Cybercrime
more than a virtual reality

by Lindy Brophy

There are no statistics, proof is hard to isolate, some victims are not aware of crimes committed against them … but we all know it's happening.

E-crime is on the move in Australia, with four times the number of computer security incidents reported to the Australian Computer Emergency Response Team in 2000 than were reported in 1999.

Police Commander Barbara Etter, chair of the Police Commissioners’ Conference (Electronic Crime Working Party) and Director of the Australasian Centre for Policing Research, recently presented a Dean’s Lecture for the Faculty of Science on Cybercrime and e-crime.

(When electronic crime or computer crime involves the Internet or cyberspace, it is referred to as cybercrime. Electronic crime refers to offences where a computer is used as a tool or a target and also a storage device.)

“Much of the electronic crime that is committed is simply undetected. Companies just don’t have the security programs that alert them when their systems have been infiltrated,” Commander Etter said.

“Most (e-crime) is committed by people who don’t think of themselves as criminals. They wouldn’t dream of mugging somebody or breaking into a house to steal anything…”

“Comprehensive statistics on the incidence of electronic crime are currently not collected within Australia and our information is largely based on surveys, particularly of big business.

“But some businesses would rather keep such information to themselves, so as not to upset consumer confidence or their shareholders.

“So, even finding out what is happening and where it is happening is difficult, let alone working out how to prevent it or even tracking down the perpetrators,” she said.

Commander Etter said the only way of getting a grip on e-crime was to get the community on side, installing detection devices, reporting offences, and putting in place preventative programs.

“A lot of e-crime is committed from the inside, by people who want to prove something to their employers. Most of it is committed by people who don’t think of themselves as

Continued on page 9
Meeting the many generations of graduates is one of the great pleasures of my work as your Vice-Chancellor.

Each graduate has a story to tell – usually of how UWA has affected their careers, how it gave them the skills, capacity and outlook to make a successful professional life.

For many, a UWA education also meant making life-long friends, establishing key connections and networks, even finding partners, let alone developing mentors who have offered advice and support in key personal choices.

I personally find identification with those who tell of how an opportunity of university education opened up a whole new world of choice, knowledge and experience, wider than the small rural or mining town of their childhood.

This past year I have spoken with countless graduates in our city, across the State of WA, in the eastern states (notably Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra and even Tassie, where we have initiated a new group), in the wider regions (Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia) plus new global groups (London and New York).

There is huge enthusiasm for UWA in the sentiment of memory – of the campus, friends, teachers, courses, social and sporting life – and a desire to keep in touch by being involved. Scholarship trends are a focus of such identity and appreciation.

Alumni are our best ambassadors in advancing the reputation of UWA, in supporting our quest for the very best of students and, most recently, providing advice and connections as we advance the financial and industrial linkages of our research endeavours.

A tradition of strength and values comes from the graduates – some 75,000 since 1911, with about 30,000 names on our alumni database – and that is a huge asset in these testing times for universities. UWA is not just a learning community of all those of us who currently work and study here, it also includes past students and staff.

Each generation has made its own UWA, each generation has a different UWA to tell me about. That too is a lesson we should absorb. Tradition can be dynamic, not just static.

Since our foundation in 1911 the role of UWA has constantly evolved. Yes, it has always involved education, training and knowledge generation. But the nature of that education and research has dramatically changed as society’s needs have changed, as knowledge has advanced and as internationalisation has affected us all.

The 20th century was an era of exceptional change in human history and UWA’s existence has mirrored that experience. A capacity to change and to produce graduates for their time has been a crucial asset. That change has been uneven but cumulatively it has meant a UWA transformed.

Here is a sense of perspective, of comfort and of challenge as we experience the exceptional era of dramatic change we all feel today.

My recent Faculty visits and, even more, the findings of the recent Working Life Survey, statistically confirm the stresses and strains of not only workloads but of the increasing demands made of staff and students in 3rd millennia higher education. We are trying to address those work pressures, but we cannot remove the reality of yet another transformative era on (and off) campus.

Our current graduates and their employers have new expectations about flexible skills. New technologies mean new modes of teaching and learning. Resourcing a quality institution calls for new modes of income generation. A close dynamic interface with government and industry redefines aspects of university research.

Demands for life-long learning, e-Education and modular course units of study, challenge traditional ideas of ‘the degree’. Professional graduate programs are in much demand. Transnational educational opportunities abound in a highly competitive overseas environment. Networks and alliances of universities begin to evolve for traditional reasons – of joint research, staff and student exchange – but also for new era developments in cyber education … the future is apparently already here!

The generations of graduates give us a sense of living history. They tell us of the value of UWA over time, and they exemplify how appropriate change has kept contemporary to the needs of the day. There was no ‘golden age’ in this story against which we measure ourselves. Each era in UWA’s proud evolution has had its own value, its own character. Memory alone makes for ‘golden ages’. These challenging and transformative years will see a 21st century UWA develop. For many graduates of the future, facing newer challenges again, this will then have been a golden age of development, a critical phase for UWA.

The fact that ‘nostalgia is not what is used to be’ – to use a current ironic phrase – will probably qualify that judgement. But the graduates and their careers will record our times most revealingly of all.
The human genome project is one gigantic mathematical puzzle. Why then, is the human genome project considered so 'sexy' but maths is nowhere near the equation asks Tony Gardiner, visiting mathematician from the University of Birmingham.

