Marcus Beilby’s painting of the Somerville Auditorium … come and see it in colour (story page 11).
While it will be a few months before the Federal Senate Inquiry publishes its report, some critical issues have been exposed by the hearings of the hundreds of submissions.

I have now appeared twice before the Senate Inquiry – first here in Perth as our VC and President, and then in Sydney as the Vice-President of AVCC. A total of 3 hours of interaction!

The stand-out questions which should deeply concern us all in the universities, and not least on our campus, are threefold.

First, when and how is the Commonwealth going to develop an appropriate public policy and related set of funding arrangements, which supports a diverse higher education system? The notion of one single playing field, on which we all operate, pervades public thinking. Tilting the playing field, to assist the least supported – away from the apparently more affluent – is the great temptation! When in truth what is needed is a series of policy playing fields, for different kinds of universities, with different missions, costs, operations, and outcomes.

Next, how do we convince our political masters that our higher education system as a whole is still inadequately funded in its base grants that greater salary indexation is fully justified … and that we still do not invest sufficiently in R & D!

Finally, with regard to our national research-led universities, which compose the Group of 8, what more can be done to establish the reality that we are comparatively slipping behind our international peers?

There has been considerable debate about those figures and how they are to be interpreted for the system at large. But in terms of the G08 alone, the picture is clear.

The Go8 Convener – Professor Gavin Brown of The University of Sydney – has indeed published (on their website and in their “Uninews”) some very revealing data which simply tells its own story. I here reproduce the figures.

Focussing on the funding per student (in US currency as the international norm) and recognising some averaging of infrastructure costs and salaries, the informal table looks like this:

- Go8 Australia ($US per student) 12,341
- UBC and U of Toronto (Canada) 15,376
- Chongnam and Seoul, Korea 17,521
- Russell Group, UK (except for Oxbridge, Imperial and UCL) 21,886
- Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College and University College, London 32,720
- 8 State Universities in USA 35,162
- 4 Universities of Hong Kong 37,965
- 6 Japanese Universities 56,190

And the trend is for the bottom and the top to grow further apart as the Go8 universities lose competitiveness internationally. This is very hard on our universities, our students and our staff. It is also worrying for our nation at large, given that we do the overwhelming basic research for this country, and given the global recognition of the absolutely critical role of intellectual capital in the future.

Because the Go8 universities are the best funded in Australia there is the ultimately worrying notion about that we can manage, or even absorb, a reduction in state funding to benefit the sector at large.

That kind of levelling down would be disastrous for our national research endeavour. The Australian higher education sector rather needs levelling up.

Indeed we need a new Aussie slogan in regard to our research-led universities: “If it ain’t broke, make it better”!
NATIVE TITLE

understanding the issues

An intensive course in the anthropology of native title at UWA attracted lawyers, miners and graziers from across Australia.

The three-day program for fee-paying professionals involved with native title was run during the mid-year break by Professor David Trigger and senior research fellow Michael Robinson at the Centre for Anthropological Research.

“It was an experimental break from convention for the Arts Faculty,” Professor Trigger said. Not a conference and not post-graduate teaching, the unique module examined all the anthropological issues for people working in the field.

“It was so successful, from both the perspective of the participants and our departments, that we are already thinking of running it again,” he said.

It could herald a new Graduate Diploma in Applied Anthropology, made up of intensive three-day modules, designed for working people who want professional development but can’t take long periods of time off work.

“Such a Graduate Diploma could include modules in medical anthropology, multiculturalism and anthropology of corporations, as well as native title,” Professor Trigger said.

Of the 35 people enrolled in the course, about half were anthropologists who needed to hone their skills in the statutory area of native title. The other half were lawyers, employed both privately and by the government, representatives of the mining industry, a valuer, pastoralists and graziers and a member of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC).

Professor Trigger said there had been an increased demand for applied researchers in anthropology since the early 1990s when issues of native title started arising.

“But some of them need extra training in the specific area. There was a definite need for this course. And we’ve been asked to run another one in Queensland, from where some of our participants travelled,” he said.

Michael Robinson, who is engaged by the University to conduct independent research for the Yamatji Land and Sea Council, prepared and presented most of the course.He was able to bring formal anthropological training as well as practical experience with the Council to the intensive course.

“It provided a rare opportunity for all the players in the native title arena to exchange their views. There was some very lively discussion and the feedback has been tremendous,” Mr Robinson said.

The course covered proof of native title; the role of anthropological research; doing anthropological research for native title claims; practical issues; and building anthropological analysis and models of native title.

These course topics also included linguistic issues, alternatives to litigation, fieldwork including genealogical research, the role of anthropology in a legal environment, and legal issues for anthropologists.
Physios find postgrad muscle in new centre

Dr Stephen Edmondston, Dr Kevin Singer and Dr Garry Allison in their refurbished teaching rooms in the old Park Avenue building.

The study of physiotherapy has returned to UWA after an extended absence.

