

campus news

University of Wollongong



UOW'S SIX-STAR DAY



Pictured at the opening of iC Central at the Innovation Campus (from left): Boulderstone Hornibrook managing director Rick Turchini, NSW Premier Morris Iemma, Member for Shellharbour Lylea McMahon, UOW Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton, Minister for Police and Minister for the Illawarra David Campbell, UOW Chancellor Michael Codd AC and Innovation Campus Director David Fuller.

Premier opens Innovation Campus with funding pledge

Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton declared Friday, 27 June a "six star day" when NSW Premier Morris Iemma capped the opening of the first building at the University of Wollongong's Innovation Campus with the announcement of \$15 million in funding for a new medical research institute.

The Premier announced the funding to build a home for UOW's Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute on UOW's main campus, while presiding over the official opening of iC Central, the first building to be completed at the Innovation Campus.

"Days don't come much better than today," a delighted Professor Sutton said. "I knew opening the Innovation Campus would be a five-star day, but the Premier's announcement of funding for the medical research institute has made it a six-star day. It is the icing on the cake."

Professor Sutton told the Premier: "You have shown faith in the University of Wollongong and the city with

this \$15 million – which we will match. The Institute will make a huge difference for the people of this region, this state and for Australia. It might just be the best \$15 million a state government has ever spent."

Opening the \$32 million iC Central building, Mr Iemma said the \$500 million Innovation Campus with its focus on research and development would ensure a brighter, stronger future for the Illawarra region and for NSW, by investing in the "knowledge economy". "Our future economic prospects lie in (harnessing) what is in our heads our knowledge," Mr Iemma said. "This Campus is at the centre of development of the knowledge economy."

In his introduction to the official opening, UOW Chancellor Michael Codd AC said the Innovation Campus was "a venture that enhanced the image and growth of the Illawarra region, as well as the reputation of the University." NH

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Campus News is produced for community, industry, government and other educational institutions as well as staff, students and graduates of the University of Wollongong. It provides an overview of University news and achievements on a quarterly basis.

Submissions for publication can be made to the Media Unit. Phone (02) 4221 5942 or email media@uow.edu.au

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The start of a new era

BY PROFESSOR GERARD SUTTON
VICE-CHANCELLOR
UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG

Premier Morris Iemma's opening of the first building on the Wollongong Innovation Campus on 27 June marked the start of a new era in the Illawarra region.

The Innovation Campus represents an eventual investment in excess of \$500 million which gives the region a vital stake in the knowledge-based industries that can underpin our economy in the 21st century – complementing the coal, steel and other manufacturing industries that have provided our economic foundations for so long.

The new campus gives innovative companies the opportunity to work alongside and collaborate with some of the University of Wollongong's key research institutes.

At the official opening we celebrated the completion of iC Central – the stylish steel and glass building that will be the hub of the new campus. Three more buildings are under construction, and eventually there will be close to 25.

The next building to open will be the Australian Institute for Innovative Materials, which will be the new home for two of UOW's flagship research institutes. When it opens later in the year it will be the most significant materials research institute in Australia.

The Innovation Campus will generate thousands of direct jobs in coming years, so its impact on the Illawarra region will be considerable.

It is a great example of how a university can drive regional development, but equally the Innovation Campus is a great example of how a unified and committed approach can produce an outstanding result.

The Innovation Campus is a reality because the three arms of government – local, state and national – have been able to work cooperatively.



Above: Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton (second from right) with Baulderstone Hornibrook executives (from left) Matthew Moar, Roger Volkmer and managing director Rick Turchini. Below: NSW Premier Morris Iemma and Chancellor Michael Codd AC officiate at the unveiling of the plaque at the iC Central opening.

Support from the wider community has been crucial and overwhelming while our construction partner, Baulderstone Hornibrook, has also played an important role in turning our vision into reality.

It all started with a gleam in the eye back in 2000 when the Wollongong Sportsground Trust contemplated options for the land that was then a soccer ground. They saw UOW as the ideal candidate to turn this valuable parcel of land into something that could provide long-term benefits to the regional economy.

The NSW Premier at the time, Bob Carr, and his Treasurer Michael Egan embraced the concept, actively encouraged by local MPs David Campbell and Colin Markham. The NSW Government provided \$16 million in seed funding and millions more in infrastructure and other support to turn our vision into reality.

As Minister for the Illawarra, David has continued to be a strong and valued supporter in the Iemma Government.

The former Federal Government, in particular Alexander Downer, also provided considerable support, most notably by providing \$12 million to build the Global Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention which will open on the Innovation Campus early in 2009. It will house our Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention and Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security, and play an important strategic and training role for the security forces of nations in Asia and the Pacific.

The TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute is an important partner in our fourth building, opening next year to house a joint TAFE/UOW digital media centre and our Graduate School of Business.

Former Wollongong City Council general manager Rod Oxley has been a key supporter. From the start, Rod could see the Innovation Campus' strategic importance to the future economic prospects of the region and worked extremely hard to ensure that it became a reality.

At the University, David Fuller's Innovation Campus team also worked extremely hard to get us where we are today. They never lost the faith and can be justifiably proud of their efforts.

The region's media organisations have also provided valuable support, and in the early days played an important role in convincing the community that there would be long-term value in exchanging a sporting facility for a vision for the future.

That vision is now a reality.



Premier predicts Campus will open up brighter future



NSW Premier Morris Iemma announced \$15 million in funding for a new Health and Medical Research Institute at UOW when he officially opened iC Central.

NSW Premier Morris Iemma opened the first building on the University of Wollongong's \$500 million Innovation Campus (iC) on 27 June, saying it represents the future of the Illawarra region.

The Innovation Campus is a research and development precinct that represents an eventual investment of \$500 million. The \$32 million iC Central building which the Premier opened is the first of an anticipated 25 buildings on the site.

Three others are currently under construction with one, the Institute for Innovative Materials, almost complete.

Premier Iemma said that the Innovation Campus was a success story of government, business and academia forming strong partnerships and working towards "a better future for the children and grandchildren of today."

"I am proud to be supporting the Innovation Campus," Mr Iemma said. "It represents a brighter, stronger future for Wollongong, the Illawarra and all of NSW."

Mr Iemma predicted when complete the campus could generate up to 5000 jobs – a major boost for both the

University and the region's economy.

"They will be the highly skilled, high paying jobs of the future that will unlock the knowledge economy," he said.

The Premier officially opened iC Central, a spectacular steel and glass building that will form the central services and administration hub for the research and development campus that the University is developing with joint venture partners Baulderstone Hornibrook on a 33-hectare site near Fairy Meadow beach, a few kilometres north of Wollongong's CBD.

Minister for Police and Minister for the Illawarra David Campbell praised the Government and University for their commitment to the Innovation Campus.

"The project was not without challenges, which makes this day all the more exciting. As a community this is what we wanted, and the opening of this building represents the 'Illawarra' way of doing things," Mr Campbell said.

"Today is a red letter day for our region."

In his introduction to the official opening, UOW Chancellor Michael Codd AC said the Innovation Campus was "a venture that enhanced the image and growth of the Illawarra region, as well as the reputation of the

University" while Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton said the Innovation Campus would become "the engine that drives the diversification of the Illawarra economy".

The new building's foyer was packed with more than 300 guests for the official opening, which was capped by the Premier's announcement of \$15 million in funding for a new medical research institute based at UOW's main campus.

The funding announcement surprised almost everyone in the audience, including Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences Executive Dean Professor Don Iverson, who had been expecting to meet the Premier and his staff later in the day to put forward his case for funding.

"The announcement came as a complete surprise to me. This funding allows us to move ahead fast and we will be able to start doing research by 2010," Professor Iverson said.

The Premier said the research will focus on five key health issues for Australia - diabetes, cancer, heart disease, mental health and obesity.

"This is so that we can give people hope to save lives, improve lives and extend lives. This will take place at one of the state's great treasures – the University of Wollongong – an outstanding institution and an outstanding success story," Mr Iemma said. **KMNH**



ABC radio announcer Nick Rheinberger (right) interviews Innovation Campus Director David Fuller as part of the station's Morning Show broadcast from the iC Central opening.

