



# UWA *news*

27 November 2000

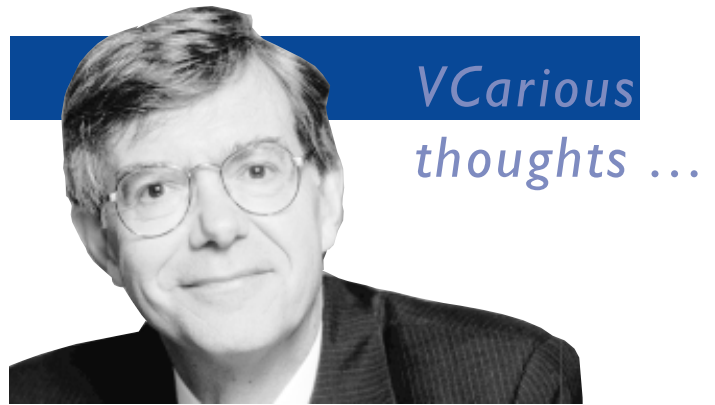
The University of Western Australia

Volume 19 Number 20



## IN THIS ISSUE

# “That was the year that was”



**T**he year 2000 is going out on campus with a bang, rather than a summer sigh.

Not only are we in the midst of end-of-year meetings of Senate, Academic Board, major University committees (not least those finalising our 2001 Budget) and examinations, but we have been experiencing a final effervescence of academic and institutional occasions of great pleasure.

I have in mind excellent public lectures (such as Professor Ian Constable delivering the inaugural Arnold Cook Annual Lecture, alumni meetings (the reunion of the class of 1950 here, and graduate gatherings in Sydney, and in Melbourne), the major sports awards (the ‘Blues’ Evening) and the Medical Dedication Ceremony for our graduating students in medicine.

And beyond that there is the veritable swirl of faculty and administrative celebrations to mark the end of 2000.

Our Millennium Year has been a good but demanding year, and we can look to 2001 at UWA in confidence, something that cannot be said at every other campus in our Australian system.

Important fundamentals are in place. UWA’s standing continues to attract the very best of undergraduates – up a further four per cent in preferences over other institutions – with cut-off scores likely to be among the highest in our country. *The Good Universities Guide* gives us a perfect five-star rating in the key areas of teaching, research, campus environment and prestige. The *Graduate Careers Reports* of the Commonwealth also tell us of graduates in high demand. In research support, that key life-blood of UWA, we grow each year with excellent outcomes: over 19 per cent increase in 1999-2000, to \$60 million. And there is good news in areas of industry links, commercialisation and consultancy income.

Our reliance on Commonwealth funding continues to fall as we diversify our income: I reckon we are probably the least dependent of any Australian university at 33 per cent.

Through wise use of our endowments and growing fees and charges we maintain our sense of self-reliance and our determination to invest in the core mission of UWA.

Vitally, we also secure and expand the role of UWA as a comprehensive university, committed to its generic areas of learning in the arts, sciences and professions. Sustaining such

a balance in programs is a key challenge when fashion and short-term market pressures try to press us to a more vocational, narrower educational profile. Our Founders chose ‘Seek Wisdom’ as our motto, not ‘Seek Training’, and we share that vision for the twenty-first century as they proposed for the twentieth century.

Traditions do not survive changes and challenges, however, if they are not also dynamic in adaptation. And so, at the start of the new century, we find ourselves in the interesting position of having great strength from the past that will only flourish if we act in bold and creative ways to shape our future through new initiatives.

UWA could become a beautiful higher educational ‘museum’ if we do not act in ways which match the creative vision of the Founders. New knowledge, new international opportunities, new technologies to serve our teaching and administration, new industrial partners in research and innovation, new institutional structures to advance the functioning of our mission – all these elements will make an appropriately ‘new’ UWA for the twenty-first century, while securing our core goals and values.

More personally, as 2000 draws to a close, I would like to record my thanks to all staff members for the way in which your contribution has underpinned the development and transformation of our University. I hope you will enjoy a joyous and restful festive season.

With my wife Paddy, I look forward to summer days at home in Perth, with visits to friends in Yallingup and a few days enjoying Albany again.

Since that memorable New Year’s Millennium Eve on Cottesloe Beach, ‘2000’ became a year to remember. May 2001 be as good to all of us.

**Professor Deryck Schreuder**  
**Vice-Chancellor and President**  
[vc@acs.uwa.edu.au](mailto:vc@acs.uwa.edu.au)

# A legacy of adventure



**T**he two things that changed Bill Warnock's life are being brought together by a generous bequest from the Perth writer.

"I was inspired to write by Arthur Ransome, an English author, whose first editions I then started to collect," said Mr Warnock.

"And the best years of my life were spent here at UWA, where I studied part-time for nine years, had a wonderful time and met my wife, Diana.

"It seems right that the two experiences that mapped out my life end up together," he said.

Mr Warnock has bequeathed his rare collection of first editions of children's books by Arthur Ransome to the University.

Forty years ago, a colleague told Mr Warnock that his son wasn't interested in reading.

"So I gave him some of my childhood Arthur Ransome books . . . and that did the trick," said Mr Warnock.

"I wrote of that success to the author himself and received a wonderful letter, which I still treasure, in reply. He wrote: 'It makes an aged and doddering author very happy to be told that somewhere his books have found one who is most obviously the reader for whom they were meant'."

Already inspired by Ransome to follow in his footsteps, that correspondence inspired Mr Warnock to start collecting his books.

"The first edition I acquired cost me about \$20, back in 1961. I now have more than 40 and hope to complete the collection of 50 eventually," he said.

Mr Warnock said his latest and rarest acquisition, a first edition of Ransome's first children's book, the legendary *Swallows and Amazons*, set him back \$20,000.

He said Arthur Ransome's books appealed to him as a boy in Glasgow because the adventures he wrote about seemed within reach.

"Unlike Biggles and the Foreign Legion adventures, these were stories about kids having adventures in boats on the Norfolk Broads . . . something that we as adventurous boy scouts could see ourselves doing."

Arthur Ransome's own life was quite an adventure. Sent to Russia during the revolution, by the *Manchester Guardian*, he ended up spirited away Lenin's secretary and marrying her. Mr Warnock thinks his work translating Russian fairytales probably led to him writing his own children's stories.

Acting Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Associate Professor Alan Dench, was delighted to receive the collection from Mr Warnock, who, even after donating it to the University, will continue to add to it.

The Ransome collection is not Bill Warnock's first donation to the University. He "donated" his teeth when he was a student here.

"If you look across Riley Oval in the moonlight, you can probably still see my front teeth embedded in the pitch!" he said.



Bill Warnock shows Associate Professor Alan Dench the endpapers in *Swallows and Amazons*, which detail fantastic imaginary maps.

# Assessment matters

**S**witching between the English and the American tertiary education systems kindled Professor Alison Wolfe's interest in assessment.

"I had just graduated in economics in England and my first job was teaching quantitative research techniques in an American university, where there was no staff development. I was really thrown in at the deep end.

