, or simply to evoke the memory of an earlier self, reunions provide a one-of-a kind experience that leaves those who attend feeling inspired, invigorated and with a renewed sense of connection. ■

Story **Lana Guineay**

**30 & 40 year Reunion for 1975 & 1965**

*Right: Robyn Hunt, Chris Burley and John Burley Photograph courtesy of Festival City Photography.*

**1955 Graduates' Golden Jubilee Commemoration Ceremony**

*Left: MBBS graduates Bob Munday (far left), Margaret Brisbane (second from left) and Bob Brummitt (far right), with BSc graduate Joan Lea (second from right)*

*Below: Law graduate Ian Wilson (left) and Economics graduate Frank Harris*

*Bottom: Diploma of Physiotherapy graduates (from left) Ruth Ketteridge and Margot Mernitz getting ready for the ceremony*

## Reunions planner for 2006

Are you interested in organising your own class reunion? We can help! Support is available through the Development and Alumni office for Faculties, Schools, groups and individuals.

**Reunion for graduates in Social Science and Social Studies in the time of Mrs Amy Wheaton, from 1942 and 1959.**

☺ Rosemary Builder
✆ +61 8 8543 2295
@ tmrbuilder@dodo.com.au

**Golden Jubilee Commemoration Ceremony and Luncheon for Graduates of 1956**

**October** (date to be confirmed)
☺ Joan Soon
✆ +61 8 8303 3317
@ joan.soon@adelaide.edu.au

**Department of Psychology is turning 50 in 2006**

The Reunion Dinner will be held on Saturday 13 May 2006, at the Radisson Playford Hotel in Adelaide.
☺ Carmen Rayner
✆ +61 8303 5704
@ carmen.rayner@adelaide.edu.au
🖱 www.adelaide.edu.au/psychology/announcements/jubilee.html

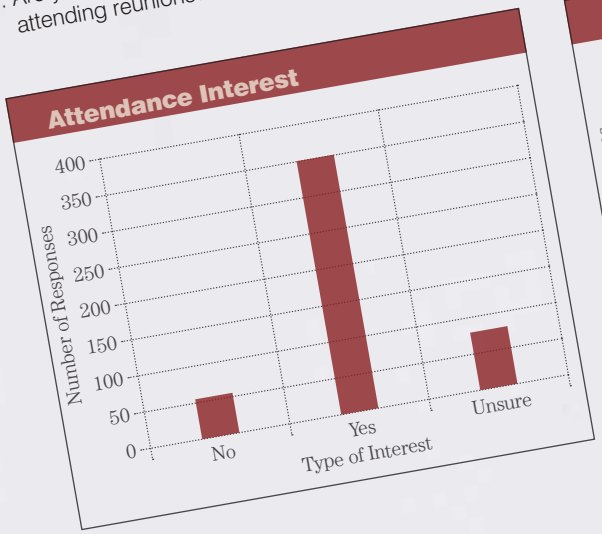
Further information on the Reunions Program can be obtained by contacting
☺ Kim McBride
✆ +61 8 8303 3196
@ kim.mcbride@adelaide.edu.au
🖱 www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/reunions/

# Reunion survey 2005

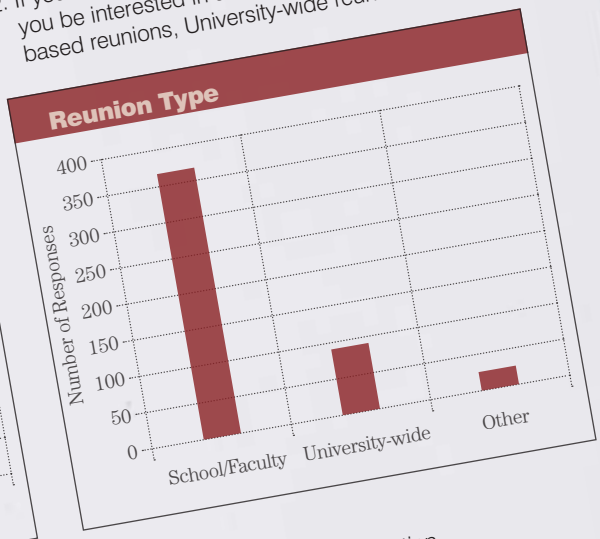
A survey was sent in April 2005 to alumni who were going to celebrate either their 10, 20, 30 or 40 year reunion this year. We would like to thank those who responded to the survey as it has provided invaluable information.

