

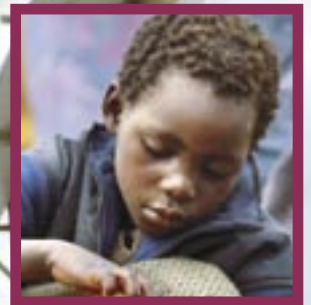


G R A D U A T E

CONTACT

AIRPOWER ROCKETS AHEAD

HyShot scientists
set UQ's scramjet
on course
for Mach 10



**History lesson
in Zimbabwe**

Diplomat treads
a tricky path



Welcome to the Winter 2006 *Graduate Contact*.

The previous edition of our magazine very much focused on the rapidly expanding international relationships of The University of Queensland, its alumni and its many friends and supporters.

Given this welcome state of affairs, this edition also includes many features about our graduates making a considerable mark on the world stage – and of course here at home.

Two of the stories see Arts graduates from different eras right in the middle of momentous events, with Jon Sheppard treading the diplomatic tightrope in troubled Zimbabwe (pages 4-5) and Helen Evans finding herself in the eye of Hurricane Katrina near the end of a difficult pregnancy (pages 6-8).

We also read about the amazing life of Veterinary Science graduate Beatrice Masschelein who, with her husband, has transformed Ingwelala, a 1400-hectare wildlife reserve about 300 kilometres north-west of Johannesburg in South Africa (pages 20-21).

There have been some new additions to the University leadership team under our Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC. Professor Stephen Walker has recently been appointed Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Physical Sciences and Architecture, and Keith Webster is the new University Librarian and Director of Learning Services. They are introduced on page 22.

Of course, Professor Hay himself passed a milestone recently when he completed a decade of wonderful service and achievements.

The University has prospered enormously under Professor Hay's astute leadership and its success in all areas is mirrored by the esteem that he is held in academic, government and business circles.

It would also be remiss of me not to express my warm appreciation to the University's Senate, the members of which were kind enough to in February unanimously re-elect me as Chancellor for the next three years.

Sir Llew Edwards, AC,
Chancellor

CONTACT

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FEATURES

4



DIPLOMATIC DECISIONS

A UQ graduate talks about life in the foreign service and his role as Australian Ambassador to Zimbabwe.

6



IN THE PATH OF KATRINA

A family's remarkable journey through one of the most deadly natural disasters in US history.

13



100 YEARS YOUNG

The last survivor of Sir Douglas Mawson's expeditions to Antarctica has celebrated his 100th birthday.

16



HIGH HOPES FOR HYSHOT™

HyShot™ III and IV have lifted off safely, raising hopes for the next generation of cheap air travel.

20



GAME FOR A CHALLENGE

A run-down cattle station in South Africa is now a conservation park for rare African big game animals.

23



TEACHERS ARE TOP OF CLASS

UQ has been recognised as the nation's top teaching institution, winning a third of the 2005 national teaching awards.

CONTENTS

REGULARS

10 Cutting Edge

12 Strategic Moves: Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC, wants to build a strong future for UQ.

14 Campus News

24 Alumni News

28 Graduations

30 Keep in Contact

COVER The HyShot IV scramjet payload on the launcher at the Woomera test range, with nose cone on, ready for launch



An Arts graduate offers advice for people contemplating a career in the diplomatic service and tells of his optimism despite the challenges of his posting in Zimbabwe.



A FOREIGN AFFAIR

BY CHRIS SAXBY

History teaches us to learn from those who have gone before. It is a political tool that Jon Sheppard first became passionate about during his UQ studies and it is his knowledge of history that has helped him as he has travelled around the world on a journey of diplomacy.

A 1966 Bachelor of Arts graduate majoring in history, Mr Sheppard was one of only 12 Australian graduates to be selected in 1967 to join the Federal Government's Department of External Affairs.

He has been Ambassador to Ethiopia (1985-87), Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (1992-95) and has served in Australian diplomatic missions in Thailand and South Africa.

But now, as Australian Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe, Mr Sheppard faces one of his greatest diplomatic challenges.

The Australian Government has been an outspoken critic of President Robert Mugabe's Government in Zimbabwe, and Mr Sheppard must represent those views in his dealings with his host country.

Mr Sheppard likened the current situation in Zimbabwe to a man-made disaster.

"It's as if a tsunami has hit the place – a tsunami called the Mugabe government. The economy has been destroyed while a small group of individuals has prospered. It's an intolerable situation," he said.

The government of Zimbabwe is faced with an unsustainable fiscal deficit, soaring inflation and bare shelves. The official exchange rate fell from 24 Zimbabwean dollars per US dollar in 1998 to 96,000 in mid-January 2006.

Zimbabwe was now in need of massive food aid, Mr Sheppard said.

"Almost half the population is now receiving food aid and Australia is one of those countries that have been generous in their assistance, mainly through the World Food Program but also through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)," he said.

"There are a lot of Australians working in NGOs so we are definitely not turning our back on Zimbabwe and I think the people of Zimbabwe know that."

Mr Sheppard said Australia had strong ties to Zimbabwe and it was his job to make people aware of this relationship.

"There are a lot of Zimbabweans that have come to live in Queensland and so I think that there are still strong community ties between the two countries," he said.

"People should maintain their awareness of what is happening in Zimbabwe and be prepared to help when they can.



“

I think the time is approaching when there will be a need and an opportunity to rehabilitate Zimbabwe and it will cut across all sectors of society — education, the economy and various social structures

”



From left: Mr Sheppard. PHOTO: Lyle Radford; Two children pick up rotten eggs from a heap of uncollected garbage in Mbare, a township southwest of Harare. PHOTO: AP Photo; Members of the National Constitutional Assembly march past a police post in Harare. PHOTO: AP Photo

“I think the time is approaching when there will be a need and an opportunity to rehabilitate Zimbabwe and it will cut across all sectors of society – education, the economy and various social structures.”

Mr Sheppard returned to UQ in March this year hoping to strengthen these community ties and raise awareness of the issues facing the Zimbabwean people.

“There are very courageous academics in Zimbabwe and they deserve all the support they can get,” he said.

During his tour of UQ’s St Lucia campus, the former St John’s College resident said he hardly recognised the University.

He also offered advice to UQ students wanting to follow in his diplomatic footsteps.

“Anybody who is looking in that direction probably needs a predilection for international relations and needs to be prepared to have a very flexible lifestyle,” he said.

“You have to have a strong interest in different cultures and peoples, and language ability also helps.

“Today, our focus is on Asia so knowledge of Asia and the people of Asia would be a step in the right direction but we take people from a variety of disciplines so it’s really about the personality and characteristics of the individual.”

Mr Sheppard has been Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe since July 2004. During his career with the foreign service he has headed several sections in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, dealing with disarmament, Southeast Asia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, Africa and human rights. He has specialised in two areas – the South Pacific and southern Africa.

Despite the dangers of living in Zimbabwe and the enormous diplomatic tasks facing Mr Sheppard, he said Zimbabwe had not been his most difficult posting.

“I was in Ethiopia during the Mengistu days, during the great famine of 1984-1985, and I think it was worse there. I’m optimistic on Zimbabwe and I like to think that it is not going to deteriorate too much further,” he said.

“I think there are enough people of good sense and good will in the country to turn this around. There are some wonderful people living there – people who are determined to stick out the bad times and work for a better day for the country, some very courageous people, including the political opposition.”

Mr Sheppard said working in Zimbabwe was intense and the country was a difficult place in which to live.

“Working and living in Zimbabwe is a challenge. It’s not your normal diplomatic posting in that we do not have

a close relationship with the Zimbabwean government,” he said.

“But we are there despite that fact as we have a very strong interest and concern for the welfare of the people of Zimbabwe and we maintain very good relations with civil society, with community groups and with the people of Zimbabwe who bear no hostility or animosity toward us.”

Mr Sheppard said the Australian Government felt that the Zimbabwean government had let its people down.

Due to its dire economic situation Zimbabwe has run out of foreign exchange. It can no longer purchase essentials.

“The staple of the people is maize meal and that is often very hard to come across so we spend a lot of our time hunting for the basic necessities of life that in Australia you would just be able to walk into a supermarket and buy,” Mr Sheppard said.

Mr Sheppard said he was proud to say that Australia had not given up on Zimbabwe and that there was still hope for change.

“I love the country and I volunteered to go there. It still has a lot going for it. It was a country that was equal in development and standards of living to South Africa, which makes it all the more tragic to see how it has been brought down, not by any natural disaster but by misgovernance and corruption,” he said. ■



“ Two hours later, the sky was black. The power went out and for the first time, emergency generators didn’t kick in. Telephone lines and cellphones died. Thick walls made the world outside an almost-silent movie ”



Brisbane-born Journalism graduate Helen Evans was starting to relax. A problem pregnancy was almost over and, while another hurricane was on the way, this time it was not considered a threat.

CRUEL BLOW

BY HELEN EVANS

Hurricane Katrina was the one we didn't have to worry about. She was going to bounce off Florida and fizzle out at sea. Seven months pregnant in the midst of the most active Atlantic hurricane season on record, I was happy to believe that.

But the morning of August 29, 2005, found us crowded in the dark, stifling hospital on Keesler Air Force base in Mississippi, with the Gulf of Mexico swirling against the walls outside. Katrina would become one of the most deadly natural disasters in US history and we were right in the middle of it.

Hurricane Katrina took everyone by surprise. Living on the Gulf Coast for years, in New Orleans and then Biloxi, hurricane evacuations were a late summer ritual. We'd fled Isadore, Lili, Ivan and Dennis, to name a few – scrambling for supplies, collecting treasures and deciding what we could bear to lose. Other times we'd stuck it out. We spent one hurricane eve drinking dizzying, cherry-laced Hurricanes on Bourbon Street, and another

post-storm afternoon wading, miserable and sweaty, along footpaths flooded shin-deep. But Katrina was different.

The evacuation order came on a hot Friday night, as our baby shower was drawing to a close. I was almost 33 weeks through a high-risk pregnancy, my first, and the party was a welcome break from a parade of hospital appointments and anxiety.

Now, as the sense of urgency set in, we bundled the baby gifts in plastic and stowed them on the highest shelves with diaries, treasured baseball cards and the vintage Persian rug. We dragged the outdoor furniture into the living room and topped our suitcases with wedding photos, microwave meals and finance files. We loaded the car and shuffled our cats through the yowling pet shelter queue at the sandbagged gym.

Our assigned evacuation point was the Base hospital, where my husband Nathan was a doctor. With two-foot-thick concrete walls built to withstand assaults both natural and human-made, it was the safest place around. ►

CRUEL BLOW (from previous page)

The night before the storm was almost cheerful, but people distracted themselves from an undercurrent of anxiety with video games and DVDs. When we woke on our air mattress the next morning, trees swayed against a grey but mild sky.

Two hours later, the sky was black. The power went out and for the first time, emergency generators didn't kick in. Telephone lines and cellphones died. Thick walls made the world outside an almost-silent movie. People poured out of inky stairwells. Hurricane-resistant windows cracked above, and floodwaters rose from the basement. Even 1969's Hurricane Camille, which devastated Biloxi and killed 256 people, had not flooded this hospital.

Now, below a second-floor window, a four-wheel-drive floated in muddy water and an orange industrial bin bobbed like a bath toy. Refugees from the lower floors had seen the emergency generators destroyed, and the Emergency Room, pharmacy, obstetrics unit and clinics under water.

Nathan and I shared a claustrophobic office with our friends and their baby daughter. Hours and days dragged by and blurred together. The air was heavy and, at night, so black it hurt our eyes. We heard

the surgeons had performed an emergency c-section by torchlight in a hastily scrubbed-down Operating Room. The patient was 33 weeks pregnant, like me. I lay on the air mattress too hot to move, willing our baby to be safe.

Hallways were crowded with mattresses, suitcases, coolers and sleeping bodies. We took turns using torches and prised open the fixed windows with scissors, looking for air. The floors were slick with grey-water footprints and the overtaxed bathrooms stopped working.

We swapped Pringles and chocolate chip cookies – anything that wasn't turning bad in the melted ice of our coolers. Huddles exchanged "ifs" and "I-heards" with the urgency that comes from knowing nothing. We were completely cut off.

Through the eastern windows of the hospital, we saw matchstick trees on a rise and a tract of abandoned Air Force housing pounded by the storm. A barrel-chested man, shirtless and barefoot, clambered among the debris. There was no way to reach him.

"Our house is gone," I said, and Nathan nodded. It didn't hurt as much as I thought it would. I cried for our cats though. I was sure they were dead.

On Wednesday night the Air Force ordered the evacuation of high-risk patients to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Thirty pregnant women and their families were bussed through debris-strewn streets to the runway and strapped to medevac stretchers in a C-17 military plane. The C-17 is a behemoth – grey, cavernous, windowless, the kind used to airlift wounded troops out of Iraq. When we took off, it didn't occur to me that I wouldn't be coming home.

Nathan stayed behind – no one knew how many doctors might be needed in the coming days. In San Antonio I was taken to the maternity ward for monitoring. When Nathan's parents arrived from Dallas I watched CNN and for the first time realised the magnitude of what we'd lived through. I saw the coast of Mississippi flattened, and our beloved New Orleans, where we'd lived

for three years and where I'd worked until a month earlier, under water and in chaos.

Nathan reached our house. The 34-foot storm surge that destroyed cities along the gulf had also taken large parts of the Air Force housing estate with it.

Our area was miraculously spared and our black cats survived to punish us for their ordeal. But our lives would be turned upside down. Nathan's medical residency program was abruptly closed. With the hospital in ruins, doctors had to scramble for positions at military bases all over the country, sight unseen. We had no idea where we'd live, nor if we'd make it there before the baby arrived.

Our lives hung in limbo for days before the Air Force gave us orders to relocate to McChord Air Force Base in Washington. Three days after arriving, we got the keys to a house on the base.

That night, I went into labour. Our daughter Adelaide was born the next morning, five weeks early and startlingly tiny. She spent eight harrowing days in the neonatal intensive care unit – but we were together, and we were okay.

Six months later I still have nightmares. I dream of fires and floods, elaborate escape plans from unknown peril, of strangers arriving to tell me my family is dead. But I wake up. Thousands upon thousands are still living their worst nightmares.

