Behind contemporary Australian society and culture lie long European histories.

And UWA has now become the hotspot in Australia for coordinating research into these histories.

The Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences has recently been awarded lucrative Australian Research Council funding to set up a Network for Early European Research (NEER).

A total of $1,600,000 will be paid to ARC NEER over the next five years, to build on Australia’s existing international reputation for innovative, interdisciplinary research in the field.

The chief investigator for the network is Dr Pamela Sharpe, a QEII research fellow in the School of Humanities. Dr Sharpe gave birth to a daughter within days of the grant being announced, so her deputy, Professor Chris Wortham, from the School of Social and Cultural Studies, talked to UWAnews in her place.

The handover from Dr Sharpe to Professor Wortham, each of whom are from different arts disciplines, is concrete proof of the interdisciplinary nature of the network and affirms its aims, helping to explain why the group of scholars centred at UWA won the grant from a very competitive field.

“Long before most other sectors of the University were becoming interdisciplinary, the arts were well entrenched in the practice,” Professor Wortham said. “The application for the network didn’t come from nowhere. There has been a lot of work by many people over many years in research groups, community outreach, academic societies, publications and joint degrees that have paved the way for interdisciplinary studies and very wide networks both within Australia and overseas,” he said.

Back in the days of discrete departments, Professor Wortham (English), together with Professors John Tonkin (History), Lorenzo Polizzotto (Italian) and other colleagues in the Faculty, initiated an interdisciplinary Master of Philosophy by coursework in medieval and Renaissance studies. This degree was built upon the community involved in the establishment of...
the Perth Medieval and Renaissance Group (PMRG), which was founded at UWA 23 years ago. PMRG has been a powerful and vigorous group, both across disciplines at UWA and in the wider community.

Honorary Research Fellow Dr Anne Scott, one of the principal workers behind the successful network bid, has in more recent times established a flourishing group called Round Table, for post-graduate students and recent graduates and with some input from members of academic staff. Like PMRG, Round Table is dedicated to medieval and early modern studies.

The national publication Parergon has been based at UWA since 1996 and is currently edited by Associate Professor Andrew Lynch. It has a large interdisciplinary editorial committee which includes many members of the Arts Faculty. Parergon is the journal of the Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies.

Practical interdisciplinarity is alive and well in the Faculty. Academics from different disciplines in the Faculty share courses. They also give guest lectures in each other’s schools and discipline areas, and work together to publish books and articles. “These existing networks have given us the basis of interdisciplinary co-operation that is so essential in organisations like NEER,” Professor Wortham said.

The Network will be a dynamic resource for enhancing Australian research into the culture and history of Europe between the fifth and 19th centuries, through a program of dedicated conferences and symposia, new digital resources, publications, and national and international partnerships.

The grant will fund several fractional positions, including Dr Sharpe’s, as chief investigator and network convenor, an administrative officer, and a digital services manager, as well as research and computing support.

NEER will fund annual symposia and biennial conferences. Digital initiatives will include a database of Australian researchers in the medieval and early modern period and a digital library of early European artefacts, artworks and manuscripts in Australian collections. A Web repository will also be established to publish articles and conference papers, bringing together research interests in music, literature, history, languages, philosophy, fine arts and other areas of enquiry.

UWA is the nerve centre, but academics from a dozen other Australian universities are involved, as are researchers from New Zealand, Italy, France, UK, USA and Germany. Large-scale cross-disciplinary investigations will be co-ordinated with these individual participants and with cultural heritage institutions as partners. Our interstate partners include state libraries and The Bell Shakespeare Company. At the local level, the UWA Press, the Fremantle Maritime Museum, St George’s Cathedral Education Centre and the Woodside Valley Foundation have become partners in the enterprise.

“There has been a lot of work by many people over many years laying the foundations for this network,” Professor Wortham said. “But we could not have put the bid together without the exceptionally hard work of Pamela Sharpe, Anne Scott and Dr Toby Burrows, from the Scholars’ Centre in the Library. We should also acknowledge the extraordinary support of our dean, Professor Anne Pauwels, who has been an absolute tower of strength for us all, and that of A/Professor Terri-ann White from the Institute for Advanced Studies, who has an ongoing role in the busy daily life of ARC NEER.”

NEER’s aims

- to provide Australians with long perspectives on the formation of their society, culture and history
- enrich the cultural understanding of contemporary Australians
- bring the holding of Australian art galleries, museums and libraries to a global audience
- increase the international recognition for Australian research in an international field
An unusual birthday present resulted in the first graduate from UWA’s Albany Centre receiving her degree last month.

Cherry Barnett’s 50th birthday coincided with the opening of the Albany Centre and she decided that she would give herself the gift of further education, and start an Arts degree.

She was one of the founding students and became the first student to complete all her units in Albany. Other graduates from Albany have completed their degrees at the Crawley campus.

“It is a great gift having UWA in Albany,” Cherry said. “Our tutorials had an awesome cross-section of the community: people with different life experiences and life perceptions. It gave all of us a great respect for diversity, while, at the same time, we all found we had some things in common. The tutorials were one of the best things about the whole UWA Albany experience.”

Cherry is a school teacher who lost her permanency when she left the Education Department to raise her children. She has three adult sons, one a graduate from UWA and the other two current UWA students.

“I have always wanted to teach Aboriginal children but I knew I wasn’t going to get the chance without having a degree,” said Cherry, who describes herself as a two-year-trained teacher.

“I am extremely well connected with the Aboriginal community. I’ve grown up with Aboriginal people and they want me to be able to teach their children. I already tutor some of the high school students and have worked with young Aboriginal children with glue ear, and also with Aboriginal parents, helping them to understand about the expectations that schools have of their children.”

Cherry majored in anthropology and English. “When I first started, there weren’t enough students to make up an anthropology class, so I studied psychology during my first year. I hadn’t really wanted to, but now I realise how valuable it was and how significant it is for education. It has had me revisiting the science of learning,” she said.

After taking a semester off to travel overseas, and working part-time during all her studies, Cherry completed her degree in June.

