The stink of rotting pig flesh was coupled with the sight of maggots seething on the decomposing pig …

“And people think I have a glamorous job!” said cinematographer Neil Bromhall.

Neil, film researcher Matthew Wright and producer/presenter Nigel Marven from British documentary film company Image Impact, spent a week with UWA’s Centre for Forensic Science, shooting film for a documentary on how plants and animals can help solve crimes.

Animal Crime Busters (working title only) is being made for Channel 5 in the UK, WNet in the US and international distribution. About ten minutes of the hour-long program was shot at the Harry Waring Marsupial Reserve (a UWA property south of Jandakot) and in the labs at the Centre for Forensic Science.

“We came here to do this part because Ian Dadour has some of the best facilities in the world for producing maggots,” said Neil, who has worked with legendary film maker David Attenborough on the famous Life of Mammals and Life of Plants television series.

Neil and Matthew travel extensively and enjoy their work enormously. “But the best thing about it is working with experts like Ian, who are so professional, so well organised, can arrange anything for you, and do it all perfectly,” said Neil.

They followed the life cycle of the maggots over a week, from the time the pigs were killed at the reserve. “It’s been a challenge to ensure that it’s not too gruesome but still really interesting,” Neil said.

The crew brought more than 250 kilograms of equipment with them for just over a week’s work. They use conventional film rather than digital techniques to capture the images that have made Neil’s work admired by millions of television viewers all over the world.

“Working with David Attenborough is great. He’s a lovely man, very caring. In fact, he loves people so much, I’m surprised he hasn’t done more work with people, choosing to stay with animals,” Neil said.

It takes the film company about ten months to complete an hour-long documentary. Animal Crime Busters could be screened in Australia some time next year, under a different title.
Education Minister Alan Carpenter believes education is the great adventure of humanity, and the Learning Links program is one of the exciting journeys along the way.

Learning Links, an innovative program that links UWA and Shenton College, began six years ago, as a co-operation between Hollywood High School and the University, and, last month, about 30 UWA staff members who have been involved were commended for their work.

It is a unique partnership between staff and students at both institutions, which offers high school students diverse learning opportunities, including hands-on experience in University jobs, from the Grounds to University Press, and learning opportunities with academics and researchers.

In return, through the program, UWA researchers have access to students at Shenton College to further their research work. College staff have also benefited from professional development courses at the Graduate School of Management (GSM).

At a ceremony in the Sunken Garden, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Robson, said he wanted to recognise the goodwill of participants from both institutions, not just the input from UWA.

Shenton College principal, Pauline Coghlan, who was principal at Hollywood High when the scheme began, and who became the inaugural head of Shenton College, said her students were enriched by the involvement with the University, through access to information, facilities and work experience, as well as an awareness of the research process.

“We have had 19 staff go through a management development program with the GSM and the Institute of Management, so it is not just the students who are benefiting from the program,” Ms Coghlan said.

The Minister for Education, Alan Carpenter, presented the awards to both academic and general staff and Shenton College staff.

Mr Carpenter said the program kindled aspirations towards tertiary study in students who would not otherwise have thought of going to university. “I hope we can expand this very successful program,” he said.
The Vice-Chancellor’s teams were victorious at UWA’s annual Festival of Cricket.

On the first day, in a social match, they beat the Guild President’s team and, on the final day, the Premier’s XI went down to a specially selected VC’s XI. In a limited overs match against the students, the VC’s staff team declared at 3/202, with the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Robson, taking one of the wickets. The students, led by Guild president Susie Byers, were all out for 151. Top scorer was Ray Garrett, from the Centre for Indigenous Studies, who finished the match on 45 not out. Other good scores were made by James Flexman (30 not out), John Fernandez (27 not out) and young Jack Bryant (34) from ACS, who was the team’s wicketkeeper, a position he plays for his A-grade Claremont-Nedlands side.

The result was a good omen for the big match on Friday against the Premier’s XI. The VC’s team won by 34 runs.

Man of the match was Theo Doropolous, who had just returned from an Australian under-19s tour of Bangladesh. Theo made 75 runs and, although he didn’t take any wickets, he took two catches in the field.

