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FEATURES

In Focus: campus news and views 2
From the Vice-Chancellery 7
Shaping the skylines 8
With reckless abandon… 19
Making a difference 21
Newsmaker: Dr Neale Fong 23
Student profile: Ben Spagnolo 25
GRAD NEWS 26
UWA Events 30
GRAD BRIEFS 31

COVER: Cover of Leaving Year Zero, by Richard Lunn, published by UWA Press. Photo: Children play near T3 Prison, Phnom Penh, by Ben Sharp

CONTENTS PAGE PHOTOGRAPHS:
Top: Rhodes Scholar Stuart Munro – see In Focus (Photo: The West Australian)
Centre: Feather, Michael Riley (Wesfarmers Art Collection), from Clouded Over at the Lawrence Wilson art Gallery – see In Focus
Bottom: The Australian Prospectors and Miners Hall of Fame, Kalgoorlie, designed by UWA graduate Ahmad Abas – see Shaping the skylines

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CAMBODIA’S YEAR ZERO

The cover of UNIVIEW evokes the Khmer Rouge’s regime of terror which touched almost every Cambodian family and is the focus of an extraordinary book recently published by UWA Press.

When author Richard Lunn attended a talk by refugees who escaped Pol Pot’s Cambodia, the Sydney writer was working on a fantasy novel woven around the ancient empire of Angkor. However, having heard the stories, he found them hard to forget.

“The Khmer community had only a very soft voice amid the multicultural hubbub of Australian society,” observes Richard Lunn, a lecturer at the University of Western Sydney and the author of several books.

Thus began some complex networking that, with the help of the Cambodian-Australian Welfare Council, put him in touch with the six refugees whose stories he brings us in Leaving Year Zero.

The first story begins: “When I came to Australia as a refugee I worked hard, very hard, especially at science and maths, because I wanted to become a nuclear physicist and build an atom bomb to kill the Khmer Rouge…”

This account introduces us to Soour Hai Gov who is photographed in 1982 as a skinny boy in a Thai refugee camp, a year before he arrived in Australia. He had lost everyone: his father, mother, sisters and brothers.

Coming to terms with a loss that filled his mind with nightmare images, struggling to shape a new life, and eventually rediscovering the gentle faith that had nurtured his nation – these are all elements of Soour Gov’s story.

“Sometimes the act of reading their own stories – stories that may have been related in quite a detached way – brought an emotional response,” recalls Richard Lunn, “but basically these were people who were on top of their emotions, who had turned their lives into a positive experience, and who could talk about what happened. Others could not do so without being overwhelmed.

“These are also people who found in themselves an incredible capacity to overcome difficulties, not because they are extraordinary, but because people are amazingly resilient.”

Richard Lunn hopes that this book will make a positive contribution to Australia’s refugee debate.

“A sense of shared humanity has not always informed our responses,” says the author. “Stereotypes suggest that refugees create an economic burden, yet each of these individuals is now making a very real contribution to society: two as employers in their own small business, others as interpreters, a housing officer and a manager.”

KIDS ON CAMPUS

On any day of the week you can find visiting students on campus. They may be raising the roof of Winthrop Hall at the annual schools’ choir festivals; participating in work experience or special coaching sessions; or perhaps exploring the geological treasures in the Edward de Courcy Clarke Earth Science Museum.

During school holidays, the big attraction is the Uni Sports for Kids program organised by UWA’s Sport and Recreation Association that sees rollerblading hockey stars careering across tennis courts, volleyball games on the green expanse of the Tropical Grove; and Tai Kwon Do in the gym.

The Association is currently gearing up for the summer program that begins in December and runs through January. If you would like to know more, phone + 61 8 6488 2286 or visit the website: www.sport.uwa.edu.au/ Programs/USFK.htm

Not all of the Association’s sporting programs for juniors happen on campus. UWA Fencing Club sessions are located at the Shenton College gymnasium and the arrival of experienced French coach Matthieu Meriaux has clearly spurred interest. President and UWA graduate Ben Peden admits that swashbuckling heroes like Zorro have done much to popularise the sport but insist that it has benefits for participants of all ages.

“There are benefits beyond fitness, particularly in the area of hand-eye coordination and balance,” says the UWA graduate. “It is a very strategic sport, a contest of speed and skill in which you must be a move ahead of your opponent – in fact ‘high-speed chess’ is a good description. If you want to participate at an elite level, you need to start at about the age of 10”.

Five-year-old Cooper Sawyer-Glackin clearly believes in getting a few moves ahead, and is proving adept with his foil at Saturday morning sessions. Two of the club’s fifteen-year-olds James Lewis and Jacob Stone are role models for Cooper – they brought home gold, silver and bronze medals from the Australian cadet championships in Sydney in July.

If you’d like to know more, contact Ben Peden on +61 8 9381 6824 or 0413 426 595.
“My impression is that people don’t know much about that period in Cambodia, apart from the fact that there was starvation and hardship under the Khmer Rouge that resulted in two million deaths. These stories are not case studies. Each of the six has a completely different voice – one is thoughtful and philosophical, another has an almost manic humour, while a third has a sad, lyrical quality.”

What all the stories in Leaving Year Zero share is what they say about the human spirit.

UWA Press titles including, of course, recent W.A. Premier’s Book Award winners – John Dowson’s Old Fremantle and Mark Greenwood’s The Legend of Lasseter’s Reef – are available at the UWA Visitors Centre, the University Co-operative Bookshop and leading book stores.

THE END OF OIL?

With petrol prices rising and some of the world’s key oil fields becoming political targets, debate on the future of oil is happening at all levels of society. A key event at the UWA Extension 2005 Summer School will be a full day seminar on oil featuring Professor David Goodstein from the California Institute of Technology, who is the author of Out of Gas: the End of the Age of Oil. Other speakers include Professor Beverley Ronalds, Distinguished Visiting Professor at UWA’s School of Oil and Gas Engineering, and Associate Professor Neil Drew, Director of UWA’s Institute for Regional Development. The seminar will be on 17 January at 7.30pm. For details of the Summer School program visit the website: www.extension.uwa.edu.au

CLOUD-GAZE ON CAMPUS

The arrival of spring – time for whimsical pursuits – certainly relates to the theme of the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery’s next exhibition opening on 17 October which invites you to cloud-gaze as you wander through the campus gallery.

Curator Janice Baker has clearly enjoyed putting together Clouded Over, which – despite its unsubstantial subject – lends itself to serious discussion on many fronts.

“Clouds are an integral component of landscape painting, particularly influencing the quality and illumination of light. It is a skill to capture their fleeting effects,” explains Janice. “Clouds also represent transformation, they are exciting and unpredictable. In Indigenous cultures, they are a fundamental component of practical mythologies of regeneration and the cycle of life.”

This exhibition, drawn from many leading private and public collections, offers a fascinating examination of clouds in contemporary Australian and historical European art. It journeys from 17th century Dutch landscapes to contemporary works.

You can cloud-gaze until 19 December, and one of the many interesting public programs will be a talk by Associate Professor Kevin Judd who became interested in weather forecasting while on sabbatical in Oxford in 1999. Program details are available by phoning +61 8 6488 3707.

PROFESSOR PRIDER HONOURED

In this issue, we revisit the 1950s when there were only a few international students at UWA, most being Colombo Plan students taking the opportunity of broadening their educational horizons.

Today, our University welcomes more than 2,800 international students from 60 countries with orientation programs that make them feel ‘at home’, but those who journeyed to our campus in the 1950s could be daunted by their separation from family and friends. That is why so many recall the efforts of Emeritus Professor Rex Prider and his family who played an exceptional role in making them feel that they were among friends. Indeed, the Prider home became a ‘home away from home’ for many.

The Prider contribution to UWA is perpetuated in several awards that you can read about in Developments, the Office of Development insert in this issue.

INTERNATIONAL MEDAL FOR UWA RESEARCHER

Professor Bruce Robinson, of UWA’s School of Medicine and Pharmacology, was recently awarded the prestigious Wagner Medal at the 2004 International Conference of the International Mesothelioma Interest Group (IMIG), a body of scientists, clinicians and others dedicated to the study of mesothelioma biology and the care and treatments of patients with the usually fatal, asbestos-induced cancer called mesothelioma. The medal recognised Professor Robinson’s vast contribution to all aspects of mesothelioma research over 20 years.

In presenting the 2004 Wagner Medal (which honours the researcher who first connected mesothelioma to
asbestos exposure, the late Dr Chris Wagner), the President of IMIG, Dr Daniel Sterman, said that Professor Robinson had established himself as the most versatile investigator in the field of research.

“His work has ranged from basic laboratory work elucidating how the host immune system interacts with mesothelioma tumours, to clinical trials of chemotherapy and immunotherapy,” said Dr Sterman at the presentation ceremony in Italy. He went on to tell his audience that recently a UWA team led by Dr Robinson developed a new test for diagnosing and monitoring mesothelioma early in its progress, when therapy is more likely to be successful. This simple technique which involves measuring levels of a protein called SMRP in the serum or pleural fluid, was described in an article in the November 2003 issue of the medical journal, The Lancet. The research shows that SMR can be elevated for several years before diagnosis, and the test will thus be effective for screening asbestos-exposed individuals.

Prof. Robinson said he was honoured to receive the medal and was especially moved by the warm comments made by the president. He says the challenges now facing researchers are to find effective therapies and/or novel ways of preventing the disease, which is expected to cost the western world more than $300 billion in the next few decades.

**CLASSICS PROFESSOR ON TOUR**

Classics Professor David Kennedy of UWA’s School of Humanities has been conducting archaeological research that has involved major excavations and aerial archaeology in the Middle East since 1976. Now the author of *The Roman Army in Jordan and Ancient Jordan from the Air* is planning to let fellow enthusiasts join him on a tour that takes in major sites in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. There will be desert mansions, Crusader castles, Roman roads and the stunning Wadi Rum. The tour is scheduled for 30 April to 21 May 2005 and details are on http://extension.uwa.edu.au/tours/jordan.shtml

**US STUDENTS ON CAMPUS**

With the United States accounting for more than 30 per cent of the world’s science and technology breakthroughs, it’s not surprising that UNIVIEW frequently records the departure of high achieving students who cross the Pacific to further hone their scientific skills.

However, a new initiative supported by the National Science Foundation (one of the largest research funding agencies in the US) and the Australian Academy of Science ensures that the traffic is by no means one-way. Recently 20 US students reversed the trend to become the first participants in a program bringing them to Australia’s research laboratories during their summer break. Three students came to UWA specifically to work with experts in their particular field of study, and they were thoroughly appreciative of the opportunity. Adam Zysk, working with Professor David Sampson in the School of Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering, said he was drawn to UWA by the reputation that Professor Sampson’s laboratory has in the field of laser imaging techniques for breast cancer detection. This work involves

Members of UWA Motorsport team (Photo: The West Australian)

**A RACE AGAINST TIME**

Members of The University of Western Australia’s Motorsport team were racing against time to prepare their award-winning open wheel racing car for its international debut at the 2004 Formula SAE competition in the United States earlier this year.

The striking racing car had been taken to pieces since winning Design and Innovation Awards in the Australian Formula SAE-A competition last December, but made it to the international contest in Detroit and sped away with the prestigious Carroll Smith Memorial Prize for the best designed vehicle.

Faculty Advisors Lynn Kirkham and Angus Tavner have been involved with the team since the Australian competition took off in 2000, sponsored by the Society for Automotive Engineers-Australasia (SAE-A) and major car companies.