Research to help Navy handle skills losses



Above: Commodore Steve Gilmore of Navy Systems Command and UOW's Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Lee Astheimer. Below: Dr Peter Massingham

University of Wollongong researchers are about to embark on a research project to help the Royal Australian Navy deal with the loss of corporate knowledge when Baby Boomers retire.

Commodore Steve Gilmore of Navy Systems Command and UOW's Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Lee Astheimer in June jointly committed to the \$240,000 project to determine effective ways to retain specialised corporate knowledge when long-standing employees retire.

The Australian Research Council contributed \$180,000, and hosted the signing ceremony.

The research will be led by Dr Peter Massingham,



director of UOW's Centre for Leadership and Knowledge Management, who has worked with the Department of Defence on a series of consulting and research projects since 2000.

Commodore Gilmore said the outcomes will be directly applied to Navy's maritime engineering community.

"Like many Australian organisations, Navy's maritime engineering community has long-standing personnel approaching

retirement age who have specialised corporate knowledge amassed over many years," Commodore Gilmore said. "This project will provide the methodology to ensure effective transfer of this valuable corporate knowledge. It will contribute to

\$2.2 million in linkage grants

The Australian Research Council (ARC) has announced that UOW will receive around \$2.2 million for eight research grants under the Linkage Projects scheme, which is designed to promote links between universities, industry and the community.

Linkage Projects must involve a partner organisation outside the higher education sector and these partners are required to make a significant monetary contribution to the project, in addition to ARC funding.

Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Lee Astheimer highlighted UOW's high success rate under this scheme. She said the fact that 57.1% of UOW proposals were accepted compared to the national average of 42.7% was evidence of the important role community partnerships play in UOW's continued growth in research.

Partner organisations collaborating with UOW researchers on the Linkage grants include the Cancer Council, BlueScope Steel, the Roads & Traffic Authority, the Australian Museum and the Australian Federal Police.

Professor Sandra Jones and her research team from the Centre for Health Initiatives in the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences were doubly successful, with two research projects totalling almost \$460,000. Faculty of Engineering researchers Dr Brian Monaghan and Professor Elena Pereloma will be working with BlueScope Steel on two separate projects totalling more than \$700,000. **KM**

maintaining the nation's security through the sustainment of Navy's military and naval engineering capability."

Professor Astheimer said the research had major implications for all Australian organisations, with knowledge loss the most significant business risk in the 21st century. **NH**

Wireless partnership with Motorola

The University of Wollongong has signed an agreement with Motorola, Inc to conduct joint research in the area of wireless sensor networks (WSNs).

Together they will investigate real-world WSN hardware and protocol issues, focusing on radio propagation and power conservation of wireless sensor devices.

WSNs represent next generation wireless technologies that are capable of monitoring and recording physical or environmental conditions at diverse locations. Generally low-power, low data rate, with small transmission ranges (10-30 metres), WSNs will have

an impact on civilian and military life through such applications as asset tracking, surveillance, utility usage monitoring and building/agricultural control.

"Motorola is excited to partner with the University of Wollongong and this research complements our current wireless network efforts," Motorola Fellow, Motorola Labs, Dr Robert O'Dea said.

"Together, not only are we pushing the envelope technically, we're helping support the growth of the next generation of wireless communication researchers," Dr O'Dea said.

Research activities will be managed at UOW by Wireless Technologies Laboratory Director Professor Eryk Dutkiewicz and at Motorola Labs by project lead engineer Dr Lance Hester.

"This collaboration will further strengthen the research relationship between Motorola and the University of Wollongong built through previous engagements between the two parties and is recognition of UOW's world expertise in this important area of research," Professor Dutkiewicz said.

The Wireless Technologies Laboratory is located in the University's ICT Research Institute, which conducts research in the fields of wireless communications, emerging networks, photonics, security, multimedia signal processing and content management, and interactive learning. **BG**

Dangers in long-term cannabis use

New research shows long-term, heavy cannabis use causes significant brain abnormalities resulting in psychotic symptoms and memory loss equivalent to that of patients with a mild traumatic brain injury.

The study, conducted by researchers at the University of Wollongong, is the first to show that long-term cannabis use can adversely affect all users, not just those in the high-risk categories such as the young, or those susceptible to mental illness, as previously thought.

The research was published in June in the prestigious American journal *Archives of General Psychiatry*.

A collaboration with researchers at the ORYGEN Research Centre and Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre at the University of Melbourne, used expertise there to undertake brain image analysis.

They used brain imaging to demonstrate for the first time that the hippocampus and the amygdala - brain regions thought to regulate memory and emotional processing - were significantly reduced in cannabis users compared to non-users by an average



UOW co-researchers on the cannabis study were Dr Nadia Solowij (right) and Education Lecturer and PhD candidate in clinical psychology Colleen Respondek.

of 12 per cent and seven per cent respectively.

According to lead researchers Dr Murat Yücel and Dr Nadia Solowij from UOW's School of Psychology the new evidence plays an important role in further understanding the effects of cannabis and its impact on brain functioning.

"The study shows that long-term cannabis users were more prone to a range of psychotic experiences, such as persecutory beliefs (paranoia) and social withdrawal," said Dr Yücel from the ORYGEN Research Centre and

Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre.

"It also demonstrates that these long-term users had progressed the loss of memory by around 15 years. With an average age of 39, the trial group had the memory capabilities of a 55 year-old. This loss of memory could be likened to the damage suffered by patients with mild traumatic brain injury," Dr Solowij said.

"Although growing literature suggests that long-term cannabis use is associated with a wide range of adverse health consequences, many people in the community, as well as

cannabis users themselves, believe that it is relatively harmless and should be legally available. Given that cannabis is the most prevalent illicit drug in our community, there is a clear need to conduct robust investigations that highlight the possible long-term dangers," Dr Yücel said.

The testing involved high-resolution structural magnetic resonance imaging on 15 men (average age 39 years) who smoked more than five joints daily for over 10 years. Their results were then compared with images from 16 individuals (average age 36) who were not cannabis users. All participants also took a verbal memory test and were assessed for subthreshold (below the standard of disease diagnosis) symptoms of psychotic disorders, which include schizophrenia and mania.

The more cannabis used, the more these individuals were likely to show reduced brain volume, particularly of the hippocampus, as well as sub-threshold psychotic symptoms and significant memory loss.

"Although modest use may not lead to significant neurotoxic effects, these results suggest that heavy daily use might indeed be toxic to human brain tissue," Dr Yücel said. **BG**

Medical Institute gets corporate support

Wollongong businessman Michael Corban has made a financial commitment to the Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute being established at UOW, and challenged other local businesses to follow his lead.

Mr Corban backed his call with a \$10,000 up-front donation to the Institute from his Corban Peugeot car dealership in April, while pledging an additional \$100 for every new Peugeot he sells for the rest of 2008.

The University is establishing the Institute in a joint initiative with the South Eastern Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service. It will focus on research into the key areas of cancer causes and treatment, age-related diseases, metabolic disorders (heart, diabetes and obesity), mental health and anti-infective diseases.

"The Institute is destined to become a major national medical research centre, and is the kind of positive story that Wollongong needs right now," Mr Corban said. "So we jumped at the chance to be the first local business to support it.



Professor Don Iverson outlines his vision for the Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute as Michael Corban looks on.

"We hope that this will inspire other Wollongong businesses to also get behind the Institute. In fact, I'm issuing a challenge to other businesses to do just that."

Mr Corban was speaking at a function at Corban Peugeot, attended by Minister for Police and Minister for the Illawarra David Campbell, UOW Vice-

Professor Iverson was the guest speaker at the function, outlining his vision for the Institute which he predicted would become a world-class research facility engaged in groundbreaking clinical trials involving the Illawarra community.

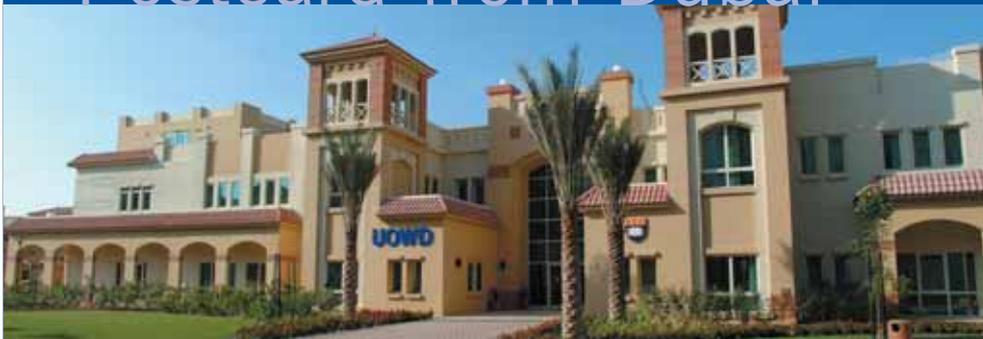
Professor Iverson said he was delighted that a local business had decided to support the Institute.

