

# uniken

## Indigenous UNSW

Million-dollar grant  
for spinal research

No postcode but a  
wealth of history

Who cares for  
the carers?



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## Cover Image:

Lena Yarinkura Rembarrnga / Kune  
Untitled (Mice in tree) 2004 (detail)  
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Courtesy of the artist and  
Maningrida Arts & Culture

From *Terra Alterius: Land of Another* exhibition at Ivan  
Dougherty Gallery – see p12

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# newsbriefs

## Federation Fellowships

Applications for the 2005 Federation Fellowship program close on 15 October. They are the most valuable publicly funded research positions in Australia, valued at about \$240,000 annually for five years. Up to 25 Fellowships are awarded each year, with preference given to early- to mid-career researchers. More information at [www.arc.gov.au](http://www.arc.gov.au).

## Extra pay: extra tax?

There will be 27 pay periods in this financial year. As the tax schedule is based on 26 pays, the extra pay may result in insufficient tax being withheld. Employees may request the Salaries Unit to take out extra tax. Call 9385 1706 or [salaries@unsw.edu.au](mailto:salaries@unsw.edu.au).

## Centres of Excellence

The Australian Research Council has opened a new round of Centres of Excellence applications for funding commencing in 2005. Up to \$3 million each year for five years is available for each of approximately ten new centres that will focus on areas specified in the Government's National Research Priorities. Details are at [www.arc.gov.au](http://www.arc.gov.au).

## Entrepreneurs!

UNSW Diploma in Innovation Management students have placed second and third in their category at an international entrepreneurship competition. Eighteen teams from 15 universities participated in the event in July as part of the Universitas 21 Summer School on Global Technology Entrepreneurship at the National University of Singapore.

## NICTA adds Queensland

The fifth research node of National ICT Australia (NICTA) will be in Queensland and will focus on solutions to address potential and real threats from terrorism, crime, invasive disease and pests, as well as protecting the security of the online environment within Australia from cyber crime. UNSW is a partner

in NICTA, which was established in 2001. More information is at [www.nicta.com.au](http://www.nicta.com.au).

## Scientia Professorships

Nominations for the 2004 Scientia Professorships are now open as well as applications for the newly established Professorial Salary Supplementation Scheme. For more information regarding nominations for Scientia Professorships see [www.hr.unsw.edu.au/poldoc/scientia.htm](http://www.hr.unsw.edu.au/poldoc/scientia.htm). For information regarding the Professorial Salary Supplementation Scheme see [www.hr.unsw.edu.au/poldoc/profsal.htm](http://www.hr.unsw.edu.au/poldoc/profsal.htm).

## Getting together

The Business/Industry/Higher Education Collaboration Council (BIHECC) held its inaugural meeting in August. BIHECC will advise the government on ways to increase collaboration between the higher education sector and other business, industry, community and educational organisations. Responsibilities of BIHECC will include advising the government on priorities for selecting collaboration projects between business, industry and universities for funding from the new \$36 million Collaboration and Structural Reform Fund.

## Liver treatment breakthrough

HepatoCell Therapeutics Pty Limited was incorporated in July as a vehicle to promote a new treatment for cirrhosis of the liver and other forms of acute liver failure. This technology has been developed by Professor David Morris and his team at St George Hospital. Unisearch Limited, the commercialisation arm of UNSW, will invest \$250,000. HepatoCell Therapeutics will start proof-of-concept trials and further research and development, with a view to achieving clinical trials and regulatory approval in Australia in 2006.

By Louisa Wright

## Million-dollar grant for spinal injury repair

**A** team headed by UNSW's Professor Phil Waite has won a million-dollar grant from the NSW Ministry for Science and Technology to trial potential stem cell therapies to repair injured spinal cords.

Professor Waite, who is head of the UNSW Neural Injury Research Unit, and a group of fifteen investigators will explore the use of stem cells from bone marrow for repairing spinal cord injury.

The specific aims of the project are to compare human adult stem cells obtained from bone marrow, cells from the nose (olfactory glial cells) and embryonic stem cells for their therapeutic potential for spinal cord repair. The team's hypothesis is that human bone marrow stem cells, in combination with olfactory glial cells, will provide both neural repair and regeneration resulting in significant functional recovery to justify a trial in spinal cord patients.

Spinal cord injury continues to be a major cause of reduced quality of life, particularly for young people involved in road-related trauma, falls and sports injuries. About 300 Australians each year sustain a severe traumatic spinal cord injury, with associated management costs of more than half a million dollars each.

Professor Waite is also Director of Research of UNSW's School of Medical Sciences.

Her most significant contribution in the field of spinal cord injury research has been to show improvements in locomotor function in an animal model of spinal cord injury, by transplanting supporting cells from the adult nose (olfactory ensheathing cells).

This advance was crucial because it opened the way for use of olfactory cells from the spinal patients themselves, obtained by simple nasal biopsy. This solved two difficulties, finding an ethically acceptable source of cells and reducing problems of immune rejection. The encouraging results have led to a safety trial (in Brisbane) of these cells in spinal patients.



Professor Phil Waite

Sarah Wilson

## The hidden side of strokes

By Susi Hamilton

**One in four stroke victims will be diagnosed with dementia within three to six months of the event, according to new UNSW research. This impairment continues to deteriorate even in the absence of another stroke.**

**"S**troke is usually associated with physical disability, rather than cognitive change," Professor Permindar Sachdev of the School of Psychiatry said. "Neurologists have long known about this, but there has been relatively little research on this aspect of strokes."

More than 200 stroke victims (and a control group of 103 people) are taking part in the Sydney Stroke Study. Results of the first year of follow-up showed a greater decline in verbal memory and visuoconstructive function compared to the control. A quarter of the stroke victims developed vascular dementia, the second most common form of dementia after Alzheimer's disease.

"If you examine the brain of a stroke victim, you see evidence of a lot of lesions, either due to silent strokes or other consequences of reduced blood supply, that were likely to have been present prior to the stroke," Professor Sachdev said. "When they have a big stroke and come to hospital, it is the accumulation of multiple ischaemic lesions in the brain that results in dementia."

One of the key findings is that education is a protective factor against decline in stroke patients. "Low education is a genuine risk factor for accelerated memory decline," Professor Sachdev said. "This suggests that people with higher education, or greater mental activity, have a greater brain reserve that reduces the impact."

Professor Sachdev, with UNSW Professors of Psychiatry Henry Brodaty and Gavin Andrews, have been awarded \$4.6 million under the NHMRC Program Grants Scheme to look at neurocognitive diseases in the elderly.

"In Australia, we currently have about 170,000 people with dementia, and this number is projected to rise because of the ageing of our population," Professor Brodaty said. "This poses one of the greatest challenges to the health care system, and to society in general, in the next few decades."

## For the record

*Unless you've got rich and generous parents, you are in trouble. That's a social problem.*

**Professor Bruce Chapman, architect of the original HECS system, on the FEE-HELP loan system – The Australian**

*We would argue there should not be a cap at all [on loans for full-fee university courses].*

**John Mullarvey, CEO of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee – The Australian**

*The DNA evidence tells us the dingo can be traced back to a common female ancestor that came to Australia 5000 years ago.*

**Dr Alan Wilton, School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences – Courier Mail**

*If you're good at office politics, it can be very useful in your advancement, and protection, within the organisation.*

**Dr Jim Bright, School of Psychology – Sunday Territorian**

*It is distasteful that people should profit from their misdeeds.*

**Roy Baker, Communications Law Centre (on chequebook journalism) – The Age**

*In writing to an audience that shared her distorted assumptions about the situation in the Arab world, [Norma] Khouri... maliciously confirmed the audience's preconceptions, rather than enlightening them about the very real suffering of Arab women.*

**Ihab Shalbak, School of Media and Communications – Sydney Morning Herald**

*[State] Governors now serve the people of their state and the people should have some say in their selection.*

**Professor George Williams, Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law – Sydney Morning Herald**



iStock

## Who cares for the carers?<sup>By Alex Clark</sup>

**B**alancing work and kids is a juggling act for most parents and one to which employers are slowly responding with flexible working hours and part-time positions.