“One of the contest’s most valuable aspects is that the students work on a ‘real life’ design-and-build project where their theoretical, classroom knowledge is greatly extended. In fact they are so enthusiastic they tend to put in far more hours than is usual for academic projects,” Mr Kirkham said.

“Our latest car was very radical in design and manufacture. We knew we had bitten off a lot, but it was a step we had to take, and it paid off in terms of winning both the Design and Innovation awards in Australia. Our technology was so advanced it impressed many professionals. The FSAE-A Technical Advisor has subsequently written that our car was ‘the stand-out best FSAE car of all time!’ so we won’t be changing much in our 2004 design, and this gives us a flying start for 2005!”

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The UWA car boasts a carbon-fibre skinned monocoque chassis, using a materials technology, developed by one of the students, which is an advance on that currently used in automotive and aerospace applications. Composite materials suppliers have since shown interest in the processes and are prepared to support continued research.

Some 20 final year engineering students get academic credits for their involvement in the project and several have gone on to work in the automotive industry – no doubt pleasing sponsors that include Ford, General Motors Holden, Toyota and Mitsubishi.
the development of imaging techniques also being explored at the University of Illinois where Adam is doing postdoctoral studies.

Will Adams, a doctoral student at the University of Alabama, was here to advance his study of specific nanomaterials for solar cell research and application. “I knew that Australia would be a great place to come because my research involves a large portion of environmental science and chemistry, and I’ve been working with Dr Terry Quickenden, who has research experience with photoelectrochemistry,” said Will.

The third student, Greg Hebeler, is studying for a PhD in geomechanics at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He believes that UWA’s Centre for Offshore Foundation Systems is one of the top five geotechnical research institutions in the world.

“It’s an exciting place to be with regard to Soil Mechanics and that is showcased by the number and quality of prominent visiting researchers who have spent time here in the past few years,” said Greg.

On the eve of their departure, the visiting students expressed the hope that their visit would be the first of many. “We are already discussing continuing collaborative research projects and joint publications,” said Adam, “and I hope to encourage other postdoctoral students to get involved and widen their research networks in this way.”

**University Architect Donates Scholarship**

Award-winning local architect Mr R. J. (Gus) Ferguson, who has had a long association with The University of Western Australia and has been the University’s Consultant Architect since 1985, has made a $50,000 scholarship donation to the University. The donation will provide, over five years, an annual $10,000 travel scholarship for fifth-year architectural students.

Mr Ferguson received an honorary degree of Doctor of Architecture from the University in 2000 in recognition of his very significant contribution to the campus — his refurbishment of the Nedlands campus and designs for the Law School and Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery have all been acknowledged by several awards. He was himself the beneficiary of a travel scholarship after graduating from Perth Technical College in 1956 (the University School of Architecture was not established until 1967). Winning the inaugural Morawetz Prize enabled him to travel and study in Africa, Europe and Asia — an enriching experience that he would like others to enjoy.

Mr Ferguson prepared Planning Reviews of the Crawley Campus in 1990 and 2000 and has recently been involved in a Structure Plan for an expanded Crawley campus. A w a r d- winning architect Geoff Warn of Donaldson and Warn Architects recently cited the University as a good model of institutional architecture that had been well-developed and maintained. For more about architecture at UWA, see *Shaping the skylines.*

**A Taste of the Intangible**

Lindy Hume, Artistic Director of the UWA Perth International Arts Festival observes that there is more to being human than the physical self, and she intends to explore those intangible elements — of mind and imagination, spirit and the soul — in the 2005 festival.

“Children and artists, thrive on their access to the intangible. During 2005, the festival will invite the whole community to pause for three weeks in the realm of Transcendence and Transformation — to dream, contemplate, wonder, discuss, experiment, imagine, look inwards and visualise forward…” Sounds hard to resist!

The full program will be announced on 12 November, but to whet your appetite, PIAF have released details of a major festival collaboration with the Art Gallery of WA, a three-month-long exhibition entitled Seeking Transcendence which will feature an extraordinary collection of works from internationally renowned artists. For more, visit the PIAF website: www.perthfestival.com.au

**New Nanofabrication Facility**

UWA’s acknowledged strength in nanotechnology — considered the next revolution to follow the boom in microelectronics — will be advanced by the recent opening of the University’s $2.5m nanofabrication facility. The State’s first facility was jointly funded by UWA and the WA Government’s Centres of Excellence Program.

Nanotechnology is the scientific investigation into materials and devices with dimensions approaching a billionth of a metre in size — but it promises big research gains in microelectronic and microphotonics. For more about the talents of Indigenous performers, playwrights and directors, and its October production is likely to prove successful on many counts. Two years ago the company commissioned writer Jolly Read to write about the landmark 1946 Indigenous Pilbara station workers’ strike. The result is *Yandy*, a play that dramatises the longest strike in Australia’s history. The cast includes Ningali Lawford, with Rachael Maza making her directorial debut. The play runs at the Octagon Theatre until October 22.

**Dramatising a Landmark Strike**

Black Swan Theatre Company has been proud to feature theatre that showcases the talents of Indigenous performers, playwrights and directors, and its October production is likely to prove successful on many counts. Two years ago the company commissioned writer Jolly Read to write about the landmark 1946 Indigenous Pilbara station workers’ strike. The result is *Yandy*, a play that dramatises the longest strike in Australia’s history. The cast includes Ningali Lawford, with Rachael Maza making her directorial debut. The play runs at the Octagon Theatre until October 22.

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to bring colour to infra-red sensor technology. This will have important applications in areas as diverse as defence and mineral exploration, pollution monitoring and biomedical instrumentation.

CARL VINE BACK IN TOWN
Former UWA music student Carl Vine, one of Australia’s most celebrated composers, was back in Perth recently to launch Musica Viva’s 2005 season. The high-profile composer studied physics at UWA in the 1970s before switching to piano and composition in the School of Music. He studied piano with Stephen Dornan and composition with John Exton.

So accomplished was the young pianist who performed with the WA Symphony Orchestra that he was swept into Sydney’s world of music before completing his UWA studies. The last three decades have seen a prolific output including symphonies, concertos, music for film, television and dance, as well as solo and chamber works.

“When I moved to Sydney in 1975 I was both a professional pianist and composer,” he recalls. “As a young man I found the whole process of composing quite easy, possibly because I was less self-critical and didn’t question the months spent creating music that, in reality, is heard by a small audience.”

That small audience for new music is a fact of life for contemporary composers around the world. Carl Vine believes that one reason is the contrast between a small but static classical music market and the exponential growth of the international market for popular music.

What keeps this talented contemporary composer working to expand our musical horizons?

UWA SCHOLARS BOUND FOR OXFORD

Two high-achieving graduates heading for Oxford University this year exemplify the qualities this University aims to instil – a sense of community, a world view and academic excellence.

Rhodes Scholar Stuart Munro (pictured on the Contents page) has always aimed high. As a child he dreamed of becoming an astronaut, and securing the 2004 Rhodes Scholarship could well be the ‘giant leap’ that sees him achieve his goal of working at NASA.

Rhodes Scholars are selected for all-round ability and community commitment. Stuart Munro counts waterpolo, triathlon, swimming, rugby union and hockey among his athletic pursuits, and he has been a sports coach and volunteer at college camps.

Stuart completed a double degree in engineering and science. “I want to stay at the cusp of physics and engineering with the intention of going into the aerospace industry, one of those frontiers of learning that is really exciting,” he says.

While Stuart is advancing his engineering studies, Jean-Paul Carvalho, winner of Australia’s richest scholarship, will be specialising in Development Economics.

Jean-Paul and seven other winners of the inaugural General Sir John Monash Awards were identified as “future leaders of their field and of the Australian community” at a ceremony in Canberra's Government House. The awards, which recognise academic achievement and leadership potential, enable Australian postgraduates to further their studies at the world’s leading universities.

The UWA graduate will study the MPhil/DPhil program at Oxford, focussing on the relationship between unemployment and social pathologies in African nations. “This course of research reflects my interest in the social consequences of economic problems, which is in turn based on a view of economics that places the human being at its centre,” he says.

A volunteer worker with asylum-seeking families, Jean-Paul already has experience of the grinding poverty of Northern Thailand where he spent time as a volunteer. “When I returned to UWA to conduct research on corporate disclosure and governance, the seeds of interest in the developing world had been sown,” says Jean-Paul who was the top Honours student in Accounting and Finance.

We wish these two graduates well as they embark on further studies.

“Passion!” says Carl Vine. “To me music is one of the most important things we do and what I have discovered working for Musica Viva is that in every city in Australia there are people who could not live without the chamber music that is the core of our programs. They share my passion.”

Carl Vine became Artistic Director of Musica Viva (which celebrates its 60th birthday next year) in 2000.

AWARD TO BUSINESS LEADER

The UWA’s 2004 Distinguished International Alumnus Award recognises the many achievements of Dato Syed Abdul Jabbar bin Syed Hassan, who graduated from UWA in 1963 with a Bachelor of Economics. He held many high-profile posts and is current chairman of the Malaysia Mining Corporation, following another distinguished International Alumnus of UWA, Tan Sri Ibrahim Menudin.

Currently the director of some 15 companies, an executive member of the Malaysia Australian Business Council, and president of the UWA Graduates Association in Malaysia, his award citation reads in part: “He is highly regarded in both business and government circles in Malaysia, and known for both his humility and straightforward communication.”

AMANDA’S MEMORIAL

Art, music and a picturesque garden will be attractions at a garden fete to honour the memory of UWA student Amanda Young who lost her life to meningococcal disease. The fund-raiser (20, 21, 22, 23, 24 September) is organised by the Amanda Young Foundation. For information phone Barry or Lorraine Young on +61 8 9398 7275.
Positioning your University for the future

It has been a time of intense activity at your University as we take significant steps in response to the reforms which have followed the Australian Government’s review of higher education.

We believe we have positioned ourselves well to take maximum advantage from this changed operating environment. Our overriding aim is to enhance our reputation for quality at international standards of excellence which ultimately benefits our staff and students, as well as the wider community.

A recent Senate decision to offer fee-based places to high-achieving domestic students opens up new opportunities for many young Western Australians and will help to ensure that we can continue to grow against a backdrop of government constraints which have limited our growth. These new places will be in addition to the University’s Federally-funded places.

The decision offers academically-qualified domestic students a choice between accepting a fee-based place in a selected undergraduate course at UWA or (because they already have high academic levels of achievement) considering a HECS-based place at another university. And by linking the program directly to new government loan provisions, we are able to ensure that the decision remains consistent with the overriding principle that entry to UWA should be based on academic merit, not capacity to pay.

Already, the University enrols domestic students in fee-based postgraduate courses and international students have access to fee-based undergraduate and postgraduate courses. The new program will provide fee-based places to domestic students, primarily in the arts, humanities, economics, commerce and law.

Amidst these policy debates, the intense life of our campus within the community continues.

In late August, community interest in the University was amply demonstrated when many thousands of people came onto the campus for the annual UWA Expo – a chance for prospective students to gather valuable information for their futures, and for the wider community to join us in a celebration of excellence.

And as another important measure of the quality of your university, more than 1000 new graduates received their degrees at our three spring graduations. The successes of our graduates in Australia and on the global scene are matters in which all Western Australians can take pride.

