An agreement with Uruguay and an exotic plant nicknamed *Hairy Canary* are the latest weapons in the fight to save nearly 20 million hectares of Australia from a slow death by rising salt.

Exactly a month before the Governor’s visit, the centre signed an agreement with the National Institute of Agricultural Research (INIA) in Uruguay for the exchange of breeding material of a perennial pasture legume, *Lotus corniculatus*.

Lotus cultivars are being bred for Australian conditions requiring good tolerance of summer drought to provide an important alternative to lucerne. They can survive acid and infertile soils and waterlogging much better than lucerne, while retaining the advantages of lucerne as a nitrogen-fixer and a high quality fodder crop.

Associate Professor Mike Ewing explained that long hot dry summers and waterlogged soil could occur at different times within the same year. Land cleared for farming that no longer had deep rooted trees to keep the water table below the surface could have groundwater rising up and bringing salt with it, regardless of the rainfall, or lack of it.

Lucerne and other perennial legumes, like the Lotus species under development, take the place of the deep-rooted Australian plants that were cleared from agricultural lands long ago, while providing a commercial crop for stock feed.

In Western Australia, lucerne has to battle drought, high summer temperatures, long dry periods, and acidic and often infertile soil.

“It’s an opportunity to really kick start the Australian program, targeting a greatly expanded array of environments, and it can cut up to 10 years off the normally extended breeding cycle required to produce new cultivars suited to our harsh conditions. We need to add tolerance to dry summers to the other positive attributes of the material from Uruguay. It’s a big ask for any plant to be able to thrive in those conditions, but we think the Lotus will expand our options,” A/Professor Ewing said.

The coup with Uruguay was helped along by Dr Daniel Real, a senior plant breeder with the CRC, who is originally from Uruguay and who is a colleague of the breeder at the INIA.

*Hairy Canary* (*Dorycnium hirsutum*) is another alternative to lucerne being pursued by the CRC, in their search for better adaptive legumes for different environments and farming systems.

Much of the work on Hairy Canary has been done by PhD student Lindsay Bell (pictured above), who won the inaugural A.W. Howard Memorial Research Fellowship last year for his...
“Hello, it’s the Governor calling …”

It is not often that you get a phone call from Government House, with a personal request for an update on your research.

Western Australia’s Governor, His Excellency, Lieutenant General John Sanderson, visited UWA late last month to find out the latest on salinity research from the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Plant-based Management of Dryland Salinity.

The Governor launched the research centre nearly three years ago, and was keen to pursue a personal interest in efforts to tackle this important problem.

He was briefed for an hour by the centre’s CEO, Kevin Goss, and his deputy, Associate Professor Mike Ewing. Also in the briefing were Chris Twomey, communications coordinator for the CRC, and business manager Mark Stickells.

The Governor (left) and Kevin Goss (right) share a discussion with Natalie Lennon, Dean Professor Alistar Robertson and Professor Kadambot Siddique (director of CLIHA).

He then shared morning tea with other staff at the Centre, and particularly enjoyed talking with the graduate students, Tennille Winter, Lindsay Bell and Kath Broderick (pictured).

“The Governor was keen to learn how the centre had progressed since he officiated at its launch,” Kevin Goss said.

“He has travelled widely in rural WA and has seen salinity and its impacts at first hand so was keen to get an understanding of potential solutions being researched.”

The CRC’s executive focussed on three main points: “We want to get away from the fear that has been put into discussions about salinity,” Mr Goss said. “Salinity has always been part of the Australian landscape, and we want to focus on a message of living with it, while looking at what we can do in key areas where it is a threat to ecosystems, wetlands and infrastructure, including towns.

“We also talked to the Governor about achieving a balance between long-term research and short-term solutions. We can help to improve grazing systems that will have an impact quite quickly. But equally important are new industries involving trees that could take ten to 20 years to develop, but will have a much greater impact on dryland salinity in the long term.”

The group also wanted the Governor to be aware that there was no single answer to the salinity problem.

“It is much more complex than many people imagine and there is no simple overriding solution,” Mike Ewing said. “There are parts of the agricultural landscape for which there are currently no answers.”