The following are some of the responses we received:

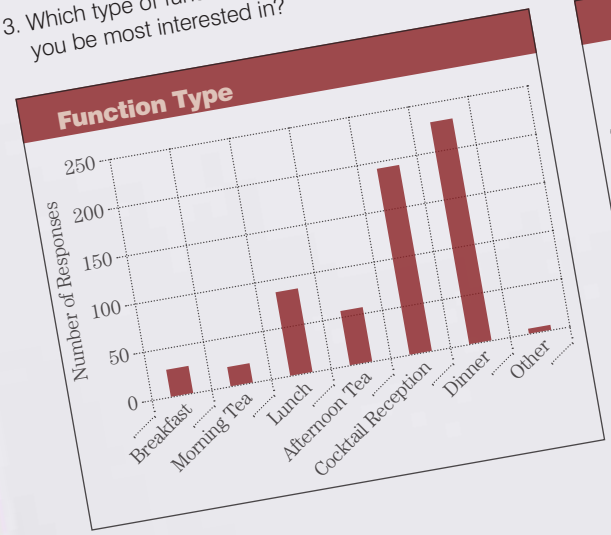
1. Are you interested in attending reunions?



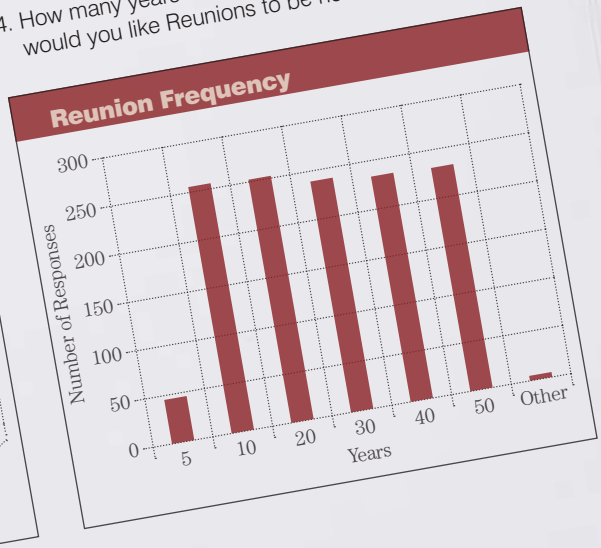

2. If you're interested in attending reunions, would you be interested in attending School/Faculty-based reunions, University-wide reunions or other?




3. Which type of function would you be most interested in?




4. How many years after graduation would you like Reunions to be held?



# information
# Development and Alumni

### What is the Development and Alumni Office?

The mission of the Development and Alumni office is to develop and advance mutually beneficial relationships with our alumni, the University and the community. It provides meaningful opportunities for engagement between the University and the community that enrich and contribute to the traditions and spirit that are unique to the University of Adelaide.

The office supports the Alumni Association to build and strengthen the bonds between the University and its alumni. The Alumni Association is an independent body with its own constitution and board that provides alumni with opportunities to stay connected and participate in the vibrant life of the University.

The Development and Alumni office provides:

- Information about activities and courses on campus
- After hours parking
- Discount Barr Smith Library membership
- Perpetual Email service (visit www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/development/benefits.html for further information)
- Electronic delivery of bi-monthly editions of the Adelaide-link newsletter
- Home delivery of bi-annual editions of *Lumen*.

#### Are you a member?

If you receive *Lumen* in the post you are already a registered member of the Alumni Association and entitled to receive our services and benefits.

### What is the Alumni Association?

The Alumni Association seeks to foster mutually beneficial relationships between our alumni, the University and the wider community. It provides alumni with benefits, awards and opportunities to participate in the vibrant life of the University.

### Who are Alumni?

The University's alumni include all of its graduates, and both current and former students and staff. Members of the general public who have an interest in supporting the University of Adelaide are also welcome to become involved by registering as Friends of the University.

### How do I join the Alumni Association?

Membership is free. Since 2000, graduates have been automatically registered as members of the Alumni Association at no cost. Before this time, members were required to register and pay a membership fee. All of these past members, including those whose fees had lapsed, have current membership status.