Also at these ceremonies, the University was proud to present honorary doctorates to three outstanding individuals: Professor Michael Arbib, internationally renowned in the field of cognitive science and computational neuroscience; Professor David Clarkson, an eminent scientist with an acclaimed international reputation in the field of plant mineral nutrition; and Mr Richard Smith, a distinguished graduate with 30 years in the Australian diplomatic service and currently secretary of the Department of Defence. The University has benefited immensely from the international support of Michael Arbib and David Clarkson; and Richard Smith’s outstanding record of service in international arenas has brought great credit to his University.

The importance of this international focus cannot be overstated. Increasingly our graduates have to be able to engage in global dialogues and cross-cultural exchanges. And the benefit of such an international education goes beyond direct economic considerations. It encourages the establishment of personal friendships and cross-cultural experiences which support international linkages and alliances for the benefit of society.

Without perhaps realising it, our graduates give powerful encouragement to their University in remaining true to its fundamental mission of generating and disseminating knowledge, pursuing truth and seeking wisdom.

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And as another important measure of the quality of your university, more than 1000 new graduates received their degrees at our three spring graduations. The successes of our graduates in Australia and on the global scene are matters in which all Western Australians can take pride.

Also at these ceremonies, the University was proud to present honorary doctorates to three outstanding individuals: Professor Michael Arbib, internationally renowned in the field of cognitive science and computational neuroscience; Professor David Clarkson, an eminent scientist with an acclaimed international reputation in the field of plant mineral nutrition; and Mr Richard Smith, a distinguished graduate with 30 years in the Australian diplomatic service and currently secretary of the Department of Defence. The University has benefited immensely from the international support of Michael Arbib and David Clarkson; and Richard Smith’s outstanding record of service in international arenas has brought great credit to his University.

The importance of this international focus cannot be overstated. Increasingly our graduates have to be able to engage in global dialogues and cross-cultural exchanges. And the benefit of such an international education goes beyond direct economic considerations. It encourages the establishment of personal friendships and cross-cultural experiences which support international linkages and alliances for the benefit of society.

Without perhaps realising it, our graduates give powerful encouragement to their University in remaining true to its fundamental mission of generating and disseminating knowledge, pursuing truth and seeking wisdom.

The ultimate test of how well we do that can only be our graduates who shape and lead the communities in which they work and live.

Professor Alan Robson, Vice-Chancellor
A city is defined by its architecture. Think of the art deco Chrysler Building that rose defiantly above New York on the eve of the Great Depression to claim the title of the world’s tallest building; the boldly innovative Sydney Opera House that appeared to defy all architectural traditions; or the sculptured sheaths of the Guggenheim Museum that put the Spanish town of Bilbao on the map. UWA’s Architecture graduates working in settings as diverse as New York City, Singapore and Dubai all share a desire to significantly shape the cityscapes in which they live, or to reflect the essence of landscapes in which their designs are realized. UWA equips them to do so with an approach to design that ranges from the practical to the aesthetic.

The future redevelopment of Perth’s East Perth power station site and the old Treasury building may still be confined to drawing boards and debates in government offices and board rooms, but UWA’s architectural students have already used these landmark sites to advance their skills.

During final year Design Studio programs – that are incubators of ideas for real life projects – they have come up with creative solutions and intricate models of what could take shape. In doing so the students have grappled with the full spectrum of challenges they will face when tackling their first commissions.

Despite the fact that UWA’s Hackett Memorial Buildings became one of Perth’s most distinctive architectural landmarks back in the 1930s, it wasn’t until 1967 that Architecture became the last faculty to be established at this University. Following UWA’s recent restructure, the discipline is now part of the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts.

However, the University’s late starter is now growing rapidly. In one year alone (2001/2) enrolments jumped more than 25 per cent and the school is looking to expand into adjacent buildings on the Nedlands campus. Today the faculty counts among its graduates architects working in major cities around the world, and lecturers whose talents span a range of specialties. With some 12 per cent of students coming from Asia, the School also has a growing cohort of successful graduates in Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong.

Architecture is generally a five-year degree in Australia (and the United Kingdom) with programs being split into a three-year first degree (Bachelor of Environmental Design) and a two-year Bachelor of Architecture degree that is the entrée to professional practice.

Some students take a couple of years off after completing the first degree to make a good ‘first impression’ on the profession before returning to complete their studies. Others opt not to return, after successfully securing jobs in a broad spectrum of design disciplines from graphics to multimedia.

Architecture is acknowledged as a demanding course: the first three years comprise a lot of core learning; the final years are research and project orientated.

The award winning WA Maritime Museum has become a distinctive landmark in Fremantle.
(Photograph: Jody D’Arcy, Sunday Times)
Exploring the possibilities of materials

Lecturer Gary Marinko, a UWA graduate, worked and travelled in England before returning to Perth to establish his own architectural practice. He designed Dalkeith’s first tilt-up concrete residence (pictured here) two years ago and saw it included in The Phaidon Atlas of Contemporary World Architecture (one of only two WA buildings selected). This landmark global survey of the world’s most outstanding contemporary works was published in June this year.

“The choice of this material was unusual, but I believe appropriate to our climate and the other constraints of the project. There are no good or bad materials: all have great possibilities,” says the UWA graduate.

“The planning of the house was choreographed by the intensity of the sunlight that penetrates inside. The darkest spaces are the entry hall and bedrooms on the south, with spaces getting progressively brighter as one reaches the living spaces facing north. Supplementing light from courtyards are large louvred skylights above. This blend of light sources gives the space a soft luminosity and the changing quality of the daylight animates the unadorned textures of concrete, glazed brick, timber and fibreglass.

“At night there is a different kind of luminosity. Light is projected on to the concrete and glazed brick walls, it comes from hidden sources above cabinets, from fibre optics in the floor, and in the main spaces it shines from within the fibreglass walls. There are no light sources in the ceiling.”

“Design is by nature a research process,” explains UK-trained architect Patrick Beale, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts. “The phases of a design project parallel those of academic research. There is a period of discovery and research from which you draw an initial set of conclusions and propositions. Then there is a sketch design phase that leads into actual design development, when you really interrogate your proposal in detail as the project draws toward a conclusion. This entire process is replicated in the two-year Design Studio program during which students may be working on real life projects.

“Last semester we had a group working with the East Perth Redevelopment Authority on a project exploring the redevelopment of the East Perth power station site for medium density housing. In this work, students not only produced proposals and models, but explored materials, regulatory processes, and other aspects of design-based research.”

Lecturer Gary Marinko ran the Design Studio that explored the possibilities of development on the East Perth power station site. In September the School hosted an Authority board meeting to showcase the results. To date the Redevelopment Authority has been so impressed with the work of the Studio that it is considering a more formal relationship with the School.

“One of the things the School attempts to do is to present this city with more creative development options,” says Gary Marinko. “Sometimes there appears to be a lack of imagination in large projects that is not necessarily the fault of the architect. It is more a situation that the client is not aware of the possibilities of a site. We would like to be able to contribute to what happens in Perth. We can open the eyes of people to options, and even if it just gets people thinking, the process will have been worthwhile.”

“The Studio is a place where competing ideas can be tested. And that was really the intention of working with the East Perth Redevelopment Authority because it was a contentious site and one on which we could test various scenarios. In a Design Studio we can explore the ‘what if?’ aspects of a project.”

With Perth’s skyline currently spiked by sweeping cranes as our capital city is constantly reconfigured, the School of Architecture’s new Master’s and PhD programs in Urban Design become timely additions in 2005. The courses will be offered by the West Australian Centre for Urban Design, a joint venture project involving UWA and Curtin University, with support from the WA Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

“UWA made the initial proposal that a third party research body (removed from both government and industry) would be of substantial benefit to the government,” says Patrick Beale. “The Centre will be an impartial body that can look at urban issues in Perth and carry out research into urban renewal and design consolidation. It will also provide properly qualified urban designers with design training, whereas most have previously had backgrounds in geography or planning.”

The centre will be based in St George’s Terrace and its director will be UWA graduate, Professor Ruth Durack, who completed postgraduate planning and design qualifications.
in the United States where she has been running a similar centre in Cleveland, Ohio, at Kent State University.

“We hope the Centre will provide a national focus for urban design training and that it will be active throughout Southeast Asia,” says Patrick Beale. “Urban Design is one of those often misunderstood disciplines in that it sits somewhere between architecture and planning. In essence it is the three-dimensional design of urban space. There have been courses in urban design in Europe and the US, but we have never had one in Western Australia, and those that exist elsewhere in Australia have grown out of planning rather than architecture schools.

“The nature of urban design is that it is a collaborative process drawing on a range of disciplines. This postgraduate program will require a design background – so graduates of planning schools may have to undertake some design training. Curtin University will largely supply the planning elements while we supply the landscape and architectural elements, and students can opt for either a planning or architectural bias.”

Another recent collaboration, the Design Research Centre, aims to promote and establish a high level of innovative furniture design and manufacture. This centre of excellence within the Faculty marries design expertise with the hands-on experience of local furniture manufacturers. It involves the Furniture Industry Association of Australia (FIAA), the Forest Products Commission (FPC), which is charged with the husbandry of the State’s forest assets, and the Department of Industry and Resources.

The School is managing and conducting research for the FPC, looking at the qualities of lesser-known hardwoods and plantation softwoods to establish a reliable database of their strengths and applications, whether in architectural joinery or furniture. Some research is conducted in-house but most is sourced beyond UWA.

Patrick Beale feels that this Centre fits well within the discipline as many famous furniture designers – such as Mies van der Roh – have been architects. “Almost all the famous Italian designers trained as architects because the discipline has always offered broad-based design training,” he says.

The Centre produced a successful range of furniture prototypes last year which are being finalised for mass production processes. The result of this collaboration is that it extends the ‘real life’ challenges of a furniture design elective introduced last year.

At the Design Institute of Australia Awards this year, a collaborative entry involving Architectural staff from UWA and local furniture manufacturers won a commendation and the observation that the project “has the potential to have a measurable value-adding impact to the furniture industry in Perth.”

Recently the Forest Products Commission and UWA endorsed a recommendation that the Timber Technology Centre (currently located at Harvey) be relocated at UWA. Patrick Beale said that the joint venture agreement with the FPC would be managed through the Design Research Centre. Research would concentrate on developing products and resource knowledge for the forest products industries. Some of the equipment from Harvey will be relocated to UWA in the coming months as part of this exciting milestone in the further development of timber research in Australia.

Most of the lecturers in UWA’s School of Architecture are practising architects, which Patrick Beale believes is essential. Fiona Hogg, who specialises in sustainable homes, works part time, while Gary Marinko, who enjoys a high national profile, is a full-time lecturer who also manages a practice that can sometimes engage students and graduates. Lecturers Simon Anderson and Des Smith both won awards at this year’s Royal Institute of Architects’ State awards while Professor Geoffrey London was appointed to the revived post of Government Architect last year.

UWA graduate and lecturer Fiona Hogg has designed a niche for herself in a practice that focuses on sustainable buildings created in sympathy with the environment. The director of Troppo relishes working in regional areas from Broome to Esperance and recently designed the Mid-West’s first sustainable office building in Port Hedland. A recent ‘tropical house’ she designed in Broome featuring solar power, sustainable materials and waste water recycling has also stirred interest.

While elsewhere in the world, energy efficiency is becoming prescriptive, Fiona believes Australia has a long way to go before we build appropriately for our environment.