"The Institute is destined to have a major impact on the health and well-being of the Illawarra community," he said. "We'll be conducting our clinical trials in this community, and we need to spread the word about what we are doing.

"So it is very encouraging that a prominent local business has come on board in the early stages to help us raise the Institute's profile.

"We hope this example will encourage other organisations to support the work we will be doing to improve the health of this community through the generation and application of research advances." **NH**

Postcard from Dubai



The University of Wollongong in Dubai (UOWD) has been operating since 1993 and is now one of the most prestigious educational institutions in the United Arab Emirates. UOWD currently has an enrolment of approximately 2,200 students undertaking Bachelors and Masters degrees in Business and Computer Science at its location in Dubai's Knowledge Village.

Dubai appointment lights scientist's fire

Leading international bushfire ecologist Professor Rob Whelan will soon exchange the Australian bush for the sand dunes of the Persian Gulf after being appointed President of the University of Wollongong in Dubai (UOWD).

Professor Whelan will take over as head of UOWD on 31 August. The biologist and bushfire ecology expert joined the University of Wollongong 25 years ago and has been Dean of the Faculty of Science since 2002.



Professor Rob Whelan

UOW's Vice-Principal (Overseas Operations) Dr James Langridge said Professor Whelan's long and illustrious career as an academic, and more recently as an academic leader, made him an ideal choice for the key role.

"Professor Whelan has a record of injecting new ideas and strategies into organisations, managing and leading senior level teams and interacting with external stakeholders at all levels," Dr Langridge said.

UOW's wholly owned subsidiary ITC Ltd established UOWD in 1993. Over the past 15 years it has grown to 2500 students, and has a reputation throughout the Middle East for the strength of its undergraduate and postgraduate academic programs in Commerce, Business and Information Technology.

Professor Whelan said he was excited by UOWD's prospects for growth and the development of new courses.

"I am looking forward to building on the success UOWD has had over the past 15 years," Professor Whelan said. "UOWD has built a very strong platform for expansion, and part of my brief is to look at the best strategic opportunities to broaden the range of courses offered.

"UOWD has a strong track record for delivering excellent postgraduate courses for people in professional transition in business and IT fields, and we'll be building on that in other fields. For

example the University has just launched an important Masters course in Engineering Management to help engineers move from the technical side of their profession to management, and we'll be looking to do something similar in scientific research.

"But we will also be looking at opportunities to broaden the education offered into a range of areas such as Engineering, the Social Sciences and Health and Society."

Professor Whelan has had an outstanding career as a scientist, including spending time in the United States on a Fulbright Fellowship, and working in Britain and the US.

He is an international authority on bushfires and author of the textbook *The Ecology of Fire*. In 2004 he was one of three members of an expert panel who conducted the National Inquiry on Bushfire Mitigation and Management for the Australian Government.

"The Dubai role is a great opportunity professionally and personally," Professor Whelan said. "It is a chance to help build an institution that is pretty much the same size as the University of Wollongong was when I arrived here 25 years ago.

"It has been wonderful being part of Wollongong's growth, and I am looking forward to being part of the development of UOWD."

Professor Whelan is excited about the prospect of living in Dubai.

"I am sure it will be different and exciting," he said. "I am really looking forward to immersing myself in the culture and environment, and I am sure I will find the region ecologically fascinating," he said.

"Some of my earlier biology research was conducted in the deserts of Western Australia and the south-west of the United States, so it will be very interesting to live in another desert environment." NH

New degrees mark 15th anniversary

UOWD celebrated its 15th anniversary recently by launching three new bachelor programs – in International Business, Insurance and Property Development and Management.

The new programs were announced at a press conference addressed by Australian Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates Jeremy Bruer and UOWD Interim President David Rome at GETEX, the region's biggest education fair.

The Ambassador said the success of UOWD in the UAE was a reflection of the excellent ties between the UAE and Australia.

"The University of Wollongong in Dubai is witnessing increasing demand for its programs because of the top-class Australian education it provides to students," Mr Bruer said. "In the 15 years since its establishment, UOWD has made a most important contribution to the strong and growing educational links between the UAE and Australia.

"The launch of three new degree courses is an example of UOWD's continuing efforts to offer market-driven programs to the UAE's multinational student community."

Mr Rome said: "UOWD has played a major role in strengthening the bilateral relations between the UAE and Australia in the education sector. As part of the 15th anniversary of UOWD, we are pleased to offer three new dynamic programs in fields that have tremendous employment potential in the region and internationally."

UOWD's College of Undergraduate Studies Chair Dr Lejla Vrazalic said: "The new programs complement our existing portfolio of Bachelor of Commerce programs. They were introduced after a careful study of the employment market and the aspirations of current students. We are confident the programs in international business, insurance and property management will prove to be extremely popular among local and international students."

Meet our new Alumni Manager



UOW's new Alumni Relations Manager Amy Merlo.

UOW's new Alumni Relations Manager Amy Merlo has witnessed first-hand the value a vast, involved alumni network can have for a university when she worked at the Alumni Office of the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

The historic university, established by a Royal Charter from James VI (later James I of England) in 1582, has a network of 130,000 alumni across the world. The royal connection continues to this day, with the Duke of Edinburgh its current Chancellor.

Amy, who has a Bachelor of Business degree from Victoria's La Trobe University, spent 2006 in Scotland working in a development role for the University of Edinburgh's alumni team.

"Edinburgh has an illustrious group of alumni right across the world, many of whom maintained strong connections with the University in all kinds of capacities, like fundraising and returning as guest speakers," Amy said. "While I was there the University launched a £350 million campaign to raise money for research and strategic development."

Amy recognises that a relatively young institution like UOW can't match the history and scale of the grand old British institutions, but believes the successes of UOW alumni to date is a strong attribute of the University.

"Wollongong has an excellent reputation, and its graduates are now in key roles all around the world. You just have to read the stories about some of our graduates in this edition of *Campus News*," she said. "My aim is to make sure UOW graduates continue their relationship with their university beyond their years as a student, and remain an integral part of the worldwide community of the UOW Alumni Network."

"Edinburgh was very good at engaging with alumni through networking activities where fellow graduates could exchange ideas and information. In the next 12 months we'll be having a strong focus on building activities and relationships that help alumni stay connected with UOW, whether they live in Australia or overseas." **NH**

Kuching graduates meet old friends

More than 120 people attended a recent alumni event for graduates of UOW's offshore Computer Science program at INTI College at Kuching, Sarawak.

Alumni members came from throughout Malaysia and other parts of Asia to meet old friends and network with fellow UOW Computer Science graduates at the function, held at the Crowne Plaza Riverside Hotel in Kuching in February.

UOW Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) Professor Rob Castle headed a high-level UOW contingent that included Faculty of Informatics Acting Dean Associate Professor Graham Williams, School of Computer Science and Software Engineering head Professor Philip Ogunbona, Director of Transnational Programs Dr Bill Damachis, lecturer Penney McFarlane and the Faculty's International Officer Rachel Weine.

They were joined by INTI College Chair Datin Sri Hajjah Liliah Haji Mohd Salleh, Managing Director,

William Tan and Deputy Vice Principal Ms T'en Nyuk P'in, among others.

Ms Weine said the function had been a tremendous success. "It was a great opportunity for alumni members to catch up with people they had studied with," she said. "The networking aspect of the alumni event is also important because many of our graduates are potential leaders across the ICT field."

UOW established the offshore program in 1999 to teach the Bachelor of Computer Science course at INTI College in Kuching and in the Indonesian capital, Jakarta.

Since then more than 700 students have graduated from the program.

Ms Weine said the Faculty of Informatics was planning an international alumni function for early next year in Singapore, where 500 students are undertaking IT courses in UOW's very successful partnership program with the Singapore Institute of Management. More than 250 students have already graduated. **NH**

Chancellor's Awards deadline closing in



Chancellor Michael Codd AC with last year's alumni award-winner Paul Wand.

