Suddenly - or so it seems - ‘Innovation’ is the buzz word of Australian business, the economy, and new university research plans.

What is happening?

Only a few years ago ‘innovation’ was an innocent word which the Macquarie Dictionary could easily capture as being ‘something new or different introduced’, and given the application of ‘the act of innovating; introducing of new things or methods….’

Innovation has swept through policy documents, entered media headlines and joined educational-speak as a given! I shall look forward to see how the future dictionaries catch up with popular usage.

I suggest that the term has gained such quick common currency as it provides such a convenient tag to label what is a complex social and economic phenomenon — involving the capturing of ‘intellectual property’ (old phrase also given new emphasis) derived from basic research and, then, its application in a process of commercialisation, into new technologies and products, itself based on patents and supportive venture capital.

Mostly, Innovation is applied in the new areas of IT development and the bio-technology revolution. But more generally, usage is connected to the building of knowledge economics (another new idiom) in the ‘new economy’ (controversial adage also invented recently!)

Behind all the swirls of new terms and much extravagant sloganising, something serious is afoot which directly impinges on universities. Research-led universities in particular — such as UWA — are seen as critical by economists and public policy planners in general, as the critical catalysts for creating the ‘IP’ which will underpin the emergence of the new-style ‘knowledge-based’ communities of the future.

Setting aside the jargon, social responsibility and research opportunity has led major universities world-wide to address Innovation. Handled badly, it can mean universities ‘selling out’ to the private sector; or even, in the other direction, abrogating their role as knowledge generators by refusing to recognise Innovation. Under careful and accountable guidelines, basic research can be connected to commercialising opportunities with benefits to the economy, as well as to the university research budgets!

What has your University been doing about Innovation?

Some 18 months ago we added the process to the portfolio of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Professor Barber has subsequently come forward with proposals to fund and facilitate Innovation at UWA.

In particular, we established the small but already effective Office of Industry and Innovation (OII) with an experienced executive director from the private sector (Dr Andy Sierakowski) who has been working with researchers on possible IP for commercialisation. A new project officer (Mr Mark Beveridge) begins next month to work in key areas of opportunity. We have strengthened the patent capacity of our legal office and, on a highly selective basis, the University has provided limited ‘pre-seed funding’ for support of Innovation at the very difficult early stage of moving towards commercialisation.

Executive Members of UWA have also begun to play significant roles in national and state Innovation strategies: Professor Barber through the ARC and Academy of Science, Professor Robson on the Western Australian ‘Science Council’, and one recently served on the Working Group of the Prime Minister’s Science and Engineering Innovation Council (we produced a major Report for Cabinet and Commonwealth policy on the inhibitors to Innovation in public research institutions). Other members of the University also serve on similar bodies.

It is critical that our University play its role in the major development in research and economic policy. The advanced modern world societies are increasingly reliant on the intellectual capital.

It is also an urgent issue for Western Australia. Several of the Eastern States are now seriously investing in Innovation Strategies. Queensland has committed $570 million for bio-tech development. NSW announced a $220 million package also for bio-tech with a special $18 million allocated to attract home key researchers. Whilst Victoria has decided to build a world-class synchrotron microscope (for bio-tech research) costing $157 million. In WA we now have a Science Council (chaired by Professor Ian Constable of the Lions Eye Institute at UWA) with a rather more modest budget of $50 million.

I am not sure that the Founders would have chosen ‘Seek Innovation’ as the UWA motto if making UWA today….but I am quite clear that part of our charter in this new century will be to engage with the process of Innovation for the good of our research, Western Australia and Australia.

Almost mysteriously Innovation has become what Raymond Williams once characterised as a ‘key word’ in our culture.

Professor Deryck Schreuder
Vice-Chancellor and President
vc@acs.uwa.edu.au
The battle’s over …

but does it make you feel better?

Seeing justice done will not necessarily make a victim of crime feel better.

Working towards the right legal decision can be a distressing experience (for both lawyer and client) and one that doesn’t actually help a person in need.

A relatively new slant on the practice of law, therapeutic jurisprudence, was introduced to law students at UWA recently by visiting Professor of Law and Psychology at the University of Arizona, David Wexler.

Therapeutic jurisprudence is an interdisciplinary perspective that focuses on the law’s impact on emotional life and psychological well-being. It seeks to humanise the law, to make the law a helping profession.

Professor Wexler told an audience of staff and students from the Law School that the law was a social force that produced both therapeutic and anti-therapeutic consequences.

“Therapeutic jurisprudence can be practised in the enforcing of legal statues, during legal procedures and in legal roles,” Professor Wexler said, giving examples of each.

“I once met a voluntary patient in a mental institution who, by some legal statue, had been made a high risk inmate and this categorising was making his condition worse. The statute that allowed a voluntary patient to end up in this situation was definitely anti-therapeutic, even though it was legal. These sorts of rules need to be reassessed within the context of law being a helping profession,” he said.

Anti-therapeutic legal procedures included the adversary process used in child custody disputes.

“The court is supposed to be doing what’s in the best interests of the child. But what they are actually doing is pitting the child’s parents against each other, with their lawyers encouraging each of them to dig out the worst possible reasons for the other partner not to have custody.

“Now this can’t be good for the child or the long-term relationships within the family. If therapeutic jurisprudence was applied, another method of resolving the matter would be found.”

How a judge interacts with a defendant who offers a guilty plea is another area where therapeutic jurisprudence can be applied.

