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UNSW: a 'beautiful export'

What do Cate Blanchett, Nicole Kidman and UNSW have in common? They are all winners in the 2004 *Australia's 50 Most Beautiful Exports* awards. UNSW has been honoured for its leading role in exporting education in the Educators and Science category. Alongside celebrities and sports stars, the University was acknowledged for its contribution to Australia's positive image and profile overseas.



Heading up research

Professor Ian Petersen has been appointed Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research). Prior to this appointment, Professor Petersen was with the School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering at UNSW@ADFA. He has also served as Executive Director for Mathematics, Information & Communication on the Australian Research Council in 2002 and 2003.

A statistical honour

Professor William Dunsmuir has been named a Fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA), an honour conferred on fewer than one in 300 members of the ASA. Professor Dunsmuir heads the Department of Statistics in the School of Mathematics. The designation of Fellow is an honour that signifies an individual's leadership in the field of statistical science.

Beware the blowfish

UNSW students of Japanese have scooped the prize pool in the state final of the 35th NSW Japanese Speech Contest. In the open division, Chloe Keeble took first prize for her speech *Expanding your experiences like the blowfish*. Joanna Au took second and Sally Heighway third. In the open beginners division, Partha Kamal took second prize. This month, Chloe Keeble will become the fourth UNSW student in four years to represent NSW in the national final.

Your rugger roots

Sports historians Tom Hickie (School of Law) and Tony Hughes (School of History) have launched their limited edition *The Game for the Game Itself, The History of Sub-District Rugby in Sydney*.

Hungry for a second course

UNSW Postgraduate Expo will take place in The Scientia on Wednesday, 13 October from 4pm to 7pm. The Expo will showcase the range of UNSW research and coursework programs. Academic and Faculty staff, along with Admissions, Scholarships and Postgraduate Board members will be on hand. Information at <http://www.postgraduateexpo.unsw.edu.au>.

Alumni medal tally

Two alumni have brought home medals from the Athens Olympics. Patrick Dwyer, architecture graduate and former Ben Lexcen Sports Scholar, was a member of the silver-medallist men's 4 x 400 m relay team. Jane Saville, social science graduate and also a former Ben Lexcen Sports Scholar, won bronze in the women's 20 km walk.

Katrina's Fresh

Katrina Charles, a PhD student from the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Cooperative Research Centre for Water Quality and Treatment, is one of 16 winners of this year's national competition for young scientists, *Fresh Science*. Katrina's work established that thousands of children may be at risk of gastroenteritis because the lawns where they play are watered with partially treated sewage in and around Sydney.

Emeritus Prof picks up Medal

Emeritus Professor Somasundaram Valliappan of the UNSW's School of Civil and Environmental Engineering was awarded the inaugural Congress Medal (Zienkiewicz Medal) at the Asian Pacific Association for Computational Mechanics' congress in Beijing last month.



iStock

Sustainability think tank for UNSW

In the book *The City is the Frontier*, author Charles Abrams calls the city a “...pulsating product of the human hand and mind, reflecting man’s history, his struggle for freedom, creativity, genius – and his selfishness and errors”. In a worldwide climate of increasing drought, crippling water shortages, more frequent natural disasters and intolerable levels of pollution, those errors have never been more apparent.

With this in mind, a new multidisciplinary group has been formed on campus to raise the profile of urban and regional sustainability and to advise government and industry. Called the Kensington Group, the cross-Faculty team is positioned as a high-level think tank that will complement the University’s Environment Network.

“The public is increasingly concerned about the lack of water supply security and sustainability for developed regions of Australia,” said group chairman, Professor Nick Ashbolt of the Centre for Water and Waste Technology and School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

“The concerns of the Kensington Group are that unsustainable knee-jerk responses will be made by politicians, such as recent decisions to desalinate seawater rather than work on decreasing society’s wastage of water or on recycling urban wastewaters in a more energy-efficient manner.

“The challenge is not just to manage growth but to explore the sustainability of cities and

regional areas on many levels. The group plans to do this by leveraging the University’s considerable expertise in a forum that’s accessible to the public.”

The Kensington Group originated with a group of water specialists from the Faculty of Engineering – Ashbolt, David Waite, Greg Leslie, Tony Fane, Sven Lundie and Ron Cox and former student Martin Rogers – who have met recently to address water issues and identify synergies between UNSW specialists.

It has since grown into a multidisciplinary project to facilitate debate both on and off campus on sustainability issues. In addition to the Engineering team, members include Deo Prasad (Faculty of the Built Environment), Garry Smith (Institute of Environmental Studies), Richard Kingsford and Peter Steinberg of the School of Biological Earth and Environmental Sciences, Hal Colebatch (Medicine and Engineering), John Black of the Botany Bay Studies Unit, and Mary O’Malley of the University’s Media and Communication Office.

The group plans to comment on matters of concern at regional, state and national levels as well as to stage industry and public events. It will also raise UNSW’s profile in this area and extend the activities of the Sustainable Living Project and EcoLiving Centre. Enquiries about the Kensington Group should go to Professor Ashbolt on 9385 5946, n.ashbolt@unsw.edu.au.

For the record

Transferring the tax-free threshold could pose some risks to the bottom end [of income earners]. The ALP are plugging some holes and creating others.

Associate Professor Neil Warren, ATAX, on Labor’s tax policy – The Australian

I wonder what the everyday working Australians – brickies, chippies, tilers and boilermakers – the people who pay for three-quarters of what goes on in universities, would make of a busload of academic unionists telling them what their problems are when you consider that taxpayers will be injecting around \$11 billion into universities over the next 10 years.

Federal Minister for Education Dr Brendan Nelson – The Australian

A low level of secondary and tertiary education emerges as a risk factor for accelerated cognitive decline later in life. Mental activity, by contrast, is protective.

Professor Perminder Sachdev, School of Psychiatry – Sydney Morning Herald

When we are talking about weight loss, we’re not just talking about the way you look. It’s a life and death issue. Obesity can kill you.

Martha Lourey Bird, School of Public Health and Community Medicine – Sydney Morning Herald

The challenge to describe the complex patterns of electrical, chemical and neurological signals that trigger a potentially fatal heart attack is mathematical rather than medical.

Dr Adelle Coster, Department of Applied Mathematics – Australian Medicine

All our kangaroo-management strategies are focused on control and consumption – not on an appreciation of free-living kangaroos. It’s bizarre. Overseas visitors often have a greater sense of awe and wonder for these amazing animals than we do.

Dr David Croft, director, Arid Zone Research Station – Canberra Times

We need someone with horizon views to look beyond and see what we can look forward to. The people who control hydrogen and own the technology will become the OPEC of the future.

Professor Chris Sorrell, School of Materials Science and Engineering, on the need for government investment in solar hydrogen – Sydney Morning Herald

I thought Howard was poorest on the stuff on Iraq, and Latham articulated a very clear position very much ironically redolent of the ‘we look after Australia,’ which in a sense echoed Howard’s position in the last campaign in the completely different arena of refugees.

Associate Professor Elaine Thompson, School of Politics and International Relations, following the leaders’ debate – Australian Financial Review

Words behaving badly? By Linda Jaivin

Words are behaving badly. A lot has happened to 'Trust' since Hal Hartley's 1991 film of the same name, in which the characters literally fall from a high place knowing there will be someone to catch them. The word itself seems to have gone splat.

'Promise' took a dive as well; no-one seemed to catch that one, either, though it's true that a core is either what you throw out after you've eaten the rest of the apple or what melts down when there is a loss of coolant.

If this seems like so much word play, well, that's what we writers do. Words are our tools, our toys, our homes and our obsession. We don't own them; they're democratically available to all. Yet we fret when they end up in the wrong hands, for words can be tortured to death, hung upside down and had every last vestige of meaning and life beaten out of them.

Look what happened to poor old 'Sorry' – an expression of regret for something bad which has happened to another person or people, an elastic yet beautiful and comforting word, a word that under normal circumstances builds bridges and holds out a hand. Today, it's living on the streets, ignored and spat upon, and when it extends its hand we make a wide circle for fear that it is grabbing for our wallets.

Although I'd like to say there is nothing more distressing than seeing words used, abused, broken and crushed, that's not actually true. It's far more distressing to see people used, abused, broken and crushed. There has been no shortage of

those visions, whether it is the scenes of horror in Beslan, Iraq and Palestine, or that of asylum seekers interned behind the razor wire in our own country, or of Aboriginal people continuing to struggle with the ongoing effects of dispossession.

It is words, however, which allow us to talk about these things, to try to make sense of a senseless world. They allow us to reflect on experience and human perversity and human kindness and everything else human beings are capable of.

They also stand guard over our memories, under daily siege from the forces of the perpetual now, the ongoing Olympic competition of entertainments, and the demands of lives lived on a highway which doesn't even seem to have a slow lane.