But what about full-time employees who are also the primary carer for their spouse or relative? Between 40 and 60 percent of Australian carers combine employment with caring responsibilities. How do they provide assistance to their loved one without seriously affecting their current and future employment prospects?

Associate Professor Michael Bittman and Cathy Thomson, of the Social Policy Research Centre, have been awarded an ARC grant to examine this impact and the ways employers could help carers strengthen their link to the labour market. Bittman and Thomson's third study in this area builds on research examining the characteristics of carers, the growing level of informal, unpaid care and low levels of identification and even self-identification of carers. Little is known about the difficulties of combining work with care and it is this growing group of carers that they are looking at.

"While there is a tremendous amount of discussion about people needing to balance family obligations and work, they are generally thinking about women with children," Bittman said. The project will trace the lives of carers to

study the impact of caring on income security, social participation and health as their lives change with these responsibilities.

Bittman believes that if these carers are able to maintain employment they have a better chance of maintaining their standard of living, continuing to contribute to their retirement income as well as gaining social benefits. "That is why people often do part-time work for lower pay, because of these positive social and psychological benefits," he said.

As with parents and children, measures employers can implement are often simple adjustments to the workplace but their impact is enormous.

"Allowing employees to leave during the day to take relatives to appointments or even just giving them access to a phone can make a difference," Bittman said. "There are still some workplaces where if someone goes to the toilet they ring a bell and stop the whole production line while that person relieves themselves. It's not easy in these kinds of workplaces."

The study, *Negotiating caring and employment – the impact on carers' wellbeing*, hopes to identify the barriers to carers' continuing employment and determine policy interventions to support them. "There used to be a saying that women hold up half the sky... but carers are holding up three-quarters of it." ■

By Alex Clark

# No postcode but a wealth of history

The wild scrub and vast wetlands of the area now known as Green Square are almost unimaginable amidst the car yards and old factories that make up its industrial landscape of today. Now the area is undergoing further change that will bury its diverse history beneath a Soho-style redevelopment of apartment blocks, incorporating vast public spaces and a town centre with multistorey buildings.

Working in collaboration with South Sydney Council (now Sydney City Council), Dr Grace Karskens from the School of History and twelve pre-honours students have completed *Histories of Green Square*, a collaborative project that unearths and documents the area's diverse history.

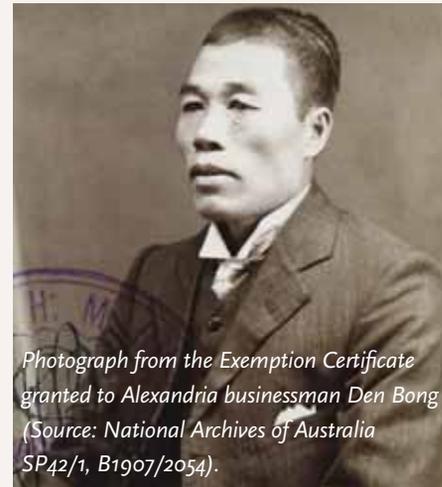
"The name Green Square is part of a rebranding strategy for an area of South Sydney that comprises Zetland and parts of Alexandria, Waterloo, Beaconsfield and Rosebery," Dr Karskens said. "It is an area that is undergoing a dramatic transformation but, until now, has had little of its history documented.

"You can catch a train to the ultra-modern Green Square station. But the name is largely a planning idea. There is no suburb, no postcode and no entry in the street directory for Green Square."

The project will provide valuable information for future planners, developers, public artists, new and present residents and urban historians. By tracking the movement and experiences of successive waves of people, the students tell a dynamic story about the urban landscape where, today, the new jostles with the old.

The seeming ordinariness of Green Square is deceptive, according to Dr Karskens. The area was once home to groups of Eora, the local Indigenous people who resided there long before industries sprang up in the early 1800s and were still in the region in 1845.

Later it became the site of Australia's first baby clinic (set up in the face of extraordinarily high local infant mortality rates), a booming Chinese community and the



Photograph from the Exemption Certificate granted to Alexandria businessman Den Bong (Source: National Archives of Australia SP42/1, B1907/2054).

construction of the country's first Melkite and Maronite churches.

"If the past is not documented, more recent histories will be lost too – for example, the bitter fight local people waged to close the Waterloo incinerator – the 'Zetland Monster'," Dr Karskens said.

Surveys and anecdotal evidence have shown that residents new to the area have little idea of the history of their new homes but they are curious, Dr Karskens said. "Historical understanding is so important for helping to recreate those roots and a sense of belonging." ■



People watch a fire at the Metters factory, Alexandria, 1934 (Source: Sam Hood, Crowds watch over the back fence, Hood Collection, courtesy of the Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW.)

# Indigenous UNSW

Britta Campion



**Indigenous programs at UNSW have had a big year in 2004. First the major activities – the Aboriginal Education Program, the Aboriginal Research and Resource Centre and the Indigenous Employment Plan – were brought together as the Aboriginal Support and Aboriginal Studies Programs Centre. Last month, the Centre was formally given its Indigenous name, Nura Gili. Louisa Wright compiled this look at Indigenous life on campus.**

The first formal Aboriginal program on the Kensington campus resulted from a bequest in the early 1970s, which was used to buy the house on the corner of Botany and High Streets as a centre for Aboriginal student support. It is also the office of the acting director of Nura Gili, Sue Green, the heart and soul of Indigenous programs on campus.

Sue's leadership of UNSW's Indigenous activities has seen an increase in Indigenous enrolments, graduations and employment. But the base line was low: for example, the total number of enrolled Indigenous students in 2004 is about 160, almost double the 83 students in 2002. Only four of those are postgraduate, including two PhD candidates – one of whom is Sue herself.

The Indigenous programs were brought together following a wide-ranging review of Indigenous education at UNSW by Associate Professor Paul Chandler of the School of Education and Juanita Sherwood, a research fellow at Flinders University who also works with the UNSW Indigenous Health Unit.

Nura Gili's biggest costs, after salaries, are

the preparation programs, which continue to expand. Nura Gili also teaches 15 courses through a range of disciplines. A proposal is being developed that these courses could become a BA with an Aboriginal Studies major for 2005 and an MA Indigenous Studies by coursework by 2006.

Sue gives credit to Professor Adrian Lee, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education and Quality Improvement), for support in rebuilding Indigenous programs after a period of decline. "He was pivotal in ensuring the review took place and supports our agenda," she said.

At the formal launch of Nura Gili last month, Professor Lee outlined its goals and noted that while Nura Gili has not yet achieved a dedicated space, future accommodation might also incorporate housing for Indigenous students. Sue has initiated a first step in solving the space problem with Michael Tawa of the Faculty of the Built Environment. Under his supervision, third-year architecture students are designing a new centre for Nura Gili. Each group of nine students will present different designs for a variety of locations on campus by the end of this semester.