Alumni who graduated prior to December 2000, and who had not paid membership fees in the past, need to register to become a member. You can complete a membership form online at www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/register or by contacting the Development and Alumni office.

### What are the benefits of joining the Alumni Association?

Members of the Alumni Association enjoy a range of opportunities that allow them to interact with the University, the wider alumni community and colleagues within their industry/profession.

Programs organised specifically for alumni by the Association's chapters provide excellent networking opportunities, professional development and social interaction with fellow graduates and colleagues. Members also receive information about teaching and research at the University of Adelaide, graduate achievements and reunions. The Alumni Association also recognises and supports its members through a variety of awards and grants.

# information
## Development and Alumni

### Where do I find out information about Alumni activities?

Members can access up-to-date information about the University of Adelaide wherever they are in the world through Adelaide-Link, a bi-monthly electronic newsletter. To subscribe, email alumni@adelaide.edu.au with the words "subscribe me to Adelaide-link" in the subject line.

Alumni events are profiled on our website at **www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/ne/**. Individual chapters also send information directly to their members via post or the internet.

### Development and Alumni

**Website:** www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/
**Email:** alumni@adelaide.edu.au
**Telephone:** +61 8 8303 5800
**Facsimile:** +61 8 8303 5808

### Parking Permits

Alumni Association After Hours Parking Permits will be available for 2006.

This permit allows you the convenience of parking on campus after 4:30pm and before 9:15am Monday to Friday, as well as all day Saturday, Sunday and Public Holidays.

Renewal letters will be sent out before the end of 2005 for those alumni who have purchased a permit this year.

If you haven't purchased a permit previously and are interested in acquiring a 2006 parking permit, please contact us on +61 8 8303 5800.

To find out about other alumni benefits visit www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/development/benefits.html

# Helping students gain a start

*Starting university can be a daunting proposition, and for students coming from the country or interstate it can be especially challenging.*

Natalie Payne

Jeff Duncan

Since 2002, the University of Adelaide has provided the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship Fund each year to help two exceptional students begin university life. Awards are available for up to four years of study, subject to satisfactory progress, and at least one scholarship each year is awarded to a student from a rural area.

The most recent recipients of the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship Fund are Jeff Duncan and Natalie Payne.

Jeff, who hails from near Wentworth in New South Wales, is studying for a double degree in Mechanical Engineering and Economics, and said the Fund has helped relieve some of the financial burden associated with studying away from home.

"It's helped me achieve a more balanced lifestyle, for which I am very grateful, and has made the transition to full-time university study in the city as smooth and as enjoyable as possible," he said.

Natalie, who comes from Tailem Bend, is studying Medicine and said the Fund has helped for such things as purchasing textbooks.

"It's allowed me to concentrate on my study at university without having to worry about finding part-time work," she said.

"In a course such as medicine the contact hours are quite high, and the amount of work I'm required to do outside of university hours wouldn't allow me much time for a part-time job."

The Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship Fund – and the University of Adelaide's many other undergraduate scholarships – help students like Natalie and Jeff to achieve their academic goals.

**For more information about how you can help, please contact the Development and Alumni office on (08) 8303 5800, or visit www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni**

# Adelaide pioneers

## *Laura Fowler- our first woman medical graduate*

Laura Margaret Fowler was born in Adelaide on 3 May 1870, one of four children of George Swan Fowler and Catherine Janet Fowler. The Fowlers were a prominent middle-class family who had emigrated to South Australia to improve their financial prospects and went on to build a successful wholesale grocery business.

Laura went to Madame Marvel's school in Adelaide, and then on to England to finish her schooling, as her family moved there while her brother James attended Cambridge University.

The family returned to South Australia in 1884 and in 1885 Laura decided to try for Matriculation to enter the University of Adelaide. She spent a year studying for the examinations, and in late 1886 matriculated with extremely high grades, entering the medical course the following year.

She graduated in Medicine and Surgery in 1891, to become the University of Adelaide's first woman medical graduate, also winning the Elder Prize along the way.

After graduation, Laura Fowler was appointed House Surgeon at the Women's and Children's Hospital, and worked in that role until her marriage in 1893 to fellow physician Charles Henry Standish Hope, who had graduated MBBS in 1889 and MD in 1891.