The survivors still hold out hope of finding loved ones, and cities deal with grief for the thousands dead and missing. So many are homeless still, scattered across the country, living in tent cities, hotel rooms and emergency trailer parks, on borrowed time as the aid turns to a trickle. Many will never go home.

We are learning to call a new place home. We live in the Pacific Northwest now, just south of Seattle. We've been wrapped in the kindness of strangers and the rush of new parenthood, and we've had our eyes opened by a fierce dose of perspective.

The storm blew us clear to the other end of the country, where we'll never need to run from hurricanes. But no matter how far from the Gulf we are, we'll never forget Katrina. ■



Above: Nathan, Helen and Adelaide.
Main photo: post-Katrina





A science graduate is using satellites to monitor the impact of climate change. And as she explains, environmental science is sometimes more like rocket science.

SEEING THE WOOD AND THE TREES

BY SHIRLEY GLAISTER

PhD graduate Dr Joanne Nightingale works in a real growth area. Her research, funded by NASA through the Oregon State University, analyses the features and growth rate of a massive 165.8 million hectares of forest across the US with help from space.

Dr Nightingale is examining the impact of global climate change on the productivity and diversity of tree species. Her findings will be used to nut out future policies protecting endangered species and moderating climate change.

Even though she is a postdoctoral research fellow in the university's College of Forestry, Dr Nightingale is based at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada, working with close collaborators on the project.

"I use data from NASA's MODIS (MODerate Imaging Spectro-radiometer) satellite to access information on different types of forest such as deciduous versus evergreen stands, the greenness and health of the vegetation, leaf area, how much photosynthetically active radiation is being absorbed by canopies, monthly gross primary production and annual net primary production," she said.

"This data is then fed into my computer model. I spend a lot of my time analysing results from model simulations."

Dr Nightingale completed her Bachelor of Science with Honours and PhD through the Department of Geographical Sciences and Planning at UQ.

"During this time, I was fortunate to have Associate Professor Stuart Phinn as my mentor. Stuart and the Biophysical Remote Sensing Group (now CRSSIS Centre for Remote Sensing and Spatial Information Science) provided me with the guidance, support and resources including financial and academic links with other researchers within Australia I needed to complete my degrees," she said.

"During my PhD, I spent a year working at CSIRO Land and Water in Canberra with some of Stuart's colleagues and obtained additional research funding through the Cooperative Research Centre for Greenhouse Accounting.

"These funds enabled me to complete my fieldwork in the tropical rainforests of north Queensland and attend and present my PhD research at several national and international conferences and workshops. I was also able to attend the American Geophysical Union conference in North America in December 2003, which led to me securing my current position."

Queenslander, Dr Nightingale, said she recommended working overseas – in her spare time she enjoys many mountain

activities including skiing, snowshoeing, hiking and canoeing as well as a sports including kickboxing and karate.

"I'd like to work as a research scientist in the field of forest and global climate change modelling, at NASA or another US government agency or university," she said.

"Doing a PhD at UQ gave me the skills needed to conduct research in an area that I find not only fascinating but mentally stimulating and enjoyable. Were it not for the guidance and encouragement of Stuart, and my two supervisors, Dr Michael Hill from the Bureau of Rural Sciences and Alex Held from CSIRO Land and Water, I would not have the opportunities available to me that I take advantage of today." ■

“These funds enabled me to complete my fieldwork in the tropical rainforests of north Queensland and attend and present my PhD research at several national and international conferences and workshops”

CHIPS OFF OLD BLOCK

Microchips could help captive zoo animals share many of the experiences of their wild relatives.

UQ scientists are developing an enrichment and husbandry system that can dispense food, toys and medicine depending on the needs of individually microchipped animals.

Lead researcher, UQ Gatton PhD student Julia Hoy, said microchips were linked with scanners and other automated equipment that zoo keepers could set to release items at random, with the unpredictability helping enrich caged life.

"The automated system involves microchipping animals so when they come to a scanner it will recognise each animal and then release food, sounds, smells, medications, toys or open a door controlling access to various parts of the enclosure," Ms Hoy said.

"This has great potential for improving welfare, which in turn increases breeding rates and possibilities for reintroduction to the wild."

University of Southern Queensland researchers Mark Dunn and Professor John Billingsley are helping develop the enrichment system.

Ms Hoy has surveyed zoo staff about using the system with captive mammals but believes it will work with a wider range of animals.

She said the idea for the system stemmed from her honours project when she filmed 11 squirrel monkeys at Alma Park Zoo, north of Brisbane, for six months.

Their diet of peeled and chopped fruit and vegetables, which was regularly placed on feeding platforms, was replaced with whole, unpeeled food that was hidden to increase their activity.

"They basically couldn't even peel a banana when we first gave them whole food," Ms Hoy said.



Ms Hoy with the squirrel monkeys at Alma Park Zoo

"Some of the older monkeys who had never eaten whole food began biting the keepers because they had to work hard for their food."

Ms Hoy visited and surveyed 19 zoos in the UK, the US and Singapore in 2005 for her survey of the limitations of current enrichment programs.

She is visiting and surveying a further 10 zoos in Australia and New Zealand this year.



Dr Baldock (left) and Mr Guard

TSUNAMI MODELLED

A new tsunami impact model developed at UQ will help emergency response teams develop an action plan for when the next big wave hits.

The mathematical model, developed by Dr Tom Baldock, PhD student Paul Guard and Associate Professor Peter Nielsen from UQ's Coastal Engineering Group, can predict the initial run-up and impact as the first waves hit the coast.

The model represents a significant leap forward from classical tsunami impact research based on non-breaking waves, those that are offshore and break as they steepen in shallow water.

Studying the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami, the researchers realised that conventional non-breaking wave models were not suitable for describing the leading breaking waves.

Dr Baldock said the new research could calculate the motion of the leading edge of the breaking wave run-up on dry land, together with the flow depth and flow velocities in the inland region.

"The model can help with planning for a tsunami event by providing estimates of inundation depths, the force exerted by the water on structures and forces on debris that may be picked up and carried in the flow," he said.

Dr Baldock said the new model only required information about water depths at the original shoreline location.

POWER STRUGGLE

UQ engineers are investigating ways to strengthen high-voltage electricity transmission towers to minimise damage from summer storms and prevent multi-million dollar replacement bills and industry losses from power outages.

Downbursts – intense wind fields created when a strong downdraft collides with the ground and diverges – are responsible for most of the severe winds during storms in Southeast Queensland.

UQ Engineering PhD candidate Michael Chay and his supervisor Dr Faris Albermani said towers were not built to withstand downbursts, which also destabilise transmission lines.

The researchers have built a mathematical model to test overseas downburst data and will collect local downburst data.



Dr Albermani (left) and Mr Chay



PARTING SHOTS

The fear of needles may one day be a thing of the past thanks to a major funding injection for UQ's Professor Mark Kendall.

Professor Kendall recently won a three-year Queensland Government Smart State Senior Fellowship, gaining \$300,000 to research how nanotechnology can replace syringes in administering therapeutics.

His work could see needles replaced with tiny "nano patches" on the skin.

"There is an explosion of designer drugs requiring precise delivery to specific locations in the skin and we are producing new delivery methods that are practical and needle-free," Professor Kendall said.

"We are targeting immunologically sensitive cells to produce improved immune responses in the treatment of major diseases such as HIV, malaria and allergies.

"This has enormous potential, including for the delivery of cheap and more effective vaccinations in the developing world."



Professor Kendall

WHALE OF A TIME

UQ researchers have discovered singing male whales spend more quality time with females who may be using the male's song as the basis for mate choice.

The researchers, UQ PhD student Joshua Smith, his supervisor, whale expert Dr Michael Noad from UQ's School of Veterinary Science, and volunteers have tracked whales off Peregian Beach, on Queensland's Sunshine Coast.

The UQ team has been observing and recording the whales for the past three years as the whales migrate south from their breeding inside the Great Barrier Reef.

Scientists had suspected that whale

songs were used for female attraction and male repulsion, but the UQ team was the first to provide a range of evidence linking songs to courtship.

"Songs appear to be directed more towards females possibly as a courtship and mating display rather than a signal to warn off or repel rival males," Mr Smith said.

The research is part of the Humpback Acoustic Research Collaboration project funded by the US Office of Naval Research and the Australian Defence Science and Technology Organisation.

WILDFLOWER WISDOM



UQ researchers believe Western Queensland wildflowers could boost the growth of Outback tourism and water-wise urban gardens.

Dr Margaret Johnston and Dr Dion Harrison from the Centre for Native Floriculture (CNF) at UQ Gatton collected seeds of floricultural species from more than 50 sites during a recent Western Queensland field trip.

"Some of the species have huge potential for development as potted colour species and will encourage botanical tourism in Western Queensland, including the Western Hardwoods region," Dr Johnston said.

"The species also have promise as water-efficient garden plants and cut flowers, and our further research will examine this potential."

Dr Johnston and Dr Harrison joined Jenny Milson, an expert on Rangeland species in Western Queensland, and David Loch from the Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries on the trip to Longreach, Winton, Boulia, Mt Isa, Bedourie, Birdsville and Windorah.

They examined plants growing in the wild and collected those with strong genetic traits for their breeding programs.

"There is amazing genetic diversity and a surprising abundance of colourful plants in Western Queensland," Dr Johnston said.

"Some of them rival the better-known species of Western Australia.

"One of our centre's aims is to minimise the impact of wildflower and foliage harvesting from Queensland's native forests, so that future generations can enjoy their beauty.

"Our next steps will include scientifically evaluating the newly-collected species and conducting trials in the Centre's tissue culture lab and greenhouses."

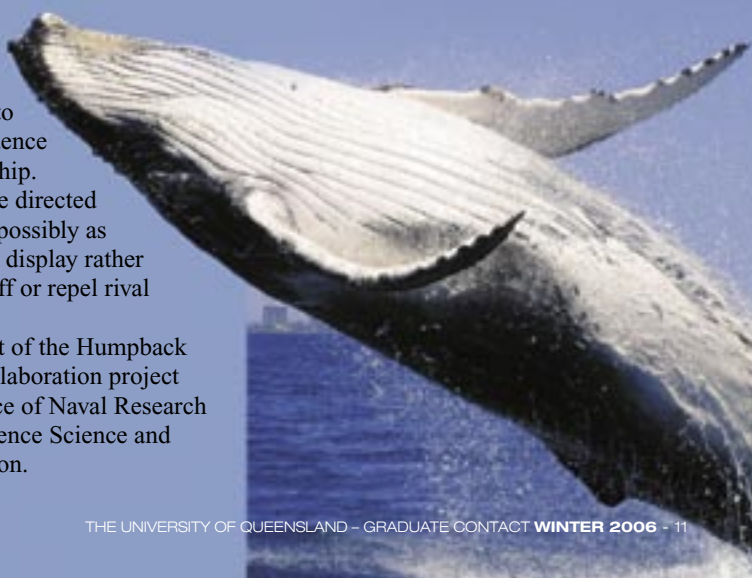
The CNF was established at UQ Gatton in 2003, with financial support provided from the Queensland Department of State Development, Trade and Innovation and UQ.



Drs Harrison (left) and Johnston collect seeds in Western Queensland



PHOTO: Joshua Smith



CHALLENGES MET WITH STRENGTH

BY VICE-CHANCELLOR
PROFESSOR JOHN HAY, AC



The University's strategic partnerships with government, business, other institutions and private citizens are a solid platform from which to meet future challenges. Excellent track records in teaching and research, along with the high quality of UQ alumni, have been instrumental in attracting support and collaboration from these partners.

UQ will uphold its tradition of success, but in a dynamic and competitive environment we can no longer rely on all of the ways of the past. Instead, we must continually re-evaluate how well we serve students, potential students, staff, graduates, our partners and employers, and how we contribute to the State, national and international communities.

The force for change has many sources. Increasingly, students and potential students have an expanding choice of study and career options, but they also face rising costs for a university education. Commonwealth funding is shrinking as a share of university income (from approximately 50 percent of UQ's income in the late 1990s to less than 40 percent now) and voluntary student unionism is squeezing services that many consider to be integral to a full campus lifestyle.

Recent changes to Commonwealth legislation have ushered private overseas universities into the Australian market. The affluent Pittsburgh-based Carnegie Mellon is establishing a base in Adelaide this year and students of private and overseas institutions can access Commonwealth loan assistance. International online courses are on the rise, and vocational education

and training is increasingly finding favour with students and governments. As well, the Commonwealth has reappraised its methods for allocating research funds.

Nobody should assume the era of change will end here. The challenges for UQ will continue to amass, requiring innovation across the spectrum of UQ business.

UQ's people – students, staff and alumni – are our best insurance against future threats and our surest asset for capitalising on new opportunities. A wonderful example is Professor Ian Frazer, the 2006 Australian of the Year, who along with the late Dr Jian Zhou, pioneered a cervical cancer vaccine which will revolutionise women's health worldwide.

Professor Frazer and Dr Zhou are representative of an outstanding community of researchers, who consistently place UQ among the leading three or four Australian universities for research funding. Their work also exemplifies the enormous potential of research when commercialised. UniQuest, UQ's original commercialisation company, licensed the vaccine to CSL, which on-licensed it to Merck. The vaccine is due to begin reaching women in the developed world this year.

IMBcom, the Institute for Molecular Bioscience's commercialisation company, and JKTech, the Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Resource Centre company, also succeed in marketing UQ ingenuity worldwide.

A tremendous strength for UQ is our teachers, who lead Australia. This is proven by their repeated domination of

“ we must continually re-evaluate how well we serve students, potential students, staff, graduates, our partners and employers, and how we contribute to the State, national and international communities ”

national awards, most recently the 2005 Australian Awards for University Teaching. UQ teachers won a third of these awards, and their excellence was rewarded in the apportioning of the Australian Government Learning and Teaching Performance Fund. The \$10 million secured will be reinvested to ensure continued learning and teaching excellence.

The many other foundations for a strong future include robust relationships with investors such as The Atlantic Philanthropies and the Queensland Government. These have generated prolific growth in cultural and research infrastructure, and built up critical mass in our research community.