“The law says the judge must ascertain if the guilty plea is given voluntarily. But many judges hardly speak to the defendant at all, simply referring to records and statements.

“A more helpful judge could involve the defendant more in the guilty plea, perhaps asking questions to work out the chain of events that led to this person committing an impulsive crime.

“If the court was aware of the situation, then the defendant’s terms of probation could be tailored to suit his/her needs. For example, if the judge ascertains that the defendant feels he/she was more likely to commit a crime in the company of Joe or after the disco on Friday night, then the terms of probation could include staying away from Joe or doing something else on a Friday night.

“For the court simply to order 12 months probation is not necessarily going to stop the defendant’s pattern of crime, or have a therapeutic effect.”

Professor Wexler said the principles of therapeutic jurisprudence were being used in the evolving problem-solving courts for domestic and drug problems in the US.

“It’s not just restricted to criminal law either. There is a new collaborative law in the family courts that encourages both sides to get together out of court to settle disputes. If the case does eventually have to go to court, the lawyers who have worked on the case are disqualified from representing the parties.

“So their time and effort is wasted. It’s a great incentive to settle out of court, and it’s much more therapeutic.”

He said lawyers were starting to think about the psychological effects of legal issues and working out strategies to ensure that their work is helpful.
A splendid book … not to be rushed

A beautiful book on Australian rushes, published by the University of Western Australia Press, has won a prestigious international award.

The 2001 Henry Allan Gleason Award of The New York Botanical Garden was awarded to joint editors, the Department of Botany’s Emeritus Professor John Pate and UWA botany graduate Dr Kathy Meney, for *Australian Rushes*.

The award is presented annually for an outstanding publication in the fields of plant taxonomy, plant ecology or plant geography.

The book, delicately illustrated by WA artist Ellen Hickman, is the product of research at UWA, the Royal Botanic Gardens in Sydney and Kings Park and Botanic Garden. There are almost 150 species of rushes in Australia and all of them are described in the book with full-page line drawings.

Dr Pate’s and Dr Meney’s research revealed an extraordinarily diverse group of plants, prompting a revised classification and description of many new species.

This is only the second time a UWA Press book has won an international award. It is a major achievement for the authors, the illustrator and the production team, managed by Janine Drakeford.

Enthusiasm accounts for award

A deep enthusiasm for teaching has reaped an important teaching award for accounting lecturer Paul Coram.

He has been named the inaugural Pearson Education Australia Accounting Lecturer of the Year, and with it, a prize of $3000.

The award, from the academic publisher, is endorsed by the Accounting Association of Australia and New Zealand (AAANZ). It is judged by the Education Directors of Certified Practising Accountants (CPA) Australia, the Institutes of Chartered Accountants in Australia and New Zealand, and representatives from AAANZ.

Paul proved his commitment to teaching by completing a Graduate Diploma in Education before entering academia. He had been working as a chartered accountant for five years, primarily with Price Waterhouse in Adelaide.

He said he felt it had been a distinct advantage for a teacher to work “out in the real world”. But he also feels his research has just as important an impact on his teaching.

He is deputy chair of the Department of Accounting and Finance’s teaching and learning action group. His students obviously benefit from his commitment because they give him consistently high SPOT evaluations.

“It’s really hard to get very high SPOT evaluations when you have very large numbers in a subject, which is a common issue for most of the subjects taught in the Department of Accounting and Finance,” Paul said.

His lectures and workshops are renowned for their innovation and he is responsible for the design of a first year accounting (Stream B) Web page, which complements student learning.

“I feel that teaching, like research, is a team effort, and this award is also a recognition of my colleagues, especially lecturer Ann Tarca and Professor Philip Brown,” he said.

The teaching team in the department has applied for a grant from the Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning (CATL) to investigate the introduction of problem based learning into its curricula.
Communication brings benefits

A
s the buildings in Cooper Street came tumbling down last week, plans for a pedestrian precinct around the new Motorola complex became clearer.

Linked to the building of the communications giant’s new $50 million software engineering centre is the development of the area between Broadway and Fairway, the highway and south of Cooper Street, with landscaped pathways to the north and south of the new buildings, linking the Crawley and Nedlands campuses.

The precinct is designed to extend the University campus with higher density buildings and substantial green spaces.

The Subiaco City Council has agreed to the designs by architect Steve Woodland, whose plans are further developing the campus plan of Gus Ferguson, to encompass stage one of the Motorola project.

Project manager Andrus Budrikis, a consultant employed by the University, said he could foresee Fairway eventually being developed along the same lines.

“This campus precinct approach is one of the achievements of the Motorola project,” Mr Budrikis said.

He said the Subiaco City Council had also supported a request for part closure of Cooper Street to enhance the precinct.

The first stage of the Motorola centre will start in October and is expected to be completed by December next year. The two three-storey buildings, linked by an atrium, will have two levels of underground parking and 5,000 square meters of useable space inside.

Mr Budrikis said the buildings had been designed as low as possible. One has a shallow gabled roof with terracotta tiles; the other has a curved flatish roof a little like a flattened boomerang.

The first stage will house about 250 engineers. When the second and final stage is complete, Motorola expects to employ about 400 engineers.

The global company is already leasing office space in the city and has begun recruiting. It is also talking with UWA’s Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

Head of the Department, Professor Laurie Faraone, said the fact that Motorola was locating right next door to the University, in fact alongside the science/technology precinct, was an endorsement of UWA, its research and its graduates.

“Motorola have made it clear that they want to be involved with the University, but only as requested. They are not trying to muscle in. In fact, they want to have interaction with all four universities, not just UWA,” Professor Faraone said.

