Look carefully and you’ll also find the enduring partnerships we’ve built.

Every sophisticated construction project relies on the close, well-managed collaboration of all involved. The UWA Research and Development Centre is a magnificent tribute to those whose vision inspired it and those who worked to transform the bold design into an eminently practical structure. But, as importantly, it bears testament to the rewards of intelligent co-operation and the potential focussed specialists always have to develop, in partnership, what none could achieve on their own.
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THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
THE UWA Law School, currently celebrating its 75th anniversary, received an impressive endorsement for excellence in the field of international law when the UWA team won the Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in April.

After taking national honours in the Australian Regional Rounds, the UWA team went on to defeat Mari State University at the international rounds in Washington, DC. It was UWA’s first win in the annual moot that brings together the best young legal minds to argue the merits of their case in a hypothetical international law dispute. This year some 2000 students representing 483 law schools from 91 countries were involved.

Of course Jessup glory does not come easily. It is the result of relentless research and preparation at a time when most students are on vacation. As soon as exams were over last year, the team of five – Bronwyn Grieve, Sarah Knuckey, Andrew Lodder, Imogen Saunders and Benjamin Spagnolo – began working (seven days a week) to prepare arguments for both sides of this year’s hypothetical dispute. The key issues – State responsibility for war crimes, trafficking and corruption – were woven into the topical dispute that involved two nations in the aftermath of a civil war.

Benjamin Spagnolo (named Best Oralist in Washington) says that apart from Christmas and New Year, the team worked non-stop until the national round. “We had judges from the Federal and Supreme Courts, as well as local barristers and practitioners come to judge our practice moots, and many former UWA mooters were keen to provide advice and encouragement.”

Teams from UWA have a great track record at the Jessup Moot, having made it to the international finals on six occasions in the past nine years, and coming second in 1995 and 2002. Victory – in this anniversary year – was therefore particularly sweet.

We will be running an anniversary profile of the School of Law in the next issue of UNIVIEW. At its 75th anniversary celebrations in May, the Law School honoured two of its most renowned graduates – Sir Francis Burt and Sir Ronald Wilson – who received the inaugural Frank Beasley Awards in recognition of their outstanding service to the law, the legal profession and legal education in this country.

Frank Beasley was appointed to the inaugural Chair of Law in late 1927 and held the position of Dean of the Faculty of Law for the following 35 years.

UWA TEAM – THE WORLD’S BEST

Imogen Saunders (left), Sarah Knuckey, Bronwyn Grieve, coach Julie Taylor, Andrew Lodder and Benjamin Spagnolo after their win in Washington.

The day-long Expo is aimed primarily at prospective students, but, as always, its many activities and displays will prove attractive to people of all ages in the community – and UWA is always delighted to widen its doors on this special day. Information on courses and enrolments will be available at static displays and through a series of lectures repeated throughout the day. Prospective students will also be able to discuss their particular needs with relevant members of faculty and admissions staff.

The community component will include displays highlighting specific research projects, tours of the campus, art galleries and museums. A performance of The Gallows March from Berlioz Symphonie Fantastique by the University Orchestra will be held in Winthrop Hall.

UWA has a new landmark in the spectacular flying-wedge roof of the new Motorola Software Centre in Cooper Street.

With soaring copper wings, gleaming stainless steel, green glass, specially sourced Kimberley tiles – and the traditional limestone that is the signature of many campus buildings – the new building is as innovative as the communications technology it will house. The centre is incorporated in the first stage of UWA’s Innovation Precinct and is the result of a partnership between UWA, Motorola and the State Government.

The futuristic building comprises undercover parking and three floors of work space that will house researchers, engineers and technicians working at the leading edge of information and communications technology. The centre was officially opened by Premier Geoff Gallop, who said that the opportunities it provided would help reverse WA’s brain drain. It was certainly a proud day for the University, Motorola, BGC Construction and the 85 men who had laboured on the $50m project over 15 months.

UWA Vice-Chancellor, Professor Deryck Schreuder, said that the centre would provide considerable benefits for UWA: “These include Motorola’s involvement in teaching, supervision of research students, work placements of undergraduates and links between staff of Motorola and UWA.”

THE State’s most ambitious historical project is currently under way at UWA’s Centre for Western Australian History. Energy has been running high since the announcement last year of plans to produce the Historical Encyclopedia of Western Australia.

The encyclopedia will fill a long-recognised need for a first reference point for academic and general historians, students, journalists, politicians and general readers. It is the sort of book that will be consulted to end heated debates over what happened when, and is likely to find a place in homes, schools, offices and libraries.

The project has been in gestation, with the aim of publishing the first volume by 2008. As the foundation stone was laid on 28 September last year at a ceremony attended by the Governor of Western Australia, Dr Ken Michael, Parliament was formally invited to lend the Centre its support.

At the Motorola Centre opening: UWA Vice-Chancellor, Professor Deryck Schreuder (left), WA Premier Dr Geof Gallop, Dr Terry Heng, Senior Vice-President of the Motorola Global Software Group and UWA Chancellor Dr Ken Michael.

UWA EXPO 2003

WHILE there will be lots of diversions, including musical recitals and sporting events, the University is shaping its third Expo – on Sunday, 31 August – to meet expectations expressed during the last two events. Most of the many thousands of people who visit the Expo come to encounter the diverse worlds of research that this university encompasses, and (in the case of prospective students) to talk to academics involved in the area of study that attracts them.

The day-long Expo is aimed primarily at prospective students, but, as always, its many activities and displays will prove attractive to people of all ages in the community – and UWA is always delighted to widen its doors on this special day. Information on courses and enrolments will be available at static displays and through a series of lectures repeated throughout the day. Prospective students will also be able to discuss their particular needs with relevant members of faculty and admissions staff.

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At the Motorola Centre opening: UWA Vice-Chancellor, Professor Deryck Schreuder (left), WA Premier Dr Geof Gallop, Dr Terry Heng, Senior Vice-President of the Motorola Global Software Group and UWA Chancellor Dr Ken Michael.
for several years as funding has been chased. Now it has all come together, with support from a variety of sources – Lotterywest, the Australian Research Council, the State Government’s Regional Initiatives Scheme and the Constitutional Centre of WA. Support has also come from the Battye Library, the State Records Office, the WA Museum, National Archives, the Heritage Council, The National Trust and WA Newspapers.

The encyclopedia promises to be a lively volume covering all periods and drawing upon the knowledge and expertise of the State’s leading historians. Entries ranging from a few hundred words to lengthy essays on specific themes will address up to 1,500 topics. Some 300 people will be involved in writing, making this the largest consultative history project undertaken in Western Australia.

Editor-in-chief is Dr Jenny Grego- ry, Director of the UWA-based Centre for WA History and Director of UWA Press, and General Editor is Dr Jan Gothard, currently seconded from her position as senior lecturer in history at Murdoch University. The project also hopes to appoint an Indigenous researcher.

Three encyclopedias of the State’s history were produced in the early decades of the 20th century, and the arrival of the millennium spurred local historians to push for an updated volume that reflected a 21st century’s approach to history.

“Women hardly got a mention in those earlier volumes, whereas today they are fundamental to the way we approach history,” says Dr Gothard.

“We also feel it is very important to have Indigenous history represented appropriately, so we put a lot of effort into developing an Indigenous policy in conjunction with Jill Milroy and her staff at UWA’s Centre for Aboriginal Programs. Jill is one of several people on the project’s Editorial Advisory Board which comprises nine academics drawn from all the public universities.”

Information about the project has been disseminated by local history groups, the Royal Western Australian Historical Society, The Friends of the Battye Library, the Heritage Council and local universities. It has also been promoted through the State’s regional development commissions.

Says Dr Gothard: “We are also hoping to get funding so that we can produce an electronic version of the encyclopedia – whether a CD-ROM or web-based – which will be especially useful for schools.”

**WELL CONNECTED UWA**

GOOD connections – personal, musical and technical – are vital within the world of music, and in April UWA’s School of Music experienced what Minister for Communications Richard Alston described as “the benefits of national connectivity”.

Senator Alston was at the launch of the CSIRO’s impressive new high-speed network technology that enabled a teacher from the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to conduct a masterclass with four UWA students in Perth. It was the first time such a high definition audio-visual link had been used in Australia, and the occasion had huge implications for education, particularly in large states such as Western Australia.

“But we are working towards is the wired city where quality educational, medical and business services are at everyone’s fingertips, independent of location,” said Dr Terry Percival of the CSIRO.

“With the demonstration today, teachers and students can work as if they are in the same place, seeing, feeling and hearing the same thing even though they are a continent apart.”

The CSIRO’s ambitious Centif Foundation Network – which combines new optical fibre infrastructure and leased capacity from innovative carriers – now links 20 key sites in Sydney and Perth. This Federally-funded initiative for research into networking technologies will be a boost for skills training, telehealth and research, but it is its musical education applications that excite UWA’s Matt Smith. He was at a CSIRO studio in Perth when Mark Walton (Chair of Woodwind and Communications Studies at the Sydney Conservatorium) conducted the masterclass with the UWA Saxophone Quartet.

“It was the first ever transcontinental masterclass in Australia and the visual and sound quality were amazing – it was as if Mark was standing next to us, and, unlike a satellite link, there was hardly any time lag,” says the UWA lecturer/performer. “The big advantage is that this new technology is faster and can hold and deliver a lot more information – around 1.75 gigabytes per second. Given the right connection, the audiovisual link can be set up using the specially designed software, a lap top and monitor and any ‘handy-cam’.”

“The School of Music will be working with CSIRO on the tiny time delay and on teaching strategies for using this equipment.”

When he toured the State’s north-west recently as part of a jazz ensemble, Matt appreciated how advanced networks could benefit regional WA.

“Throughout the tour people wanted advice about performance and teaching techniques, so I can see major benefits for students, teachers and performers if the links could be extended within regional WA.”

Matt, who studied at UWA and the Royal College of Music in London, began performing and teaching at UK universities. He returned to Perth in 1999. While the School of Music focuses on classical music, Matt has introduced jazz-related units – including history, improvisation and arranging – plus a popular music technology unit that is proving attractive to Computer Science students.

“If you are going to survive as a musician, you need to be versatile and these units help to widen the scope of our students and make them more employable,” says Matt.

Versatility has certainly been the key to his success: at UWA he played both the flute and saxophone, and studied classics and jazz, music education, orchestration and arranging. He was top instrumental music student for three consecutive years, has performed nationally and internationally as a classical and jazz recitalist, and with symphony orchestras and jazz ensembles, and has many recordings to his credit. Next year he has been invited to become a Visiting Scholar at Indiana University and the University of Minnesota.

“Jazz flourishes in Perth because there is a large community of artists and followers, and the standard is very high for a small city,” says the UWA lecturer. “The introduction of an international jazz festival as part of the Perth International Arts Festival has also given us far more exposure to international jazz artists.” And with the potential prospect of PIAF’s international artists giving masterclasses to Perth students – there is now also the possibility of Sydney students joining in via the high speed network.

**TRAVELLING WITH EXTENSION**

CHRIS Wood – just back from Morocco and slightly breathless – admits to having an enviable existence doing what he likes best: travelling, exploring the cultural history of distant places, and then telling rapt audiences at UWA Extension all about it. And the man who founded Australians Studying Abroad makes an excellent travelling companion.