Following their marriage, the couple went to India on a mission to provide medical assistance to the Indian people. From the start they saw themselves as self-sufficient doctors rather than missionaries, but their first visit did not prove successful in that they were unable to find sufficient work to support themselves.

After a period back in England, they returned to India in 1895 and settled in Bengal, and would go on to devote thirty years of their lives to Bengal, despite the deleterious effects of the climate on their health, particularly that of Charles.

They worked for a variety of church missions in various parts of Bengal, alternating that with spells of independent work. There were occasional visits back to England and South Australia and, during the First World War, a period of war work in field hospitals in Serbia.

Their work was often high-pressure, given the enormous demand for medical services in India. In 1916, for example, when they were stationed at the Church of Scotland Mission at Kalimpong in North Bengal, Laura was in medical charge of a mission of 540 children and 73 staff.

In 1933 Laura Hope retired and both she and her husband were honoured with the Kaisar-I-Hind gold medal for their work in India.

Laura Hope was a pioneer at a time when the choices open to women were still strongly limited by gender prescription.

She died in 1952 at the age of 84. ■

*For further information, see Alison Mackinnon, The New Women, Adelaide's early women graduates, Wakefield Press,1986, pp44-60.*

# Graduates on the move

## 2000s

**Ramy Azer** (MSc & Tech Comm 2003, Grad Dip Bus Eng 1997):
Is Managing Director of Papyrus Australia which is about to start early marketing of its environmentally friendly paper, made from banana trees.

**Joshua Cantone** (BE (Civil) 2003):
Has been awarded one of the world's most prestigious scholarships, the Fullbright Postgraduate Award.

**Carrie Demertzis** (BA 1998, LLB 2000):
Is a defence lawyer, and partner of five years with Lipson Chambers.

**David Lawson** (MSc & Tech Comm 2003):
Was appointed Consul-General and Trade Commissioner for Austrade in San Francisco.

**Sam Glaetzer** (BE (Civil & Env) 1996, Grad Dip Oen 2000):
Has a new role as group winemaker (commercial and wine utilisation), and will oversee wine production at 20 to 40 wineries that make wine for Foster's Wine Estates in regions where it does not have its own wineries.

**Nick Palousis** (BE (Mechatronic Engineering) 2003, BSc 2004):
Is the youngest partner in The Natural Edge Project, an organisation that promotes environmental and economic sustainability among governments and corporations. Mr Palousis contributed to the book *The Natural Advantage of Nations,* which received international acclaim.

**Lucky Tran** (BSc (Bio Sc) 2003, BSc (Hons) 2004):
Has been awarded the prestigious Poynton Scholarship, enabling him to study for a PhD at Cambridge University in the UK.

**Nathan Gianneschi** (BSc 1998, BSc (Hons) 1999),
**Mark Hutchinson** (BSc 1999, BSc (Hons) 2000),
**David Lupton** (MSc (Mol Biol) 2000, BSc (Hons) 2000):
Are among seven scientists sharing in $270,000 in fellowship grants from the American-Australian Association. The American Australian Association's fellowship program is the largest privately funded education program between Australia and the US.

## 1980s

**Associate Professor Shaun McColl** (B Sc (Hons) 1982, PhD 1988):
Has received more than $500,000 in funding from the United States National MS Society. The money will be used to tackle the mystery disease multiple sclerosis. Associate Professor McColl is working in the Department of Molecular Biosciences at the University of Adelaide.

**Celine McInerney** (LLB 1980):
Has entered the Hall of Fame of the SA chapter of the Asia Pacific Business Council for Women for her contributions to law and the arts.

**Dr Ian Shankland** (BSc 1973, BSc (Hons) 1975, PhD 1980):
Is Director of Technology for Honeywell Chemicals. Dr Shankland is responsible for Honeywell's labs in the US and Germany. He has been at the forefront of work to create safe replacements for chlorofluorocarbons. He has invented a number of products which are used in air-conditioning and refrigeration today and describes this as a once-in-a-lifetime issue to work on as a chemist.



The University of Adelaide alumni community would like to know what's new with you!