The Centre for Musculoskeletal Studies (CMS), recently established within the University Department of Surgery (UDS), is providing research and clinical training programs for graduates in physiotherapy.

A Masters in Musculoskeletal Studies: Manual Therapy, and a Graduate Diploma in Musculoskeletal Studies: Sports Manual Therapy have answered a need for continuing professional education for physiotherapists who have been attracted to these new models of graduate study.

Associate Professor Kevin Singer, who heads up the new Centre, said the Masters and Graduate Diploma courses would be offered as external study programs with short (three- and one-month) intensive clinical skills training on campus.

The first Masters course, with the on-campus component beginning next month, (September) was quickly over-subscribed. Half the students, who are already enrolled and studying externally, are from overseas.

Classes will be run in the Centre’s newly refurbished rooms in the Park Avenue building, while research students, completing a Masters of Medical Science (by research thesis) and doctoral studies, are working at the Centre’s UDS base in the Medical Research Foundation Building, on the Wellington Street campus of Royal Perth Hospital.

Dr Stephen Edmondston is the Centre’s clinical co-ordinator and will administer the three components of the Masters and Graduate Diploma courses: classroom-based clinical skills training; supervised hospital-based patient management; and biological sciences, including functional biomechanics and anatomy.

An important feature of these courses is the interaction with the Departments of Anatomy and Human Biology and Human Movement and Exercise Science.

Dr Edmondston’s work is supported by Associate Professor Garry Allison, who, with Dr Singer, is also supervising research students. Presently five Masters (by research) and four PhD students are enrolled through the Centre.

“When we first came up with the idea for postgraduate research and teaching in physiotherapy, our cross-disciplinary model appealed to the University,” Dr Singer said.

“We’ve had tremendous support from Professor John Hall, UDS, who has facilitated the development of our Centre, and at all levels of the university during our establishment, particularly from Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Robson, and Professor Lou Landau, the Executive Dean of the Faculty.”

Dr Singer, who trained in physiotherapy in New Zealand, then completed his PhD at UWA’s Department of Anatomy and Human Biology, was elected in 1996 to active membership of the International Society of the Study of the Lumbar Spine, one of only five physiotherapists worldwide to gain membership of this research society.

He said there had been great interest in the Centre and its courses from graduate physiotherapists in the UK, parts of Europe, the Pacific rim countries, North America and across Australia. A measure of this has been the Centre’s Website [www.cms.uwa.edu.au] which has attracted considerable attention since a major international conference on Manual Therapy held in Perth last November.

The main research areas being investigated in the Centre’s Wellington Street laboratories involve spinal deformity assessment in older persons and its association with other risk parameters in osteoporosis, back and neck pain classification, the effects of different exercise regimes on back pain outcomes, and muscle activation patterns in persons with particular disabilities.

Funding for these programs has come from traditional sources including National Health and Medical Research Council, the Lotteries Commission of WA and, recently, Dr Allison has received a grant-in-aid from the University of Vermont for a project on joint position sense of the spine.

The Centre is currently investigating a graduate-entry program for physiotherapy, which would provide opportunities for graduates with appropriate science degrees.
“Lest we forget” is probably one of Australia’s most recognised phrases.

But Fred Alexander Fellow Professor Henry Reynolds (pictured below) says that not all Australians apply the sentiment equitably.

“I often find that the same people who are keen to celebrate the centenary of Federation, who celebrate past achievements and always remember ANZAC Day are often those who tell me ‘to let sleeping dogs lie’ when I write and talk about Aboriginal history,” said Professor Reynolds, a research professor at the University of Tasmania.

“There is a lot of resistance to coming to terms with Aboriginal history. People say ‘let’s forget the past, we must look forward to the future’. They want to remember their (non-Aboriginal) past but they want to forget Aboriginal history.”

Professor Reynolds makes it hard for them.

The History Department’s 2001 Fred Alexander Fellow has written 10 highly acclaimed best-selling books on the history of Australia’s indigenous people and their relationship with non-indigenous Australians.

His latest, An Indelible Stain? was launched while he was at UWA earlier this month. The winner of the 1999 Australian Human Rights Award for the Arts, Professor Reynolds’ books include The Other Side of the Frontier (published in 1990 and sold 70,000 copies) This Whispering in Our Hearts (1992), and Why Weren’t We Told? a frank account of his personal journey towards the realisation that he, like generations of Australian, grew up in a distorted and idealised version of the past. Published last year, it has already sold 25,000 copies.

Born and raised in Tasmania, where he says it is not unusual to have an interest in history, Professor Reynolds’ first academic position was at the Townsville University College.

“I went there intending to teach European history, but I found that the senior lecturer was already doing that and I was told that I would be teaching a new course in Australian history,” he said.

His interest blossomed from there.

“As a teacher, a historian and a writer, I want to teach the community aspects of Australian history that I think are not known or haven’t been explained before. I want to educate on a wider plane than I can just by teaching in universities,” he said.

“But I don’t want to do it in a didactic way. It becomes a bit of problem when you have views that many people think are strange, even heretic. It’s hard work not to alienate people, but to simply tell them that this is what I’ve found out and they may like to consider it.”