Dr Gardiner has been collaborating for many years with UWA’s Professor Cheryl Praeger and while on campus recently, delivered the Weatherburn Lecture: Mummy, Mummy! Where do mathematicians come from?

“My answer is actually a bit of a cheat,” Dr Gardiner admitted. “The real question that matters is how do you make them (mathematicians) better? There’s nothing you can do about their backgrounds and whatever they bring to their maths class. The important thing is how do you optimise it?”

Dr Gardiner has been working with the best and brightest children in the UK for about 30 years.

“Those who struggle at the age of 10 might become whizzes … and vice versa. Mathematicians come by so many different routes: some flourish and are then burnt out by the time they’re 40; some are precocious and remain precocious all their lives; others are like good wine, just slowly getting better all the time.”

Dr Gardiner said it was no good looking at the biographies of famous mathematicians to find what it was that set them on the maths path.

“There is always a tendency to embellish the historical records, once a person has become famous, which distorts the pattern by which mathematicians develop. And the backgrounds of very exceptional people are just so atypical that it’s not worth considering them either.”

He said the concept of what makes a mathematician was only brought up when things were not going “swimmingly”.

“Australia has a superb system of maths competitions for school kids, which identifies those who are interested, but it doesn’t flow on. The numbers of students studying mathematics at Honours level is dropping off.

“Perhaps they should even be encouraged to go slower, rather than faster. While the rest of the class is doing algebra, they can do algebra with knobs on, but not algebra at two or three levels higher than their classmates.”

He said he could understand people’s perceptions that there was a link between music and mathematics.

“The delight of mathematics is knowing the little tricks. In music, the fun is in the variation on a theme, the recognition of something that is the same, but different. That’s the essence of mathematics.”
The recent installation of a massive stainless steel vacuum tank at the Gingin Observatory marked another step in the development of UWA’s gravity wave research facility at Gingin.

Physics Professor David Blair said the tank will help UWA’s researchers, as part of an Australia wide consortium in collaboration with US, European and Japanese physicists to develop the technology to achieve their goal of opening up a new window to the universe.

“The Gingin Observatory is based on an interferometer which is used to split light two ways,” Professor Blair said. “Before you can split the light, you have to purify it with a mode cleaner. The tank will be used for resonating the light to a high intensity between mirrors to purify it to the level necessary to inject into the interferometer.”

In the search for gravity waves generated by the formation and interaction of black holes, observatories are being constructed in the US, Europe and Japan. The new tank has been donated by the European project, based at Pisa.

The Gingin Observatory is the first stage of Australia’s Gravitational Wave Observatory and is managed by UWA on behalf of the Australian Consortium for Gravitational Astronomy under the authority of an international management board.

The observatory has just become the first overseas facility of the giant US LIGO Observatory.

“The US facility is supported by massive funding, compared with us,” Professor Blair said. “But they are contributing to the cost of our interferometer and, in return, we will provide results that will enable them to improve their interferometer.”

“Our consortium will use a new very high power laser developed at Adelaide combined with control techniques developed at ANU and pure sapphire test masses to demonstrate technology that for the first time will enable gravity wave detectors to detect known sources”, he said.

The installation of the tank and the announcement of the collaboration with LIGO provided an opportunity to preview the Southern Cross Cosmos Centre, a Centenary of Federation project, which is the first stage of a public centre for the promotion of science, The Gravity Discovery Centre.

The GDC, a few hundred meters from the Gingin Observatory, will have a dramatic ‘leaning tower’ which will allow school children to copy the experiments of Galileo, whose experiments at the Leaning Tower of Pisa, led to the understanding of physical laws and the law of gravity in particular.

“Our overall objective is to support science education in WA. We believe that by linking science education to a major international project in fundamental science we can provide a resource that will greatly enhance science education in WA,” Professor Blair said.

He gratefully acknowledged the participation in the project by the traditional owners of the land, the help of Clough Engineering, which will co-ordinate the ‘leaning tower’ and the State Government which provided the land for the observatory and discovery centre, and the Gingin Shire which has provided roads and site works.
The man charged with replacing the University’s aging Student Records System (SRS) admits that when he first started in education administration, he saw technology as an unnecessary interference in a good card index!

Jon Stubbs, UWA’s new Director of Student Services, loves tennis, is passionate about access for people with disabilities … and can laugh at himself.

Originally a primary school teacher, Mr Stubbs came to Australia from England in 1984 and took a job in student administration at the Brisbane College of Advanced Education (later Queensland University of Technology) because the only teaching job available was too far from home.

After completing a Masters in Education Administration, Mr Stubbs gave up his idea of teaching children with disabilities and devoted himself to the technology of administration (while always keeping his interest in equity issues at the forefront).

For the past four years, he has been designing, developing and implementing education software and building a new student information system for Callista Software Services, an arm of Deakin University. He has worked as a consultant universities in almost every state of Australia.

“I believe it’s partly my background in student administration, partly my work in the equity and disability areas of student services, and partly my systems design expertise that won me the position at UWA,” he said.

His first major task will be to select and implement a new SRS. It has the potential to be an exciting project, with the first step being a presentation to the Vice-Chancellor’s advisory group by Students Services’ Tom Dickson with Mr Stubbs assisting.

“We must be very positive about why we need a change. After advising the Vice-Chancellor’s group, we will work on a draft to put to University committees to inform and garner support for a new system. Nothing will be rushed into,” he said.