Former county cricketer Derek Aslett made 45 runs and Zoe Goss, 21 for the VC’s team.

The other woman in the match, Elwyn Campbell, took three wickets for 30 for the Premier’s team, and the Premier himself, Dr Geoff Gallop, took the wicket of State player Peter Worthington (caught at mid-wicket), but still victory eluded them.

A (now traditional) interruption by some student streakers, promoting Prosh, was accepted good-naturedly.

The testing of Sri Lankan off spinner Muttiah Muralitharan on campus made a great contribution to UWA’s Festival of Cricket.

A small but enthusiastic crowd watched biomechanists from Human Movement and Exercise Science record the cricketer’s movements as he bowled his ‘doosra’, with 12 high-speed cameras. They cheered every time he hit the stump and even more loudly when he knocked over the camera mounted behind the stump.

Former West Australian cricket coach and bowling adviser to the Sri Lankan team, Daryl Foster, explained to assembled journalists and television news crews that Muralitharan would not be speaking to them, and that the UWA testing team could not reveal any results.

“Our report on the analysis of his bowling will be sent directly to the Sri Lankan cricket board, who will report to the International Cricket Council (ICC) within six weeks. They will decide what information is released to the public,” Mr Foster said.

It is the second time Muralitharan has been tested at UWA for the legitimacy of his unusual bowling style. Professor Bruce Elliott, head biomechanist at Human Movement, said the cricketer explained to him that he uses far more wrist in his top-spin delivery to create his ‘doosra’, which spins away from right-handers, but he believed it was legitimate.

Bruce Yardley, the former Australian offspinner, watched Muralitharan closely during the testing to ensure that he was using the same action that has become known as his ‘doosra’. Professor Elliott, who is a member of the ICC Human Movement panel, studied the controversial cricketer’s style during complaints about his delivery in 1995 and 1998. He said he classed Muralitharan along with Shane Warne as the best spin bowlers of all time.

The morning after the testing, Muralitharan tossed the coin for the final and biggest match of the Festival of Cricket, the Premier’s XI versus the Vice Chancellor’s XI. He watched play for a while from the Human Movement marquee but declined to take part for either team.

V-C runs away with victories

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Vice-Chancellor’s column

A joint effort to minimise the environmental impact of gold mining has won the collaborators, including UWA, a Golden Gecko certificate of merit.

The Golden Gecko awards for environmental excellence are the highest environmental accolades achievable in WA’s mining and petroleum industries and symbolise a company’s or individual’s commitment to working beyond basic compliance with regulations.

The School of Earth and Geographical Sciences and the Centre for Land Rehabilitation (CLR) were recognised by the State Government Department of Industry and Resources for their research with Barrick Gold and Outback Ecology, on the risk of heavy metals to mine site rehabilitation.

The certificate was awarded to Barrick Gold to recognise their leadership after initiating the first baseline study or arsenic uptake by native plants growing on gold tailings in WA.

The study has increased the knowledge and understanding of the risk of arsenic in the mining environment.

A specialist team from UWA, Barrick and environmental consultants Outback Ecology (including former CLR director, Associate Professor David Jasper), devised a method for the safe containment and rehabilitation of the tailings at Barrick’s mine north of Kalgoorlie.

Detailed knowledge about arsenic, commonly found in association with many gold ores in WA’s gold fields, and the uptake of arsenic by plants was provided by Professor Zed Rengel and PhD student Mieke Quaghebeur.

At a time when our University is facing some of the most significant higher education reforms in decades, it is reassuring to know that we approach these from a position of strength which will allow us to decide our own destiny, rather than have change thrust upon us.

Early in the year, our strength was again reaffirmed by our student intake, confirming that we remain the university-of-preference for the great majority of high-achieving Western Australian school leavers; and only in the last few weeks (in the first of two rounds of graduations this year) we have graduated more than 2,400 students, including more than 70 with higher degrees. We have also been able to report a 20 per cent increase in fee-paying international undergraduate enrolments and a 12 per cent increase in international postgraduate enrolments. These are unequivocal statements of our strength.