He spent a week at UWA giving tutorials and lectures to Aboriginal History students, presenting a staff-student seminar in the Department of History, meeting students at the Centre for Aboriginal Studies and, of course, delivering the Fred Alexander lecture.

In his lecture, History and Reconciliation, Professor Reynolds said that reconciliation was a big and important movement in the 1990s.

“And an important aspect of it was that the Aboriginal people really wanted their history to be fully recognised and understood and paid respect by the non-Aboriginal community,” he said.

He talked about the difficulties of incorporating the Aboriginal view into history because it changed so many things.

“As we saw, the Mabo judgment was about changing history as well as changing law. Something like that can have dramatic consequences.”
Domestic violence, mandatory sentencing, Indigenous people in the justice system, road rage ... they are all in a week’s work for the Crime Research Centre.

Originally set up 12 years ago by Professor Richard Harding to analyse and publish comprehensive crime statistics for Western Australia, the Crime Research Centre (CRC) plays a key role in Western Australia and beyond through its research and other activities in the areas of crime prevention, law reform and correctional practices.

Although the Centre operates under the umbrella of the Law School, it is independent and self-sufficient. Established with a grant from the previous State Labor Government, its work is funded by research grants and contracts, many of them from State Government agencies such as the Department of Justice, the Aboriginal Justice Council, Domestic Violence Prevention Unit and the WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office.

Director of the CRC, Frank Morgan, says the centre is unique in Australia, being a blend of government and university obligations and influences. The centre fulfils many of the functions that are provided separately in other states by government departments and universities.

Senior Research Fellow Dr David Indermaur says that, while the centre is at the cutting edge of law reform, it encompasses a huge range of activities in a rapidly-growing field of criminology and related disciplines.

“We cover every aspect from measurement of crime to treatment of offenders, even extending to what happens to them after they leave prison,” he said.

Before the Centre was established, no single agency or organisation in the State was concerned with research into matters ranging from crime victimisation to the imprisonment of offenders. Information about crime and the public’s response to it had to be pieced together from the annual reports of the police, the courts and corrections. This information mainly served the interests of these agencies and did little to provide a clear picture of crime and the criminal justice system.

The Crime Research Centre was established to fill this void, to provide a more comprehensive picture of crime and to investigate more effective ways of dealing with it. Over 12 years the Centre has grown and extended the ways in which it achieves these objectives.

Amongst many other projects the Centre has an Australian Research Council SPIRT grant, with the Department of Justice, to develop a nationally valid model for forecasting regional crime trends.

The project will investigate crime patterns and attitudes to crime in regional and metropolitan areas and the differences between them. A statistical model will be developed to predict small area crime trends and to facilitate placement of cost-effective local crime prevention programs.
Data gathering for a joint project with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Science on schizophrenia and crime is almost complete.

One of the centre’s biggest contracts for research was funded by National Crime Prevention and the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs. The CRC won the contract for qualitative and quantitative research into young people’s attitudes to domestic violence. It involved a sample of 5,000 young people and the final report is to be released by National Crime Prevention soon.

Another ARC grant is funding research into road rage, driving-related violence between strangers, and crime prevention strategies. This study is another aspect of the centre’s already extensive research into domestic violence, involving Dr Indermaur and research fellows Anna Ferrante and Dr Harry Blagg.

Ms Ferrante was the principal author of a book published by the CRC, *Measuring the Extent of Domestic Violence*.

Dr Blagg’s area of expertise is juvenile crime, restorative justice and Aboriginal contact with the criminal justice system. He is working on a three-year contract with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs to assist the department to fulfil its obligations to Parliament on reporting progress made in implementing the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

Other work involved with Aboriginal communities and the law include a $50,000 contract to evaluate mandatory sentencing. The primary focus of this study will be WA’s ‘three strikes’ burglary laws.

Dr Blagg is also particularly interested in family violence among Aboriginal people and its prevention. Crisis intervention strategies were recently addressed by the CRC by focusing on issues of Indigenous community healing. The family violence approach lends preference to strategies that reduce the involvement of the criminal justice system in favour of indigenous healing options.

This project was commissioned by the Domestic Violence Prevention Unit and two model programs to be run by indigenous people have been developed, in Roebourne and in the metropolitan area.

Dr Blagg is currently working on the first ever study of Aboriginal communities ‘night patrols’.

“They are an initiative of Aboriginal communities, who send out their own people to check on each other,” Dr Blagg said. “It could be a couple of women on a remote station or a more sophisticated system in a big city. There are Nyoongah patrols in Northbridge.

“I’m looking at how they fit into the picture of Aboriginal self-determination and governance,” he said.

The Crime Research Centre is also an important teaching centre, delivering criminology courses for undergraduate law and arts students. In 1998, the Centre set up the Master of Criminal Justice courses. It is not necessarily for law graduates, but designed for any professional working in the justice system, such as employees of the Departments of Aboriginal Affairs and Public Prosecutions and the Ministry of Justice.