Diversity at lunchtime too

With staff and students from about 30 different national backgrounds, UWA’s Centre for Water Research is a living example of cultural diversity.

The Centre is the first to take advantage of diversity workshops offered by the Equity Office. Diversity Project Officer Malcolm Fialho ran two half-day courses for about 40 staff recently, concentrating on cultural diversity, as it was the most appropriate for the Centre.

The diversity workshops were held on World Environment Day which the CWR always celebrates with a multi-cultural lunch. Nearly all of the 74 staff and postgraduate students gathered to eat dishes from 21 different countries, prepared by their colleagues and friends.

Professor Jorg Imberger, the Chair of the CWR, said achieving success was a compromise between stressing diversity and gaining cohesion.

“It seems to work really well here, but I’m not really sure how we do it! “

He and some of his staff agreed it was a richness in culture and language governed by a focus on similar aims.

The CWR has staff and students from many different parts of Asia, Europe, South and North America and the Pacific region.
C E L T  
spreads  
the word –  
in English

An e-mail from an English language teacher in Japan made Bianca Panizza’s job all worthwhile.

Bianca is the acting director of the University’s Centre for English Language Teaching (CELT) and the correspondence came from one of her former students, Yasuhiro Koide.

Several years earlier, Yasuhiro had taken part in a program at CELT to improve his English, then decided to enrol in a degree course at UWA, completing a BA in Asian Studies. During his degree studies, Yasuhiro won a scholarship to study at a Chinese university for a year. After finishing his degree he completed a high level English language course, culminating in the Cambridge Proficiency in English exam.

Yasuhiro is now teaching English himself in Nagoya and wrote to Bianca to ask about the finer points of sequencing adjectives. He also said he now realised how hard it must have been to teach unruly students like him!

Of course, few of the centre’s students end up teaching English but it is very satisfying for Bianca and acting director of studies, Margaret Jones, to know that their graduates truly appreciate their efforts.

Since the centre’s inception 13 years ago, the staff have taught the language to students from 33 different countries, including a vulcanologist from the French island of Reunion, a retired officer from the Italian Alpini (armed forces), a 73-year-old Japanese grandmother who travelled extensively and wanted to be able to communicate in every country, and a young Slovakian man, who came to grips so successfully with English that he went on to study linguistics and won several prizes in the Faculty of Arts.

CELT caters for students over the age of 18, teaching English to up to 1,800 people each year, mainly young people from Asia, although there is a significant number from Europe and increasingly, South America.

The self-funding centre with 22 staff teaches General English, Business English and English for Academic Purposes in courses ranging from five to 45 weeks.

Not all of these students are destined for university. Margaret said many of them come to improve their English with an eye to job prospects in their own countries, especially international companies.

Some companies sponsor employee’s language learning here, for example each year Hamersley Iron sponsors five management staff from the China Iron and Steel Group.

Bianca and Margaret said CELT students chose Perth because of its climate and beautiful setting. They considered it was a cheaper, safer city than Melbourne or Sydney, and it provided a good environment for study as there were fewer distractions than in the bigger cities.

CELT is part of the Graduate School of Education, and the Centre hosts practicum placements for Diploma of Education students majoring in Teaching English to Students of Other Languages (TESOL) and collaborates in other areas. It is considering the possibility of developing fee-attracting postgraduate TESOL programs for international teachers of English.

CELT is accredited to offer an MBA bridging program but until now it has not had sufficient students to run the program as a separate course.

Twice a year, incoming AusAID scholars are given an introduction to Australian academic culture and to strategies...
for mastering the most essential academic skills. The five-week course includes practice in language skills, cross-cultural knowledge, computing skills and familiarisation with the university.

The centre also provides language support for international students at UWA, including the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Engineering and Agriculture. It has run a course to help medical students sponsored by the Malaysian Government and one for overseas trained doctors who were retraining at UWA. CELT’s teachers helped these students master the language of academic assignments and exams, and for communicating with patients.

The centre’s teachers have also provided individual consultations and tutorials in academic writing and speaking to undergraduate and postgraduate students from language backgrounds other than English. For a small fee, UWA students are able to have access to the Centre’s facilities and materials for guided or unguided self-access work to improve their English language.

Staff from overseas are helped by CELT courses run through the Centre for Staff Development.

---

The Centre for English Language Teaching, within the Graduate School of Education, and the Survey Research Centre, part of the Department of Public Health, both provide services that are used by the University and also by groups outside …
Aboriginal students are rarely encouraged to do the difficult subjects at school or to strive towards a University education.

So the Centre for Aboriginal Programs (CAP) runs an annual affirmative action program for Year 12 students, a week-long live-in vocational camp, to introduce them to the idea of tertiary education.

Recently 39 Year 12s from schools as far afield as Broome, Kalgoorlie and Mount Barker, as well as from the metropolitan area, took part in a residential camp at Point Walter and visited all the university campuses in Perth. CAP has been running the week of seminars since 1980 and community liaison coordinator, Marilyn Strother, has been at the helm since 1985. Last year, Mrs Strother won an award from the Aboriginal Education and Training Council for her work.

“The camp really works. A lot of UWA’s current students have come from this camp and, during the week, they turn up at Shenton House to share their experiences with the potential students, which is very valuable,” Mrs Strother said.