An unbroken chain of excellent graduates will remain one of UQ's great advantages. The University, schools and faculties have a renewed commitment to improving recognition of past students and future graduates, as part of a determination to continually enhance the UQ experience and take the institution from strength to strength. ■

Right: Dr Howard at his desk during his time at UQ

Far right: Dr Howard (front, foreground) and members of the 1929-1931 Mawson expedition to Antarctica. Sir Douglas Mawson is pictured front right wearing a light-coloured cap



MEMORIES FROZEN IN TIME

BY CHRIS SAXBY

A scientist and UQ graduate with a lifetime of anecdotes and a long record of service to the University recently celebrated his 100th birthday with former colleagues.

UQ held a birthday party in April for the last survivor of Sir Douglas Mawson's expeditions to Antarctica.

Friends and former colleagues keen to hear about Dr Alf Howard's, AM, amazing life attended the 100th birthday celebrations on April 26 at the St Lucia campus.

The educator and adventurer worked as a research fellow in UQ's School of Human Movement Studies (HMS), where he designed computer programs.

Dr Howard, who turned 100 on April 30, said he got a kick out of helping students with their projects.

"I've always thought that the University needed support from the public," he said.

In 2000, Dr Howard was named Senior Australian of the Year for his service to science through Antarctic exploration.

In 1968, he completed a PhD at UQ on the psychology of food preference. After retirement in 1971, he returned to the University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts with honours in linguistics at the age of 72, before joining HMS in 1978. He retired from UQ in late 2003.

Head of the School of Human Movement Studies Professor Doune Macdonald described him as a "living treasure".

"We are indebted to Alf for his patient and committed service," she said.

"Alf worked with us full-time without pay for more than 20 years as an honorary research fellow – a perfect staff member whose position is still vacant."

Dr Howard was part of the Antarctic expedition from 1929 to 1931 when Sir Douglas claimed 42 percent of Antarctica as Australian territory.

"Our expedition accomplished a lot. We collected an enormous amount of data considering the limited means at our disposal and we opened a lot of doors," he said.

"But I think our greatest achievement lay in pointing to areas where research

was inadequate or non-existent, such as determining exact Antarctic currents."

Dr Howard was the chemist on the expeditions, analysing the seawater and looking for micro-organisms.

He remembered conditions during Sir Douglas' expeditions being pleasant despite the barriers of ice.

"The conditions weren't too bad. We spent most of the time on the ship and had plenty of warm clothing," he said.

"There was very heavy ice on the first part of the expedition so we weren't able to get to the coast until right at the end when the ice started moving out."

Since his first trip in 1929, Dr Howard has been back to what has become a home away from home so many times he has lost count – he believes it to be around seven. ■



Dr Howard celebrates his 100th birthday

CAMPUS NEWS



LOCAL ISSUES BOIL

A new era in community engagement began in March at the UQ Ipswich campus with the official opening of the refurbished UQ Boilerhouse by Ipswich Mayor Cr Paul Pisasale.

The Challinor Centre's former engine room has been transformed into contemporary offices and community meeting space as part of the University's ongoing commitment to community engagement and collaboration.

Partly funded by Bremer Business Park, Swanbank Enterprise Park, Bendigo Bank and Ipswich City Council, the redevelopment project was a collaboration between the Ipswich community, corporate partners and the University,

Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Rix said the refurbishment marked a new era in community collaboration for the Ipswich campus.



CUSTOMISING NEW ROOF

A stylish glass roof is the centrepiece of the newly refurbished Customs House Restaurant in Brisbane's CBD.

The outside dining area of the UQ-owned historical landmark has been transformed with the split-level Riverside Terrace making way for an architecturally pleasing one-level restaurant.

Place Planning and Design designed the roof, which was built by T.P. Turner Pty Ltd. Architect Robert Riddel acted as heritage consultant and UQ's Property and Facilities Division coordinated the project.

Customs House Director Lyn Black said the refurbishment was specifically designed so as not to detract from the cultural significance of the historic building.



Professor Fotheringham and Madame Liu Fei

CHINESE BOOKS

A generous donation of books from the Brisbane Consulate of the People's Republic of China has further strengthened links between the country and UQ.

In February Consul and Head of Mission Madame Liu Fei presented 320 books covering topics including Chinese language, history, culture and customs to UQ's Institute of Modern Languages (IML).

IML Director Georgiana Poulter said she was grateful to the Consulate, which opened in Brisbane in July 2005, for the generous donation.

The IML is Queensland's leading language services provider offering courses in 30 languages. It is also one of Australia's most comprehensive translation and interpreting services.

"Chinese is the fastest growing language at IML in terms of enrolments so the books are a great addition to our collection," Ms Poulter said.

"Our students range from people who are doing business with China, to the children of migrants who can speak Chinese but want to develop their reading and writing skills."

"These books are providing students with an extra insight into Chinese culture, customs and society."

ACE BASE FOR TENNIS

Queensland's most promising tennis players are now based at the St Lucia campus after UQ's selection as home to the State's new National High Performance Academy.

The Academy is located at the UQ Tennis Centre and brings together the State's leading junior players for high level coaching and development.

Tennis Queensland chose UQ on the strength of its tennis centre and access to sports science, gym and athletics facilities.

UQ SPORT Director Kim Guerin said the choice highlighted the UQ's capacity to deliver high performance programs.

"It utilises our collective resources to deliver a total high performance package specifically in the areas of facilities, coaching and sports science," she said.



CHANCELLOR RETURNED

Sir Llew Edwards, AC, was unanimously re-elected as Chancellor by UQ's governing Senate in February.

He is the 12th Chancellor in the Senate's 96-year history and was re-elected for three years.

Sir Llew, a Senate member since 1984, and Chancellor since 1993, is a distinguished graduate of the University (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) and a former Deputy Premier and Treasurer of Queensland.

He was awarded a Knight Bachelor in 1984 for his services to the people of Queensland, a Companion of the Order of Australia in 1989 for his services to the people of Australia, and was Queenslander of the Year in 1988 after his leadership of World Expo 88.

AUSTRALIAN HONOURS

Professor Paul Greenfield, UQ's Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and Dr Peter Isdale, Chief Executive of UQ's commercialisation company for the Institute for Molecular Bioscience, were honoured in the Australia Day 2006 awards.

Professor Greenfield was appointed as an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia for service to science and engineering, particularly through research in the areas of chemical engineering, biotechnology, wastewater and environmental management, and to the tertiary education sector.

Professor Greenfield, who came to UQ as a lecturer in chemical engineering in the mid-1970s, said being part of the incredible growth of the University had been a highlight of his work.

Dr Isdale was appointed as a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia for service to marine science through research and as a contributor to

the development and commercialisation of biotechnology.

"This honour really comes from being able to stand on the shoulders of giants in my career as a marine scientist and more recently in the area of commercialising research," Dr Isdale said.

Other UQ staff honoured included Professor Robin Mortimer (School of Medicine, Central Clinical Division); Professor Klaus Bremhorst (School of Engineering); Dr Jennifer Smyth (School of Dentistry); Emeritus Professor Terrence Freer (School of Dentistry); Associate Professor Daryl Wall (School of Medicine, Southern Clinical Division); University sculptor Rhyl Hinwood (for service to the arts); and Dr John Baker (Rockhampton Rural Clinical Division).



Professor Greenfield (left) and Dr Isdale at the ceremony

CELEBRATING A DECADE

Professor John Hay, AC, celebrated a decade as UQ Vice-Chancellor in January.

Under his leadership, the University has advanced to second position nationally for total competitive research funding and has become Australia's most successful university in winning and being shortlisted for national university teaching awards.

Professor Hay has led the development of many major new research centres including those in molecular bioscience, supercomputing, biomaterials and nanotechnology, brain research and sustainable mining.

He also established the new Mayne Centre Art Gallery and Australia's first national collection of artists' self-portraits. Professor Hay's fundraising has led to projects worth almost \$500 million.

In late 2003 Professor Hay was appointed Chair of *Universitas 21*, a consortium of comprehensive, research-intensive international universities.

He is currently Chair of the Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education.

In 2003 he was awarded a Centenary Medal for contributions to Australian higher education.

In January 2004 Professor Hay was made a Companion in the Order of Australia in the Australia Day Honours list.

SHAKESPEARE SCHOLAR

A new international position for leading Shakespeare academics has been created by UQ in memory of a man whose vision will shine the global limelight on Queensland and Australia in July.

UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC, said the Lloyd Davis Memorial Visiting Professorship would draw a major world scholar to UQ each year.

Associate Professor Lloyd Davis of the School of English, Media Studies and Art History died last year before his dream of hosting the VIII World Shakespeare Congress was realised.

UQ will host the World Shakespeare Congress at Brisbane City Hall from July 16 to 21.

The Congress will focus on the ways in which the Bard's stories emerged from Elizabethan England and have been reinterpreted over the past 400 years in many different countries, languages and cultures worldwide.

"Dr Davis and our Executive Dean of Arts, Professor Richard Fotheringham, achieved a coup in securing the VIII World Shakespeare Congress for Brisbane," Professor Hay said.



Professor Fotheringham (front) at the launch of the VIII World Shakespeare Congress. PHOTO: Giulio Saggini, *The Courier-Mail*

HIGH ACHIEVER





Opposite page: the scramjet and rockets on the UQ launcher at Woomera. Clockwise from top left: Master of Philosophy student Samantha Coras attaches the UQ logo to the rocket fin before take-off; PhD student Dillon Hunt and the HyShot™ IV scramjet payload before launch; Professor Paull; and (from left) Dillon Hunt, Tim Stotler from DTI Associates Inc. and Professor Paull attaching the HyShot™ III payload to the Terrier-Orion rocket combination.



“ We are working at the known limits of science but we know that 99 percent of our payload and most systems operated fine ”

Two HyShot™ experiments have been launched in the South Australian desert, from where **Jan King** reported on the implications for the future of the aerospace industry.

The University of Queensland-led HyShot™ III and IV scramjet experiments lifted safely into flight on March 25 and 30.

The two flights, which aimed to test two different engine configurations at speeds of up to 8000km/hour, have furthered UQ's reputation as a pioneer of this new technology.

HyShot™ program leader Professor Allan Paull said the \$2 million HyShot™ III experiment used a scramjet engine developed by UK company, QinetiQ while the \$1.3 million HyShot™ IV experiment was a commission from the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA).

Preliminary analysis from HyShot™ III indicated the data “looked good” and compared with data already captured in ground test facilities.

“The spin rate was higher than expected but the experiment was designed to handle the consequences of this and we know we achieved combustion,” Professor Paull said.

“HyShot™ IV was successfully launched but it appears we didn't get scramjet data as the nose cone did not blow off.

“We are determined to find out what happened and are analysing data before the next launch, which will target Mach 10, or about 11,000km/hour.

“We are working at the known limits of science but we know that 99 percent of our payload and most systems operated fine.”

Professor Paull said the HyShot™ program in UQ's Centre for Hypersonics was negotiating with an international partner on an ongoing series of 10 experimental flights, with the ultimate goal of a free-flying scramjet-powered vehicle.

Following the March flights, an \$8.5 million partnership in scramjet development was also announced between UQ, the Queensland Government and Boeing.

The partnership will allow UQ to build advanced scramjet prototypes and undertake prolonged flight tests at speeds of more than Mach 8, or 8000km/hour. The Alliance also includes UQ contributions and an Australian Research Council Discovery grant.

JAXA has donated a \$2 million advanced rocket launcher to the University for scientific purposes, which made the HyShot™ III and HyShot™ IV experiments possible.

UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor David Siddle said Queensland was poised to be the home of an exciting new aerospace industry based on the University's successful HyShot™ program.

Scramjets (supersonic combustion ramjets) are being touted as the next

generation of cheap travel, allowing the possibility of launching communications satellites more cheaply or to travel between one side of the planet and the other in a few hours. They inhale oxygen from the atmosphere to burn their fuel, rather than carrying oxidisers in their tanks.

While conventional jet engines can travel at 800km/hour, the experiments were conducted at 10 times that speed to correlate ground test measurements.

UQ is an international leader in scramjet research, achieving combustion in these engines in flight for the first time anywhere in the world in 2002. In 1993, UQ was the first group to achieve scramjet ‘flight’ in a ground test facility.

A contingent of 90 people was involved in the 2006 Defence-managed trials, including personnel from the Directorate of Trials, and the Aerospace Operational Support Group Range Operations Branch.

UQ HyShot™ team members include Professor Paull, his brother Dr Ross Paull, Dr Hans Alesi, Associate Professor Michael Smart, Myles Frost, Lisa Jensen, Chieko Kuramoto, Joe Gisa and postgraduate students Dillon Hunt, Mark Bateup, Rainer Kirchhartz and Samantha Coras. An additional postgraduate student from Germany, Thomas Jaszra, observed at the launches. ■

How walking can help fight Motor Neurone Disease



Motor Neurone Disease is an insidious condition that slowly destroys a person's ability to control their own muscles.

This debilitating brain disorder leads to loss of mobility, speech and finally the ability to breathe.

Because there is no cure or effective treatment for MND, leading Queensland businessman Mr Ross Maclean established an MND research fund at the Queensland Brain Institute. Support the Ross Maclean Fellowship today by making a donation or sponsoring participants in a forthcoming trek to the Kokoda Track.

Help fight MND

For information about the Kokoda trek fundraiser or how to support the Ross Maclean Foundation in other ways, please call the number below.

Queensland Brain Institute

Telephone (07) 3346 7543
www.qbi.uq.edu.au



THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

ST LUCIA IPSWICH GATTON



Professor Frazer receives his award from Prime Minister John Howard. PHOTO: Andrew Campbell

MODEST SCIENTIST IS THE EVERYWHERE MAN

Scientific success has translated to much wider recognition for UQ's man of the moment Professor Ian Frazer.

Professor Ian Frazer has found himself at the centre of intense national and international scrutiny this year – and has even been called “God’s Gift to Women” on the cover of one magazine,

Professor Frazer, Director of UQ’s Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research (CICR), has barely been out of the headlines because of his work in developing a vaccine for cervical cancer, which is expected to be available in the developed world in 2006.

He has been on the cover of many national and international newspapers and magazines and has conducted numerous radio and TV interviews.

In January the modest scientist was named as *The Australian* newspaper’s Australian of the Year alongside Professor Barry Marshall and Dr Robin Warren who received the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 2005 for their research on stomach ulcers. Then on Australia Day Professor Frazer was named Australian of the Year, receiving his award from Prime Minister John Howard at Parliament House in Canberra.