Nominations close on 31 July for the University of Wollongong Chancellor's Awards for Achievement in Community Service.

Chancellor Michael Codd AC established the awards in 2007 to recognise the personal contributions UOW alumni and others make to the enrichment of their community and advancement of their society.

This year, up to four awards will be presented in two categories, one for UOW graduates and one for community members who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the area of community service.

In recognition of their significant contribution, \$5000 will be donated to a charity or non-profit group of the winner's choice.

If you know of someone who has made a significant contribution in the area of community service and/or has contributed significantly to the University, nominate them now.

Group and individual nominations are invited.

For more information, guidelines and nomination forms visit

www.uow.edu.au/about/community or email community@uow.edu.au **NH**

Artist in balance with teaching and painting

Peter Hewitt

Bachelor of Creative Arts (Fine Arts) 2003

Diploma of Education 2004

Peter Hewitt's efforts to balance life as an artist and art teacher are paying off, with one of his works making this year's final of the prestigious Sulman Prize.

Peter, who completed a DipEd at UOW in 2004 after finishing his Fine Arts degree the previous year, combines teaching visual art at Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts with work as a practising artist in a studio he shares with another two artists.

This is his fourth year of teaching, having been at Smith's Hill High for two years before joining Wollongong HSPA in 2007.

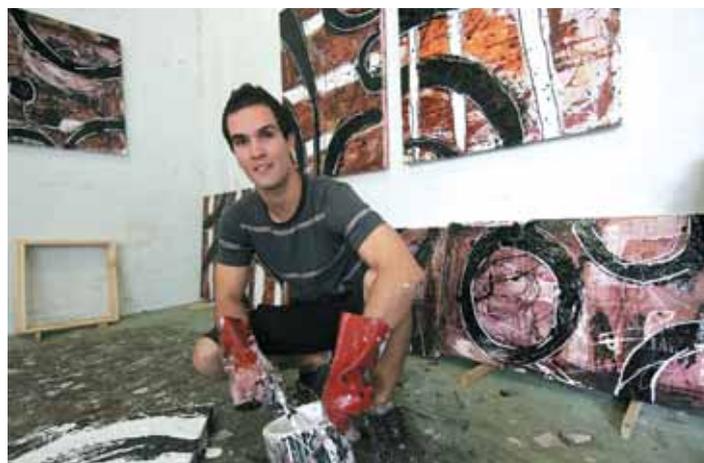
"I really enjoy teaching and find it very rewarding," he says. "But when I

started teaching, I promised myself that my own art wouldn't drop off. I was determined to remain a practising artist, so I make sure I go to the studio one or two times a week, and also spend a large proportion of my holidays there."

His dedication paid off with his entry for the Sulman Prize reaching the final, and being hung in a special exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW.

The Sulman is one of Australia's longest running art prizes, having been first awarded in 1936. It is awarded for the best subject painting, genre painting or mural project by an Australian artist, and is held concurrently with the Archibald Prize for portraits.

Peter's entry was a large painting of mixed media on board, *Changing Tides Bro*, which explored his indigenous heritage and relationship



Artist Peter Hewitt with some of his works in his Wollongong studio.

with the land. His indigenous heritage stems from the Yuan nation which incorporates areas of the New South Wales South Coast.

Peter, 25, says his work is influenced by abstract expressionism and contemporary indigenous art. Having his work recognised by the Sulman judges has been a significant career boost, especially as the other finalists were all considerably older and more experienced.

"Being recognised in major art prizes obviously helps build your reputation. So it has been exciting but a little bit daunting, to be up there (as a finalist) with well-established artists ... people I have admired over the years," he says. "It really validates my work, and puts me on the map in terms of artists' practice and exposure."

He has now entered a work in the National Indigenous Art Prize in Darwin. **NH**

Katelin's found her niche in newspapers

Katelin McInerney

Bachelor of Arts/Honours 2004

Dean's Scholar 2002-2004

When Katelin McInerney graduated from UOW in 2004 with a BA/Honours from the Faculty of Arts Dean's Scholars Program she hardly expected to be back within a few years interviewing academics and students for news articles.

In fact, journalism was far from her mind, despite a strong family involvement in the fourth estate – her father and aunt both being senior journalists.

"I wasn't really thinking about journalism, to be honest," she says. "I loved my time at uni so much that I was inclined towards trying to stay there forever, doing more study and pursuing a career in academia."

She spent 2005 tutoring in English at UOW's Moss



Katelin McInerney, who last year won the Australian Council of Deans of Education Award for Excellence in Journalism.

Vale and Shoalhaven campuses, but deciding to broaden her career choices by doing as much work experience as possible in 2006.

"I spent 2006 doing stints in an MP's office, at a book publishing company and an on-line-publisher, and an internship at Cumberland Newspapers in Sydney," she says.

Katelin caught the journalism bug, and applied to the *Illawarra Mercury* in Wollongong for an internship. She was given a month in January 2007, which led to an appointment to cover a maternity leave. That in turn led to a full-time appointment.

Throughout 2007 Katelin wrote for the *Mercury's* weekly IQ education liftout, and in October received a national award for her writing on education – the Australian Council of Deans of Education Award for Excellence in Journalism.

Katelin won the feature writing category in the Council of Deans of Education award for a piece called *Tackling a Teenage Tragedy*, about the impact of youth suicide on a school community.

She is now the *Mercury's* main education writer and often visits UOW to interview staff and students as part of her beat.

"I love going back to UOW," she says. "It's one of my favourite places, and it's awesome being paid to talk to the amazing people there about the wonderful things they are doing."

"And it gives me the chance to buy a muffin from the juice bar. I really missed those muffins when I left uni!" **NH**

James a man of the World (Bank)

James Hagan

Bachelor of Arts 1981

Honours - Economics 1982

James Hagan was a late starter at university. After finishing Year 12 at Bulli High School he spent several years working before deciding that a university education was the pathway to more interesting work.

His theory proved correct, although “interesting” doesn’t really do justice to James’ extraordinary career.

After a stellar public service career in Australia and New Zealand, James is now an Executive Director of the World Bank, based in Washington DC. In March he was given the honour of showing the visiting Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd through the World Bank headquarters during his visit to the US.

As Australia’s nominee on the World Bank Executive Board, James is part of the group that decides on the annual allocation of billions of dollars in loans and grants to assist developing nations.

The World Bank’s mission is to reduce world poverty through development, and James’ four-year role involves representing the interests of a group of countries including Australia, New Zealand, Korea, Mongolia, Cambodia and eight Pacific Island nations as well as overseeing the bank’s group operations.

Currently the World Bank has a strong focus on the impact of climate change on developing countries, looking at the opportunities and threats from the physical effects of climate change and the outcomes of international negotiations. The Bank will have a key role in assisting developing nations adapt to climate change and grow on a ‘low carbon’ track.

“The World Bank is an increasingly important partner for Australia in the Pacific, and the government has made very clear its priority for international cooperation on climate change,” James says. “Mr Rudd’s visit gave him the chance to meet the World Bank president Bob Zoellick to talk about how Australia and the bank could work together in the Pacific, and on climate change.”

James is relishing the opportunity to help developing countries and be part of the progress towards stronger regional economic development.

“A large part of my role is understanding what developing countries want and need,” James says. “We are dealing with the poorest of the poor, and with countries that have been torn apart by civil strife.

“So I travel to constituent countries to meet government representatives to get an ‘on the ground’ appreciation of the issues and local perspectives. I also work closely with bank staff as they develop and deliver programs in these countries.”

James’ father Professor Jim Hagan was a long-standing academic at UOW (now in semi-retirement,



UOW graduate James Hagan welcomes Prime Minister Kevin Rudd to the World Bank headquarters in Washington DC.

he remains a Professorial Fellow at the Faculty of Arts), but James didn’t rush into university studies when he left school. Instead, he opted to work at the Water Board.

“I didn’t know what I wanted to do when I finished school so went to work for a couple of years,” he says. “Then I realised that university education was a way of getting more interesting work.”

In 1978 he enrolled in an Arts degree at UOW and combined study with work in the UOW Library.