But the CRC is constantly working on them, and some promising results are emerging.

Hairy Canary

Continued from page 1

study into the suitability of this perennial plant for use in south-western Australia.

Like the Lotus, Hairy Canary clover is tolerant of acid soils and drought. Research at the UWA campus is concentrated on new and improved plant species, and is lead by A/Professor Ewing. The CRC is made up of six other areas of specialist research, spread across the joint venturers, UWA, CALM (WA), the Department of Agriculture (WA), CSIRO, and five other universities and research groups in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.

The other areas cover education and communication; function of natural ecosystems; new farming systems; economic and social assessment (led by UWA’s Professor David Pannell, based in Albany); grazing systems; and biodiversity, the last two also based in WA.

The field’s two national publications, Salt and Focus on Salt, have recently been taken over by the CRC.

More information can be found on the CRCs website: crcsalinity.com
The same week that Australian rock band Jet scooped the ARIA awards, the band members shared top billing on the television show, The Panel, with UWA’s Centre for Forensic Science.

The Panel is a fairly reliable thermometer to gauge what’s ‘hot’ among Australia’s younger generation.

And forensic science — its use in real life, its popularity as a basis for novels and television dramas, and the number of students it’s attracting — is up there with Jet.

Robin Napper, director of marketing and development for the Centre, said he had been asked on The Panel to talk about the phenomenal rise in TV forensic programs, and the consequence in the rise of students studying forensic science at our University.

UWA is the only university in Australia to offer postgraduate study in forensic science, except for Griffith University, which has a small course, almost exclusively for police officers.

“The numbers are booming here,” said Mr Napper, a former detective who helped develop DNA profiling in Britain. In 1998, he was seconded to the NSW Police Force to introduce DNA testing into Australia. Mr Napper initiated the controversial mass DNA testing of the entire male population of Wee Waa, NSW, after the rape of an elderly woman there. (It resulted in a conviction.)

He helped to set up UWA’s Centre for Forensic Science with forensic entomologist, Ian Dadour, two years ago.

The centre has a staff of nine, including lecturers, a postdoctoral fellow, a forensic consultant and a research assistant. Associate Professor Dadour hopes over the next 12 months to bring on line a shared lawyer, a shared chemist and a shared forensic psychiatry expert.

Already, 48 students have graduated from the centre’s courses, 40 with a Graduate Diploma in Forensic Science, and eight with Masters degrees. All of them are already employed. One is working at the (state government) Chemistry Centre and another at a private chemistry lab. 11 have joined the WA Police, one has been recruited by the Federal Police, one graduate is employed by the New Zealand police force, and one is doing DNA work in the HIV lab at Royal Perth Hospital.

Currently, the Centre has 93 graduate students, nine undertaking a Masters/PhD, 42 doing a straight Masters degree, and 38 studying in the Graduate Diploma program.

Among the national ranks there have been three students from New Zealand, and two from each of Victoria and New South Wales. Even more success has come from the international ranks with three from the UAE and Singapore, one from each of the USA, Malaysia and Philippines “We have had to turn students away,” A/Professor Dadour said. “Entry to the courses is already based on merit, and the bar keeps lifting.”

He said that 75 per cent of the current students were already working in various areas. “Some are value-adding to their previous degrees and experience, perhaps in the hope of finding new positions. And about 15-20 per cent are doing it purely out of interest in forensic science. One student, a geologist, flies in from his mine site, to attend lectures.”

Most of them are from science or medically-related backgrounds, with a few teachers, lawyers and economists, keen for a change of direction.

A/Professor Dadour said that, while the NSW and Queensland police forces were already employing civilian forensic scientists, WA had not yet followed suit. “They are still recruiting our graduates into uniformed positions, but they are offering longer term careers to them, to keep them in the forensic division.

“I hope it won’t be long before they employ civilian forensic experts, and that will open up more employment opportunities for our graduates,” he said.

In the meantime, A/Professor Dadour and Mr Napper have to balance their big student numbers with repeated requests from the media for their time. This year, as well as Mr Napper’s appearance on The Panel, the Centre has featured in Who Weekly (magazine) and on ABC TV’s Australian Story.
The Federal Minister for Education, Brendan Minister Nelson, has indicated further sweeping changes to higher education following the Government’s re-election and confirmation that it will have control of the Senate.