The Centre’s teaching activities are supervised by its Director of Studies, Neil Morgan, who is also a senior lecturer in the Law School.

The Crime Research Centre is highly regarded by criminologists internationally. The Centre hosted the 2000 Environmental Criminology and Crime Analysis Conference; it also organised the 14th annual conference of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology and continues to maintain the Society’s web site.

Further information about the Centre, its research interests, publications and staff members can be found at: http://www.law.ecel.uwa.edu.au/crc/
The commissioning of a new $2 million high-resolution electron micro-scope at the Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis focused attention on the cutting-edge research of three very different UWA scientists.

They are working in areas as diverse as locating minerals in difficult terrain, restoring function to damaged nerve fibres, and developing the advanced nano-powder technology that has resulted in a multi-million dollar joint venture.

All three researchers assured guests at the commissioning ceremony that their internationally-recognised research in these areas would not have been possible without the world class facilities the Centre now offered in its customised laboratories.

The Centre currently houses eight electron microscopes used by over 200 researchers, and its new acquisition was described as the State’s most significant piece of research infrastructure.

Professor David Groves, Director of UWA’s Centre for Global Metallogeny, said that the new microscope was an important mining and exploration tool that further enhanced the productive synergy between universities, industry and government. The result was that against world trends, this State continued to make significant ore discoveries in increasingly difficult terrain.

Associate Professor Sarah Dunlop from Zoology, spoke about the microscopes importance to NHMRC-funded research on the damaged brain by herself and Professor Lyn Beazley which has stirred international interest. “The challenge now is to take this research forward into more exciting areas.”

Professor Paul McCormick from Materials and Mechanical Engineering (who is Director of Advanced Nanopowder Technologies, a $12 million joint venture with a world leader in electronics) paid tribute to the vital role that the Centre’s suite of electron microscopes had played in the development of the State’s advanced nano-powder technology industry.

Finding a talent to fit the bill

Do you know of a student whose cultural activities should be recognised?

Now is the time to nominate that talented tap-dancing history student or opera singing biochemistry student for the annual Matilda Award.

The Matilda Award for Cultural Excellence is jointly sponsored by the UWA Guild and the UWA Graduates’ Association (UWAGA). There is $1000 each year for students who excel in some cultural area outside their realm of study.

Last year, the judges could not separate two nominees, and law student Kathleen Foley and the Perth Undergraduate Choral Society (PUCS) shared the award.

Kathleen is a successful debater and public speaker and has been a member of a moot team that won the 2000 Asia Pacific Law Students Moot Competition. She was awarded the Best Speaker in the finals. She has also won national debating competitions, but it is her voluntary coaching of the state schools debating teams over several years that persuaded the judges to award her the Matilda.

PUCS is an amateur choir which has been run by students for 40 years. It has a non-audition policy which encourages people who love to sing but may not feel confident about performing alone. They stage at least three concerts a year, often with the WA Symphony Orchestra.

Nominations for the Matilda Award should be sent to the Guild or the UWAGA by Friday September 21.
A man of boundless ideas and enthusiasm, a global thinker, a champion of unheard views and a mentor to hundreds of postgraduate students, Professor Chris Powell was fondly remembered in two moving eulogies at his recent memorial service.

Professor Ian Dalziel, the Head of the University of Texas node of the Tectonics Special Research Centre (TSRC) and a friend and colleague for nearly 40 years, spoke of Professor Powell’s unique qualities. A tribute from another colleague, Mike McElhinny, Chairman of the TSRC Advisory Board, who was unable to attend the service, was also read.

Collaborating with Professor Powell on the TRSC since 1991, Professor Dalziel came to Perth three or four times a year.

“I have always come with a light heart to this fair city but this time, I crossed the Indian Ocean, from field work in Africa for the TSRC with a heavy heart to a still fair but emptier Perth,” he said.

The two met in the 1960s when Professor Powell was working at Cincinatti and Professor Dalziel was at Columbia.

“In those days, all the action in tectonics was on the ocean floor. Chris’s centre brought tectonics research back to land.”

He said that Professor Powell’s childhood on a station in Queensland and his love of explorers attracted him to geology.

“His work was the best kind of exploration there is today. There is always lots to explore in science. You don’t have to find an unclimbed peak.

“Chris acquired his global approach from his postgraduate work with SW Carey at the University of Tasmania. Carey was a great global thinker and was talking about global tectonics even before anybody even knew about ocean floor tectonics.

With his original approach, Professor Powell rose through academic ranks to become head of the school of earth sciences at Macquarie University, then moved to WA to take up the chair in geology at UWA in 1990.

“The road to the TSRC began in 1991 at a meeting in Hobart where we talked about the supercontinents that once covered the globe. Australia had been a part of the supercontinent of Rodinia and the whole thrust of the TSRC was to investigate that supercontinent.

“When an academic is remembered, some people enumerate his papers and keynote addresses. But in my mind, those are criteria for administrators. I would rather count his original ideas that served as a magnet for established researchers and students eager to work at the cutting edge.