His lectures are illustrated with superb images that help to set the scene, as does the infectious enthusiasm of this university lecturer, photographer, and writer. “It’s really important that history is not another country, but has an immediacy that may be difficult to convey in a book.”

In his June program for UWA Extension, Chris Wood will be taking us back through history to explore the tribal origins of Turks, Mongols, Arabs, Jews and Celts, with a side trip to view Russia’s two great imperial capitals, Moscow and St Petersburg. In all he will deliver eight Extension lectures and you can check details on: www.extension.uwa.edu.au

**MAKE A DATE WITH SCF**

BACK in the 1960s the first Save the Children book sale – set up on a single table in Whitfield Court – was organised by a couple of enthusiasts from the group’s University branch. It raised just over one hundred pounds. A decade later the take was $1000 and rising, and each year the money raised funded countless worthwhile projects aimed at improving the health and lives of children.

Today, as it approaches its 40th book sale, the University branch can be proud of the fact that it has sent over a million dollars to worthy causes across the world.

UWA has been generous in accommodating the sale which now takes place in the Undercroft of Winthrop Hall and has also offered space for storage and sorting of the thousands of books annually donated.

The SCF book sale has now become an institution in Perth, with
the first night attracting large crowds. Members work tirelessly and have garnered some amazing memories: the pleasure of seeing students finding texts that they could not otherwise afford, and of book collectors discovering a long-hunted gem. And there’s the occasional negative – like the dealer once discovered rubbing out prices and inserting his own!

Says KarenMcCullagh, Executive Officer, “The book sale owes much to the generosity of the University and its regular customers…” If you are one of the latter, make a note of the SCF Book Sale dates 25 to 30 July, and don’t forget the added attraction of the auction of a letter to the enterprising group from British author Jeffrey Archer, with a self-portrait of himself languishing in goal. If you have books to donate, pickups can be arranged by phoning 9440 6411 or 9385 9070.

**GALLERY SHOWS NEW ACQUISITIONS**

In the past two years important additions to the UWA Art Collection have come from bequest funds, gifts and donations. The current exhibition at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery gives visitors an opportunity to enjoy some of these acquisitions. The Friends of the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery contributed two important drawings by Howard Taylor and a recent painting by Lisa Wolfgazmam. The gallery has also purchased several works, including Tom Gibbons’ Random landscapes 1982, and a major new work by Lesley Duxbury, extending the collection of works on paper by key WA artists. This small exhibition gives an overview of recent additions and points to directions for future growth for the collection. It runs until 3 August 2003.

Also currently at the gallery is Women’s Work: Aspects of Female Art Practice in Twentieth Century Australia which focuses upon women’s involvement in the modernist movement in the first half of the century and the paradigm shift of feminist art practice in the 1970s and beyond. It runs to 6 August.

**FRIENDS GET TOGETHER**

The Friends of the UWA Grounds enjoyed their inaugural lecture in May during an evening hosted by Mrs Rose Chaney, Chair of the recently-formed group. The speaker was Emeritus Professor George Seddon who, together with UWA graduate and researcher Gillian Lilleeeyam, is preparing a comprehensive landscape history of the UWA’s National Estate registered grounds. A Landscape for Learning will be published by UWA Press in 2004.

During the past year, the two researchers have unearthed a wealth of new material relating to the work of several early gardeners who contributed to the makings of the UWA grounds, and meetings with descendants have turned up significant archival material. The Friends of the UWA Grounds have a lively program of events. If you would like to join, contact Daniel Fernando on 9380 7222.

In July, there will be a lecture on the birds to be found on campus.

**A STIRLING HISTORY**

STILL on the subject of history, Pamela Statham-Drew’s impressive James Stirling, Admiral and Founding Governor of Western Australia, published by UWA Press, fills a gap in WA history by documenting – for the first time – the full career of our State’s first governor.

“Stirling’s influence touches us all,” says the author. “He chose the site of Perth, split the capital and port (which had not been done to that time) and named most of the prominent landscape features. Many false impressions of the man – such as his suggested propensity to ‘grab land’ – have been debunked through official dispatches and family letters.”

Dr Statham-Drew, a Senior Lecturer at UWA’s School of Economics and Commerce, spent eight years researching and writing this biography. She presents Sir James Stirling as an adventurous, resilient character whose optimism and willpower helped the infant Swan River Colony to survive. After rejoicing the navy, Stirling went on to become Commander in Chief of the China station on HMS Winchester from 1854, fighting Russians, controlling pirates and Chinese rebels, and negotiating Britain’s first treaty with Japan.

UWA Press also recently published a collection of essays entitled: Farewell Cinderella, Creating Arts and Identity in Western Australia edited by Geoffrey Bolton, Richard Rossiter and Jan Ryan. One of the illustrations in the book features the very fetching Maude Allan (below) who brought her distinctive Isadora Duncan-style of dance to Perth, Meredith and Kalgoorlie in 1914. Both UWA Press titles are available at the University Co-op Bookshop and all good book stores.

**WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE...**

WATER will be at the centre of an important international symposium – Water: histories, cultures, ecologies – to be held at UWA from 14 to 18 July. It will bring together anthropologists, historians and engineers to present a fascinating, multi-faceted view of an essential resource.

The symposium is convened by the Centre for Water Research, the Institute of Advanced Studies and the disciplines of Anthropology and History. Running in conjunction with the symposium will be an exhibition of water paintings by Mangaka Arts from the Kimberley (at the UWA’s Cul-
Proving of night patrol services.

If you would like to know more about the centre visit the website: www.arts.uwa.edu.au/erc/

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

UWA graduate Leith Landauer would like to encourage graduates who may have a little spare time for volunteering to get involved with the Home Tutor Scheme provided for adult migrants from more than 40 different countries, including the Sudan, Somalia, Iran, Iran, Bosnia, Afghanistan, China and Japan. Leith, who is herself involved, says that no formal teaching background is required and that training and assistance for volunteers are provided. If you are interested contact the Home Tutor Scheme, West Coast College of TAFE at 16 Victoria Ave, Perth. Phone 9229 3630.

CENTRE FOCUSES ON EYE DISEASE

SUCCESS stories in the area of Aboriginal health are always good news, and the Lions Eye Institute, which is the Centre for Ophthalmology and Visual Science at UWA, is understandably pleased that its remote community screening program in the North-West is making an impact on diabetic retinopathy – which has overtaken trachoma and cataracts as the major cause of blindness in Aboriginal people.

Associate Professor Ian McAllister, who runs the centre’s program with ophthalmic photographer Chris Barry, says that up to 30 per cent of Aboriginal people are diabetic, and of that group one-third have diabetic retinopathy, a disease that, if untreated, causes the retina to malfunction and be pulled away from the eye. Blood vessels then leak into the eye, causing eventual blindness.

In the past, visiting ophthalmologists have screened diabetics when visiting regional health centres. However, for the last eight years the centre has been training local and Indigenous health workers and district nurses to operate an ophthalmic camera that can photograph the retina. Images are then sent to the Lions Eye Institute, where Professor McAllister examines them, grades them for epidemiological purposes and recommends either laser treatment or further screening.

“As many Aboriginal people living in the North-West are highly mobile, live in small remote communities and move between large kinship networks, keeping track of those who have been screened was a problem. Also, we found that people tended not to come into major centres where screening was done.”

“Most diabetics are not aware that they have the disease until it is fairly advanced and at that stage there is not much one can do in the way of treatment. However, if picked up in the early stages, we can treat it very effectively and preserve their vision – which makes the screening really important.”

The centre has now trained more than 30 health workers to operate the user-friendly camera, and in the last two years, they have screened an impressive 60 per cent of all diabetics in the Kimberley area.

“This high screening rate is already having an impact – thanks to people like Dr Donna Mak and her team from the Kimberley Public Health Unit, and the Aboriginal Health units and their workers” says Professor McAllister, who runs annual training programs for this ongoing program.

Success breeds success, they say, and certainly this program will serve as a model for others planned for the Goldfields, Pilbara and Gascoyne regions and outer metropolitan areas of Perth.
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While engaging with the Federal Government in its major review of higher education, as President of the Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee, I have been provided with the opportunity of a rare perspective across the whole of the Australian university sector.

The AVCC has 38 member universities educating some 650,000 students (plus 150,000 overseas students), and it is inconceivable to imagine an Australia without this network of skilling and intellectual powerhouses. Like the spread of roads, railways and electricity in earlier eras of our history, the growth of our universities has been a vital agency of transformation in our nation.

Our graduates are, in so many ways, the future of our country. Some 15 per cent of Australians now have a university qualification. Our graduates and our staff are central to research and innovation developments in our universities: universities do 84 per cent of the nation’s research and 75 per cent of all research and development is university linked.

In short: we are no longer just the ‘Lucky Country’ – we are becoming, by design, a highly educated nation, and our university sector is really now the innovation sector.

These developments are, in my view, every bit as important as the micro reforms that have transformed our economy. And our graduates symbolise the fact that the revolution in skills, knowledge and intellectual property will make a prosperous and secure future for our country in a new century of globalisation, competition and opportunity.

In terms of population, capital assets and exports, we are small players in the world economy. Yet when it comes to innovation and value-adding, we ‘punch well above our national weight’. The combination of great natural and intellectual resources could be the envy of the world. This could be our great century.

The national review of higher education has indeed focussed our attention on the centrality of universities in building modern societies.

In that spirit, the Australian Vice-Chancellors will continue to argue that by 2020, our nation should have created one of the top five higher education systems in the world through:

- investing two per cent of our GDP in universities and their research (currently the figure is about 1.4 per cent);
- ensuring that 60 per cent participation rates in higher education are achieved (we are currently at 45 per cent);
- funding at least one world-class research centre in each major discipline across the nation; and,
- giving the right support in policies and finance to see our educational system become one of our top three service exports.

In a changing economy and work place, a ‘life of earning’ increasingly means a ‘life of learning’. The sociologists tell us that we shall change jobs between five and 10 times in our careers, and that flexible skills and lateral thinking will be the basis of successful working lives. We may attend university several times over a life of changing opportunities and work skills. As a community we have indeed now embraced that life-long learning concept, with about half of all students in universities being defined as ‘mature age’.

Indeed, as individuals and citizens we also appear to have grasped the deepest meaning of a good education – that it helps us to know ourselves, to form our interests, values, beliefs and view of the world.”
It is a tribute to the standing of UWA’s Berndt Museum within Western Australia’s Aboriginal communities that, well before his death last year, the legendary artist Jimmy Pike requested that the Museum have custody of the works in his estate. The artist’s request also reflected the impact of the Museum’s careful nurturing and promotion of contemporary art within local communities.

The Berndt Museum, run by a small but dedicated curatorial staff, is now in the process of registering some 491 works on paper, acrylics on canvas and linocuts. Among the collection’s most fragile items are texta ink drawings that the artist did when he first began producing artworks in Fremantle Gaol.

For Jimmy Pike, whose works are now held in national, state and overseas collections, art was a transforming medium. He grew up in the Western Desert, and when he first encountered life on pastoral stations and in Fitzroy Crossing as a teenager, he suffered the social dislocation experienced by many of his people.

“That was not a good time in his life,” says long time friend and Berndt Museum curator Dr John Stanton. “But when introduced to art in prison, Jimmy found a way to express his frustration and his deep love for his country. That gave him a new world, a new understanding of himself and where he belonged. Through his art, he was able to assert his sense of belonging, his knowledge and skill – and to find a role within the wider community.”