“I have had fabulous support from all my lecturers and the IT staff. And the resources in Albany are fantastic. I came up to Perth last year and visited the Reid Library and, instead of making me wish I was studying in Perth, it made me even happier with what we have in Albany,” she said.

Director of the Albany Centre, Barbara Black, said she was delighted for Cherry that she was the Centre’s first full graduate. “Cherry was one of the inaugural students and nobody knew then that she would be able to do her whole degree here. She has been studying while the degree has been built around her! Cherry has worked really hard and I congratulate her on achieving her degree.”

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**African history and asthma research**

Two academic doctorates were presented at the recent graduation ceremonies.

Penelope Hetherington’s publications submitted for examination covered two separate but related fields: African history (in particular women in South Africa, family formation, demographic transitions and circumcision controversies in East Africa) and gender, family and children in Australia.

Dr Hetherington is an honorary research associate in the School of Humanities.

Timothy Jones has made a major contribution to the study of low blood glucose associated with Type One diabetes. Type One diabetes is an increasingly common chronic disease in the young. It has now been conclusively demonstrated that blood glucose control is a major determinant of the long-term complications of the disease. Improved control of diabetes is associated with the increased severity of low blood glucose, or hypoglycaemia, and this has emerged as a major limitation to attempts to improve the outcome for insulin-dependent diabetic patients.

Dr Jones’ thesis presents a series of closely linked investigations into pivotal facets of the hypoglycaemia problem. He puts his research into practice at Princess Margaret Hospital.
Our University has a strong tradition of promoting, recognising and rewarding excellence at all levels within our community. At the same time, we believe the principles equity, access and diversity are powerful tools that can help ensure a fairer, more representative and more inclusive future for our community.

Consistent with this tradition, Senate’s recent decisions relating to new directions for undergraduate enrolment have been underpinned by a commitment to provide an expanded suite of scholarships and awards through which we can achieve both sets of goals.

In this new operating environment we need to continue to build our comprehensive portfolio of undergraduate scholarships and awards to support capable students, especially those experiencing economic, educational or social disadvantage.

For example, a major new scholarship scheme in 2005 will offer UWA SWANS (Scholarships to Widen Access for New Students) to commencing students. Senate has supported the establishment of an initial 200 SWANS scholarships valued at $2,000 per annum for the minimum normal full-time duration of a course — awarded on the basis of academic achievement and past educational disadvantage.

Also, this year for the first time — in partnership with the Fogarty Foundation, a philanthropic trust established by great UWA supporters Anne and Brett Fogarty — the University awarded four new regional scholarships (which allowed exemption from the student contribution and provided a living allowance); and next year, this program will be expanded to include city students as well.

Also this year we implemented another new scheme — the Commonwealth Learning Scholarships — which is open to commencing and continuing full-time undergraduate (including honours) students, who demonstrate financial disadvantage.

All these in addition to the University’s annual Excellence Awards, where each high school in Western Australia has the opportunity to nominate an outstanding student; the UWA Diversity and Merit Awards; the Vice-Chancellor’s Awards of Distinction; and the Group of Eight scholarships.

It is our aim to continue substantial expansion of our scholarship portfolio, reinforcing our commitment to equity and access for academically talented students who can benefit from studying at our University, irrespective of their backgrounds.

Alan Robson  
Vice-Chancellor

The Roman Archaeology Group Inc is the newest way to support some of the oldest cultures in the world.

The group was formed at UWA last month and held its first meeting on September 11. It is part of a more general effort to support the Humanities in general and Graeco-Roman civilization in particular.

Explicitly, the Group aims to support, promote and develop Roman Archaeology in WA in education (from schools to universities) and amongst the interested community at large. About 4,000 copies of its first newsletter were recently distributed, together with an invitation to become a subscriber and supporter.

Although it involves UWA staff and students (chair, secretary and treasurer), the committee includes the director of a mining company (deputy chair), a lawyer (editor of the newsletter), a speech and drama teacher (membership secretary) and a judge.

If you would like to know more about the group, call Sheree in Classics and Ancient History on 6488 2165 or email her, sheree@arts.uwa.edu.au

Please note the following deadlines for editorial material for the remaining issues of 2004:

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The history of your family, your neighbourhood or your workplace is as important a part of the fabric of WA culture as all the official and public history.

But the Historical Encyclopaedia of Western Australia (HEWA) can’t fit them all in.

So UWA Press, which is publishing the encyclopaedia, will put them on the book’s website.

Virginia Rowland, research associate for the encyclopaedia project, said that, as soon as the project was announced, in 2002, people began sending in their family histories and local anecdotes.

“They are wonderful stories, but we just can’t use them in the encyclopaedia, which will be documenting the public life of the State,” Virginia said. “But we don’t want these great stories to be lost, so we have set up a competition to encourage people to share their histories.”

People with factual stories about Western Australia are invited to send in stories of no more than 1,000 words, about incidents, places, people, occasions or things. It could be a story that’s a hundred years old or it could have happened last year.

Adults and children are invited to send their historical stories electronically. They must be about WA, be factual and previously unpublished.

From the Encyclopedia:

At Youanmi in 1932. This could be the first private swimming pool in the state utilising salty water pumped up from the underground during mining operations.

Photographer: Stuart Gore

The best histories will be included on the HEWA website. Editor of HEWA, Dr Jan Gothard, pointed out that there were no space limitations on the website, as there were in the book. “If we receive more than 100 really good stories, then all of them will be posted on the website,” Virginia said.

All writers whose entries are accepted for publication on the website will receive a voucher for a 20 per cent discount on the price of the Encyclopaedia, direct from UWA Press. The writers of the best child’s and adult’s entries will each win a free Encyclopaedia.

Budding historians have until January 31, 2005 to submit entries by email (to vrowland@arts.uwa.edu.au) or on a 3.5” disc or CD, labelled with the author’s name, age and school (if a student) and contact details.

In the meantime, Virginia, Jan and Narelle Thorne, who is coordinating the Indigenous information, are hard at work in the Arts building. They estimate they are about halfway through the project, which will be published in 2006.