If you would like to share your milestones (births, marriages, awards, promotions, etc) with your fellow alumni, please send your name, degree, graduation year, and a short update of 50 words or less to:

Development and Alumni office
Level 1, 230 North Terrace
The University of Adelaide
SA 5005, Australia

Email: alumni@adelaide.edu.au
Fax: +61 8 8303 5808

*Submissions are always welcome so please remember us when you have some life news to share. Photographs are also welcome.*

## 1990s

**Camille Abbott** (B Mus Jazz 1995):
Was recently promoted to the position of Customer Marketing Manager – VIC with 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment. Her four-and-a half years of service with the company as Supply Chain Supervisor in their Sydney office was recognised and rewarded with the challenging opportunity in Fox's Melbourne sales team.

**Peter Gago** (B Ag & Nat Res Sc 1990):
Has been named Winemaker of the Year by a prominent United States magazine. Mr Gago is Penfolds' Chief Winemaker and the only Australian to be named in the annual Wine Enthusiast Magazine Start Awards.

**Stephen Kirkby** (BA 1989, PhD 1995):
Is the co-founder of Maxamine, a company based in San Francisco which uses artificial intelligence concepts to provide website analysis. Married with two children under five, Dr Kirby commutes between the United States and Adelaide every two weeks.

**Robert Mann** (B Ag Sc (Oen) 1998):
Is winemaker at the Hardys winery Tintara McLaren Vale, where he is involved in the crafting of all Hardy premium red and white wines made from fruit from McLaren Vale and the Adelaide Hills.

## 1970s

**Angus Redford** (LLB 1979):
In May 2005 Angus Redford was promoted to the Shadow Ministry with Energy and Emergency Services added to his portfolio responsibilities. In April 2005 Mr Redford nominated for the Lower House seat of Bright, and was delighted to become the endorsed Liberal candidate for Bright at the next State election in March 2006.

**Marie Shaw** (LLB 1975):
Was recently appointed as a judge of the District Court.

**Gary Watts** (LLB 1976):
Was recently appointed the new chair of The Helpmann Academy Board.

## 1960s

**Dr Robin Warren** (MBBS 1961):
Has jointly won the 2005 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for discovering that bacteria, not stress, was the main cause of painful stomach ulcers.

## 1950s

**Rudy Gomez** (BE 1959):
Conducts a one-man mining operation in the State's north, and has made a copper find which has been described as "phenomenal". Mr Gomez drilled a 70m section of earth out of an area about 100km south east of the Olympic Dam copper/gold/uranium mine, and found an average grade of 3.03 percent copper, and 0.4 grams per tonne of gold.

# **Alumni** gallery

*Above: Anne Gribbin with Candy Lam Oi Lee, new President of the Hong Kong Alumni Chapter, and committee member Margaret Lai King Kwan at the Friends and Benefactors Dinner in Hong Kong, March 2005.*

*Above: Alumni and friends of the University recently had an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of one of its greatest assets, the Barr Smith Library. Judith (left) and Revett Cant examine some of the rare items in the Library's Special Collections.*

*Below: A reception was held on Monday, 22 August 2005 by the Adelaide University Alumni Association in Singapore. Committee Members are pictured together with the Honourable Stephanie Key.*

# A view to treasure

NEW to our merchandise range is a limited edition print of Bonython Hall, the first of a collection of high-quality merchandise products to be released soon.

With its Medieval Gothic architecture and magnificent Murray Bridge limestone exterior, Bonython Hall is regarded as one of the finest ceremonial halls in Australia and has served, for many years, as the University of Adelaide's Great Hall.

Local architectural artist Malcolm J. Bartsch captures the grandeur and history of Bonython Hall in an elegant integration of hand-sketched artistry and subtle watercolour characteristics.

Each of the 250 high-quality Giclee prints has been individually hand signed and numbered by the artist. They are now available from the Development and Alumni office for $95 GST-inclusive (unframed).