“Chris was always brimful of new ideas. The Mawson Medal from the Australian Academy of Sciences for his outstanding contribution to earth sciences was a great accolade for a passionate advocate of Australian science. He was a natural leader and took delight in telling the US ‘how to do it!’

“His passing is a critical transition for us, but unlike the critical transition that made the dinosaurs extinct, Chris’s research centre will not lay down and die. ‘Extinction? Not the TSRC! No bloody way!’ he would have said.

Mike McElhinny, in his tribute, said that Professor Powell had been a dominating and dynamic research scientist and one of the great names in global tectonics.

“Tributes have been coming in from all around the world showing how much he was respected internationally. I was totally swept along by his enthusiasm and gladly joined in with him in being a sounding board as he put out new ideas one after the other.

“I feel confident that the TSRC will continue to flourish.

“A lot of new and exciting discoveries have been made in the past year or two and these will be revealed at the Rodinia Symposium in October. Papers presented there will form the basis of a memorial volume to Chris. Many eminent researchers from around the world have already agreed to make a contribution.

“This will not only represent a fitting tribute to Chris’s life work but will put the TSRC well and truly on the world map just as Chris would have wanted it.”
Efforts for disabled given thumbs up

UWA has been recognised for its efforts with an EmployAbility award.

The award, from Edith Cowan University, is made to businesses which have employed a significant number of trainees with disabilities through ECU’s EmployAbility program. It was accepted by UWA’s Disability Committee.

This year, UWA has employed five trainees, three in the Faculty of Economics and Commerce, Education and Law, one in the Faculty of Agriculture and one in Human Resources.

A further six people with disabilities have also been directly employed (without a traineeship): two in the Library, two in the Office of Facilities Management, one in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and one in Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.

The Equity Office and the Disability Committee have been working together to put UWA on the path to being an outstanding employer of people with disabilities.

“The focus of the Disability Committee has changed,” said Dr Laurence Spencer, the chair of the Committee for the past eight years.

“It used to be called the Committee for Students with Disabilities but we came to realise that, even though students far outnumber staff, we must also cater for staff and visitors with disabilities,” he said.

There are nearly 600 students at UWA who have a disability. “And that includes only those who have disclosed their disability,” said committee secretary Janette Barrett.

Many of those disabilities are invisible: students could suffer from debilitating asthma, back pain or chronic fatigue. They don’t have to have an obvious visible disability to have their life and studies significantly affected.

Lifts installed around the campus solved some of the earlier disability issues. “But we’re looking at more than just physical access,” Dr Spencer said. “With major changes that are occurring in methods of delivery, there is an absolutely brilliant opportunity to incorporate leading edge inclusive delivery practices, with the minimum of inconvenience.

There are times when all of us have challenging issues to deal with. When personal or work related issues make life difficult, the University has an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) to help staff manage these issues more effectively.

The EAP is a professional, confidential counselling and consultation service. The services of Davidson Trahaire are available FREE to you and your family for up to six sessions a year.

For appointments, please ring Davidson Trahaire on 9382 8100 or if urgent 9480 4847(24 hours). Their offices are located at Suite 11, 100 Hay St, Subiaco. Further information can be obtained at www.admin.uwa.edu.au/sho
Marcus Beilby is one of those artists whom everybody feels they know. It might be because his images are so real that viewers feel they are there, in the painting. It could also be because the artist, a local, has such positive feelings about Perth that are obvious in his work.

Although he is based in Perth, Beilby has not had a local exhibition for about ten years. His major solo retrospective opened last week at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery.

The new exhibition concentrates on pictures of everyday life, in his easily identifiable super-realist style. They include scenes from Perth central railway station, Cottesloe beach and the UWA campus. Somehow his pictures look even more real than photographs.

Many of the paintings have not been seen in Perth before. The exhibition continues until September.

The writings of Dante are keeping Emeritus Professor John Scott in demand around the world.

The Honorary Senior Research Fellow in the Department of European Languages has recently returned from an extensive trip overseas where he lectured and conducted graduate seminars on various aspects of Dante’s Divine Comedy.

One of the world’s leading experts on the classic Italian writer, Professor Scott was a guest at the University of Oregon, the University of Notre Dame (Indiana) and Harvard University where he also gave a successful introduction to Australian wines!

At the University of California at Berkeley, he lectured on The Dialectics of Dialects in Italy.

He examined original Dante manuscripts and carried out other research at libraries in Milan, with a final lecture on Dante at the University of Zurich.

While at Harvard, Professor Scott addressed the Dante Alighieri Society of Massachusetts and attended the annual meeting of the Dante Society of America (of which he is an Honorary Life Member) and a meeting of the Board of the International Dante Seminars.

Professor Scott is one of only 12 life members of the Dante Society of America (himself, one American and 10 Europeans).

A UWA law professor has been appointed a facilitator for the State Government’s Community Drug Summit this week.