“Although we’ve taken tentative steps with building codes in relation to insulation, and doors and windows that perform to certain standards, not nearly enough is being done,” she says. “My hope is that, as with white goods, we’ll increasingly move towards the four-star energy efficient home. There are signs that project home builders – who account for most of the market – are beginning to appreciate that the energy efficient house is better to live in.”

Fiona Hogg is by no means the only lecturer/practitioner for whom sustainability is a high priority. Simon Anderson’s

Continued page 12
An ambitious Ahmad Abas design was being written about in architectural magazines and was the talk of the town in Kalgoorlie soon after the UWA graduate made his entrée into professional life.

While working with RJ Ferguson & Associates, Malaysian-born Ahmad, whose family came to WA when he was a boy, won the national design contest for the Australian Prospectors and Miners Hall of Fame, now one of Kalgoorlie’s landmark buildings.

The Architect (WA) noted that Ahmad’s complex of relatively modest buildings featured familiar mining town iconography, including corrugated iron, a stylised headframe and lean-to verandas. “Under burnt skies and with a patina of orange-gold hues, this scheme deftly conducts the romantic/realist mix and plunders the potential for mining architecture,” observed the architectural journal.

Clearly it was a coup for the young architect and its wide acceptance in the mining town says much about Kalgoorlie’s adventurous spirit and young population. “The design was contemporary, but it is a place that accepts objects that stand out in the landscape and are a little different— it’s part of an attitude to life,” says the talented graduate.

Ahmad also won a Royal Australian Institute of Architects’ Polyflor Travel Scholarship acknowledging outstanding young talent. This enabled him to savour a “feast of architecture – many of the buildings I had studied and admired” during a trip that took him to the United States and Europe in 2002/2003.

While working in the office of Gus Ferguson, who is the University’s Consultant Architect, Ahmad and his colleagues were whisked to Bilbao on a weekend trip to see the Guggenheim Museum. Mr Ferguson describes the museum as “a superb piece of urban sculpture” and believes that “seeing how others solve their problems is necessary to the study of architecture”, and his employees were delighted to benefit from this expansive gesture.

Now, after a stint with a major national architectural firm based in Perth, Ahmad and fellow UWA graduate Philip Gresley have set up their own practice, Gresley Abas Architects.

“Basically we have gone from working on major projects worth millions of dollars to more modest ones!” concedes the UWA graduate. “But the time seemed right to venture out on our own – and to steer our ship for a while. We’re starting with residential work and smaller scale public and institutional work like regional visitors’ centres. We are also building relationships with related disciplines in the industry, doing some ‘ghosting’ work with bigger firms, entering competitions to build a national profile, and doing some academic tutoring to keep our minds sharp. Philip is already working at Curtin and I would like to tutor at UWA next year.

“Working with large firms has given us a good insight into the mechanics of large projects. Developers may shape the city, but we’ve learnt the importance of working with government departments and all the stakeholders, to harness the various forces that are critical to the success of the outcome.”

Ahmad sees a city as an organism, a confluence of multiple elements. “You can visit a city where all these factors come together to produce a successful, vibrant urban experience. I have felt that in parts of New York and Berlin, and smaller, lesser-known towns from the Czech Republic to the Netherlands. It seems a simple confluence when found, but it is in fact an delicate endeavour to nurture successfully when starting from zero.”

The ambition of this talented architect is to inject some of those vibrant yet harmonious elements into the city that has become his home town – and his drawing board.
Continued from page 10

RAIA award for UWA's Gravity Discovery Centre at Gingin (in association with Spowers Architects) was in the ecological sustainability category.

Says Patrick Beale: “My generation of architects grew up with a heavy dose of what is now called ‘green architecture’ or ‘sustainable design’ or ‘low energy consumption building’. Suddenly these have become the currency of architectural conversation and a new generation of architects are opting to make sustainability a focus of their practices.”

Each year UWA students in their final two years of study have the exciting prospect of participating in overseas Design Studios that range between Barcelona, Milan, Sri Lanka and Bali. “It’s a fantastic experience for them to participate in these intensive six-week programs and it does a lot to broaden their horizons,” says the Dean.

As he views the Perth cityscape, Patrick Beale observes that we are going through a “great romance with tilt-up concrete which people either love or hate” and that the very good steel this State produces is also in vogue, with complete steel frame buildings making inroads in the contemporary market. In his view the easy-to-erect concrete will ultimately prove to be problematic and unsustainable.

“Buildings need to be adaptable to changing uses and configurations, and when a building is essentially made up of structural panels it is not adaptable,” he says. “I am far more interested in the move towards WA plantation timbers as they have become available in commercial quantities and at competitive prices. This availability, combined with new technologies in timber preservation and smart ways to sound and fire-proof timber offers a very viable alternative to brick.

“Timber has the opposite characteristics of concrete

The buzz of working in the quintessential city

Ask architects about cities they’d like to visit and New York is bound to be on the list. After graduating, Svetislav (Don) Zivkovic worked in Sydney before heading to the United States. He never got past New York with its iconic skyscrapers, brownstone terraces and swanky Fifth Avenue apartments. And the ‘buzz’ of the world’s quintessential big city had much to do with that.

Don’s work in New York has been widely published in the US as well as in Japan, Italy, the UK and elsewhere, with design awards bestowed by the American Institute of Architects and others.

“I was lucky to arrive in 1983 when Australian corporations and bodies such as Elders, the Bell Group and the Australian Wheat Board were settling in seriously for the first time. I completed a Master’s degree at Columbia University and then began working for these Aussies, but quickly widened the net, doing interior work that would have been difficult to do in any other city,” says the School of Architecture graduate during a recent brief visit to Perth.

“New York has such a concentration of creative people and advertising agencies all looking for distinctive ways to represent themselves. I doubt that I could have worked in that way, aesthetically, in Australia at that time, though in 20 years there have been huge changes – so today it would be very different.”

Having worked with a noted heritage architect, Howard Tanner, in Sydney, Don was soon involved in heritage projects in New York, a city that, he says, has a wealth of wonderful architecture going back 100 to 150 years – and a population with an appreciation of the elegance of earlier eras.

“We’ve done a lot of work on landmark historical building in New York City, as well as newer work including Rose O’Donnell’s townhouse, the Cinzano estate in Greenwich, and some large beaux-arts mansions now used for multi-family residential and institutional purposes,” he says. His firm has recently completed a new embassy in Midtown Manhattan and other work for a diverse clientele including the United Nations, American Express and West Point.

“We are also working on projects in England and Ireland, including a little church in Galway, on the west coast of Ireland, which has just been heritage listed. Now we find that even our new work has evolved into more traditional styles.”

New York’s appreciation of its heritage buildings hasn’t always been enough to save some – like the classic 1910 Pennsylvania Station, a splendid beaux-arts building complete with a glass roof, marble floors and a resplendent lobby that was demolished to make way for the new Madison Square Garden. The late Jackie Onassis and other outraged New Yorkers helped to set up the Landmark Preservation Commission, a government appointed body that now vets all developments in historic locations.

Don and his family live in Chelsea, on Manhattan Island, where the office of Zivkovic Associates Architects is also located.
– it is light and easily adaptable. Combine that with the fact that it has a 30 – 35 year growth cycle, helps to maintain our water table at appropriate levels, gives us good carbon credits, and it adds up to a far more ecologically sustainable material.”

Patrick Beale, who trained in the United Kingdom, has practised in locations as diverse as the Middle East and New York. In 1990, during a sabbatical in Australia, he was impressed by the work of the School of Architecture and attracted by the extraordinary challenge offered by a radically different landscape.

“How you build in Australia’s radical landscape is a major challenge,” he says. “The way you literally see, and can see the landscape in places such as this, is quite different from the scale, gentleness and colours of other more forgiving, temperate landscapes.

“I think we still, as settlers, have a great deal of difficulty dealing with the idea of all that vast land that lies to the east, south and north of us. We certainly have not been very good at building in it over the last 30 years, or of taking care of it.”

The UWA practitioners grooming a new generation of architects are hoping that the School’s graduates will avoid repeating the mistakes of the past – when homes and public buildings might have been plucked from European landscapes – and that they will reshape our cityscapes, suburbs and regional towns in a way that truly reflects a sense of place.

Patrick Beale also hopes that their efforts will highlight the School’s role as a primary focus for design issues in our environment, and as a pool of expertise, energy and ideas that can be tapped by the wider community.

If you would like to know more about the School of Architecture, visit the website: www.alva.uwa.edu.au/

UWA Professor appointed
Government Architect

When he took up his appointment as Government Architect earlier this year, the local media described UWA’s Professor Geoffrey London as “WA’s most powerful architect”. While this UWA graduate does not describe himself in quite such elevated terms, he hopes to make a positive contribution to the shaping of the city in which he grew up, trained and practised.

“In this Year of the Built Environment I would like the government to consider that while we have policies for just about everything, we don’t have one that deals with our built environment,” says UWA’s Professor of Architecture. “I’m keen to see the government commit to certain key actions, one of which would be to bring together the various committees involved in planning and developing our city to ensure they work together in a unified way. And while I applaud the government’s sustainability strategy, to be more than a token gesture, it needs to be embedded in a built environment policy.”

Having watched his home town transformed into a 21st century city with an impressive, constantly changing skyline, Geoffrey London has an ideal vantage point from which to analyse emerging trends.

The great Australian dream of home ownership is here to stay, he says, and the expansive family homes that now dominate modest suburban blocks have much to do with the fact that an affluent Perth has the capacity to satisfy demands for land, and an excellent home building industry to create homes that have, on average, doubled in size despite shrinking families.
However he believes that the industry is providing more housing options and tightly-designed developments. Reactivating our city will play a vital role in halting suburban sprawl, he feels, as will more concentrated development along rail networks to encourage the use of public transport.

“Our capital city needs to be more than a place where business happens,” he says. “It must work well and safely at night, and that will happen with more city housing for all socio-economic groups.”

He would also like to see a more developed foreshore to the city, with fingers of the city coming down to the river instead of shrinking away from it.

Geoffrey London believes we need to look at the example of New South Wales which (driven by Premier Bob Carr’s horror at the blight of badly designed city apartment blocks) introduced legislation making it mandatory for buildings of a certain height and density to be architect-designed. Design review panels also assist local authorities, not as ‘taste-enforcers’ but ensuring that new developments meet certain design aspirations. Built into these initiatives are more sustainable building codes.

In Perth, he says, such initiatives could have a big impact because we too often neglect design development in favour of low cost buildings that end up, over the life of the building, costing more in terms of performance and energy consumption.

Geoffrey London began studying at UWA in the 1960s when UWA’s fledgling School of Architecture required students to begin studies at Perth Technical College, before completing three final years on campus. After graduating he practised, travelled widely, studied further (Fine Arts and postgraduate studies at Curtin, and London’s Architectural Association), began part-time tutoring at UWA, and was appointed to the Chair of Architecture at UWA in 1992. He is also a Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne, having conducted joint research (supported by the Australian Research Council) with colleagues in Melbourne that will result in a publication on innovative architect-designed houses of the 1950s and 1960s. The book, _An Unfinished Experiment_, to be published next year by Melbourne University Press features designs that introduced a number of progressive approaches (in relation to siting, materials, and design) and that “optimistically embraced contemporary approaches”.