“They have spoken to us about running a Masters by research, in information and communications technology.”

Mr Budrikis said Motorola, a US company with more than 100,000 employees, had set up centres all around the world, including two already in Australia, in Adelaide and Sydney.

“The company has implied that they have chosen Perth, and particularly this location, because of the local facilities for its staff, its proximity to the University and all it has to offer, including library and sporting facilities, and Perth’s attractive way of life.

“While these are benefits to Motorola, WA also benefits because there’s no brain drain. Our communications experts will stay in the state and US dollars will be coming in to pay them.”
A mathematical scientist can be as important as a medical scientist in finding causes or cures for diseases.

Professor of Statistics Adrian Baddeley has worked for many years in interdisciplinary research with medical scientists, employing an area of statistics known as stereology, which he describes as his passion.

His original and innovative work has been rewarded with Australia’s highest honour for a mathematical scientist: the Hannan Medal, from the Australian Academy of Science.

The award recognises the achievements of the late Professor EJ Hannan, one of Australia’s ‘fathers’ of statistics. Because of his broad interests in mathematical sciences, the Medal is awarded in one of three areas (pure maths, applied and computational maths and statistics), at two-yearly intervals.

The prestigious medal has only been awarded once previously in the field of statistics.

The citation that accompanies the medal reads:

“Professor Baddeley has conducted outstanding research in the closely related areas of stereology, spatial statistics, stochastic geometry and statistical image analysis.

“His deep knowledge of statistics … has enabled him to develop methods for analysing data which exhibit geometric patterns. His work on spatial and stochastic-geometric problems is ranked among the finest in the world.

“These contributions have been highly original and innovative and have had a genuine impact. He is truly one of the scientific leaders in this area.”

Professor Baddeley says he loves the statistics area of the mathematical sciences because it has the potential to be so useful.

“I’ve been able to work out a method of counting the number of cells in a brain, and measuring the thickness of a membrane. When you know that your work may have an impact on the detection or treatment of a disease, it gives you an incentive to work hard at finding an answer,” he said.

“Counting the number of cells in a brain might sound simple but there are tens of billions of them and you can’t just count them. That’s where statistics come in. You have to abstract the problem from the application, then it becomes a statistical issue.”

The statistician works out how to count the cells, then the medical scientist can work out how many cells have been lost to a certain disease.

Professor Baddeley has been teaching a course in stereology to medical researchers for about 15 years. His interest in this interdisciplinary application of statistics emerged while he was working on his PhD at Cambridge.

One of his problems was finding a practical technique for measuring tortuosity in tubular biological structures. His work was used (indirectly) in research into asthma and airways obstruction.

Professor Baddeley also took an early interest in three-dimensional microscopy and its statistical analysis and joined the editorial board of the Journal of Microscopy.

His skills are just as useful in an area like materials science. “In looking at materials under a microscope, you find you have many of the same problems as you do with working with human tissue. It’s how many quartz grains; how big are they?

“I like the fact that you can get really elegant simple solutions to some statistical problems. My most successful work has resulted in the leaner, more elegant solutions,” he said.

Although he loves the challenge of interdisciplinary work, Professor Baddeley admits it can be extremely difficult to establish cross-disciplinary communication.

“It can sometimes take decades to understand another person’s point of view. Working in the field of medicine for example, you’re working with really bright people, but you all have a struggle to understand the language and concepts used in each other’s fields.

“One of my most important contributions (relating to
Every four years, the world’s top mathematical scientists meet at the International Congress of Mathematicians.

Only one or two Australians are asked to speak at these conferences. Mathematics Professor Cheryl Praeger is one of them.

“It’s quite an honour to be invited to speak. I’ve been asked to give a 45-minute lecture on algebra at the congress in Beijing in 2002,” Professor Praeger said.

The 45-minute Invited Lectures are intended to be surveys of significant topics that are accessible to non-specialists with closely related interests.

A recent paper on algebra by Professor Praeger looked at how the use and development of computer technology by algebraists over the past 30 years had revolutionised the way in which algebraists think about algebra, and the way they teach it and conduct their research.

Professor Praeger described her paper as a personal reflection on these changes by a somewhat unwilling computer user.

**If he had a dollar for every hour ...**

**Associate Professor Tony Pakes** would probably need one of his colleagues in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics to work out how many hours he’s given voluntarily to his chosen profession.

He has a long and distinguished record of contribution to the Statistical Society of Australia, Inc (SSAI), serving as a member of its executive in both Victoria and WA for a total of 16 years.

He has been an associate editor and on the editorial board of the Australian and New Zealand Journals of Statistics.

In this role, he has to read, report on, and referee at least 12 academic papers each year. “It’s a big job, especially when they come from people whose second language is English,” Professor Pakes said.

Now he has been recognised for his contributions. Professor Pakes this year won the, SSAI service award.

He has also recently been awarded Fellowship of the Australian Mathematical Society.

His original thinking and passion for his work has also had other tangible rewards. He was awarded the Medal of the Australian Mathematical Society in 1995 and was elected to the Australian Academy of Science last year.

But perhaps most important of all, Adrian Baddeley loves his work. And it shows.

**Stereology** is just one of Professor Baddeley’s areas of interest. His work in spatial data has also been recognised.

“You can use this form of mathematical science to analyse geographical information from maps and charts. For example, you can map the home addresses of the people with a rare disease and look for a pattern that could tell you something about that disease.