Associate Professor Paul Moyle was the successful facilitator of the University’s inaugural ‘hypothetical’ in May. It brought together leading academic, government and community experts to discuss Drugs in the Community: Is There a Quick Fix?

Professor Moyle’s experience in drug-related law and his role as hypothetical facilitator led to the State Government inviting him to act as a summit working group facilitator. The summit, to be held at Parliament House, was a key pledge of the new Labor state government and will draw heavily on the community to contribute to the formation of long term and strategic policies to address the illicit drug problem in WA.

“I believe that our hypothetical foreshadowed many of the topics that will be discussed and debated at the summit. Our wide-ranging discussion covered many issues which have emerged in the background papers for the summit and now they can be debated in the broader community,” he said.

Professor Moyle is one of 100 delegates selected from more than 1000 applications.
What is our role in global affairs?

Dr Samina Yasmeen,
Political Science

It was a crisp but silent winter morning in New Delhi.

India was barely coming to terms with the devastation caused by the earthquake in Gujarat. And we were sitting in a hall in the India International Centre. The Buddhist teacher invited to speak was slowly explaining the meaning of life. “There is no beginning. There is no end. But if we believe in the beginning and the end, then let us make sure that we make a difference when we visit this world. Not a lot of difference. But some difference.” And I was wondering if we, who are said to be living in ivory towers, make any difference in this world? Do we make the world a better place for others to live? I still ask myself the same question. And then images float in front of me. Images of the not too distant past.

The scene is a seminar at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute in Islamabad. I am giving a presentation on Australia’s relations with South Asia. “Maybe, it is time Pakistan ceases to raise the issue of a UN administered plebiscite in Kashmir. Or at least not attempt to drag other states into the conflict with India”, I suggest. The temerity of the one who is born and educated in Pakistan is too much for those present. “How could we compromise on the issue. It is a question of principle,” some of them argue. And we argue for some time. There is no answer!

And now it is the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses in New Delhi. My dear friend, Air Commodore Jasjit Singh, has asked me to speak on the context of Pakistan’s foreign policy. “Pakistani foreign policy is the sum total of the ideas presented and contested by a number of groups. There is no one policy.” I suggest to those who want to know the answers. “But how do we deal with a military regime? How do we talk to a General who torpedoed the Lahore Declaration? How can we trust him?” they ask one after another. “I know the sense of disillusionment. But I know that he is still a progressive compared to others who may come after him. Deal with him now before it is too late”, I insist. “But why?” a young man asks. “Because we are neighbours and what happens in Pakistan affects India as well,” I try to simplify it. At the end of the three hour session, I am not sure if I have managed to convince anyone of them. They are probably not sure either of how objective I am. But at least they are willing to listen to this ‘daughter of Pakistan’ who now lives in Australia.

I am not sure if I change anyone’s mind. In Pakistan or in India. I know for sure that when the Indian government extends an invitation to the Pakistani General, it is not because of what I say in New Delhi. But, then that is not my role. Diplomats are recruited and paid for that. As someone dealing with ideas, I just place my thoughts in front of those who are interested in them. And I hope that I can do it compassionately and objectively. Compassionately, because I come from the region. I feel for the region in ways which others not from the area may not. Objectively, because without that objectivity, I cannot claim to have an intellectual integrity. And also because it is easier for me to be objective from a distance. I can understand the language and use it to suggest ideas for understanding the other.

What does it say about others like me who are born in war-torn areas and then emigrate to peaceful places like Australia? Maybe nothing more than the fact that we can play a role … in not resolving issues directly, but just introducing ideas about how to approach the issues. A lot of us do that in one way or another. It is not always easy. It puts you in a difficult space where you have to hold on your identity and still be fair to all those around you. But then, it is not that difficult too. We are not Kahlil Gibran’s prophets … but we can be the teachers in The Prophet who help others discover what is already hidden in the depths of their souls. But does that answer my question? I am not sure. You have the last word.
LIFT-OUT
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Research Grants & Contracts

AGRICULTURE WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Prof J. Lambers and Dr E. Veenklaas (pictured right), Plant Science, and Dr M. D. Bolland and Dr J. Bowden (external): ‘An ecophysiological analysis of the response to phosphate fertiliser of different lupin species, canola and wheat on phosphate-fixing soil’ — $436,300 (2001-03).

Dr T. Colmer, Plant Science and Dr T. L. Setter, Dr J. Rane, Dr K. N. Singh, Dr B. B. Singh (external): ‘Physiological and genetic approaches for the development of water-logging tolerance in wheat on sodic/alkaline and neutral soils in India and Australia’ — $239,760 (2001-03).

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

ARC LARGE GRANT ADMINISTERED THROUGH CURTIN UNIVERSITY

AUSTRALIAN HOUSING AND URBAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE (VIA CURTIN UNIVERSITY)

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL
Prof A. Pauwels, (left) Faculty of Arts: ‘Investigating feminist languages change in Australia’ — $25,000 (2001).