Some of the students already have clear ideas about their direction next year. Brett Fordham, from Merredin SHS, is planning to study political science; Karleigh Rodney from Balcatta SHS, hopes to get into dentistry; Marianne Carter, from Carnarvon SHS, is considering a commerce course; and others are keen to do CAP’s orientation year, which gives post-TEE students a sold grounding for university.

Staff at UWA are happier with the security of their jobs than they were four years ago.

The results of the University’s Working Life Survey, now completed and disseminated, demonstrates a significant decline in concerns about job security when compared with the results of the 1997 survey.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Robson said that after the last survey, enterprise bargaining negotiations had focused on the security issue and the University had been successful in improving this area.

He said that, similarly, the University would now focus on issues that were highlighted in this recent survey.

Professor Robson said he was concerned to learn from the results that 79 per cent of staff who teach plan to make some changes to their teaching in the next three years, but 77 per cent believe there is inadequate time and resources to support those changes.

Another worry is that almost half of general staff and 44% of academic staff are concerned with their opportunities for career progression.

“It is important that we address these concerns as matter of priority, as part of our ongoing enterprise bargaining discussions,” Professor Robson said.

Of the 1428 staff who returned the survey, 81 per cent said they believed that UWA was a good place to work. And 79 per cent believed the University attracted the best students.

“Although more than half of the respondents believe UWA attracts the best staff, this is a decline on the 1997 figures and we cannot be complacent about our capacity to continue to do this,” Professor Robson said.

Perhaps one of the most striking findings was that, on the 12 key aspects of job satisfaction, where the gender difference was most statistically significant, the difference favoured women every time.

Women said they were more satisfied with their salaries and current workloads than men. They also agreed more strongly that their job satisfaction had improved over the past five years.

“The University has promoted gender equity in recent years and I believe that the results demonstrate evidence of our success in this area,” Professor Robson said.

Criminals. They wouldn’t dream of mugging somebody or breaking into a house to steal anything. Yet they will steal money, credit card numbers and secret information just because they can — because it’s a challenge.”

She said that because people were aware that fraud and other ‘white collar e-crime’ was rampant, 50 per cent of Australians were wary of using their credit cards to shop on-line. This compared with only 19 per cent of people in the US and 24 per cent of those in the UK.

“We recommend the ACCC’s website, which has facts about on-line shopping and how to minimise the potential of becoming a victim.”

Commander Etter said merchants actually had more to worry about than consumers when it came to on-line shopping.

“If somebody misappropriates your credit card number, and you haven’t done something foolish like giving out your password or PIN, then you are only liable for the first $50 that is spent on it. The merchant is liable for the rest.”

She said that when national furniture retailer Harvey Norman went on-line, 25 per cent of the transactions they received were fraudulent. Tandy Electronics suffered 30 per cent.

“Harvey Norman soon closed down its on-line shopping,” she said.

Fraud, interception of information, dissemination of viruses, money laundering and tax evasion, theft of telecommunication services, illegal interception of telecommunications, and theft of money and credit card numbers are all happening in Australia.

The ‘Love Bug’ virus, which invaded computers worldwide last year was estimated to have reached 45 million e-mail users and systems and to have caused up to $A25 billion in losses and damages.

“But once again, we can’t be sure about these figures. E-crime is increasing so rapidly and it’s not just the economic cost with which we’re concerned, but the social costs involved in crimes like cyberstalking, the targeting of young children for sexual purposes and the dissemination of child pornography.”

Footnote: “I caught the bus to work on Kerb Your Car Day and really enjoyed the ten-minute walk at either end of the trip. I was able to wear my fabulous new overcoat (which I don’t wear when I drive door to door) and I met up with somebody on the bus whom I hadn’t seen for years. Why wait for a special day? Perhaps we should all leave our cars at home once a week.”

Lindy Brophy, editor UWAnews
GET RID OF WEEDS
BY GETTING RID OF YOUR HERBICIDES

“Ryegrass is resistant to herbicides that are still no more than a gleam in a biochemist’s eye.”

This quote from Professor Stephen Powles (pictured below), Director of the WA Herbicide Resistance Initiative in the Faculty of Agriculture, gives an idea of how tough the fight is against herbicide-resistant weeds.

Professor Powles has long warned of the dangers of over-using herbicides and he has recently co-authored ‘Herbicide Resistance and World Grains’ with American scientist, Dale Shaner, and hopes that the book will help the industry understand the risks of over-use.

Ryegrass is the most famous example of herbicide resistance in WA. It was introduced and nurtured as a pasture long before it became a nuisance, and subsequently developed into a nightmare for farmers.

Professor Powles’ book also examines resistance in maize, wheat, rice and soybean, while exploring other weed control strategies to slow the development of resistance.

He would like to alleviate the problem by slashing herbicide use by as much as half, believing that current usage is wasteful in view of the dangers of developing resistance and the vital role of herbicides in sustainable agriculture.

Professor Powles’ herbicide resistance group is supported by the Grains Research and Development Corporation.

Everybody wins
with new practical links

A new internship program for economics and commerce students will have three-way benefits.

David Hayles, community liaison officer for the Faculty of Economics and Commerce, Education and Law (ECEL), is encouraging local industry to find short-term placements for final year and Honours students from the Faculty.

“The employers will benefit because they will get short-term projects completed at very little cost by the best students available; they can see the work of potential employees; and they develop a partnership with ECEL,” Mr Hayles said.