The Encyclopaedia, funded by a WA Regional Initiatives Scheme, will have about 1,000 entries in its 600 pages, a total of about 500,000 words.

“It is truly a work in progress,” Virginia said. “The first entry arrived more than a year ago, in August last year (from local writer Ken Spillman) and, since then, we have processed work from more than 450 writers, refereed by about 70 experts from many different areas. We set up working parties for all the different areas we wanted to cover, but still we are finding new ones.

“Only the other day, somebody told us about a rare stamp issued in WA in 1855. It was a 4d blue, with one frame printed upside-down on the sheet. Until then, we had not had an entry for stamps. So we created one,” she said.

Virginia, who is a history graduate from UWA with a graduate diploma in library studies, commissions the entries, reads them, sends them to referees, advises on changes, and keeps the whole project rolling along. Narelle, who works closely with Jill Milroy, Head of the School of Indigenous Studies, does similar work with Indigenous people, but also spends time encouraging people who say they can’t write, and convincing them that what they have to say is valuable.

“There are a lot of people very excited and enthusiastic about the project, and they’re not all academics,” Virginia said.

Jan Gothard keeps everybody on track, and Dr Jenny Gregory, Director of both UWA Press and the Centre for Western Australian History, is the editor in chief.
A drug already being used to treat arthritis could help to relieve the symptoms of muscular dystrophy.

Professor Miranda Grounds’ muscle research group in Anatomy and Human Biology used simple cell biology to test strategies to protect damaged skeletal muscle from necrosis (death of tissue).

They have come up with Remicade, a highly specific anti-inflammatory drug, which is already in use in Australia, revolutionising the treatment of Crohn’s disease and some forms of arthritis, including rheumatoid arthritis in children.

“I have been working in the field of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) for 30 years and this is the most promising discovery we have made,” Professor Grounds said.

“It is not a cure, but it is a meaningful and important step towards reducing the effects of the condition.”

DMD is a debilitating terminal childhood disease that produces devastating muscle degeneration. It affects one in every 3,500 boys.

Professor Grounds said that while medical research around the world was focussing on genetics, their discovery had come from an understanding of cell biology.

“Like other researchers, we have been trying for many years to try to replace the missing gene in DMD and much of our work has focussed on such cell therapy. But it was when we decided to step back and return to the basics of cell biology that we were able to do this important work. We wouldn’t have arrived at this approach using genetics.”

She said the Remicade therapy was both effective and specific and prevented the initial tearing of muscle fibres (a symptom of DMD) from becoming worse as a result of inflammation, which caused further muscle breakdown and necrosis. “Nothing else with such a ready clinical application has shown such specificity for muscle protection,” she said. “It’s exciting because we can use it now!”

One factor preventing Remicade from being used widely by clinicians caring for boys with DMD is the cost — about $210,000 a year at the moment.

Professor Grounds and her PhD students, Jo Torrisi and Thea Shavlakadze, tested the hypothesis that initial tears in the outer membranes of skeletal muscle (a result of dystrophin deficiency) were exacerbated by inflammatory cells and that one growth factor, a cytokine (another cell) called Tumour Necrosis Factor alpha (TNFα), was a key player in the process of inflammation and contributed to muscle necrosis.

Pharmalogical blocking of TNFα activity in young dystrophic mice (using the anti-inflammatory Remicade, an antibody that specifically binds TNFα) clearly delayed and greatly reduced the breakdown of the dystrophic muscle. The drug had no adverse effect on new muscle formation.
Arthritis drug ready-made for muscular dystrophy symptoms

Professor Grounds said that late-onset dystrophies such as the dysferlinopathies had very severe inflammation associated with them, and those were conditions in which the Remicade therapy might also be of considerable benefit. “Remicade is highly specific and appears to have few side effects. This contrasts with significant problems associated with steroids that are used to treat DMD boys at the moment,” she said. “Another thing that is so satisfying about these important results is that we achieved them here, in a relatively small laboratory with minimal funding.”

Protection of dystrophic muscle fibres by a different strategy, increasing the levels of insulin-like growth factor-I (IGF-I) within myofibres, has been studied by an international PhD student, Thea Sharlakdze. IGF-I has markedly reduced the onset of muscle necrosis in laboratory transgenic mice, so it has a protection factor similar to TNFα—not quite as effective but perhaps a lot cheaper.

“One of the problems with introducing this therapy to boys with DMD is that the way to increase IGF-1 in the muscles is to exercise these muscles. And it is this very exercise that can cause the initial tearing of the muscle membrane. The other challenge is to genetically up-regulate the IGF-1 within the muscle fibres. Giving IGF-1 systemically, rather than creating it through exercise, can produce bigger heart muscles—which can be fatal.”

Professor Grounds and her team continue to investigate these new therapeutic interventions and plan to try overlapping the TNFα and the IGF-1 therapeutic interventions. She has recently presented their findings at international meetings and conferences in Australia (Brisbane), Denmark and Sweden.

Details of these recent publications can be found on http://school.anhb.uwa.edu.au/personalpages/grounds/

New Dean

Professor Ian Puddey has been appointed the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. He takes over from Professor Lou Landau in January next year.

A UWA graduate, who is currently the Head of the School of Medicine and Pharmacology, Professor Puddey is looking forward to new challenges.

“The two things to date that have combined to make my clinical career a rich and rewarding experience on a daily basis have been the opportunity to combine clinical service with both teaching and research,” he said.

“I see the position of Dean as an opportunity to ensure that our medical and dental students catch the vision of such a fulfilling and satisfying approach to their future careers. I want to ensure the Faculty continues to provide a framework that encourages and develops its graduands as not just clinicians alone, but clinicians with a passion for teaching and an understanding and respect for the role of research in dictating their future clinical decision making.”

As Dean, Professor Puddey will be overseeing the Medical School and the Dental School as they approach their 50th and 60th anniversaries in 2006.

“The biggest challenge will be making sure the infrastructure and teaching resources are in place for medical students in 2007 when the number seeking clinical placements will have grown from its current level of 134 to 226 students,” he said.