Fiction is a hostage-taker who captures the imagination in order to set it free. Its loyalty can never be to any government or regime, only to the truth in the biggest, grandest as well as most finite and particular sense of the word. Whether it's Gustave Flaubert's *Madame Bovary* or even Helen Fielding's *Bridget Jones's Diary*,

the reason fiction endures is readers recognise it as real and true in some essential sense.

Considered from a literary perspective, I fear that with their slippery and faithless words, politicians might only ever rank as failed novels, yet as characters, some of them would be the most successful of fictions.

How commandingly, for example, our Prime Minister might lead the citizens of Airstrip One in George Orwell's 1984, required "to be conscious of complete truthfulness while telling carefully constructed lies, to hold simultaneously two opinions which cancelled out, knowing them to be contradictory and believing in both of them, to use logic against logic, to repudiate morality while laying claim to it, to believe that

democracy was impossible and that the party was the guardian of democracy, to forget whatever it was necessary to forget..."

Conversely, it is the duty of the

writer to use logic for logic, to remember what it is necessary to remember and perhaps even to believe that democracy is possible. We must recover our language from those who would use truth to mean its opposite and who demand that trust, instead of justice, be blind.

We must recover our language from those who would use truth to mean its opposite and who demand that trust, instead of justice, be blind

Linda Jaivin is a literary fellow at UNSW. She is working on a new novel, Zek. ■

Scientist returns to his roots

By Susi Hamilton



Professor Garry Smith has been appointed Director of the Institute of Environmental Studies (IES) to take over from Associate Professor Ronnie Harding, who founded the Institute in 1992.

Professor Smith has been involved in environmental policy on a local, state and federal level for the last 12 years and has a distinguished academic background. Most recently Principal Environmental Scientist at Sutherland Shire Council, Professor Smith is a former Queen Elizabeth Fellow and NHMRC Research Fellow at UNSW in the School of Pathology, in the Faculty of Medicine.

"In my role in pathology, I was always very connected with the environment and the impacts of environmental pollutants on health," said Professor Smith, who led a research unit in carcinogens with a strong emphasis in chemicals and environment. "It was clear that there needed to be wider efforts in the

environment, including in pollution, to help some of the academic ideas progress."

Communication is to be a key focus for Professor Smith, as he takes up the directorship of the IES from 30 August. "There is such a lot of good environmental work going on at the University, in many of the faculties, but I think it has the potential to go even further, with more cross-faculty communication," he said.

"One idea I am thinking about is an electronic exchange for research ideas from the faculties. Academics would be able to communicate quickly and efficiently to find out what information is available from their particular perspective and find out whom they can communicate with," he said. "This would initially be just within the University of New South Wales, but if that concept works, then it would be adaptable so other academics could use it and ultimately politicians and policy makers." ■

Susi Hamilton

The groundbreaker

By Susi Hamilton

Associate Professor Ronnie Harding has watched the environment movement emerge as a key political issue over the last 30 years. For the past 12 years she led that change as the first Director of the Institute of Environmental Studies (IES).



"I quickly realised that bench science wasn't what I was going to be happy to do for the rest of my life," said Professor Harding, who retired from the University last month.

"It was the mid-1970s, when the environment was really taking off. A position as environment lecturer came up in UNSW's General Education Department and although I had no formal training in the area, neither did anyone else. My previous degree in the Arts, combined with Science, probably gave me the edge."

The General Education program, a long-time feature of undergraduate study, requires students to do subjects outside their disciplinary curriculum. The environment became one choice. "I had students from all areas – medicine, mining, social work and building. This provided an ideal

cross-disciplinary mix for environmental discussions," she said.

"In 1992, as a result of an Academic Board response to Council's query about UNSW's role in the environment, the University established the IES [which] played a co-ordinating role for environmental activities at UNSW."

The IES ran a number of groundbreaking conferences on interdisciplinary environmental and sustainability issues and played a key role in establishing an environmental policy and management program for the University, leading to waste audits on campus and the establishment of the Ecoliving Centre.

The role of the IES changed in 2000, when it was given the role of running a Masters by coursework program in environmental management.

"I feel a sense of pride in the Masters program particularly," Professor Harding said. "It has been enormously successful. It is rigorous in its core, but flexible because it offers electives from around the University. It has brought in interesting people from many different backgrounds, with many making career changes to the environment. The last two years has seen particular interest from people in business and IT. The student numbers have grown dramatically in its short time."

Professor Harding is looking forward to a part-time appointment as Assistant Commissioner of the new NSW Natural Resources Commission and will also continue as chair of the NSW Council on Environmental Education.

Executive in the house

By Louisa Wright

Steve Crane's natural habitat is the business world but when he stepped down from the top job at ABN AMRO last year, he accepted a challenge to become the first Executive in Residence in the Faculty of Commerce and Economics.

He has long had an abiding interest in education issues, and while CEO at ABN AMRO he funded four of the Premier's Teaching Awards for high school teachers of business and economics. Earlier contacts with a range of tertiary institutions, however, had been "unimpressive" and he had no desire to lecture. But if he were to make a contribution, he wanted it to be useful. Handed a so-called blank canvas by Dean of Commerce and Economics, Professor Greg Whittred,

Mr Crane has spent most Friday mornings this year creating his role. In particular, he has set about reducing the mutual awe with which academics and business people regard each other and to create closer links between the two groups.

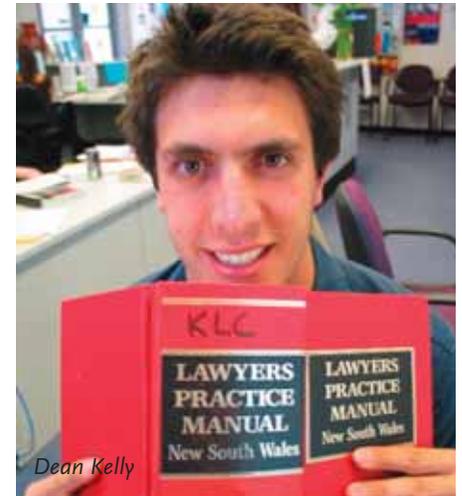
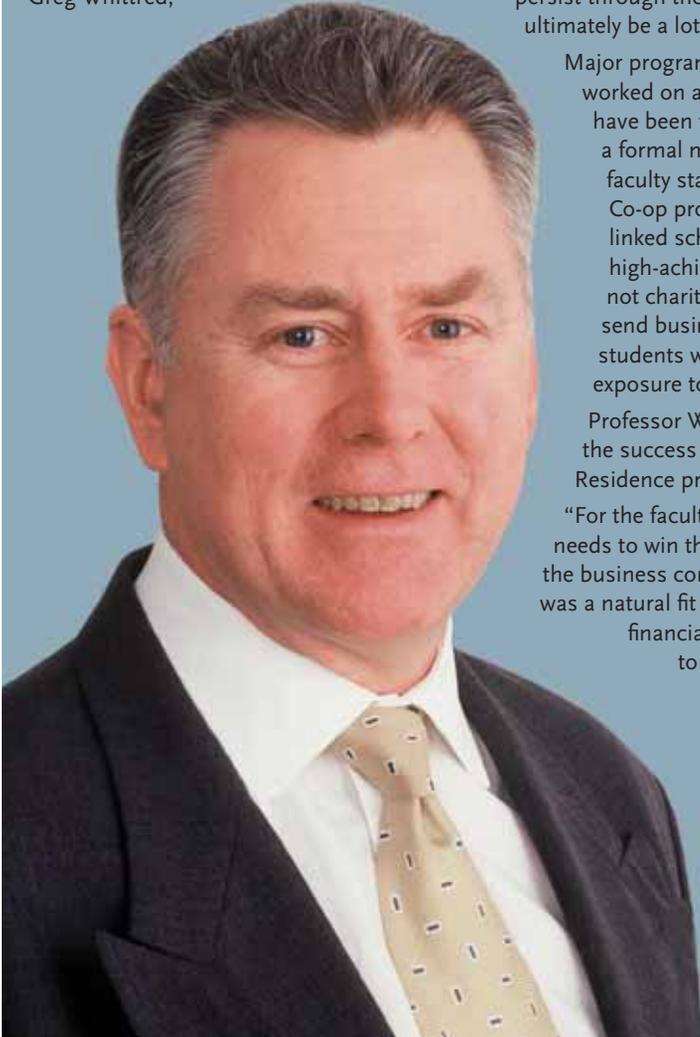
"There is as much benefit for business as there is for this faculty to bring the two sides together," Mr Crane said. "But they have to understand each other. If we make it clear that we have something to offer here, and we persist through the knock-backs, there will ultimately be a lot of benefit."

Major programs which Mr Crane has worked on as Executive in Residence have been the establishment of a formal mentoring system for faculty staff and extending the Co-op program, the industry-linked scholarship programs for high-achieving students. "It's not charity," Mr Crane said. "We send business some really talented students who then get increased exposure to the top financial houses."

Professor Whittred is pleased with the success of the Executive in Residence program.