"But the difference in the systems started me thinking about assessment and I've been interested ever since," said Professor Wolfe, Professor of Education and Executive Director, International Centre for Research on Assessment, at the University of London.

As a visiting scholar with the Australian Universities Teaching Committee she gave two seminars for staff on a recent visit to Perth, hosted by the combined WA universities and organised by UWA's Centre for Staff Development.

"Assessment matters – but it's surprisingly common for people to think about what they want to teach,



*Professor Alison Wolfe . . . there must be more sharing among academics.*

then tack on assessment at the end.

"Academics need to take assessment more seriously. Students are very assessment-oriented. Most of them really want to learn, but they also need to be certificated, so assessment is important to them.

"I ask teachers: 'Do you know how much your students have learned?' And

there is no way they can know that without talking to their students and listening to them," Professor Wolfe said.

She said one of the major problems in assessment was the fragmentation of faculties.

"There are no longer groups of people working on assessment in many faculties. Especially with huge first-year courses, assessment is sometimes handed over to outside assessors, and that's just inviting external interference.

"It's important to find ways for lecturers and staff to come together and create a community of judgment. I recommend much more sharing among academics, looking at each other's questions.

"I know that a lot of academics find this threatening, but for the sake of good assessment, they must break through that barrier."

Professor Wolfe said that, like course content, assessment must itself be continually assessed.

"You think about content all the time. So you need to be rethinking the links between students and teachers. And, in this area, academics need input from other academics," she said.

"Assessment matters because what you assess is what students learn."

## Oldest student passes away

**D**r May Anderson, who was the University's oldest living graduate, died early this month, just ten days after celebrating her 100th birthday.

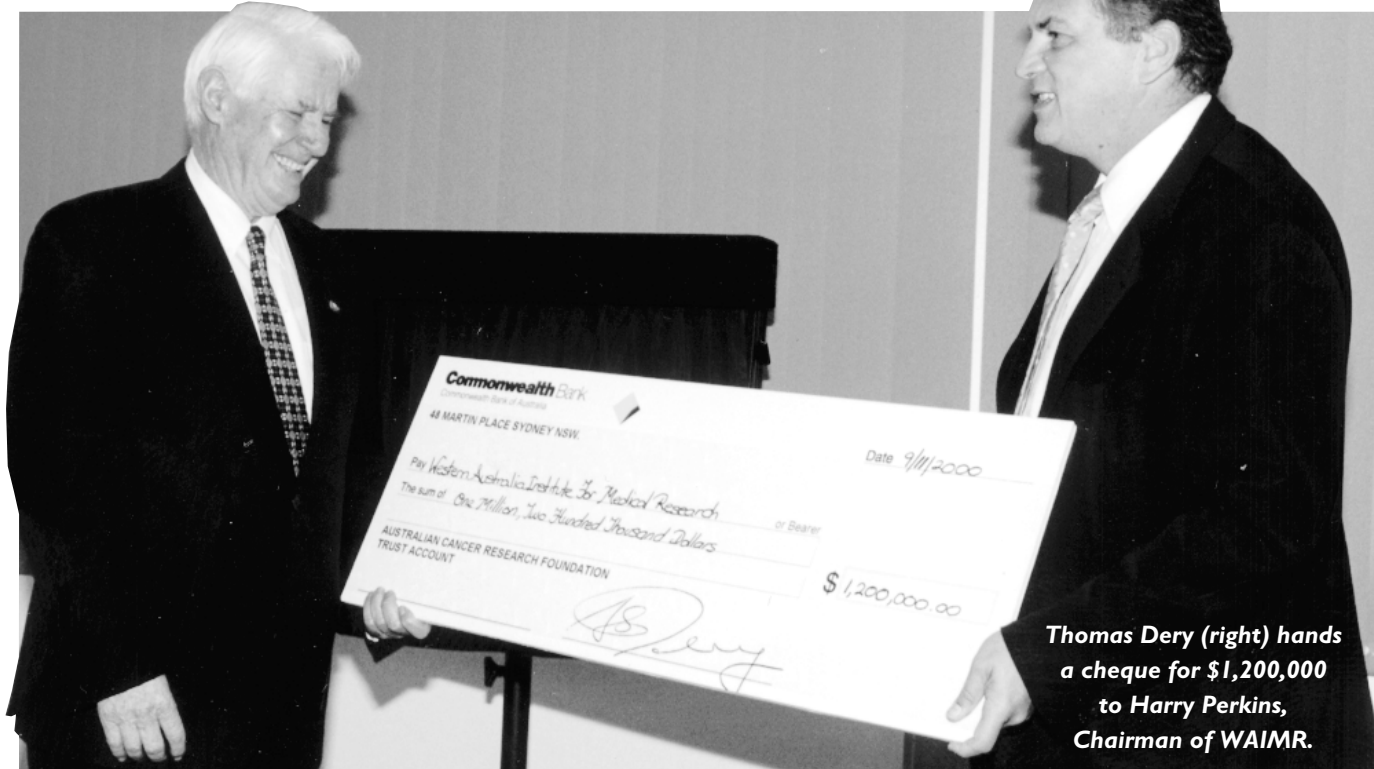
After graduating with first class honours in Surgery at the University of Melbourne, Dr Anderson moved to Perth where she then completed a BA, majoring in Classical Greek.

She was resident doctor for the Medical Co-ordination Committee throughout WWII at RPH and what was then the Children's Hospital. Dr May was an active member of Convocation, a foundation member of the Australian Kidney Foundation and honorary secretary for the Australian Federation of University Women.

The Vice-Chancellor visited her on her 100th birthday on October 26 at Mosman Park Nursing Home.

*Dr May Anderson, at the age of 37.*





**Thomas Dery (right) hands a cheque for \$1,200,000 to Harry Perkins, Chairman of WAIMR.**

## Cancer research centre stage

**O**ne of the biggest private grants ever awarded to the scientific community in WA has been channelled into cancer research.

The Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) has given \$1.2 million to the Western Australian Institute for Medical Research (WAIMR).

The grant will fund the construction and equipping of eight state-of-the-art research laboratories at both Royal Perth Hospital and QEII, which will become home to 100 researchers specialising in cancer, cardiovascular, endocrinology and neuroscience.

The laboratories, expected to be completed and equipped next year, means WAIMR will be able to attract world-class researchers. Hailed as a major breakthrough for medical research in WA, the grant is pivotal to the development of WAIMR.

"We plan to recruit the very best people from overseas and within Australia," said WAIMR's deputy director, Professor Peter Klinken.

"It gives us an opportunity to reverse the brain drain from WA. Without these facilities, we couldn't even entertain the idea of asking the elite of medical research to move here," he said.

Professor Klinken said the new facilities would put WA medical research on the world map.

"Collaboration with other researchers with complementary skills and exchange of

ideas are the way of the present and the future. Researchers can't work in isolation any more. Gone are the days of the lone investigator toiling in the light of the midnight oil," he said.

WAIMR is the first organisation to receive a grant from the ACRF. "A grant from the ACRF is among the highest

levels of recognition in this field and we are honoured to receive it," Professor Klinken said.