James completed his Honours in Economics in 1982, and moved to Canberra where he joined the Australian Public Service early in 1983. In the national capital he worked on public policy work in the Industry Assistance Commission, and also spent time in the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

While working in Canberra James completed a PhD at the Australian National University, and was headhunted to join the New Zealand Treasury Department in 1992.

“New Zealand was a leader in public sector reform at the time, and it was an exciting place,” he recalls. “I worked on departmental restructures, education, social policy, taxation, conservation and the environment, and was part of New Zealand’s negotiating team in the lead-up to and during Kyoto (Climate Change Convention) in 1997.”

In 1998 James returned to Australia to take up a senior position in the Australian Treasury, where he participated in some of the biggest public policy issues in Australia in decades.

He was awarded the Public Service Medal for his work running the GST Start Up Office – its \$500 million program to prepare businesses for the GST the biggest public education program since decimalisation in 1966. He then ran the Foreign Investment Review Board during Shell’s attempted takeover of Woodside Petroleum and the merger between BHP and Billiton, before spending two years running Treasury’s economic forecasting area.

With Australia one of the leaders of the multinational mission in 2004 to restore stability to the government and economy of the Solomon Islands, James was sent to the capital Honiara in 2005 to work with the island nation’s Ministry of Finance.

James says his time in the Solomons was “a real insight into the challenges of building a healthy and sustainable government and economy” and an ideal preparation for this current role with the World Bank.

James says he received a firm grounding from UOW for his career in the public sector.

“Living in Wollongong and the ethnic mix of the students stimulated an interest in the wider world,” he says. “The public policy interests of my economics lecturers, especially Rob Castle, gave me the sort of background that was ideal for working in the public service – a wide sweep of theory while being very practical in focus.

“I have been lucky in my career. The public service is full of opportunities and you can make what you want of many of the jobs on offer, but I have also been lucky that Edwina, my wife of 25 years, has always been prepared to back me.” **NH**

Terry's healthy relationship with UOW

Terry Clout

Bachelor of Arts 1983

When Terry Clout first enrolled at the University of Wollongong in 1972 he could hardly have imagined that one day he would be running an organisation with a \$2 billion annual operating budget AND working closely with his old university to deliver major health outcomes for the region.

As South East Sydney and Illawarra Area Health Service (SESIH) chief executive officer, Terry is responsible for 21 health facilities including some of the state's biggest hospitals, and close to 20,000 staff.

He is also working with UOW's Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences and Graduate School of Medicine (GSM) on a range of health collaborations. These include clinical placements for medical students at the region's hospitals and major research collaborations with UOW's new health and medical research hub.

"Working so closely (with UOW) on major health initiatives that will benefit the community is a dream come true," says Terry, who also worked in administration at UOW for six years. "We're working together in a range of health and physical science areas ... the medical school, nursing and allied



Terry Clout

health, obesity treatment, dealing with an ageing population, health management ... we've got the spectrum covered.

"I always proudly declare my University of Wollongong background ... but I'd never have imagined the way things would turn out.

"When I first enrolled (at UOW) there were only 1000 students, and 700 of them were studying part-time. The University has certainly come a long way since those days. It's a very different place, and what has been achieved there is fantastic."

Terry has also come a long way since he enrolled on a teaching scholarship in 1972, three years before the then University College gained its independence from the University of NSW. However, it was to be a false start. "I decided I didn't want to be a teacher after all, so I had to leave university because I couldn't afford to continue without my scholarship," he says.

(However, it was not an entirely wasted time, as he did meet his wife Jenny, a science student, and they married in 1976).

He joined the ABC in Sydney as a human resources trainee in the personnel department, and worked there for four years before returning to Wollongong, where he joined UOW as an industrial officer in 1978. He worked for UOW until 1984, completing a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Australian social history along the way.

But Terry's dream was to work in health administration, and in 1984 he accepted a position as a senior industrial officer at the NSW Department of Health in Sydney.

He's been with the department ever since, rising steadily through the ranks. In 1986 he helped plan and implement

the Area Health Service structure across NSW.

This was followed by a role as a departmental troubleshooter before he became corporate services director at the South Western Sydney Area Health Service and then general manager of Camden and Campbelltown Hospitals in 1991.

In 1996 Terry was appointed deputy chief executive officer at the Illawarra Area Health Service before taking on the chief executive's role on the Mid North Coast Area Health Service from 2000-2004. With amalgamations of area health services, Terry was appointed to run Hunter/New England in 2004.

He returned home to the SESIH job in October last year, after his predecessor Professor Debora Piconi was promoted to Director-General of the Department of Health.

Terry says he wanted to work in health administration because it was an area where it was possible to make a difference. "It's an intense job, because health is a political hot potato and tough real life and death decisions get made each day. But I still love working in health and am passionate about what I do," he says. **NH**

Tashi receives a Royal appointment

Tashi Wangmo

Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering 1997

Bhutan's King, His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgel Wangchuck, has appointed UOW Mechanical Engineering graduate Tashi Wangmo to the first-ever Bhutanese National Council.

Tashi, who graduated from UOW in 1997 and now works for Bhutan's Ministry of Works and Human Settlement, is one of five King's appointees on the 25-member council. The other 20 members were

elected in December and January as part of the Himalayan nation's move to a constitutional monarchy and democracy.

Associate Professor Paul Cooper said Tashi was one of the first engineering students to come to UOW from Bhutan. Professor Cooper has kept in touch with Tashi over the years and wrote congratulating her on behalf of the Faculty of Engineering at UOW.

Tashi replied with some inspirational feedback on her time at UOW. This is part of what she said: "It is not my success alone, it is also the success of all my lecturers and Faculty



Tashi Wangmo

members at the University of Wollongong.

"It is that four and half years of study at UOW and my interaction with Australian society that has provided me with the strong foundation necessary to build my way up to where I am now.

"There was never a person in the Mechanical Engineering Department who did not give me attention. Today, I feel proud to be standing out as one of the five eminent appointees of His Majesty the King to the National Council, not as an individual but as the product of the UOW." **NH**

Peter's passion his profession

Peter V'landys Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) 1984

Peter V'landys is one of those fortunate people who are able to combine their passion with their profession.

As chief executive of Racing NSW, Peter oversees the state's massive thoroughbred racing industry – the ideal job for someone who has been passionate about racing since childhood.

Having just led the industry through the Equine Influenza crisis, Peter is enthusiastic as ever about racing.

"Racing attracts participants and patrons from all demographics, so it's a job where you meet an incredibly diverse range of people," Peter says. "Racing is also a vibrant and entertaining sport so it is not just my profession, it's my entertainment and passion."

Peter grew up in Wollongong, and studied accountancy on the advice of his mathematics teacher at Keira Boy's High.

"The education I received at university was invaluable and a major factor in my career path," Peter says. "I was very impressed with the relaxed atmosphere and the social life, but coming from an all-boys school I remember feeling quite intimidated sitting next to girls, because I didn't know the etiquette."

Peter worked part-time for a Wollongong accountancy firm throughout university, then joined a multinational mining company in Sydney after he graduated at the end of 1984. Within 12 months he was promoted to company secretary, but the lure of the racing industry was irresistible.

In 1988, he accepted the role of chief executive of the NSW Harness Racing Club, which runs harness racing at

Harold Park and Menangle. At age 27, he was the youngest-ever racing industry chief executive.

"The club had made a significant loss of over \$1 million, so it was a major challenge," he says. "And the club took a risk with me because of my age and the fact I had come from outside the industry."

Peter was so successful turning the club around that in 2004 Racing NSW Chairman Tony Hartnell head-hunted him to run his organisation.

Peter took over the top job at Racing NSW in February, 2004 and immediately set about developing a Strategic Plan to address problems within the industry. While the plan has been successfully implemented, last year Peter faced his biggest test when Equine Influenza hit NSW for the first time.

"The Equine Influenza crisis was certainly the most challenging aspect



Peter V'landys

of my role," he says. "There are 40,000 people who directly or indirectly earn a living from the thoroughbred racing industry in NSW. In representing them I had to ensure they remained financially viable while the industry was in complete shutdown."

Peter met then Prime Minister John Howard and negotiated a \$235 million rescue package, an outcome he describes as a "very satisfying result". **NH**

Society recognises Summons

Professor Roger Summons

Bachelor of Science 1969
PhD 1972

Wollongong graduate Professor Roger Summons has been made a Fellow of the Royal Society – the prestigious London-based scientific organisation established nearly 350 years ago.