BATTELLE, USA
Dr P. T. Clement and Dr S. Jyothish, Environmental Engineering, and Dr G. Davis, Mr R. Nelson, Mr M. Truex (external): ‘Development of a design tool for simulating processes occurring at a groundwater contaminated site’ — $454,596 (2001-03).

BOTANIC GARDENS AND PARKS AUTHORITY

DEFENCE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATION
A/Prof J. Pan, Mechanical and Materials Engineering: ‘Characterisation and vibration control of tilting-pad thrust bearings’ — $30,000 (2001-02).

ENVIRONMENT AUSTRALIA / WATER AND RIVERS COMMISSION

ENVIRONMENT AUSTRALIA VIA MURDOCH UNIVERSITY
Dr D. Hamilton, Environmental Engineering: ‘Environmental water requirements to maintain wetlands of national and international importance’ — $6400 (2001).

GRAINS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
A/Prof M. Stevenson, Public Health: ‘Agreement for the engagement of a consultant to the Health Department of Western Australia Public Health Division’ — $25,000 (2001).

KML ENGINEERING LTD

LORIKEET HOUSE

The Matilda Award
FOR CULTURAL EXCELLENCE

AREAS ELIGIBLE FOR THE $1000 INCLUDE:

ARTS MUSIC DANCE DRAMA LITERATURE
PUBLIC SPEAKING VISUAL ARTS

NOMINATIONS FOR THE MATILDA AWARD MAY BE FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS

Applications close Friday 21 September 2001
For further information and nomination forms, contact
The Graduates Co-ordinator, Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association
Telephone: (08) 9380 1336
email: uwaga@admin.uwa.edu.au
or
The UWA Student Guild
Telephone: (08) 9380 2295
email: enquiries@guild.uwa.edu.au

Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association
and the UWA Student Guild present

continued on page 4
Monday 13 to Friday 17 August

NEW MUSIC WEEK
A week-long festival of music from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, bringing together emerging and established composers and performers. This year features the music of Gerard Brophy, the new Music Week 2001 composer-in-residence. For further details, call the School of Music.

Tuesday 14 August

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES
Launch of the Genomics, Society and Human Health program. Lecture by Prof. Grant Sutherland, University of Adelaide, and a panel discussion. 7.15pm, Octagon Theatre.

Wednesday 15 August

BOTANY/ZOOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Pliocene vegetation and climate history in the northern sand plains’, Prof John Dodson, Geography. 1pm, Jennifer Arnold Lecture Theatre.

PHILOSOPHY SOCIETY MEETING
‘Unity’, Graham Priest, University of Melbourne. 4.30pm, Arts Seminar Room 1.33.

FRIENDS OF THE UWA LIBRARY SEMINAR
‘Perceptions and misconceptions as portrayed on nineteenth-century cartography: select examples from Australia and Southern Africa’, Dr Vivian Forbes, Library. 7.30 for 8pm, Library Training Room, Reid Library.

Thursday 16 August

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT
‘Fragments of Gratification.’ A solo piano recital exploring 20 miniatures by Australian composers. 1.10pm, Octagon Theatre.

Monday 20 August

BOTANY SEMINAR
‘The use of charcoal in sediments to indicate fire history in Fitzgerald River National Park’, Dr Cleve Hassell. 4pm, Room 2.14, Second Floor, Botany.

Tuesday 21 August

LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY TALK
‘Jenny Bevan on Geo•Images.’ Jenny will talk about the scientific significance of the images in the latest exhibition, Geo•Images. 1pm, LWAG.

Friday 24 August

ASIAN STUDIES SEMINAR
‘No longer untouchable! The increasing social and political activism of India’s Dalits to attain equality’, Faria Mohsin; and ‘The China factor: impact on Chinese Singaporeans’ identity and the dynamics of Singapore’s regional and ethnic relations’, Sharon Tham. 1 to 2.30pm, G.25, Ground Floor, Social Sciences Building.

Tuesday 28 August

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

Wednesday 22 August

PATHOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Are we on the verge of a paradigm-shift in the selection of cancer patients to receive chemotherapy?’ Dr Barry Iacopetta, Surgery. 4.30pm, Pathology Conference Room, G14, Ground Floor, M Block, QEII/M.

Thursday 23 August

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT
‘The art of Bach.’ Visiting artist Niall Brown presents one of Bach’s magnificent suites for solo cello. 1.10pm, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery.

HISTORY SEMINAR
‘Sources of the self: exploring identity among an ethnic minority— the Cham of the Mekong Delta’. Dr Philip Taylor, Anthropology and Asian Studies. 4.30pm, Postgraduate Lounge.

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.