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<tr>
<td>Fri 25 Feb</td>
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<td>Mon 11 Apr</td>
<td>Barker, Coleman-Wright &amp; Lane</td>
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<td>Sat 11 Jun</td>
<td>Steven Isserlis in Recital</td>
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<td>Mon 11 Jul</td>
<td>Andrew Manze &amp; The English Concert</td>
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<td>Thu 22 Sep</td>
<td>Petersen Quartet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 20 Oct</td>
<td>Eggner Trio</td>
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A Commitment to Members

The University Club, which is actively supported by its Honorary Patrons, Board of Advisors and its Founder Members, will enhance the University’s traditions and continued commitment to its staff, graduates and the community. Experienced, professional and friendly club staff will deliver high standards of service, detail, value and personalised attention to Members.

A Range of Amenities to meet Members’ Needs

Club amenities have been planned and designed to provide Members with a sense of comfort and belonging. The lobby will set a friendly and welcoming tone. The Club’s main dining room and Member’s lounges will be spacious and enjoy vistas to the University campus and the Swan River.

Private dining rooms and boardrooms will be available to Members for conducting business and for social gatherings. An informal Café Bar will operate throughout the day and provide the perfect meeting place for Members to meet cordially over a freshly prepared meal or a coffee at the bar.

Highly functional meeting spaces and banquet rooms will provide flexible areas suitable for a wide range of events, exhibitions, seminars and meetings requiring a range of catering support services.

A Spirited Club Life

Members will be provided with a diverse and exciting calendar of events reflecting Members’ business and professional needs and their recreation interests. Special social events centred around fine food and wine combined with the arts, business and recreational activity will be featured regularly.

Dining and entertaining

The Club Dining Room & Lounge offers a comfortable and spacious ambience for social, professional and corporate dining occasions. The menus offer Members and their guests a selection of classical and contemporary food styles complemented by a list of fine wines from Western Australia and notable regions around Australia.

Message from the Vice-Chancellor

For almost 100 years, The University of Western Australia has played a significant role in the social and economic development of our State and nation.

In this tradition, we have established The University Club of Western Australia as a creative and vibrant new link between The University of Western Australia and the communities it serves.

The Club will encourage professional, collegial, and social interaction on campus, as well as offering new opportunities for the University to reach out to our graduates and many other groups and individuals in business, government and the wider community.

When The University Club of Western Australia opens its doors next year, it will be a welcoming and inclusive centre, providing conference and seminar facilities combined with a collegial social atmosphere for members.

We look forward to our graduates playing an important role in this exciting new development.

Professor Alan Robson AM
Vice-Chancellor
The University of Western Australia
Some unique attributes

Easily accessible and well serviced by public transport, the University campus is a delightful composition of buildings, open space and vegetation contributing to the overall impression of harmony and balance. These grounds and several of the buildings are heritage-listed.

The Club will provide conference delegates with an inspirational environment that will add value to the purpose and objectives of the conference. Delegates will be able to enjoy the benefits of a relaxing walk through the University gardens or on the Matilda Bay foreshore during conference breaks. Health and fitness conscious delegates can visit the gymnasium or swimming pool on campus.

International Benefits

Members will enjoy Associate Non-Resident Club Membership Privileges to approximately 200 private clubs worldwide including other university clubs, business and social clubs in premier city locations, and golf and country clubs in country and resort locations.

Opening Schedule

The soft opening of the Club is anticipated in February 2005. Please direct all enquiries to UniversityClub@uwa.edu.au.

Private dining rooms will be available for special occasions should Members wish to discuss business or celebrate over a specially prepared breakfast, lunch, dinner or cocktails.

The Club Café & Café Bar will offer a lively and informal meeting place where Club Members can interact and entertain their guests. Members will enjoy a menu choice of light, refreshing and healthy meals promptly available from our serviced food counters. And for Members with a little more time, short-order menu items will be freshly prepared and cooked to order.

Banquets will be offered with a selection of menus to suit any occasion. They can be served in any of the Club’s terraces overlooking the Swan River or Riley Oval, or at a nominated venue. Prepared by a team of highly skilled chefs, the Club will boast the latest equipment in food handling technology to ensure the highest standards of freshness and presentation at all times.

Special events and celebrations

The well appointed main Function Room on the ground level can accommodate up to 300 guests for formal dinners and up to 450 guests for cocktail style events. Other function rooms located on the ground and upper levels of the Club will have varying capacities depending on the set-up required.

Presentations and meetings

The Theatre-Auditorium will provide tiered seating for 256 guests and will be equipped with the latest in audio-visual technology to ensure that presentations are of the highest standard. A Case Study Room with tiered seating can accommodate meetings for up to 60 delegates. Three flat-floor boardrooms and seminar rooms will be flexible and can be adapted to individual requirements.

Audio-visual support facilities

The Club’s meeting venues will be purpose-built and equipped with standardised in-built audio-visual system support. Specialised facilities such as LAN access and a range of specialised audio-visual equipment will be available on request. Comprehensive on-site technical expertise for computer-based conferences and events can be arranged through the University’s Audio-Visual Unit to ensure that your conference goes as planned.

Parking facilities

Facilities for car parking are provided in the undercroft and in car bays adjacent to the Club building. Direct access will be provided to the Club lobby and conference rooms.

Conference secretariat

Conference organisers and planners can have their office on site during their event. An office equipped with personal computer, internet, photocopier and facsimile will be available at no extra cost. The Club will be able to arrange for your conference printing and stationery needs.

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Membership Categories

**Membership**

Membership to The University Club of Western Australia is at the direction of the Club’s Board of Advisors. All membership applicants must submit a completed application form. Membership is open to staff and alumni of The University of Western Australia.

- **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**
  Open to alumni of The University of Western Australia, and to individuals at the invitation of the Board of Advisors.

- **CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP**
  Open to alumni through their professional and corporate entities, at the invitation of the Board of Advisors. Corporate Members may add additional corporate nominees to their existing Corporate Membership by paying an additional membership entrance fee.

- **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP**
  Open to the spouses or partners of Members under the categories listed above.

**Transferability of Corporate Membership**

Corporate Memberships may be transferred to another individual, company, partnership or unincorporated association where an application to become a Member has been approved by the Club’s Board of Advisors and upon payment of the required transfer fee as established by the Club.

**Corporate Redesignation Privileges**

To accommodate retirement, resignation of nominees or other needs of a Corporate Member, such Member may from time to time nominate another individual(s) duly approved by the Board of Advisors, to replace the existing nominated individual. A redesignation fee as established by the club will be applicable.

**Registration of Interest**

I am an alumnus of The University of Western Australia and would like to receive membership information.

- **INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY**
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Address

Tel (Work) Tel (Home)

Mobile Email

Year of Graduation School or Faculty

Please fax this page to the Membership Department on (08) 6488 8771
“...With Reckless Abandon...”

The UWA Rugby Football Club arouses passions on and off the field. It played its first match 75 years ago, and has marked the occasion with anniversary functions attended by current and former players.

“A match will be played between the newly formed University Rugby Football Club and the Claremont-Cottesloe No. 2 team on Cottesloe Oval at 3pm tomorrow...”

So read The West Australian in May of 1929, heralding the birth of the University club, and the first of many fiercely contested matches between the two teams.

A year later, The Pelican (first published in May of that year, and an excellent chronicler of rugby matches) reported a particularly physical encounter, with players “hurling themselves into the fray with reckless abandon”.

The UWA Guild publication noted that “blood flowed freely and the ambulance men were kept on the move. Nunn was outstanding for University. He led well with both hands and earned a few more notches for his belt. Special mention must be made of Lancaster, whose knowledge of wrestling stood him in good stead. Calthrop used his tongue to good advantage. The remainder are being retained for treatment”.

The triumphs of players like Wally (Bob) Nunn clearly earned the club the early respect of opponents. At that time only students could be members of the club. Graduates moved to other clubs, although some returned to coach another generation of players.

Riley Oval hosted some notable matches, not all of which involved students. When in April 1949 UWA hosted the match between WA and the All Blacks, the University was well represented with Bill Nott (captain of the State and University teams) and eight other club players.

The club had many ardent supporters in the ranks of academics and when in 1952 The Pelican reported that “Uni died with their boots on” in a First Grade match, both teams stood to attention to mark the passing of their patron since 1941, Professor O. Blakey, Dean of the Engineering School.

Academic Bruce Hartley coached and formed a social team (Hartley’s Horribles) to make sure that everyone could at least get a Sunday game. As Les Horribles, they toured the world and spread the Rugby ethos to Esperance, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie and Augusta during renowned “cultural tours”.

In fact 1993 was also a big year for the club itself, for it relocated to McGillivray Oval, finally acquiring its own clubroom, bar, changing rooms and support facilities that the well loved Riley Oval could not provide.

The News Chronicle recorded the last game at Riley on June 12: “Uni may have lost the match but they won plenty of hearts in their last appearance at Riley Oval...”

This year the club celebrates its 75th anniversary and several functions including anniversary matches and a dinner have marked the anniversary. The club counts amongst its former players many who have gone on to brilliant careers including parliamentarian Kim Beazley, Chief Justice David Malcolm and CEO Harold Clough - and, from another generation, James Fitzpatrick, UWA medical student and Young Australian of the Year in 1999.

In The Green and Golden Era, the club's history, it is noted: “Professor Blakey was known to favour the Rugby men in his classes and will be remembered for assisting many students, such as Hal Clough, in gaining their Uni degrees and Rugby education”.

The club supports an international exchange program with the Universities of Wales and Otago, where rugby is also a passion, plus bursaries that help current students.

If you'd like to know more about the club, its website is: uwarugby.com.au
UWA graduate and Girrawheen Senior High School Principal Bill Mann is clearly proud of his students, his dedicated teachers, and of the school’s determined initiatives to forge links with local families, many speaking languages other than English.

Drawing its students from communities categorised as ‘low socio-economic’ and plagued with unrest, the emergence of Girrawheen SHS above several well-respected private schools raised eyebrows – and hopes. It certainly gave heart to those battling innumerable odds when delivering education to hard-pressed communities.

“We are a seriously multi-cultural school,” says Bill Mann. “Our students represent 50 different nationalities and are drawn from Girrawheen, Koondoola and Alexander Heights. All these suburbs have a high percentage of migrants drawn by a high level of State Housing. This is a first ‘staging post’ for migrants and many move on when they can.

“Forty per cent of our kids come from homes where languages other than English are spoken. That makes it tough because they can’t go home and practise their language skills. It also makes it harder for them to assimilate and for the school to communicate with parents.

“We counter this by employing a full-time Vietnamese Liaison Officer because the Vietnamese are our largest sub-group. Many parents may have been here for a long time, but often they are employed by people from their own culture, so the language spoken at work is not English. When their kids become fluent, they depend on them to communicate with the outside world.”

Bill Mann has made it a high priority to bridge that communications gap with local families, be they Aboriginal, South American, Eastern European, African or Asian. Many of the migrants have lived through hard times that would be considered traumatic by classmates, but for most the past is indeed, another country.

“Students from Yugoslavia might have had to travel through half a dozen countries, living in refugee camps, before being able to settle in Perth,” says Mr Mann. “It has been a long journey for some, and often you have no idea what they have been through because they don’t talk about it – and we don’t know whether we have the right to intrude. All we can do is to give them our absolute commitment to pastoral care and to provide a number of our staff dedicated to working with these kids and their families. Often when a student needs special help, we identify this before the parents come to us.