"THE ACRF applies the most rigorous standards. Its medical research committee, which recommends the projects to receive grants, includes many of Australia's pre-eminent cancer research experts and uses the most exhaustive assessment procedures," he said.

Mr Thomas Dery, chairman of the ACRF, who presented the first of three cheques to WAIMR earlier this month, said the grant was in recognition of the outstanding potential of the institute.

"Australian scientists are in the forefront of cancer research and the construction and equipping of these laboratories in Perth can only accelerate the quest for better diagnosis, treatment and, eventually, cures for cancer," Mr Dery said.

The grant is the latest in a series of ACRF contributions to major cancer research projects in Australia. Over 13 years, it had made grants of more than \$12 million.

*Without these facilities,  
we couldn't even  
entertain the idea of  
asking the elite of  
medical research to  
move here ..."*



*Professor Peter Klinken*

# CHRISTMAS AT THE CO-OP

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Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## These teachers are still students

**N**early 30 Graduate Diploma of Education students are already teaching in WA schools ... several weeks before they are due to finish their course.

Dr Felicity Haynes, from the Graduate School of Education, said a shortage of teachers (predicted by Deans of Education for the past few years) has had both public and private schools, in both rural and metropolitan areas, anxious to secure good staff before the start of the next school year.

"In the past, many private schools have asked us for the names of our best student teachers, so they could offer them teaching positions at the beginning of the following year. But this year, the challenge to find the best teachers has started early, and many of them have already started before officially completing their studies," Dr Haynes said.

"Those students have to complete their assignments and curriculum resource files while teaching in schools or attend examinations at a special sitting on a Saturday morning. Only those students who we feel are able to cope with this double load have been allowed to start work," she said.

While it's a great opportunity for the students, it has thrown the GSE into overload as the end of the year approaches, and the staff are ensuring



that all the students get their assessments completed.

Three science teachers have started their careers in private schools in the metropolitan area and Kalgoorlie; one is now teaching Japanese in Australind and four have begun work at Hedland Senior High School: two English teachers and two physical education teachers.

Hedland principal Graham Butler said his school was heavily involved with the long-term pracs for graduate diploma students.

"It means we get a chance to see what they're like and they get a good taste of working here. The staff were all very impressed with the students who came here this year and, as soon as we knew that some of our teachers were intending to take long service leave this term, we started negotiations with the GSE," he said.

Mr Butler said young graduates always enjoyed their time in Port Hedland. The staff are mostly young, the school has excellent facilities and the graduates are provided with government housing, as well as other incentives.

Dr Haynes said the UWA student teachers were demonstrating that the revised Diploma of Education, which places emphasis on the Reflective Practitioner, was making them an extremely marketable commodity.

## Scientists see the future reflected in the water



**T**he ability to see into the future is the aim of a team of environmental engineers and scientists at the Centre for Water Research.

The centre recently launched its new computer model, which will be used to predict water quality in lakes and reservoirs.

The Dynamic Reservoir Model and Computational Aquatic Ecosystem Dynamics Model (DYRESM-CAEDYM) is the latest evolution of the centre's internationally-acclaimed DRYESM, first released in the 1970s, which has for more than 20 years been successfully applied by the science community in Australia and throughout the world.

# Only the best for Alexander the Great

**I**f the subject of Professor Brian Bosworth's life's work is Alexander the Great, then he should be called Brian the Best.

Professor Bosworth's latest publication, *From Arrian to Alexander*, has just been included in Oxford University Press's Oxford Scholarly Classics.

"The intention of the series is to bring together great academic works from the archives of OUP. The Scholarly Classics will enable scholars to gain fresh access to some of the finest scholarship of last century," says the Press.

The series has 53 volumes from the five key disciplines, with just eight under the heading of Classics.

Professor Bosworth's work, a collection of seminars he gave at Oxford several years ago, ranks alongside Bowra's *Pindar*, Frensd's *The Donatist Church* and *Foundations of Ethics* by Sir David Ross.

"It came totally out of the blue," he said. "I was reading *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*, an electronic journal, when I came across the eight Classics titles that were included in the series, and mine was one of them. I've since been formally notified by OUP."

Professor Bosworth is widely regarded as a world expert on Alexander the Great. His *Conquest and Empire: The Reign of Alexander the Great* (Cambridge University Press) is a bestseller and has recently been reissued, 12 years after its publication. It has been translated into Spanish and Greek and is currently being translated into Hungarian and Korean.

But he sees his main life's work as his continuing *Commentary on Arrian's History of Alexander the Great*. The



Professor Brian Bosworth . . . doesn't know how long his study of Alexander will take . . .



first volume was published in 1980, the second in 1995 and just this month, he received an ARC grant to continue working on the project that has already occupied him for 20 years.

He knows Alexander the Great intimately but says he fears they will never meet in the hereafter. "I don't think we'll end up in the same place!" he laughed.

## A tranquil way to start the day

**T**he mercury was already edging towards 30°C as these yoga enthusiasts started their day with a relaxing session by the reflection pond.

UWA Sport and Recreation's Rohan Klemm said he scheduled the 7.30am yoga session to gauge the interest in regular early morning yoga for next year.

"But, on reflection, perhaps we should have had this session in the shade outside the library," he said.

If you're interested in yoga sessions or any other recreation program, give Rohan Klemm a call on ext. 3768, or pick up a copy of *Recreate* to see the huge range of activities the association offers.



# Campus Diary

**UWA News** is published fortnightly. This is the final issue for 2000, publication resumes in March 2001. Information for the publication dated March 12 should be forwarded to Joanna Thompson, Publications Unit, ext 3029, fax 1162, email: [uwanews@publishing.uwa.edu.au](mailto:uwanews@publishing.uwa.edu.au)

## NO LATER THAN 5PM ON FEBRUARY 28

Media enquiries to Public Affairs on 9380 2889.

Unless a restricted audience or charge is specified, all the events/exhibitions listed here are free and open to all and may attract media interest.

## Tuesday 14 November

### LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY

Posters from the UWA Collection. Perth artist, designer and art writer, Philippa O'Brien, discusses her posters promoting aspects of The University of Western Australia's intellectual and cultural life from the 1960s to the early 1980s. 1PM, LWAG.

## Tuesday 21 November

### LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY

Pippa Lightfoot on the art of printmaking. In association with the exhibition of prints from etchings by Lionel Lindsay the Gallery presents a discussion of printmaking techniques by artist Pippa Lightfoot. 1pm, LWAG.

## Tuesday 28 November

### LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY

Collin O'Brien: theatre, memory and culture at UWA. Theatre director and former lecturer in English and Theatre Studies at UWA, Collin O'Brien talks about the vibrant culture of UWA during the 1960s and 70s, and its importance in the history of art, theatre, music and literature in Perth. 1pm, LWAG.

### DR GEORGE HONDROS MEMORIAL LECTURE

"Straightening the Leaning Tower of Pisa", Professor Mike Jamiołkowski, University of Torino, Italy. 5.30pm for 6pm start, LWAG.