The changes proposed include the introduction of voluntary student unionism, further workplace reform, the separation of research from teaching (with the development of teaching only universities) and full control of unis passing to the Federal Government, with the states ceding their involvement.

Some of these proposals are unlikely to lead to any enhancement of the capacity of Australian universities to meet the needs of students.

Certainly over more than 90 years, the character and reputation of our University has been built on the strength of relationships between students, staff, graduates and the community.

The University favours an amenities fee providing support for the Guild and the Sports and Recreation Association. A strong Guild is a reflection of a strong student community. The fee is a modest imposition on students but raises funds which are applied to services which are very important to the overall UWA student experience. The amenities fees are not permitted to be used for political purposes.

And universities do not need direction on industrial relations. The challenge facing the sector in terms of effectiveness and efficiency lies in better management. Universities do not need an ideologically driven industrial relations framework.

Two points that we must not lose sight of are: that if we really want to improve the quality of teaching and research in higher education in Australia we have to increase funding per student; and, we must work diligently to increase infrastructure funding for research.

Governments working with universities to achieve those goals would bring direct benefits to the nation and individual Australians.

Alan Robson
Vice-Chancellor
Most people are appalled at the thought of ambulance bypass – but is it really affecting outcomes for emergency patients?

The media carries regular reports of incidents where overcrowding in emergency departments at Perth hospitals is forcing ambulances to divert to other hospitals, resulting in delays in treating emergency patients.

Timely new research at UWA is set to find out what impact, if any, this practice is having on emergency patients and whether the delays are jeopardising their recovery.

Investigators Dr Peter Sprivulis and Associate Professor Ian Jacobs, from Emergency Medicine, point out that ambulance diversion is not unique to WA; it is a national and international issue.

“It is well known that there are pressures on emergency departments, not just here, but across the country and overseas, where hospitals are battling with the issue of getting patients into emergency care. It has been happening in the eastern states for five or six years. So in many ways we are pretty late in experiencing the problem here,” A/Professor Jacobs said.

“Ambulance diversions occur when there is overcrowding and an emergency department can take no more patients, or it is not safe to do so.”

Funding of $20,000 for the research has come from the Australian College for Emergency Medicine and Fremantle Hospital.

The researchers will use existing data from Perth’s main teaching hospitals – Royal Perth, Sir Charles Gairdner and Fremantle Hospitals, as well as outer metropolitan hospitals Swan Districts, Rockingham, Armadale and Joondalup. “Perth has very good in-hospital and emergency service data systems,” A/Professor Jacobs said.

“Although the focus of the project is local, we believe that the findings will be relevant nationwide”– and there should be at least some interest internationally in the effects of ambulance diversion.

“The data has been collected for the past 12 to 18 months, and we will be looking at it in detail.

We are trying to determine the outcomes to patients. Some people say that having a diversion makes outcomes worse. We want to quantify the effect. It may transpire that some outcomes are not affected whereas others are worse.

“We expect to have the results by January or February next year. We are looking at public hospitals only as most of the pressure is on them.”

(There is only one emergency department in a private hospital in Perth.)
Dr Keep returned, with fellow geologists, Associate Professor David Haig and Dr Warwick Crowe, for their first field trip in July last year. They started working on a major national geological database for the island, which could be used to attract international exploration companies.

The more they learned, the more they discovered about the potential for research and training over a broad resources area.

This year, seven honours students joined their teachers’ effort to help Timor Leste to better understand its natural resources. The students (pictured below) spent several weeks working on individual projects, but also working with students from Timor Leste.

“They don’t have a geography department or even a science faculty at Dili’s polytechnic,” A/Professor Haig said. “The closest discipline is engineering, so our students were paired with seven civil engineering undergraduates and that program was a great success. Each learnt from the other. The Timorese students picked up geology really quickly.”

A/Professor Haig and Dr Keep are hoping to find sponsorship for scholarships for these and other students from Timor Leste to come and study earth sciences at UWA.