"For the faculty to survive and prosper, it needs to win the support and influence of the business community," he said. "Steven was a natural fit as someone from the financial services sector to come to this faculty with its great strength in the financial services areas.

"If we want the support of our stakeholders – the business community – they have to see us as relevant, to know us and be our friends, so we have to go out and engage them."



Street practice: law students star

By Denise Knight

A fly-on-the-wall documentary series, which follows a group of UNSW law students at Kingsford Legal Centre (KLC), part of the Faculty of Law, premiered last month on ABC Television. *Street Practice* is described as a series about "the bleeding of young lawyers as they undertake a 'tour-of-duty' working as legal clerks".

"They take on their first real cases and deal with their first real clients. It's where the lessons stop and the real world begins," the ABC's program guide said.

"For some of these students, their time at KLC is the first and only experience they will ever have working as community lawyers with disadvantaged clients. *Street Practice* is also an examination of the legal system itself, specifically the people and issues the law often fails." The four-part series ran as part of the *Reality Bites* program.

KLC runs the law faculty's clinical legal education program and is a community legal centre.

Centre director Anna Cody said there had been a great response to the series.

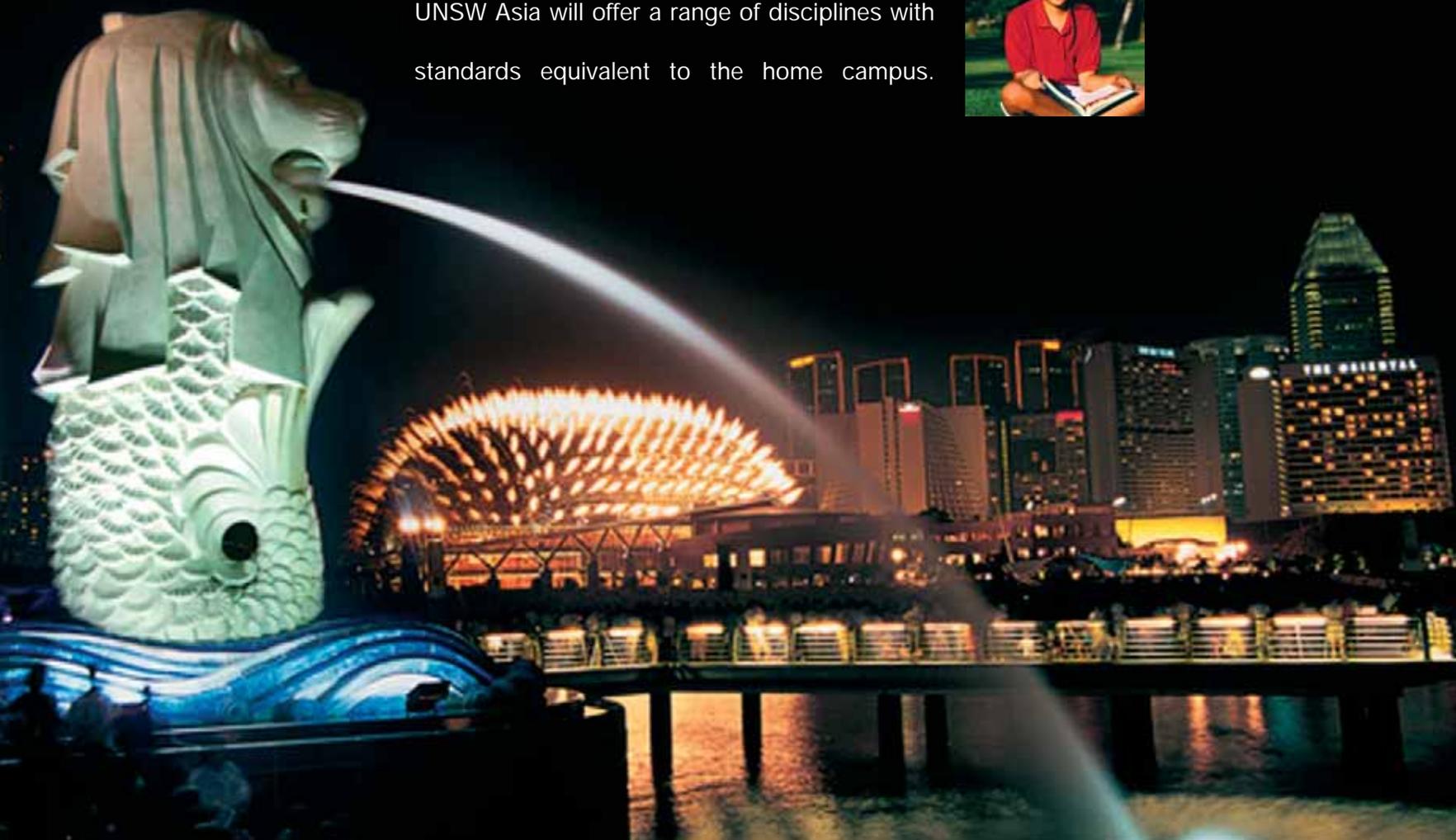
"I think it sends a very hopeful message because of the dedication of the staff and students to the community and to also raising questions of justice in the legal system. We hope that viewers gained some insight into what it's like to be looking for legal help," she said.

"It also shows the advantage of clinical legal education for students working on real problems and putting law into practice." ■

UNSW comes to Singapore



UNSW is set to become a leading international university with the announcement that its campus in Singapore will be the first wholly owned and operated research and teaching campus established by an Australian university overseas. Designed to reach an enrolment of 15,000 students over 15 to 20 years, UNSW Asia will offer a range of disciplines with standards equivalent to the home campus.



U N S W A S I A I N S I N G A P O R E

FACTS AT A GLANCE

Campus profile

- UNSW Asia will be Singapore's first foreign university.
- UNSW Asia will be the first wholly owned and operated comprehensive research and tertiary teaching institution to be established overseas by an Australian university.
- The campus will offer a wide range of undergraduate, postgraduate and research programs with students enrolled in degree programs from Bachelor to PhD.
- Significant investment in infrastructure will include extensive research laboratories, a library, student amenities, accommodation and all the requisite services of a world-class university.
- UNSW Asia will be fee-based and the language of instruction will be English.
- Undergraduate teaching will begin in February 2007, with a three-session teaching schedule allowing students to fast-track their degrees if they choose.
- UNSW Asia will introduce a Foundation Studies program in February 2006. The pre-university program prepares students for undergraduate study, and includes English-language courses. It will be based at Temasek Polytechnic in 2006-07 and then move to the main campus.

Location

- The campus will be conveniently located in Singapore's Eastern region, close to the central Singapore CBD. It will occupy a greenfield site on Changi South Avenue, adjacent to the Expo MRT Station, the new Singapore Convention Centre and a technology park.

Student profile

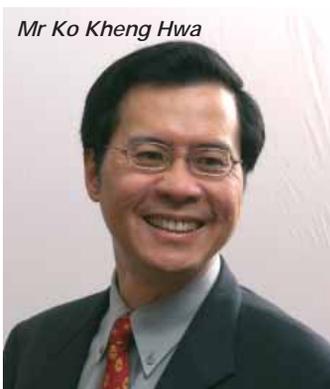
- UNSW Asia will be highly international in focus. The campus will have the capacity to grow to approximately 15,000 students, of which at least 70 percent will be drawn from the region and elsewhere, and up to 30 percent from Singapore.
- Students from UNSW in Sydney and UNSW Asia will have the opportunity to participate in study exchange programs and joint courses.

Projected academic profile

- UNSW Asia will offer a focused range of programs including combined degrees.
- It is envisaged that half of the student load will be in the science/engineering areas, where the initial focus will be on technology, IT, electrical engineering, telecommunications and possibly chemical engineering.
- In the humanities and social sciences, the initial focus will be on commerce, languages, international studies, Australian studies, media and communications and fine arts.



Mr George Yeo



Mr Ko Kheng Hwa

UNSW comes to Singapore

The University of New South Wales is set to increase its enviable international standing with the announcement that the Government of Singapore has chosen UNSW to establish its first foreign university.

UNSW Asia will become the first wholly owned and operated research and teaching campus to be established overseas by an Australian university and will be UNSW's first offshore campus.

Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry, Mr George Yeo, and UNSW's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International), Professor John Ingleson, jointly announced details of the project in Singapore earlier this year.

Professor Ingleson said the proposed university would be a major research and teaching institution that will be independently governed and run by UNSW.

"This sets it apart from most offshore universities which are primarily teaching-only institutions. It is also unique in that there will be no third-party involvement," he said.

UNSW Asia is to be built on a greenfield site near the CBD at South Changi. The campus will offer a comprehensive range of undergraduate, postgraduate and research degrees and will include extensive research laboratories.

"We are honoured that the Singapore Government has chosen UNSW to spearhead its vision to develop Singapore as a hub of educational excellence in the Asian region," Professor Ingleson said.