“The first person to discover how cholera was transmitted used this technique. He used a map to plot the addresses of the people who had died of cholera and found they were concentrated in one area.

“He went there and found a contaminated water pipe right in the middle of the area.”

Professor Baddeley’s research is stimulating and challenging but its interdisciplinary nature has sometimes made evaluation difficult.

“As in all interdisciplinary work, evaluation (for funding, promotion, performance measurement and so on) is harder because each discipline regards the other as the outsider!”

His original thinking and passion for his work has also had other tangible rewards. He was awarded the Medal of the Australian Mathematical Society in 1995 and was elected to the Australian Academy of Science last year.

But perhaps most important of all, Adrian Baddeley loves his work. And it shows.
A huge freeze, that makes the ice ages of the past few million years look like a mild frost, once covered the entire planet with ice, about 600 million years ago. Known as Snowball Earth, this extreme ice age left clouds of carbon dioxide floating around with nowhere to go. They eventually caused the ice to melt and the earth reverted to a hot and humid ultra-greenhouse. This ‘flip flop’ may have happened as many as four times, creating the harshest period of climatic change the planet has seen. It coincided with the sudden appearance of life forms, evolving from primitive unicellular protozoa and algae. Did the climatic ‘flip flop’ encourage the evolution of our complex multi-cellular ancestors? And what can Snowball Earth and its ultra greenhouse aftermath tell us about our own climatic worries today?

Paul Hoffman, the Sturgis Hooper Professor of Geology at Harvard University will talk about his Snowball Earth hypothesis at a free public lecture at the Octagon Theatre on October 2. His lecture is part of a symposium on Rodinia, the super-continent that existed millions of years before the better-known Gondwanaland.

As Rodinia (from a Russian word meaning mother land) formed, it caused the massive climate changes that resulted in Snowball Earth. When the supercontinent broke up, it took part of what we now know as eastern Australia away from our continent, taking parts of what would have been Broken Hill and Mount Isa with it.

Co-convenor of the symposium, Dr Keith Sircombe, a post-doctoral research fellow with the Tectonics Special Research Centre (TSRC), explained that, if that part of our continent could be located, new reserves of the minerals (found in Broken Hill and Mount Isa) would probably be there, waiting to be tapped.

The three-day symposium has been marked as a special memorial to the vision and energy of Professor Chris Powell, the late Director of the TSRC. For more information about the conference, contact Dr Sircombe: ksiscombe@tsrc.uwa.edu.au

Get the right words on paper

Our focus in the English Department is usually on analysis or creative writing. This kind of writing is different, a more practical take on the teaching of language,” Ms Cupitt said.

The short course in Professional Communication grew out of a request from finance company Hartley Poynton, which asked the English Department to help them improve their communications with clients.

“A team of four financial advisers brought reports they had written for clients along to the workshop and Delphine MacFarlane and I worked with them for a full day. ‘What a difference a day makes!’ we thought, so we made that the slogan for the course.”

Anybody interested in either PW 280 or the short courses in Professional Communication should contact English Department Administrative officer, Sue Lewis: suelewis@cyllene.uwa.edu.au

The English Department is determined to get everybody communicating effectively with each other.

They are offering two courses aimed at improving written skills. Professional Writing 280 is a unit run in second semester and also over the summer for second year students from any department or faculty across the campus.

Short courses in Professional Communication are also offered to groups from industry, business, government and professional areas, with one-day workshops tailored to individual group’s needs.

Cathy Cupitt, who is coordinating the courses with Head of Department Associate Professor Andrew Lynch, said they had already had students from business, history, psychology, mathematics and engineering enrolled in PW 280.

“But nearly half of our intake last year was Bachelor of Arts students.
Medical director Christine Pascott says the University Medical Centre is “the nicest general practice” she’s worked in.

Now it’s also one of the best.

The Medical Centre has recently been awarded accreditation by Australian General Practice Accreditation Ltd, after being examined using standards set by the Royal Australia College of General Practitioners.

The standards address all key features of general practice from communication with patients to systems management.

“These include how the receptionists deal with patients, our vaccination storage, confidentiality, keeping of records, sterilisation standards, patient care, even the medical education undertaken by our doctors and nurses. It’s extremely comprehensive,” said Dr Pascott.

She said she was proud of the practice and its 13 part-time staff that they had come through the examination with flying colours.

“Many general practices don’t apply for accreditation because it can take a lot of time and work to meet the standards. Some practices need to buy new equipment and change their procedures.

“In preparing for accreditation, all our staff reviewed and documented procedures. We soon realised that we easily met the majority of accreditation requirements. I think this acknowledges the high standard of work which our staff have demonstrated for years,” she said.

The medical centre has grown by about 40 per cent over the past five years, seeing 12,500 patients a year, about 20 per cent of whom are staff members.

Close colleague’s close shave

Colleagues of engineering Professor Michael Norton had a close encounter with an electric shaver recently, to raise money for leukaemia research.

Professor Norton was recently diagnosed with leukaemia and two of his PhD students, Joanna Sikorska and Melinda Hodkiewicz, arranged the fund-raiser and ‘close shave’ to support him.

Eleven academics, six postgraduate students and two undergraduates gave up their hair, raising more than $7,000 for research into the disease.

All were from the Faculty of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, most from Professor Norton’s department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering.

In a new twist on the mass head shaving, the ‘victims’ coloured their hair in brilliant orange, green, even blue and yellow checks, which made the shaving so much more dramatic.