Professor Frazer is using the profile gained from the award to help ensure his cancer vaccine reaches those who need it most – women and girls living in poverty.

“My late coinventor, Dr Jian Zhou, also chose to be an Australian citizen

and it saddens me that I cannot share this award with him,” Professor Frazer said.

Professor Frazer and Dr Zhou made a discovery at UQ more than 15 years ago that led to the development of the vaccine.

Dr Zhou died aged 42 in 1999 before he could share the joy of seeing the vaccine brought to market.

Professor Frazer said Australia and other developed nations had effective Pap smear programs to reduce the incidence of cervical cancer.

“Despite this, cervical cancer continues to be a shocking disease for women in the developed world,” Professor Frazer said.

“Women living in poverty in the developing world, where Pap smears are not widely available, account for most of the 280,000 deaths from cervical cancer each year.

“So this vaccine has the potential to do most good in the developing world, where it could help lift women out of poverty by relieving the burden of disease.”

In February, Professor Frazer announced that the technology used in the cancer vaccine would be tweaked to fight the most common sexually transmitted disease, genital warts and launched a therapeutic vaccine trial.

And in April Professor Frazer was awarded the inaugural \$1.25 million Smart State Premier’s Fellowship. UQ will match the Fellowship with further funding, bringing it to a total package in excess of \$2.5 million over five years.

In June this year Professor Frazer shared the prestigious Cancer Research Institute’s 2006 William B. Coley Award for Distinguished Research in Tumour Immunology with Dr Harald zur Hausen, the man who first linked human papilloma to cervical cancer in the 1970s. ■

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

BY SUSANNE SCHICK

UQ Agribusiness graduate Henrik Christiansen is Business Development Manager with Brisbane-based firm The Harvest Company, a division of OneHarvest, a pioneer in the fresh and prepared food markets.

The company developed innovative business models and products such as the Personal seedless watermelon, Calypso™ mangoes and fresh cut fruit, and was one of the first to introduce consumers to ready-to-eat, fresh-cut salads in 1995.

"My role is diverse, I am involved in managing upstream and downstream supply chain partners across our product lines, as well as new business development," Mr Christiansen said.

"These partners include variety providers, research and development providers, growers, packaging and technology providers, logistic service providers and customer channels.

"I started at Harvest straight out of University. After some initial grounding in the business, I was thrown into the development of new product lines – one month I was living in Kununurra in Western Australia, the next, I was in Childers for the harvest of our first Calypso mango crop."

Mr Christiansen graduated from the Bachelor of Business (Agribusiness) (now known as Bachelor of Agribusiness) in 1999.

"Studying Agribusiness at UQ offered an excellent grounding for my future

career. The course was not all theory and lecture rooms – there was a lot of interaction with industry leaders from the first semester on. The course is closely aligned with the direction of the industry and the teaching staff are knowledgeable, practical and thought provoking," he said.

"The overseas commercial market development trip in the final year was a highlight, pulling together the theory and knowledge gained over the previous years, and giving us a chance to experience the practical applications of what we had learned."

Mr Christiansen's role spans the country and export markets, including travel to all corners of Australia and also working with next-generation products from global development companies. He is also responsible for business development, expansion of supply chain, creating new business models and constantly improving company operations.

"The food industry is so diverse; the product range is vast, there are many growing regions, varying business models, customers and personalities. The growth in the fresh food business is amazing, there is always something new going on. There is an exciting future in the fresh food sector with consolidation, vertical integration, with further value-adding, organics and export all on the radar," he said. ■

Personal seedless watermelon and the delightful Calypso™ mango are just some of the fruitful developments of an agribusiness graduate now turning his mind to tasty treats.



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Dr Masschelein. PHOTOS: Linda Ambrecht

A UQ-trained veterinarian and her husband are realising a dream in the wilds of South Africa.

BY MIGUEL HOLLAND



A darted giraffe with the capture team

BIG GAME BREEDING NO WALK IN THE PARK

Beatrice Masschelein knows it is time to wake when she hears monkeys clambering on the roof or ostriches scratching around outside the house.

It is part of life at Ingwelala, a 1400-hectare wildlife reserve about 300 kilometres north-west of Johannesburg.

Dr Masschelein, a UQ Veterinary Science graduate from 2003, and Mr Fisher, a retired pilot and farmer, realised a lifelong dream in 1999 when they bought Ingwelala.

In six years they transformed a tired cattle station into a conservation park supplying breeding stock to other zoos and reserves to prevent inbreeding of increasingly rare African big game animals.

“My husband was retiring and this was basically his dream in life,” Dr Masschelein said.

Ingwelala was mountainous with thorny acacia thickets and savannah grasslands home to many wild animals such as baboons, porcupines, aardvark, pangolin (an anteater resembling an armadillo), ostriches, warthogs, bush pigs, snakes and leopard tortoises.

Dr Masschelein and Mr Fisher added and bred a range of rare antelope and other animals such as giraffe, zebras, impala, wildebeest, leopards and some cheetah and rhino.

When the Australians first arrived at the park they struggled with the local dialects and were locked out of their empty house.

“It was like landing on Mars. The Caucasians spoke Afrikaans and the black Africans spoke Tswana and Afrikaans,” Dr Masschelein said.

“The property was bare with rusted gates. Frank couldn’t open the lock to the house yard and so he slept in the back of the bakkie (ute) the first night.

“The next morning there were leopard spoor and baboon spoor on the ground surrounding the bakkie.

“The fencing contractor was amazed that he would do such a thing when baboons and leopards were everywhere.”

Mr Fisher worked on the property with three staff. Dr Masschelein worked in a vet clinic in nearby Thabazimbi during the week and had weekends at the farm.



Dr Masschelein's wildlife mentor Dr Schack (front left) and his capture team, roping the giraffe onto the "chariot" to be transported to the removal van



Holding a leopard tortoise. PHOTO: Frank Fisher

“It’s quite an accomplishment for my husband and I because I feel that the ecology of this area is not suited to cattle production. It does show that you can do anything you set your mind to. Vet sciences has so many facets you can get into”

She said running a game park meant there was always work to do.

“The day starts with seeing to my horses and then the men set off to check boundary fences for breaches, snares and on antipoaching parties,” Dr Masschelein said.

“Roads have to be constantly maintained for fire breaks, aardvark holes and downed tree branches. Tractors have to be maintained there’s never nothing to do.”

Dr Masschelein said she loved the variety of work at Ingwelala and was proud of its transformation.

“It’s so multi-faceted and all the infectious diseases we get to see and treat, are really quite a challenge,” she said.

“We get to deal with African horse sickness and a range of infectious diseases spread by insects.

“It’s quite an accomplishment for my husband and I because I feel that the ecology of this area is not suited to cattle production.

“It does show that you can do anything you set your mind to. Veterinary sciences

has so many facets you can get into.”

During massive floods in June 2000, 101 animals were added to Ingwelala including giraffe and a small herd of big antelope called Eland.

Fences had to be taken down to let the huge trucks carrying the giraffe through.

But the trucks got bogged and a bulldozer had to be used to tow them over a mountain to let the giraffe taste freedom, albeit bogged to their knees.

In December, a helicopter was used to move a male and several young cows because there were too many male giraffe roaming the park.

“In nature they would fight to the death and thereby limit their numbers – but that would not make sense commercially,” Dr Masschelein said.

Dr Masschelein was stalked by a leopard while following a rare antelope around the park on foot.

Armed with a rifle she barely knew how to use, she heard a leopard shadowing her as she walked into a thicket.

As the big cat closed in, Dr Masschelein uncocked the rifle and ran, eventually smashing her knee on a rock.

“I fell into a hole and I was sprawled over the ground with the gun out of my hand. It was hideous,” she said.

“It taught me a great lesson that you just simply do not run when you’re pursued – but it’s hard when your natural instincts take over.”

Not content with their success at Ingwelala, which they are negotiating to sell to a developer to split up the land for smaller private conservation uses, Dr Masschelein and Mr Fisher are now involved in a new challenge.

“Ingwelala is a fascinating ecology and Frank and I are hoping to do it all again with a neighbouring farm,” Dr Masschelein said.

“We will expand into rhino this time. White rhino are bulk grazers and there are extensive areas of grassland on this farm.

“Black rhino are more rare but are too aggressive, as are Cape Buffalo. You simply cannot walk around with them.

“Our new farm has also been horribly overgrazed with years of cattle ranching. It’s time to set things right and bring the ecology back.” ■

APPOINTMENTS



From left: Professor Walker; Mr Webster. PHOTO: courtesy Victoria University of Wellington; and Professor Wainwright

ENGINEERING EXECUTIVE

Engineers, planners and architects can expect to be in demand for some time yet, according to the new Head of UQ's Faculty of Engineering, Physical Sciences and Architecture (EPSA).

EPSA's new Executive Dean, Professor Stephen Walker, said graduates in these fields were needed to provide the expertise to underpin Australia's continued growth, including the booming Southeast Queensland region.

"EPSA is well positioned for further growth from a strong base and I will do what I can to enable that growth and to encourage it to attract further engagement from the wider community with its teaching and research," Professor Walker said.

As a physicist and mathematician, Professor Walker has worked as a research scientist, senior manager and mostly as a coastal oceanographic modeller.

He spent the past five years in Canberra as the Australian Research Council's Executive Director for Engineering and Environmental Sciences and acted as their Chief Executive Officer for much of 2004.

Professor Walker said UQ's high-quality teaching, research, international standing and the Sunshine State lured him north.

LIBRARY LEADER

The rapidly expanding role of the UQ Library in the sphere of student learning will be reflected in the title of the organisation's newly-appointed leader.

Keith Webster, most recently University Librarian at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and previously Head of Information Policy at Her Majesty's Treasury, London, has been appointed as University Librarian and Director of Learning Services.

Mr Webster will maintain responsibility for 13 libraries across the University with

more than two million volumes, 11,289 print journals and 29,551 electronic journals, 864 networked databases, 358,161 electronic books, 29,915 videos and other extensive collections.

UQ's Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC, welcomed Mr Webster and thanked Acting University Librarian Mary Lyons.

Mr Webster said he was keen to further develop the ways in which the Library supported world-class teaching and research.

"I'm looking forward to joining one of the most outstanding research libraries in Australia," Mr Webster said.

"With the role of university libraries becoming ever wider in the life of universities, I am keen to ensure that the Library is catering for and providing the necessary support to all students and staff."

Mr Webster said libraries were no longer places that just loaned books.

"They are centres of knowledge, knowledge that is communicated in many forms, including print, electronic and human interaction," he said.

"I hope to expand on this flexible approach to learning."

BIOSCIENCE BOSS

Professor Brandon Wainwright has been named Acting Director of UQ's Institute for Molecular Bioscience (IMB).

Professor Wainwright's appointment followed the resignation in December of Professor John Mattick to concentrate on his research, for which he was awarded a prestigious Federation Fellowship by the Australian Research Council.

Professor Wainwright was previously the Deputy Director (Research) and has been with the IMB since its foundation in 2000.

Professor John Hancock, Head of the IMB's Division of Molecular Cell Biology, has replaced Professor Wainwright as Deputy Director (Research).



Dr Rodger (centre) with Fieldwork Manager Katie Ward

TOP-FLI

UQ stood out in the 2005 Australian Awards for University Teaching (AAUT), winning one third of all awards available and more than one third of Federal funds for excellence in teaching and learning.

The annual awards highlighted how the University's lecturers devised innovative and unique approaches to teaching, including overcoming the nationwide problem of expanding class sizes and addressing the shortage of healthcare professionals, particularly occupational therapists.

UQ won four of the 12 awards in the categories of Physical Sciences (\$40,000); Teaching Large First Year Classes (\$50,000); Enhancement of the Quality of Teaching and Learning (\$50,000); and Approaches to Improving/Enhancing Assessment (\$50,000).





(left) and Clinical Educator Heather Allison



Dr Bulmer with Biomedical student Emma-Kate Lock

IGHT TEACHERS

It also received \$10.424 million of the total \$30 million given to five universities nationally in the top band of higher education providers in the Federal Government's Learning and Teaching Performance Fund.

In the AAUT's **Approaches to Improving/Enhancing Assessment** category academics from UQ's School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences were rewarded with \$50,000 for their efforts to increase the skills of occupational therapists.

Head of UQ's Occupational Therapy Division Dr Sylvia Rodger said there was a growing demand for occupational therapists that would only increase due to Australia's ageing population.

The UQ team was rewarded for developing the Student Placement Evaluation Form, which is able to deliver feedback to the students at various points throughout their compulsory fieldwork placements.

In the AAUT's **Teaching Large First Year Classes** category UQ won the award

for its Integrated Approach to Teaching First Year Psychology Courses. The project is designed to provide a "soft landing" into the University setting, according to senior lecturer Dr Virginia Slaughter.

Each year more than 800 students enrol in first year psychology courses at UQ but the unique approach adopted by the School of Psychology ensures these students receive one-on-one attention and individualised feedback on their work.

Dr Michael Bulmer, who won the \$40,000 AAUT in the **Physical Sciences** category, said his Statistics course for first-year Biology students attracted about 600 to 700 students each year.

He said one of the challenges of the course was to teach statistics to students who had a science rather than a mathematical background.

"Science is a very creative discipline. But the first year science program is very much about memorising information, so I try and keep creativity alive in the statistics course," he said.

The innovative Project Centred Curriculum (PCC) initiative in UQ's School of Engineering won an AAUT in the category of **Enhancement of the Quality of Teaching and Learning**.

The chemical engineering PCC was the first of its kind in Australia and centres around an integrated central spine of team projects where students undertake work experience, requiring interaction with peer and professional networks. ■



From left: AAUT winners Associate Professor Caroline Crosthwaite, Dr Slaughter, Dr Bulmer and Dr Rodger with Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Michael Keniger. PHOTO: Andrew Campbell

LEARNING ROLES REAP REWARDS

Some of UQ's exceptional teachers were rewarded during the University's fourth Teaching and Learning Week in October.

The *UQ Awards for Excellence in Teaching, Research Higher Degree Supervision and Enhancement of Student Learning* recognised nine individual winners and two group winners.