Mr Ko Kheng Hwa, EDB Managing Director, said: "UNSW is blazing a new trail in the globalisation of higher education by setting up a wholly owned offshore campus of this scale and nature. In siting the campus here, it attests to the intrinsic strengths and attractiveness of Singapore to leading foreign education institutions. We are proud to be UNSW's partner in this pioneering effort.

"UNSW Asia represents a giant leap forward in our effort to develop Singapore into a leading international education hub. It will also bring us closer to our goal of tripling the number of foreign students studying in Singapore at any one time to 150,000 within the next 10 to 15 years."

Professor John Ingleson



How and why: the move to Asia

After two years of planning, travelling and negotiating, virtually all conducted in secrecy, the team led by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International), Professor John Ingleson, is relieved to be able to speak openly about UNSW's most significant planning initiative in decades. His vision of the move into Asia stems from the understanding that education of the future will be neither national nor local, but transnational.

"Universities are the last major organisations to globalise," he said. "We have been seen as national or regional institutions serving a local or a national community, largely constrained by national boundaries.

"With growing globalisation, the interdependence of nations, movement of people, the growing prosperity of the western world – which will be followed closely by the rest of the world – and the movement away from full public funding to part-public, part-private, there will be much greater movement of people at a university level and the best of the universities will serve an international community."

UNSW was an early leader of internationalisation in Australia, taking more international students than any other institution and creating an extensive infrastructure including Study Abroad and Foundation Studies. Other universities, however, were not slow to catch up.

"This move to UNSW Asia will take UNSW into the international league of universities and we will leverage off opportunities overseas back into the home campus. An internationalisation policy is absolutely essential – and it must be focused and strategic," he said. With the present figure of 100 million people enrolled in universities worldwide expected to double by 2020, the demand for a transnational education in an English-language environment will make the task of recruiting international students straightforward, but Professor Ingleson is looking to the next level.

"Can you get the best of them, can you get the ones at a research level, and can you leverage these opportunities to make the institution a regional powerhouse? Internationalisation for UNSW is about building research as well as teaching linkages, and moving our own students to overseas universities."

UNSW has a natural advantage in South East Asia with tens of thousands of graduates in business, commerce and government.

"The Singapore proposal fits brilliantly," Professor Ingleson said. "This is our region where we have brand recognition that's the envy of anybody. Building the relationships in depth is the most important thing and the core of that is setting up UNSW Asia in Singapore.

"No-one's created a second campus overseas, owned by them, which is a research and teaching university of the same quality as the home campus. It is very ambitious. We can do it and we will drive UNSW to be the dominant Australian university in the region."

FACTS AT A GLANCE

Governance

- The UNSW Council will have full governance responsibility for UNSW Asia and the UNSW Academic Board will approve all academic programs as well as monitor the quality of teaching and research. This is similar to the successful model for the University's campus at the Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra.
- Degrees conferred to graduates will be awarded by UNSW.
- The campus will be legally independent of the Singapore Ministry of Education and academic and administrative staff will be employed by UNSW Asia.

Why UNSW?

UNSW emerged as the preferred university after Singapore's Economic Development Board (EDB) conducted due diligence on leading universities worldwide.

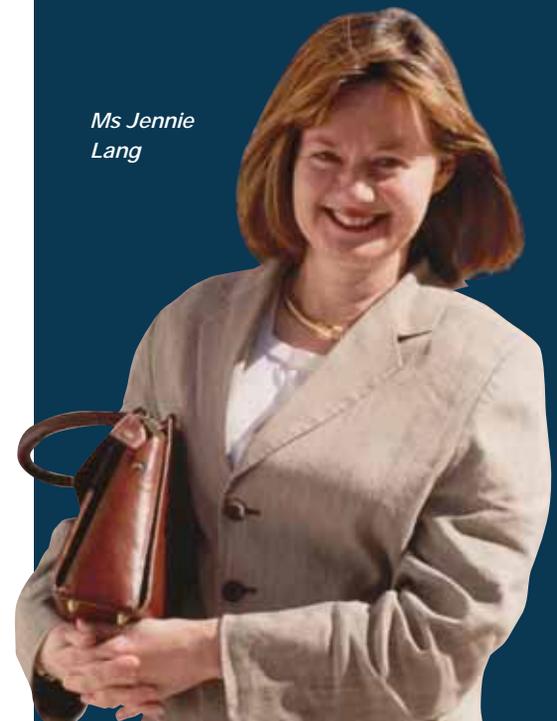
The EDB recognised that UNSW had welcomed international students since it was established and had maintained strong cohorts of students from Asia for more than 40 years.

As a result it has developed a standing in the region that no other Australian university can yet match. It has offices in Singapore, Bangkok and Hong Kong, a pre-University/English-language joint venture in Jakarta and through NewSouth Global has a joint venture with Vietnam National University, Hanoi and a student recruitment company in Hong Kong.

"The Government of Singapore recognised the breadth and depth of research and scholarship at UNSW, particularly in the fields of Engineering and Science," said Jennie Lang, executive director of UNSW International. "Quality was seen to underpin everything we do and basically the style of our university captured the attention of the EDB."

Nearly a quarter (24 percent) of UNSW's 40,000 students are international, with a large proportion coming from Asia. UNSW has by far the largest number of graduates in Southeast Asia of any Australian university.

Ms Jennie Lang



Growing demand for international education

The global demand for education outside a student's home country is expected to increase fourfold from 120,000 in 2000 to one million by 2025.

In 2002, the international education and consulting company, IDP Education Australia, published *Global Student Mobility 2025: Forecasts of the Global Demand for International Higher Education*.

The study found that Australian universities will be unable to meet this demand after 2007, the year that most universities will have reached their intended cap of on-campus international students at 30 percent of total student numbers.

The excess demand from overseas students for places in Australian universities is expected to rise to more than 250,000 by 2025. This is also when another 450,000 people will be seeking places in offshore programs operated by Australian universities.

Major universities in the United Kingdom and the United States will also have reached their capacity for on-campus enrolments of international students by the end of this decade.

"Clearly, from about 2010 there will be an enormous, and growing, demand from international students which will not be able to be filled by universities in western countries," the study concluded.

Singapore link to broaden funding opportunities

UNSW's presence in Singapore will unlock significant research funds that are not available in Australia, according to Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) Professor John Ingleson.

"The Government of Singapore spends as much on education and research as it does on defence," Professor Ingleson said. "We will have full access to research funding on a competitive basis.

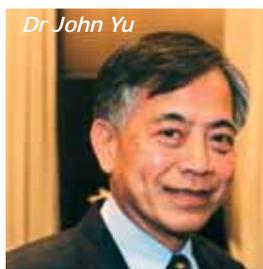
"Funding of this magnitude will enable UNSW to become Australia's leading research university in a few short years, ultimately being ranked in the top 100 universities in the world if we have the will and drive to do so.

"We envisage there will be research projects involving staff at UNSW and staff at UNSW Asia that will be jointly funded from Australia and Singapore."

Asia-based or Asia-directed research funding agencies are also more likely to fund UNSW research which takes place both in Singapore and Sydney, he said.

He believes the new initiative will also strengthen UNSW links with European and North American universities and boost its reputation for innovative internationalisation.

"The UNSW Asia campus will enable UNSW to develop creative programs for students from partner universities in Europe which include a period at the Singapore campus as well as the Sydney campus."



Dr John Yu

The sustainable blueprint

UNSW Asia will begin enrolling students from first semester 2007. UNSW Chancellor Dr John Yu said the University was attracted to the project because of

the Singapore Government's far-sighted strategic vision for education.

"UNSW supports the globalisation of education and is delighted to be establishing its first offshore campus in Singapore and with a government that has mapped out a long-term and sustainable blueprint to offer education and research of the highest quality," Dr Yu said.

"UNSW will work in partnership with the established Singapore universities, the prestigious polytechnic sector, local schools and colleges and other foreign universities in realising the Singapore Government's vision."

Contestable funding

Following the 2003 review of UNSW's international strategy, a fund was established to distribute small, highly targeted amounts to raise the profile of the University with its international partners, with whom fewer but more strategic links are intended.

Contestable funding is seen as a key central mechanism to support institution-to-institution agreements. The first year's contestable funding awards have gone to a wide range of proposals. They include a project to identify health priorities in East Timor; joint sponsorship of PhD students from China; the development of a number of workshops, conferences and other meetings; and an emphasis across several faculties on issues of sustainability. Successful proposals for 2004 are primarily with India, China and European countries.

Round One grants, awarded in May, went to projects including joint courses in law with NALSAR (Hyderabad); a joint studio/teaching project in Built Environment with Tsinghua University (China); a UNSW-sponsored conference on sustainable built environments; a conference jointly run by UNSW and the Indian Institute of Management (Mumbai) on insurance; and the development of a collaborative teaching program between COFA and the Temasek Polytechnic (Singapore).

Round Two grants, awarded in August, will support institutional relationships in music research activities with the Centre for the History and Analysis of Recorded Music (CHARM); faculty relationships with the China Architecture Building Press; the organisation of a U21 geography speciality group meeting; and the International Physiome Project with the University of Auckland.