Dr Stanton first encountered Jimmy’s work when it was included in a 1982 exhibition of prison art at His Majesty’s Theatre organised (as was art therapy at Fremantle Gaol) by Steve Culley, who later formed Desert Designs, the company that made Jimmy Pike’s fabric designs famous internationally.

“I was so impressed with that exhibition of prison art – and in particular Jimmy’s work – that I photographed the whole collection. However, I only met Jimmy himself later when he had been transferred to the low security prison in Broome, which is where he met his wife Pat Lowe, a prison psychologist.

“Jimmy painted all his adult life, and was still painting a week before he died. He wanted to tell the story of his land and the deep meaning that it had for him. Jimmy and Pat lived in very simple Kimberley camps where he painted. There were stretcher beds, a solar fridge, a radio and not much more. It was in that environment he produced some of his best work, and it was in that context that I got to know him, to encourage him, and to help to promote his work.

“Three years ago Jimmy and Pat approached the Museum about becoming the custodian of his estate, which he wanted kept in a museum setting. Jimmy had always appreciated the work done by this Museum, knowing of our focus on promoting contemporary Aboriginal art and our close links with Aboriginal communities.

“When Professor Ronald Berndt began his collection 55 years ago, he focussed on contemporary art. Since becoming curator in 1981 I have continued that commitment. The museum has consistently acquired works by emerging Aboriginal artists and we now have an amazing collection of works produced in this region of Australia – probably the best there is.

“When we started collecting these works in the 1970s, people thought we were mad, because they didn’t think contemporary art was ‘real Aboriginal art’. Now we count in our collection early works by artists such as Rover Thomas, Jody Broun and Julie Dowling. We make sure that our travelling exhibitions take these works to regional Australia, which is often neglected. We want to make people aware of the richness and the diversity of the University’s collection.

“It’s an indication of the level of support we have in these communities that we are often given gifts – artefacts, photo-

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Jimmy Pike texta ink on paper entitled Mangkaja. This is a white bird from the Dreaming. He travels at night and at one place he settled down on the ground. The land around him sank and a waterhole sprung up, called Mangkaja Kura. People can find water there today in this place in jilji (sandhill) country.

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graphic records, artworks – by communities. But looking after all this material is a huge commitment for the University. At present we can only display a small proportion of the material we have, less than one percent; however we are hoping that, in the years ahead, we will have a purpose-built exhibition space that can do justice to this amazing collection.

“When we take custodianship of works such as Jimmy’s we make a commitment, in terms of space, conservation and maintenance – and that is a challenge in our present cramped situation and with our present small staff! We don’t normally accept materials on loan, but because this is such a significant collection, we felt it was our responsibility. What will happen to the collection in the future is up to Jimmy’s estate. The important thing is that, meanwhile, the materials are being looked after properly, because they might be here for a long time. If, however, a regional museum or art gallery is eventually created in the Kimberley, some of the works might go there, while we remain the holding institution.”

The Museum hopes eventually to be able to display the works within the Jimmy Pike collection and the other collections it holds. The University’s Office of Development has received a bequest from the late Dr Harold Schenberg to create a new building to house the Berndt Collection and is negotiating a major gift through an international foundation. UWA Alumni have also donated $200,000 towards this project.

Says Director of Development, Mr Peter Leunig: “It has long been a dream of this University to create a new building for the Berndt Museum. Working with the Senate Development Committee and the Hackett Foundation, a steering committee has been formed comprising Mr Richard Goyder, Mr Tony Howarth, Professor Alan Robson and Sir James Cruthers to spearhead a fund-raising campaign, with Ernie Dingo as its Patron.”

If you are interested in finding out more about this project, contact Peter Leunig on +61 8 9380 7826. The Berndt Museum collection is on the Web. You can access it on: http://www.Berndt.uwa.edu.au

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When ‘good genes’ are just not enough

Darwin alerted us to the fact that the secondary sexual characters of animals are successful structures in the competitive arena of winning a mate. A deer’s impressive antlers become formidable weapons in a courtship contest; the peacock’s train of feathers clearly stops the nondescript peahen in her tracks; while the horned dung beetle is better able to guard his mate than his unhorned rival.

Selecting ‘good genes’ that are clearly advertised – the peacock’s train, the deer’s impressive antlers – makes good reproductive sense: the male wins a mate while the female is assured that her offspring will be well endowed with genetic gifts. But if the story was that simple, genetic variants wouldn’t exist and all the lesser quality males would have been bred out of the system.

However, the fact is that seemingly less impressive sexual contenders persist – like the unhorned dung beetles that would never take on his horned counterpart, yet manages sneak copulations with his rival’s mate. Just why the female beetle (and countless other creatures) opt for polyandry makes the story of sexual selection far more complex and ensures that in the 21st century, evolutionary biologists still contend with some unanswered questions.

Professor Leigh Simmons of UWA’s Department of Zoology is working at the forefront of this field, addressing questions about sperm competition and sexual selection, and his findings are consistently published in high ranking journals such as Nature.

“Sperm competition is now widely recognised as a pervasive force in evolution and is currently a rapidly developing discipline within behavioural ecology. Nevertheless, it is only in the last few years that there has been a theoretical framework with which to generate empirically testable hypotheses,” says Professor Simmons, who recently won a five-year Australian Research Council Discovery grant.

Professor Simmons is pursuing his research using both field crickets and dung beetles. Both provide examples of female polyandry. The length of the field cricket’s sonorous mating song demonstrates his ‘good genes’ as much as the dung beetle’s horns. Yet the females of both species opt for multiple matings, sometimes at a cost to themselves, particularly when caught up in the fray of fighting rival males.

“Our understanding of sexual selection is based largely on observations of male mating success. However, it is becoming increasingly clear that selection operating after copulation can have profound implications for evolution,” explains Professor Simmons. “Recent findings challenge our current understanding of evolution under sexual selection and demand an increased effort in examining the biological processes that occur between copulation and fertilization, and the outcome of those processes in terms of offspring.”
“Insects provide excellent models for studying processes of evolution because of the ease with which they can be reared and manipulated. More importantly, they are predisposed to high levels of sperm competition because females have multiple matings and both store and maintain sperm in specially adapted storage organs.”

Professor Simmons has several thousand dung beetles in his laboratory in UWA’s School of Animal Biology. The female stores the sperm from her matings in a special organ with glands that nourish them until fertilisation. Then it is a case of ‘may the best sperm win’. (The storage of sperm in the insect world is common – ants have one nuptial flight and can spend as long as 30 years producing offspring from sperm kept viable over that period.)

The dung beetle plays an important role in keeping the State’s fly population in check, as both beetles and flies lay eggs in cow pats on which their offspring feed. Beetles are gathered in the field during summer – a single cow pat will provide as many as 1,000 beetles. Mating and breeding are observed and meticulously documented in the laboratory where artificial dung beetle tunnels (plastic vials smeared with cow dung) have been constructed. DNA testing provides paternity analysis and in collaboration with Dr Siegfried Krauss of King’s Park and Perth Botanic Gardens conservation genetics laboratory, Professor Simmons has developed his own technique involving an automated DNA sequencer and dedicated software to assign parentage to fathers when females are mated with two or more different males.

Professor Simmons’ research involves international collaborations with Professor Geoff Parker of the University of Liverpool and Professor Marlene Zuk of the University of California. The UWA researcher is European Executive Editor of Animal Behaviour and Associate Editor of Behavioural Ecology and Sociobiology. He is the author of Sperm Competition and its Evolutionary Consequences in the Insects, published by Princeton University Press. He studied for his PhD at the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom.

Professor Simmons’ ARC Discovery grant runs over five years. He is currently supervising three postgraduate students studying sperm competition in insects and mice. At a recent graduation ceremony, his former student, Dr John Hunt, was awarded the University’s Robert Street Prize for his work on sperm competition and parental care. Professor Simmons’ UWA research group is considered an international leader in this field.

If you would like to know more about this research, visit the website: www.zoology.uwa.edu.au/staff/lsimmons
Professor David Kennedy of UWA’s School of Humanities describes Roman archaeology students in Australia as the ‘Cinderellas of archaeology’.

“They have the potential to work with some of the richest cultural heritage from any period in history, but all too often they cannot go to the ball. The world of Greece and Rome is far away. Airfares and living expenses are high for someone with Australian dollars, so fieldwork has to be self-funded, and increasingly it is limited to those with experience, or those from a sponsoring university,” says the UWA researcher.

“It becomes a Catch 22 situation – you cannot participate without experience and you can’t get experience because you have never been on an excavation.”

However, last year was very different. John Manley, Chief Executive Officer of the Sussex Archaeological Society in the United Kingdom, a Distinguished Visitor at UWA, was button-holed by students eager to see if he could offer them fieldwork opportunities. What unfolded was the chance to work on a huge Roman villa at Fishbourne in Sussex – an opportunity that had much to do with the fact that Professor Kennedy and Mr Manley were students together 30 years ago.

“The Sussex Archaeological Society owns several very large properties from a medieval castle to a 16th century priory, but the flagship of their operation is the so-called Roman ‘palace’ at Fishbourne,” explains Professor Kennedy. “Fishbourne is not just the biggest Roman villa in Britain but the biggest north of the Alps. It has sumptuous baths, room after room of high quality mosaics, and an elaborate ornamental garden.

“It has been widely accepted that it was the residence of a romanized British ruler called Tiberius Claudius Togidubnus. The first century villa was discovered in 1960 and, with a few interruptions, excavation has gone on ever since. John Manley’s current excavations are outside the palace and have become a training excavation for those able to pay $600 per week.”

Mr Manley waived the normal fee and agreed to take two current and one former UWA student. Pamela Lynch (studying the people of Roman Britain for Honours) could manage only a week but Emmie Lister (researching a PhD on food and diet in Roman Britain) stayed for the entire six weeks. Caroline Allen (a former Honours student now working as a teacher at Guildford Grammar School) participated for four weeks.

They began as trainees. “There was actually much more involved in the training course than I had expected,” says Pam Lynch. “We were given instructions in all aspects of the dig, not just excavation techniques but such things as environmental archaeology, conservation, geophysics, surveying, site planning and section drawing. The environmental archaeology section involved identifying different types of animal bones and we also had a chance to look at human jaw bones and the differences in them between male and female.”

All of the students agreed that it was a strange experience to be on a Roman site rather than reading about one, and they were delighted that this excavation proved to be so rich in finds. As Caroline observed: “It was amazing how quickly one was able to identify objects. I was excited seeing my first bit of decorated Samian pottery and still enthusiastic when I saw my twentieth. It was a nice feeling being the first person to touch it in almost 2000 years!”
Emmie Lister observes that archaeology is very labour-intensive. “Research can be a largely solitary activity, but an archaeological excavation requires a huge amount of human effort, and not just in shifting the daunting quantities of soil by hand, but especially in the behind-the-scenes work in site surveying, planning, sample analysis and finds processing,” she says. “Each piece of pottery and fragment of animal bone is washed by hand with toothbrushes and sponges, then dried. Each pot sherd is hand marked with its context number in ink, sorted and bagged ready to go to the ceramic expert.”

However, this painstaking work is clearly balanced by the delights of handling 1900 year old bronze tweezers, a corroded Roman coin and the sea of pottery that a typical Roman site will produce.