Awards for Excellence in Teaching (\$10,000 each): Dr Peter Sutton School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering; Dr Claire Aland (School of Biomedical Sciences); Dr Nancy Pachana (School of Psychology); Dr Judith Seaboyer (School of English, Media Studies and Art History); and Associate Professor Catherine Turner (School of Nursing).

Awards for the Enhancement of Student Learning (\$20,000 each): Dr Elizabeth McGraw (project leader), *The Advanced Study Program in Science... enhancing the science experience at UQ* (Faculty of Biological and Chemical Sciences; Faculty of Engineering, Physical Sciences and Architecture); and Dr Catherine Manathunga (project leader), *Research Student [Virtual] Portfolio (RSVP™): a tool for student and advisor development* (TEDI; Graduate School; School of Engineering; School of Medicine).

Awards for Excellence in Research Higher Degree Supervision (\$10,000 each): Dr Donald Cameron (School of Natural and Rural Systems Management); Professor Jürg Keller (Advanced Wastewater Management Centre); Professor Hugh Possingham (School of Integrative Biology); and Associate Professor Janet Wiles (School of Psychology and School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering).

Professor Nurcombe
(back left) and
Dr Cool in the
A*STAR Laboratory



GRADUATES MAKE LASTING IMPRESSION ON ASIAN ADVANCEMENT

UQ graduates are helping bring about major changes in the daily lives of people in Singapore and Thailand, as reporter **Miguel Holland** found on a visit to Asia for graduation celebrations in 2005.

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING

A large contingent of UQ alumni from around the world is expected in Brisbane in September for the Australian Universities International Alumni Convention 2006.

Many of the Universities' international alumni presidents will attend the bi-annual convention, which is being held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre from September 13 to 15.

The University is an event organiser in collaboration with other Queensland universities, the Queensland Government, the Brisbane City Council, the Malaysian Government and other private organisations and professional associations.

Professor Kevin Clements, Director of the Australian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at UQ, will be among the speakers at the convention, which is expected to attract 500 Australian alumni from around the world.

Information: www.auiac2006.org

Sugars accelerate natural body repairs

Two UQ biochemists are leading the world in wound and bone repair from Singapore.

Professor Victor Nurcombe and Dr Simon Cool are compiling a library of sugars in our bodies they believe will lead to improved human tissue and bone repair.

The Brisbane duo are the joint principal investigators and managers of the Stem Cell and Tissue Repair Laboratory at A*STAR — Singapore's top government science and technology agency.

A*STAR is the centrepiece of the country's strategy to be a biomedical leader to counter its small size and lack of exports.

Professor Nurcombe and Dr Cool were seconded to Singapore two years ago to set up and run a "bench to bedside" stem cell laboratory.

Stem cells are the "mothers" of all human cells until they are directed to grow an organ, skin, muscle or bone.

Adult muscles, intestinal tracts and skin have healthy reserves of stem cells because of their high "wear-and-tear" while major organs such as the heart, brain and kidneys have almost none.

Stem cells can be used to heal sick organs, but usually grow slowly so there is a need to harvest them more quickly, efficiently and in a more pure form.

Professor Nurcombe and Dr Cool have overcome the tricky process of growing pure stem cells in their laboratory, a first in itself, and done so in half the time of conventional laboratory methods by coupling growth-promoting proteins to receptors on the stem cell surface.

Professor Nurcombe and Dr Cool hope to have a therapeutic device or a pharmaceutical drug ready for human testing before their five year contracts end.

SOCIAL WORK'S SILVER

Queensland Governor Quentin Bryce, AC, shared stories of her time as a UQ lecturer when she was guest speaker at a Brisbane dinner celebrating 50 years of social work education at the University in March.

Ms Bryce delighted past students and staff with stories of UQ and of her students, many of whom were present.

The evening provided an entertaining look back over the history of social work education at UQ, from its beginnings as the Diploma and Degree of Social Studies with 10 students to its present state and the multi-disciplinary, multi-campus, and multi-program School in which it operates.

"It was wonderful to have so many of our graduates and former colleagues attend the celebration. To see such support from our Alumni and friends was fantastic," said Associate Professor Jill Wilson, Head of the School of Social Work and Applied Human Sciences.

A highlight was the announcement of a new research scholarship program.

Anne Stretten presented a cheque of \$50,000 towards the program to Dr Wilson on behalf of her mother Emeritus Professor Edna Chamberlain.

Appointed Head of Department in 1973 and foundation Professor of Social Work in 1974, Emeritus Professor Chamberlain was the first woman appointed as professor in the field in Australia.



Mr Johnstone

Planner's career means a life spent in transit

From Thailand to Cairo, transport planner Len Johnstone has given the green light to projects around the globe.

The UQ civil engineering graduate works as a Senior Transport Planner with Tokyo-based engineering consultants Pacific Consultants International.

Governments and transport companies hire him to predict and evaluate new transport methods and recommend the best use of public money.

He uses mathematical models and computer software to forecast passenger numbers and traffic movements and analyse transport and traffic problems.

One of his biggest projects so far has been Bangkok's SkyTrain – an elevated railway carrying about 350,000 passengers a day.

"We were involved in the ridership forecasts which then led into the financial analysis packages," Mr Johnstone said.

He is updating Bangkok's road and rail master plan which aims to build about 200 kilometres of elevated and underground rail.



Mr Tan

Singapore alumni court captains of industry

UQ's Singapore Alumni Association is pursuing more links with employers and industry leaders.

Career seminars for employers and alumni are planned to boost UQ's presence in Singapore, according to Alumni President Frankie Tan.

Mr Tan said the seminars were designed to raise employer awareness of UQ, help graduates market themselves and identify the next captains of industry.

Mr Tan is a Master of Laws graduate from UQ who became Alumni President in 2004.

He enrolled for the Master's program while working as the Managing Partner of Tan Leng Cheo and Partners, certified public accountants.

He said he was looking to further develop the UQ brand in Singapore.

"The Association has been going steady but not as aggressive in pushing its profile as it should be," Mr Tan said.

"We have networking nights whenever we can so people can engage and reach out to the younger graduates."



Mr Ezar

Malaysian Alumni invest in business of fun

UQ's alumni members in Malaysia are a sporty lot. If they're not out go-karting or in the thick of paintball, they're playing indoor soccer or golf.

The UQ Alumni Association of Malaysia President Dato' Nik Ezar even hosts quarterly dinners at his home, cooking for some of the 220 members.

Mr Ezar is Executive Chair of Malaysia's publicly listed property developer — Prime Utilities Berhad.

2005 was his first year as President of the Alumni Association but he has been involved since the group started in 1993.

He has a Bachelor of Arts with majors in economics and accounting from UQ.

"We think it's a very good way for us to catch up with old friends and also networking for business and mingling around with all the other universities from Australia and Malaysia," Mr Ezar said.

"We have an annual general meeting where we invite some of the prominent alumni to give a speech."

The speaker will often talk about a subject nominated as issue of the year.

She was Dean of the Faculty of Social Work from July 1975 to August 1976, and again from January 1983 until June 1986.

Professor Chamberlain's contribution to social work education and community service was recognised by awards of Member of the Order of Australia in 1988 and an Honorary Doctorate from UQ in 1995.

A number of events are planned to commemorate the anniversary. Information: www.uq.edu.au/swahs or telephone 07 3365 2068.

From left: Former Executive Dean Professor Linda Rosenman; Ms Bryce; Ms Stretton; Executive Dean Deborah Terry; and Head of the School of Social Work and Applied Human Sciences Associate Professor Jill Wilson



BACK TO GATTON

The UQ Gatton annual reunion for past students, known as the Back to College weekend, will be held from December 2 to 3.

While the feature years will be 1956, 1961, 1966, 1976, 1981, 1986 and 1996, all past students and staff are welcome to attend the annual event.

Association President Graham McClymont said more people attended each year to meet up with old friends and remember the good times they had at the campus.

"In 2005 there were 250 people register for the weekend including a large number of former staff," Mr McClymont said.

"We expect there will be even more former staff attending the lunch on Saturday this year."

Many past students stay for the weekend activities including dinner on the Saturday night, overnight accommodation in the halls of residence and breakfast in

the dining hall on Sunday morning.

The weekend includes bus and walking tours of the campus and a tour along the heritage walk.

Information: contact Graham McClymont on 07 3378 0201 or g.mcclymont@bigpond.com, uqgatonpsa@uqg.uq.edu.au or go to www.uq.edu.au/gatton/paststudents



Past Gatton students (clockwise from top): College athletics team (1956), College polocross team (1977), and the Royal Queensland Show display (1993)

ALUMNI CALENDAR OF EVENTS JULY - DECEMBER 2006

Unless otherwise indicated, further information is available from Keiran Hargreaves
k.hargreaves@uq.edu.au or +61 7 3346 3903.

FRIDAY JULY 7

- Business School Alumni First Friday Drinks, Customs House
- Faculty of Arts 50 Year Reunion (venue to be confirmed)

CONTACT: Caitlin Stager
c.stager@uq.edu.au or +61 7 3365 9163

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2

- Law Graduates Association Breakfast Seminar, Customs House

FRIDAY AUGUST 4

- Business School Alumni First Friday Drinks, Customs House

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 1

- Business School Alumni First Friday Drinks, Customs House

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 12 -

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15

- Australian Universities International Alumni Convention 2006, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21

- Business School AGM with Guest Speaker (venue to be confirmed)

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 25 - TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 26

- Education Alumni Conference "From Alienation to re-engagement: Young people, education, and life futures", UQ St Lucia Campus

FRIDAY OCTOBER 6

- Business School Alumni First Friday Drinks, Customs House
- UQ Alumni Hong Kong Inter-Universities Bowling Competition (venue to be confirmed)

CONTACT: Anne Cheung
anne_uqaa@yahoo.com.hk

FRIDAY OCTOBER 13

- Social Work & Applied Human Sciences Alumni "Practice's Day", Hillstone St Lucia
- Law Graduates Association Annual Reunion Dinner, Hillstone St Lucia

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 18

- Ipswich Alumni Breakfast, UQ Ipswich

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3

- Business School Alumni First Friday Drinks, Customs House

- UQ Alumni Hong Kong Annual Party/Ball (venue to be confirmed)

CONTACT: Anne Cheung
anne_uqaa@yahoo.com.hk

- 1956 Medical Reunion, United Services Club

CONTACT: Brian Hill
brianhill@bigpond.com

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 8

- Law Graduates Association Annual General Meeting Breakfast, Customs House

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16

- Education Alumni AGM, UQ Development & Alumni Relations Office

FRIDAY DECEMBER 1

- Business School Christmas Function (venue to be confirmed)
- Class of 1966 Veterinary Science 40 Year Reunion (venue to be confirmed)

CONTACT: Neil McMeniman
n.mcmeyman@uq.edu.au or +61 7 3365 2617

TUESDAY DECEMBER 5

- Social Work & Applied Human Sciences Alumni AGM, UQ Development & Alumni Relations Office

Protecting the cattle industry from ticks and monitoring feral pests, the environment and seasonal conditions are all part of a day's work for Angela Pezet.

BY MIGUEL HOLLAND



LONE RANGER ON PATROL

Angela Pezet has a big job in a small town. As a Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) stock inspector, Ms Pezet oversees 21,825 square kilometres of land from the small Queensland outback town of Alpha.

Her main role as a stock inspector or 'stockie' is border security of the State's tick line – an invisible border that separates tick-infected and tick-free land.

The 24-year-old works alone, inspecting and clearing all types of livestock that pass through her patch, usually by roadtrain, to ensure no ticks cross the line.

Alpha, a town of about 400, lies between Jericho and Emerald in Central Queensland.

Remoteness doesn't worry her but Ms Pezet occasionally strikes a cranky stockowner when she needs to quarantine their stock.

"If I find ticks I can't let the animals cross the tick-line which can be very inconvenient for the owners if they are attending an event," Ms Pezet said.

"It can get a bit unpleasant, especially if the owners are not carrying the correct

“As a 'stockie', I am the locally-based eyes and hands for the vets in the DPI&F”

waybills or permits and I have an obligation to investigate for breaches of the *Stock Act*.”

Ms Pezet checks property registrations and regulates the use of electronic ear tags under the new National Livestock Identification System.

"As a 'stockie', I am the locally-based eyes and hands for the vets in the DPI&F," she said.

Ms Pezet also checks brand identification, records seasonal changes for drought monitoring and investigates animal diseases including the collection of samples from cattle to verify that Queensland is free of Mad Cow disease.

"We collect the brain samples from cattle that show clinical symptoms of nervous disorders and test for Mad Cow disease," she said.

To date, Australian beef has been Mad Cow free and the DPI&F veterinary

laboratory at Toowoomba analyses these samples to prove Australian meat reaches international quality standards.

"A number of other common conditions, including some plant poisonings and metabolic disorders, can cause similar symptoms to Mad Cow disease so accurate diagnosis is essential," she said.

Ms Pezet studied a Bachelor of Applied Science at UQ, specialising in Veterinary Technology and Management.

She said UQ prepared her for work on her own with discipline and motivation, particularly on disease investigation and animal health.

Ms Pezet said the area she was responsible for, 60 kilometres either side of Alpha, south towards Tambo and north towards Clermont, was small compared with other stock inspectors in Queensland.

She started her job in October 2004 and said she loved it because her duties varied each day.

"It's a pretty flexible job, so long as we do our set hours per day we can do it anytime between 6am and 6pm," Ms Pezet said.

"I love the laid back lifestyle and it's what you make of it." ■

GRADUATIONS

Graduates from across UQ's academic spectrum joined the ranks of the more than 155,000 people who have become part of the University's extended family.

Graduation ceremonies were held at all three campuses in December and were attended by family and friends. Honorary doctorates were awarded to some high-profile recipients including Papua New Guinea's first female cabinet minister and the Chief Executive Officer of The Dow Chemical Company, who was also named Alumnus of the Year.

A total of 17 ceremonies took place in December – 13 at St Lucia, two at UQ Ipswich and two at UQ Gatton.

NO SECRETS TO SUCCESS

There are "no secrets to success" in business, according to Dr Andrew Liveris, President and Chief Executive Officer of the \$40 billion US-based The Dow Chemical Company.

Dr Liveris received an honorary doctorate from UQ, the University from which he graduated in 1975 with a Bachelor of Engineering degree with first class honours and a University Medal.