The challenge before us is to ensure we position the University to continue to provide for new students in a new era. This means continuing to enhance the student experience to ensure the ‘value’ of a UWA experience is maintained. While we can celebrate the fact that our University – and the Australian higher education system more generally – is well regarded internationally, it needs to be remembered that this has been achieved against chronic Government under-funding over more than a decade especially in core areas of teaching, research and community engagement.

All universities have been forced to look to their strengths. In our case, it has meant a far reaching consideration of the best future direction so that we may continue to grow (offering more high quality opportunities for young Western Australians), while at the same time delivering international-standard teaching and research outcomes in a more competitive and market-driven environment.

Irrespective of any funding decisions over coming weeks, we must continue to impress upon the State and Commonwealth governments that we need more funded places. Our preferred position to achieve growth has always been through publicly-funded HECS places. We are, however, consistently being denied the opportunity to provide enough of these places, as evidenced by our rising cut off scores.

Among the University’s greatest challenges are the need to continue to build our international standing based on international excellence; and to recruit, develop and retain the highest quality staff. These are both areas which will ultimately benefit our students, graduates and the wider State community, and which require substantial additional funding. We need to proactively seek to increase our income from a diverse base.

Through such measures, we can enhance the student experience as well as delivering outcomes which will continue to support the economic and social development of the State and the Nation.

Alan Robson
Vice-Chancellor
Creating community & camaraderie

The Link Week launch brought together two cultures, with some traditional Nyoongar music and dancing and the smashing of a piñata.

Organisers hope that, by the end of the week, it also brought together first year students in need of networks, information and friends.

Link Week was an initiative of the Diversity and Transition Group within Student Services to help build a sense of community on campus for commencing students.

Judy Skene, one of the three coordinators, said that student engagement (with staff and other students) was a critical indicator of academic retention and success. “New students often feel socially isolated and many withdraw from studies without ever speaking to teachers, support staff or academic advisers,” she said.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Seares, speaking at the launch of Link Week, the third week of semester, encouraged students to get involved in the social life of the campus.

“Some of our most famous graduates weren’t necessarily A students, but they made the most of the social facilities here,” she said. “If you know people who are not part of a ‘happy bunch’, reach out to them, because that’s what makes or breaks your time on campus.”

Four faculties responded to Student Services’ encouragement to participate in Link Week. Medicine and Dentistry held morning teas for first year students, along with staff and some senior students, every Friday morning for the first three weeks of semester. Arts held a barbecue lunch for first years, with student advisers, and the School of Music held a pizza evening for their staff and students.

Law had an “Ask us anything about Law” Day, when all staff kept their diaries free and their doors open. And Engineering held an international students’ welcome and a spaghetti building competition for new students.

“Its hard to evaluate how successful it was, but we have had positive comments from staff and some senior students involved, and we all feel it was very worthwhile,” said Leonie Peterson, another of the coordinators. “We intend to evaluate Link Week as part of a comprehensive evaluation of orientation activities in the near future.”

Jayne Brown, the final coordinator, said the idea of Link Week was to extend orientation and Host Day, “to let the students know that you’re still there for them.”

Judy Skene said students could think they had all their questions answered on Host Day, but by week three, they had a completely new set of questions.

During Link Week any staff members with anything to do with first years wore Link Week badges. Student Services staff drove around campus in a decorated golf buggy (the travelling roadshow) handing out information about student services and clues for the Crawley Chase, a ‘treasure’ hunt for information, for groups of first years.

Prizes for the Crawley Chase were awarded at the Link Week Festival on the Oak Lawn on Friday March 19 and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Robson, spoke at the closing ceremony. There was music, food, a bouncy castle and a comedian to celebrate the end of the week and, hopefully, the beginning of a fulfilling time at university for the freshers.

“It was very ambitious, as the first few weeks of semester are always our busiest time of the year, but we think it went really well,” Judy said. “It was fabulous for the first run and, in future years, we can build on the things that worked so well,” Jayne said.