The next frontier: India



Although the recent international focus of Australian universities has been dominated by the vast potential in China and East Asia for higher education, India has also emerged as an important education market for Australia. UNSW has laid the foundations for this market with memoranda of understanding with eight major Indian universities and participation in a delegation of Deans from Group of Eight universities.

Early next month the Premier of New South Wales, Bob Carr, will pay a state visit to New Delhi and Mumbai, accompanied by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International), John Ingleson. Mr Carr will meet the Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University in

New Delhi to sign the exchange agreement and launch the UNSW staff and student fellowship program. In Mumbai he will sign similar agreements on behalf of UNSW with the University of Pune.

"India in the next decade will become a very important partner for Australian universities," Professor Ingleson said. "It's English-speaking, its system of universities is one we understand, and there is a very strong intellectual base.

"With the development of the economy, Indian universities will prosper. In the last 18 months I've been to India four times. We will develop those relationships and bring Indian students and staff to Australia as well as send our people there.

"We sent people to a biotech conference in India earlier this year and they came back so enthused about the high standard of students and the quality of research," Professor Ingleson said. "We are funding projects to develop linkages with India and we are using NewSouth Global to position UNSW. We have NSG International projects which recently won a contract in India to develop pension plans [see story in June *Uniken*], which is positioning UNSW in a research sense."

The Education Testing Centre, recently renamed Educational Assessment Australia, has signed an agreement with Macmillan India to roll out the successful schools competitions in India. The first of the tests will take place in early November and will be witnessed by Mr Carr. "Those competitions will reach two million-plus kids in the next three years – there are 19 million children in Anglophone schools in India. That amounts to two or three million UNSW certificates in India each year," Professor Ingleson said.

Building the links

Two sets of scholarships have been established to bring elite PhD students from China and Thailand to UNSW.

The Faculty of Commerce and Economics has developed a program in conjunction with the China Scholarship Council (CSC) and a number of leading Chinese universities to create a doctoral scholarship program. The Faculty is committed to taking up to two PhD students each year for a three-year program; and waives tuition (valued at about A\$20,000 annually). The CSC provides a matching stipend. The agreement covers graduates from six of China's leading business schools – Tsinghua, Peking, Renmin, Fudan, Shanghai Jiaotong and Nanjing – and will run for three years in the first instance. The first students will be selected in mid-2005 for entry into UNSW for the first semester of 2006.

Dean of Commerce and Economics, Professor Greg Whittred, was in China again last month for further discussions with the CSC about the operational aspects of this proposal.

The Thai Government has also sponsored a range of PhD scholarships jointly with UNSW in a partnership between the Office of the Civil Service Commission and UNSW launched in Bangkok last month. They are in a range of disciplines including arts, law, science, engineering and commerce. The purpose of these doctoral scholarships is to ensure that Thai students will be funded for their doctoral program and will return and contribute to the economic and academic development of Thailand.

Maximising the experience: international student survey

To maintain its ranking as one of Australia's leading international universities, UNSW International has commissioned research on the needs and expectations of international students at UNSW. The emphasis is on students' expectations, adjustment and acculturation issues and to assess the relevance and currency of the services provided by International Student Services (ISS) and the University in meeting those needs.

The study will assist ISS to address ways to reach certain groups of students to assist in their adjustment process. The study will also identify student groups who typically seek assistance at the last minute or not at all, and assist in devising strategies to address social, cultural and academic adjustment problems.

The study survey will be emailed to all international students and followed up with a focus group study of international and local students, academic and administrative staff. Results of the study are expected in November, in order to be incorporated into strategic planning for the 2005 academic year.

Our presence in the region

■ UNSW maintains close and active links with Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, India, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam through academic relationships with dozens of universities and polytechnics.

■ NewSouth Global, the international training and consultancy arm of the University, is engaged in significant projects in the region including joint-venture operations at the Australian Institute of Languages, Hanoi and Mahanakorn University of Technology, Thailand.

■ The Education Testing Centre, recently relaunched as Educational Assessment Australia, runs the Australian and International Schools Competitions. It also provides a range of educational measurement and assessment services to government and private sector organisations in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, India and the Pacific region.

■ UNSW was the first Australian university to conduct graduation ceremonies in Singapore. These graduations are now regular events in Malaysia, China and Hong Kong.

■ UNSW has an extensive network of alumni in the region. Alumni include politicians, judges and prominent business people.

■ UNSW's International Projects division provides development assistance, research, consultancy and training services to governments and industry across the region.

■ UNSW's Golden Jubilee Scholarship Scheme offers scholarships valued at more than \$4 million to graduates from selected Malaysian and Singaporean institutions. More than 150 scholarships have been awarded since the scheme began in 1999.

UNSW to host national centre for language training

A consortium headed by NewSouth Global has won the right to establish and operate Australia's first National Centre for Language Training. The new Centre will be based at UNSW's Institute of Languages, also a member of the consortium.

The National Centre for Language Training will be targeted to the needs of Australian business, providing training in key languages, cultural awareness and cross-cultural communication skills. A range of programs will be offered, from short practical beginners courses through to more advanced courses in high demand languages such as Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian, Spanish, Hindi and Arabic. Other members of the consortium are Monash University, the University of South Australia, Curtin University of Technology, Griffith University and TAFE NSW.

In announcing the winning bid, Australian Prime Minister John Howard said: "This important initiative will help equip Australians with the practical language skills and cultural knowledge they need to operate effectively in international markets."



The alumni experience



Dato' Dr David Koh

*CEO, KLS Housing, Malaysia
BSc 1972; Hon Doctor of Science 2004
President, UNSW Alumni Malaysia Chapter*

It was such a wonderful and enlightening experience – the journey through UNSW. And for me this journey continues. Since it was my first university experience, UNSW had tremendous impact on me. I matured at UNSW, gathering enormous knowledge in the area of my specialisation as well as empirical knowledge, not to mention the experience of living in a multicultural and international student environment. This has given me a good head start in my life for which I am ever grateful.

UNSW today is not only well known in Australia but in all of Asia and to a large extent in international academia. With its large international student population and a very conducive cross-cultural environment, I would very strongly recommend students to consider UNSW.

For those who are not so economically advantaged but all the same academically qualified to study at UNSW, UNSW Asia in Singapore will accord them an opportunity to pursue their dreams with lesser costs for the same level of academic excellence.

Furthermore, UNSW Asia will provide a platform for Australia to further enhance assistance and co-operation among countries in the region, particularly the ASEAN members, not only in academia but also in the area of joint research and development and exchange of people between the academia and industry outside. There will be tremendous advantage including the spin-off benefits to be enjoyed by both Australia and the countries in the region.



Dr Liu Thai Ker

*Director, RSP Architects Planners
and Engineers (Singapore)
B Arch 1962 (University Medal);
Hon Doctor of Science 1995*

Architecture is a professional discipline. Doing the course part-time turned out to be a very good idea because I benefited from both the full-time professors and lecturers as well as inspiring part-time tutors who themselves were practising architects.

I strongly welcome the establishment of UNSW Asia in Singapore. In Asia in the 21st century, China and India in particular will be the major marketplace in the world. For UNSW to have an Asian campus will greatly facilitate research on Asian issues. Singapore is a good choice because of its very competitive nature and its multiracial cultural characteristics.

Since 1962 UNSW has gone from strength to strength. It is now considered the top university in Australia. One of my sons went to UNSW for his degree in computer engineering. This is the best testimony of my belief in the excellent education that UNSW can provide.



Mah Bow Tan

*Minister for National Development of Singapore
BE (Industrial Eng) 1970,
ME (Operations Research) 1973*

[I attended UNSW because] it had a good reputation, being one of the leading institutes of higher learning, especially in engineering. Plus, it had a good mix of students from various countries. [The most valuable aspect of my UNSW experience was] undoubtedly my interaction with the faculty, including lecturers and fellow students. We challenged each other to excel.

[My advice to a potential student considering UNSW is to] be prepared to open your mind, engage in campus life, learn from others, share your thoughts. The learning experience is not confined to the classrooms and laboratories alone.

UNSW Asia in Singapore brings a new perspective to higher education in Singapore; allows for a cross-fertilisation of ideas, between two systems of education; encourages a multicultural learning experience, blending the best of East and West, in a dynamic and competitive environment.

The challenge for all associated with the new campus is to realise its vision of an institute of higher learning, which will challenge and excite young people from many different cultures, by fostering a vibrant campus while maintaining its high academic standards.



Jimmy Koh

*Managing director, Antara Koh, Singapore
B Eng (electrical engineering) 1964
President, UNSW Alumni Association,
Singapore Chapter*

An Australian friend of my father's recommended that I go to Australia. Among my friends there were quite a few Colombo scholars and also they went to UNSW. Beside formal education, the value of the experience was the social side. We had the opportunity to mix with different races and people from different parts of Asia – and mixing with Australians was the main part. It was the time of *konfrontasi*, the conflict between Indonesia

and Malaysia, and at UNSW we made an effort to meet Indonesian students, as well as Vietnamese and Thai, in order to understand each other.