He was also named 2005 UQ Alumnus of the Year at the special ceremony held at Customs House.

The honorary doctorate and Alumnus of the Year awards recognised Dr Liveris' career and his contribution to the University.

Addressing the ceremony, Dr Liveris credited his success to hard-working parents, teachers, colleagues and his wife, Paula. He said they all taught him the value



Dr Liveris

of dedication, education and sacrifice for others.

"If you had told me when I was a chemical engineering student that this is where I'd be today, I never would have believed you," he said.

HONOUR FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE

Papua New Guinea's first female cabinet minister received an honorary doctorate at a Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences ceremony.

Dame Carol Kidu, BDE, MP, received the award in recognition of her contribution to social development and women's rights.

Since 2002, Dame Carol has served as the Minister for Community Development.

Born in Shorncliffe, she worked as a secondary school teacher for 20 years before being elected to the PNG parliament in 1997.

She said the award had completed an unfinished part of her life.

"In 1966 and 1967 I was an Arts Faculty student at UQ, and in love with a student from Papua New Guinea," she said.

"I never finished the degree, instead working while he completed his studies."

Dame Carol with her First Secretary Peter Noka-Raru



Dr Varshney



GRADUATE WITH GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE

A UQ student has graduated after completing her PhD in two countries.

Dr Rachel Varshney is UQ's first-ever student to receive a PhD that was awarded in both Australia and France.

Dr Varshney completed her doctorate in applied linguistics and French.

She studied for half her degree at UQ in the School of Languages and Comparative Cultural Studies and the other half at the Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris III, a university in France.

Her thesis examined teaching foreign languages and student attitudes to learning and included a comparison between Australian and French students.

AWARDS FOR SENATORS

Two UQ identities received honorary doctorates at a ceremony for UQ's Business, Economics and Law Faculty.

The Honourable Justice Margaret White, a UQ Senator, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws and Dr Gordon (Ted) Edwards received an honorary Doctor of Economics.

Justice White was appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland in 1992 and has been a member of the UQ Senate since 1993. She was admitted as a barrister of the Supreme Court in 1978.

Dr Edwards, a former Senator, moved to Queensland in 1988 to take up the position of Resident Director for the TNT Group of companies and Ansett Australia.



Justice White and Dr Edwards

LONG HAUL PAYS OFF

It's been five years and a 3000 kilometre journey for a group of Indigenous students who finally attended their graduation at UQ.

One of the largest cohort of Indigenous Health students ever to take part in a graduation attended the ceremony.

Fourteen Indigenous students, including some of the first Indigenous Health graduates from 2002 attended, travelling from as far away as Thursday Island and Bamaga in far north Queensland and Western Australia.

Travel costs had prevented most students from remote areas from attending ceremonies in their graduation year.

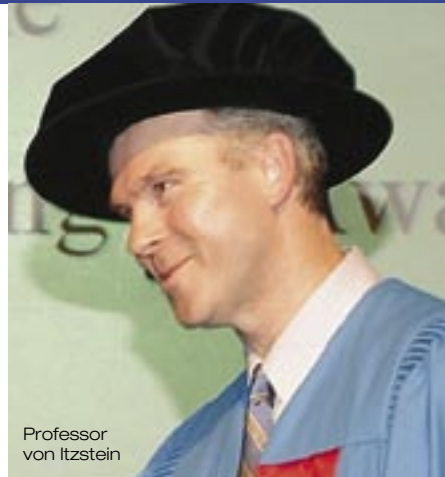
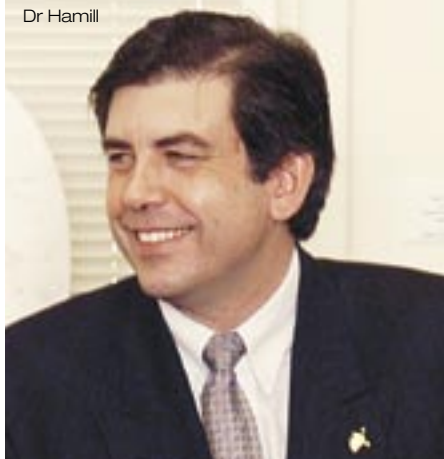
In 2005, Centre for Indigenous Health lecturer Condly Canuto helped organise Abstudy funding to bring current and former graduates together.

"The Indigenous Health program is being redeveloped. I thought it was a great opportunity for students of the current program to receive official recognition for their degrees and get together as a group," Mr Canuto said.

Almost 100 students have graduated since the degree was introduced 11 years ago and nearly three quarters of these have been Indigenous.



Dr Hamill



Professor von Itzstein

TAXING NEW CONSEQUENCES

A new study reveals that the New Tax System and the embedding of the GST have further diminished the fiscal autonomy of the States and Territories.

Former Queensland Treasurer The Honourable Dr David Hamill, who graduated in December, believes the States are in danger of becoming just another set of service providers to the Commonwealth.

The study formed part of Dr Hamill's PhD thesis, now a book launched at UQ by Queensland Premier Peter Beattie.

Dr Hamill, Treasurer when the GST deal was signed in 1999, said the States were increasingly reliant on a source of revenue over which they have no control.

GOLD FOR FLU-FIGHTER

The Gatton Gold Medal for 2005 has been awarded to a scientist whose UQ studies sowed the seeds of a revolutionary flu drug.

Professor Mark von Itzstein is internationally renowned for research contributing to the development of the world's first anti-flu drug, Relenza.

He gained his passion for science while studying at the college that later became UQ Gatton.

Professor von Itzstein said he was 15 when he began a Certificate of Animal Husbandry at the then Queensland Agricultural College in 1974.

A broad science curriculum opened his eyes to the potential of more in-depth scientific studies.



Dr Mahoney

RIGHT MEDICINE

Royal Brisbane Hospital Visiting Medical Officer and former UQ Deputy Chancellor Dr Mary Mahoney was conferred an honorary Doctor of Medicine at the Faculty of Health ceremony.

The award recognised her distinguished career as a medical practitioner, educator and administrator; and her contributions to the UQ Senate.

Dr Mahoney has completed five consecutive terms as a Senator, including three years as the first female Deputy Chancellor, and has been re-elected to serve on the 31st Senate this year.



Ms Peters

ONE STEP FURTHER

UQ Gatton graduate Jess Peters is proving that simply graduating from her Bachelor of Agriculture degree with first class honours is not enough.

Ms Peters also received the prestigious \$5000 Dow AgroSciences Honours Scholarship.

The scholarship is designed to attract students to undertake honours studies in aspects of sustainable plant production in agriculture and horticulture, and also to assist them in the completion of these studies.

KEEP IN CONTACT

FAMOUS FIGURE

Dr Margaret Mittelheuser, AM (BCom 1952, BA 1973), is credited by many with heralding the beginning of women's full participation in business.

As the first female stockbroker in Australia, and possibly the first female in the world to be appointed a partner in a stockbroking firm, Dr Mittelheuser broke through the glass ceiling of the 1950s.

During her 50-year career she raised many millions of dollars for governments and companies and advised and acted for clients in countries across the globe.

"In the 1950s there were very few stockbroking analysts but the brokers I worked for were prepared to give me a go and it worked," she said.

Dr Mittelheuser never set out to be a stockbroker but had a passion for figures.

It was during a chance meeting in Sydney's Hunter Street in 1956 that Dr Mittelheuser's career ambitions really began to take shape.

"I knew I had to get experience and Sydney was the place to go to so I



resigned from my job in Brisbane and went down to Sydney," she said.

"I didn't have a job to go to but I was going to try and get one.

"I was walking down Hunter Street when I saw this broker I knew and I told him I was looking for a job. He invited me to come to his office that afternoon for a cup of tea. I accepted and he then offered me a job."

Dr Mittelheuser, who was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy by the University in 1996, officially retired from stockbroking in June 2005 but still likes to keep an eye on how the markets are doing.

Her sister, well-known former plant physiologist **Dr Cathryn Mittelheuser, AM** (BSc hon 1 1968, PhD 1971), was also awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy by UQ in 1998.

1955



PHYSIOTHERAPY HONOUR

In late 2005, **Emeritus Professor Margaret Bullock, AM**, (BScApp 1955, PhD 1974) was named a finalist for the Senior Australian of the Year Award in Queensland.

A leader in education and research, she has made significant contributions to the development, status and standards of physiotherapy and ergonomics.

Her intense involvement in research has provided an impetus to advancement of knowledge in several fields, raised physiotherapy's scientific profile and helped establish recognition of the physiotherapist's role in ergonomics and occupational health.

At UQ, Professor Bullock served for 14 years as Head of the Department of Physiotherapy, five years as Deputy President and President of the Academic Board, and three years as Head of the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

She has received wide recognition for her contributions, including an Order of Australia, Centenary Medal and election as a Fellow of Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

She was the first Australian, first physiotherapist and first woman to be elected as a Fellow of the International Ergonomics Association.

WHERE ART AND SCIENCE CONVERGE

Vincent van Gogh was not a mad artist, but rather an exceptional man who suffered from an inherited disease, according to **Professor Wilfred Arnold** (BSc 1957).

"He was a genius in spite of his illness – not because of it," said Professor Arnold, an authority on the 19th Century artist.

Professor Arnold, who is based at the University of Kansas Medical Center in the US, has examined van Gogh's personal letters, of which there are more than 650 comprising three volumes.

During the past 18 years he has searched for signs, symptoms and lifestyle attributes related to van Gogh's illness.

Professor Arnold is now convinced that the artist's death at age 37, two days after a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the abdomen, was the culmination of long-suffering acute intermittent porphyria (AIP). AIP is a disease centered in the liver but affecting many organs.

Professor Arnold's hypothesis, which is detailed in *Vincent van Gogh: chemicals, crises and creativity*, has systematically

VETERINARY VOICE

A lifetime of service to the veterinary profession was recognised on Australia Day when the prestigious Public Service Medal was awarded to Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) principal veterinary officer **Dr Russell Rogers** (BVSc 1960, MVSc 1969).

After joining the DPI&F in 1961, Dr Rogers spent four years as a field veterinary officer in various centres across Queensland.



1960

He then joined the Department's laboratory service, where he worked as diagnostic pathologist, researching diseases in cattle, pigs and sheep.

Dr Rogers became Officer-in-Charge of the Oonoonba Animal Health Station at Townsville in 1966. There he researched tick-borne diseases of cattle.

His research formed the basis of his UQ Master of Veterinary Science degree.

From 1972 to 1973, Dr Rogers was the recipient of an Australian Meat Research Committee Overseas Study Award and visited South and East Africa, Great Britain and the US.

On his return to Australia he served in various diagnostic and supervisory roles at the Animal Research Institute in Brisbane, culminating in his appointment as Director of Pathology in 1989 and Manager of Animal Health Laboratories in 1992.

PEOPLE POWER

Hilary Langford (BSocWk 1970, BA 1977) is a "people person".

As one of Australia's most experienced organisational consultants she helps organisations realise their potential by getting the "people things" right.

"People are the building blocks of organisations. To get things done or changed, hearts and minds have to be won," Ms Langford said.

"Unlocking people's desires and energy and engaging them in an organisation's goals results in extraordinary outcomes and high morale. But organisations must genuinely want to involve their people."

Ms Langford works in the private, public and academic sectors in Australia, New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates.

Her firm Oliver and Langford has successfully guided organisations and their people for more than 20 years.

She consults to managers and teams, as well as conducting workshops including *Masterful leadership*, *Expanding your influence*, and *Dealing with difficult people*.

"My work has evolved as the needs and environment have changed," she said.

"We don't know the problems we'll face next year. We don't know the technology we will be using next year. The jobs that we will be doing in five years time don't exist yet. But human feelings remain constant over thousands of years. So the tune will be the same but the words will be different."

As a social work graduate, Ms Langford calls on community skills.

"Businesses are just communities, so this is directly applicable to organisations," she said.



1981

GREAT RESOURCE

The minerals and energy sector's peak representative body in Queensland has appointed a UQ graduate as its first Education and Training Director.

Greg Lane (BSc 1981), who was Director of Strategic Industry Initiatives with the Queensland Department of Employment and Training, took up his position with the Queensland Resources Council in April.

Mr Lane's appointment has helped strengthen the organisation's increasing focus on education and training.

He is responsible for careers awareness programs, the Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy and interaction with education providers.



1957

debunked many unfounded notions such as epilepsy, schizophrenia and alcoholism.

"AIP is the best working hypothesis when you look at all the signs and symptoms and the dynamics of his medical crises," he said.

"No one else who has written about his illness has even approached our level of documentation and we are the only ones to have performed chemical analyses and experiments."



1970

KEEP IN CONTACT

PRESSED INTO COURT

Peter Gregory (BA (Journalism) 1980, MJ 2002) was a reluctant conscript to the court reporting craft.

As a young reporter at the former *Telegraph* newspaper in Brisbane, he was happy covering industrial stories in the turbulent Queensland political scene of the early 1980s.

But his bosses prevailed. After a week's orientation, he was thrown into work at the courts, relying on his knowledge from a media law subject and the experience of senior colleagues to help him avoid trouble.

A generation later, Mr Gregory is passing on lessons from his and other journalists' careers through his textbook *Court Reporting in Australia*, published by Cambridge University Press.

He is now the chief court reporter at *The Age* newspaper in Melbourne. In 23 years, he has reported on numerous murder trials, as well as cases dealing with sporting, political and financial disputes.



1980



1984

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Busy doesn't even come close to describing the past three years of **Chris Lidgard's** (BA 1984) working life.

A manager with the Australian Government Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS) in the Community Recovery Section, she has helped support Australians in their recovery following the Bali bombings of 2002 and 2005, the 2004 tsunami and the more recent London bombings.

"Recovery is a long and protracted process. For some there is no recovery, closure or whatever else moving on might be called," she said.

"Over time, acceptance is probably the best position that may be achieved for many survivors and the bereaved following disasters or emergencies."

A former police officer whose first disaster experience was the 1974 Brisbane floods, Mrs Lidgard began working with FaCS in 2003.

"It's very much a team effort. Most of our work takes place behind the scenes

– supporting, coordinating, facilitating and liaising," she said.

In January this year Mrs Lidgard was awarded an Australia Day Achievement Medallion for her commitment to the Australian community as part of the tsunami disaster relief team.