Professor Summons has been Professor of Geobiology at the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences at Massachusetts Institute of Technology since 2001.



Professor Roger Summons

The Royal Society was established in 1660 during the reign of King Charles II, and ever since has been at the forefront of scientific research. This year it awarded 44 Fellowships to leading scientists from around the world.

Announcing Professor Summons' Fellowship, the Royal Society described him as "the leading organic geochemist studying the molecular record of the earth's early biosphere", adding "his work on molecular fossils has provided a detailed picture of microbial ecologies which controlled the biogeochemical cycles of Archaean palaeoenvironments before visible fossils became widespread".

Professor Summons was awarded BSc (1969) and PhD (1972) degrees in Chemistry from Wollongong University College (then part of the University of NSW before UOW gained its autonomy in 1975), completing his doctoral research under Professor Emery Gellert.

Toward the end of his studies, he was inspired to specialise in mass spectrometry by the research work of Bert Halpern, who was Foundation Professor of Chemistry at UOW. Professor Summons says this particular connection laid the

foundation for a rewarding and successful career in scientific research.

"My degrees do say UNSW, but it's the Wollongong campus I feel connected to," Professor Summons says. "I studied under Professors Emery Gellert and later Bert Halpern, and was honoured to receive the Bert Halpern Medal from the School of Chemistry a few years ago."

Prior to taking up his appointment at Massachusetts Institute of Technology Professor Summons was based in Canberra at the Australian Geological Survey Organisation, formerly known as the Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics.

Professor Summons also undertook postdoctoral research at Stanford University and at the Australian National University, was elected to the Australian Academy of Science in 1998 and awarded the prestigious Treibs Medal from the Geochemical Society for 2003. **NH**

Lost Alumni

The Alumni Office is trying to make contact with our lost alumni. Please help us to find them so that they can be welcomed back to the UOW community. If you know anyone on the Lost Alumni List (www.uow.edu.au/alumni/lost/index.html), please encourage them to update their details.

Kelly adds UOW to community connections

Kelly Knowles

Bachelor of Arts (Politics and Industrial relations) 2000

UOW graduate Kelly Knowles believes in putting something back into the community.

It's what inspired the 29-year-old employment and industrial relations consultant to run for Sutherland Shire Council, and to take on the role of chair of the Sutherland Shire Hub of Economic Development (SSHED).

Now Kelly is putting something back into the University of Wollongong, from where she graduated in 2000 with an Arts degree, majoring in Politics and Industrial Relations.

Kelly has been elected to a four-year term to represent graduates on UOW's governing body, the University Council – a high-powered group of senior politicians, public officials, academics and business leaders.

She sees it as a chance to contribute to the future development of UOW, while dovetailing perfectly with her role at the SSHED - a business incubator that shares premises with UOW's Loftus Education Centre at a site adjoining Loftus TAFE.

"The (Shire) Council sees great benefits in strengthening our relationship with the University of Wollongong," she said. "We already have very strong connections because over the years so many Shire students have chosen to study in Wollongong. And now UOW also offers some courses at Loftus, while some of the people who have started their businesses at the SSHED have been UOW graduates.

"I'd like to make those links even stronger, and I'd particularly like to work on ways to keep Shire graduates more connected with their old university.

"The SSHED is all about building employment opportunities in the Shire, and I see a larger role for UOW supporting its graduates to turn their ideas into business propositions.

"And so much of the work UOW is doing in innovation connects well with what we are doing at the SSHED, so it makes sense to foster even closer relations."

Kelly has fond memories of her student days at UOW.



Sutherland Shire Councillor Kelly Knowles, who has been elected as one of two graduate representatives on the University of Wollongong's governing body, the University Council.

"I liked the course outline and the opportunities to choose a lot of different subjects. There was a lot of diversity and varied learning experiences that weren't available at other universities," she said. "And the course really met my expectations, whereas so many of my colleagues from other universities missed out on that diversity.

"Studying at Wollongong was also a lifestyle choice ... one of the things that sets UOW apart is its great environment and the student lifestyle that it offers, which is integrated into the University on a number of levels. I am keen to see that the University doesn't lose that lifestyle as it grows."

After graduating from UOW Cr Knowles spent a year in Canberra in a graduate position with the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations, before moving back to Sydney.

She now works as a consultant for the Australian Industry Group, advising companies in the airline and printing and packaging industries on a range of industrial and legislative matters including wage negotiations, unfair dismissal legislation and laws covering the broad range of equal opportunity issues, including bullying and harassment in the workplace, and discrimination on such issues as sex, race, religion, ethnicity and political affiliation.

"I really enjoy what I do," Cr Knowles said. "I get to know about a lot of different businesses, because you really have to understand the businesses in order to provide the best advice." NH

APPOINTMENTS

Minister right-hand woman

UOW Arts graduate Dr Angela Pratt has been appointed Chief of Staff to Federal Health Minister Nicola Roxon.

Dr Pratt completed her BA (Honours) degree majoring in Sociology at UOW in 1999, and her PhD in Sociology at UOW in 2003.

Dr Pratt took over the senior health role on 16 June, replacing Mick Reid who has taken up the position of Director-General of Queensland Health.

Ms Roxon said Dr Pratt, who was previously her Deputy Chief of Staff and senior health policy adviser, "brings extensive knowledge and expertise to the role, especially in the area of Indigenous health". NH

Art Collection Curator joins MCA

The former Curator of the University of Wollongong Art Collection has been appointed Curator at Sydney's Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA).

Glenn Barkley, who graduated from UOW with a Bachelor of Creative Arts degree in 1994, curated the UOW Art Collection for 11 years. He had overall responsibility for the collection from 2005 after Dr Guy Warren stepped down as Director.

Mr Barkley, who started his new role at the beginning of June, said he was excited to be working at one of Australia's premier art museums. He is currently preparing two major exhibitions – one from the MCA's own collection to be staged early in 2009, and Focus, an exhibition of works by established Australian artists staged every two years. NH

Key role in Welsh rugby

UOW graduate and internationally renowned high performance sports manager Graeme Maw played a key role in the Welsh Rugby Union team's victorious campaign in the 2008 Six Nations tournament.

Maw, who graduated from UOW in 1994 with a PhD in Exercise Physiology, was appointed Welsh Rugby Union High Performance Director in January, before Wales' unbeaten run through the Six Nations.

From the mid-1990s he was High Performance Manager for the Queensland Academy of Sport in Brisbane, before taking on the role of Performance Director at the British Triathlete Association in 2001. His work helped British triathletes secure 28 World, European and Commonwealth medals in six seasons, including World Championships in 2002 and 2006. NH

Lawyer joins Chinese firm

UOW-trained lawyer Matthew McKee has joined prominent Chinese law firm Lehman, Lee & Xu.

The firm in May announced that Matthew had joined the firm's Beijing office as a foreign legal counsellor in its corporate law and taxation practice groups.

Matthew completed his Bachelor of Laws degree at UOW in 2006, and had been working for Sydney firm The Argyle Partnership Lawyers.

Lehman, Lee & Xu is a prominent Chinese corporate law firm and trademark and patent agency with offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Macau and Mongolia. The firm is recognised as a leading expert on corporate law with 21 years of practice experience in Mainland China. NH

2020 Summit – symbolism or substance?

Head of UOW's School of Earth and Environmental Sciences PROFESSOR LESLEY HEAD was a delegate to the Federal Government's 2020 Summit in Canberra in April. She recorded these impressions for *Campus News*:

Saturday morning, and for me the most powerful symbol of the opening plenary comes during the Governor-General's welcome. Eschewing powerpoint, Major General Michael Jeffery had a gloved attendant bring a steaming section of Antarctic ice core onto the stage. His message was that the unprecedented challenges of climate change and sustainability should pervade all our conversations during the weekend.

We assumed the ice core was the real thing, but I suppose it could have been carved by a Parliament House chef. Such was the mix of spin and substance through the weekend that you could never be quite sure. But like most participants I was happy to take the chance.