## The way in

The best-known Indigenous activities on campus are the preparation programs. The format varies between faculties, but they are all intensive preparatory courses to assist Indigenous students to develop the necessary skills for those programs.

The Pre-Law Program includes a simulation of the law school experience, the Indigenous Pre-Medicine Program provides a structured course as part of a support program, and entry to the Indigenous Pre-Social Work Program is by application and interview.

The Indigenous Built Environment Preparatory Program (BEPP) includes areas such as geography, town planning, architecture and industrial design, while the Commerce and Economics Preparation for Indigenous Australians Program (CEPP) covers a range of business disciplines and the skills to run a small business. The Indigenous Australian Engineering Summer School, designed for students in years 10 to 12, provides a taste of engineering as a university course and career.

The Winter School is designed to introduce Indigenous high school students to the university and to demonstrate career choices, as well as to encourage Indigenous high school retention rates.

The Indigenous Admission Scheme, run in conjunction with the Universities Admission Centre, is for consideration into any degree courses at UNSW. Entry is by application form, application to UAC and an interview. The University Preparation Program (UPP), while not specifically for Indigenous applicants, is available to people wishing to take on tertiary studies who have no recent study experience, and who are not yet academically prepared for university.

## Sue Green: the passionate heart

Imagine you are a young single mother of three children, recently returned to Sydney and living in a women's shelter. What do you do next? You enrol at university, of course, if you are Sue Green.

Green, the passionate heart of Indigenous programs at UNSW, was one of six children of a Wiradjuri father and a non-Indigenous mother. An unpredictable home life saw the kids in and out of schools and children's homes, making formal education impossible. As a young adult, Green gained entry to the University of Queensland under special admission rules and spent 18 months in an arts degree learning "to do what was expected in tertiary education". Once settled in Sydney, she decided to do a social work degree. "I wanted to change the way the social work profession operated," Green said with a smile.

Despite her elder son's life-threatening illness, she completed her degree while working in the Aboriginal unit at the University of Technology, Sydney and as a counsellor for Aboriginal students and staff at the University of Sydney. Her move in 1998 to UNSW's Aboriginal

Research and Resource Centre coincided with her enrolment as a PhD candidate in social work at UNSW. She became acting director of the Aboriginal Education Program in 2002. Both sons are students at UNSW, one in digital media and the other in social work.

As well as heading Indigenous programs on campus, she has encouraged the University in measures leading to increased numbers of Indigenous graduates and increased staff numbers. She is still working on achieving greater financial support for programs and for a new, single-location Indigenous space on campus.

She also teaches a range of courses including Australian Studies, social work subjects and a controversial third-year sociology subject called Whiteness, which looks at race relations from the standpoint of whiteness being a racial or ethnic designation, rather than the norm.

## Place of fire and light

The name of the new centre, Nura Gili, is in the language of the Eora people. Nura means *place* and Gili is *fire/light*. The phrase is significant for the Indigenous programs at UNSW for many reasons.

The theme of place is important to the many and varied cultures of Indigenous Australia. UNSW is nearby an 8000-year-old campsite, found within the grounds of the Prince of Wales Hospital, around which people would have taught culture, history and subsistence. The concept is that there is a place in UNSW where a fire has been burning and where people can gather and share.



NURA GILI



Britta Campion

*A seminar, Race, Gender and Academia: A Dialogue, was held by the Equity and Diversity Unit to mark 2004 National Sorry Day. Speakers included (left to right) Michelle Blanchard, Deputy Director of the Koori Centre at the University of Sydney; Associate Professor Tracey Bunda, Director of the University of Canberra's Ngunnawal Centre; Sue Green, director of the then-Aboriginal Student and Support Service at UNSW; and Dr Eileen Baldry of the UNSW School of Social Work. The seminar was designed to start a dialogue between non-Indigenous and Indigenous staff at UNSW to better understand the institutional challenges faced by Indigenous academic staff and to explore how Indigenous voices can be recognised.*



## Straddling the divide

**A**ssociate Professor Paul Chandler, Head of the School of Education, recipient of over \$2.4 million of ARC and industry grants and author of widely cited research on teaching and learning, is all too often pigeonholed not as an achiever in educational and cognitive psychology or on matters of teaching and learning but as an expert on Indigenous issues. Chandler had the opportunity in 2002 to bring together these divergent roles when he wrote the review of Indigenous education at UNSW with Juanita Sherwood of Flinders University.

“Other universities have standard Indigenous programs but good funding and facilities. UNSW has fantastic programs and committed staff, but UNSW needs to make a long-term commitment to Indigenous education. It must go beyond basic window-dressing to the implementation of an infrastructure of support for students, and the establishment of a properly funded, purpose-built

Indigenous space on campus.”

Chandler nominates three key factors in his academic life at UNSW: superb research supervision; supportive, professional and culturally sensitive colleagues within the School of Education who elected him head of school in 2001; and links with other Indigenous members of staff and community

Through his school’s participation in the Winter School and other initiatives, Chandler hopes to encourage more Indigenous students into teaching. “It’s a chronic problem, to have miniscule numbers of Indigenous teachers. This country desperately needs far more Indigenous teachers.

“The traditional areas for Indigenous academic participation have been in law and medicine and obviously this needs to continue. However, the positive effect of more Indigenous teachers has the potential to have huge impact on all areas of education and society as a whole.”

## Health research day

The inaugural Indigenous Health Research Day at the School of Public Health and Community Medicine on 2 September will also see the launch of the new identity for the Indigenous Health Unit. Its new name, Muru Marri, is Eora for *many roads*.

Open to all staff and research students with an interest in Indigenous health, the Indigenous Health Research Day is designed to help shape this priority area at the intersection of population health and social justice. Papers will be published as the first monograph of the Muru Marri Indigenous Health Unit.

## Leading the revolution

**The two senior lecturers in the Indigenous Health Unit, located in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, are among only a handful of Indigenous senior academics at UNSW.**

**I**n late 2001, psychologist Dennis McDermott was given the brief to teach Indigenous health issues to mainstream medical students, to co-ordinate Indigenous entry into the medicine program and to undertake Indigenous health research. He was joined last year by Dr Lisa Jackson Pulver, whose brief was to develop a research agenda in Aboriginal health and to attract graduate students.

Juanita Sherwood, a PhD candidate at Flinders University but working with the Unit, was co-author of the review of Indigenous Education at UNSW in 2002. Her doctoral thesis, looking at why years of research have not improved Aboriginal health, points directly to a central challenge faced by the Unit.

A greater number of Indigenous academics are needed to create a critical mass, which, in

turn, will shift the thinking of how Indigenous research is undertaken. But too few Indigenous people are overcoming the difficulties on the path to an academic life. “We could start two new research projects a week,” McDermott said. “There are unsustainable expectations of Indigenous academics. There are not enough of us and not enough hours in the day.”

The issue of dealing with Indigenous communities cannot be underestimated, Jackson Pulver said. “Our integrity is always on the line, because Indigenous academics are members of Aboriginal families and communities. We work in both worlds and between those worlds.

“We can’t change the way things are done in Indigenous health on our own – but we want to lead the revolution!”



## The role model

By Alex Clark

**In 1997 a shy teenager named Jilda Simpson arrived at UNSW to study media and communications. Eight years later she is an inspiration to Indigenous students at UNSW as the Student Services Co-ordinator at Nura Gili.**

“Working with students is a great experience, it’s a real relationship,” Jilda said. “You don’t expect anything in return but so often you get the trust, respect and even the admiration of students.”