Professor Brian Stone coloured his hair bright orange because he said his students reckoned it wasn’t otherwise worth sponsoring him, as he had so little hair. “I kept my beard though: otherwise I might have died of exposure!”

Professor Stone’s own head bald as a result of chemotherapy, watched the spectacle.

Joanna Sikorska said she was thrilled with the support of the faculty. “We have $7,066.30 with a little more still to come in,” she said.
Ancient friends take student to Cambridge

He's too young to have seen the ABC-TV series 1 Claudius, but Simon Malloch is fascinated by the Julio-Claudian emperors from ancient Roman times. Another of his favourites is Tacitus, the Roman historian.

These people entered Simon Malloch's life when, as a high school student, he decided to give up computer studies to take up ancient history.

And they will go with him to Cambridge University when he takes up a full three-year scholarship to complete his PhD in ancient history at St John's College.

He is one of only three students from WA (and the only humanities student) to win a scholarship to Cambridge this year. Simon's is a Packer scholarship, from the philanthropic arm of Australian businessman Kerry Packer's empire.

"The year I studied ancient history for my TEE, my school, Lesmurdie Senior High School, was offering Greek history. They alternated between Greek and Roman. I enjoyed the ancient Greeks with a wonderful teacher, Hilda Beale, and I also became interested in Roman history and the empires."

"I had to make a break with some of my friends to concentrate on study and do well in my TEE. I was the only one of my group at school who ended up at university," Simon said.

After completing a Bachelor of Arts in Ancient History with first class Honours, Simon began working on his PhD under Professor Brian Bosworth.

His thesis is on the Tacitus annals book XI, which deals with a couple of years of the reign of Claudius.

"Unfortunately, I have to break my links with UWA. I could only accept Cambridge University's offer if I began my PhD again under another supervisor. But it will be worth it to have a PhD from Cambridge. And St John's College has a very good classics tradition."

"Perhaps, now I've won a scholarship to Cambridge, people will stop asking me what I'm going to do about a job!"

Simon has been tutoring part-time in the Department of Classics and Ancient History. His scholarship covers tuition, full residency fees and a generous annual allowance.

A statistically strong set of (mathematical) scientists

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics is hosting an international statistics workshop in December.

It is the 11th in a series of workshops initiated in Aarhus, Denmark, which traditionally encourage communication between theoretical and applied scientists.

The workshop will bring together international experts and practical users of stereology, stochastic geometry, spatial statistics, image analysis and related fields.

"We aim for a convivial atmosphere of informal scholarly interaction," Professor Adrian Baddeley said. "The program will allow ample time for discussion between the scheduled talks."

For more information on the conference: http://www.maths.uwa.edu.au/~adrian/workshop.html

BOOK SALE
ANOTHER SUCCESS

The annual Save the Children Fund book sale in the Undercroft has again made more than $100,000.

This is the second consecutive year in which the charity has netted a six-figure total and takes the amount raised over more than 30 years to close to $1.25 million.

The volunteers thank the University for its support and have already started collecting books for next year's sale, at their Park Avenue building headquarters.
The trials of a Venetian governor in occupied Greece will make for lively reading — once UWA’s Venetian expert has translated them.

Professor John Melville-Jones, Head of the Department of Classics and Ancient History and an expert in the Venetian dialect and visiting American Byzantinist Dr Diana Wright (pictured below), are working on a series of historical documents that create a colourful picture of the daily problems of being a Venetian governor in 15th century Greece, at a time when it been conquered by the Turks.

Bartolemeo Minio was the colonial governor of one of a string of prosperous Venetian coastal settlements that traded in silks and slaves, salt and spices. The occupying Turks tolerated the canny Venetians because their thriving trade could be taxed, but Minio juggled an array of daily problems that make for lively reading.

“He walked a diplomatic tightrope, trying not to offend the Turks and to protect Venetian trade from Greek rebellions and Albanian bandits — all with very little help from a very parsimonious Doge and Council in Venice,” Professor John Melville-Jones said. “He was constantly pleading for more men, for assistance in the form of food and building materials, and for money.”

Dr Wright, from the Dumbarton Oaks Research Centre in Washington DC is an Honorary Research Fellow in UWA’s School of Humanities this month, while she and Professor Melville-Jones work on translating and analysing the documents.

The two researchers hope to publish the documents they are studying at the end of this year, with a translation and a commentary. The research is supported by the Australian Research Council.

National appointment

A UWA Executive Dean has been chosen to help make decisions about engineering and manufacturing in Australia.

Professor Barry Brady, Executive Dean of the faculty of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, has joined the Industry Research and Development Board’s Engineering and Manufacturing Committee, at the invitation of Senator Nick Minchin, the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources.

The appointment is for three years.

Senator Minchin wrote to Professor Brady that his “appointment and the skills you will bring to the Engineering and Manufacturing Committee will greatly strengthen its capabilities.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Colombo Plan and, in turn, the start of Australia’s entry into international education.

The Colombo Plan was originally a six-year program of economic development in South and South East Asia, following WWII. Australia had strong concerns for the fate of her then newly-independent neighbours in Asia who were seeking ways of providing a better life for their people.

Under the Plan, a scholarship scheme brought students from Malaysia and other Commonwealth countries to universities in Australia from the 1950s to the 1980s.

To mark the 50th anniversary, the Malaysia Australia Foundation (MAF) is tracing all Colombo Plan scholars to celebrate the achievements of the scheme with them.

Many of them now occupy senior positions in the Malaysian and Singaporean governments, academia and the corporate world.