Link Week was funded by a Diversity Initiatives grant, and the organisers hope to be able to secure funding for it in future years.

Would staff and students who still have their Link Week badges please return them to the Diversity and Transition Group at Student Services?
Save the dancing bears

UWA helps rescued cubs
The tenth anniversary of the Leadership Development for Women (LDW) program has created an opportunity for a double celebration.

LDW’s success is reflected in improved promotion and retention for women at UWA who participate in the program.

As LDW starts its anniversary year, two new members of the University executive also make a start, and all staff are invited to an afternoon tea to welcome Belinda Probert and Gaye McMath. Like the LDW program, the gender balance that they, along with Professor Margaret Seares, bring to the executive, is a reflection of a changing and more inclusive culture, developed at UWA over the past decade.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Robson, invites all staff to join him in the Sunken Garden at 3.30pm on Thursday April 29. The afternoon tea will also be the launch of a year of celebrations for LDW, culminating in a graduation and reunion dinner in the new University Club in March 2005.

About 340 women have taken part in LDW with the 13th program about to start next month.

Please RSVP to csd-office@csd.uwa.edu.au (type April 29 yes in the subject line).

Cruelty to wild bears, forced by gypsies in various parts of Asia to dance, has had a lot of publicity worldwide in the past decade.

Zoology graduate Roslyn Lawrence has done more than most to help save the bears.

“I was working with my mum Bridget to raise money (through Australia’s Free the Bears campaign) to send to Wildlife SOS in India, a group that rescues and rehabilitate the bears,” Roslyn said. “I became so interested in their work that I went to their headquarters in Agra when I finished my degree last year, to see if I could help.”

Roslyn said the group rescued all sorts of wildlife, including snakes, which people had poached or simply kept when they had found their way into their homes.

“But they concentrate on saving the sloth bears that the Kalander gypsies have bought from poachers. The gypsies especially like to get cubs and, once they have them, the mother bear is killed.

“They don’t feed the bears properly, if at all, encouraging tourists to give them chips and Coke. Sometimes they give them alcohol to get them drunk, so they fall over and make the tourists laugh.”

Roslyn said Wildlife SOS had an anti-poaching team that worked under cover to rescue the bears. “Some of the younger generation of gypsies willingly surrender their bears, in return for help to educate their children and to set up small businesses. But it’s estimated that there are still 1,200 bears in captivity. The Indian government used to issue licences for the gypsies to own the bears, but a law was passed in 1972 that no more licences could be issued. But there are still plenty of people keeping the animals illegally and treating them cruelly,” she said.

The bear sanctuary at Agra is home for about 60 rescued bears, who can’t be returned to the wild without their teeth and claws. Workers remove the nose rings and nurse the bears back to health.

But until Roslyn’s visit, they were losing a lot of very young rescued bears, because they couldn’t get enough protein into them.

“They just can’t get dietary supplements for animals in India,” she said. “I talked to the vets at the sanctuary about the bears’ diet and care before I went to India, and, with the help and advice of Michelle Rouffignac at the Perth Zoo, I took protein supplements with me. When I came home, after a month there, I went looking for a regular supply, and Zoo Products and Wildlife Carers Supplies donated the supplement, which I then paid to have couriered to the sanctuary.

“I have just recently heard that they have successfully hand-raised seven rescued cubs, using the protein supplement I sent them.”

Roslyn is taking a year off from her studies, to raise money for the bears and another trip to India, before doing honours with Professor Lyn Beazley next year.

She is interested in helping with future projects with the rescued bears, including a genetic analysis to help with the conservation of the species, and a study of the bear’s behaviour. In the world they are thought to live as solitary individuals, but, after rescue, they are gregarious.
A UWA physicist has been chosen to deliver a key lecture at an international conference of the UK Institute of Physics.

Associate Professor Robert Stamps, from the Nanomagnetics and Spin Dynamics Laboratory in the School of Physics, is the EP Wohlfarth Memorial lecturer for 2004.

The Wohlfarth Memorial Lecture is an annual event which is held during the Condensed Matter and Material Physics conference.