“This will result from the 2004 increase in numbers in the undergraduate course and the proposed commencement in 2005 of a graduate entry stream to the Medical School.

“The encouragement and mentoring of early career researchers and advocacy for continuing Health Department, state and federal government and community support for the Faculty research effort will also be major priorities.”
Pushy bedside manners

Five regional centres were recently treated to the sight of grown men and women, dressed in pyjamas, pushing a bed around the streets.

The medical students’ annual Bedpush for charity was extended this year to include the rural clinical students in Kalgoorlie, Port Hedland, Geraldton, Broome and Esperance.

Perth students pushed a hospital bed from QEII to Royal Perth Hospital, and raised more than $4,000 for the Resource Unit for Children with Special Needs and Telethon. The rural students more than matched their city counterparts, raising about $5,000, with some takings from Broome still being counted. Organiser and medical student James Anderson was delighted with the results. “We are always amazed by people’s generosity. We all had a lot of fun, but are also very aware that the health care needs of WA children are funded adequately,” he said.

Good oil on the election

Conservation campaigner, iconic rock singer and ALP hopeful Peter Garrett visited UWA during the election campaign recently.

He paid a short visit to the School of Indigenous Studies where students talked briefly about their concerns about the HECS scheme. Head of School, Jill Milroy, told Garrett that one of the big issues for Indigenous students, especially those studying medicine and law, were retaining their own culture’s knowledge while taking on board all the new knowledge needed for their vocations.

While he was waylaid by some radio and television reporters on his way into Shenton House, a very tall politics student with a shaved head walked in, and people started calling “He’s here!”

After visiting Shenton House, Garrett enjoyed a quick coffee with his old friend Professor Belinda Probert.

He was planning to visit all WA university campuses while being in WA to campaign in marginal seats.
Change management runs in the family for Maxine and Jenny Gamble.

Jenny is in charge of change management for the Student Information Management System (SIMS) project and her sister Maxine is change and communications manager for the UTE project. Both sisters have been seconded from other positions in the University to work on the projects.

UWA’s UTE Project has nothing to do with farm vehicles, hotted up or otherwise.

But for the team leaders of the project to upgrade the University’s financial system, things are hotting up as they get closer to going live.

UTE stands for Upgrade To Eight, an upgrade of the current PeopleSoft Financials system version 7.5 to release 8.8.

The main reasons for the upgrade are the expiry of support from PeopleSoft for version 7.5 in December this year, and a drive to build on the functionality currently in use, which can better be achieved in the new web based release.

The UTE team, housed in the Park Avenue Building, is working towards the testing of the upgraded system between mid-October and the Christmas break, with user training provided during January and February.

“It’s important that we don’t clash with SIMS,” Maxine said, with a concern born of more than sibling rivalry.

“We are hoping to go live with the new system in late February next year. SIMS is aiming for the beginning of April. That will give everybody a month to embed the new system before SIMS is introduced. We are periodically reviewing our planned go live date to ensure there are no clashes with SIMS. We want to minimise our impact on the key SIMS project,” she said.

“We are looking at making some improvements to our use of the system, both before and after the upgrade, as well as making maximum use of the new features found in release 8.8,” she said.

“But we don’t want to load people up with too much on their plates at one time,” she added.

The UTE team has negotiated with PeopleSoft to use their Solution Centre approach to the upgrade, which significantly reduces risks associated with the technical aspects of the project.

Work has been progressing on the project for nearly a year, since a project steering committee was formed. During that time, software company Oracle have been trying to take over PeopleSoft. The University’s negotiations with PeopleSoft include cost protections in the event that the company is taken over by Oracle within two years.

“But it’s looking less likely with the US Department of Justice seeking to block the merger,” Maxine said.

While the project began in the middle of last year, most of the work between then and June this year was focussed on getting ready for the upgrade which kicked off on June 21, and is on track to go live on February 28, 2005.

For those people with access to the central systems, information on the UTE project is available on the Web at http://teamserv2.admin.uwa.edu.au/UTE/default.aspx Regular updates on the project will be made via the Financial Services Newsletter but anyone wishing to make enquiries can do so via email to uteproject@admin.uwa.edu.au.
Why do some bright and competent children who read well have trouble with spelling?

How do you help children cope when they are confronted with stressful and traumatic situations? And how can teachers find innovative ways of handling children with behavioural problems when the usual strategies just don’t work?

These were the issues explored at a conference/workshop held recently by the Child Study Centre (School of Psychology). The event attracted 70 teachers, school psychologists and speech pathologists who packed the UWA boathed to capacity.

Centre Director Jan Fletcher said this was the first such event to be held by the Centre.

“We conduct professional workshops in schools, and they generate wide interest, particularly those on literacy and behavioural problems, but teachers find it hard to keep up to date with the research and the literature,” Dr Fletcher said.

The conference was an ideal opportunity to bridge the gap between research and practice, focussing on the latest findings and their implications in the classroom.

Dr Steve Heath and Dr Suzi Leitao looked at the problems faced by otherwise able children with spelling problems. They used case studies to illustrate new approaches – looking at how children process language, identifying points of breakdown, showing them how to diagnose their own errors, and providing a systematic, problem-solving approach to intervention.

“What we are doing is harnessing children’s abilities that were not used previously [in spelling], though they used them in every other aspect of learning,” said Dr Heath.

Israeli psychologist Sigal Halak gave teachers the benefit of 12 years experience in schools in Israel. She described current research and her work with stressed and traumatised children, and highlighted common reactions to stress and how parents and teachers can help children.

Dr Robin Harvey spoke about dealing with behavioural problems when recognised strategies failed. She reviewed current research findings into how children with behaviour problems think about their peers, teachers and social interactions. She talked about how undiagnosed language problems and anxiety can impact on behaviour, and offered practical strategies for the classroom.

As feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, Dr Fletcher sees the initiative becoming an annual event.

Keep a copy of EXPO

Our successful EXPO was featured in the centre spread of UWANews last month.