## Election of General Staff to the Academic Board

In the recent election of two general staff to the Academic Board the successful candidates were:

Mrs Joan Rodrigues, Accommodation Planner, OFM, 1.1.2001 to 31.12.2002 and Mr Lance Maschmedt, Senior Technician, Physics 9.11.2000 to 31.12.2001

As of 1 January 2001, the membership of the Board in the General Staff category, in terms of Clause 2(l)(q) of Statute No. 19 will be those listed above, together with the current member in this category: Mr Garrick Hendy, International Office, 1.1.1999 to 31.12.2001

## Wednesday 29 November

### CENTRE FOR WATER RESEARCH/ENVIRONMENTAL DYNAMICS SEMINAR

"Site assessment and evaluation of soil vapour extraction and bioventing for a petroleum contaminated shallow aquifer in Korea", Kang-Kum Lee, Seoul National University, Korea. 4pm, Blakers Lecture Theatre.

## Friday 1 December

### STAWA (SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF WA)

Annual conference. "Future Science". Social Science Lecture Theatre. All day. (Supported by the Faculty of Science and the Royal Australian Chemistry Institute).

## Wednesday 6 December

### CHEMISTRY SEMINAR

"Selection for glycosidases with improved rates of transglycosylation from a library of phage displayed xylanases", Spencer Williams, University of British Columbia. 12 noon, White Lecture Theatre.

### CENTRE FOR WATER RESEARCH/ENVIRONMENTAL DYNAMICS SEMINAR

"The influence of Eastern Indian Ocean on Southwestern Australian rainfall", Nicola Telcik (postgraduate). 4pm, Blakers Lecture Theatre.

### CLASSICS AND ANCIENT HISTORY LECTURE

"The Arch of Constantine in Rome: a monument of Christian decadence?" Bryan Ward-Perkins, Trinity College, Oxford. 6.30pm, Murdoch Lecture Theatre.

## Sunday 17 December

### HANDEL'S MESSIAH

The University of Western Australia Choral Society and chamber orchestra are performing Handel's *Messiah* in the gothic surrounds and beautiful acoustics of Winthrop Hall at 6.30pm. Tickets are available from the Octagon Theatre on 9380 2440.

# Adult Dyslexic Research Panel

The Department of Psychology at The University of Western Australia is seeking

**adult dyslexics**  
and **proficient adult readers**  
to serve on a research panel.

Membership on this panel will involve occasional participation in studies conducted at the University. These studies will investigate visual, auditory, and language processing skills.

Panel members will be contributing to the advancement of current knowledge about the biological bases of reading difficulties. If you experience reading difficulties or have done so in the past please consider becoming a panel member. Adults with average or better reading abilities are able to respond to this invitation.

**If you are willing to become a panel member, or would like further information, please contact Lisa Gibson on 9380 3575 (9am to 5pm) or email [lisag@psy.uwa.edu.au](mailto:lisag@psy.uwa.edu.au).**



# Try shopping at the gallery

**“W**ith an apple I want to astonish Paris,” said impressionist painter Cezanne.

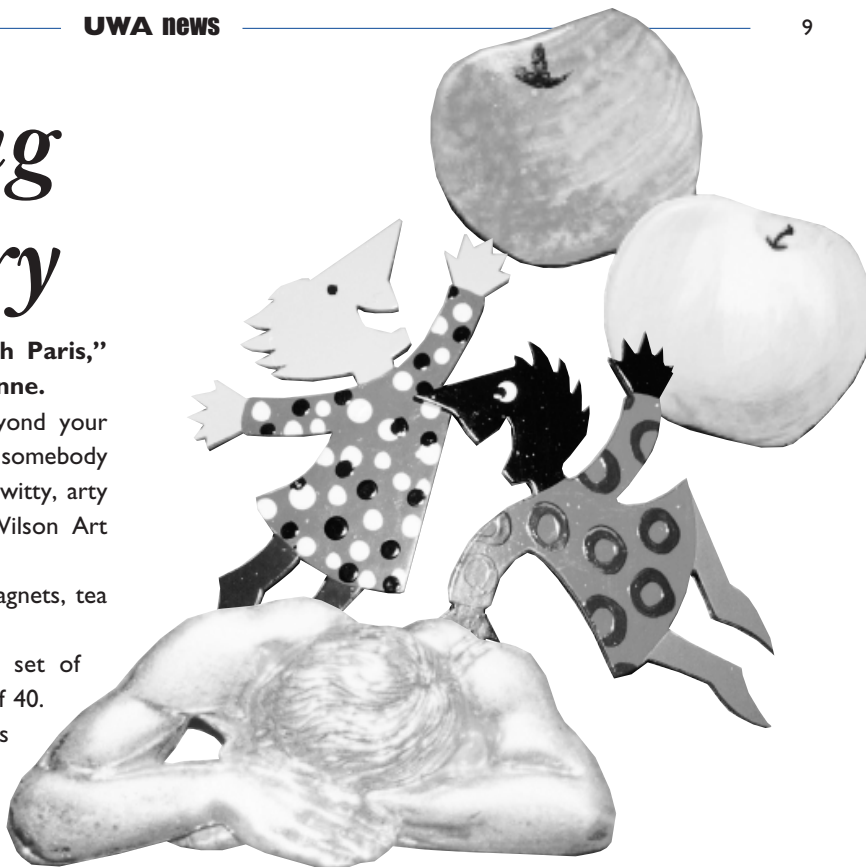
A Cezanne painting might be beyond your reach for Christmas but you could try astonishing somebody with a Cezanne apple brooch, one of a range of witty, arty brooches and other gifts from the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery.

As well as brooches, there are pens, fridge magnets, tea towels, mugs, soap, books and cards.

An inexpensive present for booklovers is a set of Lionel Lindsay bookplates, just \$7.70 for a pack of 40. And of course, there are bookmarks and postcards from \$1.35.

The staff at the Gallery are happy to gift-wrap your purchases, so make the most of shopping on campus, in a cool relaxed atmosphere.

And remember, the Gallery closes on December 17, to reopen on Friday February 9 next year, as it is being repainted over the summer.



Brooches and badges: Judy Horacek's Flying Women with Attitude (\$16.50), Cezanne's Apples (\$19.90) and Max Dupain's Sunbather (\$17.50)

## Christmas is coming ...



The Sunken Garden will next month echo to a kind of music not usually heard in its leafy surrounds.

A juke box is being brought in for the annual Vice-Chancellor's Christmas Party to add to the festive spirit. And this year there will also be a door prize (even though there are no doors in the Sunken Garden!)

The party will be on **Tuesday December 19, from 3.30pm**. All staff are invited, so mark it in your diaries now.