This year the conference was organised by the University of Nottingham but held at the University of Warwick. It is the annual meeting of those working in condensed matter physics in the UK. Wohlfarth lecturers are academics whose careers are still on the rise, but who have achieved prominence at a relatively young age.

The overall brief of the Wohlfarth Lecture is that it should be on a topic that fell within the broad interests of Peter Wohlfarth. A/Professor Stamps’ work on domain walls and on fast reversal of magnetisation falls into this category.

Associate Professor Robert Stamps has similar research interests to British physicist EP Wohlfarth.

UniPrint, which has been located off-campus at McGillivray, has moved five of its nineteen staff and all of its services to the Guild Village.

“We had wanted a presence on campus for a long time,” said Ray Horn, manager customer support. But to move all the staff of UniPrint and all of the printing equipment would have required a massive area and there was nowhere on campus that would be big enough.

“An opportunity arose after discussions with the Guild Copy Centre. We have taken over the photocopying and binding services offered by them and refit the shop for our design and customer services. We can now offer a much more convenient service for the whole campus.”

Graphic designers Jane Wright and Graham Harvey said they had already been able to help UWA staff with their ideas and design problems.

“People have come in with their own artwork, done on their computer, and wanting colour photocopies for flyers or brochures. We have been able to offer advice on the artwork and even redo it for them, so the final product is more professional,” Graham said.

“Customer’s have come in with just an idea for a poster or sticker when they wouldn’t have driven out to McGillivray to talk to us,” Jane said. “They like to see what we do, to watch us as their ideas take form on the screen. Some people don’t realise that we’re professional graphic designers, so we can design everything from newspaper ads to book covers,” she said.

Ray said that being here on campus enabled them to solve design and printing problems more easily. “People can come down to see us or we can go to them. The move was essential to improve UniPrint’s services to the University community.”

UniPrint designs and prints the alumni magazine Univeiw, prints UWANews, designs and prints books and covers, faculty newsletters and publications, brochures, posters, fliers, reports, stationery, course readers and advertisements. They do all the design and printing work for Expo, including the comprehensive magazine-style program that has a 430,000 print run and is distributed through The West Australian in August.
One of the many strings to the bow of Deputy Vice-Chancellor Margaret Seares is her expertise in music and music education.

Professor Seares has recently agreed to chair the steering committee for a national review of school music education.

The Federal Government announced last month that it would commission a review to investigate the quality and status of music education in Australia’s schools and how both could be increased for the benefit of all students.

A survey by the Music Council of Australia found that as few as 23 per cent of government school students may have access to music at school, while 87 per cent of respondents believed that every child should have the opportunity to study music. Senator Rod Kemp, Minister for the arts and sport, said the review would tell the government “where the gaps are, what we are doing right with music education and how we could do it better.”
From tribal artefact to work of art — electronically

Geoffrey Bardon, a teacher posted to an Aboriginal settlement in central Australia in the 1970s, created a turning point in Aboriginal art.

He tried to get the local Aboriginal children from the Papunya settlement to create traditional paintings on paper. They weren’t very interested, but a couple of tribal elders were working as gardeners at the school and saw what Geoffrey was trying to do. They asked if they could do a traditional painting on a wall of the school and teach the children to paint.

Until then, most Aboriginal paintings in central Australia were done simply on the ground or on Aboriginal people’s bodies. Some contemporary artists became interested and took acrylic paints and canvas to Papunya, which the Aboriginal artists loved. Geoffrey Bardon was able to sell their paintings to tourists—the first income some of the locals had ever had.

Soon, some big art collectors, including Janet Holmes a Court, started buying contemporary Aboriginal art, and the Papunya movement took its place in the 1980s, as the turning point for Aboriginal art, from tribal artefact to work of art.

Dr Ian McLean, a senior lecturer in the School of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts, tells the story of Papunya to explain why his electronic archive of the reception of Aboriginal art in Australia starts in the 1980s.

“Before then, only anthropologists were interested in Aboriginal art, and only then as artefacts,” he said. “It wasn’t until the Papunya movement that contemporary Aboriginal art started to be recognised as art, and it moved out of the museum and into the art gallery,” said Dr McLean.