My theme, one of 10, was called *Population, Sustainability, Climate Change, Water and the Future of our Cities*. We were asked to think big, achievable and cheap. Easy! The group was energising, but our discussions were constantly torn between vision and practicality. The tight timeframe rewarded talking more than listening, assertion rather than justification, reaction rather than reflection. The value of brainstorming – diversity, messiness, creativity – was undermined by the drive for early consensus. The volunteer facilitator with the texta was the most powerful person in the room.

Many of our big ideas were not new, they have just never been implemented. How many times have people called for next generation investment in public transport infrastructure in Australian cities? (Big idea = Just Do It.) Small but useful ideas seemed not to have enough wow factor. Would the



Professor Lesley Head

Prime Minister care to climate-proof one million low-income households? What about setting targets for urban greenery to help sequester carbon? The mill of discussion ground down to vital but not exactly sexy process and policy things – strategies, commissions, revised federal-state relations, audits, targets, new environmental currencies.

Saturday evening wrap-up. The bullet points are bland and we mope into our drinks in the big foyer

under the flagpole. Can I go home and tell my kids that, not only did I not meet Hugh Jackman, but that we came up with a plan for action?

The bottom line is that the challenges of sustainability and climate change cannot be met by a single big idea or action. These are complex, wicked problems. Yet, if the ideas are not so new, the present time does offer an unprecedented window of societal momentum towards an environmental culture change.

Dinner, and Climate Change Minister Penny Wong works the room. She picks up on the widespread desire not to go home empty-handed. We attack our task with renewed urgency, having seethed with frustration at the time wasted early Sunday morning on an ill-judged plenary for television. Somehow, a summary document emerges. If Australia can do half what's in there we will be much better placed for the future than we are at the moment.

Several weeks on, and it's back to normal life, for summit participants and politicians alike. The final report of the summit has come out and petrol prices have gone through the roof. I guess the PM didn't like our idea about making cities car-unfriendly as he is wringing his hands over \$1.60/litre, rather than embracing this as an opportunity to enhance non-car choices.

Like any cultural process, the 2020 Summit was a messy mixture of symbol and substance, conflict and contradiction, power and engagement. The same goes for sustainability - symbols are most likely to catalyse action when they are congruent with wider community attitudes and can be translated into relevant institutional processes.

The Final Report of the 2020 Summit is available at: www.australia2020.gov.au/final_report/index.cfm

Henry's wellbeing framework message

Secretary to the Australian Treasury Dr Ken Henry visited UOW on June 3 to speak about the "Wellbeing Framework" he has introduced to the Treasury since being appointed Secretary in 2001.

Faculty of Commerce Dean Professor Shirley Leitch invited Dr Henry to speak about the framework, which is closely related to the Faculty's own commitment to socially innovative commerce. This was the first time a Treasury Secretary had visited UOW.

In his talk to academics, students and other guests, Dr Henry focused on a number of social issues, and the ways that these are intrinsically

related to economic policy. He said that improving the wellbeing of the Australian people was central to the Treasury and its policy advice.

"Treasury is not the keeper of the public purse," Dr Henry said. "We are the central policy agency in Australia and we should pursue policies that give individuals the opportunity to have a life of real meaning."

Dr Henry frequently referred to the fact that many indigenous Australians cannot access equal education and living conditions, and do not have the same life expectancy, as non-indigenous Australians. **KM**



Treasury secretary Dr Ken Henry, flanked by UOW Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton and Faculty of Commerce Dean Professor Shirley Leitch.

Awards, achievements and accolades



Associate Professor Lori Lockyer and Martin Olmos, who won an international award for the online learning system they developed for UOW's Graduate School of Medicine.

International acclaim for online learning

UOW academics Associate Professor Lori Lockyer and Martin Olmos have won an international award for the online learning program they developed for the Graduate School of Medicine (GSM).

Their Online Learning Environment (OLE) took out the prestigious 2008 Platinum Learning Impact Award, presented at a ceremony in Austin, Texas in May.

The event was conducted by the IMS Global Learning Consortium, Inc - a global, non-profit, association that provides leadership in shaping and growing the learning and educational technology industries through collaborative support of standards, innovation, best practice and recognition of superior learning impact.

The consortium is made up of more than 100 members including universities, research institutes, publishers, and e-learning software developers.

The annual Learning Impact Awards recognise outstanding applications of technology that address the most significant challenges facing the global education and training industries. Award criteria include access, affordability, quality, adoption, accountability, organisational learning, interoperability and innovation.

The GSM's OLE took out the Australian award in 2007, earning a place among the international finalists in Texas.

UOW was recognised as the top entry overall and shared the Platinum Award with the Tennessee Board of Regents Online Campus Collaborative and Giunti Labs at Volkswagen Group Italia.

The OLE also received a number of "best in category" awards including Best Organisational Repository, Best New Learning Project, Best Academic Program Solution and Best Graduate School Solution.

Professor Lockyer is Dean of Research in the Faculty of Education and Mr Olmos is the Educational Technology Manager in the Graduate School of Medicine. **BG**

Education Dean honoured for research

The University of Wollongong's Faculty of Education Dean Professor Paul Chandler was honoured as one of 10 prominent Australian researchers at an event held at the National Press Club in Canberra in April.

The Thomson Scientific Australian Research Day identified 10 Australian researchers through a special multidisciplinary citation database, known as the Web of Science. The researchers come from fields ranging across the sciences to the social sciences and humanities.



Professor Paul Chandler

Professor Chandler was recognised for the huge impact of his research in education, and the large number of people who have cited his work across many disciplines.

Thomson Scientific presented commemorative certificates to each researcher at the

National Press Club function. Australian Research Council CEO Professor Margaret Sheil gave the opening address, and it concluded with an address by Professor Alan Robson, Chair of The Group of Eight and Vice-Chancellor of The University of Western Australia.

Thomson Scientific said the event was an opportunity for the major research and policy groups to come together to celebrate the success of Australia's researchers. Senior representatives from all these groups were invited. **NH**

Professor receives AFRM Fellowship

Professor Kathy Eagar from UOW's Centre for Health Service Development (CHSD) has become only the second non-physician to be made an honorary Fellow of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM).

According to AFRM past president Dr Garry Pearce, the only other person without a medical qualification to be honoured as a Fellow was former Governor-General Sir Zelman Cowen.

Dr Pearce and Associate Professor Ben Marosszeky from AFRM presented Professor Eagar with her award at a ceremony on June 2, as she was unable to attend the official induction of new Fellows at the AFRM Annual Scientific meeting held in Adelaide in May.

"We welcome Kathy into to the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine for her exceptional services to the Faculty," Dr Pearce said in his speech at the ceremony.

Professor Eagar was acknowledged for her outstanding contributions to the practice of medicine as it relates to rehabilitation medicine in Australia.

"The fact that Kathy is only the second non-medical person to receive this award shows the high esteem

in which she is held," he said.

In reply, Professor Eagar said that the recognition of her work by AFRM is due to a "real team effort and strong relationships with the Faculty". **KM**

Turbill inducted into Reading Hall of Fame

Only four Australians have been inducted into the Reading Hall of Fame and the University of Wollongong now has the distinction of having two of them.

Faculty of Education Senior Fellow Dr Jan Turbill has been honoured as the first Australian female to be inducted, joining the faculty's Principal Fellow Associate Professor Brian Cambourne in the Hall of Fame.

Dr Turbill, Professor Cambourne and faculty colleagues Associate Professor Pauline Harris, Dr Lisa Kervin and lecturer Wendy Bean attended the annual International Reading Association Convention in Atlanta, Georgia earlier this year.

Dr Turbill was invited to be a Featured Speaker at the conference, which attracted about 20,000 participants from around the world, while Professor Cambourne, Dr Kervin and Ms Bean also gave presentations.



UOW's Reading Hall of Fame inductees, Associate Professor Brian Cambourne and Dr Jan Turbill.

"I believe having this (Hall of Fame) honour bestowed now on two Faculty of Education members demonstrates the strength and international reputation of literacy education that the faculty has long had and will continue to have given its strong language and literacy team," Dr Turbill said.

She added that further evidence of the faculty's standing came from it winning the contract to run the Australian Government Summer School for Literacy and Numeracy teachers. **NH**

Back pain rehab work recognised

Exercise physiologist Katerina Ziropianni from UOW's Exercise Science and Rehabilitation Centre (ESRC) has been awarded a "Professional Practice Award" by the Australian Association for Exercise and Sports Science (AAESS) at the AAESS national conference held in Melbourne.