### Cards celebrate our campus

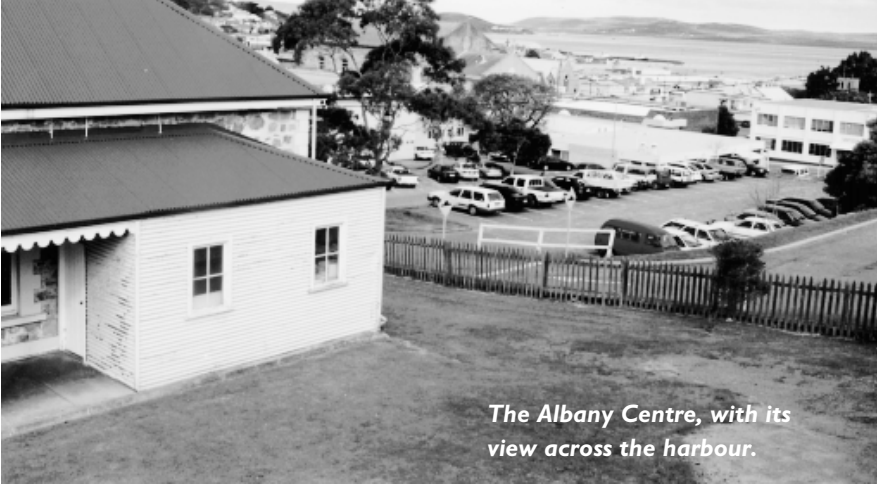
Four beautiful images of the UWA campus taken by leading local professional photographer Noel Holly have been turned into cards to celebrate the coming festive season.

Three of the cards have a simple greeting for Christmas and the New Year while one (the image of the graduates in the Sunken Garden) is blank.

These attractive cards can be ordered from Uniprint and can be overprinted with faculty or department details. **Phone Ray Horn at Uniprint on ext. 3624.**



# Premier gives Albany Centre the nod



*The Albany Centre, with its view across the harbour.*

**T**he University has been recognised by the Premier for the services its Albany Centre provides.

The Centre and the City of Albany, in a joint bid, were finalists in the Premier's Awards, in the category of Services to Remote and Rural Communities.

"All other finalists were state government departments running state-wide operations, so we did extremely well to be recognised among the top public sector initiatives in the state," said Dr Billie Giles-Corti, director of the Albany Centre.

She said more than 60 organisations had entered more than 160 applications, with just six finalists identified in each category.

"We were nominated by the City of Albany, which joined us in the nomination. I'm so pleased that the submission acknowledged all the efforts of all those who have contributed to

the establishment of the centre," Dr Giles-Corti said.

These include the Faculty of Arts Multimedia Centre, DUIT Multimedia, the library, the bookshop, the teaching staff, both in Perth and in Albany, Student Services and Prospective Students.

"It has truly been a whole University effort and a huge success for flexible delivery," she said.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Robson said: "As a University, we are delighted to be a finalist and it is good that we are being recognised for being at the cutting-edge of flexible delivery".

Another University finalist in the awards was a collaboration between UWA's Department of Public Health and Healthway. It was a finalist in the category of Quality Improvement, for the Healthway's evaluation program.

The program was designed by academic staff in the department.



## Students in court

**F**orensic science students were in court early this month . . . convincing barristers and a District Court judge that they knew their stuff.

The second class of forensic scientists about to complete their graduate diplomas recently presented their case studies in the Moot Courts in the Law School, in front of District Court Judge Shauna Deane, QC.

The 11 students each chose a specialist area of forensics, including soils, DNA, entomology, ballistics and anthropology. They had to expand on their case studies' scene-of-crime and forensic reports, present their own written reports, and prepare to give *evidence in chief* and be cross-examined by a team of volunteer barristers.

Dr Ian Dadour said the students were marked by the judge and the barristers on their demeanour, their accuracy and their impartiality.

Dr Dadour works closely with Professor Win Bailey, the director of the Forensic Science Unit, and Professor George Stewart, the Executive Dean of Science, who has a special interest in the area.

They are most appreciative of the barristers, Penelope Giles, Anne Sheehan, Ian Weldon, Bill Chesnutt, Paul Yovich and Darryl Carlson, as well as the Director of Public Prosecutions, for giving up their time to help the students.

"I think it was probably good for the barristers too, having the opportunity to experience both sides of the equation in court," Dr Dadour said. "Our thanks also goes to John Prior, the President of the Criminal Lawyers' Association, and Philip Eaton, President of the WA Bar Association, for helping us to organise the two-day court hearings."

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## Double honour for social worker

**E**meritus Professor Laksiri Jayasuriya is supposed to be retired. But at the rate he keeps working and publishing, nobody would know!

The long-serving staff member in the School of Social Work and Social Policy has recently been awarded two distinguished honours. Last month, he was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia and, hot on its heels, came a decision by the University of Colombo to confer upon him an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

The honorary degree is in recognition of the distinctive contribution he has made to social science scholarship in Sri Lanka, in particular in the field of social policy and as Foundation Professor of Sociology and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Colombo.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Deryck Schreuder, said recognition by one's peers was always especially rewarding.



## A All women on campus are now eligible for the highly successful Leadership Development for Women program.

For the first time, in 2001, LDW will be open to all female staff at UWA regardless of job classification levels.

In previous years, there was a requirement for general staff to be at level 5 or above. That requirement has now been removed.

The co-ordinator of the program, Jen de Vries, said that to best meet the needs of all eligible women, two separate programs would now be run in consecutive years.

In 2001, the program, Developing Personally and Professionally, will be best suited to those women who are keen to explore their leadership potential, while they are establishing themselves in their research, academic, administrative, technical or professional roles.

"Leadership within this context is focusing on the leadership that can be exercised within all levels of an organisation and is not dependent on a senior position," Ms de Vries said.

"The Leadership and Management program, to be run in 2002, will be best suited to women already in leadership roles who are focusing on developing and exercising their leadership in a broader.

"They are more likely to be taking major responsibility for projects or new initiatives, having a large degree of autonomy, managing teams, supervising others or participating in University-wide committees."

An all-staff email will go out next month, advising of dates for the program next year and a formal call for applications will go out in February.



## Early work pays off in bone research

**N**athan Pavlos (pictured left) has more than one reason to feel proud about winning the Roger Melick Award for the best young investigator of 2000.

The PhD student in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery has broken a tradition in winning the award from the Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society. All previous Roger Melick awards have gone to female students: Nathan is the first male winner.

And his supervisor, Associate Professor Ming-Hao Zheng, is proud of his achievement primarily because Nathan is only in the first year of his PhD research. He started his work only nine months ago and was competing for the award with second- and third-year postgraduate students.

Nathan's research centres on osteoclasts, the bone-resorbing cells that are responsible for the

development of osteoporosis and cancer-induced bone destruction. He is focused on looking at molecular mechanisms which mediate this process. Nathan has cloned two previously unpublished genes associated with vesicle transport in osteoclasts.

Earlier in the year, Associate Professor Zheng sent Nathan to see Professor Steve Teitelbaum, a leading pathologist and bone biologist, at Washington University.

"Steve is my mentor and I wanted him to help me start Nathan off on the right track. It looks like we've succeeded," Associate Professor Zheng said.

"He is proof of what you can achieve in less than one year. All the credit goes to Nathan. All I do is criticise him and push him and tell him that, when he feels stressed, to take a day off, but get right back to work. The only way you're going to relieve stress is to get the work done!"