Since then, art critics and academics have been writing about Aboriginal art, studying it, analysing it, reviewing it. These academic publications will be brought together in Australia’s first comprehensive electronic data base bibliography.

The UWA-supported project will then lead to Dr McLean jointly producing a book on the reception of Aboriginal art in the late 20th century. He is also working with Dr John Stanton, Director of UWA’s Berndt Museum of Anthropology, on interpretations of Aboriginal art by anthropologists, from early in the 20th century. This bigger project is funded by an Australian Research Council Discovery Grant.

Be guided by the little green book

It may not have the impact of Mao’s Little Red Book, but the University’s little green book also has guidelines for how to live your life.

Think Green is a new publication from Environmental Services, part of the Office of Facilities Management. It is a sustainability guide and opens with a quote from academic David Orr, an environmentalist from Oberlin College, Ohio:

“I propose a different ranking system for universities based on whether the institution and its graduates move the world in more sustainable direction or not … are the graduates of this or that university suited for a responsible life on a planet with a biosphere?”

It sets the tone for ideas on how to save energy, reduce waste, make the most of recycling, and use water wisely. It even suggests having indoor plants in your office to absorb pollutants from office material and machines, to release oxygen and the increase humidity in air-conditioned areas. There is a section on alternative transport and details of bus routes to and from the University, bike security information and car pooling.

Think Green is available, at no cost, from environmental services manager, Gordon Walsh (6488 3534 or gwalsh@admin.uwa.edu.au) or environment and transport officer, Naomi White (6488 7391 or nwhite@admin.uwa.edu.au)
UWA Triathlete and PhD student Jeremy Drake will represent Australia in the world university games.

Jeremy came second in the Australian University Games triathlon in Mooloolaba, Queensland last month. The even doubled as the Australian championships so Jeremy earned two silver medals as well as entry in the world games.

He completed the course – 1,500km swim, 40km cycle and 10km run in less than two hours, surprising himself and his coach, Human Movement lecturer Dr Grant Landers. Jeremy won a UWA sports scholarship earlier this year.

Dr Landers runs the UWA triathlon club, with about 50 members, and trains an elite squad of about ten high performers. He spends about 30 hours a week with them, during which the triathletes do five swim sessions, three run sessions, four bike rides and work out in the gym.

“Triathletes often do a lot of training by themselves, and set personal goals for themselves;” Dr Landers said. “But we have tried to build a squad atmosphere here, to engender some club spirit, so the athletes don’t feel they have to do it on their own.”

Students from other Perth universities are part of the club, whose members range from high school students to people in their 50s. They have recently started children’s triathlon training, as part of the Uniswim program. When they compete, they all wear UWA colours.

Jeremy Drake is working on his PhD under the supervision of Professor Dharmarajan in the School of Anatomy and Human Biology. He is looking at the part cell death plays in ovarian cancer. Dr Landers’ PhD focussed on triathlon training.

The Lifestyle that is UWA

that begins by acknowledging their weaknesses. Weaknesses reminds me of the prayer admitting our own manifold sins and wickedness. The prayer goes on to say ‘and there is no health in me’; but I reject that model too, of guilt and punishment. None of us is perfect, and the university is a healthier place when we respect everyone else’s differences and different contributions and don’t dwell on their weaknesses.

Nevertheless, I have to express my gratitude to all of you who have known me well enough to see my deficiencies, who have continued to respect me and my arguments despite those deficiencies and weaknesses; despite the things that I have done that I ought not to have done and the things that I have not done that I ought to have done. Who have shown enough respect of difference to let me do my different things.

I am also grateful to all who respected and acknowledged whatever you might have thought were my strengths. That in many ways might have been the greater challenge, because I produced a lot of policies, reviews, opinions, and decisions, and delivered them at times with some opinionated drive. You may not have agreed with them, but you respected them.

Respect I suggest is at the essence of the lifestyle we call this university.