Any former Colombo Plan scholars in Australia are urged to contact the Australia Malaysia Cultural Foundation to join in the celebrations. Phone Geoff Sauer on 0412 125 010 or email sauer@senet.com.au.

Plans are also under way to provide Colombo Plan commemoration scholarships to Malaysians to study in Australia and for Australians to study in Malaysia.
The last word on bullying—AND I MEAN IT!

Did you know bullying is not unlawful under the sex discrimination act?

At the NTEU Women’s Conference Workshop in Melbourne in July some issues relating to workplace bullying in developing a draft for NTEU policy were discussed. Some really interesting points were raised. I’m afraid it raised more questions than answers, but we still came up with ways to strengthen the policy. I’ve outlined some of the issues that concerned us.

In enacting legislation to counter bullying there must be very clear ideas of defining what bullying is and what it is not— or must there? When you define something like bullying, if you define it exactly it may be too exacting, if the definition is too broad, will it be treated seriously?

It is clear a bystander’s role very important. Are the bystanders enjoying the bullying, glad they are not doing the bullying, in the belief that if the bully is punished it won’t be their fault and they’ll have had an enjoyable time without consequences? (eg “Thank God I didn’t say that” or “I’d never have got away with saying that” or even “It’s just his/ her manner”) Is the lack of action by universities, companies, governments, showing a bystander effect?

Bystanders give bullies a sense of achievement, it’s no fun for the bully if you can’t show off. Or is this mobbing rather than bullying?

There did not seem to be agreement on the definition of bullying. For example does the behaviour have to be repeated or is it the threat of it being repeated enough? But if it happens once to a person and they don’t go to staff meetings again or they are intimidated into silence from that point on, isn’t once enough? Does it have to escalate? When does workplace bullying become workplace violence? What kind of responsibility and accountability have the managers of workplaces if they are aware of the bullying and it escalates thereafter? Is this negligence? How can we ensure compliance with legislation by universities? If penalties are involved—especially money (or prison?) then the legislation will have to be very clear. Is the change from workplace bullying to workplace violence subtle? There are clear gender differences—social exclusion, overload, refusal of access to benefits (research grants), yelling, screaming. And these differ between men-women bullying (and vice-versa) women-women bullying, men-men bullying.

The Women’s Conference also discussed the intersection of bullying and harassment. Eighty per cent of bullying appears to be based on harassment issues. Can you identify a tendency to bully and be pro-active in heading it off?

Should it be everyone’s duty of care in the workplace to interfere and stamp out bullying?

We also discussed bullies and targets and their central involvement in workplace organisational culture. In universities this seems to be about the benchmark man and the definition of merit. Bullying in hospital wards and nursing was also discussed, especially in situations of power inequity and nurses having to do what the doctors say.

It was quite clear that the increase in “economic rationalism”, “downsizing” and “restructuring” (don’t you just love those words?) were all involved in affecting the ability to counter bullying (“Oh God if I say anything I’m going to be the first one out when we restructure/downsize/ rationalize”). How do you clinically measure bullying? Is stress the outcome? If it is a health and safety issue and the person is already disempowered and stressed what support and structures can they rely on to help them? Will the targets of bullying just leave and let someone else be the new target? So, if you have any or all of the following ill health problems (sleep disturbances, severe tiredness, panic attacks, high stress levels, anxiety and depression, headaches, nausea, gastrointestinal problems, skin rashes, heart disease), loss of confidence, incapacity to work and shout at the children and you thought this was all part of being a women (or man) or just overloaded at work, think again you may have been bullied—SO THERE!
Does cannabis help or hinder schizophrenia?

Researchers around the world are trying to discover whether cannabis use exacer-bates psychotic episodes experienced by people suffering from schizophrenia.

Some research points to cannabis alleviating some of the condition’s symptoms. Associate Professor Mathew Martin-Iverson (pictured below), from the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Sciences, is being funded by the Western Australia Foundation for Research in Schizophrenic Disorders, to continue the research.

Professor Martin-Iverson and his team are calling for volunteers for a study that could have far-reaching effects on the treatment of a condition that affects about 180,000 Australians.

“We now know what molecules in the brain cannabis works on, and we know that the brain produces a chemical that works like cannabis. Everyone has this chemical, but we don’t know much about its function,” Professor Martin-Iverson said.

Research led by his colleague Professor Assen Jablensky has established that a high proportion of psychosis sufferers are also drug dependent, with cannabis topping the list of the most frequently used illegal substances.

But the relationship between schizophrenic symptoms and cannabis abuse remains unclear. Research in Europe suggested that those who use cannabis in early adulthood are more likely to develop schizophrenia. But this could be a result of cannabis use exacerbating psychotic episodes experienced by people suffering from schizophrenia.

But this could be a result of cannabis use exacerbating psychotic episodes experienced by people suffering from schizophrenia.

Professor Martin-Iverson hopes that schizophrenia sufferers and regular cannabis users without the condition will be involved in this study. Volunteers are asked to contact PhD student Karina Kedzior on 9347 6418 or by email: karina@ccrn.uwa.edu.au

Does cannabis help or hinder schizophrenia?

HeLa news

Research
Grants & Contracts

ALCOA

ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF WA

AUSTRALIAN GREENHOUSE OFFICE/RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND WELFARE

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL
Dr D. Jayatilaka, Chemistry: ‘Wave-functions directly from scattering experiments’ — $140,000 (2001-03).

CITY OF BAYSWATER
Dr C. Oldham, Centre for Water Research and A/Prof L. Evans (external): ‘The effects of acid and metal discharges from urban stormwater drains on estuarine health’ — $21,800 (2001-03).