To celebrate all the work that went into the event, we made a rare decision to use colour in the spread, and it looked great. Copies are available, in the form of an A3 poster, at no cost.

They will be invaluable for promoting the University to prospective students, sponsors and industry partners.

If you would like some posters, come and help yourself from Public Affairs in Hackett Hall.
Flagships steam into the future

A blueprint for the development of Australia as a healthy, wealthy and environmentally responsible nation will be outlined in this year’s Brodie-Hall Address.

CSIRO has appointed Dr Ron Sandland, a mathematician and statistician, to head its new Flagship Program, to focus on issues of national importance that can be addressed by science.

Dr Sandland will explain these national research flagships at the CSIRO State Committee’s annual lecture, named in honour of former chair, Sir Laurence Brodie-Hall.

The Flagships target six fields of national endeavour: health, water, agrifood, light metals, energy and oceans.

Their specific goals have been developed through extensive consultation with Government, CSIRO’s partners in science and industry, and community leaders.

They are exciting, far-reaching and inspiring:

- to help generate significant new export income, industries and enterprise for Australia by the 2020s;
- to reduce healthcare costs and help Australians to achieve an extra ten years of productive life;
- to transform the agrifood sector by applying frontier technologies;
- to become a world leader in the use of hydrogen for clean, cost-efficient, reliable and secure energy;
- a ten-times increase in the social, economic and environmental benefits from water use by 2025;
- to make Australia a world competitive player in information technology;
- to build on Australia’s excellence in climate and ocean science to generate substantial wealth from our marine resources.

The Flagships are closely aligned with the National Research Priorities and will depend crucially on scale and partnerships for their success.

Hear Ron Sandland talk about mobilising resources, building partnerships and some early success stories, at the Brodie-Hall Address on Thursday October 21 at 7.30pm at the Australian Resources Research Centre auditorium, Technology Park, Kensington.

Admission is free but seating is limited, so please call 6436 8500 or email sa-reception-arrc@csiro.au by Monday October 18 to book your place. Supper will be served after the lecture.

Native title expert

Gaye Sculthorpe’s Indigenous heritage takes up more space than her academic qualifications.

So she is eminently suited to her role as guest speaker at the biennial Ronald M and Catherine H Berndt Lecture on Wednesday night.

She will speak on Recognising Differences: Contested Issues in Native Title and Cultural Heritage.

Dr Sculthorpe studied anthropology and history at the Australian National University and went on to do a PhD in Aboriginal Studies at La Trobe University. She is a descendant of the Pyemmairrener people of north east Tasmania.

She is a full time member of the National Native Title Tribunal, and mediates native title claims in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria. Prior to this, Dr Sculthorpe worked for many years as Head of the Indigenous Cultures Department at Museum Victoria, where she was centrally involved in developing Bunjilaka, the award-winning Aboriginal centre that opened in 2000.

The Berndt lecture is on Wednesday October 6 at 7pm in the Geography Lecture Theatre No 2. Entry is free and includes a light supper and drinks to follow the lecture, in Hackett Hall.

Please call Marion Dingo on 6488 2854 or email mdingo@admin.uwa.edu.au and book a place. A reply is necessary for catering purposes.

It’s crunch time.

Have you advised your contacts of the new telephone prefix for UWA (6488)?

If not, your phone might have stopped ringing towards the end of last week. Some of you might see this as an advantage, but, sooner or later, you are going to need those calls and, if you haven’t advised people of the new number, they won’t be able contact you.

Marie Corrigan, Manager University Communication Services, advises that the new prefix will be published in the White Pages early this month. Many of the new directories have already been delivered. From then on, the old prefix will no longer work.

Anybody dialling 9380 for the University will hear a recorded message, asking them to redial using the correct number.

So NOW is the time to let your contacts know the new number, change the message on your voice mail, change the phone number on your email signature and change the number on your fax machine.
Landmark International Year for the UWA GSM

2004 has already been a landmark year for the UWA Graduate School of Management (GSM), both in Australia and internationally.

Most recently, the GSM has been ranked in the top band of five business schools in the latest annual Australian Financial Review (AFR) BOSS Magazine survey of Australian MBAs.

This is the first time in the three years of the AFR BOSS analysis of MBA courses, that the GSM has been ranked in the top band.

The AFR BOSS analysis is based on survey of schools and alumni in Australia, with two-thirds of the marks based on the alumni feedback.

The GSM was highlighted for having small classes and for its students achieving high increases in their salaries in the first three years.

The GSM offers MBA programs, an Executive MBA, PhD and DBA doctoral programs, plus Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma programs. We deliver offshore programs in Singapore, Jakarta and Manila.

Significant further steps have been made in 2004 towards strengthening the international dimension of the School which is important in helping equip our students for the global business environment in which many of them operate.

To kick the year off, one of Singapore’s biggest education and training institutions — the PSB Academy — became a new partner with us to deliver GSM programs (MBA and DBA) in Singapore. (The UWA Bachelor of Commerce is now also offered through the PSB Academy in Singapore and the Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences has launched a program there too).

Elsewhere in the region the GSM had another first with our first MBA students graduating from our program in Manila. A reception was held at the Australian Embassy to recognize this milestone for the School and students. The Ambassador Ruth Pearce gave the keynote address and spoke strongly on behalf of UWA. With our partner in Manila, the Australian Institute for Higher Education, we expect the MBA program to grow significantly.

In other significant international developments for the GSM this year, three prestigious international university business schools have signed partnership agreements with us.

The first was the prestigious French university Groupe ESC Dijon Bourgogne (Burgundy) which has signed a five-year joint research, staff and student exchange partnership. They have agreed to develop academic and cultural interchange with us in areas of education, research and other activities, and to work together towards the internationalisation of higher education.

In August, Colorado State University’s College of Business signed a similar agreement to pave the way for our two management education centres to develop staff and MBA student exchanges, and to collaborate on research.

Most recently, Durham University Business School (DUBS) in the UK, has agreed to establish a long term partnership with the GSM on research and teaching in entrepreneurship and small business management. DUBS has developed an international reputation for excellence in the development of industry programs and applied research in small business and entrepreneurship education.