“My experience at Fishbourne really gave me an appreciation of archaeology as a process – I saw a site develop from a square hole in the ground to a complex map of features which all had to be interpreted. I enjoyed the continually revised hypotheses about the things we discovered on site,” says Emmie Lister.

Meanwhile, at Jerash in Jordan, Kate Wolrige (for the third year), Andrew Card (for the second year) and Anne Poepjes (for the first time) – all of them UWA research students in Classical Archaeology – were working on a Graeco-Roman city whose origins go back to the Bronze Age. “It was obviously an amazing town in the first and second centuries AD, and a lot of money went into the buildings,” says David. “Our objective since 2000 has been to try to date the city walls that stretch more than three kilometres around the city. There had been previous attempts to date them by inscriptions and limited excavation. Inscriptions suggested the late first century AD, while the French excavations dated them to the fourth century which many found unlikely. We had to try to get some reliable results from a series of trenches beside the wall, but we also found an unexpected and richly preserved grave under the wall!”

This site, which is managed by the Jordanian Department of Antiquities, was once a major city. Its obvious wealth is thought to have come from agriculture as it lies in one of the more fertile areas of the country but it also was situated on the great trade route known still – as it is in the Old Testament – as the King’s Highway.

“Our team was given free rein on the walls, while other groups worked on some of the site’s amazing theatres and temples,” says David. “Former UWA researcher, Professor Alan Walmsley of Copenhagen University, was exploring an early Islamic mosque. Excavation has been going on in Jordan since 1919 but we have only scratched the surface.

“It was an amazing privilege to be out there surrounded by those ancient ruins. The day began at 6am and generally the team worked through to early afternoon. Then, because of the heat, the afternoon was spent documenting finds.”

Professor Kennedy is one of the joint directors of the Jerash City Walls Project with an Australian Ina Kehrberg and John Manley. In the 1970-80s he was actively involved in a succession of ground surveys in Jordan and more recently in a programme of aerial archaeology, the first such systematic work in the region since 1939. He is now preparing a long-term, multi-disciplinary programme of ground survey and excavation in the Jerash Basin as part of a wider analysis of settlement and landscape in northern Jordan.

“Jordan is like a huge outdoor museum,” says the UWA professor. “Almost every village you encounter has houses built over tombs, or people living in ancient ruins, and the most significant of ancient remains are from the Roman period. But of course it is all fast disappearing. Population is burgeoning, families are large, and new towns and villages are mushrooming everywhere.

“The First Gulf War forced half a million Jordanians and Palestinians with Jordanian passports to return home and the impact of this human tragedy on a small population and relatively poor country has been immensely damaging, not least to its cultural heritage. What we desperately need is for people to go out there and record it before it disappears.”

The Jordanian royal family have given their support to Professor Kennedy’s own efforts to record this rich history, putting Royal Jordan Air Force military helicopters at his disposal for seven seasons of flying. The book he has written on the subject with his colleague at English Heritage, Dr Bob Bewley, Ancient Jordan From The Air, is now completed – but the renewed upheaval in the Middle East may make it an unexpected victim of the new war as publishers worry about sales and subventions.

Ideally Professor Kennedy would like to see all senior archaeology students get the experience and insight of fieldwork. Professor Kennedy and Emmie Lister are currently organising a Study Tour of Roman Britain for July 2003. Open to all, any profits made will go towards a fieldwork account established to support student participation in projects overseas. If you would like to know more, contact dkennedy@cyllene.uwa.edu.au or +61 8 9380 2150 and see http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/Classics/Tour_Ad_for_Web.pdf
Analysing news for voting cues

The dramatic televised images of the World Trade Centre twin towers collapsing in New York and the container ship *Tampa* rescuing asylum seekers dominated the 2001 Federal elections, but did they influence voters?

Few can forget the televised images of New York’s twin towers collapsing in billowing dust and flames, nor the arrival in Australian waters of the *Tampa* with its desperate human ‘cargo’ of asylum seekers.

Both events monopolised television news in the weeks leading up to the 2001 Australian Federal election. While the issues surrounding them absorbed the nation in different ways, both had repercussions when votes were cast at polling booths on 10 November. But to what extent does the televised treatment of news events influence voters? UWA political scientist David Denemark has been investigating this and other related issues in a major research project that has recently received support from the Australian Research Council.

“The 2001 Australian election campaign that followed these two events served to fuse an eleventh-hour set of high profile international issues – that traditionally benefit an incumbent government – with an ongoing agenda of domestic policies that, earlier in the year, had looked certain to secure victory for the Labor opposition,” observed Dr Denemark, a Senior Lecturer in UWA’s Department of Political Science.

“These two international crises dominated the media in the lead up to the election. Prime Minister Howard was able to maximise electoral gain by defining the refugee issue as one of border protection and linking it with the 11 September terrorist attacks. As a consequence the issue of asylum seekers became a national defence issue – one that inevitably benefited the incumbent Prime Minister and Government,” says Dr Denemark.

“However, international issues appear not alone to have dictated the course of the election campaign, because the Coalition’s votes had largely been secured before it started. Indeed, Labor made significant gains in the final week of the campaign on the basis of domestic issues, such as health, unemployment, and taxation. But, it was too little to supplant the Coalition’s early lead.”

The terrorist bomb attacks in Bali had a similar effect on voter evaluations, says Dr Denemark. Prime Minister John Howard’s ratings rose dramatically, while those of Opposition Leader, Simon Crean, declined sharply. This divergence between public support for the Prime Minister and disapproval of the Leader of the Opposition during times of external crisis has, if anything, been sharpened, due to the Iraq war. Because the hostilities proved to be brief and without Australian casualties, the Prime Minister’s approval rating has risen sharply – leaving Mr Crean to nurse all-time low scores, while fighting a rearguard action to save his leadership. It is a reminder, argues Dr Denemark, that external threats to a nation tend to prompt support for the government of the day.

Dr Denemark presented his findings last October at the annual meetings of the Australasian Political Studies Association in Canberra. The UWA researcher has recently been awarded a $50,000 Discovery Grant from the Australian Research Council to analyse the affects of TV news coverage on the 1998 and 2001 Federal elections. His co-researchers are Dr Ian Ward, from the University of Queensland, and Associate Professor Clive Bean, from the Queensland University of Technology.

The researchers will merge content analysis of TV
coverage during the two five-week campaigns with survey data from each election, so that they can gauge voters’ differential reliance on media cues in their vote decision-making. Other aspects of TV coverage of the election campaigns will also be examined, including the extent to which the two major party leaders dominated the coverage, differences in commercial and public TV coverage, and the nature of party and leader images that were conveyed on the hustings. Overall, Dr Denemark argues, this study is long overdue, as TV news is now the most important source of political information for the majority of voters in Australia.

“Among other things, we want to see which issues were covered in this election and whether voters picked up on these issues and used them as cues in voting. We will also be assessing voter evaluations and reflections on the TV coverage,” says Dr Denemark.

Political scientists have long debated the susceptibility of voters to media cues, especially in the realm of ‘agenda-setting’ – when intensity of coverage of particular issues, ideas, events and images is argued to convey to voters a sense of what issues are important.

Previous research suggests that the mass media’s influence on voters is felt most strongly amongst those with the lowest levels of political interest and awareness, because their poorly-formed political beliefs and information are least able to resist the impact of new information. However, Dr Denemark adds, individuals with low political interest are also the least likely to vote in non-compulsory electoral systems, like the United States.

“This means that Australia is perhaps the best place in the world to study media effects on voter decision making, because its system of compulsory voting forces even disinterested individuals to participate in electoral evaluations, and to confront mass media cues, especially in the latter stages of election campaigns,” says the UWA researcher.

An interesting irony, Dr Denemark notes, is that late-deciding voters with the least political interest and awareness frequently hold the key to electoral victory and the formation of government for the nation.

Dr Denemark is also involved in research that focuses on electoral support for populist minor parties in Australia, New Zealand, the US and Canada. His fellow researchers in this project are Professor Shaun Bowler of the University of California – Riverside, Professor Todd Donovan of Western Washington University and Associate Professor Anthony Sayers of the University of Calgary. He won a 2002 UWA Research Grant and a 2002 Canadian High Commission Faculty Research Program Award to support his work in this area.

“This research centres on the rise of right populist politics that all four countries have experienced in recent years as a reaction to socio-economic displacement and the uncertainties inherent in globalisation. In particular, individuals living in rural and provincial areas and employed in unskilled jobs have been increasingly marginalised,” says Dr Denemark.

“The result is the rise of the populist parties with platforms that call for limiting immigration, that object to special benefits for ethnic subgroups, that attack the arrogance of established parties and that trumpet the glories of society’s ‘forgotten battlers’.”

In Canada and the US such groups have expressed opposition to bilingualism, while in three of the four countries there has been opposition to free trade and support for economic protectionism, and in all four countries, there has been a call for national unity to combat the disorienting diversity of mass immigration and multiculturalism.

While the electoral support for populist parties in all four countries has eroded since its zenith in the 1990s, the researchers are keen to explore the emergence and rise to prominence of unorthodox politics – as well as to explain the causes of its decline.

“It has been fascinating to find similar patterns relating to minor parties such as One Nation and New Zealand First and the Canadian Reform Party – all fuelled by a sense of regional dislocation, a deep distrust of government, and a political unease related to globalisation and the displacement caused by a rapidly changing world.”

Dr Denemark argues that support for One Nation across the last few years is indicative of social and economic vulnerability felt by those not experiencing the benefits of rapid change in Australia. While the focus on asylum seekers and border protection served to deflate One Nation’s electoral support in the 2001 election, support for One Nation or another similar party is unlikely to disappear in the near future, as no other party will embrace the issues of economic isolationism, and opposition to multiculturalism.

Dr Denemark travelled to Canada last year to present his research at the annual meetings of the Canadian Political Science Association in Toronto, and to meet up with his fellow researchers in Vancouver. At that time they presented a workshop at the University of British Columbia on populist politics. They present the next instalment of their cross-national research on populism at the International Political Studies Association meetings in Durban, South Africa in July, 2003. The four researchers have been contracted to write a book on the politics of new right populist movements in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States.
Rethinking the use of our most vital resource

Water is one of the earth’s most vital resources, yet despite advances in technology and resource management, more that one billion people around the world do not have access to safe water and more than three million die every year from avoidable water related diseases. By 2005, it is estimated that nearly two-thirds of the world’s population will be living in areas subject to water stress.

Professor Murugesu Sivapalan is convinced that water – like other precious resources – could be the catalyst for conflict in the 21st century. In fact he says that conflicts are already simmering across the Indian subcontinent, and violence involving farmers has already erupted over dams that have cut downstream flows. That scenario could be played out on a global scale as major rivers such as East Asia’s Mekong are being dammed to feed burgeoning populations. With the Mekong flowing through five developing countries – all dependent on staples of rice and fish – it is little wonder that talk of dam building stirs consternation.

The Third World Water Forum in Kyoto earlier this year focussed attention on what is shaping up to be the most critical issue of the 21st century. This year is designated the International Year of Freshwater, and with 40 percent of the world’s population already short of freshwater (and estimates suggesting that in Asia the figure will rise to 90 percent in 2030) the use of this precious resource needs careful attention.