Jilda credits the atmosphere at Nura Gili for the centre’s success. “We are always laughing at the centre,” Jilda said. “Students who might feel shy like I was when I started are made to feel really comfortable.”

Jilda is part of a highly gifted family. One sister is a member of the successful group, the Stiff Gins; another who studies at COFA

designed the new Nura Gili logo. Her parents have co-authored a series of books about Indigenous kids.

“I like these stories because they are about average Indigenous kids and they made me feel like our family’s situation was normal,” Jilda said. “A lot of people still think that Aboriginal people live in the desert or do dot paintings.”

Jilda believes it has always been important for her to get meaning out of her job. “I get that at Nura Gili,” she said. “You are really wearing your heart on your sleeve as you are dealing with your own and other people’s identities every day.” ■

## What’s a treaty got to do with it?

By Denise Knight

How is the recognition of Indigenous rights connected to health and wellbeing? It’s the key question at a national public forum being organised by the Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law at UNSW this month.

“Australia is the only Commonwealth country without an official treaty with its Indigenous peoples,” the director of the Centre’s Treaty Project, Sean Brennan, said. “We hope the forum will encourage public debate about whether there might be a link between formal agreements, such as a treaty, and Indigenous health outcomes.”

Research from Australia and overseas on whether legal recognition is a social determinant of health will be discussed. Keynote speakers are Patrick Dodson, chair of the Lingari Foundation; Professor Stephen Cornell of the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development; and Ria Earp, Deputy Director - General of Maori Health in New Zealand. Other speakers cover the areas of law, politics, academia, medicine and public health.

“The dramatic disparity in life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, about 20 years, is not replicated in countries which otherwise share a lot of features in common with Australia such as New Zealand, Canada and the US – all countries, as it happens, which have treaty relationships with their Indigenous peoples.

“In Indigenous affairs it often appears there’s two camps – those who focus on the so-called ‘rights agenda’ and others, including the Commonwealth Government, who focus on tackling socio-economic disadvantage, or what they call ‘practical reconciliation’,” Brennan said. “Those are often treated as mutually exclusive, so that you can only pursue one at the expense of the other.”

The event, on 11 September, is being run as part of a major research project investigating the public law implications of a treaty or treaty-like agreements between Indigenous people and Australian governments. The research partners are the Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning at UTS, the Gilbert + Tobin Centre and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies. The project is funded by the ARC and, through Reconciliation Australia, by the Myer Foundation. More information is available at [www.gtcentre.unsw.edu.au](http://www.gtcentre.unsw.edu.au).

## Indigenous law

The focus of the Indigenous Law Centre at UNSW – established as the Aboriginal Law Centre in 1981 – is to develop and co-ordinate research, teaching and dissemination of information in the multidisciplinary area of Indigenous peoples and the law.

The Centre’s core activities are the publication of the *Indigenous Law Bulletin* and the *Australian Indigenous Law Reporter*; and to run a Community Education Program, which focuses on educational issues around native title. In that role, it has developed



a training package for NSW Government departments, in co-operation with the NSW Departments of Aboriginal Affairs and Land and Water Resources and the National Native Title Tribunal.

# Sustaining the region?

By Mary O'Malley

Social, economic, political, cultural and environmental contexts vary between cities. But urban sustainability is a major concern for most of them, particularly in rapidly developing countries. Professor Deo Prasad believes opportunities are emerging in the Asia-Pacific region for academics with expertise on sustainable cities.

Professor Prasad, director of UNSW's Centre for a Sustainable Built Environment, will attend the first meeting of the United Nations Environment Programme's Sustainable Cities Group in September in Bangkok.

He is one of five academics (from China, Thailand, India, Japan and Australia) forming an expert panel to advise UNEP, UN-Habitat (the UN's Human Settlement Programme), regional city mayors and heads of government on strategies for sustainable cities.

Professor Prasad is seeking interest from UNSW academics to help expand the scope of the group and drive groundbreaking regional initiatives. "One of my goals is to tie the outcomes of this group into the activities of UNSW," said Professor Prasad. "The group will provide many good links and opportunities and allow us to work in a multidisciplinary fashion."

At the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, heads of governments agreed to work towards sustainable cities. From that decision arose the formation of UNEP's Institute for Sustainable Development at Tonghzi University in Shanghai. UNSW is one of five universities contributing to the emerging programs there.

"With next year marking the beginning of the UNEP Decade for Education for Sustainable Development, this is a good time to start



Professor Deo Prasad

working in a collaborative fashion to boost our presence in the region," said Professor Prasad. "Newly emerging satellite cities, for example, need to be conceived with understanding of key issues so that they are sustainable."

Academics working on sustainability indicators should contact Professor Prasad before 11 September on 9385 4868 or [d.prasad@unsw.edu.au](mailto:d.prasad@unsw.edu.au). ■

# Antarctica warms the Mediterranean

By Dan Gaffney

**Europeans who bask in the Mediterranean climate should thank Antarctica. Climate modelling by UNSW scientists reveals that Antarctica's icy sea currents allow the balmy Gulf Stream to dictate warm weather conditions over much of the North Atlantic.**

"The Gulf Stream's climate dominance over Europe relies on events some 30 million years ago," Dr Matthew England, of the School of Mathematics, said. "Antarctica started to freeze following the final break-up of Gondwana, the great southern continent."

The loss of a land bridge between Australia and Antarctica effectively isolated Antarctica and depressed its temperature by up to 9 degrees Celsius. "Once it was cut adrift in the Southern Ocean, a powerful circumpolar current separated Antarctica from warm subtropical waters to the north," said England, who carried out the research with PhD student Willem Sijp.

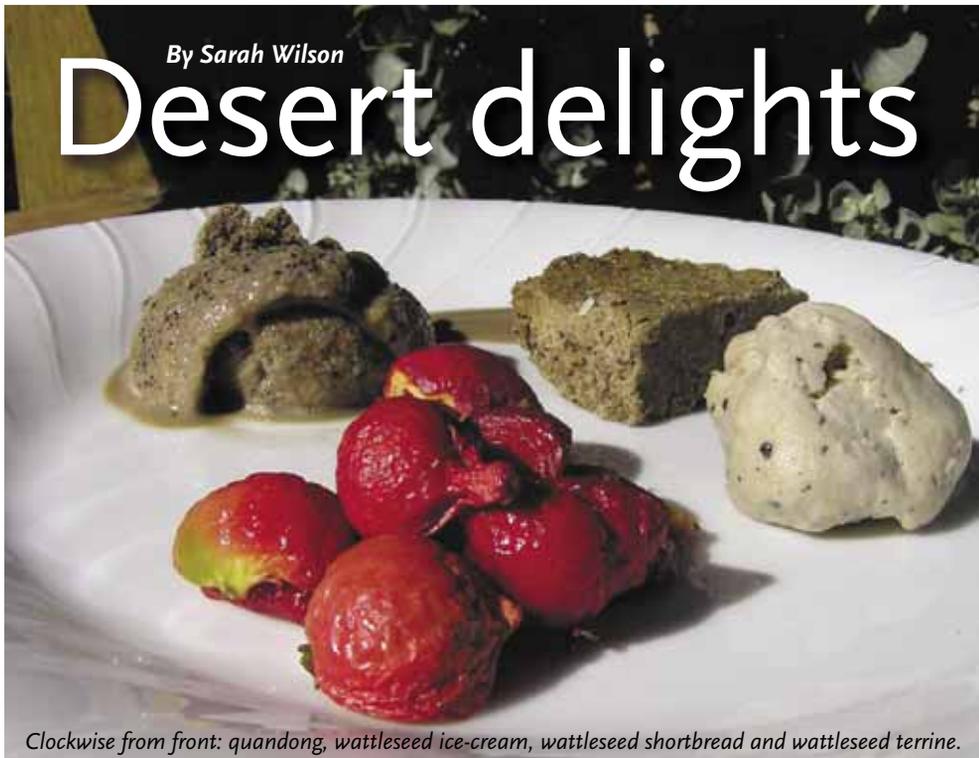
The Antarctic circumpolar current is a massive force. It flows at the rate of over 100 million cubic metres of water a second and takes eight years to circumnavigate the frozen continent. As a result, the icy waters of the Southern Ocean's polar reaches don't dominate global ocean currents and climate as they once did.