I was the founding president of the Overseas Students Association. We needed a forum to meet each other and to represent overseas students at UNSW. The UNSW experience valuable for me later in life is the ability to communicate with people of different races and backgrounds and with different political views, as we tried to seek some harmony at the time of confrontation through youthful idealism. It took a lot of my time but it was worth it. In life there are a lot of things you can study but with human relationships, you have to live through it to learn.

In our time, when we went to Australia, it was either on scholarships or our parents' money – and at that time our parents were not well off, 10 or 20 years after the war – and we were very focused to study and pay back parents or government. But today's students are well off. They must remain focused on their education in Australia, but they must also not forget to broaden their outlook. If you don't mix with people of different backgrounds overseas you will miss out on this very valuable period of networking. It is very important that they make a lot of Australian friends, they must be more extrovert rather than stay inside their own community.

Singapore offers a unique location for a UNSW campus. We are multiracial – 75 percent Chinese, 15 percent Malay, five percent Indian and five percent of all other races and nationalities – and we have a strong international presence. In Singapore we also have racial harmony and religious tolerance. At a time when there is a lot of conflict between different races and religions, we can be a showcase where people understand each other and build goodwill.

In the last 10 to 20 years UNSW has established a brand name as one of the best universities in Australia and we believe the UNSW Asia campus can establish our brand name to be unique and the best in Asia and Australia.

Mr Koh will receive the UNSW 2004 Alumni Award this month in Sydney.

Laying the foundations

It's been a big year for the University Foundation Year (UFY) program. Jie Xia arrived at Kensington in July to find he was the ten thousandth student – since its inception in 1989 – to enter the year-long preparation program for international students. Jie, from Zhejiang Province in China, has taken the milestone in his stride. UFY, which provides the entry point for UNSW, also offers the program in Indonesia, Malaysia and New Zealand (at Otago University). In order to provide the same academic and cultural acclimatisation for students who will enrol in UNSW Asia in 2007, UFY will be open for business in Singapore in 2006. It will offer all the same preparation for undergraduate study as is available on UNSW's western campus in Kensington, and the same provisional place in a degree program.

A program of NewSouth Global, UFY draws students from all over the world. The largest percentages come from Hong Kong, Indonesia and China, with smaller numbers from another 30 countries. Entry to UFY is highly competitive and graduates of the program are very successful in further degree study.

UNSW is in the final stages of negotiations with IDP and the China Scholarship Council to provide curriculum, assessment and certification services to a pre-university program in China. It will be at the same level as the one on the western Kensington campus, as is the foundation year program in Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur and NZ. They are all Australian foundation year programs, recognised by universities across Australia.



*Jie Xia with Vice-Chancellor
Professor Mark Wainwright*

Measure of success

- By 2025 IDP expects that almost two-thirds of the global demand for Australian higher education will be generated by China, Malaysia, India and Indonesia, with other major source countries being Singapore, Hong Kong and Vietnam.
- In 2000, there were 218,437 Chinese students studying in overseas universities. By 2005 this is expected to grow to 437,109, by 2010 to 760,103, by 2015 to 1,222,927 and by 2025 to almost three million. The demand from Indian students is expected to grow from its 2000 figure of 76,908 to 141,691 in 2005, 271,193 in 2010, 384,746 in 2015 and 629,080 in 2025.

The Practicum Student Program

Students from overseas universities who want to spend up to a semester of full-time research or professional experience at UNSW have open to them the Professional Practicum Program.

Often a requirement for the award of the degree at the student's home university, this period of research or practice is usually limited to a maximum of six months. Students are formally enrolled as full-time research students and have access to the full range of student services, including those at the International Exchange Program, although as non-award students they do not receive an official academic transcript.

The program has been running for five years and has grown from several students a semester to around 200 each year. Students generally come from Germany, France and Scandinavia, where there are practical or research components in their degrees, though students have come from places as diverse as the US, the UK, Russia and Hungary.

The program is one way in which UNSW's faculties can attract leading research students, increase exposure in Europe of its research capabilities, and give something back to the international educational community. Research units at UNSW also gain valuable assistance for projects, while the student gains exposure to real research in the workplace. A number of students from this program have returned later to UNSW to undertake postgraduate programs.

Study Abroad

The Study Abroad program assists overseas students who want to study at UNSW. Run by NewSouth Global, the program allows students to enrol in more than 50 academic disciplines at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, either during semester or over the winter break, which is also the US summer break.

Study Abroad assists students with their enrolment, orientation and in finding accommodation. As well as encouraging students to become part of the UNSW community and get the most out of their studies, the program organises trips to destinations across Australia. Students studying at UNSW through the Study Abroad program are predominantly from the US, Scandinavia, Germany, Austria and Italy.

"Study Abroad provides the opportunity to establish relationships with other international universities and to create greater diversity within the courses at UNSW," Michelle Florance, Semester Program Manager at Study Abroad, said. For further information see www.studyabroad.unsw.edu.au/default.html.

By Alex Clark

The exchange experience

From Mexico to Malaysia, Israel to India, almost 400 UNSW students are currently studying overseas through the University's International Exchange program. The program gives students the chance to experience different cultures and complete courses that are accredited to their UNSW degree at one of 130 partner institutions in over 32 countries.

Natalie Ford spent first semester of 2004 at the University of Hong Kong studying international relations with a focus on Asia as part of her double degree in environmental engineering and arts.

"It was a real eye opener actually learning in the region and meeting students from all over Asia," Natalie said. "The subjects we did were so relevant to what was actually happening around us. The students seemed very aware of how policies in their countries actually affected them personally."

As well as gaining a fresh educational perspective, the experience provided Natalie with the opportunity to travel to nearby Asian cities.

"We had one class entirely dedicated to China, so we would talk about issues in class and then back them up by going to China for the weekend and actually seeing what they meant," Natalie said.

Natalie originally heard about the exchange program while living in college at UNSW. "I met a lot of exchange students who were over here studying and living on campus. There were also quite a few in my courses."

The International Exchange program also encourages students from across the globe to come and experience student life at UNSW. This year about 385 students have come to Australia to study at the University as part of the program.



Natalie Ford

Alex Clark



Min Ji Kim

Alex Clark

One of those students is third-year Min Ji Kim who is on exchange from Korea's Pusan University and arrived in July this year to study English language and literature.

"My dream is to become an English teacher in Korea," Min Ji said. "Ever since I heard about the exchange program in first year I began practising my English with professors and friends."

The program enabled Min Ji to go overseas for the first time and presented all the usual challenges of getting to know a new culture. "I was so nervous at first, looking for accommodation and working out how the bus system operates but one great surprise was the pace of life. Australians really enjoy their

time and still get their work done. In Korea, my life was so fast, everyone there seems so busy and rushed, so I am really trying to enjoy my time here."

New learning methods have also provided Min Ji with the opportunity to apply what she learns in lectures to discussion in class. "At Pusan, we don't have tutorials, so I have really enjoyed being able to debate ideas with classmates," Min Ji said. "Both the hardest and best thing about the exchange program has been my English, particularly for academic writing, but already I can tell it has improved so much." ■

Best seats in the house

By Dan Gaffney

A small unmanned observatory high on the Antarctic plateau has proven to be the best star-viewing site on Earth, according to research published in *Nature*.

Astronomical observations made by UNSW astronomers at the French/Italian-built Dome Concordia station (Dome C) show that the site has less 'star jitter' than the best mid-latitude observatories in the Canary Islands, Hawaii, North Africa and Chile.

"Dome C has the closest conditions on Earth to those in space for astronomical viewing," Associate Professor Michael Ashley, a co-author of the *Nature* paper, said. "The discovery means that a telescope at Dome C could compete with a telescope two to three times larger at the best mid-latitude observatories, which has major cost-saving implications."

Seeing conditions at the South Pole itself (latitude 90 degrees south) are poor due to atmospheric turbulence close to the ground.

By contrast, Dome C, located in the Australian Antarctic Territory at latitude 75 degrees south, has several

atmospheric and site characteristics that make it ideal for astronomical observations.

Dome C's atmospheric characteristics include low infra-red sky emission, extreme cold and dryness, a high percentage of cloud-free time, and low dust and aerosol content. It is also 400 m higher than the South Pole and further from the coast.

The observations at Dome C represent a stunning technical achievement, according to the paper's lead author, UNSW Postdoctoral Fellow Dr Jon S Lawrence.

"We set up a self-contained robotic observatory called AASTINO (Automated Astronomical Site Testing International Observatory) at Dome C in January this year. It has heat and electrical power that allowed us to communicate with site-testing equipment, computers and telescopes via an Iridium satellite network.



School of Physics

Left to right, School of Physics members John Storey, Mario Zuchelli, Tony Travouillon and Jon Lawrence outside AASTINO.