“We have a school psychologist, chaplain, nurse, youth worker and Aboriginal and Vietnamese Liaison Officers, but there is not a lot of difference in terms of access to resources between our school and other government schools, we just use our resources differently, the priority being to support learning.”

Mr Mann has been impressed by the anti-bullying program that the former School Psychologist Helen Trengrove, a UWA graduate, helped to develop. Helen transferred to John Forrest SHS at the beginning of this year after six years at Girrawheen (see Taking a stand on bullying).

Girrawheen SHS caters for all students, from the academically able to
EDUCATION

those who need specific interventions. Facilities for the latter are located in the heart of the school to underscore that these students are fully supported by the school community.

Bill Mann firmly believes that local schools need to jettison outmoded educational models.

“We need to understand that the old industrial model for high school education no longer suits the nature of the kids or the learning environment. Back in the 1960s and 70s, teachers tended to work in isolation in classrooms. There wasn’t much opportunity for working collaboratively in a supportive environment.

Was he slightly daunted when in 2000 he took over a school facing many challenges? No, says the UWA graduate who has clearly never lost his sense that teaching is a privileged profession.

“I’ve always felt lucky to be given an opportunity to have a small slice of a kid’s life – and a chance to make a difference,” he says. “What is happening at Girrawheen is no miracle. It’s an achievement based on good conditions, good teachers, good kids and good communications with local families.

“It is quite remarkable to me that within the confines of this school environment we have a degree of tolerance and understanding that may be unique amongst communities in WA.”

Taking a stand on bullying

“Making a difference” is also the commitment of UWA graduate Helen Trengrove, who was, until recently, School Psychologist at Girrawheen (she is now at John Forrest SHS). Ms Trengrove chaired and was consultant to the school’s anti-bullying committee which developed a program that is proving effective in the school and which has been taken up by other schools across Australia.

“We believed that the anti-bullying policy was out-of-date,” says Ms Trengrove. “There were many state-of-the-art ideas being developed through research and we wanted to try them, adapt them to our needs, and add our own features.”

The result was the Treat Everyone Decently (TED) program which focuses on prevention rather than intervention, and on rewarding and acknowledging helpful and friendly behaviour. The secret weapon – as far as ‘selling’ the program – is Ted, a teenage bear (with a range of people inside, from the Principal to a student adept at break dancing!) Ted is very visible, exchanging high fives with students, attempting to skateboard or breakdance, getting into scrapes and interrupting classes. “He’s nicely mischievous and the kids love him, even coming up to give him hugs in the playground,” recalls Ms Trengrove. Ted also reinforces what the school brands ‘unhelpful bystander behaviour’.

“In all bullying situations group pressure is a factor,” explains Ms Trengrove. “Someone reinforces the behaviour of the gang leader, while others watch. The dual approach of rewarding helpful behaviour and warning against the implied acquiescence of watching a bullying incident has been very effective.”
In Western Australia more than 1,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, and more than 200 women will die. They won’t be the only casualties. Consider the family and friends who survive them.

If you’re a woman over 50, phone BreastScreen WA on 13 20 50 for a free screening mammogram.

www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au

Breast cancer doesn’t just affect women

The early detection of breast cancer may save your life.

In order to publicize the 2005 Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme, the Consulate-General of Japan in association with the JET Alumni Association of WA/NT, will conduct information sessions that include guest speakers (past participants) and a short talk about the programme which allows participants to teach English in public high schools, or work in local government bodies for 1—4 years.

Eligibility Criteria for the Programme
- In principle, be under 40 years of age
- Have graduated by July 2005 (any degree is valid!)
- Interest in Japan
- Earn approx. $45 000 after tax, airfares & more!

Free Information Session

The University of Western Australia
Wednesday 27th October, 1.00—1.50pm
Fox Lecture Theatre

For further information email info@jpnwa.com or visit www.perth.emb-japan.go.jp or call the Consulate on (08) 9480 1800
In August, Dr Neale Fong became the Executive Chairman of the Health Reform and Implementation Taskforce and Chief Executive of the North Metropolitan Area Health Service, encompassing Royal Perth and Sir Charles Gairdner Hospitals. The widely-admired UWA graduate and former West Perth football player faces a daunting task of overseeing the implementation of the sweeping changes recommended in the Reid review. Dr Fong, who was formerly CEO of St John of God Health Care Subiaco, is Chairman of the WA Football Commission and Youth Vision Australia, State Director of Youth Vision WA, chaplain to the West Coast Eagles, and Deputy Chairman of the WA Community Foundation. Neale Fong, a committed Christian, is married and a father of four – and inevitably, an ‘Auskick’ coach with his seven-year-old son’s team!

As a secondary school student did you have a clear idea of what you wanted to study?

I was a student at Balcatta Senior High School in the 1970s and can remember being told by one of my teachers that I wasn’t going to make the cut-off required to get into medicine! Rather than discouraging me this acted as a strong motivator to work hard to get in – which I did, starting in the Class of 77. Throughout my childhood growing up in the church, I had been exposed to hearing about many missionary doctors working overseas which was my initial inspiration to study medicine. In particular, I was inspired by one Australian medical doctor working in Thailand in the 1960s who developed a personal contact with me, encouraging me all the way through my school and medical studies. I was always an organiser even back in my school days and enjoyed up-front leadership roles. In retrospect, I guess it came as no real surprise that I moved into health management and organisational leadership in my later years.

When you were studying at UWA, how did you view your future career? Did you have a game plan?

While I was studying medicine at UWA I must say I lived by the motto that I only wanted to do enough to pass and to make sure I continued to enjoy life! I was very active in the church during my student years, as well as trying to play league football for West Perth where my brother was a famous player and captain. I thought that I might be heading for a career as a medical missionary and in fact went on an elective in 1981 to Niger in Central West Africa where I worked in a 120-bed mission hospital on the edge of the Sahara Desert. By the time I finished medicine I’d had enough of exams, and did not see putting myself through the hurdle of another 10 years in training positions and exams for further specialisation. Serendipitously, I got the opportunity to be involved in public health medicine and in particular, STDs and HIV. I had the rare opportunity of being involved in a public health program to tackle a new disease, namely HIV/AIDS. I set up the first AIDS Assessment Clinic here in Perth and then had a very interesting career in Sexual Health Medicine. I then moved to Vancouver to the University of British Columbia and Regent College where I undertook a Masters in Theological Studies, wishing to have a better understanding of my Christian faith. Returning to Perth, I chose to continue my career in medicine but in the area of health management, and completed an MBA from UWA in 1996.

Apart from studies what were your interests/involvements at UWA?

Although study was difficult for me and required a lot of hard work, medicine was also a very social time. I was playing senior football at West Perth and then later with the Nollamara Amateurs where our arch rivals were of course the University Football Club!

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

I guess one of the things I enjoy doing is wearing a number of hats and juggling a multitude of interests. This is reflected in my academic background with my studies in Medicine, Theology and Management. I certainly enjoy providing leadership and developing a unified vision from bringing people together. I also acknowledge that I am very dependent on the talents and abilities of people who form teams to work with me and genuinely enjoy empowering
others in bringing about outcomes. In the health system – which is very complex – and in my leadership of the WA football industry, the need to develop social capital through networks of relationships has been extremely important and challenging. I consider myself as a lifelong learner, whether that be through formal education or through learning from others and from experiences. This is very important to me.

*What is your working day like and how do you relax?*
My working day usually begins with some form of exercise in the morning. I try and run four or five times per week (as long as the knees survive). I often have breakfast meetings because of my many involvements and then the day really moves into a series of meetings, engagements and functions. In health care, meetings are often later in the evening as doctors in particular have to finish seeing patients and aren’t always available to meet during normal hours. I usually do two or three hours of reading and correspondence three to four nights each week. My football community interests of course mean there is a fair amount of after hours and weekend work. I relax by enjoying significant time with my family and close friends. I enjoy reading a lot. We have a small property down south and I enjoy planting trees and nurturing these into what I hope one day will become a veritable arboretum!

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**Do you still have close ties with any of the people you have studied with at UWA?**
I come across many of my colleagues from medical student days in the health care system, which has been very enjoyable. It’s amazing to know the strength of the network of these relationships in getting things done. It’s not really a ‘school tie’ thing, more of a relational approach through years of trust and mutual understanding.

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Formed for the new millennium, the UWA Press Club aims to give members the opportunity to be involved in the important work of Western Australia’s oldest publishing house.

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- *In Print*, a quarterly newsletter containing advance notice of new books, sales and events, author profiles and international book trade news

The support of Press Club members will ensure the ongoing success of UWA Press locally, nationally and internationally.

For more information or a membership brochure, contact Emma Matson on 6488 1345 or emmag@cyllene.uwa.edu.au
UWA’s high profile in international mooting – its law students won the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in Washington last year – has much to do with the high calibre of students such as Benjamin Spagnolo. “Students who have done well nationally and internationally come back and help the next UWA team, so it is a success that builds on itself,” says Ben.

True to that tradition, Ben, named Best Oralist in Washington, has recently helped the 2004 UWA Jessup team, which was coached by another member of Ben’s team, graduate Bronwyn Grieve.

Now in his final year of study, this talented student has collected what could be a record number of prizes for a single year, including the Blackstone Society Anniversary Prize for Constitutional Law, the Butterworths Prize in Law, the John Norman Barker Prize in Law, the Anita and Meyar Davis Prize in Jurisprudence, the LBC Information Services Prize in Evidence, the Freehills Prize, the Minter Ellison Prize in Administrative Law and Jean Rogerson Studentships in Law and Arts.

Ben’s Honours thesis in the area of constitutional law will examine the relationship between the Commonwealth and State Constitutions, and in particular the significance of a rarely-explored section of the Commonwealth Constitution.

“Until recently, State constitutional law has not been investigated to the same degree as its Federal counterpart. There are some interesting questions as to how the Commonwealth and State Constitutions interrelate – to what extent, for example, some Commonwealth laws can alter state constitutional arrangements, and how far the Commonwealth Constitution limits Federal legislative power in this respect. One example, arising from a series of recent Western Australian decisions, considers whether the Commonwealth could use its power to implement international treaties to impose a ‘one-vote, one-value’ requirement on the States. A Senate References Committee reported on this issue in March,” explains Ben.

“There is even an issue as to what amounts to the ‘Constitution of a State’. In Western Australia, a number of what we might term ‘constitutional institutions’ – integral aspects of our system of government such as the courts – do not feature in the Constitution Acts Amendment Act (two separate statutes, which have never been consolidated). The whole notion of what comprises the State ‘Constitution’ needs exploring.”

The UWA student says that while constitutional law strikes some as arcane and irrelevant, it is all about power and the relationship between people and government and, in this case, between the States and the Commonwealth.

Ben’s thesis is being supervised by Dr James Thomson, a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Law and senior legal advisor to the Attorney-General of Western Australia. It is lecturers such as Dr Thomson that have made law studies at UWA an intellectually stimulating discipline for Ben.

“One of the most rewarding – and at the same time one of the most confronting – aspects of studying law at this University,” says Ben, “is the opportunity it affords to engage not only with many very talented students but also with some intimidatingly intelligent lecturers.”

Not surprisingly, perhaps, Ben was appointed Competition Officer for the Blackstone Society in this final year of his studies. This position sees him supervising participation in campus competitions in mooting, trial advocacy, negotiation, client interview and paper presentation, as well as State, national and international competitions.

“Participating in the Jessup competition offered a unique and valuable opportunity to explore current issues in international law,” he says. “International law is constantly expanding, and human rights and humanitarian law are only increasing in importance with the establishment of bodies such as the International Criminal Court.”