“As for the students, they gain practical experience in a professional environment; experience employment opportunities while they are still studying; and develop confidence, skills and expertise in future employment areas.”

Mr Hayles said the Faculty also stood to gain from the program as more business and community leaders experienced first-hand what good work was being done at UWA.

“When I took up my position here as community liaison co-ordinator, my brief was to promote the Faculty and dispel the unfounded but common perception that Curtin University is the place to go for business studies,” he said.

After spending many years in the University’s careers centre, it was a natural progression for Mr Hayles to put together an idea like this internship program. A similar one is run in the Faculty of Arts, where it has become an accredited practicum unit.

Third-year commerce and science student Dean Bell is the first ECEL intern. He has just started 13 weeks with Wesfarmers, working 10 hours a week, researching and reviewing the commercial applications of ‘personal digital assistant’ technology for the company’s rural division.

At the end of the project, he will present a report to Wesfarmers and the Faculty.

The program has the support of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which is also a participant. The Chamber has offered a full week’s work to one student during the July break.

Another company, Gerard Daniels Australia, whose director, Michael McAnearney, is a UWA graduate, has offered two positions in the e-commerce area.

Wesfarmers’ Phil O’Shea with student Dean Bell discuss the internship with Information Management and Marketing lecturer Cherry Randolph.
Och, it’s a wee bit more than half a millennium

If anybody who visits the old sandstone University of Glasgow needs proof of its age, they are told casually that the university was opened the year Christopher Columbus was born — that is about 40 years before America was discovered.

To celebrate the 550th anniversary of this grand old university (opened in 1451), its Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Sir Graeme Davies (pictured right), is touring the world to meet its alumni.

There are 99 graduates of Glasgow University living in Perth. One of them, Dr Marion Cottingham, a senior lecturer in the Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering, co-ordinated a dinner for about 30 graduates at University House.

Glasgow, which was established just four years after St Andrew’s University, counts among its graduates James Watt, inventor of the steam engine, John Logie Baird, the inventor of television, and Lord Kelvin, who invented a compass that would work on an iron ship.

It is also famous for turning away a prospective student — Albert Einstein!

Professor Davies, who has been Vice-Chancellor at Glasgow since 1995, was educated at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, where he became an engineer. After 16 years in the Department of Metallurgy and Materials Science at Cambridge, he became Professor of Metallurgy at the University of Sheffield and later Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool.

He was made a Knight Bachelor in 1996 and is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a Freeman of both the Cities of London and Glasgow and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers.

Although University House did not turn on a haggis, Dr Cottingham said the Scottish ex-pats had a wonderful evening.

The appointment of an executive director to the Lions Eye Institute (LEI) marks a change in focus for the research centre.

Peter Williams (pictured) brings to the centre a wealth of corporate experience, which will be invaluable in the shift from simply good established medical research to commercialising products and creating relationships with business.

Mr Williams will work closely with the LEI’s Director, Professor Ian Constable, in developing more extensive external alliances, collaborations and fund-raising initiatives both nationally and internationally.

“We are delighted to have Mr Williams join us at this significant time in the history of the Lions Eye Institute, when we are taking strategic steps to move our research to the next stages of development,” said Professor Constable, who was recently appointed head of Premier Geoff Gallop’s Science Council.

The executive director also has an engineering background that will enhance the science and technology developments at the LEI and its mission to apply them to prevent and cure blindness.
**The Life of Bryon**

Reflections of Emeritus Professor Charles Oxnard on his colleague, Bryon Wyatt

The ‘Pied Piper’ of Anatomy and Human Biology died recently after a long illness. It is not only his friends and colleagues at UWA who remember him fondly, but hundreds of schoolchildren who he led around the department and filled with enthusiasm about human biology.

Bryon Wyatt spent about 18 years with technical staff in the Department of Anatomy and Human Biology with a special interest as Education Officer in the Centre for Human Biology in charge of the Department’s outreach programme for schools.

Bryon was in charge of making and distributing casts of skulls and fossils for high school human biology classes. He was an enormously enthusiastic person who participated fully in the very happy social life of the Department. He was one of a group of jogging anatomists to be seen along the riverside at lunchtimes. Bryon also had a talent for writing very humorous poems for all sorts of occasions and these were enjoyed by all who read them. And of course, his wife Margaret and daughters Brodie and Amber were at the centre of his universe.

However, the special “The Life of Bryon” that I knew started when I came to UWA in 1987. Brian was one of many staff but I came to know him particularly quickly and fully because he was willing to be involved with the new Centre for Human Biology and the contacts with the schools, teachers and students that it generated.

This is an unusual mission for a university department but one that we felt was most important. It must be said, however, that this merely followed a pattern that had come from the whole department for many years under the headships of Neville Bruce, Leonard Freedman and David Allbrook. This was how Human Biology became a recognised TEE subject, in WA alone (nowhere else in Australia, although it was very common in the northern hemisphere), and a very highly popular one at that. Bryon played a major part in it.

He contributed extensively through his work in setting up these programs, and through his enormous enthusiasm and sensitivity in being able to reach out to both students and teachers. His involvement was not only with TEE students but even with students in the first and second grades. It was perhaps the youngest ones that he touched most.

He had a childlike enthusiasm for science, a childlike wonder at scientific knowledge, a child’s ability to ask the perceptive question - an ability that students often lose as they pass further through our educational system. He was like the ‘Pied Piper’ as streams of school kids followed him around the Department.