In affluent countries like Australia water is needlessly wasted, despite the fact that we live on the world’s driest continent. UNIVIEW editor Trea Wiltshire talks to the much honoured Professor Murugesu Sivapalan of UWA’s Centre for Water Research, a world leader in catchment hydrology, who believes it is time we increased the dollar value of water, and questioned the way we are using it. The UWA researcher recently travelled to France to receive prestigious awards from both the European Geophysical Society and the American Geophysical Union.
At present, the United Nations supported Mekong Commission, based in Bangkok – is playing a role in bringing together interested parties, and Professor Sivapalan says that such forums will be vital if small countries such as Cambodia – sitting at the negotiating table alongside major players such as China – are to get a fair deal.

“It is only when you consider rivers such as the Mekong that you appreciate how many aspects of life they affect. Apart from scientific issues related to its water – which is my area of study – a major river like this is an important transport artery, as well as sustaining agriculture and fishing industries. The use of its water has legal, social, economic and cultural implications.”

Hydrology, which is Professor Sivapalan’s area of expertise, is the study of water, its pathways and transformations, from the time it falls as rain on a landscape to when it empties into the ocean.

“It’s an exciting area of study because water is changing all the time as it moves across the land, or is stored in a dam. It also subjects us to great extremes such as floods or droughts. It is these extremes (some caused by natural climate variability, some exacerbated by human impacts on the environment) that need to be understood.

“As we accumulate sufficient knowledge about the systems at work here, we are able to more accurately predict a range of things that have economic and human implications – from hundred-year floods to the sort of conditions engineers need to be aware of when designing dams or building bridges. Hydrology provides these answers and it also develops the tools that enable us to make such predictions.”

Professor Sivapalan and his associates have developed over the years a number of computer models for the prediction of any number of hydrological responses that are needed by industry, ranging from methods to estimate floods under climatic or land use changes, to the prediction of salinity, nutrients and heavy metals in river flows. In particular, they have developed the model LASCAM (large scale catchment model) with support from industry and government funding, which is now beginning to be used by ALCOA and the Water and Rivers Commission for long-range planning.

UWA’s Centre for Water Research has expertise in a wide range of water sciences and its researchers are in demand worldwide (see box story). The centre currently attracts students from over 18 countries, and produces roughly 35 graduates annually, of which up to 10 may graduate with higher degrees, such as the MEngSc or PhD. Of these about 25 percent are likely to become involved in hydrology. Professor Sivapalan says that hydrologists are currently in great demand: “They are part of teams involved in almost every major development with economic or environmental impacts – from a new mine or vineyard to a major housing development,” says the UWA professor. “In Australia of all the water sciences, hydrology would be the most important because we are living in the world’s driest continent and we have to use water wisely.”

Professor Sivapalan believes that while government initiatives in Australia to conserve water in homes and gardens are to be welcomed, they will have little impact on overall water use in this state.

“We definitely undervalue the resource which is extraordinary given the continent we live in. Our water is more than three times cheaper than in Europe and until we rectify this, particularly in relation to major users such as industry and agriculture, we will not provide ourselves with additional options, from desalination to treatment and recycling, because they will all appear too costly,” says Professor Sivapalan. “We must also look at which industry sectors, for instance irrigators in agriculture, are the heavy users and then decide whether their contribution to our economy justifies their high, and sometimes inefficient, use of water.

“It is vital that we look at water use in Australia in a holistic way and that government provides a rational framework for its use that enables a comprehensive analysis of all options, including much more recycling, wastewater reuse, desalination, artificial recharge of our groundwater stores and so on.”

An holistic approach is certainly the aim of an interdisciplinary symposium on water which will be held at this University in July (see In Focus). Professor Sivapalan says that such an approach is increasingly being adopted by major funding bodies like the World Bank which have been forced to take a much more cautious approach towards funding major dam projects.

“People once thought of dams as unambiguously good things. Now we are thinking more holistically about downstream ecological impacts, the large amounts of gases such as methane and carbon dioxide released when large expanses of vegetation
are drowned; the loss of once productive land; and the impact of uprooting people from their native lands (many of them tribal people living in remote areas).”

Professor Sivapalan says that in Western Australia, building more dams will not be a solution to shortages.

“Perth receives some 900 mm of rain a year, whereas Melbourne has only 660 mm – yet we are a relatively dry city and Melbourne is the ‘garden city’ where everything is green. This is because Victoria’s rainfall is more uniform, falling throughout the year, whereas ours comes all at once. We also have very different soils which define what happens to the rain once it has fallen and whether it can be stored in groundwater or in dams. Victoria has shallow and gravely soils over a rock base that makes groundwater storage limited; our deep sandy soils secrete much of the water away from streams into groundwater, which means we need a much larger catchment area to gather up the streamflow and store it in surface impoundments like dams – and we’re fast running out of space to build them. Indeed, in some parts of Western Australia, such as Albany, the Water Corporation is investigating the artificial recharge of groundwater using river water in winter for use in summer – this should be encouraged.”

Murugesu Sivapalan grew up in Sri Lanka which boasts some of the world’s most ancient hydraulic networks that, even today, help to irrigate the island’s agriculture. In fact dams built in recent decades have been designed in such a way to be inter-connected to these ancient 2,000-year-old networks.

However it was not this ancient legacy of waterworks that drew the UWA professor to hydrology, rather the fact that the subject was largely ignored by his contemporaries at the University of Sri Lanka – and increased his chances of obtaining a scholarship for higher education.

After graduating with a degree in Civil Engineering in Sri Lanka, a scholarship took him to Bangkok’s Asian Institute of Technology to study for a Masters degree in hydrology, after which he spent four years in Nigeria as a consultant engineer.

He went from Ibadan, Nigeria (“no reliable water supply, no reliable electricity, no telephones at all …”) to the sophistication of one of America’s most prestigious campuses, Princeton University. There, on a scholarship, he studied for his MA and PhD degrees, and went on to do postdoctoral work. He joined UWA’s Centre for Water Research as a Lecturer in 1988, and was promoted to full Professor in 1999. In the 15 years he has been at UWA Professor Sivapalan has also completed two sabbaticals at the Vienna Institute of Technology, Austria, and the Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands, helping to form extensive ties to Europe.

In Jaffna, Sri Lanka, where Professor Sivapalan grew up, every house had its own well but the water was so salty it couldn’t be used for cooking and locals had to cart or carry drinking water. Not much has changed in Jaffna, but a recent initiative by the UWA professor could help towns like Jaffna solve the problem of wells that have been over-pumped and, as a result, draw in brine from the sea.

Professor Sivapalan is hoping that the Prediction in Ungauged Basins (PUB) initiative he has developed through the International Association of Hydrological Sciences will provide towns like Jaffna with basic information about fresh water that will help them manage their supply. PUB is the first scientific endeavour to track and quantify the world’s water supply. It aims to collect data on river basins, rainfall and ground water so that sustainable management programs can be formulated over the next decade. For more information about PUB, visit the website: http://www.cig.ensmp.fr/~iahs/scagenda.htm
UWA water centre’s international profile

UWA was the first university in Australia to offer a degree course in Environmental Engineering and, more recently, in Applied Ocean Science Engineering through its Centre for Water Research. Both courses are pioneering the education of sustainable development of the earth and its oceans.

Researchers from the centre are much in demand internationally and are currently working to solve problems collaboratively with overseas colleagues in the Tone River in Japan, Lake Kinneret in Israel, Lake Maracaibo in Venezuela, Lake Pamvotis in Greece, the Bodensee on the border of Germany, Austria and Switzerland, San Roque Reservoir in Argentina, Cienaga de El Totumo in Colombia, Valle de Bravo in Mexico, Brownlee Reservoir in the US and Lake Burragorang in New South Wales.

The centre comprises eight research groups focussing on hydrology, hydrogeology, geophysical fluid dynamics, environmental fluid dynamics, hydrobiology, contaminant dynamics and biological particle dynamics and coastal oceanography. It works closely with industry, undertaking contract research and providing expert advice. It has developed some of the world’s leading numerical modelling tools, and a number of unique instruments that are available to industry partners. The instrumentation tools are being distributed worldwide both commercially through manufacturing agreements with Precision Instruments in San Diego California. The models are available as freeware downloadable from the CWR web site. The CWR models are currently being used in over 60 countries by individual researchers and industry partners.

The centre’s research focuses on understanding water transport and mixing in natural systems, the action of these physical processes on ecological processes and the management of natural ecosystems for the preservation of biodiversity, ecological stability and human requirements. This is being achieved through an extensive program of field, laboratory and modelling research in Australian and overseas sites. The research has progressed to the point where the CWR models can predict the seasonal succession of all trophic levels up to and including zooplankton with the associated chemistry. Projects are underway to add predictive capability for a range of fish species.

For more information about the centre, visit: www.cwr.uwa.edu.au
St Catherine’s celebrates

St Catherine’s College has accommodated many feisty students who have gone on to make their mark in a variety of fields and UWA’s only female residential college retains its attractions as it prepares to celebrate its 75th anniversary.

St Catherine, the patron saint of female scholars, was considered audacious in her day – and paid a heavy price for her precocious intellect.

In the fourth century, she upbraided the Roman emperor Maximus for his persecution of Christians, pitted her wits against the greatest intellects the emperor could assemble, and was so convincing in her arguments that the emperor felt compelled to place her in a dungeon and, finally, she was beheaded.

However, spirited defence of her beliefs have made her the patron saint of female scholars, and of women’s colleges from Cambridge University to The University of Western Australia.

This year, St Catherine’s College, UWA’s only single sex residential college – and its first college for women—celebrates its 75th anniversary, and there will be no shortage of feisty intellects when former residents gather for anniversary celebrations in August.

The college counts amongst its graduates Dr Carmen Lawrence whose stance on Australia’s involvement in war with Iraq and its treatment of refugees prompted her to relinquish her shadow ministerial post for a position on the Federal Opposition’s back bench; Sue Boyd, UWA’s first ever female guild president, who staged a protest to get the Stirling Highway underpass built (after the death of a colleague) and went on to hold top diplomatic posts in Vietnam, Hong Kong and Fiji; and stage actress Faith Clayton, who gave some of her earliest performances at UWA, and has been delighting West Australian audiences ever since.

Their stories and those of others who played a role in establishing ‘St Cat’s’ are part of a college history, Women of Excellence: A History of St Catherine’s College to be launched during celebrations to mark this important anniversary.

The college today, with its new seminar and computer rooms and multi-media theatre, is a world away from postwar pioneering days when the first female residents occupied wartime barracks built to accommodate American flying-boat squadrons. They shared the strictly segregated accommodation with ex-servicemen who were enrolling or re-enrolling following wartime service.

The University Hostel functioned for 14 years and just before it closed The Women’s Weekly – which even in 1959 had its finger on the pulse of things that mattered – breathlessly recorded the fact that despite confronting one another across the breakfast table, student romances did blossom!

UWA graduate Stan Dilkes (BSc Agric 1951) could confirm this, and the fact that his years at the hostel rank as some of the happiest of his life. (Stan sent us the above photo of “the infant St Catherine’s College” in 1948. He met his wife, the late Joan Saunders, while studying and would love to hear from fellow graduates who can fill in some of the names he has forgotten – phone 9757 2511.)

However one person heartily relieved when more conventional premises became available was the redoubtable Miss M. E. Wood, the University Librarian, who agreed to become honorary warden of the fledgling ‘college’ for a week, and was still doing the job 13 years later.