"The entire experiment was controlled remotely – we didn't turn the telescope on until we returned home," Dr Lawrence said. "When we left there in February we said goodbye to it, knowing all that we could do was communicate with it by the phone and the internet. If we'd needed to press a reset button on a computer or something, there was no way to do so, and the entire experiment could have failed.

"As it turns out, we've made some exceptional findings and published in *Nature* before even returning to the site. We're pretty thrilled."



AASTINO and Concordia station.

School of Physics



By Sarah Wilson
Securing UNSW

Providing a safe university requires the help of the entire UNSW community, according to Dennis Cameron, Manager of Security Services at the University.

“The best way to achieve success is through everyone taking an active interest in what’s happening in and around their workspace,” he said. Security Services offers a range of services to create a safe environment for staff and students. They include:

Cycle escorts

Between 6pm and midnight a cycle escort is available to accompany staff and students around Kensington campus, to nearby bus stops or surrounding streets: call 9385 6000.

Night shuttle buses

Between 6pm and midnight, buses carry students and staff at Kensington campus to and from carparks, colleges, libraries, State Transit bus interchanges and the King Street Campus. The bus timetable is on the Unibeat website, www.security.unsw.edu.au/unibeat/Unibeat_2004_Schedule.pdf or in hard copy from Security at the e-spot, UNSW Bookshop, Student Guild, Student Counselling and Union outlets.

Online bicycle database

Staff and students can register their bicycle details, such as serial numbers, on an online database for tracking purposes in the event of theft. To register an item, visit Security Services in the Red Centre.

On-campus locksmith

Located behind the Post Office on the Kensington campus, the locksmith is open

8.30am to 4.30pm weekdays. The locksmith offers keysafe installation in your school or centre: call 9385 3462.

Victim support for staff and students

The University runs an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), a professional, confidential counselling service free of charge for employees and their immediate families. Call 9385 2739 or see www.hr.unsw.edu.au/eap.htm. A counselling service is also available for students: call 9385 5418.

24-hour security assistance

Security patrols the Kensington campus seven days a week and are contactable at all times either by calling 1800 626 003 (toll free) or via the eleven Help Points strategically placed across the Kensington campus. Help Points are direct-dial telephones linked to the Security Control Centre (press the red button).

Lost and found

Property found on campus should be handed in to e-spot, the Library, any gatehouse or to any security officer. Queries on lost property should be directed to e-spot on 9385 5800 or lostproperty@unsw.edu.au. Items unclaimed after two months are donated to the U Committee.

To report a crime, contact Unibeat on 9385 6666. For further information on Security Services initiatives see www.security.unsw.edu.au/index.htm.

O B I T U A R Y

**Professor Bill Birkett
 1940–2004**

Bill began his academic career as a tutor at UNSW in 1962. He returned as a Professor of Accounting in 1982, and spent eight years as Head of School and nine years as Associate Dean (Development). On retirement from UNSW in 2002 he became Executive Dean at James Cook University.

Bill was passionate about accounting education and he was generally regarded as Australia’s best in this field. He spent much of his career improving the quality of teaching and was extremely successful at it. He revolutionised the teaching of management accounting in Australia. As a Head of School, Bill was extremely effective, ethical, friendly, completely fair and led by example. As Associate Dean he established the Educational Development Unit within the FCE and devoted endless hours to developing firsts in education policies and supporting learning initiatives. This was Bill at his best.

Some of Bill’s numerous other achievements included the establishment of ACMAD and a prolific research agenda that truly informed the thinking of local and international professional accounting bodies.

Despite his huge workload Bill always had time for young academics and postgraduate students. He gave so much to their career development. His commitment was unsurpassed as was the respect and friendship he gained from these students.

Bill was respected and liked by all. The reason was simple. He treated all equally and with respect and dignity. He was always smiling. A gifted researcher, a passionate scholar and a wonderful man has left us too early, but his impact remains – on his discipline, his students, his colleagues, his numerous friends and the accounting profession of which he was a proud member.

**Ken Trotman
 Presiding Member**



Campus camera:

A competitor in the SunSprint Model Solar Car Challenge held on 3 and 4 September on the Quad Lawns of the University.

Behind the Brontës



The story of the Brontës has become the stuff of myth: three women living on the remote and wild Yorkshire moors, writing works of weird and wonderful genius. But the Brontës lived in a thriving woollen-mill town and participated in local activities – the church, education, elections. Their reading

was wide and eclectic; they devoured the latest newspapers and journals. *The Oxford Companion to the Brontës* evokes the milieu in which they lived and worked, revealing the complex interrelations between their lives and writings, their times and our time. This is the first time so much authoritative information and critical commentary on the Brontës has been gathered together in a reference book.

The Oxford Companion to the Brontës is co-authored by Christine Alexander, Professor of English at UNSW and Visiting Fellow at Clare Hall, Cambridge University, and Margaret Smith, Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Research in Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Birmingham. It was launched at the Brontë Parsonage Museum in the village of Haworth, on the Yorkshire moors. It represents four years' work and includes family trees, maps, chronologies, and an appendix of dialect words used by the Brontës. ■

Movements of Passion: Margaret Barr Festival



Driven by her passion for social justice, dancer, choreographer and teacher Margaret Barr has left a legacy of profound and imaginative dance that will be commemorated in a festival this month celebrating the centenary of her birth.

Students from the School of Theatre, Film and Dance are involved in a production incorporating film screenings and dance-drama programs created by Margaret Barr and filmed with her collaboration. UNSW student and professional dancer, David Klooster, is one of the principal dancers in the performance works.

The Movements of Passion: 100 Years of Margaret Barr Dance-Drama Festival opens on 13 October at the Figtree Theatre with a screening of the AFI award-winning film, *Climbers*, and a documentary, *Margaret Barr*. For the full program and bookings contact 8714 6111 or barrdancedrama@hotmail.com. ■

The video installation Britney Love



Art and travelling: a winning combination

By Denise Knight

A babysitting job turned out to be more than just a way to pay the rent for video artist Kate Murphy. Her young charge became the subject of *Britney Love*, a video installation that recently won Murphy the prestigious 2004 Helen Lempriere Travelling Art Scholarship, valued at \$40,000.

“It was an accident really, but I formed this great friendship with Brittaney,” Murphy said. “It’s clear from the piece that she loves performing and wants to be famous. We see her choreographing dances to Britney Spears songs in her lounge room.”

The selection committee said that Murphy’s winning entry, chosen from a field of 22 finalists, was a “compelling portrait of a young girl inscribed by popular culture and was extremely relevant to the current preoccupation with publicising the private”.

“I enjoy using video to explore issues surrounding the nature of ‘truth’,” said Murphy, a Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) student in COFA’s Department of Photomedia. “The three works for my

MFA also play with the documentary format as well as looking at the role of the camera.”

Subjects include her father, recording the song he wants at his funeral, and two children filmed over a day for a work called *PonySkate*, shown recently at Sydney’s Performance Space.

The third, which she is working on, focuses on young people living in nursing homes because of physical disabilities and is set in a nursing home in Murphy’s home town of Queanbeyan. In all three works there are two cameras running the whole time, Murphy’s and the subject’s.

The Helen Lempriere Travelling Art Scholarship is presented by the NSW Government with the support of the Helen Lempriere Bequest.

Your Council members

At its July meeting, the UNSW Council welcomed its new members from academic and general staff and students elected in a campus-wide ballot earlier this year.

The three official members – who hold their Council positions by virtue of their University appointments – are Chancellor Dr John Yu, Vice-Chancellor Mark Wainwright and Professor Anthony Dooley, President of the Academic Board.

The two parliamentary members are Paul Pearce MP and the Hon Peter Primrose MLC. Four members appointed by the Minister for Education and Training are Catherine Harris, Peter Mason, Deputy Chancellor John Pascoe and the Hon Susan Ryan. The Council also elects a 21st member. He is Brian Suttor, first elected in 2000 and reappointed by Council for a further four-year term from August this year.

The eleven elected members of Council are:



Professor Branko Celler (academic staff): Professor Celler is Director of the Laboratory for Health Telematics and Head of the School of Electrical Engineering and

Telecommunications. He has been actively involved in R&D on the application of information and communications technology in primary healthcare.



Professor Wai Fong Chua (academic staff): Professor Chua has been Head of the School of Accounting since 2000 and a member of the University Council since 1998. She was Presiding Member for

the Faculty of Commerce and Economics from 1998 to 2000. She is also a member of the Academic Board.



Professor Jill McKeough (academic staff): Professor McKeough is a member of the Law Council of Australia's Intellectual Property Committee. She has previously been Head of School (Law).



Professor Joe Wolfe (academic staff): Professor Wolfe has taught physics at UNSW since 1982. He has received awards including the Goldacre Medal for distinguished research by the Australian Society for Plant Physiology in 1984 and the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence in 2002.



Alan Egan (non-academic staff): Mr Egan is the Acting Director of Facilities. He has served on many boards and committees including the boards of management of the University's childcare centres. He has served on the executive of the Sports Association and of the Unigym.