And in later years, when Bryon was no longer able to reach these students because of his illness, I would telephone him to let him know about another group I had seen. Of course, the school students of those later years never knew him, but the teachers did, the same teachers, year after year, and they always asked after him. It gave him great pleasure to know that they remembered. It was, of course, the best accolade of all that they did indeed remember.

I have never forgotten the letter he received from a six-year old. There were many such unsought letters of appreciation every year ...
AGRICULTURE WESTERN AUSTRALIA


AKTION BENNI & CO.E.V. GERMANY DUCHENNE PARENT PROJECT (GERMANY)

Dr S. Hodgetts and Prof M. Grounds (right), Anatomy and Human Biology: Strategies to optimise Myoblast Transfer Therapy’ — $153,426 (2001-02).

ALCOA

Mr J. Antenucci, Centre for Water Research: 'Feasibility study for development of numerical model of hydrodynamic and biogeochemical processes in Alcoa Alumina Residue Ponds’ — $70,000 (2001).

AUSTRALIAN FILM COMMISSION


AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL

Dr D. Indermaur and Mr F. Morgan, Law School: ‘Driving-related violence between strangers: the situational contexts of road rage, the criminal careers of offenders, and crime prevention strategies’ — $148,666 (2001-02).

CANADA-AUSTRALIA BICENTENNIAL INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AWARDS


CANCER FOUNDATION OF WA

Dr E. Williams, Applied Cancer Studies and Dr M. Wilce (left), Pharmacology: ‘Rational design and development of novel compounds for cancer treatment’ — $50,000 (2001).

COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY GENERAL’S DEPARTMENT


DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS’ AFFAIRS

A/Prof P. Leedman and Dr A. Thomson, Medicine: ‘Post transcriptional regulation of the androgen receptor in prostate cancer’ — $435,000 (2001-03).

ESPERANCE PORT AUTHORITY


GENOMICS COLLABORATIVE INCORPORATED


GRDC (GRAINS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CORP)

Dr R. Malhotra (external) and Dr K. Siddique, Agriculture: ‘Fellowship – Ascochyta resistance breeding strategies in chickpeas: International collaboration’.

IAN POTTER FOUNDATION


IAN POTTER FOUNDATION


KOREA-AUSTRAELASIA RESEARCH CENTRE (KAREC)


MEDICAL RESEARCH FUND OF WA

A/Prof M. H. Zheng (right) and Prof D. Wood, Surgery: ‘Studies of giant cell tumours of bone’ — $34,000 (2001).

MERIWA

Dr M. Keep (right), Geology and Geophysics: ‘Cretaceous and neogene resactivation and inversion history of the Northern Carnarvon Basin’ — $70,018 (2001-03).

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE WA


MONASH UNIVERSITY


MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Prof M. Grounds, Anatomy and Human Biology and A/Prof N. Rosenthal (external): ‘IGF-I based stem cell therapy and rescue of DMD’ — $960,000 (2001-03).

NATIONAL HEART FOUNDATION

Dr A. Larson, General Practice: ‘Research program for the prevention of CVD using lay educators as community role models’ — $41,520 (2001).

NHMRC

Dr G. Thickbroom, Prof F. Mastaglia, Neuromuscular and Neurological Disorders, and Dr M. Byrnes, Medicine: ‘Neuro-physiological basis for sensorimotor interventions in rehabilitation after stroke’ — $330,000 (2001-03).

Dr J. Pillow, Institute for Child Health Research: ‘Fellowship – Validation of the low-frequency forced oscillation technique as a non-invasive bedside measurement of airway and lung parenchymal mechanics in premature infants’.

A/Prof P. Sly, Institute for Child Health Research: ‘Fellowship – Postviral wheezing in childhood: deregulation of airway tone’.


RURAL HEALTH SUPPORT EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM

Dr W. Stritzke, Dr A. Page, Psychology: ‘Linking clinical psychology training and rural mental health services’ — $39,816 (2001).

RURAL INDUSTRIES RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CORP


UNIVERSITY POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Dr M. Gee, Geology and Geophysics: ‘The origin of Western Australian Komatiites’ — $156,480 (2001-03).

UWA SMALL RESEARCH GRANTS SCHEME

Monday 18 June

ASTHMA AND ALLERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE SEMINAR
‘Initiation of asthma’, Professor Peter Sly, TVW Telethon Institute for Child Health Research. 12.30pm, Joske Seminar Room, Medicine, Fourth Floor, G Block, SCGH.

Tuesday 19 June

LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY FLOORTALK
‘Conserving icons’, Slobodan Binewski. A conservator and practicing iconographer, Slobodan shares some of his knowledge and experience of the art of icon conservation. 1pm, LWAG.

Wednesday 20 June

PATHOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Gene polymorphisms and community-acquired pneumonia’, Dr Grant Waterer, Medicine. 4.30pm, Pathology Conference Room, G14, Ground Floor, M Block, QEIMC.

FRIENDS OF THE UWA LIBRARY TALK
‘Blue gums and fields of red: the D’Entrecasteaux scientific expedition to Australia’, Professor Leslie Marchant, University of Notre Dame. 8pm, Library Training Room, Reid Library.

Friday 22 June

BIOCHEMISTRY SEMINAR
‘Erythropoietin signalling and lineage switching’, Professor Peter Klinken, Laboratory for Cancer Medicine. 1pm, Simmonds Lecture Theatre.