FaCS chairs the Australian Government Disaster Recovery Committee, which coordinates recovery work across a number of departments.

Mrs Lidgard's work has focused on managing assistance packages, making rehabilitation arrangements and coordinating communications.

She said she found the New Orleans flood particularly disturbing.

"It was kind of like 'welcome to your worst nightmare' for the world's emergency planners," Mrs Lidgard said.

"We are constantly trying to do better in planning and preparedness, responding and recovering from disasters or emergencies. This is our lasting tribute to those who lose their lives."

PHARMACY PRESIDENT

Brisbane pharmacist **Kos Sclavos** (BPharm 1985) is the first Queensland in the 78-year history of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia to be named National President of the organisation.

He was appointed in November 2005 for a three-year term with the Guild – a national employers' organisation representing some 4500 community pharmacies in Australia.

Mr Sclavos said the Guild played a leading role in determining health policy.

"I am passionate about the pharmacy profession and the role that pharmacists and their staff can play in the health care of Australians," he said.

Mr Sclavos is a driving force behind the Quality Care Pharmacy Program, which has now been implemented in 90 percent of community pharmacies.

He has received numerous industry awards including the 1993 Australian Institute of Pharmacy Management Pharmacy Manager of the Year in 1993, the 1999 Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) Young Pharmacist of the Year and the PSA Bowl Hygeia Award 1999.

Before buying his first pharmacy in Ipswich in 1989, he worked in and managed a number of community pharmacies. He has since established pharmacies across Southeast Queensland and is a partner in Terry White Chemists in the Myer Centre in Brisbane's CBD.



1985



Former rugby league great Wally Lewis with Ms Harland (centre) and Ms Patterson at the launch

PENNY IN PRINT

The first deaf and blind person to complete a Bachelor of Arts degree in Australia has written a book about the challenges she faced.

A Penny for your Thoughts, Penny Harland's (BA 1985, BEdSt 1988, MEdSt 1996) autobiography, was launched in 2005.

It tells how Ms Harland's failing eyesight was noticed when she was three, how at seven her hearing deteriorated and how at 13 she began to have problems with her balance.

Doctors have been unable to diagnose the reason for her conditions but that hasn't stopped her from living her life to the full.

"While the book is about the difficulties disability may bring, ultimately, it is about overcoming the odds," she said.

Ms Harland first met **Sarah Patterson** (BOccThy hons 1 1999), an occupational therapist who co-authored the book, when they were both studying at UQ.

"At first, we used to catch up for a girly chit chat but then we decided that writing Penny's autobiography would be a great project for our weekly meetings," she said.

Ms Patterson said it was rewarding to have worked on such a worthwhile project.



HARD PLAY PAYS OFF

Kerry McEvoy (BA (HMS) 1987) jokes that he gets paid for going to the gym every day.

The fitness guru, who has a personal fortune of \$20 million thanks to his Australian Institute of Fitness (AIF) also claims never to have worked a day in his life. But for Mr McEvoy work is play.

"When you do what you love to do there's no distinction between work and play," he said.

After running a personal training business for a number of years, Mr

McEvoy and his wife Rowena Szeszeran-McEvoy joined with five other fitness education providers from across Australia to form the AIF in 2001.

The Institute offers high-quality fitness education for those who want to gain employment in the fitness industry.

In 2005 the AIF placed 31st on *BRW's* Fast 100 List with an annual average growth of 113 percent over the past four years.

Mr McEvoy said he took advantage of the health and fitness boom in Australia by recognising where the industry was heading.

LESSON IN LEADERSHIP

Committed educator, **Dr Peter Whitley** (BEdSt 1985), was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Central Gippsland Institute of TAFE in 2005.

"I envision that the Institute will grow to be a substantial provider of vocational and technical education in Victoria," he said.

"I have a strong desire to ensure there are multiple options for learning available to students, irrespective of their starting points.

"Equally important is to position technical and vocational education as a critical tool in Australia's future."

He extended his own education, completing a Doctorate in Business Administration in 2005 at Curtin University of Technology.

Contributing to trade and para-

professional training has been a desire of Dr Whitley's for many years having previously worked in the mining industry.

For seven years prior to 2005 Dr Whitley was Director of Vocational and Technical Education at Curtin University.

"Migrating from the bustle of heavy engineering construction into teaching in TAFE Queensland, I have constantly sought to promote and encourage participation in vocational education and training," he said.

Before graduating from UQ, Dr Whitley worked as a teacher and senior manager of TAFE throughout Queensland.

During that time he received the inaugural Australian National Training Authority's Flexible Learning Leaders Fellowship, which involved study at a number of US and Canadian universities.

1985



KEEP IN CONTACT



SEEKING OLD FRIENDS

Memories of the Great Court, the fine weather and the Jacaranda trees have stuck with international graduate **Myo Kywe** (MAgrSt 1989) for the past 17 years.

Earlier this year he decided it was time to get back in contact with his alumni.

"I have kept in contact with my supervisors Associate Professor Pax Blamey and Professor Shu Fukai from the School of Land and Food Sciences but now I'm looking for others – both former lecturers and friends," he said.

After graduating, Mr Kywe left Australia and returned to his home country of Myanmar where he worked as a lecturer in the Department of Agronomy at Yezin Agricultural University.

He is now studying for his PhD at the University of Kassel in Germany, researching amino acid composition in the green gram, a grain legume cultivated in Myanmar.

Anyone wishing to get in touch with Mr Kywe can email him at mkywe1@gmail.com



"BONE" FIDE CRIME SOLVER

She is known to her colleagues as the "bone girl" and spends her time examining skeletal remains.

Yet despite the obvious drawbacks

FRANK ACCOUNT FROM A WORKING MOTHER

These days, **Maureen Frank** (BCom 1990, LLB 1993) negotiates billion-dollar deals for the world's largest insurance broking company while also raising twin girls. But balancing the demands of business and home didn't always come so easily.

A winner in the 2005 *Queensland Telstra Business Woman of the Year* awards, Ms Frank decided to write a DIY guide to juggling work and family commitments,

rounding up some of Australia's top corporate women to share their tips on how to be successful in the boardroom and a great mum to boot.

Ms Frank's book, *You Go Girlfriend*, entered the best seller list as soon as it hit the shelves.

She said the book provided an insight into the pressures working women faced, and the personal strategies she used to become a successful businessperson and mother.

"There were many times in the past few years when life was extremely difficult, sometimes I had \$50 left in my bank account, but as you learn and as this book outlines, no one has an exclusive on hard times," she said.

"This book is designed to be fun, practical but most importantly to let women know they are not alone in facing the complicated juggling act of work, family and life."

You go Girlfriend, how to get where you want and be a great Mum too is published by Angus and Robertson.



LEGAL PEAKS REACHED

A sense of adventure and quest for knowledge has propelled **Aaron Webb** (BCom 1992, LLB 1995) to the top of the legal ladder.

At 30 he was made a partner at Thynne & Macartney and now at 34 has travelled the world in search of new experiences.

Mr Webb specialises in property law, acting for a combination of developers, property investors and institutions. But he is also passionate about working for not-for-profit organisations.

He fulfils the function of in-house counsel for the Uniting Church in Queensland, overseeing their internal legal section.

"The relationship has worked well and it has been rewarding to be able to use my professional skills to help volunteers in local churches which are providing services to the community," he said.

In his spare time Mr Webb fulfils his passion for travel. In recent years he has visited natural wonders including Iguazu Falls and the Amazon Jungle; ancient ruins such as the Pyramids; and has white water rafted down the Zambezi River and climbed Mt Kilimanjaro.

"We've always worked on the principle that we can go to Europe when we're older and we might as well see the more challenging countries while we're still young enough to cope," Mr Webb said.

associated with being a police scientific officer – long hours, dead bodies and crime scenes, Senior Constable **Donna MacGregor** (BSc hon 1994) is proud to be using her skills to help solve some of Brisbane's most serious crimes.

She joined the police service in 2000 and is one of Australia's most highly trained officers in human and forensic osteology.

Skeletal and fragmented human remains have become Ms MacGregor's specialist subject. She works as part of a team on a range of cases.

"When we do get human remains that are in a forensic context we have to establish their race, age, sex and stature. The detectives then use this information as a search parameter," she said.

Ms MacGregor said every crime scene was different and some could be disturbing for an officer who was new to the job.

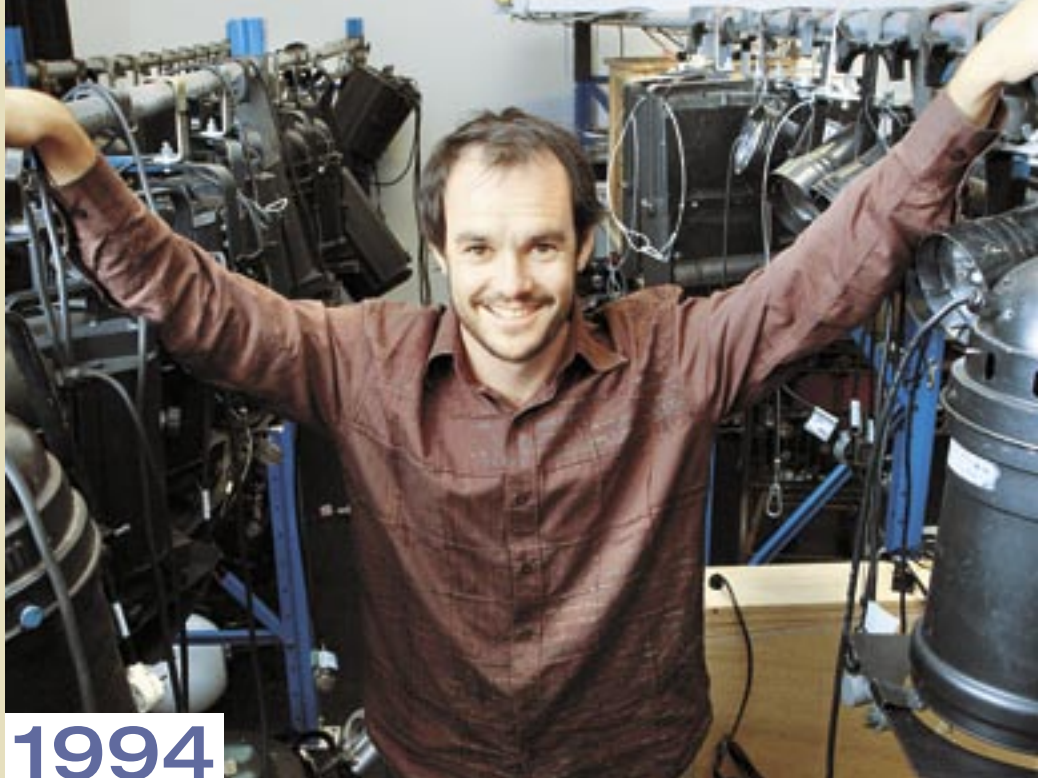
"But like any job you have to treat it as a job and if people aren't going to cope that will become clear very early," she said.

Ms MacGregor recently completed a study tour at the "Body Farm", a forensic facility at the University of Tennessee.

Her work in the US has helped in her quest to build a database cataloguing information on modern skeletons.

With the US-made *CSI* shows currently flooding TV networks, Ms MacGregor said some of those programs did not present a true reflection of what forensic science was really like. But she said they had helped raise awareness about the profession.

"When you go out there and people ask what you do, when you tell them they say 'Oh, like *CSI*' and people can liken it to something," she said.



1994

RIGHT DIRECTION

Jon Halpin (BA 1994) never had a burning desire to work in the arts until he became involved in the theatre at UQ. It was theatre that was to lead his career in a whole new directorial direction.

It began in 1993 when, as a resident at the University's Union College, Mr Halpin initiated an annual College play.

He went on to act in several plays at UQ's Cement Box Theatre before starting his own company where he moved into directing. And it was directing rather than his earlier dabbles with acting that became his artistic passion.

"There's no audition process for

a director. As an actor you can go and audition for someone and hopefully get a role but you can't do that with directing," Mr Halpin said.

Thousands of Australians have now come to appreciate Mr Halpin's artistic talents, which received a boost in 1999 when he was approached by the then Artistic Director at the Queensland Theatre Company (QTC) to become his Assistant Director. In 2005 he was made Associate Director.

Mr Halpin is directing three plays this year at QTC as well as looking after its writing program, organising developing programs for young writers and supporting the Artistic Director.

SCOPE THIS OUT

The term "mad scientist" is a fitting description for the CSIRO's **Dr Robert Bell** (BSc hon 1995, PhD 2000).

As host of the Network Ten children's science program *Scope*, he is constantly questioning how the world works, in his own unique way.

He has destroyed a perfectly good hair day to explain humidity, gone through boxes of chocolate biscuits to explain tsunamis and even eaten raw fish alongside seals to find out more about the animals.

A zany but dedicated scientist, Dr Rob, as he is known to his young audience, gives his all to uncover and explain the ways and whys of our amazing world.

"The main aim of *Scope* is to get people to realise that the entire world runs on science," he said.

"From your breakfast cereal to a nuclear reactor, the science can be really

interesting, and that's what we try and show, albeit in a sometimes off-beat and leftfield manner.

"In the process we try to break the stereotype that science is hard, abstract and that scientists are old men in lab coats whose research has nothing to do with the real world.

"By covering topics relevant to kids, I think we end up entertaining as much as educating, all of which I hope makes science look like a more attractive career option."

Each week Dr Rob scopes out a different topic for his young audience. He has covered areas including "Will robots take over the world?", "How do MP3s work?" and "Are there still animals on the Earth yet to be discovered?"

When he is not presenting *Scope*, Dr Rob works as a science education officer for the CSIRO. Earlier this year *Scope* was nominated for a Logie Award for Most Outstanding Children's Program.



PHOTO: courtesy Network Ten

1995

KEEP IN CONTACT



TURNING JAPANESE

Taking a year off university to study and work in Japan was the start of an 11-year adventure for **Nicole Patterson** (BA 1995).

She couldn't wait to complete her degree so she could get back to the diverse country to learn more about its unique culture and customs.

"That first year in Japan I taught English in junior high-schools. I was ready to do anything to get back to the place," she said.

Ms Patterson is now using her love for all things Japanese to help market holiday resorts in Asia. She works for Sanyo Japan Marketing International promoting five star resorts.