Dr Penny FitzGerald (graduate member): Dr FitzGerald was a lecturer and senior lecturer in the UNSW School of Civil Engineering for 12 years, being the first female academic in Civil Engineering in Australia. After leaving UNSW in 1998, Dr FitzGerald was elected to the UNSW Council by the graduates.



Geoffrey Lawson (graduate member): Mr Lawson graduated with a degree in Optometry from UNSW in 1984. At that time he was rated the best fast bowler in the world. He chaired the Optometry Building Appeal Committee.



Dr Jessica Milner Davis (graduate member): Dr Milner Davis was Deputy Chancellor from 1981–1990 and currently serves Council as Pro-Chancellor. She is also 2004 President of the UNSW Alumni Association.



Gabrielle Upton (graduate member): Ms Upton is Senior Policy Manager at the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD). She worked in New York in the corporate finance division at Deutsche Bank and Toronto Dominion Bank.



Angela Barrett (postgraduate student member): Ms Barrett is in the second year of her PhD in Chemical Engineering, specialising in Supercritical Fluid research. She has been a member of the Student Guild Council for three years and is currently the Presiding Member.



Nicholas Carney (undergraduate student member): Mr Carney is currently completing a combined B Com (Finance)/B Laws. He has been involved in many aspects of campus life including the UNSW Union, where he served on the Board as President and Treasurer, the Law Faculty Board and the Law Revue.

Members of the University community should feel free to contact Council members. Council agenda and minutes are at www.secretariat.unsw.edu.au/council.htm. Upcoming major agenda items include the Strategic Plan, which will be discussed on 22 November.

COUNCIL REPORT

By Dr John Yu, AC, Chancellor

Council Meeting 30 August 2004

UNSW Asia

Council approved the establishment of a research and teaching campus in Singapore, to be known as UNSW Asia, subject to approval from the

New South Wales Minister for Education for borrowing the funds necessary to establish the campus. UNSW Asia is also dependent on final approval by Council, on a recommendation from the Finance Committee, of the funding package for the campus.

University Legislation Amendment Bill 2004

Council discussed its response to the revised draft of the *University Legislation Amendment Bill 2004*, which implements aspects of the Commonwealth's National Governance Protocols. The Bill will be introduced into the New South Wales Parliament in the Spring session. Council noted with concern that while the provisions of the draft Bill permitted Council to implement its preferred structure, this would depend upon new regulatory powers proposed for the Minister concerning the composition of Council.

UNSW Strategic Plan 2005–2009

Professor Adrian Lee, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education and Quality Improvement) outlined progress on the UNSW Strategic Plan. The plan will be considered at a workshop with Council members in September and by Senior Management Group and Council in November/December, for implementation in 2005.

Funding of the UNSW Sports Association

Council requested the Vice-Chancellor to investigate ways in which the relative under-funding of the UNSW Sports Association can be addressed, in light of Council's resolution recognising the important role of sport and sporting activities in the life of the University and the student experience on campus, and endorsing sport as a core activity of the University.

Council orientation

In July and August, two orientation sessions were held for new Council members. Presentations were made by the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, the President of the Academic Board, Council members Ms Catherine Harris and the Hon Ms Susan Ryan, the Deputy Vice-Chancellors Academic and Resources, the Chief Financial Officer and the University Solicitor on members' fiduciary and other responsibilities.

Meeting dates

Council meetings will be held from 2pm to 5pm on the following dates in 2004, except on 22 November, when the meeting will commence at 11am to allow a strategic planning focus: 11 October, 22 November and 13 December. A schedule of 2005 Council meeting dates can be found on the Secretariat website. Council meetings are open to all members of the University – staff, students, graduates and emeriti.

Council minutes

Council minutes and other information about Council are available to all members of the University by accessing the Secretariat website (www.secretariat.unsw.edu.au) then following the links to Council. For further information on matters relating to Council or its Standing Committees, please contact Rhona Fraser, rhona.fraser@unsw.edu.au, 9385 3070 or Jenny Noble, j.noble@unsw.edu.au, 9385 3072.

The Chancellor is Chair of Council.



ACADEMIC
BOARD

Parallel Teaching Refined Academic Board 7 September 2004

The Academic Board approved rules for parallel teaching that refine the policy and provide clarification for the practice of

teaching undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students concurrently in the same classroom. We noted a report on the recommendation to establish an Office of Research Integrity, the Report on Misconduct Cases for Session 1, 2004, and the 2005 Schedule of Meetings for Academic Board and Academic Board Standing Committees.

We approved the award of Pass with Distinction for the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Art Theory and Bachelor of Digital Media, and approved the revision of the Bachelor of Engineering in Materials Science and Engineering, the Bachelor of Engineering in Materials Science and Engineering Master of Biomedical Engineering, the Bachelor of Fine Arts, the Bachelor of Fine Arts Bachelor of Arts, the Bachelor of Art Education, the Bachelor of Design, the Bachelor of Design Bachelor of Art Education, the Bachelor of Art Theory, the Bachelor of Art Theory Bachelor of Arts, the Bachelor of Art Theory Bachelor of Social Science, the Bachelor of Art Theory Bachelor of Laws and the Bachelor of Digital Media.

The Academic Board recommended that Council approve: the disestablishment of the School of Media and Communications and the School of Theatre, Film and Dance, and the establishment of the School of Media, Film and Theatre; the introduction of the Master of Digital Media, Graduate Diploma in Digital Media and Graduate Certificate in Digital Media, and the Master of International Taxation.

We noted a presentation by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International), John Ingleson, on UNSW Asia, which included the proposed implementation schedule: 2006 – Foundation Studies commence at Temasek Polytechnic; 2007 – undergraduate studies commence; 2008 – UNSW Asia campus is operational. The benefits of the venture were being recognised, and the University's position in Asia is being strengthened and consolidated.

If there are issues you would like me, the Academic Board or its Committees to consider, or if you would like to attend a meeting, please let me know via a.dooley@unsw.edu.au or 9385 2393.

Tony Dooley

President, Academic Board



By Susi Hamilton

25 years, 150 concerts

The Australia Ensemble has had many milestones since its inception, from critical acclaim to national and international tours. Now the Ensemble has reached another significant marker: its 25th anniversary.

"I think that it is important that a university support such endeavours as the Australia Ensemble. A university is not just a degree shop, it is a place which should have an influence on a whole community," said one of the Ensemble's founders, Emeritus Professor Roger Covell, Director of the Music Performance Unit. "The University has benefited through the concerts and masterclasses for the School of Music, while the Ensemble has thrived thanks to the University's sustained and active support. It is a two-way street."

The group's reputation extends beyond the regular Saturday concerts and lunch-hour recitals and workshops. The Ensemble has lived up to its label as a national organisation by touring the country with Musica Viva, as well as attending other events. Its fame extends beyond Australia too, with tours to Western and Eastern Europe, Asia, South America and New Zealand.

The Australia Ensemble's core members have

maintained a long association with the group thanks to its enviable reputation, flexibility and diverse repertoire. Viola player Irina Morozova has been with the Ensemble since its inception.

"If someone had told me that I would still be doing it 25 years later, I wouldn't have believed it," Morozova said. "But I am here because I love it and it is still evolving. I like the intimacy of chamber music and it allows for a lot more expression."

While the group has diverse musical tastes, there is a sense of cohesion and intimacy – and even two marriages – which is palpable amongst this group of long-time friends.

"It is the quality of the musicians and the commitment of the players to excellence which is what keeps the Ensemble going and keeps it fresh," said Geoffrey Collins, who was a guest flautist from the group's inception and became a core member three years later. "There is also a robust debate every year about programming. If you look back

over the whole repertoire list, we have been able to present a huge range."

"Every year we commission a new piece from an Australian composer. We have created quite a legacy and now other groups borrow our pieces," violinist Dene Olding said. "A retrospective year like this is a real treat, because it means we can look back at the totality of the work we have commissioned."

The group has built a solid reputation among critics and audiences alike, with core subscribers loyal to the group. "We are very excited and proud about the 25th anniversary, but so too are many audience members," Dene said. "There are many people in the audience who have been there from the beginning. There is a definite rapport and loyalty, which is inspiring for the players."

The final concert of the 2004 anniversary season, on 16 October, is also the 150th subscription concert presented in the Clancy Auditorium. The seven-member group will play a range of pieces for the special event, including a newly commissioned score which pays tribute to the Ensemble's core players and to the ideals of musical co-operation and interpretative sympathy they represent. One of Australia's most gifted composers, Ross Edwards, is responsible for the score.

There will be a special anniversary program and a series of archival photographs in the foyer to mark the event. For further information, see www.ae.unsw.edu.au.

Geoffrey Collins (flute); Dimity Hall (violin); Ian Munro (piano); Dene Olding (violin); Irina Morozova (viola); Julian Smiles (cello); Catherine McCorkill (clarinet).