CONSORZIO DI BONIFICA DELTA PO ADIGE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGED CARE/HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF WA

FRDC VIA CURTIN UNIVERSITY
Dr G. Davidson, Zoology and Dr J. Mamo (left) and Mrs J. Williams (external): ‘Striking recoveries in Western Rock Lobster (Panulirus Cygnus)’ — $42,837 (2001-04).

GRDC (GRAINS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CORP
Prof S. Powles, WA Herbicide Resistance Initiative and Dr Qin Yu (external): ‘Fellowship: Exploring herbicide resistance in wild radish — biochemical, genetic and molecular studies’.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

IAN POTTER FOUNDATION
Monday 27 August

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES SEMINAR
‘Australian literature: rough drafts.’ A special lunchtime event focusing on Australian authors and their manuscripts. John Kinsella will be reading his poetry, Dennis Haskell will be talking about the value of literary manuscripts and Toby Burrows will be demonstrating the new ‘Guide to Australian Literary Manuscripts’ web service. 1 to 2pm, IAS Building. For more details, contact Terri-ann White on ext. 2114.

BOTANY SEMINAR
‘Establishing restoration protocols for Australian hummock grasslands’, Dr Grant Wells, Kings Park and Botanic Garden. 4pm, Room 2.14, Second Floor, Botany.

Tuesday 28 August

LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY TALK
‘Romesh Goonewardene on landscape and architecture.’ Romesh will reflect on the tensions and connections between landscape and architecture on the UWA campus and beyond. 1pm, LWAG.

SOIL SCIENCE AND PLANT NUTRITION
‘Sulphur mineralisation and leaching in WA soils: implications for sulphur fertiliser recommendations’, Dr Geoff Anderson, CSIRO. 4pm, Agriculture Lecture Theatre.

PERTH MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE GROUP TALK
‘More’s Utopia and radical equality’, Dr Pina Ford, Catholic University of America and Notre Dame University. 7.30pm, Postgraduate Lounge, Hackett Hall.

Wednesday 29 August

TALK BY SUSAN MAUSHART (AUTHOR OF WIFEWORK)
UWA Student Guild, as part of Women in Education Week is proud to present Susan Maushart, as part of Women in Education Week as part of Women in Education Week. 1 to 2.30pm, G.25 Seminar Room, Arts Building.

PHYSIOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Role of iron availability in the growth and survival info call the UWA Student Guild on ext. 2291.

Thursday 30 August

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT
‘Rhapsody in Blue’, brassy American classics performed by WAIM Wind Orchestra, Alan Lourens (conductor) and Mark Coughlan (piano). 1.10pm, Octagon Theatre.

ZOLOGY SEMINAR
‘From clouds of copepods to populations of pilchards: background to providing research advice for purse seine fisheries in WA’, Dr Dan Gaughan, WA Fisheries. 4pm, Jennifer Arnold Lecture Theatre.

Friday 31 August

MICROBIOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Characterising the allergen-responsive neonatal T cell’, Dr Cathy Jones, TVW ICHR. 4.15pm, Arts Seminar Room 1.33.

CIVIL AND RESOURCE ENGINEERING SEMINAR
‘Non-classical boundary value problems in elasticity’, Dr Sasha Galybin. 3.45pm, Room E151. First Floor, Civil Engineering Building.

THE PHILOSOPHY SOCIETY MEETING
‘Seeing pains’, Hartley Slater. 4.15pm, Arts Seminar Room 1.33.

ARCHEOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Home economics: the origins of gender in human society — an economic explanation’, Professor Sandra Bowdler and Dr Jane Balme, Centre for Archaeology. 4 to 5pm, Simmons Lecture Theatre.

Tuesday 4 September

HISTORY SEMINAR
‘Pressures for the first factory act: the health and morals of Apprentices Act (1802)’, Dr Joanna Innes, Oxford University. 4pm for 4.30pm, PSA Lounge.

SOIL SCIENCE AND PLANT NUTRITION
‘Symbiotic exchange of nutrients in arbuscular mycorrhizas’, Dr Zakaria Solaiman. 4pm, Agriculture Lecture Theatre.

Wednesday 5 September

ARCME SEMINAR
‘Determination of microstructure and microdefects in porous biomaterials using ultrasonometry’, Dr Roger Price, SCGH. 5.15pm, Billings Room, E & E Building.

UNIVERSITY HOUSE QUIZ NIGHT
The annual Quiz Night will be held in the Club Dining Room at 7pm for a 7.30pm start, so book your place now and join us for a great evening of fun. $8 per person for pre-booked tables and $10 per person on the night. A light supper is included in the price. To book, call University House on ext. 2662.

Thursday 6 September

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT
‘Summer Map of Stars’, West Australian Symphony’s Wendy Cooper and UWA’s Roger Smalley present two Australian premieres. 1.10pm, Octagon Theatre.

Friday 7 September

MICROBIOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Molecular investigations of HCV’, Dr Mark Watson, Microbiology, RPH. 9am, Seminar Room I.1, First Floor, L Block, QEIMC.

ENGLISH WORK-IN-PROGRESS SEMINAR
‘A home in a garden: Marianne North’s gallery at Kew’, Dr Monics Anderson. 1pm, Room G14, Arts Building.

ASIAN STUDIES
‘Feminist identification in Kansai women’s group’, Laura Dale. 1 to 2.30pm, G.25 Seminar Room, Ground Floor, Social Sciences Building.