# CLIMA clones another close encounter



*Dr Susan Barker (Plant Sciences) shows Hendy Cowan and Michael Rowe (Office of the Minister for Primary Industry) how to extract DNA from pea leaves.*

**I**t was back to lectures for an afternoon for Deputy Premier Hendy Cowan when he attended a UWA workshop on gene technology recently.

The Centre for Legumes in Mediterranean Agriculture (CLIMA) has been running several workshops on gene technology, in association with the Faculty of Agriculture, Agriculture WA and Murdoch University.

They aim to provide information to the public about the relatively new field of genetic engineering.

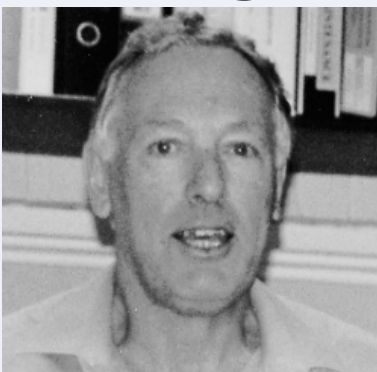
When the Deputy Premier heard about them, he decided to come to one, and bring staff members from his Ministry and the Ministry of Primary Industry and Fisheries.

The workshops focus on gene technology in plants, how the technology fits into agriculture and the challenges that face its use.

Sessions cover gene transfer technology — what it is, how it's done, current facts and future challenges — genetically modified crops and herbicide tolerance issues.

Mr Cowan and his staff also took part in a laboratory session, learning how to isolate DNA from a pea plant. The Deputy Premier's participation in the workshop comes hot on the heels of an extensive review by the State Government on gene technology regulation. Dexter Davies, a Member of the Legislative Council, also attended the workshop.

## The air-conditioning King!



**T**he University has won another international award — for the retro-fit of the campus' air-conditioning plant and other equipment.

The move has saved more than a million dollars and more than 13,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, over the past nine years.

John King (pictured left), senior technical officer (mechanical) will go to Atlanta, Georgia, in January to receive the award of second-place winner in the category of institutional buildings (existing) from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE).

It is the first time anybody in Australia has won an ASHRAE award in this category. They are the pinnacle of achievement for engineers in the industry worldwide.

Central plant technicians from the Office of Facilities Management, under the enthusiastic direction of John King, have completely turned around the energy consumption on campus. They won a state government award earlier in the year.

While he is away, Mr King will look at other universities' energy-saving initiatives in the US, and, hopefully, the UK and France.

# Student steals the scene

**A**bout 300 people gathered at the Octagon recently to hear two distinguished physicists discussing gravity and Einstein's theory.

But the star of the show turned out to be not the Nobel Laureate but a first-year science/engineering student, Jessica Sweeney, who was chosen to introduce the two giants in their field.

The 18-year-old was the only woman among the six winners of the Vice-Chancellor's Award of Distinction, at the beginning of the year, and the only one of the six who chose not to study law or medicine.

"I was surprised when I was asked but I felt very honoured and very excited — not daunted at all," she said.

Terri-ann White, executive officer of the Institute of Advanced Studies, which hosted the lecture, said she was astounded and impressed by Jessica's calm and poise, having to speak about Nobel prize winner Joseph Taylor, from Princeton University and his colleague Thibault Damour, from the Academie des Sciences in Paris.

"She coped beautifully with Thibault Damour's honorifics in French, and was not the slightest bit overwhelmed by her company. She was just brilliant," Ms White said.

Jessica, who has a passion for physics, said she had been given the speakers' CVs and some Internet references for them and had written her introductions from there.

"I had lunch with them the day of the lectures, and they were great, so that helped me to stay relaxed," she said.

The daughter of two school teachers, Jessica hopes to study more physics next year and will probably choose mechanical engineering.

After such an impressive debut, it's likely she will also be in demand elsewhere on campus.



*Jessica Sweeney  
... at home with  
the world's great  
physicists.*

*Hockeyroos' psychologist Corrine Reid reveals gold medal secrets at the conference.*

## Students' research out of the lab and onto the stage

**H**orses, quokkas, alcohol and anxiety . . . they all came under the microscope at UWA Psychology's *Coming Out*.

*Coming Out* is an annual event designed to showcase research by students in the department.

Psychology lecturer Dr Vance Locke said the department tried to encourage the skill of presenting research throughout the undergraduate years.

"Our third years conduct a group research project, in a newly implemented research course, which they are required to present to second-year students.

"And our fourth years complete an individual research project they present to third years and to a special, day-long honours conference attended by all the fourth-year students and staff.

"All this experience at presenting was obvious at the *Coming Out* conference which was very professional in tone and content," Dr Locke said.

The theme for the conference, held at City West function centre, was a progression from laboratory-based research to practice-oriented research. It was organised by eight postgraduate students, under the supervision of staff.

The award for best presentation went to Guy Curtis for his paper on "Why anxiety affects impression formation". Kathryn Bonney won the best poster award for "Can quokkas learn a configural discrimination task?"

Other highly commended presentations included "Are happy people really doomed to stereotype and sad people blessed not to?"; "Do horses have spatial abilities?" and "To drink AND not to drink? That is the question! Developing a new model of craving for alcohol."

*Coming Out's* keynote speaker was Corrine Reid, a practising clinical psychologist who was the team psychologist for the triple gold medal-winning Australian Olympic women's hockey team. She has been with the team since 1994 and spoke about the role of a psychologist in the team's success.

From all reports, *Coming Out* was a great success, with one staff member commenting that the students ate a week's worth of food in half an hour!

# Grants for Flexible Teaching and Learning

The Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning (CATL) has recently awarded Grants for Flexible Teaching and Learning across the University. Through the Grants, CATL aims to encourage and assist with the development and evaluation of faculty-based initiatives and to facilitate the effective University-wide application of skills and learning resources developed locally. CATL Grants seek to:

- improve the University's capacity for more flexible teaching and learning in order to cater for a more diverse student population;
- increase the satisfaction of staff and students with flexible teaching and learning programmes as well as learning material; and
- increase the knowledge and skills of UWA staff in the development of flexible teaching and learning environments.

In 2000, \$150,000 has been made available for *Implementation Grants* of up to \$50,000 each for the development of local initiatives with the potential to benefit the wider University teaching and learning community. An allocation of \$100,000 has been made to fund *Development Grants* of up to \$10,000 each to support academic staff in the development of flexible teaching and learning strategies in the units they teach.

The first round of CATL Grants attracted 29 applications from across the University, making the process fairly competitive. Following ranking of applications by faculties, the CATL Reference Group endeavoured to spread the grants evenly across the general discipline areas of:

- humanities and social sciences;
- biological sciences, including agriculture and medicine; and
- physical sciences, including engineering.

Grants awarded are listed below.