The award is intended to recognise the "best application of science to professional practice" for

Katerina's work as a clinical practitioner, and her use of clinical outcomes to improve outcomes for her patients.

Katerina presented a study outlining the ESRC's Job Ready Functional Rehabilitation Program outcomes in chronic and sub-acute lower back injured patients.

She demonstrated that a functionally-based rehabilitation program can be effective in reducing self-reported pain and disability levels, while simultaneously increasing physical and functional status. These combined appear to provide assistance to injured workers to return to full time pre-injury duties. **BG**

Katie crowned Miss World Australia



Miss World Australia Katie Richardson

Twenty-year-old University of Wollongong student Katie Richardson was crowned Miss World Australia at a glittering ceremony at Sydney's Star City Casino in April.

Katie, who will compete for the Miss World title in the Ukraine in September, has already travelled to China and New Zealand and many parts of Australia in her fund-raising and ambassadorial role.

The Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics student has taken leave of absence from her studies "to take advantage of this once in a lifetime opportunity". **BG**

UOW APPOINTMENTS

Lawson new FCA Dean

Professor Amanda Lawson is the new Dean of the Faculty of Creative Arts at UOW.

Professor Lawson, who had been Head of the School of Art and Design in the Faculty since 2004, took up her new position on 16 June.

Professor Lawson replaced Professor Andrew Schultz, one of Australia's foremost composers, who has decided to concentrate on his research and composition work. Professor Schultz will continue as Professor of Composition at UOW. **NH**

Kelly chairs Senate

Associate Professor Di Kelly has been elected Chair of UOW's Academic Senate for the next two years.

Professor Kelly, who works in the School of History and Politics in the Faculty of Arts, replaced Professor David Griffiths from the School of Mathematics and Applied Statistics.

Announcing Professor Kelly's election, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Operations) Professor John Patterson acknowledged Professor Griffiths' long-standing contribution to UOW in the role. **NH**

Coveted award goes to Dubai

Arpana Sharma from the University of Wollongong in Dubai has won the Marie Lewis Award in UOW's Vice-Chancellor's Awards for Excellence for 2008.

Ms Sharma is the Executive Assistant to the President at UOWD.

She won the coveted Marie Lewis Award, which is awarded to non-academic staff who are also studying for a degree, for her strong commitment to and support of UOWD. Most recently Arpana's organisational knowledge, experience and work ethic have contributed greatly to enhancing business continuity at UOWD during the changeover of Presidents.

Congratulating Ms Sharma on her award, UOW Academic Registrar Dr David Christie said the candidates for this year's award were particularly strong, further emphasising Ms Sharma's achievement.

Other awards presented at the awards ceremony on 27 June were:

25 YEARS SERVICE AWARDS

Heidi De Coster, Marina Evans, Professor John Fulcher, Carlo Giusti, Dayna Hilton, Ian Laird, Deborah McGavin, Bruce Robertson, Professor Julie Steele and Associate Professor David Vance.

EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD

Individual category: Associate Professor Philip Laird. **Team category:** Associate Professor (Siva) Muttucumaru Sivakumar and Associate Professor Paul Cooper



Arpana Sharma

RESEARCH AWARDS

Excellence in Research Award for Senior Researchers : Professor Gordon Wallace; Professor Shi Xue Dou.

Excellence in Research Award for Emerging Researchers: Dr Zenobia Jacobs; **Highly Commended:** Dr Adam Dolnik.

Excellence in Research Partnerships Award: Professor John Norrish, Dr John Best (Thales Australia Ltd), Dr Robert Phillips (DSTO). **Highly Commended:** Professor David Steel, Geoffrey Lee (ABS), Brian Pink (ABS).

Excellence in Research Supervision Award: Professor Mark Wilson.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE FOR GENERAL STAFF AWARDS

Grant Jacobs, Toni Lanyon, Cathy Nicastrì, Stuart Rodd

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO TEACHING AND LEARNING AWARDS (OCTAL)

Vice-Chancellor's Award: Dr Sue Bennett

Early Career Academic Award: Dr Corinne Cortese

General Staff Award: Dr Lindsay Oades and Alison Hemsley

Sessional Tutor/Demonstrator Award: Joakim Eidenfalk

Faculty Awards: Dr Mohan Chinnappan (Education), Associate Professor Stephen Ralph (Education), Dr Anne Abraham (Commerce)

Faculty Early Career Academic Awards: Dr Deepa Samantha Liyanapathirana (Engineering), Dr Bridget Munro (Health and Behavioural Sciences), Dr Celeste Rossetto (Student Services). **NH**

Nanobionics launches innovation era

Leading researchers from around the world gathered at UOW's newly established Innovation Campus recently for the first Asia-Pacific Symposium on Nanobionics.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton said the symposium set history by being the first event held at the new campus and that he looked forward to seeing the Innovation Campus (iC) become an important part of Wollongong and the University.

The symposium was held in the week preceding the official opening of iC Central on 27 June, and represented a partnership between research, industry and commerce - three key aspects of the vision driving iC.

Australian Research Council CEO Professor Margaret Sheil gave the opening address and the inventor of the cochlear ear implant, Professor Graeme Clark, gave a Public Plenary Lecture about "Connecting the world to human consciousness".

The field of nanobionics is the



Pictured at the Nanobionics Symposium at the Innovation Campus (from left): Organiser Professor Gordon Wallace, Vice-chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton, Australian Research Council CEO Professor Margaret Sheil and Professor Graeme Clark.

merging of biology and electronics using the most recent advances in nanotechnology, so the cochlear implant is a prime example of successful nanobionics. The 'Bionic Ear' uses an electrode array inside the cochlea to electrically stimulate nerve endings to transmit the

appropriate signals to the brain.

When introducing Professor Clark, the Vice-Chancellor said that he had made an astounding contribution to tens of thousands of people around the world by giving them the ability to hear.

Professor Clark, who has been awarded

a Companion of Australia, five Honorary Doctorates and Australian Father of the Year, said that the field of nanobionics is particularly important because it can help to restore the human senses.

He discussed how new developments in the field could be used to treat drug resistant epilepsy and to reduce inflammation in artery stents. He also said that using intelligent polymers and nanobionics to restore movement and touch through spinal cord repair is on the horizon.

The symposium was hosted by the ARC Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science (ACES). ACES has its headquarters at UOW with Victorian nodes at Monash University, St Vincent's Hospital and the Bionic Ear Institute.

Speakers from Ireland, France, Italy, UK, US, Singapore, China, Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand explored the latest developments in nanobionics. **KM**

US Ambassador praises crime prevention centre

United States Ambassador to Australia Robert McCallum praised the University of Wollongong for its contribution to the fight against transnational crime during a visit to the UOW Campus in May.

Mr McCallum and his wife Mimi visited UOW for meetings with Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton and senior staff from UOW's Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention (CTCP).

The Ambassador also met student representatives, including Study Abroad and International Exchange students from the US.

"Wollongong has a lot of overseas students, including 300 from the United States, so I took the opportunity to come here to interact with some of those students and broaden my knowledge of Australian universities generally," Mr McCallum said. "I also wanted a general appreciation of the academic opportunities that exist in Australia for US students."

He said UOW had a reputation as one of Australia's leading research universities, so he had also wanted to acquaint himself with some of its programs. He was particularly interested in the activities of the CTCP.

"Transnational crime covers a range of issues - money laundering, human trafficking, drug trafficking, piracy and smuggling, especially of weapons for terrorists," Mr McCallum said. "The University of Wollongong is putting significant intellectual firepower into finding solutions for these problems (through CTCP).

"The centre is having an impact on government crime-fighting policies around the world by providing information, statistics and analysis. This is very significant on a global basis, not just on a regional basis."

During his meeting with students Mr McCallum drew on his own experience of international study in England to encourage students to participate in student exchange



(From left) Senator Connie Fierravanti-Wells, Mrs Mimi McCallum, US Ambassador Robert McCallum, Member for Throsby Jennie George and Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton pictured at the University in May.

programs so they could experience other cultures and see the world (and their own country) from a different perspective.

The Ambassador, who studied law at Yale and spent three years at Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship from 1969 to 1971, said exchanges were experiences that lasted a lifetime for the individuals involved, while also helping to build inter-country understanding. **NH**

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