The Gulf Stream is a super-warm Atlantic current that moves tropical waters north towards Europe. As it does so it releases heat into the atmosphere, making adjacent countries balmy than they would otherwise be.

"This means that Portugal and other Mediterranean countries have a much warmer climate than places on the same latitude, such as New York," England, who is also co-director of the UNSW Centre for Environmental Modelling and Prediction, said.

"Having Antarctica cut off from the subtropics because of the Southern Ocean reduces the icy continent's impact on the global climate system. We've shown that the isolation of Antarctica is necessary for the Gulf Stream's warming of Europe to be so pronounced."

iStock



David Croft

*Clockwise from front: quandong, wattleseed ice-cream, wattleseed shortbread and wattleseed terrine.*

# Desert delights

By Sarah Wilson

## Stewed quandong, macadamia nut crisp and wattleseed ice-cream with sugarbark are some bush tucker desserts that may be teasing tastebuds if research at UNSW's Fowlers Gap Research Station proves fruitful.

**F**owlers Gap Research Station, 110 kilometres north of Broken Hill in the NSW far west, is located amid dry, harsh conditions, which nevertheless provide fertile ground for native Australian fruits, nuts and berries.

In conjunction with Greening Australia, NSW State and Regional Development and the CSIRO, Fowlers Gap is part of a farm forestry project looking at a variety of native food-producing plants for their commercial viability.

"At the moment we are trialling the prickly wattle which produces seeds with a coffee flavour and go nicely in shortbreads and ice-creams," Dr David Croft, director of the Fowlers Gap Research Station, said. "We've also planted quandong trees which produce a bright red fruit that resembles rhubarb in taste."

Trees such as the prickly wattle and the quandong take seven to ten years to bear their yield, making it a long-term project at the station. The station is also testing faster-growing native foods that are productive in less than three years. These include the bush tomato, native mint, bush basil, bush rosemary, wild orange trees and desert lime.

Alongside the bush food trial are plots of local eucalypts, wattles and sandalwoods growing for wood production. "The trees which grow in arid climates don't reach great heights.

As a result, the wood tends to be very dense, making it perfect for specialty furniture wood, veneer and craft wood – with the trimmings making fragrant cooking woods," Dr Croft said.

The trial will also examine productivity under two watering regimes – high and low frequency of the same volume, while monitoring soil moisture, growth rates and rates of survival.

"Over the years, the area has been hammered by livestock," Dr Croft said. "Through this project we hope to encourage local graziers to see the benefit of planting trees that will beautify their properties and also provide a source of income."

The Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation website ([www.rirdc.gov.au](http://www.rirdc.gov.au)) has information on native bush foods in their 'New and Emerging Industries' section. Wattleseed cookies are available at a variety of gourmet food outlets and online. ■

## Taming the black dog

By Louisa Wright

Winston Churchill, who suffered from depression all his life, referred to it as the 'black dog'. The name lives on at the Black Dog Institute at the Prince of Wales Hospital, a research and clinical facility offering expertise in mood disorders including depression and bipolar disorder, formerly called manic depression.

Professor Gordon Parker, head of the Black Dog Institute, is conducting a trial to determine the effectiveness of a new antidepressant for bipolar II disorder. The trial is recruiting people who think (or know) they have bipolar II disorder, have never previously received an antidepressant or a mood stabiliser, and are aged between 18 and 60.

"These are very resilient people," Professor Parker said. "The average time from onset to diagnosis is 20 years, and they just soldier on. They sometimes are referred to us with depression, or anxiety, or ADHD, and when you take a history, it's clearly bipolar disorder."

The study, which is seeking at least another 30 volunteers, involves an initial three-month period of baseline mood charting. Then all participants in the study are given the new treatment for three months and a placebo for a further three months, or each in the opposite sequence.

"People already in the study are reporting how much they have learned from the daily mood charting and how much they appreciate the clarification of their condition," Professor Parker said.

The Black Dog Institute will explain to participants their diagnosis of bipolar disorder and assist with advice about managing it. People interested in participating should call 9382 8203 or email [bipolar@unsw.edu.au](mailto:bipolar@unsw.edu.au). Further information is at [www.blackdoginstitute.org.au](http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au).

# Spring is in the air

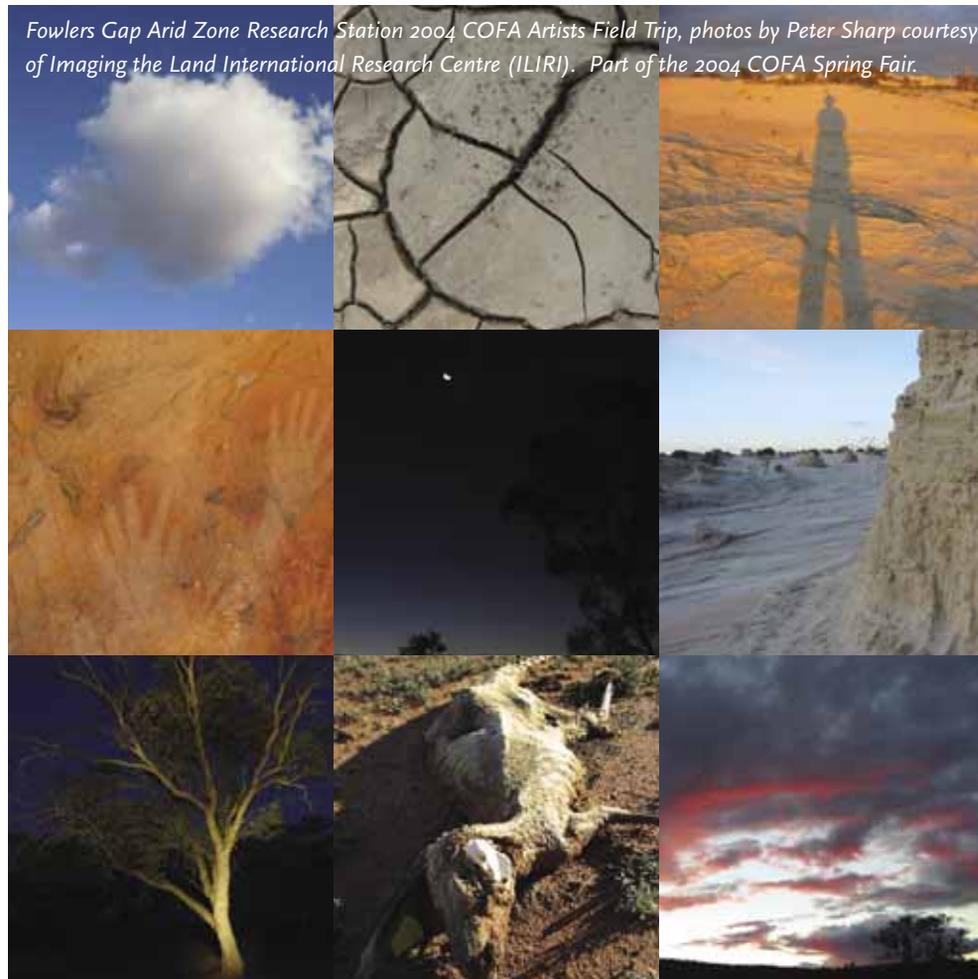
**Would you like to find your funny bone? Learn bookbinding or digital video? Stock up early on original Christmas presents?**

**T**he annual Spring Fair at UNSW's College of Fine Arts (COFA) is here again. A festival of arts, design and cultural activities, the Spring Fair offers something for everyone – and it's all free.