<b>Successful Implementation Grants</b>		
<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Project Leader/ Contact Person</b>	<b>Grant</b>
A UWA Database: an interdisciplinary endeavour between the Faculties of Agriculture, Arts and Science to create an interactive plant database	Dr Julie Plummer, Plant Sciences	\$49,300
Enhancing learning outcomes in an online environment: An exploratory study utilising WebCT across varying disciplines (Economics and Commerce, Education and Law) and Law	Ms Eileen Thompson, Economics and Commerce, Education	\$46,000
Broad-based on-line modules on the scientific method (Science)	Mrs Jan Dook, Science	\$50,000
<b>Successful Development Grants</b>		
<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Project Leader/ Contact Person</b>	<b>Grant</b>
Increasing students' confidence in Plant Science skills by catering for diversity (Agriculture)	Dr David Turner, Plant Sciences	\$9570
The development of a computer-assisted interactive teaching and learning tool for genetics (Agriculture)	Dr Anne Mathews, Plant Sciences	\$7700
Innovation and flexible learning in a New Medical Anthropology Unit: Combining the diverse needs and skills of students and teachers (Arts)	Dr Beverley McNamara, Anthropology	\$9698
The preparation and digitising of two units offered to students in the degrees of Bachelor of Environmental Design, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts, for the Forum of Faculty of Arts (Arts)	Prof Geoffrey London, Architecture and Fine Arts	\$9950
Proposal to pilot a web-based course in "culture and difference in Australian literature" (Arts)	Prof Dennis Haskell, English	\$10,000
Proposal for an online self-assessment project for first-year Chinese (Arts)	Dr Wang Yi, Asian Studies	\$7651
"Virtual" extension of the physical laboratory (Engineering and Mathematical Sciences)	Prof Mark Bush, Mechanical and Materials Engineering	\$10,000
Question databank for flexible learning in mathematics and statistics (Engineering and Mathematical Sciences)	Dr Berwin Turlach, Mathematics and Statistics	\$9989
Development of online Modified Essay Questions and case-based short answer questions (Medicine)	Dr Susan Prescott, Paediatrics	\$9590
Diagnosing skill: An online, multilevel observational system using case-based anchors (Science)	Dr Helen Parker, Human Movement and Exercise Science	\$10,000
<b>Further information about Grants for Flexible Teaching and Learning is available from CATL on ext. 1577 or <a href="mailto:dingram@catl.uwa.edu.au">dingram@catl.uwa.edu.au</a>.</b>		



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## THE NEW ADDRESS IS NOW

**35 Stirling Highway  
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All stationery should be changed or replaced as soon as possible.

## NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING OVER CHRISTMAS

Since UWA offices will be closed for two weeks over Christmas, newspaper advertising deadlines have been brought forward a couple of weeks. In order to avoid a last minute rush, please take account of the following dates:

*if you wish your ads to be  
published between*

**25 DECEMBER AND  
14 JANUARY**

**you must contact Joanna  
Thompson at the Publications  
Unit no later than**

**MONDAY 11 DECEMBER**



EDITOR/FEATURE STORY WRITER

**Lindy Brophy**

Tel.: 9380 2436 Fax: 9380 1192

Email: [lindy.brophy@uwa.edu.au](mailto:lindy.brophy@uwa.edu.au)

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**Colin Campbell-Fraser**

Tel.: 9380 2889 Fax: 9380 1020

Email: [cam@acs.uwa.edu.au](mailto:cam@acs.uwa.edu.au)

# Research Grants & Contracts

## AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES

**Miss G. Clune**, Anthropology: "An archaeological investigation of shell middens in the West Pilbara, WA" — \$3000.

## CRAWFORD FUND FOR INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE RESEARCH

**Prof K. Sivasithamparam**: (Fellowship) "Crawford Funding Training Fellowship".

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE

**Prof Max Kamien**, General Practice: "Primary Health Care research and development" — \$200,000.

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, VICTORIA

**Mrs Terri Pikora**, Public Health: "Consultancy services for the role of content researcher for the physical activity portfolio pilot" — \$24,035.

## FISHERIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**Dr Euan Harvey**, Botany: "Direct sensing the size and abundance of target and non-target fauna in Australian fisheries — a national workshop" — \$30,267.

**A/Prof Emilio Ghisalberti**, Chemistry and **Dr C. Chubb** and **Dr L. Glendenning** (external): "Chemoattraction and the development of an artificial bait for the Western Rock Lobster, *Panulirus Cygnus*" — \$89,360.

## GRDC (GRAINS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION)

**Mr Edward Lefroy**, CLIMA: "Lucerne intercropping for subsoil water management" — \$457,503.

**Dr Timothy Colmer**, Agriculture, and **Dr R. Islam** and **Dr T. Setter** (external): "Evaluation of salt and waterlogging tolerance in 'wild' relatives of wheat: a source of germplasm for stress tolerant cereals" — \$580,936.

**Dr P. White**, **Mr Timothy Pope** and **Dr K. Siddique**, CLIMA: "National faba bean improvement program (Western component)" — \$114,827.

## INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHER EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

**Dr Alexander Galybin**, Civil and Resource Engineering and **Dr S. Mukhamediev** (external): "Rock fracturing: nature and theory" — \$6800.

**Prof Mark Randolph**, Civil and Resource Engineering: "Behaviour of submerged skirted foundations under combined vertical, moment and horizontal loading" — \$45,200.

**Prof Jorg Imberger**, Environmental Engineering: "Transport, mixing and hydrobiology of salt wedge estuaries" — \$11,890.

**Prof Alexander Day**, Biochemistry: "Metal ion transport in nitrogen fixing legume nodules" — \$15,200.

**A/Prof Mark Adams** and **Dr Pauline Grierson**, Botany: "Roots and nutrient acquisition by trees using <sup>15</sup>N and <sup>13</sup>C to study individuals to ecosystems" — \$45,100.

**Dr Robert Stamps**, Physics: "Non-equilibrium processes in exchange coupled magnets" — \$20,900.

**Dr Michael Tobar**, Physics: "New microwave frequency standards for terrestrial and space applications" — \$44,600.

## LOTTERIES COMMISSION MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

**A/Prof Kevin Croft**, **Prof Lawrence Beilin**, **Dr Trevor Mori**, **Prof Ian Puddey** and **A/Prof Gerald Watts**, Medicine: "Liquid chromatography in trap mass spectrometer" — \$294,151.

**Dr Hugh Dawkins** and **Dr Kathryn Heel**, Surgery, and **A/Prof Jennet Harvey**, Pathology: "Optical Tweezer Unit for the Lotteries Laser Microdissection Facility" — \$108,000

**Dr Livia Hool**, Physiology: "Path clamp setup with the Department of Physiology" — \$101,806

## OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION OF INDIA

**Prof Mark Randolph**, Civil and Resource Engineering, and **Dr Hackmet Joer**, Offshore Foundation Systems: "Model testing for deep water foundation systems" — \$759,820.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### FOR SALE

TOWN HOUSE IN SCARBOROUGH, Mediterranean style, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, study area, courtyard with sails, full security, airconditioning, double garage, in whisper-quiet street opposite park. Near ocean, shops. Those interested and would like to inspect should call Chris Bursley 0417 930 517.

SUZUKI SIERRA 1990, 4WD, black, new soft-top, 120+km, very good condition, hassle free driving. Asking \$5800. Contact Krish 9380 7314 or email krisht@cylle.uwa.edu.au.

NISSAN PULSAR 1985 a/con, recond. engine 1994. Reliable and cheap to run. Suit student. 9316 4284 or kepertrm@primus.com.au.