**To preview the artwork and other official University of Adelaide merchandise please visit www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/merchandise/, or our office located at Level 1, 230 North Terrace, Adelaide.**

# THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE
## Official University Merchandise Order Form

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE AUSTRALIA

| ITEM | TOTAL PRICE* Within Australia | TOTAL PRICE Exported from Australia | QNTY | TOTAL COST |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Business Card Holder — pocket | $15.00 | $13.65 | | |
| Car Sticker | $2.00 | NA | | |
| Coffee Mug — straight red ☐ or navy ☐ (please tick) | $7.00 | $6.35 | | |
| Coffee Mug — flared red ☐ or navy ☐ (please tick) | $8.00 | $7.30 | | |
| Graduation Bear<br>Please specify the degree required for the hood | $45.00 | $40.90 | | |
| Key Ring — silver | $12.00 | $10.90 | | |
| Lapel Pin — coat of arms | $4.00 | $3.65 | | |
| Pen — white plastic | $1.50 | NA | | |
| Pen — metallic silver | $8.00 | $7.30 | | |
| Polo Shirt XS ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ (please tick) | $40.00 | $36.35 | | |
| Unisex T-shirt S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ (please tick) | $25.00 | $22.70 | | |
| Rugby Top XS ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ (please tick) | $50.00 | $45.45 | | |
| Rugby Fitted 8 ☐ 10 ☐ 12 ☐ 14 ☐ 16 ☐ 18 ☐ (please tick) | $40.00 | $36.35 | | |
| Summer Rugby Top 8 ☐ 10 ☐ 12 ☐ 14 ☐ 16 ☐ 18 ☐ (please tick) | $40.00 | $36.35 | | |
| University Tie — navy | $27.00 | $24.55 | | |
| Plaque — coat of arms, brass on stained wood | $55.00 | $50.00 | | |
| Limited Edition Print — Bonython Hall (unframed) | $95.00 | $86.36 | | |
| * Prices include GST as applies in Australia | | | **Subtotal** | |
| **ADD POSTAGE AND HANDLING COSTS** | | | | |
| Orders to $49.99 | $ 4.50 | International postage costs to be advised on application | | |
| Orders between $50.00 and $99.99 | $ 7.00 | | | |
| Orders over $100.00 | $10.50 | | | |
| | | | **TOTAL** | |

### PERSONAL DETAILS / DELIVERY ADDRESS

Name: _____

Street: _____

Suburb/City: _____

State: _____ Postcode/Zip: _____

Country: _____

Daytime Tel: _____ Daytime Fax: _____

Email: _____

Please tick: ☐ UofA Student ☐ UofA Staff ☐ UofA Alumni ☐ UofA Parent/Friend

### RETURN ADDRESS

Development and Alumni
The University of Adelaide
Reply Paid 498 *(within Australia only)*
ADELAIDE SA 5005
AUSTRALIA

Tel +61 8 8303 5800
Fax +61 8 8303 5808
Email alumni@adelaide.edu.au

### PAYMENT

Please find attached cheque/money order for $AUD _____ payable to The University of Adelaide OR

☐ Please debit my ☐ Bankcard ☐ Visa Card ☐ MasterCard for $AUD _____

Credit Card No. ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry Date ☐☐☐☐

Name on Card _____ Signature _____ Date _____

**FOR INFORMATION ON PRODUCTS, ORDERING, AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES FOR MERCHANDISE**

Please contact: Development and Alumni, The University of Adelaide, Reply Paid 498, ADELAIDE SA 5001, AUSTRALIA
Telephone: +61 8 8303 5800 | Facsimile: +61 8 8303 5808 | Email: alumni@adelaide.edu.au | Website: www.adelaide.edu.au/alumni/merchandise

# Life Impact

THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE
AUSTRALIA

## You can make a difference

For leading businessmen – and father and son – Theo and Steve Maras, tomorrow's education is built upon today's foundations. That is why they are so passionate about the University of Adelaide and its glorious buildings, many of which are in need of restoration and conservation.