Miss Wood was on the Women’s College Fund Committee, formed by UWA Senate member Dr Roberta Jull in 1928 to raise both community interest and funds for a purpose-built women’s college. She began working in the library (then a corrugated iron library building in Irwin Street) while

ABOVE: Residents of St Catherine’s College, 1948 (courtesy UWA graduate Stan Dilkes)
completing her degree, and admitted that the task of fund-raising was daunting. “We are rather overwhelmed with the magnitude of our undertaking – we must have up to 15,000 pounds before we have control over the ground set aside for us, and a much larger amount for a suitable building, furniture, etc. – and this is quite apart from salaries,” she said at the time.

“We feel that we are working for our grandchildren if not their children. Our efforts so far have produced very small amounts, but at least they advertise our movement.”

Ms Wood continued in an honorary capacity as college warden until she retired in 1959. Many early residents have fond memories of her firmly restoring order when visiting male students challenged college rules or indulged in pranks that would later make great after dinner stories.

Efforts to raise funds for the college were eventually boosted by grants from the WA and Commonwealth Governments and St Catherine’s College finally became a reality in 1960. It today houses five times as many women as in the hostel days, and six times the space. Initially it was a home-away-from-home for country students, but now half of the 150 residents come from overseas.

The current Head of College is the much honoured Yvonne Rate, a UWA graduate and former captain of the Australian Netball Team. Recently she was recognised in the 2003 Australia Day Honours list and was made a Member of the Order of Australia for her lifelong contribution to sport.

Yvonne Rate has been Head of College since 1994, and is clearly yet another feisty woman and an admirable role model. She sees St Catherine’s as being unique on several counts.

“I think the social dynamic is very different from that of a co-educational residential college. The female students who choose to come to St Catherine’s are very much women in their own right and they thrive in this women’s only environment.”

Head of College
Yvonne Rate

Residents overcome homesickness within the first month or two, and from then on, are totally absorbed in enjoying the challenges of their chosen courses.

“The greatest pleasure for me is seeing the girls mature: the majority arrive as excited high school graduates and leave as confident young women ready for their professional careers. It is wonderful to be involved with that process. We also maintain strong links with graduates – and it’s great to hear about our graduates realizing their potential.”

Yvonne Rate sees herself more as an educator than a counsellor and with the strong backing of the house committee, the residential dean and tutors, she sees to the development and progression of the students academically and in life skills.

One of the college’s former tutors, History graduate Chloe Britton, is currently putting the finishing touches to a lively college history which will be launched by UWA graduate Mollie Lukis the oldest surviving Fellow of St Catherine’s College. (Ms Lukis represented the Association of University Women on the St Catherine’s College Council for 18 years.)

Chloe has been gathering stories from graduates, and leafing through old albums of sepia prints and faded press cuttings to cull the most interesting stories of the college.

“Most graduates look back on their college days with great nostalgia, and it’s good to know about those happy times, and some of the things that as students, they got up to,” she says.

The history will be available from the college at a cost of $15.

ST CATHERINE’S COLLEGE
75th Anniversary Celebrations

There will be a 75th Anniversary Cocktail Party on Saturday, 2 August. All former residents and friends of the College are invited to attend this special event.

DETAILS:
Saturday, 2 August 2003
6.30pm – 9.00pm
Junior Common Room, St Catherine’s College
Tickets: $30.00 (includes refreshments and a copy of “Women of Excellence; A History of St Catherine’s College”)
Bookings and Enquiries: Susie – 9386 5847

“Come along and re-visit a part of your history”
When Ric Smith graduated and began teaching, he admits to a restlessness that saw him move from the classroom to life as a diplomat and a career that took him to missions in New Delhi, Tel Aviv, Manila and Honolulu. His last diplomatic posts were as Ambassador to China and Indonesia – the latter ending shortly after the tragic Bali bombings. Having survived the “unnatural intakes of unspeakable food and lousy grog which are part of diplomatic life” Ric Smith returned to Canberra to take on another extremely demanding job, as Secretary of Defence on the eve of Australia’s involvement in conflict in Iraq. “If I’m still sane,” he quips, “then family, friends, sport and humour deserve the credit.” He met his wife Jan (née Greig), also a graduate, when studying at UWA.

As a secondary school student did you have a clear idea of what you wanted to study?
My strengths in high school were in history, geography and literature. It was inevitable that if I went to University – and that was never assured until I actually got there – then that would be my direction, rather than say the sciences or engineering or medicine. I was interested in the possibility of studying law, but that would have meant taking up the Commonwealth Scholarship I was offered, which met my needs less well to teachers’ college. So I went to Claremont Teachers’ College, and the College management decided I could go to University to do English, history, geography and economics in my first year. I studied for four years at Claremont and UWA (BA, DipEd), and then went teaching in Kalgoorlie and Albany for three years. On leaving the Education Department to join External Affairs at the beginning of 1969, I paid out the remaining year of my bond – about $750. It was a lot of money then, but I didn’t argue because the Education Department had given me a lot.’

When you were studying at UWA, how did you view your future career? Did you have a game plan?
At first I thought it was all pretty hard, and that if I could just pass my units each year and get through my degree and out teaching, then I’d be doing well. By the end of the second year I was finding it easier and discovering new subjects and interests, and began to think longer term. I assumed that I would be a school teacher for some time at least, but I felt I’d probably want to do something else in my life, including travel.

Though I certainly did not have a ‘game plan’, I had earlier, as a high school student, written to the then Minister for External Affairs (Paul Hasluck) to ask what I would need to do to join his Department. The reply was civil and helpful, but suggested I would need a higher level of academic achievement (good honours) than I thought I could aspire to. After teaching for three years, and converting my DipEd into a BEd through external study, I applied to join External Affairs. My two degrees were apparently enough.

The three years teaching I did were good fun and immensely important to my personal development. But I was more restless as a teacher than I’d been as a university student, and had the External Affairs prospect not come through, I would have done something else. The fact is that in the sixties a good degree was a pretty much guaranteed ticket to a range of interesting jobs.

Apart from studies, what were your interests at UWA?
In extra-curricular terms, I was not such a good citizen of the campus. Though a keen cricket and hockey player, I continued to play for the clubs I had joined before going to university rather than transferring to uni teams. It wasn’t until the end of second year that I became ‘active’ on campus; I was elected as treasurer of the Arts Union, and enjoyed that not least because Jan Greig, who was to become my wife, was elected secretary at the same time.

It was the year we moved into the new Arts Building (1964), and I recall with some pride our big decision to buy the Leonard French lithographs which (I think) still grace the building’s corridors. I also tried to re-energise Arts’ role in inter-faculty sport – with limited success.

Were there any UWA teachers that particularly impressed or influenced you?
Many faculty members influenced me in many different ways. Josh Reynolds consolidated my love of history. Fred Alexander re-kindled my interest in diplomacy, a subject in which his experience seemed recent and real. Frank Crowley challenged some of the orthodoxies I’d grown up with, and stimulated a new level of interest in Australian history. Iain Brash was a
constant reminder of the place of integrity and diligence in academic life, and helpful and friendly in many little ways. Ronald Berndt and — especially — Bert Priest, who taught philosophy in the Education Faculty, introduced me to disciplines and ways of thinking that were very new to a boy from the Perth suburbs, and were immensely stimulating.

**What are the qualities that you acknowledge in yourself as being strengths in your present role?**

My ‘qualities’ are plain — what you see is what you get. I don’t claim any special intellectual attributes, but I’ve always worked very hard and purposefully. This has been made possible in large part by a wonderfully supportive wife and family (both nuclear and extended). I have also been very fortunate to have enjoyed robust good health throughout my working life — this has been despite living in six different countries in Asia, the Pacific and the Middle East and the unnatural intakes of unspeakable food and lousy grog which are part of diplomatic life. That’s just been good luck and perhaps some good genes — but it’s probably been helped by the trick of being able to relax when I have the opportunity to. My love of reading (history and biography especially) and of sport (playing, watching and reading) and a constant awareness of a need for a sense of humour have also helped, I suppose.

These personal attributes apart, I’ve been fortunate to have jobs that have always been interesting as well as demanding, and I have had the good fortune in my public service career to have worked for and with some fine people. I’ve never had a boss from whom I didn’t learn something!

**What is your working day like and how do you relax?**

These days, with the operations in Iraq and a lot of work to be done as we prepare Defence’s annual budget, I get to work at about 6:00am, and get home at night when I can. But even before all this I kept quite long hours — from about 7am till about 7pm at the office, then a bit of time at home to catch up on my reading, and a day of work at the weekend. As I’ve said, if I’m still sane, then family, friends, sport and humour deserve the credit.
When he arrived from the United Kingdom in the late 1970s, Sean Monahan set about reading as many Australian writers as he could find time for. “I remember being amazed by Herbert’s final novel, Poor Fellow My Country – and not just by its length, which at 850,000 words was considerable,” he recalls. “It seemed to me then, and still seems to me, one of the really great novels of Australian literature. Yet it has never fully received the critical and academic recognition it deserves. Over the past 20 years it has fallen out of favour to the point where, it is rarely, if ever, studied in university courses and rarely stocked even by the best book stores in Perth.”

Having read Poor Fellow My Country, Dr Monahan went on to read Herbert’s other works: his first novel, Capricornia, and the two he wrote in the fifties, Soldiers’ Women and The Little Widow. The fifties novels surprised him because they seemed so weak. (The Little Widow, he says, was so poor it was never published.) Why, he wondered, did Herbert lose the skill he demonstrated in Capricornia? And how did he regain that skill when, at the age of 65, he began writing Poor Fellow My Country.

Thus began Dr Monahan’s literary quest for clues to the evolution of Herbert as a writer. He hopes that what he discovered will lead to a re-evaluation of Herbert. One reason, he thinks, for the mixed reception given to Poor Fellow My Country is that it uses genres that are unfashionable and not always clearly recognised – the genres Northrop Frye calls ‘anatomy’, ‘romance’ and ‘confession’. The work’s highly original and effective use of these genres is, Dr Monahan claims, one of the novel’s great strengths but that has not prevented it suffering the fate of other great books whose genres have puzzled critics. “Like them, Poor Fellow My Country has often been criticised not for doing badly what it sets out to do but for failing to do what it never intended doing in the first place,” says Dr Monahan.

“The central subject of all Herbert’s best work is Australia itself,” says the UWA graduate. “But whereas Capricornia is optimistic and full of his hopes for Australia, Poor Fellow My Country is written by a man disappointed and angry by what he sees around him. Like Capricornia, it is highly critical of Australia’s treatment of Aboriginals but it adds to this an attack on Australia’s colonial and carpetbagging attitudes.”

Herbert was born in Geraldton in 1901 and died aged 84. He spent time in the Northern Territory with his English-born wife Sadie, who was a great support to him. Later he moved to Sydney and Melbourne, spending the latter part of his life in Redlynch, a small town near Cairns. Although he lived in cities, he spent a lot of time in the bush and, unlike
others who have written about the bush, he could look after himself in it. He was a prickly character – he shocked the literary establishment in 1976 by refusing to accept the Miles Franklin Award (his wife accepted it on his behalf) and he railed at the coterie of literary luminaries gathered at the presentation ceremony.

Dr Monahan describes *A Long and Winding Road* as the result of 20 years of passionate interest in the works of Herbert. He completed the manuscript during PhD studies at UWA. His supervisor, Associate Professor Van Ikin, of UWA’s Department of English, says of the book: “It is the ‘human element’ that lifts this book above other literary studies. It is superbly written and a sheer delight to read.”