It now doesn’t seem a sad thing to be leaving, because all the forms of respect, when added to the interest in absolutely everything, which were what began it all in 1951, should see Helen and me and our friends and colleagues through quite a few more years.
The Lifestyle that is UWA

I would like to reflect on just a few aspects of the many happy years I have spent here.

Let me begin with ‘attitude’, in regard to which I will attempt to recount two remarks made some years ago.

First is a remark about attitude made to me by Stephen Houghton, now a professor of education, when he was a lecturer who I had signed into his job when I was executive dean, and to whom I gave two grants from my discretionary fund to launch him onto his extremely successful ‘lifestyle’.

He said “I don’t say to my kids that I am off to work, I say I am going to the university”. I needn’t explain to you the crucial difference between what Stephen was saying to his kids and what he was not saying.

A second comment was made by Bob Street when he retired from the Vice-Chancellorship. He said “I am amazed and gratified that for so many years my universities were willing to pay me well for doing what I loved doing. My family needed to live, but apart from that I would have done it for nothing”.

It was no empty statement. Bob returned after retirement and worked intensely on some of the university’s major research grants, without direct payment for his work.

Third is an observation made just the other day by my wife Helen. She said “For many of you, your time at this university has not been a career, it has been a lifestyle”.

How true that is for me. I have never had any particular ambition for a career ending with some specific appointment, or for any particular salary, or for any particular recognition. I find it awkward to be thanked or praised and even more uncomfortable to sell myself to a selection committee. I tried to avoid applying for anything that involved an interview and preferred to respond to requests for me to do something. I was living a lifestyle, and aiming at making a contribution to my students, to my colleagues, and to the university as a whole.

My love affair with this university probably began in 1951, when I walked from our wooden shack in Bassendean to the railway station, took a train to Forrest Place, walked through Plaza Arcade past Ignaz Bieder’s stamp window to St George’s Terrace, caught a trolley bus past the rich smells of the brewery, and passed through the beautiful campus to play my first cricket match for a UWA team. The iconic beauty of the gardens and buildings, the promise of contact with powerful intellects, the opportunity to debate anything and everything — this lifestyle that Helen was referring to has many aspects. I have time to mention but one.

So, as I leave, I ponder on one attribute that is common among all the people whose contribution to my lifestyle that is being here at this university has been most appreciated.

I could have chosen ‘excellence’, I could have gone to the university mission statement and found a generic skill.

But I am choosing the word ‘respect’. It is a word that captured much of the ‘values’ that my working party developed for the WA school curriculum — self-acceptance and respect for self, respect for education and understandings, respect and concern for others, and respect for the environment. It is respect for others that I am drawn to today.

Instead of respect I might have erred and chosen ‘tolerance’. But tolerance of other people is an unfortunate deficit model
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Tuesday 20 April

ANATOMY AND HUMAN BIOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Operation Rainbow: helping children with clefts in the Philippines’, Mr David Chong, 1pm, Room 1.81, School of Anatomy and Human Biology.

UWA EXTENSION LECTURE
‘What kind of society are we becoming?’ Hugh Mackay, psychologist, social researcher and writer. The most powerful messages coming from contemporary Australian society appear to contradict each other. Personal wealth is increasing but so is homelessness. Our cultural diversity is a shining example to the world, yet many Australians still seem to regard it as a fatal flaw in our national character. Hugh Mackay will pick his way through these and other contradictions. He finds evidence of a fundamental shift in our thinking; less resistant to change, more prepared to take control of our own lives and more interested in reforming communities. Booking essential: standard $27; students $15. 7.30pm, Octagon Theatre.

Wednesday 21 April

PSYCHOLOGY SEMINAR
‘Binocular vision for 3-D motion perception’, Julie Harris, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 4pm, Psychology North Block, Room 2.33.

THE RODNEY PRIDER TRAVEL AWARD LECTURE
Graeme Miles, a doctoral student, 2004 Teaching Intern in Classics and Ancient History, and last year’s winner of this award, will give a lecture on his travel, his experiences and the personal and academic benefits he has derived from this opportunity. 6.30pm, Fox Lecture Theatre.