“Issues such as terrorism, globalisation and human rights abuses have generated greater awareness of the need for international cooperation and accountability to international standards. The norms of international law, often merely aspirations in the past, are now becoming more visible and more readily enforceable through the proliferation of international treaties and tribunals.”

Ben is interested in the possibility of pursuing postgraduate study overseas before practising law. He has yet to decide which area of the law he wishes to focus on in his further studies.
REACHING FOR THE SKY

Emeritus Professor John de Laeter will give the address at the UWAGA 50th reunion luncheon for 2004. The UWA graduate, who has had a minor planet named after him, reminisces with Rita Clarke about his scientific life.

The first day he fronted up to school in South Perth, a boy asked John de Laeter his name. Considering the surname for a while the boy responded: “De Laeter ... potata ... Spud.” And thus he was christened for the rest of his primary years.

At Perth Modern high school – because he was deemed bright – Spud became Dud. It amuses Professor de Laeter that people still know him as Dud. Rather irreverent, though, for a man who was to have a minor planet named after him, and whose major research interest became the application of mass spectrometry to a range of astrophysical, chemical, geological and nuclear problems, such as the containment of radioactive waste, measuring the age of rocks, a new evaluation of atomic weights, and the origin of chemical elements.

John de Laeter’s Belgian father was born in Dunkirk and spent his early years playing the xylophone, and traveling around Europe with his father, mother, a friend who happened to be Maurice Chevalier and a group of players. At the end of a tour of Australia and New Zealand, John’s grandfather decided to remain in WA to avoid the political situation in Europe prior to WW1.

“They bought an orchard in Kelmscott but my grandfather wasn’t much good at it, so he eventually opened a music studio in Barrack St. He was an excellent musician,” says John.

Although unschooled in Europe, John’s father, who was 14 on arrival in Australia, became one of the first students at UWA. “There’s a photo of him dressed up as a gorilla for Prosh. He got a Master of Arts and became a teacher,” says the UWA graduate.

John’s mother lived on an orchard in Bedfordale. “Her parents had come out from England in the 1890s looking for a new way of life. They were only 18 or 19 – could you imagine – that amazes me!”

What is also amazing is that although professing to have been unambitious in his student years, John ended up Emeritus Professor of Physics at Curtin University, had 200 papers published, collected various medals, including the ANZAAS medal and was a member of the Prime Minister’s Science and Engineering Council and the Australian Science Technology and Engineering Council.

Among other things, he was instrumental in the concept of the Scitech Discovery Centre in Perth (and its patron), worked on improving the relationship between universities, government and industry, and helped establish Technology Park adjacent to Curtin University. He is also past Chair and now National Representative for Australia of the Commission on Atomic Weights and Isotopic Abundances of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.

“Yes, well, I wanted to be a scientist but didn’t think of research then, just teaching. I became senior science master at Bunbury High School in 1959,” he recalls.

After winning a two week summer school place at the University of Sydney, he found himself “getting a bit excited” listening to a couple of scientists talking about the beginning of the Universe and decided to go back to UWA to do a PhD.

“It was after World War II and there was the atom bomb and nuclear fission and space travel, so it was an exciting time,” he remembers.

“There were perhaps 15 of us doing PhDs in Physics. I studied on a part-time basis as I was married then with two kids, and teaching at Perth Tech during the day, but I was always very single minded. I always had objectives of my own that I had to meet.”

John worked with supervisor Peter Jeffery who had started up a research field in mass spectrometry. “He was an outstanding supervisor and a very genial fellow – I look back on those days with fond memories,” he says.

Later, John held visiting appointments at McMaster University in Canada, the ANU, Pennsylvania State University, the Central Bureau of Nuclear Measurements in Belgium and Cambridge University, England. Whilst in the latter two countries he managed to research some family background.

“I felt very at home in England as my maternal grandfather and grandmother, Joseph and Mary, had come from Maidenhead, and would describe everything, so when I saw Buckingham Palace I felt I knew it. I always feel sorry that they never had the chance to go back to visit. Joseph was a timber cutter and worked up near the Wungong Dam. He had a dray and he’d bring the timber down to the Armadale...
railway station to be sent to India. They had this lovely orchard and my brother and I had the good fortune to spend a lot of time with them on the farm.”

In Belgium John visited the grave of his uncle who had been killed in the Great War. “Belgium is a wonderful place with an interesting ethnic mix,” he says. “Some of their cities are beautiful. I think my father spent most of his time in the French part. He spoke fluent French. I don’t know whether it’s an emotional thing or what, but I felt very close to him.”

Professor de Laeter describes himself as an experimental – rather than a theoretical – scientist. He and his Los Alamos’ and Lucas Heights’ colleagues demonstrated how much of the inventory of radioactive waste could be contained in a suitable geological repository.

In John’s view there are areas in WA – where there is no ground water, no earthquakes and the right rocks – where radioactive waste could be adequately stored. And just ask him about the role of zircons in all this. Zircons are found in plenty in WA (in the Darling escarpment and black sand beaches) and are naturally able to contain radioactive waste because of their tight lattice structure.

“The Australian National University’s Ted Ringwood – the nation’s most famous earth scientist – had the idea of producing synthetic zircons which we now export to the USA to contain their very nasty radioactive waste from plutonium warheads. The problem with waste containment – apart from the fact that terrorists might come and pinch some of it – is that it may get into the ground water, and of course ground water moves, so then you’re in trouble. You have to find a site which has no seismic activity and is a very dry arid place. In the USA they store it in the Yucca mountains in Nevada.” Although John believes it is essential for Australia to have a research reactor for experiments and for pharmaceutical reasons, he is not keen to move to nuclear power. “We have enough natural resources and other options - we could exploit our solar radiation and wind power to better advantage,” he says.

If you are curious about that minor planet by the way, it’s part of an asteroid belt containing bits from a disintegrated planet. Some of these bits are large. “If one hit the earth it would obliterate it,” says the graduate. John spent some time as principal investigator for NASA working on lunar samples assessing things that collected on the surface of the moon as a result of cosmic bombardment – so he should know.

The UWAGA 50th reunion luncheon is in Winthrop Hall on 21 November at noon. See details in 50th Anniversary Luncheon.

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 treat the occasion as a ‘50 and over’ club, enjoying an annual gathering with friends from University days. This year the reunion luncheon will be held in Winthrop Hall on 21 November at noon, so mark this date in your diary. All graduates of 1954 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 1954 graduates to join the committee and assist. Please leave your name and phone number with the Graduates Coordinator, Juanita Perez Scott, at the Convocation Office, on +618 6488 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.

Mr Edward W Cameron, Mr Albert J P Chapple, Mr Allen P Clarke, Mr Gerald B Clarke, Mr John F Eadie, Ms Wilfrid R Garretty, Mr Douglas C Gillett, Ms Ula A I Harris, Ms Kwong W Ho, Mr John W Lewis, Ms Aileen J Marlow, Mr Patrick McCarthy, Ms Frederica A Millar, Ms Bernadette M M O’Donovan, Mr Terance M O’Sullivan, Mr Hilary S Quinn, Ms Krishnasamy Ramamoothi, Mr Richard Roper, Ms Ramirs Senfelds, Ms Dogar I Singh and Mr Iain H Wyatt.
CONVOCATION, THE UWA GRADUATES ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL ELECTIONS

Election of Warden and Deputy Warden
Election of nine members of the Council of Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association

Application forms now are available for the above positions.

Mr Matthew Zilko will complete his one-year term as Warden of Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association in March 2005.

Mr James Fogarty will complete his one-year term as Deputy Warden of Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association in March 2005.

Two members of the Council of Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association will complete terms in March 2005, and there are seven additional vacancies.

Nomination forms for all of these positions are available now from Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association. Please telephone Juanita Perez Scott, the Convocation Officer on 6488 3006, or email on uwaga@admin.uwa.edu.au including your postal address.

Please consider nominating for one of these positions.

The closing date for nominations is 5 pm Friday, 28 January 2005.

Applications received after this date will be declared invalid.

Donations to Awards

Each year the UWA Graduates Association presents awards to some students for their extraordinary achievements. These awards assist the students financially. If you would like to contribute to these awards, please complete the form below.

Convocation UWA Graduates Association

DONATIONS FOR EXCELLENCE

All donations over $2 are tax deductible, provided they are made out as set out below

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You are invited to send your donation to the following REPLY PAID address:

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THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA invites all graduates and members of Convocation to attend the FIRST ORDINARY MEETING of
Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association on Friday, 18 March 2005 at 6.30pm for 7.00pm start at University House

The address will be given by:
Dr Fiona Wood, head of the Burns Unit of Royal Perth Hospital and Director The McComb Foundation
The Young Professionals Network held its inaugural UWA Masquerade Ball at Burswood recently and it was an occasion that brought together many graduates. The network is a representative body of young professional organisations in WA that aims to promote professional development and social networking opportunities. While you couldn’t always recognise who was who behind the masks and feathers, it was clearly a new generation of ‘movers and shakers’, and they were out to have fun!

Dr Ken Michael, UWA’s Chancellor, hosted the annual Centenary Trust for Women lunch last July. Over 400 people attended this function in Winthrop Hall, where they were enthralled with the virtuosity of guest artist, soprano Sara McLiver. Planning is already under way for the 2005 event.

1. Ms Theresa Smith, Ms Ellen Pearce, Ms Nancy Dabney
2. Ms Francine Bitter, Mrs Cathy Tang, Ms Toni Pilgrim
3. Mrs Jennifer Simpson, Ms Carissa Paginin, Ms Anne Totten
4. Mr John Wenn, Ms Liz Hemsley, Mr Alex Hemsley

UWA’s Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Robson hosted a dinner at Queen’s University, Ontario, and a cocktail party at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver in May. These reunions allowed graduates to catch up on news and rekindle memories of the campus.

CASSAMARCA FOUNDATION
On 9 August 300 guests joined UWA in celebrating the launch of the Cassamarca Foundation’s gift of $23m to nine Australian universities. UWA, through the Office of Development, is the Australian Cassarmarca host. The Chancellor, Dr Kenneth Michael, hosted a dinner in honour of the Foundation’s President Avv. Dr Dino De Poli, pictured below with Laura Hougaz, Senior Lecturer in Italian and European Studies, Swinburne University of Technology.

THE NEW ‘MOVERS AND SHAKERS’

Committee members Bryant Yates, Renee Harrap, Tarmianne Marshall, Jacqui Kabacx, Alex McLean
1950s

Jennifer Barker (née Bottle) (BSc 1950; MSc 1954; PhD 1960) writes that after many years away from Perth, she has now returned and would like to make contact with former classmates and friends. Jennifer can be contacted on +61 9387 5654.

Noel Kelly (BE 1955) has retired as a Director of a mechanical and electrical engineering firm in NSW. Noel writes that he is enjoying his retirement, plays golf and has regular lunches with engineering graduate friends from WA. Noel lives in Davidson, Sydney.

Donald Morrissey (BSc 1957; DipEd 1958) retired as Head of Science and Physics at Christ Church Grammar. He writes that he is enjoying his retirement with family and grandchildren.

1960s

Mary Hawthorne (née Hanrahan) (BSc 1962; DipEd 1963) is retired and lives on an eight acre property at Kettering, near Hobart. She has four adult children, and a first grandchild born last July.