These agreements provide the GSM with further great opportunities to encourage our staff and students to gain quality international contacts and experience, to help keep them at the cutting edge of world thinking and practice in management.

The GSM already has similar agreements with other quality business schools such as Bocconi University (Milan), Wits Business School (Johannesburg), Copenhagen Business School, the Paris Graduate School of Management, the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration (Bergen), Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration and the WHU, (Koblenz, Germany).

A lot more has happened in the School during the course of the year and there have been significant developments in the Business School of which the GSM is a part. However I believe that as we look back on 2004 we will view it as a year in which we took major steps in pursuit of our mission to be a significant business school in the South East Asian and Australian region excelling in teaching research and outreach.
Research Grants & Contracts

ACIAR
A/Prof Wallace Cowling, Dr Matthew Nelson, Natural and Agricultural Sciences: ‘Oilseed Brassica Improvement in China, India, and Australia’—$498,923 (2004-2008)

AGRICULTURE WESTERN AUSTRALIA

NHMRC: EQUIPMENT GRANTS
Prof Lyle Palmer, Prof D’Arcy Holman, Prof Peter Leedman, Prof Peter Klinken, Prof Lyle Palmer, Prof D’Arcy Holman, NHMRC: EQUIPMENT GRANTS (2003-2007)

Validation of the Cropping Phase’—$40,000


and Pathology, Medicine and Pharmacology: for Ophthalmology and Visual Science, Surgery, Prof Peter Klinken, Prof Peter Leedman, Prof Ian Constable, Prof Wallace Langdon, Dr Anthony Scalzo, Dr Christopher Constable, Dr Wallace Langdon, Dr Mariapia Degli-Esposti, Prof Ian Constable, Dr Wallace Langdon, Dr Anthony Scalzo, Dr Christopher Andoniou, Prof Piroska Rakoczky, Dr Christine Thien, Dr Delia Nelson, Centre for Ophthalmology and Visual Science, Surgery and Pathology, Medicine and Pharmacology: ‘NHMRC Equipment Grant’—$35,216 (2004)

A/Prof P H Hart, Prof J J Finlay-Jones, WA Centre for Child Health Research: ‘How IL-4 Suppresses TNF and IL-1 Production by Activated Human Monocytes and Macrophages’—$425,250 (2004-06)

NIDA—NH—VIA RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR MENTAL HYGIENE

R & R THERAPEUTIC PTY LTD
A/Prof Timothy Ackland, A/Prof Garry Allison, Human Movement and Exercise Science, Medicine and Dentistry: ‘Efficacy of Utilising the Nubax Unit (Lumber Traction Device) in the Management of Low Back Pain’—$15,000 (2004)

RURAL INDUSTRIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORP
Ms Clare Engelke, Dr Philip Vercoe, Animal Biology: ‘Travel to Attend Conference and Visits in USA, New Zealand and South Australia’—$250,000 (2004)

Mr M Bennell, Centre for Plant Based Management of Dryland Salinity: ‘Florasearch (Stage 2): Selection and Development of Multi-purpose Perennial Species for Large-scale Crop Development in the Wheat-sheep Belt of Southern Australia’—$250,000 (2004-06)

TIPS for safer and more enjoyable bicycle commuting

Spring is here, so there is no better time to drag the long-forgotten bike out of the shed, give it a once-over, and climb aboard.

If you live 8 to 10 km from UWA, you may decide to ride your bike to Uni instead of driving your car. You can improve your health and fitness, lose weight, reduce your stress levels, and do something positive for the environment—all on the way to work!

Here are some tips to make your ride safer and more enjoyable. For more information, contact the UWA Bicycle Users Group at http://sponsored.uwa.edu.au/bicycle, or the Department for Planning and Infrastructure at http://www.dpi.wa.gov.au/cycling/

Don’t ride on footpaths
It is illegal for adults to ride on footpaths in WA, and also quite dangerous. Studies have shown that footpath cycling carries a greater risk than road cycling, particularly when travelling at speed. You are generally safer on the street, following the same rules as other road users.

Ride on the left with other traffic
It is dangerous and illegal to cycle against traffic flow on a roadway. Pedestrians do this so that they can step onto the verge when a vehicle approaches. A cyclist does not have this same level of manoeuvrability.

Make sure you are highly visible
For day time riding, bright clothes enhance your visibility, and at night lights are a necessity, and a legal requirement. Studies in the US show that 30% of accidents involving bicycles occur at night, despite the fact that only 4% of cycling is done at this time.

Communicate with other road users
Ride in a straight line, close to the left side of the road, without hugging too close to the kerb. Signal when you need to turn or change lanes and follow through promptly. Always be courteous to other road users.

Be courteous on dual use pathways
Give way to pedestrians at all times. Use your bell and give other path users plenty of time to get out of your way.

Use personal protective equipment
You are legally obliged to wear a helmet when cycling. A helmet can significantly increase your chances of surviving an accident, or avoiding serious injuries to your head. Make sure the helmet fits, and is adjusted and secured properly. Cycling gloves and other protective equipment are available from bike shops and sports stores, and will protect you from abrasions in the event of a fall. It is a good idea also to carry a small first aid kit with you just in case.

Maintain your machine
Give your bike regular tune-ups; and a quick check prior to every ride. Wheels should be tight, tyres in good condition and properly inflated. Brakes should be responsive and cables in good working condition. For more information on maintaining your bike, or to get a professional’s advice on bike maintenance, catch up with Mark from Nedlands Cycles, who runs a stall at the Guild Markets each week.

Invest in a rear view mirror
This device (available at bike shops) enables you to see what’s going on behind you—a significant advantage when riding in traffic.

Lock up tight
University campuses are notorious bike theft ‘hot spots’. One of UWA’s most successful anti-theft initiatives has been the purchase of ‘Kryptonite’ bike locks. No bikes secured with these locks to a u-rail frame have been stolen from the campus since they were first imported in 1998. These locks available to you at cost price from the Sports Shop.