Saturday 23 June

MUSIC OUTREACH SERIES
‘The Life and Music of Beethoven’. An illustrated lecture on the music of Beethoven with a particular focus on the piano music. Hosted by Mark Coughlan, this lecture includes a performance of the well-known Moonlight Sonata. 10am to 4pm, School of Music. Cost: $75 (full); $65 (conc.), incl. GST. For more information, phone Victoria Rogers on 9380 2791.

Tuesday 26 June

LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY FLOORTALK
‘Tom Perrigo: landscape visions and values.’ Tom Perrigo, Director of the National Trust in WA, speaks about our attitudes towards landscape, the way we use and manage the land, and about some recent environmental projects in which he has been involved. 1pm, LWAG.

Wednesday 27 June

ROAD ACCIDENT PREVENTION RESEARCH UNIT LECTURE
‘The emergence of graduated licensing systems in North America’, Professor Allan Williams, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, North America. 1pm, Hew Roberts Lecture Theatre (Nedlands Campus).

Thursday 28 June

RAINE LECTURE
‘Road safety around the world: The past, present, and future’, Professor Allan Williams, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, North America. 5.30pm, Hew Roberts Lecture Theatre (Nedlands Campus).

Friday 29 June

BIOCHEMISTRY SEMINAR
‘Active CO2 and HCO3-transporters in Cyanobacteria and their roles in concentrating CO2 for photosynthesis’, Dr Murray Badger, Biological Sciences, ANU. 1pm, Simmonds Lecture Theatre.

Sunday 1 July

CONCERT
‘Mozart Requiem and Haydn Mass in Time of War’. Performed by the UWA Choral Society and chamber orchestra. 2pm, Winthrop Hall. Tickets: $28 (full); $25 (conc.). Available from Octagon Theatre on 9380 2440.

There will be no issue of UWA News published on Monday July 2.

With few people on campus over the mid-year break, readership is down, so some of our staff are taking the chance to go on holiday.

Deadlines for copy will be earlier than usual for the July 16 and July 30 issues.

Please refer to the copy deadlines notice below … and enjoy the break.

LINDY BROPHY
Positive Feedback for Staff Development

From the 2000 Working Life Survey of UWA staff, a clear majority of respondents felt they had adequate access to staff development. With respect to satisfaction with staff development opportunities, the mean score for academic staff was 2.9, and for general staff 2.8 (in a range from 1 to 4 with 2.5 the mid-point). A positive satisfaction change, of 7 per cent for academic staff and 12 per cent for general staff, had occurred since the 1997 survey. These were some of the highest satisfaction improvement scores noted in the survey report.

Use of student feedback showed a positive satisfaction change since 1997 of 1 per cent for academic staff and 7 per cent for general staff. A workshop for staff called on to administer surveys was introduced in recent years. In 2000 the mean satisfaction score for ‘use of student feedback to improve teaching’ was 2.9 for academics and 2.8 for general staff. 2.9 was the highest mean score for categories listed in this question on the survey.

The Centre for Staff Development (CSD) came a high third behind colleagues and supervisors as a source of assistance in relation to career opportunities for academic staff, with 30 per cent of respondents indicating that they used CSD for this purpose. The situation was similar for general staff, with 25 per cent of respondents indicating that they used CSD for assistance.

Of the staff who had undertaken a staff development activity, 77 per cent of academic staff and 66 per cent of general staff indicated the CSD as a source. Of particular note, the percentage of academics recognising CSD as a source of development opportunities rose 9 per cent between 1997 and 2000. For general staff the figure rose 12 per cent. This suggests that the Centre had a 10 per cent higher profile and service uptake in 2000 compared with the situation in 1997. Consistent with this is the fact that the proportion of staff who indicated neither conference attendance nor any staff development in the previous three years fell from about 25 per cent to about 15 per cent.

“This is very pleasing feedback, at a time when staff are very busy, budgets are tight and a high level of accountability for the effective use of resources is expected,” said Owen Hicks the Director of Organisational and Staff Development Services. “It appears that we are getting quite a bit right for a large number of staff across the University. While good comparative data is difficult to find, communications with colleagues nationally and internationally suggest that we have both a relatively high demand for our services and a relatively high level of satisfaction.”

When comparing areas of staff development undertaken, teaching and learning (identified by 35 per cent) and management and leadership (identified by 19 per cent) are the two most significant areas for academic staff, and were identified 5 per cent and 3 per cent more often in 2000 compared to 1997. For general staff, the most significant areas were information technology (identified by 33 per cent) and communication (22 per cent). No comparable data exists for IT for 1997. For general staff communication was identified 4 per cent more often in 2000 compared to 1997. Also of note was the dramatic increase in identification of occupational health and safety as an area of staff development.

In times of change staff development is sometimes, but not always, seen as critical to ensuring a positive outcome. At UWA it appears that staff development is playing a useful and strategic function at both an individual and institutional level.

CENTRE FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

What’s on Next

Places are available in the following workshops due to close within the next month. Further details are available on the CSD Web page: http://www.csd.uwa.edu.au/programme/ or by contacting CSD on ext. 1504 or csdoffice@csd.uwa.edu.au.