Six students from Dili came to the symposium on Geology in Timor Leste.
East Timor, opened by their Prime Minister, Dr Mari Alkatiri, in late October. They presented posters on the work they had done with the UWA students. Some of the UWA students presented papers on their projects, but, as the day of the symposium coincided with their deadline for submission of their theses, not all of them were available to talk about their work.

A/Professor Haig said Dr Keep had worked hard to ensure the students and more than a dozen other people from Timor Leste were able to attend the symposium. “She arranged financial support from Woodside Energy Ltd and logistical support (charter flights) from Conoco Phillips, so that the Prime Minister, his Secretary of State, the Dean of the engineering faculty in which the students study, the director of the Directorate of Energy, Minerals and Resources, staff from a Norwegian development agency working in Timor Leste, and an interpreter could all come to UWA.”

The symposium was also attended by geologists from The University of Melbourne, Monash University and Brigham Young University in the United States.

Afterwards, discussions were held about building on the Memorandum of Understanding between the government of Timor Leste and UWA. The MOU refers to UWA undertaking training of local people in the area of energy and mineral resources.

“The latest development is the possibility of a natural resource centre, which the government of Timor Leste wants to set up for us in Dili, to continue and enhance our collaboration,” A/Professor Haig said.

This week, A/Professor Haig, Dr Keep and Professor Ron Harris from Brigham Young, are in Timor Leste again, doing some field work and taking the discussions about the resource centre further.

They will be investigating the possibility of a three-way partnership between UWA, Brigham Young and a Japanese aid agency working in Timor Leste to set up a base in Dili and field bases in rural areas.

In welcoming the Prime Minister, Dr Mari Alkatiri, to a reception after the symposium, UWA’s Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Robson, said the work carried out in Timor Leste by Dr Keep, A/Professor Haig, their colleagues and students and the local students had provided the first significant up-to-date exploration of the central part of the country.

“It is exciting to think that work conducted so far could lead to valuable economic returns for Timor Leste.

“And we would like to think that the range of UWA courses relating to earth sciences, environmental studies and resource management could be attended by students from Timor Leste.”

The University is holding a public sale of recycled goods on Saturday November 20, to start raising funds for scholarships for these students. Please see story on page 10 for details.
Some months ago now I called for proposals on ways of reducing workload pressures for both general and academic staff.

The University Managers’ Group, which comprises senior general staff, has discussed this issue extensively and put forward five key suggestions which, if implemented, should lessen the pressure on general staff. These are:

• Make sure that the University’s major central databases – PeopleSoft, Concept, Research Master, the Executive Information System and, ultimately, SIMS – can actually ‘talk’ to each other. The incompatibility of these systems is creating an enormous amount of extra work in faculties, schools and other work units, particularly when they are asked for information for provision to DEST or any of the other rapacious organisations constantly asking for data from UWA! The Vice-Chancellor and I have advised the people responsible for the University’s information systems that resolving this issue is our number one IT priority.

• Set up an annual activity calendar so that, before requests for information or for submissions or whatever are sent out from central administration, there is an understanding of current workload pressures for the people in faculties and schools who will be required to undertake the task. We have also advised staff in central administration that any proposal to send out requests for information to faculties and schools must be approved by the relevant member of the Executive first, who has first to ensure that the information is not already held somewhere in the centre.

• Provide more training in IT, particularly for managing Excel spreadsheets, TRIM, etc.

• Review the delegations which specify who can sign or authorize what, so that Heads are not having to sign off on everything that comes out of their Schools.

All of these are under way, although it will take some time to deal with the central database issue.

There were fewer proposals from academic staff. Issues that have been put forward are:

• Increase the number of Teaching Internships available for postgraduate students. These Internships allow the students to undertake teaching under the supervision of a staff member, and means that they gain valuable experience in tertiary teaching, while the staff member gains some teaching relief, thus creating a benefit for all.

• Look at more blocking of courses into intensive modules, so that staff can achieve a teaching–free semester. This of course is a more complex issue, depending on the discipline itself, and upon timetabling issues. However, some schools are already doing this and seeing the benefits.