Four major activities will unfold at the COFA campus. A series of seminars will bring together panellists in a range of disciplines. *Public Space or Human Space?* will address the way the built environment shapes behaviour and thinking. In *Art and the Censorship Debate*, working artists and a legal specialist in the field will discuss the role of the artist, the gallery and the public in matters of censorship. *Finding the Funny Bone* will examine humour as an art form and the many responses to it.

Because the Spring Fair falls on 11 September, a program of short films created in response to the events of that date in 2001 will be screened. *The Indelible Date* is curated by COFA PhD student Susie Walsh-Weirman.

The art and design market place will have a wide range of stalls selling hand-crafted jewellery, clothing, ceramics and much more made by emerging artists and designers, all COFA students. Workshops for both adults and



Fowlers Gap Arid Zone Research Station 2004 COFA Artists Field Trip, photos by Peter Sharp courtesy of Imaging the Land International Research Centre (ILIRI). Part of the 2004 COFA Spring Fair.

children will be available in many skills such as sculpture, felting, digital video, ceramics and colour experimentation.

And a festival at COFA would not be complete without exhibitions. *Imaging the Land* includes works produced over an intensive period in far western NSW and *Terra Alterius: Land of Another* brings together the work of leading artists to

provide a glimpse of another Australia, one where the Indigenous and European cultures first met.

COFA Spring Fair is on Saturday 11 September (exhibition opening and seminar on Friday 10 September) at the corner of Oxford Street and Greens Road in Paddington. More information at [www.cofa.unsw.edu.au/springfair](http://www.cofa.unsw.edu.au/springfair). ■

## Wilde about Oscar By Susi Hamilton

Oscar Wilde's grandson will take part in what is believed to be the biggest celebration of the 150th anniversary of Wilde's birth anywhere in the world, to be hosted by UNSW. Merlin Holland will be the special guest speaker for the conference, open to lovers of Wilde's work. "It is a real coup to get Merlin to come," said Dr Peter Kuch, the convenor of Irish Studies in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Mr Holland has recently published a transcript

of the notorious trial that saw his grandfather sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour and has also written a play based on the transcript. He will act the part of his grandfather in a one-off performance at the Justice and Police Museum as part of the conference.

The second UNSW Irish film festival will be held at Fox Studios in conjunction with the conference. It includes two Wilde films and a revival of the first Irish film ever shot on

location in Ireland and America, *The Lad from Old Ireland*.

"It is hardly surprising that Australians have such an interest in the Irish," Dr Kuch said. "Approximately 18 percent of our population has Irish heritage." Irish Studies is being offered at UNSW for the first time in 2004. It is an interdisciplinary exploration of Irish history, culture and society over the past 200 years that takes particular account of Ireland's relationships with Australia and with Europe.

Details about the film festival and the conference, which runs from 21 to 26 September, are at <http://irishstudies.arts.unsw.edu.au/>.

Kristen Clark



UNSW Union president David Hume cuts the ribbon

## It's totally PC!

Tired of lining up to find books or check your email? Twenty PCs have been installed in the library, courtesy of the UNSW Union.

The centre of intellectual and social life on campus, the UNSW Library is one of the most technologically advanced online university libraries in Australia.

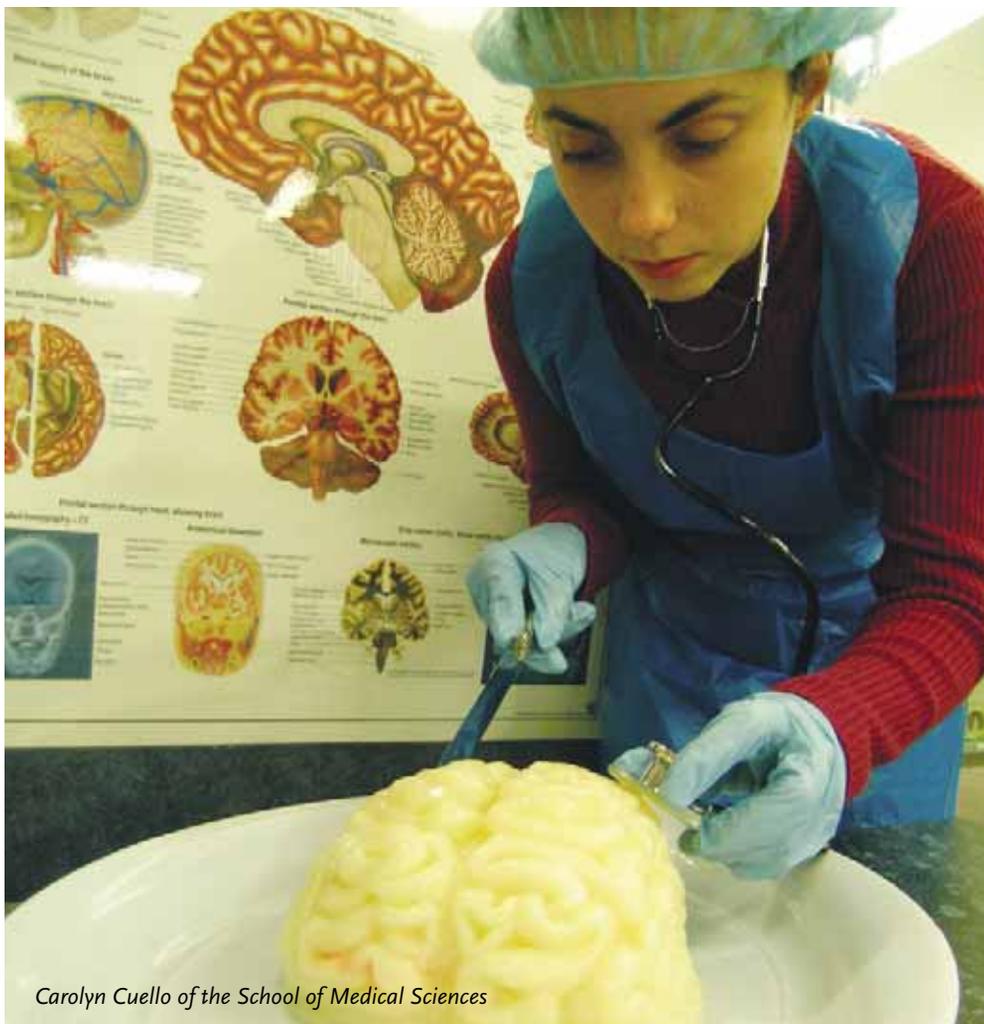
For its part, the University Union has as part of its charter the aim of facilitating the educational aspirations of its members, enhancing their lifelong skills and providing opportunities for their intellectual and social development.