Dr Monahan says that the University of Queensland Press is playing an important role in maintaining interest in Herbert’s work. It recently published a biography by Dr Francis de Groen, *Xavier Herbert*, and *Xavier Herbert letters* edited by Dr de Groen and Dr Laurie Hergenhan. *A Long and Winding Road* is available at the UWA Co-op Bookshop and other major book stores.
Water Polo players don’t like swimming. It’s a pain, according to the 19-year-old UWAGA 2003 Sports Bursary winner, Amity Campbell. What water polo players don’t mind, once in the water, she says, is wrestling, shooting for goal, game practice, and training in ball skills – although these can be tough.

Amity won her school colours at Perth College for cross country running, hockey, softball, swimming, athletics, basketball and water polo. Sports Captain (naturally!) she also received House and Sports Honours and was awarded Most Consistent Performer in cross country running. At 13, while most of us were in the deep waters of puberty, she represented the State and nation in water polo and was a member of the State Triathlon Team in national competitions.

Water polo seems to have won out in the sports stakes because she simply enjoyed it most of all. So what is its appeal? Attributes needed are aggression, determination, fitness, stamina, strength, and dedication. “I’m small so I need determination and aggressiveness. You can’t be intimidated. Passive players don’t make it. I have to work on my ball skills. It’s different to hurling a ball on land. You throw differently. You need strong legs so you can sit up high in the water to get the shoulder rotation.”

A lot of leg work goes on in training sessions. “We had one coach who made us carry chairs across the pool in deep water. Our goalie was made to stay in the diving pool with a rope around her neck tied to a tyre, and we get lots of weighted balls to hold up.” Other training consists of weights, swimming lengths, conditioning work, sprinting, passing and shooting with balls, deep water starts, wrestling, and game practice. The swim style required for the sport is a shortened stroke. Amity describes hers as “more of a thrashing stroke.”

There are six swimmers and a goalie in each team. Everyone swims up and attacks and everyone swims down and defends. The basic set-up is with a “big person” in front of goal facing away and the others around her in a D shape. “The centre person tries to hold that position and we send the ball to her. There are four seven-minute quarters but the clock is stopped so actual time is about 15 minutes per quarter. Thirty-five seconds are allowed for attack and three to take a free shot. Fouls are sinking, dunking and holding, without possession.

Is it tough out there? Amity pulls aside her shirt neck to show a red weal. “I’m scarred,” she says. “You get scratched a lot – people can be nasty, scratching and kicking. Your legs hurt from the unusual angles of your legs while treading water: they’re at a 45 degree angle to your body.” Because of her height, (163cm) she had to work hard to get into the team, but
once in water she thinks her smallness an advantage because she can move faster and jump higher.

The down side to water polo is that it’s not a good TV spectator sport, although if you go and watch a live game it’s exciting. And then, says Amity, most sports have a star attached to them but water polo players are unidentifiable – with only a little number on the cap.

“We need to rethink that,” says Amity, pointing out also, that when the Australian women’s team won the 2000 Olympics it just wasn’t promoted enough. “It was a sensational game.”

Amity plays for the Triton Water Polo Club at Beatty Park. She suggests that if you are new to the game, it might be worth trying to see national league games during February, March and April, and going down to see the Mariners play at Melville Water Polo Club. “The view is lovely over the river and there’s a great atmosphere.”

Apart from being happy playing any sport, Amity is enthusiastic about her Human Movement studies at UWA. “I wasn’t sure what career I wanted but I loved science and anatomy, so I chose correctly.” She finishes this year with a BSc and intends doing postgraduate study. Last year she received 12 distinctions, five credits, and one higher distinction – not bad, in amongst seven days a week training and five hours on Sunday working in a supermarket.

Amity was thrilled to receive the UWAGA Sports Bursary. The $3,000 will go on her trip to the Canadian World Championships as part of the Australian Junior World Cup team, and perhaps in investing in a laptop since she misses study during competitions and camps at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra. “It will be easier to pick up the lectures I miss.”

As for the future – the AIS will pick 13 under 25s to go to the Olympics next year, and probably take 18 to a residential camp for development. Says, Amity, 19: “I don’t suppose I’ll be in the 2004 team, but I might be asked to go to the camp.”
At the First Ordinary Meeting

The First Ordinary Meeting of Convocation was addressed by Patrick Cornish, Obituaries Editor at The West Australian, under the heading History not Hysteria. More than 100 people attended, some of whom are pictured here.

Belinda Lines (left) and Pauline Anderman (right), both former students of the University of Western Australia, attend the First Ordinary Meeting of Convocation.

50th Anniversary Luncheon

CONVOCATION, the UWA Graduates Association, is again organising the annual reunion luncheon for graduates who are celebrating the 50th anniversary of their graduation from UWA.

This function has become very popular and all graduates are welcome, many treating the occasion as a ‘50 and over’ club for an annual gathering with friends of university days.

This year the reunion luncheon will be held in Winthrop Hall on 23 November at noon, so mark this date in your diary. All graduates of 1953 will receive a letter and an invitation at a later date, while former attendees will receive an invitation.

The Graduate Outreach Committee of Convocation arranges the function but would welcome volunteers from among the 1953 graduates to join the committee and assist. Please leave your name and phone number with the Graduates Coordinator, Juanita Perez at the Convocation Office, on (08) 9380 1336 if you are interested.

Help make this milestone an enjoyable celebration of your academic achievements.

We are still trying to trace some ‘lost graduates’ listed below. Anyone knowing the present address of any of these graduates is requested to pass the information to the Graduates Coordinator. Names in brackets are maiden names.


New Warden, Peter Clifton

PETER CLIFTON commenced his one year term as Warden at the First Ordinary Meeting in March. He joined the Council of Convocation in 1996 and has served as Deputy Warden since 1999. Peter holds BE (1973) and MBA (1978) degrees from UWA and is a Member of the Institution of Engineers, Australia and a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is the Principal of Zenith Consulting Pty Ltd, a Director of the listed Perth Company Amcom Telecommunications and is also on the Board of a number of other companies. Prior to establishing Zenith Consulting in 1996 Peter worked for Telstra for 25 years during which time he established and managed businesses in Europe, Middle East and South Asia.

Peter sees the key task for Convocation over the next few years is to develop and provide a wider range of services to graduates. These services will include improved opportunities to ‘network’ with social and professional contacts made at University and to access the facilities and services of the University for ongoing professional development. Many of these services will build upon the lifetime email service and redesigned web pages recently introduced.
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

invites all graduates and other members of Convocation
to attend the
SECOND ORDINARY MEETING
of
Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association
which will be held on
Friday 19 September 2003
at 6.30pm for 7pm start at
University House

The address will be given by: Ms Lindy Hume, the new
Artistic Director of the Perth International Arts Festival

Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association
Subscribing to Excellence

Prof./Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss/other title ______________________
FAMILY NAME __________________________________________
GIVEN NAMES __________________________________________
ADDRESS ________________________________________________
POSTCODE _______ COUNTRY ______________________________
Telephone Home (_ ) Work ( _ ) ____________________________
Fax ( _ ) __________________________ Email _____________________
YEAR OF GRADUATION _______ DEGREE ______________________
Student number if remembered/name at graduation if different

SUBSCRIPTIONS (GST inclusive)
Please tick
NEW SUBSCRIBER □ RENEWAL □
ANNUAL ........ $27.50 □ 10 YEAR ............ $20 □
3 YEAR .............. $77 □ LIFE ............... $550 □
Cheques payable to UWA Graduates Association, or you may pay by credit card:
Bankcard □ Mastercard □ Visacard □
Expiry Date _______ _______ Card No. _______________________
Signature __________________________ Date ___________________

Please return this form to:
The University of Western Australia
Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association
REPLY PAID No. 61050
CRAWLEY, WA 6009

Subcribe to Excellence!
$27.50 a year makes you a part of it!

THE UWA GRADUATES ASSOCIATION
■ encourages student excellence through funding, prizes and awards
■ helps steer the course of education at UWA by providing four of the 21 members of Senate—the University’s governing body—and acting as a body of review over statutory amendments
■ communicates with graduates concerning University-affiliated interest groups and special events

For more information contact the UWA Graduates Association office on +61 8 9380 3006.
EMERITUS Professor George Seddon delivered the inaugural lecture for the UWA Friends of the Grounds last month at a function hosted by Mrs Rose Chaney (see In Focus).

FRIENDS of UWA Music are fortunate to have gained the support of Scholarship Patron David Cooke, a surgeon from England who settled in Perth three years ago. Mr Cooke attended the Summer Soiree and was so impressed with the skills of the students that he signed up on the night. Particularly impressive was UWA student Erin Chen in the Bach Double Violin Concerto. To find out more about the Friends, phone 9380 7835.

LAST April, graduates and their guests gathered for the third Brisbane alumni reunion at the University of Queensland. UWA Vice-Chancellor, Professor Deryck Schreuder, told the gathering of many exciting developments at UWA and Professor John Hay, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Queensland, spoke passionately on issues regarding higher education.
**1930s**

Joyce Kirkham (née Doran) (BA 1934) has been President of the Australian Federation of University Women (WA) and helped start the scheme of academic dress hire. She writes that she is now a resident in Hillcrest Hostel, North Fremantle, and is enjoying a quiet life.

Noel Chamberlain (BA 1937) writes that he and his wife have moved from their family home of 36 years to a retirement village in the suburb of Fisher, in Canberra.

**1950s**

Ronald Fergie (BA 1950, MA 1968) and his wife are thankful for having moved from Canberra’s Murrumbidgee corridor bushfire fringe well ahead of recent bushfires. He writes that after 20 years in government statistics in over 20 (mostly developing) countries, they are enjoying retirement in Ainslie, ACT. Former classmates can contact Ron at ron@fergiefamily.com.

Keith Abercromby (BE 1952) was honoured with the Chancellor’s Medal at this year’s April graduation ceremony. After his retirement in 1987, Keith became an active member of the Standing Committee of Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association, for 14 years and served as a Senator for nine years. Keith is a volunteer at the UWA Visitors Information Centre and the Child Study Unit. He is pictured here with his wife, Ric, after the ceremony.

**1960s**

Anthony Lawrence (BSc 1955) completed a PhD in Economics at the Australian Graduate School of Management (AGSM), University of NSW. He has been appointed adjunct research fellow at AGSM. He was previously the Chairman and CEO of McIlwraith McEachran Ltd. Former classmates can contact Anthony at alawrence@agrm.edu.au.

Katharine Parsons (BA 1953) retired at the end of 2001 as Publisher of Currency Press Pty Ltd, the performing arts publishing company founded in 1971 with her late husband, Dr Philip Parsons, AM. In 2000, Katharine established Currency House Inc, a charitable association with the aim of encouraging research, hand debate to raise the stature of the performing arts in public life.

Ernest Della (BSc(Hons) 1958), PhD 1963) is retired Professor of Chemistry, Flinders University and his wife, Melva Della (née Sampson) (BSc 1958) was a dietician at the Flinders Medical Centre, before retirement. They live in Gledgel, SA.