UWAnews
Copy deadline for the next issue

DEADLINE DATE PUBLICATION
Wednesday Monday
August 29 September 10

ADVANCE NOTICE

Tuesday 11 September

RAINE LECTURE/SCGH HOSPITAL CLINICAL MEETING
‘Hyperplasia of airway smooth muscle: preliminary studies of the role of cytokinesis’, Professor Newman Stephens, Professor of Physiology and Director of the Smooth Muscle Research Section, The University of Manitoba. Light luncheon: 12 noon; Lecture: 12.30pm. Mary Lockett Lecture Theatre, FJ Clark Lecture Theatre Complex, QEIMC.

TEACHING INTERNSHIP SCHEME 2002

Call for Applications
The Teaching and Learning Committee introduced a Teaching Internship Scheme in 2000 for promising doctoral research students to develop teaching skills in their field and to undertake a programme of professional development activities during the course of their PhD candidature. The scheme has been very successful to date and a call for applications is now being distributed for 2002.

The aim of the scheme is to enhance the future employment prospects of the interns and to assist in attracting and retaining outstanding students at UWA. Both full-time and part-time PhD students may apply, whether or not in receipt of a scholarship. The scope of employment of the interns does not exceed the employment restrictions detailed under postgraduate scholarship schemes.

The scheme offers in 2002, ten (10) fully-funded internships, each of which include a teaching component to the value of $5000 and a professional development component costed at $2300.

The guidelines and proforma are on the web at: http://www.acs.uwa.edu.au/reg/sec/teachintern.htm

The deadline for this scheme is Friday 28 September 2001.

If you have any queries, please contact the Executive Officer of the Teaching and Learning Committee, Mrs Sue Smurthwaite, on ext. 2459 or email: ssmsurthwaite@admin.uwa.edu.au
**Call Kenata Rentals**

Call Kenata Rentals and book a one, two or three-bedroom townhouse absolutely fully equipped with everything! Long or short stay. From $375 per week OR special discounted leasing rates. Location: cnr Edward and Fairway Streets, Crawley (opposite Mechanical Engineering). Enquiries: 0412 953 100 or fax 9389 8326

Kenata Rentals providing short-term, fully-furnished accommodation to UWA since 1982.
ILUKA RESOURCES

JOHN NOTT CANCER FELLOWSHIP & RESEARCH FUND
Adj/Prof T. Ratajczak. Pharmacology: ‘QEI John Nott Cancer Travelling Fellowship’.

NATHAN KLINE INSTITUTE

FOR SALE
MITSUBISHI MAGNA ALTERA ’96, 5Sp man., very economical. 86,000kms, all elecs, CD, cruise, serviced regularly, log books avail. Owner going back to NZ. $12,500. Phone Alison or Andrew on 9286 3383.

HOME IN CONNOLLY, with panoramic golf course views, spacious 5 brm, 2 bathrooms. Large formal and informal living areas plus full security, b/g swimming pool, ducted cooling, reticulation and gable roofed alfresco area. The home is close to all transport and major shopping centres, government and private schools and ECU Joondalup Campus. Buyer enquiry range $220,000 to $250,000. For further information please contact Sue Calalesina 9385 6750 or 0404 819 629.

NEDLANDS, MODERN TOWNHOUSE, 5 min. walk to UWA, 2 bedrooms + study, 2 bath + separate WC, air con., 2 parking spaces. $260/wk. Long or short lease, available now. Tel. 9346 2281.

FEMALE WANTED TO RENT LARGE ROOM in character Swanbourne house. Close to shops, train and beach, and on No. 72 bus route to UWA. To share with male professional. $110 p/w, available now. Tel. 9387 6905.

FOR RENT
SUBARU WRX SEDAN. MY99 (delivered Dec 1998), still under new car warranty. Metallic green. Travelled only 42,000mm by Dec 1998), still under new car warranty.

PFIZER PTY LTD


classifieds

Redundant Equipment for Sale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>AGE</th>
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<th>CONTACT</th>
<th>EMAIL/EXTENSION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Coffee Table, Jarrah, 750mm diameter</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Peter</td>
<td><a href="mailto:p2005_jarrah@alumni.uwa.edu.au">p2005_jarrah@alumni.uwa.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffee Machine/drip Brewer</td>
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<td>Service</td>
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<td>2002</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bids should be accepted by Monday 10 September with departments to have first option

Departments are reminded that all University equipment available for sale must be advertised in the UWA NEWS. Receipts should be PeopleSoft account coded 490 (computing with barcode), 491 (non-computing with barcode) or 493 (items with no barcode). If equipment has an existing barcode please contact extension 3618/2546 for details.

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

IAN POTTER FOUNDATION (cont’d)

ILUKA RESOURCES

JOHN NOTT CANCER FELLOWSHIP & RESEARCH FUND
Adj/Prof T. Ratajczak. Pharmacology: ‘QEI John Nott Cancer Travelling Fellowship’.

NATHAN KLINE INSTITUTE

SCAT

SPINE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA
Dr E. Trinajstic, A/Prof K. Singer. Surgery and Prof R. Vaughan and Mr P. Woodland (external): Depuy Spinal Fellowship.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW CALEDONIA

UWA SMALL RESEARCH GRANTS SCHEME

VOLUNTEERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WA FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH INTO SCHIZOPHRENIA DISORDERS

WA HEALTH PROMOTION FOUNDATION

WATER AND RIVERS COMMISSION

WATER AND RIVERS COMMISSION

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