These two roles converged last month with the launch of the new library computers by Union president David Hume, who cut the ribbon on one machine while students around him were already taking advantage of the other new PCs.

The Union has also provided 'training for trainers' for 15 students who will deliver courses such as Word, Excel and Unimail to other students. David pointed to these tangible outcomes that the Union has delivered in services for students.

Union CEO Tony Cinque said that an urgent need for more PCs for students' use was identified in September 2003 and led to this collaboration between Union and University. ■

Alex Clark



Carolyn Cuello of the School of Medical Sciences

## Brains for Breakfast

UNSW's Museum of Human Disease celebrated National Science Week last month by helping high school students conduct brain surgery – on brain-shaped jellies, that is! Experts in anatomy, pathology and medicine instructed students as they 'operated' on the jellies as part of *Brains for Breakfast*. Students in surgical gear dissected and diagnosed the jelly 'brains' for conditions such as the effect of alcohol on the brain, strokes, brain injury, Alzheimer's Disease, meningitis and tumours. NSW Minister for Science and Medical Research Frank Sartor took part in the event.

## Careers of course

UNSW Courses and Careers Day 2004 is an undergraduate open day at the Kensington campus for prospective students to discover programs on offer at UNSW or to research those programs a little more. It is a day to explore life as a student, study costs,

admissions and college accommodation and check out the campus. Prospective students can speak to a faculty adviser at the Roundhouse Advisory Centre, attend one of the many lectures held throughout the campus or visit other activities taking place on the day.

Rural students have not been forgotten. Students who are interested in UNSW but can't get to Sydney for Courses and Careers

Day can email [careers@unsw.edu.au](mailto:careers@unsw.edu.au) to ask for a password leading to an online assessment. Once the assessment is completed, the students are then allocated a 15-minute telephone appointment on Courses and Careers Day.

Courses and Careers Day is on Saturday 4 September from 9am to 4pm. More information and a program is available on 9385 1844 or [www.ccdays.unsw.edu.au](http://www.ccdays.unsw.edu.au).



Britta Campion

**Dr Janusz Nowotny is the director of the Centre for Materials Research in Energy Conversion, set up in 1999 in the School of Materials Science and Engineering. He is passionate on the topic of solar hydrogen. Maria Nowotny, his daughter, is in her second year of a doctorate in ceramics engineering in the same school. They had never planned to work in the same research program.**

**JANUSZ NOWOTNY**

When Maria completed high school in 1998, I expected her to go to the University of Wollongong which is just nearby where we live. Instead, she decided to join UNSW as a Co-op student in Materials Science and Engineering. I felt sorry for Maria that she had to travel such a long way from home to uni every day. At that time I had not even contemplated joining UNSW.

Our paths crossed in 1999 when I joined UNSW at the newly established Centre for Material Research in Energy Conversion. The mission of the Centre was the development of materials for the conversion of solar energy into hydrogen. Since joining UNSW, my closest co-worker and partner in the research program on solar hydrogen has been [Professor] Chris Sorrell, whose area of interest is ceramic engineering. So in the Centre, Chris takes care of the processing of materials and I take care of their characterisation. Chris had been Maria's lecturer and honours supervisor, and later became the supervisor of her PhD. Since then, we have been working on the same team.

There are of course positive and negative aspects for a dad working together with his daughter. The positive side is that through the research work, we have established an additional bond – research brings together people trying to solve similar problems and understand similar phenomena. In fact this bond, which did not exist in this form before, is very strong.

**MARIA NOWOTNY**

Janusz is pleased with the strength of this additional bond between us, and [since I moved out of home] I also think it is very handy when a homemade food package arrives from Mum! [A less positive aspect of working together] is that deadlines and projects generate stress and tension in any working environment. Then sometimes it becomes a struggle to note where work ends and family life begins.

Janusz has inexhaustible energy and is a bottomless pit of knowledge and information. I tend to be his main software adviser, as he believes I am wiser in many computer programs. He mostly appreciates it that my function as his PC adviser extends into weekends when he is preparing urgent reports and projects. Besides my software skills, he believes I make a great coffee. In fact, he feels that it is the smell and unforgettable taste of my coffee that attracts industrial partners into the Centre.

For Janusz, I have always had a Sherlock Holmes-type role at home. Whenever something is missing, I will find it. Some things never change and when at work, documents or (more importantly) his favourite pen is missing, who does Janusz call... ■

**THE INDIGENOUS STACK**

**Deadly Sounds, Deadly Places: Contemporary Aboriginal Music in Australia** by Peter Dunbar-Hall & Chris Gibson. **\$35.95**  
Music styles in Aboriginal music and the issues influencing them.



**Disputed Territories: Land, Culture and Identity in Settler Societies**, edited by David Trigger & Gareth Griffiths. **\$44.95**  
A study of the significance of land for contesting parties in various settlements.



**Dorothy's Skin**, by Dennis McDermott. **\$17.05**  
Acclaimed poetry exploring Aboriginality.



**Indigenous Australia and Alcohol Policy: Meeting Difference with Indifference**, by Maggie Brady. **\$35.95**  
The role of cultural difference in problem drinking and the implications for health policy.



**Political Theory and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**: Edited by Duncan Ivison, Paul Patton and Will Saunders. **\$44.95**  
The problem of justice for Indigenous peoples in all its philosophical, legal, cultural and political contexts.



**Home: A Novel**, by Larissa Behrendt. **\$20.65**  
An outstanding first novel about a young Indigenous city lawyer returning to family roots.



**Indigenous Legal Issues: Commentary & Materials**, by Heather McRae, Garth Nettheim and others. **\$76.45**  
The definitive legal book on Australian Indigenous legal issues.

Compiled by Robert O'Hearn from the UNSW Bookshop, 9385 6622, [www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au](http://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au)

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# COUNCIL REPORT

By Dr John Yu, AC, Chancellor

## Council Meeting 26 July 2004

In my absence overseas, the meeting was chaired by the Hon Ms Susan Ryan, Pro-Chancellor.

### 2003 ANNUAL REPORT

Council adopted the 2003 Annual Report and approved the 2003

Financial Report. Approval of the Financial Report had been delayed while an intensive investigation was carried out due to a discrepancy in the University's bank reconciliation, discovered during the routine audit. Despite three months of intensive investigation by the University and the Auditor-General, the source of this error has not been identified. The Auditor-General has qualified the University's financial audit for 2003 due to the inability to identify the cause of the error. A new reconciliation system has been in place since December 2003 and the University is confident that it would identify errors of the nature that have caused the difficulties with the 2003 accounts if they were to occur in future.

### RESEARCH

The Vice-Chancellor reported a pleasing result for external research income in 2003, up 11.1 percent over 2002, compared to a national average increase of 10 percent. He also reported on significant participation in the Research Mentor Program and on the new structure for the Research Office, under the name UNSW Research Services, following a major review of research management.

### REVIEW OF UNISEARCH

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Resources) reported that Mary O'Kane, formerly Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, had been selected as an external consultant to conduct a review of Unisearch.

### COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Council extended the membership terms of its committees until 30 August, when they will be reconstituted. It approved the appointment of Dr Dale Cooper, an experienced risk management consultant, as an external member of the Risk Management Committee. It also approved the creation of a Nominations and Remuneration Committee. The terms of reference and membership of Council Committees can be viewed at: <http://www.secretariat.unsw.edu.au/council.htm>.