"But my typical day is no day at the spa," she said.

"I race around on trains and buses visiting tour planners in the major travel agencies to ensure that our contracted resorts are kept in the brochures and communicate with magazine and travel guide editors."

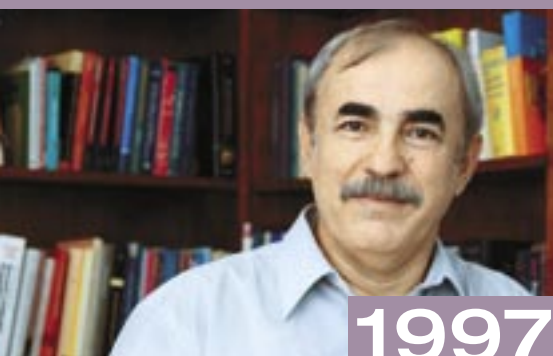
Nevertheless, she does get to travel to and stay at some of the resorts. In February she travelled to the far north of the Philippines and met with the resident giraffe and in March she visited Singapore.

"Having the chance to experience many different kinds of traveling styles has made me appreciate how great life is in Australia and how lucky I have been," she said.

Ms Patterson is a shareholder in Liquid Energy, a desktop design company she founded with a friend during her first year in Japan.

MANY HAPPY RETURNS

Professor Massoud Rahimpour (PhD 1997) enjoyed his studies at UQ so much that he returned earlier this year as a visiting scholar.



Since his graduation in 1997, he has been Head of the English Department at the University of Tabriz in the Islamic Republic of Iran where he lectures in applied linguistics.

"I want to keep in touch with UQ for life. It keeps me happy, academically dynamic and up-to-date," he said.

"That's also why I've encouraged many students to study at The University of Queensland."

Professor Rahimpour is also Director of International Collaborations at the University of Tabriz where he has worked to forge links with UQ through a Memorandum of Understanding between the two universities.

G'DAY FROM THE UK

Zehra Koroglu (BA 1998, LLB 2001) was used to saying "G'day" to her bus driver as she travelled to and from UQ each day and wanted to take that Aussie friendliness with her when she moved to London in 2003.

The market research agency project manager set up the Good Morning London project in 2005 with some friends who were living in the English capital.

The idea was that on November 1 Londoners would say good morning to a stranger on their way to work and that's exactly what happened with hundreds of people signing up and taking part.

"The genesis of the idea came from thinking about what it would be like if everyone said hello to the bus driver as they got on," she said.

"How would the driver be different, how would the atmosphere of the bus be different, how would the day be different for each of us?"

"Instantly I knew I wanted to give Londoners the opportunity to be able to say good morning to strangers – something Londoners do not have an opportunity to do because of what is essentially a prohibition against greeting strangers at the bus stop or on the train.

"Until they try it, not everyone realises how much fun it can be."

Londoners, particularly commuters, are well known for their silence on the underground and the buses – refusing to make eye contact with those around them.

But Ms Koroglu said the project had been a success and she intended to run it again later this year.

DRY WATER DIVING HEADFIRST INTO AFRICA TAMMIE MATSON





1998

SEEDS OF SCIENCE PLANTED

An unique underwater experiment is attracting widespread attention for its adventurous researcher.

Lloyd Godson (BSc honours 2001) plans to live in an underwater habitat for two weeks with only plants for company.

Mr Godson said as the plants photosynthesised they would scrub the carbon dioxide he exhaled and provide him with fresh oxygen. He also plans to drink the water that condenses on the sides of his metal habitat, known as the BioSUB, and will recycle his liquid waste through a photo-bioreactor that will also provide some of his food.

"This is about trying to prove scientific concepts in an affordable way," he said.

Australian Geographic is funding Mr Godson's project after he won their \$50,000 'Live Your Dream' Wildest Adventure Competition.

He said he hoped his adventure, which will take him to the bottom of a flooded quarry near Albury in southern New South Wales, would inspire others to live their dreams.

"I want to show other people, particularly kids, about the wonders of science," he said.

Mr Godson's two-week underwater adventure will be beamed into classrooms live around the country via a webcam and he will teach children about the physical and biological aspects of what he is doing.

This isn't the first time Mr Godson has called such a unique habitat his home. While studying at UQ he lived in a tent in his back garden rather than inside the house.

Mr Godson said he was looking forward to the challenge, which he hopes to complete later this year.

AFRICAN ADVENTURE

At the age of 15, **Dr Tammie Matson** (BAppSc honours 1999, PhD 2004) went on a safari with her father to Zimbabwe – it was an experience that would change her forever.

On her return to Australia she turned her life upside down to build a future in Africa. She originally enrolled in a Law degree at UQ but changed to Environmental Science so she could concentrate her studies on Africa.

"I returned again and again to Africa, first as a safari worker, then as a volunteer biologist and eventually as a wildlife researcher," she said.

"I would see with my own eyes how people with so much less than we have in Australia could be so incredibly happy with their lot in life."

After finishing her undergraduate degree in 1999, Dr Matson was offered an Australian Government scholarship to complete a PhD in Zoology. She traveled to Etosha National Park in arid Namibia to study the endangered black-faced impala.

In the harsh conditions she overcame the language barrier, and physical hardships to carry out her research.

"While impala are fairly widespread in Africa, very little is known about the endangered black-faced impala, which is endemic to Namibia," she said.

"My three-and-a-half year PhD project investigated the influence of environment on the black-faced impala in its semi-arid habitat as a basis for a management plan."

Dr Matson has lived in Namibia since 2000. She currently works as an environmental consultant for organisations including Wilderness Safaris, Save the Rhino Trust and the Namibian Professional Hunters Association, as well as running a research project on human-elephant conflicts.

In her new book *Dry Water* Dr Matson shares the daily delights, unexpected dramas and hair-raising adventures that have unfolded as she has lived alongside the animals of Africa.



2001

KEEP IN CONTACT



Mr Franklin (left) and Mr Jenkins

2002

OLD FRIENDS DIVE INTO A NEW VENTURE

With a 20-year friendship and taste for new adventures, former UQ aquatic stars **Adam Franklin** (BSc, BCom 2002) and **Toby Jenkins** (BCom 2002) have turned their attention from the pool to the boardroom.

They have set their sights on demystifying the Internet for businesses, setting up a Web design and hosting company, Bluewire Media.

To capture attention, create a desire to know more and then generate a response are the key steps to achieving a successful result with a business website, according to Bluewire Media Director Adam Franklin.

"The blue wire is the ethernet cable that people use to connect to the Internet. We felt it was representative of what we aimed to achieve – connecting businesses to the Web and that's why we called the company Bluewire Media," Mr Franklin said.

Armed with the skills they learnt at UQ, Mr Franklin and Mr Jenkins have focused their energies on making Bluewire a success.

They have also had plenty of practice at teamwork; both played water polo for UQ, winning bronze medals at the 2002 Australian University Games.

Fellow Director Mr Jenkins also won a gold medal and claimed the national university record for the 4x50m freestyle relay and Mr Franklin won a gold medal in the team springboard diving event.

In 2004 Mr Jenkins was a member of the water polo team that represented Australia at the Athens Olympic Games.

But their attentions are now set firmly on the business.

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

When Human Movement Studies graduate **Tania Brancato** (BScApp(HMS) hon 1 2002) visited the Brisbane Lions AFL sports rehabilitation team she knew she had chosen the right career path.

During her degree she gained experience in the field through placements with a range of sport, physiotherapy and rehabilitation organisations. She then set up her own part-time business, offering first aid services to sporting groups.

Ms Brancato now works for Balance Rehabilitation and Education Services, an injury rehabilitation organisation, but continues to run her unique first aid service as a side business.

"The sports medicine course in my UQ degree enabled me to get my first aid certificate, which I used to set up my business," she said.

"Now I have six part-time employees and four volunteers or students doing work placement. All my team members are

qualified or completing qualifications in either exercise physiology, physiotherapy, massage therapy or personal training."

Through her first aid business she co-ordinates the medical teams for sports groups such as State leaguers Morningside Australian Football Club and Logan Thunder Basketball Club.

Her business supports visiting AFL teams such as the Western Bulldogs and Richmond Tigers Australian Football Clubs.

"I chose a human movements degree specialising in exercise science because I had always been interested in how the body worked. I have also always loved sport, although I was never a great athlete," Ms Brancato said.

"My interest is in how musculoskeletal injuries happen and the rehabilitation process that follows. Being involved in sports gives me the opportunity to be involved in this process from start to finish."

2002





2004

WILD LIFE FOR SOME

Staying up all night nursing hairy nosed wombats and baby koalas is a regular day at the office for **Che Phillips** (BVSc 2004).

Soon after graduating from UQ's renowned veterinary science program, Ms Phillips was made an offer she couldn't refuse: the chance to work at Steve "Crocodile Hunter" Irwin's world famous Australia Zoo on the Sunshine Coast.

"I wanted to become a wildlife vet and thought that I'd have to initially go into a mixed animal practice and work my way up but luckily I came across this and grabbed the opportunity," she says.

Based in the zoo's Australian Wildlife Hospital, Ms Phillips tends to sick and

injured creatures, many of which require around-the-clock care.

Ms Phillips said the comprehensive nature of UQ's veterinary science degree allowed students to find their niche.

"The veterinary course at UQ is very comprehensive and covers many aspects of both large and small animals. This is great because it allows students to get a feel for what field of work they would like to follow once graduated."

And for Ms Phillips, working with Australian animals is not only her job, it's a consuming passion.

"They're our native animals and they should be coming first," she said.

"That's my way of helping out with the environment, helping to protect our native species."



2005

TASTE OF AUSTRALIA

It was a dream of new opportunities that brought **Justine Chim** (MErg 2005) to Australia. And it was a passion for her studies that led her to work for an Australian icon.

Millions of Australians have grown up with Arnott's during the past 140 years. But for Ms Chim it was more than just a food company – it was a piece of history.

So when she was hired to work at their Adelaide base, it was a dream come true.

When you think of Arnott's biscuits you don't think of hazardous situations. But as an occupational health and safety officer that is what Ms Chim had to do.

"My objective was to identify the risk factors associated with manual tasks and develop reasonably practicable solutions to eliminate or minimise the manual handling risks and operator discomfort so as to provide a healthy and safe work environment," she said.

As the first Hong Kong Chinese student to graduate from UQ's Master of Ergonomics program, she hopes to educate more Chinese people about ergonomics and plans to write a book about ergonomics in Asia.

GAMES GRADUATES

Recent graduates **Caitlin Willis** (GDipPLEAT 2005) and **Andrew Mewing** (BCom 2005, LLB 2005) were members of the all-conquering Australian team that dominated the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne in March.

In front of a packed MCG Willis won gold in the 4x400m relay on the final night of competition. At the swimming Mewing grabbed a bronze as part of the men's 4x200m freestyle team.

It was the first Commonwealth Games for both athletes.

2005



WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Information about UQ graduates is always welcome for inclusion in *Keep in Contact*. If you have a story to tell, or you know someone who has, please send information to *Graduate Contact* (see contact details on page 3).

Items should include degree(s) held and year(s) graduated. Articles accompanied by clear colour photographs preferred.

Deadline for the Summer 2006 issue is September 15.



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA



Bob

Your \$25 will give pets like Bob a second chance in life

We rescued two-year-old Bob from a council pound, and took him into our Centre for Companion Animal Health.

For 10 months he called our Centre home, and helped us with our nutritional studies to prevent canine obesity. Bob has a friendly and loving nature. It seemed to us that he knew he had been given a second chance at life.

Happily, Bob now has a new owner and even a new name – Bodge. He is well-loved and looked after by a caring family, and he gives his new family unconditional love in return.

Our Centre for Companion Animal Health undertakes important studies which aim to develop the best possible treatment and prevention for diseases in pets; enrich the lives of our aged and disabled people with a loving pet as a companion; and find solutions to prevent unwanted and problem pets.

These studies must continue, which is why I am asking for your help today:

- A gift of \$25 from you will give pets like Bob food and board for one day, during our studies.
- \$50 will help the Centre give pets like Bob vaccination and flea treatment and food and board for two days.
- A generous gift of \$100 will help provide food, board and vaccination, heartworm, flea and worming treatment for a week.

If you are able to support our Centre with an exceptional gift of \$1,000, it would mean we could provide five of Bob's friends with food and board, and heartworm, flea and worming treatment for a month. Your gift will ensure our vital studies to prevent homeless and sick pets can continue.

Pets like Bob will help us make life better for all Australian pets. On behalf of them all, thank you for your gift.

Professor Jacquie Rand, Founder and Director, Centre for Companion Animal Health
School of Veterinary Sciences, The University of Queensland



Jacquie is an internationally renowned leader in diabetes, obesity and nutritional studies with pets.

Yes! We/I would like to help find solutions to prevent homeless and sick pets like Bob!

1. CONTACT DETAILS (Fill in details in block letters please)

Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Dr ☐ Other _____
First Name _____
Surname _____
Address _____

Postcode _____
Phone (daytime) _____ (after hours) _____
Email _____

2. DONATION To help prevent homeless and sick pets!

- ☐ \$25 provides a homeless pet with board for one day.
☐ \$50 provides a homeless pet with board for two days.
☐ \$100 provides a homeless pet with board for a week.
☐ \$1000 provides 5 homeless pets with board for one month and helps find solutions to prevent homeless and sick pets.
☐ \$..... Amount of your choice.

3. PAYMENT TYPE

☐ Cash/Money Order
☐ Cheque (crossed and made payable to The University of Queensland)
☐ Bankcard ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Amex ☐ Diners
Card No.
Expiry date ____/____/____
Cardholder's name _____
Cardholder's signature _____ Date ____/____/____

- ☐ Please send me information about your "Bequest in a Will" Program.
☐ I do not want my name published in the lists of donors.

Please mail to:

Centre for Companion Animal Health, School of Veterinary Science,
The University of Queensland, Brisbane Qld 4072

Or fax to: (07) 3346 9822

Thank you!

Under current legislation, gifts to The University of Queensland of \$2.00+ are tax-deductible. ABN 63 942 912 684

Cricos Provider No 00025B



Centre for Companion Animal Health
For brochures and more information on the Centre, please contact (07) 3365 2122
or visit www.uq.edu.au/vetschool/centrecah