Thursday 22 April

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT
Defying Gravity Percussion Ensemble, featuring the world premiere of Hyde by Paul Tanner. 1.10pm, Octagon Theatre.

Friday 23 April

PHILOSOPHY SOCIETY MEETING
‘Hume’s anti-rationalist argument: reason, morality and motivation’, Dr Norvo Lo, La Trobe University. 4.15pm, Arts Seminar Room 1.33. An abstract can be found at http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/PhilosWWW/program.html.

MARKETING SEMINAR
Presented by James K. Ho. Non-English-speaking Internet users are already outnumbering English speaking ones. And with many non-alphabetic languages, word processing remains a hindrance to Internet use. Broad issues in overcoming such barriers, as well as a specific approach to facilitate multi-lingual B2B communication is discussed and demonstrated. It is shown that such development is critical to enable SMEs worldwide to compete in the global, digital economy. 11am, Resource Room SS 2233, 2nd Floor, Social Sciences South Building.

MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATIONS SEMINAR
Presented by Dr Kevin B. Lowe. Leadership research has focused considerable attention on identifying those leader behaviours and other contextual factors that predict one or more criteria of interest. Scholars often characterise leadership as a complex composite of behaviours in elegant literature reviews and passionate discussion sections but seldom investigate these conceptualisations with the bi-variate and multivariate techniques they employ. The objectives of this research are to offer a schema to conceptualise leadership more holistically, establish the importance of a gestalt view of leadership; and empirically examine the occurrence, properties and consequences of leadership gestalts. 12noon, Case Study Room 2, Graduate School of Management, Myers Street.

Thursday 29 April

FREE LUNCHTIME CONCERT
Esther van Stralen (viola) and Anna Sleptsova (piano), Dimitri Shostakovich: Sonata for Viola and Piano Op 147. 1.10pm, Octagon Theatre.

Friday 30 April

CLIMAR SEMINAR
‘Health benefits of legumes: the evidence’, Dr Jonathan Hodgson; ‘Promoting the health benefits of legumes’, Dr Nancy Longnecker. 4pm, CLIMA Seminar Room.

MARKETING SEMINAR
Presented by Professor Gary L. Lilien. New developments in marketing management support systems have provided the marketer with a growing supply of tools that can enrich decision making. Professor Lilien describes the concept of marketing engineering, an approach that applies analytic and systematic methods to solving marketing decision problems. He illustrates how the digital networked economy is inducing significant structural changes in how models are developed and deployed, who uses marketing models, and ways to assess the value of such models. In summary developments that further encourage the adoption of the marketing engineering concept and tools both for teaching and for improving the practice of marketing decision making are discussed. There are several illustrations of the successful application of marketing engineering and how these approaches can be directly applied to a range of marketing problems today. 11am, Law Lecture Room 1 (G.31), Law Building.

What’s On Next

Places are still available in the following workshops:

MANAGING YOUR CAREER
Applying for an Internal Position: Practice in Facing Selection Panels (Administrative Level 5)
11 May, (1:45 to 3:30pm) Closes 20 April
Applying for Salary Progression
10 June (9 to 10:30am) Closes 20 May

GETTING THE BALANCE RIGHT
Stress Management Through Meditation
18, 25 May 1, 8, and 15 June (12 to 1pm) Closes 27 April

DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES
Successful Networking
18 and 25 May (9 to 12:30pm) Closes 27 April

SELECTION THE BEST
Staff Selection for General Staff Panels
11 May (9 to 4:40pm) Closes 20 April

LEADING THE WAY
Taking the Lead
26 May (9 to 10:30am) Closes 5 May
1, 8, and 15 June (9 to 1pm) Closes 5 May

PROJECT MANAGEMENT
Introduction to Project Management 4: Project Evaluation
2 June (9 to 3pm) Closes 12 May

SUPERVISING POSTGRADUATES
Supervising Postgraduate Students — Supervisor Student Relationship
10 May (12 to 2pm) Closes 26 April

For further information and registration for these or other workshops, see http://www.csd.uwa.edu.au/programme/0104/workshop.asp