### MEETING DATES

Council will meet at 2pm on Monday, 30 August and 11 October, at 11am on Monday, 22 November (with strategic planning focus from 2pm) and on Monday, 13 December 2004. Council meetings are open to all members of the University – that is, staff, students, graduates and emeriti. If you wish to attend a Council meeting, go to the Inquiry Counter of the Chancellery before the meeting where you will be issued with a pass and some notes for observers. Observers have no speaking rights and must leave the Chamber when confidential items are being discussed.

### COUNCIL MINUTES

Council minutes and other information about Council are available to all members of the University by accessing the Council section of the Secretariat website at <http://www.secretariat.unsw.edu.au/council.htm>. For further information on matters relating to Council or its Standing Committees, please contact Victoria Eyles, [v.eyles@unsw.edu.au](mailto:v.eyles@unsw.edu.au), 9385 3068 or Janet McGaw, [j.mcgaw@unsw.edu.au](mailto:j.mcgaw@unsw.edu.au), 9385 3072.

*The Chancellor is Chair of Council.*



ACADEMIC  
BOARD

## New Initiatives on Academic Literacy

### Academic Board meeting of 3 August 2004

The Academic Board approved the *Guide to UNSW Grades*, which will assist international students and others to interpret marks obtained for studies undertaken at UNSW. We endorsed the contents of the discussion paper on Enabling Skills, approving:

- (1) that all commencing UNSW students will complete within their first session, a generic online information literacy program commencing Session 1, 2005; and
- (2) the development and trial of methods to further assist students with academic literacy and academic English-language skills.

We approved the revision of the Graduate Certificate in Safety Science and Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Education, and the discontinuation of the Master of Science and Technology in Remote Sensing and Master of Science and Technology in Geographic Information Systems majors.

The Academic Board recommended that Council approve the award of the degree of Doctor of Letters honoris causa; the award of the degree of Doctor of Science; multiple criteria admission requirements to undergraduate programs taught by the Faculty of Engineering from 2006; the introduction of the Master of Economics, Graduate Certificate in Computing, and Graduate Certificate in Advanced Computing; the renamed programs – Graduate Diploma in Spatial Information, Master of Engineering Science in Spatial Information, Master of Information Technology, Graduate Diploma in Computing and Information Technology, Master of Computing and Information Technology; and the discontinuation of the Graduate Certificate in Industrial Safety, Graduate Certificate in OHS Management, Graduate Certificate in Occupational Rehabilitation, Master of Engineering Science in Remote Sensing, Graduate Diploma in Remote Sensing, Master of Engineering Science in Geographic Information, Master of Engineering Science in Computer Science and Engineering, Graduate Diploma in Computer Science, Master of Computer Science, Graduate Diploma in Information Science, Master of Information Science and Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Optometry.

We conducted elections of Board members to the Academic Board Standing Committees. We congratulate the following members on their election: Jill Bennett, Janet Chan, David Clements, David Cohen, Paul Compton, Adelle Coster, Michael Cowling, Geoff Dick, Fiona Fong, Stephen Fortescue, Frances Foster-Thorpe, Brynn Hibbert, Lesley Hitchens, Richard Hugman, Gail Huon, Rakesh Kumar, Dane McCamey, Bruce Milthorpe, Peter Murray, Richard Newbury, Iain Skinner, Michael Walpole, Julie Wood.

We noted a presentation by the University Librarian, Andrew Wells, on *ICT assist*, which provides assistance in information and communication technology in the Library. After the meeting, Academic Board members attended the official launch of MyUNSW Student Portal and the introduction of the new UNSW Online Handbook. We commend both initiatives to the University community.

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](mailto:a.dooley@unsw.edu.au) or 9385 2393.

*Tony Dooley*

*President, Academic Board*

By Elizabeth Thurbon, Linda Weiss and John Mathews

# The Australia–US FTA: how to kill a country

Despite its hallowed place in the Australian lexicon, few recognise the irony of Donald Horne's memorable phrase 'the lucky country' ('Australia is a lucky country run mainly by second-rate people who share its luck'). Under the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the USA, our second-rate leaders are turning Australia into an appendage of the United States. Here are five reasons why – despite Mark Latham's amendments – the AUSFTA will spell the end of the lucky country.

## 1 It will thwart Australia's pursuit of agricultural liberalisation internationally.

We have agreed to open our market to all US agricultural exports, removing all tariffs, quotas, seasonal restrictions and subsidies from day one. But the US will keep many of its tariffs, quotas, seasonal restrictions and (enormous) subsidies. For example, our beef, wine and dairy exporters will wait up to 18 years for the removal of US tariffs. While our avocado producers will now be allowed to sell to the US, the amount is strictly limited during our peak production times. This is not just unfair. Acceptance of such miniscule concessions from the US sets a precedent for future agricultural negotiations. Why would other countries agree to open their markets to Australia when we did not demand it of the US?

## 2 It will undermine our agricultural industry's key competitive advantage as a pest- and disease-free producer.

We have agreed to let US trade representatives sit on the bodies that influence our quarantine

standards. This will expose our quarantine regulators to even more pressure to compromise science-based risk assessment, placing our clean green agricultural industry at risk. In fact, since we started negotiating this trade deal, our biosecurity watchdog has inexplicably relaxed our quarantine protocols to allow in pest- and disease-affected pork, poultry, citrus and stone fruit, and is proposing to relax protocols to allow in apples, pears and bananas – despite science indicating otherwise.

## 3 We will be forced to abandon public purchasing policy.

Under the deal, we will scrap our procurement-linked 'industry development programs'. These allow us to set conditions in return for granting procurement contracts to foreign suppliers in our own market. Such offset programs produce net benefits for Australian industry and employment, for example by stipulating that suppliers source local inputs, employ a certain percentage of Australians or transfer technology. However, the US keeps and strengthens its 'Buy American' Act and a host of other 'buy national' programs and continues to subsidise its major exporters.

## 4 We will replace our system of intellectual property protection with that of the US.

By agreeing to extend copyright for an additional 20 years (to 70 years), our libraries and educational institutions will pay royalties for even longer – a cost that many will not

be able to bear. Given that we are a net intellectual property importer, the 20-year extension will ensure an ever-increasing flow of royalty payments overseas (particularly to the US, the world's largest intellectual property exporter) and increase our already massive trade deficit with the USA, currently hovering around \$12 billion.

## 5 The deal will destroy the PBS and raise the price of pharmaceuticals.

Latham's narrowly targeted amendments are too little, too late. For example, the PBS amendments focus on one key issue – 'evergreening' – but ignore the automatic five-year extension on patents under Chapter 17, which will cost the PBS at least an additional \$1.5 billion over the next four years – an amount that is unsustainable in the longer term. While the evergreening amendments might be enough to save Latham at the ballot box, they will not save the PBS from this disastrous deal.

Australians looking at the deal with two eyes rather than one must ask: exactly where is the Federal Government leading our 'lucky' country?

*Elizabeth Thurbon is a lecturer in the School of Politics and International Relations at UNSW. She is co-author with Linda Weiss (University of Sydney) and John Mathews (Macquarie University) of How to Kill a Country: Australia's Devastating Trade Deal with the USA (Allen and Unwin, October 2004). Thurbon and Weiss are the founders of The Australian Interest, a public forum dedicated to informed, non-partisan debate on all aspects of Australian foreign economic policy. The website is [www.australianinterest.com](http://www.australianinterest.com). ■*