Graham Davies (BSc(Hons) 1964; PhD 1968) has been a consultant to the petroleum industry in Canada and internationally since 1977. His main speciality is in carbonates, but he has also worked widely with sandstone reservoirs. He was awarded the 2002 Douglas Medal of the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists, and is the first Australian to win this award.

David Cook (BE(Hons) 1965) graduated with a Master’s and PhD from the University of Calgary in the late 60s. He worked for the University of New South Wales from 1970-1980 and then became Executive Director of the National Building Technology Centre. In 1988, David became Executive Director of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation and in 1994 joined Boral Ltd, where he is a divisional General Manager, based in Sydney. In 1990, he was elected to the Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Technological Services and Engineering and in 2003, he was awarded a Centenary Medal.

David Newby (LLB(Hons) 1966) retired from the position of Vice-President, General Counsel and Secretary of Mars Incorporated in Washington, DC. He is now spending time in London and the Southern Highlands of NSW.

Robert Jeffery (BSc 1969) writes that he and his wife have moved home and office to Augusta, both for a change of lifestyle and to improve business opportunities for their company, Soil Management Consultants. Their son, Nicholas (BEnVDes 1998; BArch 2001) remains in Perth and currently works for an environmental consulting firm in Adelaide.

Valentine Pervan (BSc 1969; MCom 1973) writes that he is very proud that there are now three generations of Pervans that are UWA Commerce graduates. His grandson, Benjamin Pervan graduated last April (BCom 2006) and his father, Graham Pervan (BSc(Hons) 1972; BCom 1975) is Professor at the School of Information Systems, Curtin University of Technology.

1970s

Baden Rumble (BSc(Hons) 1972) has a Master of Science (University of London) and a PhD (University of Melbourne) in the field of Alzheimer’s disease. He taught at RMIT University for 10 years and currently runs a web-based business in the financial services area. Baden has been married since 1978 and has two adult children. Former classmates can contact him at badenr@thesustainablepath.com.

Mylene Wall (MB BS 1973) is a consultant physician specialising in neurodevelopmental disorders in children and adolescents, particularly those involving delinquency, crime and substance abuse. He writes that in 1997 he was attacked by dogs resulting in such damage to his legs that he has not been able to work since then. Mylene is a Fellow of the Royal Australian College of Physicians.

Malcolm Hollick (PhD 1975) writes that after leaving UWA in 1997, he and his wife have been living in the Findhorn Community in Scotland, working to establish Findhorn Foundation College which aims to combine the best of mainstream academic education with the best of alternative experiential learning. Malcolm is also involved in a project aimed at establishing a University for Spirit in the UK. This will bring together a network of academics and independent learning providers across the country interested in creating ‘whole-person’ learning.

Alan Brien (BE 1976; MEd 1981) has been CEO of Scitech Discovery Centre, in West Perth, since 2000. He previously was the Director of UWA’s Sport and Recreation (1984-87), Manager of Whiteman Park (1987-95) and Director of the Visitors Centre, Kings Park (1995-2000).

Sari Hosie (née Smith) (BA 1979; MA 1989) has been lecturing in Creative Writing in the School of Creative Arts, University of Melbourne, for the past seven years. She is currently working on a memoir of sibling bereavement.

1980s

Jonathan Sedgwick (BSc(Hons) 1981; PhD 1985) moved to California in 1998 to work for DNAX Research, the biotechnology arm of Schering-Plough Corporation. He joined E W Plough Corporation. He joined E W

Lisa Lobry de Bruyn (Hons) 1983; LLB(Hons) 1984) was appointed Judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria in June 2004.

Carlo Kopp (BE(Hons) 1984) is part-time lecturer in Computer Science at Monash University, with research interests in ad hoc networking and the theory of information warfare.

Last September, he was also appointed Visiting Research Fellow in Air Power and Military Strategy at the Australian Defence Studies Centre, University of NSW. The photo shows Dr Kopp about to fly a Super Hornet fighter at the 2001 Avalon airshow.

Jonathan Sedgwick (BSc(Hons) 1981; PhD 1985) has been teaching at the University of New England in the School of Environmental Sciences and Natural Resources Management, since 1993. Her research has taken her to the State’s north-west and Tasmania. Lisa has written a number of journal and conference papers. She lives with her husband and two young children in Armidale, NSW.

Leighton Joy (BSc 1985) has worked in not-for-profit community organisations in Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth. He also studied Theology in Melbourne and Human Resource Development at Curtin University. Since 1997, he has been lecturing in Management and Human Resources Services at Curtin and is a board member of the Autism Association of WA, and Deputy Chair of Perth Home Care Services. He has three teenage children and is studying for his PhD at Curtin’s Graduate School of Management. Leighton writes that the opportunity to learn throughout life is a wonderful privilege.

Tomas Mijatovic (LLB 1992) is associate for Marie and Edward (Bar数目s and Solicitors), working primarily in commercial litigation. He is conducting a large class action on behalf of Christmas Islanders. Tomas has been a director of Soccer West Coast for three years and Vice-President for the last two years.

Colin Irving (BE 1993) returned to Melbourne after working overseas and is now a software engineering manager for a high technology firm. Former classmates can contact him at colin.irving@optusnet.com.au.

Belinda Ng (BCom 1993) has been working as a private client adviser at the ANZ Bank for the past five years. She lives in Sydney and...
is currently on maternity leave looking after her infant son.

• Joanna Chalmers (BA 1995; DipEd 1996) has just returned to Perth after living in Jamaica for the past five years. She also was a volunteer teacher in adult literacy and on-line work in the US.

• Anusha Connaughton (née Sivarajah)(BSc 1995) married a farmer two years ago and is now happy juggling the two roles as well as running the Three Springs Dental Clinic. They live on a farm, which was the first brick and tile home built in the Mid-West (93 years-old). Anusha is also a volunteer ambulance officer.

• Sky Taylor (BSc 1993) spent five years in Japan as an ESL teacher. She writes that she has returned to Sydney with her Japanese husband and the ‘travel bug’ is still in the system, but with Perth and Japan at the top of the list, it may be a while before they go anywhere else! Former classmates can contact her at skyectaylor@hotmail.com.

• Emma Croager (BSc(Hons) 1999; PhD 2000) is working in the UK as a science information officer for Cancer Research UK, which is the largest cancer charity in the world.

• Richard Murdoch (BSc 1996) is currently working as an occupational therapist for CRS Australia, in Mt Gambier, SA. He worked as a nursing assistant at Bethesda Hospital after graduation, then as a senior respiratory physiologist for the Mount Respiratory Group. He completed the Master’s of Occupational Therapy at Curtin University of Technology. Former classmates can contact Richard at murdoch@iinet.net.au.

• Peter Nixa (MSc 1996; MBA 1998) moved to Tokyo in 1999 and works for Temple University coordinating MBA-based programs. He writes that the shock to most Westerners is that there can be many years to become bilingual in Japanese. He lives in central Tokyo with his wife and son.

• Craig Downsborough (BSc 1997; LLB 1997) worked as a consultant on sustainable development in the UK after graduating. He studied Environmental Science at Murdoch University and Public Administration at the University of Canberra and completed a Master’s degree in Management at ANU. He writes that after four years in the public service in Canberra, he is now in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Craig is married with an infant daughter.

• Nadine Woodley-Smith (née Wilson) (BA 1996) was previously a teacher at Nullagine Remote Community School. Her husband Craig is involved in the local law enforcement and their son Tain Andrew was born last December.

• Katie Ellison (BA 1997; LLB 1997) is a lawyer for the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission. She has been living in Sydney for the past five years and has just returned from a trip to Elcho Island, in Arnhem Land. Katie participated in the Mawul Rom project, a special ceremony organised by the Aboriginal Elders to train young people in cross-cultural mediation and Indigenous law and culture.

• Nadine Eva (née Morgan) (BSc(Aric)(Hons) 1997) writes that she has been working with the WA Department of Agriculture since graduating, firstly in Geraldton and then in Three Springs. Nadine was married last March to a local farmer and they live in Three Springs.

• Michael Jaschke (BSc 1997; BE(Hons) 1997) has been a computer systems officer for UWA’s School of Mathematics and Statistics, since February 1997. Former classmates can contact Michael at michael@maths.uwa.edu.au

• Sonali de Alwis (BSc 1997) spent several years working as a DJ by night and an IT consultant by day, as well as a sinter DJ and production manager for LiquidFM. He is part-owner and director of the Sapphire Bar, located in Subiaco.

• Peter Norton (MSc 1997) completed a Master’s degree and PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He writes that after a clinical internship at the University of British Columbia, he became Assistant Professor at the University of Houston, where he studies anxiety and anxiety disorders.

• Antony Lord (BSc 1997) spent several years working as a DJ by night and an IT consultant by day, as well as a sinter DJ and production manager for LiquidFM. He is part-owner and director of the Sapphire Bar, located in Subiaco.

• John Bosserio (MEDMan 2002) is Director of the Catholic Education Office, in the diocese of Toowoomba, Qld. He oversees the operations of 35 schools with a student enrolment of 9,700. John is married with three children.

• Sean Eyre (BE(Hons) 2002) is working at Coffey Geosciences in Osborne Park after his previous employer, Soil and Rock Engineering, was absorbed by Coffey.

• Jeffrey Hewitt (LLB 2002) is working as a family lawyer in Maylands. Former classmates can contact him at jwhewitt2003@yahoo.com.au

• Remi Paulik (BFA 2003) has been learning salsa for the past year and last February, with her partner, won their first salsa competition. She is also planning to have her first solo art exhibition this year.

• Donna Murphy (BSc 2004) is completing her Master’s degree in Physiotherapy at Curtin University.

• Timothy Phillips (MB BS 2004) plays first grade rugby for the UWA Rugby Club and is currently an intern at Royal Perth Hospital.

• Tendy Wato (MBA 2004) is the financial controller for PT Pancayasa Primatang, an Indonesian marble and granite company based in Jakarta. He is also studying for two Master’s degrees at Trisakti University and the University of Indonesia. Former classmates can contact him at twjbmams@indovat.net.id

Graduate writes of station life

“When I was a little girl, my dad would say to me: the sound of rain is the sound of grass growing, the sound of grass growing is the sound of coins clinking in the bank. So from early on, I loved the green months for the soft air and wet ground, the calling lumbs in the paddocks, the wild ducklings and the tadpoles in the creeks, but I also loved them for bringing us money.”

– Jo Jackson King, The Station at Austin Downs

Not many people get to write an autobiography at 35, but when you are Arts graduate Jo Jackson King, surrounded by four generations of a family on a remote half-a-million-acre sheep station, you have a lot of stories to tell and a good deal of wisdom to impart.

When Jo’s extended family decided Downs near Cue they knew they were taking on a huge challenge. They had sold the family farm to buy the lease, and within months of moving to Austin Downs, the worst drought in a century was under way. To bring in extra money, Jo made a radio series for the ABC that proved so popular the broadcaster commissioned a book. With the support of her extended family, Jo wrote this lively account of survival on the land. The Station at Austin Downs was released recently, along with an audio book version.

Jo’s extended family comprises her husband Martin, her sons, her brother (UWA graduate Kynan Jackson) and his family, her mother Barbara and father Tom Jackson (an UWA agricultural science graduate) and her grandmother.

“It’s a family biography as well as an autobiography,” says Jo. And it’s a great read that is available at ABC Shops, ABC Centre and selected bookstores.

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32
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