Happy riding!
Tuesday 5 October
MARINE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING SEMINAR
‘Do large, marine herbivores trade-off between food and safety? A case study using the dugong’, Aaron Wirsing, PhD candidate from the Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, Canada. Contact Ruth Gongora-Mesas, 6488 3525, gongora@cwruwa.edu.au. 4pm, Room 119, School of Water Research.

Thursday 7 October
INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES PUBLIC LECTURE
‘Sustainable Systems as Organisms’, Mae-Wan Ho, Director and co-founder of the Institute of Science in Society, London, UK, and Editor of Science in Society. All welcome. No reservation required. For information phone 6488 1340, email ias@admin.uwa.edu.au. 6.30pm, Social Sciences Lecture Theatre.

Friday 8 October
SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL AND CHEMICAL SCIENCES—MICROBIOLOGY SEMINAR
‘The Kalgoorlie Otitis Media Research Project—an update on carriage studies’, Dr Deborah Lehmann and Kylie Carville. Population Sciences, TICHR. 9am, Seminar Room 1.1, First Floor, L Block, QEII Medical Centre.

ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY SEMINAR
‘The biocultural ecology of Piaroa shamanic practice’, Robin Rod. 11am, Anthropology Conference Room 1.30.

ASIA STUDIES SEMINAR SERIES
‘Gender and Métissage in French Indochina’, Sriharta Ravi. 1pm, Seminar Room G.25, Ground Floor, Social Sciences Building.

BIOCHEMISTRY SEMINAR
‘Mitochondrial Proteomics: Data, data everywhere, nor any spot to pick’, Dr Josh Heazlewood. Contact Jennifer Gillett, jgillett@cyllene.uwa.edu.au. 1pm, Room 1.24, Biochemistry Building.

Monday 11 October
ASTHMA AND ALLERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE—2004 MEDICAL RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES
‘Floppy babies: now that we know the genes, we can think about treatment’, Associate Professor Nigel Laing, Centre for Neuromuscular and Neurological Disorders. Lunch provided from 12pm. 12.30pm, Joske Seminar Room, Fourth Floor, G Block, SGHG.

Tuesday 12 October
SCHOOL OF ANATOMY AND HUMAN BIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES
‘CELLCentral—From Cell to Excell’. Steve Parkinson (Manager, Histology and Research Services) and Guy Ben-Ary (Manager, Biological Imaging and Analysis), School of Anatomy and Human Biology. Contact Debbie Hull, 6488 3290, d hull@anhb.uwa.edu.au. 1pm, Room 1.81, School of Anatomy and Human Biology.

UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC SOCIETY
‘FIND THIRTY’, Did you know there is a short 30 minute lunchtime mass once a month on campus? We’d love to have you along. Meditate. Sing. Reflect. Refresh. Meet new friendly people. If you would like to get involved with music at the mass (eg playing piano, singing etc), email us (ucs-committee@ucuwa.edu.au). 1pm, Chapel, 1st floor South-wing Guild Building.

Wednesday 13 October
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY TALK
‘C. Y. O’Connor—the hidden story’, Tony Evans, author of three historical biographies, including the biography of C. Y. O’Connor for the centenary of O’Connor’s death. Contact Kerrie Purse, 6488 2356, ULPA@library.uwa.edu.au. 7.30pm, Library Training Room, Ground Floor, Reid Library Building.

Thursday 14 October
UNIVERSITY MUSIC SOCIETY 2004 SEASON
‘Noble Realm—Concert by Ensemble Arcangeló’. Be transported to the magnificent musical world of the French Baroque with the ravishing sounds of royal chamber music from eighteenth-century Paris performed on instruments of the period. Featuring Paul Wright (violin), Kate Clarke (Baroque flute), Sophie Gent (violin), Stewart Smith (harpischord), Suzanne Wijsman (cello). Tickets from BOCS 9484 1133 or the Octagon Theatre 6488 2440. 7.30pm, Winthrop Hall.

Friday 15 October
ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY SEMINAR

ASIA STUDIES SEMINAR SERIES
‘Gaze Among Gays: an analysis of fieldwork in Beijing’, Ho Wing Wah Loreta. 1pm, Seminar Room G.25, Ground Floor, Social Sciences Building.

CLIMA SEMINAR
‘An Insider’s Insight’, your opportunity to hear from Countryman editor Cameron Morse and Farm Weekly editor Rick Lee. Introduced by Brendon Cant, whose public relations company handles CLIMA’s media releases. 4pm, Agriculture Lecture Theatre (north wing).

UWA LANGUAGE SCIENCE GROUP AND THE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES
‘Speech and Language Technology Symposium’, Guest speakers: Robert Dale, Professor, Dept of Computing Division of Information and Communication Sciences, Macquarie University, Director of the Centre for Language Technology; Steven Bird, Associate Professor, Dept of Computer Science and Software Engineering, University of Melbourne and Senior Research Associate, Linguistic Data Consortium, University of Pennsylvania. Contact John Henderson, 6488 2870 or jkh@cyllene.uwa.edu.au. 9am, venue to be announced.

BIOCHEMISTRY SEMINAR
‘Manipulating gene expression using antisense oligonucleotides—a strategy to bypass disease causing mutations’, Dr Sue Fletcher, UWA Centre for Neuromuscular Disorders. Contact Jennifer Gillett, jgillett@cyllene.uwa.edu.au. 1pm, Room 1.24, Biochemistry Building.

UniPrint is UWA’s in-house printshop. We provide a friendly and efficient print, copy and design service to all areas within the University.

- Graphic design and typesetting
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- Sale of course readers
- Assistance with UWA and faculty branding guidelines
- On-campus copying
- Daily delivery and pickup
Review of Grievance and Complaints Procedures

Call for Submissions

The University is reviewing its grievance and complaints procedures with a view to rationalising the procedures and to ensure they comply with standards of best practice. Within the University, a number of recent instances have highlighted that there can be difficulty in identifying the appropriate process for managing complaints.