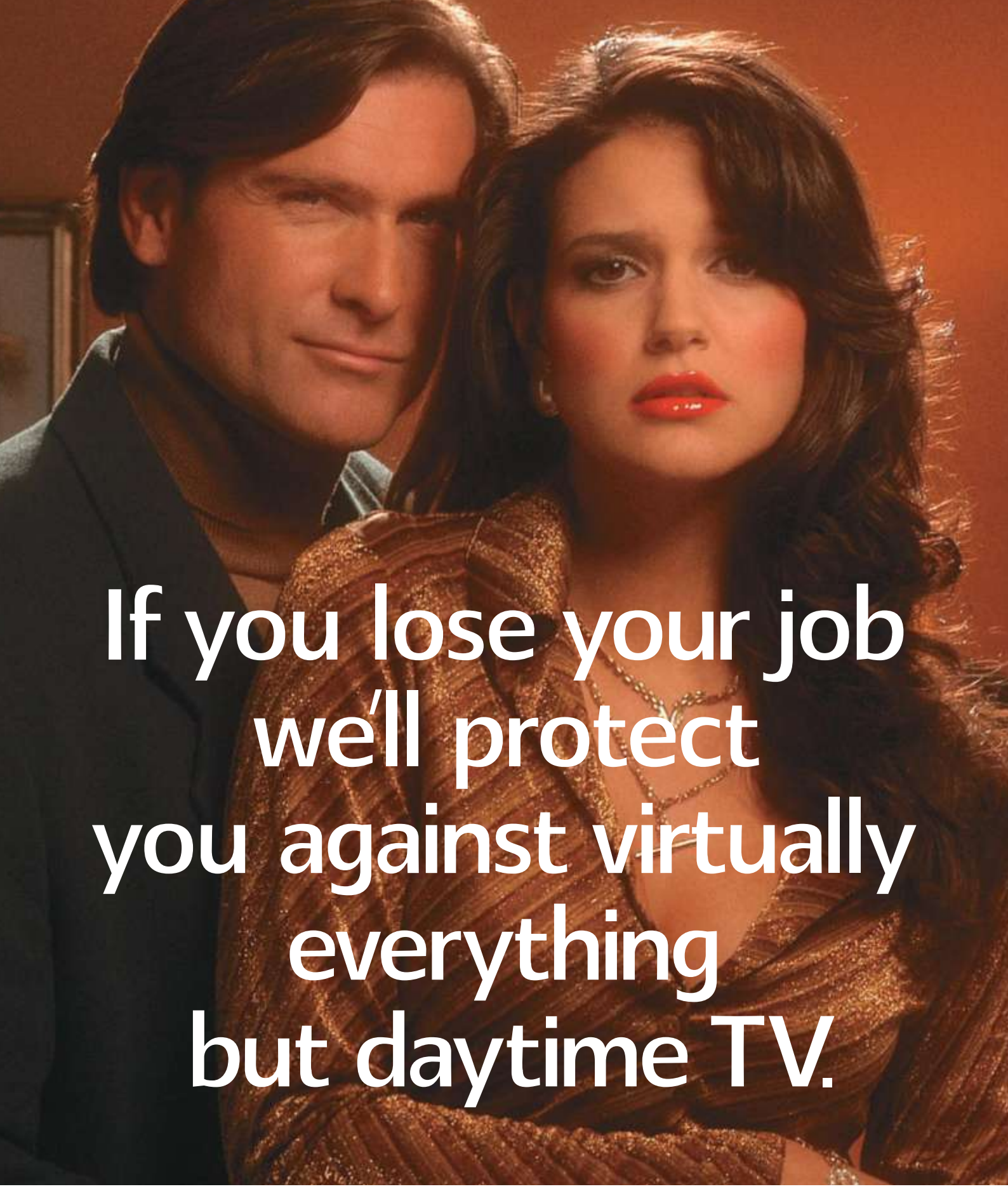
Theo serves as Chair of the University's Heritage Foundation Working Party in a role that sees him actively raising awareness and contributing towards the necessary preservation of some of the University's most recognisable and important buildings. Steve, who graduated from the University with a degree in Economics, has never forgotten the foundation studying at Adelaide gave him, and is equally committed to ensuring future generations have similar access to a high-quality University environment.

They encourage people to think about developing the University's past – in the form of its classic buildings and architecture – into the future by acting now.

For more information about giving to the University of Adelaide, contact:

**Development and Alumni, +61 8 8303 5800 or email: heritage@adelaide.edu.au**

CRICOS Provider Number 00123M




At least you won't have to worry about your Health Insurance costs. If you've been with Mutual Community for 12 months and unfortunately you're made redundant, we'll cover the cost of your health insurance for up to one year on selected covers. This great benefit comes at no extra cost.

To find out more visit your local branch, go to **mutualcommunity.com.au** or call **131 243.**

Life's unpredictable. Thank goodness for Mutual Community.

Mutual Community

Adelaide • Berri • Burnside • Colonnades • Gawler • Marion • Modbury • Mt Gambier • Norwood • Nuriootpa • Pt Lincoln • Pt Pirie • Salisbury • Unley • West Lakes • Whyalla