Paul Campbell (BA 1953; MBA 1978) spent most of his professional life teaching accounting, first in technical colleges, then at the WA Institute of Technology (now Curtin University), the University of Brunel Durassalam and the University of New England. Since retiring in 1994, Paul and his wife, Grace, have enjoyed travelling particularly to places less frequented by tourists. Last year they visited Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Bhutan, where this photo was taken. Paul is a volunteer at UWA’s Visitors Information Centre. He also enjoys genealogy and has successfully traced branches of his family back for several generations.

**1970s**

Jennifer Vincent (BA 1971; DipEd 1975) was Head of Primary at John Wollaston Anglican Community School from 1999-2002. She writes that she is now semi-retired and plans to do some relief teaching and build a dream home in Albany.

Lim Tian Sook (BCom 1973) worked in Hong Kong, London, Europe and the Middle East. He is now retired and operates an organic vegetable farm with his wife in Singapore. Former classmates can contact him at lims001@pacific.net.sg.

Geoffrey Emery (MB BS 1975) continues in general practice in Shenton Park with his wife, Henrietta Bryan (MB BS 1975).

Patricia Linday (BA 1968) writes that she is a practising environmentalist and is very concerned about the destruction of the habitats of so many of our unique and precious native animals and plants.

Achyut Bhandari (BEc 1976) returned to Bhutan after graduating and joined the Foreign Service. He now works for Bhutan’s Ministry of Trade and Industry and is involved in securing his country’s membership of the World Trade Organisation.

Brian Haggett (BElc(Hons) 1976; MEngSc 1990) has been transferred to London to take up an appointment as Project Manager for Shell’s gas-to-liquids project. He has spent the past five years in the Hague working on various international projects for the Shell Oil Company.

Harold Rosario (BCom 1976) is the Regional Head of Asia for Westpac Banking Corporation and has completed a Master of Finance degree from RMIT.

Elizabeth Couche (BA(Hons) 1979) was one of the first 10 women ordained priests in the Anglican Church in Australia. She and her husband have accepted Chaplaincy roles with the Anglican Homes at St Francis Court, in Inglewood. Elizabeth previously spent ten years of ministry at St Michael and All Angels Parish, Mt Claremont. Her new congregation while relatively small is very big on welcome and friendship.

Iva Rosario (BA 1979; BEd 1980; MusB(Hons) 1986) has also a BLitt(Hons) and PhD in Fine Arts from the University of Melbourne. Her research was recently published by the Boydell Press (Woodbridge 2000) Art and Propaganda: Charles IV of Bohemia, 1346-1378. Iva works as a private scholar in Hong Kong and Prague.

**1980s**

Kerry Parry (née Martin) (BCom 1980) writes that after 20 years in industry and government, she bought an accounting practice last year at the end of Queenend. Kerry’s husband works at the Australian Catholic University in Banyo, Qld and they have two teenage children.

Nicholas Silberstein (MB BS 1981) completed a contract with Medicines for Malaria, as medical coordinator in Honduras. He is now looking to re-enter general practice, this time in London, accompanied by his French-born wife, Elodie.

Joseph Lange (BSc(Hons) 1981; LLB(Hons) 1982) works in Hong Kong as the General Counsel, Asia, for Deutsche Bank AG.

Bintang Radjagukguk (PhD 1981) has been Professor of Soil Chemistry in the Faculty of Agriculture, Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta, since January 2001. He is concentrating his research on the chemistry and fertility of tropical peat soils and on the fertility management of acid upland soils of Indonesia.

Anthony Hayes (BSc(Hons) 1982; PhD 1990) is Associate Professor at the University of Hong Kong. He has previously worked in the Psychology Department of Melbourne University.

Gerard Foley (BA 1982) works at the Battey Library as the Archivist in charge of the State Film Archives and has recently taken on the task of looking after the Battey Library’s Oral History collection. Last July, he attended a workshop on environmental control in Libraries and Archives at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC.

Steven Vredel (BEC 1983) was previously based in Hong Kong as Head of Asian Equities business for Morgan Stanley. He has moved back to Sydney where he is the Head of Equities for Australia and New Zealand for Deutsche Bank.

Stanley Blakey (BE(Hons) 1985) has joined Quake Technologies as Director of IC Design. Quake Technologies is a high tech company developing 10 Gig Ethernet Asics. He lives and works in Ottawa, Canada.

Catherine Howse (BA 1987) works in Switzerland as Communications Officer for the HIV/AIDS Department of the World Health Organisation. She has just finished coordinating activities for World Aids Day. She writes that working for the UN is rewarding and prior to her contract at WHO, Catherine worked as a consultant for the International Labour Organisation.

Lynette Swarbrick (née Lees) (BA(Hons) 1987) writes that she is busy raising a family of three children. She teaches violin from her home studio and also at St Mark’s School, in Hillarys.

TUlak Karuppaurachchi (MA 1988) is working with the NSW Public Service attached to the Data Analysis and Research Unit of the NSW Workcover based in Gosford, NSW.

Peter Lyon (BA 1988) has been working since 1988 as a motor journalist, contributing news and test drive reports to the Sydney Morning Herald and Australia’s Motor
1990s

Jayanthi Devadason (BCom 1990) lived in Sydney from 1995-2000 and returned to Perth for the birth to her second child. She and her husband are the WA representatives for Opportunity International, a charitable organisation that assists in providing small business loans to people in Third World countries.

Damien Martin (BEc 1990; BA 1998) is managing the state public sector regional development organisation, the Wheatbelt Development Corporation. He is married and lives in Northam, WA.

Robert Wood (BSc(Hons) 1992; PhD 1999) moved to Darwin in 1999 to take up a sports science job at the Northern Territory Institute of Sport. After three years in that position, he decided to make a career change and is now studying graphic design in Canberra.

Vanessa Franzen-O’Neill (née Franzen) (BA 1992) moved to Canada last year to take up a position as Senior Organisational Psychologist at Andre Filion & Associates, a French-Canadian industrial psychology consulting firm in Montreal. Vanessa enjoys working in a bilingual environment and enjoy the cultural duality. Former classmates can contact her at franzen@filion.ca.

Rohan Stevenson (Mus(B) 1993) is living in London and working as a professional composer writing for film and TV. He has worked on many BBC dramas and documentaries and continues to write for the concert hall having just completed a clarinet concerto. He is married and has two children.

Rebecca Hewitt (BSc(Hons) 1994) had been living in Melbourne for the past three years working in the pharmaceutical sales area. She is now living back in Perth and studying chiropractic at Murdoch University.

Yvette Hollings (BA 1994; DipEd 1995) works for Yorkshire Wildlife Trust as Volunteer Development Officer, which involves recruiting and managing volunteers, publishing voluntary activities, building up the volunteering ethos of the organisation and setting up structures and systems to support volunteers. The Trust is based in the lovely city of York, and Yvette writes that this has enabled her to travel to historic towns and cities in the UK.

Jeffrey Tan (BSc(Hons) 1994) joined the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation (GIC) after graduating, then moved to London in 1994. He is currently Head Trader (Equities) for GIC-London, and is married with two daughters.

Rajiv Niles (BE 1994) worked in Perth from a short time after graduating and then moved to Singapore, where he has been working for Cisco Systems as a consulting engineer.

Jaih Hargreaves (BMusT 2002) gave a concert in 2003 as part of the 2000 TAG Huntington Award. She is now the National Research Manager for Opportunity International, a charitable organisation that assists in providing small business loans to people in Third World countries.

James Dods (BSc 2002) moved to London after graduating with a view to starting a military career. After a five-day selection process he was accepted and has just completed three terms. He graduated from Sandhurst’s Military Academy in April, 2003.

Lucy McCarthy (BA(Hons) 2001) writes that she has received a promotion from Assistant Consultant to Associate Professor in the University of Santo Tomas, the Philippines. She continues by stating that the knowledge she received from UWA in technical writing has benefited both her and her students. Thanks, UWA.

Jaih Hargreaves (BSc(Hons) 1999) is completing a post-graduate degree in Forensic Science at UWA. Former classmates can contact her at jiah@dian.edu.au

Gary Lim (MBA 1999) established consulting firm, IT Focus Consultants, in Sydney. His firm is involved in IT audits, system reviews, IT risk assessment and MIS consulting. Former classmates can contact him at garylim@graduate.uwa.edu.au.

Fred Chen (MB BS (Hons) 1999) is now training in ophthalmology after returning from the UK. He writes that he would like to contact engineers, chemists, physicists working in related fields. He can be contacted at fchen@hotmail.com.

Ahmad Itani (GradDipEng 1999; MOGE 2000) is based in the Reserves Assessment Division of the Saudi Arabian Oil Company, in Doha, Saudi Arabia. He writes that he is reassessing reserves in one of the world’s largest oil and gas fields and that the education he received at UWA has added significantly to the special skills that are required for such a position.

Evadne Spickett (PhD 1999) is a dietitian in private practice and does consulting work in nutrition and education-related areas. She previously lectured for 14 years at Edith Cowan University.

2000s

Christopher Taylor (BSc(Hons) 2000) is studying for a PhD in Engineering Physics at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville.

Damien Ottaviano (BE(Hons) 2000) is working for a small engineering consultancy firm based in South Perth. Damien had previously worked for 18 months in Mt Newman.

Lucy McCarthy (BA 2001) is studying at Murdoch University for a Postgraduate Diploma in Asian Sustainable Development. Lucy also works as a volunteer for the WA division of the UN Association.

Lisa Elliot (BSc(Hons) 2001) writes that she moved to London to seek fame and fortune as a researcher for BBC only to find herself in a secretarial role (again!) at the Society of Antiquaries of London. She also works as a tour guide for Tracks Travel, which offers ‘isbn’ cost day trips and weekend breaks for cash-strapped Aussies. Former classmates and interested graduates can contact her at lelliott@sol.org.uk.

Rosario Aranda (ME 2001) writes that she has received a promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor in the University of Santo Tomas, the Philippines. She continues by stating that the knowledge she received from UWA in technical writing has benefited both her and her students. Thanks, UWA.

Sa-Chen Wang (BMust 2002) gave a concert for Munich University’s international students at last year’s New Year’s Eve celebrations. She writes that she enjoys living in the Bavarian city and can now easily communicate in German.

Graedon Crouch (BSc 2002) moved to England after graduating with a view to starting a military career. After a five-day selection process he was accepted and has just completed three terms. He graduated from Sandhurst’s Military Academy in April, 2003.

James Dods (BSc(Hons) 2002) After years of study, James is spending 2003 travelling through Africa, Europe and the UK.

Melinda Henderson (BE(Hons) 2002) is employed as a Geotechnical Engineer with Gold Fields, St Ives Gold Mining Company.

Iade Dyer (BSc 2002) works as an orthopaedic technician in the eye clinic at St John of God Hospital, in Subiaco. She will soon be reorganising the pathogenesis of migraine for her Psychology Honours thesis at Murdoch University.

Nurhuda Ramelan (BSc(Hons) 2002) is currently leading a team in developing an online healthcare system. Nurhuda lives in Singapore.

Raymond Quah (BCom 2002) is studying for his Master’s degree specialising in International Business, from the University of New South Wales.

Corrina Tolomei (GradDipHRM 2002) has returned from maternity leave after having her first child and is employed by the Accor Group as Human Resources Manager at the Mercure Hotel, in Perth.

Gregory Thorne (MED(Man) 2002) writes that after graduating, he rewarded both himself and his family on an enjoyable four month trip around Australia.
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