- Legal Responsibilities of Managers and Supervisors
- Staff Selection Skills for Chairs of General Staff Panels

GRANTS FROM THE GENERAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT FUND

Members of general staff may apply for individual grants from the Staff Develop-ment Fund to attend courses and conferences. Guidelines and application forms are available from the Centre and at http://www.acs.uwa.edu.au/hrs/policy/ part06/5.htm. Please note the next closing date for applications is Wednesday 4 July 2001.

**Dr G. Sigley** (left), Asian Studies: 'New times and new tasks: Political campaigns, party governance and the challenge of the market in contemporary China’ — $11,700 (2001).


**Prof. M. Levine** (right), Philosophy: ‘Integrity and self-knowledge’ — $11,000 (2001).

**UWA SMALL RESEARCH GRANTS SCHEME**


**WAGIN WOOLORAMA**


**WA HEALTH PROMOTION FOUNDATION**

**Dr G. Durham**, General Practice and **Ms T. Quinlan** (external): ‘Promotion of physical activity amongst children and young people in Geraldton and the midwest’ — $19,991 (2000).

---

**FOR SALE**

**MAZDA 1999, silver, air-con. 5 spd man. trans., power steering, central locking, tinted windows, immobiliser, radio/cassette/CD player, excellent cond. 1 owner. Any inspection welcome, service history, factory warranty. Call Dan on ext. 8000 or 0414 346 952.**

**TOYOTA CAMRY, CSX, 1996, 2.2L, auto, airbag, ABS, cr/c climate control, cruise control, all electrics (incl. power windows, remote locking), factory engine immobiliser, 100,000km, service history, RAC checked, white, $13,500. Phone Frank on 9380 2781 or freid@ecel.uwa.edu.au.**

**BMW MOTORBIKE 1994 Low k’s. Excellent condition. $7000 ono. Phone J. Gillett 3324 or email jgillett@cyllene.uwa.edu.au.**

**FOR RENT**

**FURNISHED FLAT NEAR UNIVERSITY (Broadway)**: Available for 3 months, July to October. $120 p/w. Call Steve on 9380 3835.

**TWO-BEDROOM furnished character home opposite park on large block. Located in Shenton Park, 5 mins drive to UWA and walking distance to shops, primary school and high school. Available July to December 2001, with possible extension to June 2002. Non-smokers only. Pets OK. $280 p/w. Call Paul on 9380 2738 or paul@physics.uwa.edu.au.**

**TWO-BEDROOM first-floor unit in Claremont. Furnished, security, swimming pool. Walk to shops, public transport, health club etc. Close to UWA. $180 p/w available July to December 2001. Please call Liz on 9380 1841 or email lilyl@cyllene.uwa.edu.au.**

**HOUSE IN LEEDERVILLE, near restaurants etc. 3 big bedrooms, polished floors, modern kitchen, lockup garage in quite street. $240 p/w. Phone Ellen on 9384 6098 after hours.**

**AVAILABLE LATE JULY 2001 TO FEBRUARY 2002. Fully furnished house with 3 bedrooms and study, 2 bathrooms, lounge, dining, family room; pleasant garden, close to river and schools. 8km from UWA on bus route. Suit family on sabbatical leave. Use of car possible. Contact 08 9384 7187 or straton@central.murdoch.edu.au.**

**WANTED TO RENT**

**Professor Ary Bruand from the University of Orleans, France, will be visiting UWA between 27 July and 12 August. He is looking for accommodation for all or part of this time. If you have an empty house or would like to consider a house swap for this period, contact Ary directly: Ary.Bruand@univ-orleans.fr or via Harry Cochrane: cochrane@cyllene.uwa.edu.au.**

---

**NTEU FORUM**

Over the past year, one of the priorities for both UWA and the UWA branch of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) has been issues facing research staff working in the University sector. Issues for research staff include:

- employment security
- career progression
- professional development opportunities

Things are starting to happen for research staff:

- In 2001, UWA NTEU branch has made the special needs of research staff a priority issue.
- Last year, UWA set up a Working Party on Research Staff and its report was released recently. See: http://www.scsc.uwa.edu.au/reg/internal/sec/research-staff/index.htm
- At the same time, a UWA Research Staff Network was formed earlier this year to implement the recommendations of the Working Party; its first aim is to develop a research staff database that can be interrogated using key words as a facility for locating, within the university, research staff with relevant expertise in areas of specific need as they arise.

In view of the increasing focus on issues facing research staff, a forum has been organised for research staff on:

**Tuesday 19 June**

1 p.m., Geography Lecture Theatre 1

Speakers at the forum will be:

- UWA Deputy Vice-Chancellor Alan Robson
- NTEU National President Dr Carolyn Allport

They will address research staff on the following topics:

1. Update on the Research Staff and Employment at UWA: recommendations from the Working Party on Research Staff

2. The activities of the NTEU on the national scene aimed at supporting the work of research staff

3. The WA Premier’s Science Council, established to oversee the expansion and improvement of research capabilities in Western Australia

All research staff are invited to come along to this forum.

---

**FORCED CLOSURE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH REASONS**

**FOR SALE**

**LCII**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>COND</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>EXT.</th>
<th>DEPT.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LCII</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pp</td>
<td>2862</td>
<td>Linguistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LC630**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>COND</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>EXT.</th>
<th>DEPT.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LC630</td>
<td>$75ono</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pp</td>
<td>2862</td>
<td>Linguistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bids should be accepted by Monday 16 July with departments to have first option

---

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