TOYOTA COROLLA Sega Csi1993 Limited Edition. Only 59K kilometres, manual, p/s, a/c, immaculate condition, \$10,000 ono. Contact King Ngan at king@ee.uwa.edu.au.

TOYOTA CAMRY Csi 1998. New shape, low mileage, moonlight blue, with warranty, automatic, 4-door sedan, p/s, a/c, immaculate condition, \$19,500. Contact King Ngan at king@ee.uwa.edu.au.

### WANTED TO RENT

HOUSE WANTED FROM FEBRUARY 2001 for a newly appointed academic commencing work with the University. Young professional non-smoking couple with five-year old child. Would like fully self-contained accommodation at this stage and close to the campus and Nedlands Primary School. Period required would be negotiable but would prefer three months in the first instance. Enquiries would be very welcome and can be directed to hsjacob@sierra.net.

### FOR RENT

BASSENDEN, 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom cottage available for 6-12 months. Quiet street, close to extensive open space. \$150/week. Bond and references required. 9316 4284 or kepertrm@primus.com.au

BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED 3/4 BEDROOM, 2 bathroom fully equipped home. Ducted reverse cycle a/con, reticulated cottage garden. Walk to UWA, SCGH, river, café strip. Available 24 March to approx. 8 July, 2001. Call Phil 9386 6665 or 041 985 6922

## Redundant Equipment for Sale

ITEM	PRICE	AGE	COND.	CONTACT	EXT
6 x Desktop Mosman 486DX2 66MHz, 16MB.....	\$50	6	3	Adrian	3925
Desktop APPLE LCII.....	Offers	—	3	Adrian	3925
Desktop LC630.....	Offers	—	3	Adrian	3925
4 X IMAC G3-233Mhz, 64MB RAM, 4GB Hard Drive, MACOS 8.6, .....	\$900ono	—	2	Mark	1405
2 x Comdek 180/32/ 1Gb/Rom.....	\$400	4	2	Glenys	2920
Comdek 233/32/2/Rom.....	\$500	3	2	Glenys	2920
Comdek 233/32/2/Rom/Zip.....	\$525	3	2	Glenys	2920
Comdek 233/64/2/Rom/Zip.....	\$550	3	2	Glenys	2920
2 x Comdek 266/64/ 3Gb/Rom.....	\$650	2.5	2	Glenys	2920
Toshiba Notebook NB430c/133/Rom.....	\$850	5	2	Glenys	2920

### Bids should be accepted by Monday 11 December with departments to have first option

Departments are reminded that all University equipment available for sale must be advertised in the **UWA News**. Receipts should be PeopleSoft account coded 490 (computing with barcode), 491 (non-computing with barcode) or 493 (items with no barcode). If equipment has an existing barcode please contact extension 3618/2547 for details.

CONDITION refers to the general condition of item (1 = as new; 2 = good; 3 = serviceable; 4 = unserviceable). AGE refers to the nearest year.

I don't usually like emotive titles but when I was invited to do this 'Last Word' — soberingly the last Last Word for the year 2000 — I was asked to try not to be dull. Hence the somewhat melodramatic title (borrowed from Tom Peters) to introduce these thoughts on the planning and management of change at UWA.

The year 2000 has certainly been a year of major change, and 2001 promises even greater change. How we manage this period of change will, I believe, have a profound impact on the University.

The Operational Priorities Plan for 1999-2000 — 'Achieving International Excellence' — established a comprehensive agenda for the University's development, anchored to a clear reaffirmation of UWA's distinctive characteristics. As such it was firmly grounded in core values around which the University has built a strong institutional identity. This is a crucial element in successful planning. Change needs direction to sustain it. Planning that builds upon the past, is invariably the most effective, and the resultant changes are likely to be manageable, rather than disruptive.

You may recall that the OPP was launched under the banner 'ambitious and achievable'. Aspirations that are unrealistic and beyond an institution's capacity to deliver will lack credibility and damage morale. This is one of the problems the Australian higher education system is currently experiencing, largely as a result of the Commonwealth Government's failure to match its rhetoric about international competitiveness with credible policies or adequate resources.

By contrast, I believe the OPP has been very successful. The priorities, targets and implementation strategies were carefully and realistically established and, most importantly, have been backed up by explicit resource allocation strategies and decisions. We need to ensure our ambitions and our capacity to achieve them continue to keep sight of each other and that planning and budget decisions remain tightly linked.

The centrepiece of the OPP, and the major planning activity for 2000, has been the Academic Profile, which is essentially aimed at achieving international distinction in areas of comparative advantage. This is the nub of the strategy 'distinction or extinction', as the key to success in a highly competitive, international market.

The review program for 2001 is perhaps even more ambitious, including a major review of academic structures; a review of the University Budget; a new iteration of the OPP, for 2001-2002; and a series of efficiency reviews as part of an agenda of 'working smarter'. These will focus initially on three areas — the working of the committee system, the shape of the academic year, and the proliferation of units and exams.

I am particularly looking forward to the review of the committee system. It is

# Distinction

OR

# Extinction



**Mr Peter Curtis**  
Executive Director (Academic Services) and Registrar

not that I am against committees. They are an integral and valuable part of our collegial culture and at their best are a model of effective teamwork, vital in any organisation. At their worst,

however, they are costly and inefficient rituals which I think we are extraordinarily tolerant of in our otherwise strong performance-based culture. Having been involved for many years in the committee system, let me confess my own pet hate, which is the committee member who comes late to a meeting, instantly abandons the lifelong commitment to rational analysis and argument based on evidence, makes emphatic and largely unsubstantiated assertions on behalf of 'the campus', and then asks for a copy of the agenda (which must have got lost 'in the system')!

I am confident that we can improve our system to achieve a more effective blend of efficiency and collegiality, and in so doing reduce some of the workload associated with committees.

So how achievable is this ambitious program of reviews? A prerequisite for achieving it, I believe, is to appreciate its underlying purpose. There is a theory of organisational change that says effective change management requires a crisis. Well I think the higher education system is in crisis, due largely to the Commonwealth Government's policy neglect. It is also in a natural state of transformation, due to global economic, political, social and technological forces. The ability to survive and thrive in this environment will depend on our ability to adapt to and manage the changing environment. Institutions that do not face this and imagine they can just ride out this 'downturn' could well face extinction. And this is not as melodramatic as it might sound, as DETYA currently estimates that over a third of Australia's universities are facing bankruptcy.

So as daunting as this program of review and change may seem, the alternative — of doing nothing, and waiting for the crisis to pass — is far more daunting. We cannot afford to be helpless victims or innocent bystanders; we need to pursue an active strategy of institutional self-help. And if survival is for the fittest, I think we need to define it in terms of 'fitness for purpose', and hence distinctiveness.

So as I look forward to 2001 I am reminded of one of my favourite desk calendar quotes, "We are confronted by insurmountable opportunities". I like the blush of optimism this puts on the formidable challenges we face in managing the changes in our environment. And I am optimistic that we are up to it.

...the last word



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
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A B E L