How to Say ‘No’ and Maintain Customer Service
Writing and Publishing in Scientific Journals
Introduction to WebCT
Stress Management Through Meditation
English as a Second Language: Advanced Speaking Skills
Designer’s Introduction to WebCT

GRANTS FROM THE GENERAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT FUND

Members of general staff may apply for individual grants from the Staff Development Fund to attend courses and conferences. In the last rounds of applications, the following staff were awarded grants:

- Darryl Kirk, Anatomy and Human Biology, Visits to Health Department of New Zealand and The University of Auckland
- Daniel Maddock, Arts Computing Services, QUESTnet 2001 Conference
- Gregory Allen, Biochemistry, Laboratory Design and Technology Conference
- Gregor’ Cole, Chemistry, 5th Australasian Glassblowing Symposium
- Felicia Symonds, Community Relations, 2001 Australian University Alumni Council Conference
- Milly Ingate, International Centre, AVCC Leadership in International Education Programme
- Judith Smith, Library, ALIA Library Technician’s Conference
- Maureen McAllister, Library, ALIA Library Technician’s Conference
- Peter Yen, Microbiology, The International Congress on Tropical Medicine
- Ross Comstock, Publications Unit, Open Publish 2001 Conference
- Jon Stubbs, Student Services, Heads of Student Administration Australia and New Zealand
- Harvey von Bergheim, Student Services, Heads of Student Administration Australia and New Zealand

Staff interested in obtaining more information about the programmes should contact grant recipients directly.

The remaining closing date for grant applications in 2001 is Wednesday 3 October.

Guidelines and application forms are available from the Centre and at http://www.acs.uwa.edu.au/hrs/policy/part06/5.htm.
**UNIVERSITY LODGE**

An esteemed Freemason’s Lodge in WA  Est. 1932
(Nedlands Park Masonic Hall, Broadway, Nedlands)

This Lodge was founded on a membership of University staff and grads. They continue as majority numbers in our Lodge, though others can/do also apply.

If you would like further information, or to talk to or meet with us or fellow colleagues, please contact our Secretary, Arnold Potts: Phone: 9385 9322; Email: PABpotts@aol.com.au

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**Participants required**

for study into the

**ACQUISITION OF COGNITIVE SKILLS**

The Organisational Lab in the Department of Psychology is currently seeking subjects to participate in a study examining the acquisition of cognitive skills.

The study involves two testing sessions conducted on separate weekday afternoons in the main UWA Psychology building. In the first session subjects will be taught to perform a simple computer-based task then given extensive practice on the task until criterion levels of skilled performance are obtained. In the second session a series of pencil-and-paper type tests will be administered to test predictions regarding correlations between different categories of tests and performance on the main computer task at various stages of skill acquisition.

Testing sessions will contain numerous rest breaks and reimbursement for time spent/travel expenses will be provided at $50 per participant.

If you are interested in participating in this study, or would like to find out more information (e.g. the nature of the computer task, confidentiality of results, etc) please contact the chief investigator Mr Matt Huitson on the following:

Email: matt@psy.uwa.edu.au

Work phone: 9380 3639

(9 to 5 weekdays)

Mobile: 0414 294 770

(after hours)

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**World-renowned Australia geneticist**

**Professor Grant Sutherland**

is the guest speaker at the launch at the

**Octagon Theatre**

**Tuesday August 14 at 7.15pm**

Everybody is welcome to attend the launch of Genomics Society and Human Health, the new program to examine all aspects of the human genome project.

The Governor of Western Australia, Lt Gen. John Sanderson, will open the program.

A panel of distinguished scientists, led by Professor Fiona Stanley, will take questions from the audience, following Professor Sutherland’s lecture, The Human Genome: Progress and Prospects.

The program is designed for the whole community to become informed about the human genome project. So tell your friends, encourage your neighbours and bring along your family to the launch and to the many community events over the next 18 months.

To keep up to date with the program, check the Genomics, Society and Human Health Website: www.gshh.uwa.edu.au

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**Get into genomics!**

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**UWA Staff and Graduates are invited to join the Spare Tickets Club for the best on-line ticket prices.**

Visit us today: www.sparetickets.com.au

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**DEADLINE DATE PUBLICATION**

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MEDICAL AND HEALTH RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE FUND
Dr D. Knight, Medicine — $14,285 (2001).
Dr M. Degli-Esposti, Microbiology — $14,285 (2001).

NATIONAL HEART FOUNDATION

INFRASTRUCTURE FUND MEDICAL AND HEALTH RESEARCH
continued from page 1

RURAL INDUSTRIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY
Dr J. Romero, Centre for Water Research: ‘Development of limnological modelling systems for Lake Burrangorang and Prospect Reservoir’ — $1,813,309 (2001-03).

RIRDC (ex AgWest)
A/Prof L. Abbott and Dr D. Murphy, Soil Science and Plant Nutrition: ‘Identifying the benefits of composted soil amendments to vegetable production’ — $90,240 (2001-03).

MELBOURNE ITALIAN-AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CO.AS.IT)

A/Prof L. Abbott
Dr D. Knight

Dr J. Romero

A/Prof K. Jamrozik

Dr D. Murphy

Dr L. Baldassar

A/Prof M. H. Zheng

A/Prof J. Olynyk

Dr M. Degli-Esposti

MELBOURNE ITALIAN-AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY (CO.AS.IT)


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