The Working Party carrying out the review is inviting input via a survey and/or written submissions. Your written submission may address any aspect of the University complaints and grievance procedures, but should have regard to the following terms of reference of the Working Party:

1. Identify the nature and range of complaints and/or grievances that may occur in the University
2. Review the various mechanisms by which these complaints and/or grievances are currently resolved
3. Advise on principles that should pertain in the resolution of these complaints and grievances
4. Identify ways in which current grievance procedures can be improved and/or streamlined

To participate in the review survey and/or to make a written submission to the Working Party, please go to the following web site:
http://www.secretariat.uwa.edu.au/home/policies/complaints
and click on the SURVEY link.

Participants in the survey may remain anonymous.
If you do not have access to the internet, written submissions can be sent to:
Suzanne Purdum, Executive Officer
Grievance & Complaints Review
Human Resources M350, The University of Western Australia
25 Stirling Hwy, Crawley WA 6009
Or email: spurdum@admin.uwa.edu.au
Alternatively, you may call Suzanne on 6488 8759 to make an oral submission.

Raine Research Prize

Closing Date: Wednesday, 13 October 2004

Applications for the 2005 Raine Research Prize are invited from researchers in Western Australia in the field of medical/health science who have been awarded their doctoral degree or professional qualification within the past five years.

The prize, consisting of a travel allowance to the value of $5000 and medallion, shall be awarded by the Raine Research Committee for the best scientific paper published in accordance with the conditions governing the prize.

Candidates are invited to submit applications to:
The Executive Officer
Raine Medical Research Foundation
Suite 24, The Hollywood Specialists Centre
95 Monash Avenue
Hollywood WA 6009
(UWA Internal Mail: M651)

Application Form and Conditions

The Application Form and the Conditions governing the Raine Research Prize are available to download from the Raine website: http://www.raine.uwa.edu.au/prizes

The prize will be announced in November 2004.

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SONS OF GWALIA
Dr Andrew Rate, Dr Christoph Hinz. Earth and Geographical Sciences: ‘Assessment and Remediation of Arsenic Contamination in a Mine Site Environment’—$11,845 (2004)

STRATEGIC RESEARCH FUND FOR THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT
Dr Gary Kendrick, Mr J McDonald. Plant Biology: ‘Spatial and Temporal Patterns in Sessile Benthic Sponge and Ascidian Communities of the Recherche Archipelago’—$216,877 (2003–05)


SUSAN G KOMEN BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION

WA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

WELLCOME TRUST

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN MEAT MARKETING CO-OPERATIVE LTD (WAMMCO)

WESTERN MINING CORPORATION

FOR SALE
DAIHATSU Terios DX 2002, dark green, 4 wheel drive, under warranty until 2008, 45,000 kms, air con, dual air bag, cd, excellent condition. $15,000 ono. Call 6488 8000 or 0404 041 298.
HONDA Accord (automatic with sun roof) 1997 white, in good condition, excellent interior. $2200 ono. Phone work: Maria 6488 2195 or 9351 8593. After hours: 9358 0613 (Bentley).
MAZDA 121, 1991, automatic, white, power steering, air conditioned, window tinting, excellent condition, ONLY 38,000 kms. $7000 ono. Contact Claire at work: 6488 2040 or comalley@admin.uwa.edu.au or home: 9380 4050.
MITSUBISHI Colt sedan (automatic) 1985, white $600 (rego till December), engine going well, body needs work. Phone work: Maria 6488 2195 or 9351 8593. After hours: 9358 0613 (Bentley).

ARE YOU OVERWEIGHT?
THE KEOGH INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH needs VOLUNTEERS for a long-term weight management study.

You may be suitable for the study if:

• you are aged over 55 years and,
• are overweight

AND
• currently have diabetes AND heart disease

For more information contact Sandra on (08) 9346 2008 at The Keogh Institute for Medical Research, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Nedlands

FOR RENT
2 BEDROOM unit in South Perth, on the foreshore, views of river and Perth. Fully furnished (incl. linen), delightfully renovated. Ideal for overseas visitors. Currently available for $280/week. Contact Thierry on 9489 7997 or email thierry@iwhr.uwa.edu.au.
KENSINGTON $175/week, near 2 bedroom cottage. Close to schools, transport and shops. Contact Michelle Sipton on 0401 064 923 or 9368 6702.
WEMBLEY DOWNS $360/week, 4x2, new double story house, upstairs rooms overlooking Butterly Reserve, 2 mins walking to schools and shops, big back yard, fridge+washing machine, sep. lounge and dining, gas stove, carpet, available now for short/long lease. Contact mike@physics.uwa.edu.au or 0413 197 856.

WANTED
ACCOMMODATION wanted from January 2003. We are relocating from South Africa in the New Year and I will be joining the University in January. We would like to rent accommodation for approximately 6 months. Requirements are 3 bedrooms and reasonable proximity to UWA. Contact Andy Fourie at andy@civil.wits.ac.za

ACCOMMODATION wanted: Visiting New Zealand academic and family (2 children) seeking furnished accommodation for around six months in 2005. Timing is flexible. Prefer quiet area near schools. Maybe you are going on leave and would like to rent your house to us? If you’d like to meet, I’ll be visiting Perth Sept 28-Oct 1. Please contact robin.gauld@otago.ac.nz

VISITING academic seeks a house for rent close to UWA for October-December 2004 inclusive, suitable for family of 4. Please contact ian.reid@eng.ox.ac.uk.

HOUSESITTING
Responsible staff member available for housesitting in Claremont or Nedlands. Please contact contact jarmroz@cyllene.uwa.edu.au.

Responsible young couple available for housesitting October 2004 to April 2005. Please contact ejjory@cyllene.uwa.edu.au.

Redundant Equipment for Sale

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>AGE (YRS)</th>
<th>COND.</th>
<th>SECTION</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
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<td>iMAC computer, keyboard and mouse</td>
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<td>5 x iMAC 233</td>
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<td>1 x UMAX Vista-56E Scanner</td>
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<td>Forensic Science</td>
<td>Ginny Gray, 6488 7286</td>
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Bids should be accepted by Monday 18 October with schools to have first option

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

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