• Ensure that the Academic Portfolio, which has just been launched, will, over time, considerably reduce paperwork for academic staff. In addition to expediting things for staff who are applying for promotion, tenure, and study leave, it should ultimately mean that CVs, annual publications audits, and other collections of information which can be a source of considerable irritation to staff now could occur automatically. We’re not quite there yet, but should be by 2006.

• Look at whether we are teaching across too many programs and in too many units. This relates to the competitive funding model we have and will be complex to resolve.

• Look at reducing the burden for staff in complying with national and state legislation in areas such as animal ethics, without leaving the University vulnerable to prosecution.

• Make sure academic staff are supported to take their long service leave through carefully planning for coverage of their teaching and supervision requirements. This will be a major thrust for the University over the next few years as, at the moment, the logistics of managing these teaching and research activities means that many academics are not encouraged to take that time off to refresh themselves.

• Politely advise students, particularly postgraduates, that you are not available to respond to emails between 5pm Friday and 9am Monday.

I hope everyone will give these suggestions serious consideration. Some mean departures from our traditional ways of doing things but, given that most of these suggestions are being implemented at least somewhere on our campus, it’s worth seeing if they would work for your workplace. But please don’t stop putting further suggestions forward. This issue of workload is a major issue for us all, and the more good ideas, the better in dealing with it.

Working to ease the load
— Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Seares
A routine test for glaucoma could save your sight. The Lions Eye Institute is offering a free test, along with hearing tests, later this month.

Glaucoma, one of the leading causes of blindness in Australia, is a group of eye diseases that gradually steals sight without warning and often without symptoms. Sometimes glaucoma is associated with increased pressure within the eye. This pressure can damage the optic nerve, which is responsible for transmitting visual information from the eye to the brain. At first, there may be a loss of peripheral vision, followed by reductions in central vision and potentially, blindness.

“Most people who have glaucoma don’t notice symptoms until they begin to lose some vision. But vision loss from glaucoma can be prevented if it’s caught and treated in time,” said Sajeesh Kumar, a PhD research scholar at the Lions Eye Institute.

Leila Maddison, who runs the sportswear shop, said that last October, the scheme collected 168 pairs of shoes, compared to 44 pairs in September.

“Last year, the shop collected about 200 pairs of shoes. We hope to get at least this many again this year.”

Parking at the car park 3, adjacent to FJ Clark theatre will be free.
If you’ve been unlucky enough to find a parking infringement notice on your windscreen recently you may have noticed that Unipark has a new system under way. Not only has it speeded up the process, but it can also take photos and record voices.

According to Unipark manager Roger Davey, the latest technology has been harnessed to streamline the issuing of infringement notices for parking offences. With the help of GPRS (Ground Packet Radio Service), an officer issuing an infringement notice can now send the information electronically to the central computer system.

That means that if you get a fine you can go direct to the Unipark office (without passing Go), and they will already have the details of the infringement online. “We should have the information very quickly, whereas in the past there might have been a delay of 24 hours.

“The only situations where the system may not always operate perfectly are in ‘black spots’ around the university, where communications are poor. Then it will take longer,” Mr Davey said.

“We can also take an image via a 2D scanner and send it electronically to the system. So as well as the whole process being speeded up, we also have visual evidence.”

As well as a picture, a voice recording can be added to the report (which could be relevant if the parking official is abused), although this component is not connected to the GPRS so it will not be sent to the central system until the end of the day.

The new technology incorporates a separate printer that prints out an infringement notice, complete with bar code, on the spot.

The system began operating in September. “We have been working on it since February this year, developing it, trialling it, and ensuring that we had the right paper that would not fade,” says Mr Davey.

More goods and more volunteers are needed to make the University’s ‘recycled goods sale’ a great success.

Staff can use the opportunity to spring clean both their homes and their workplaces and donate any unwanted furniture, books, computers, office equipment, sports equipment, household goods and electrical appliances.

Please ensure that whatever you donate is clean and in working order. If you are planning to donate University property that has a barcode, you need to complete a form from Financial Services. Sale project leader Jack Kirkness, from the Office of Facilities Management, will help with any queries. Call him on 6488 4688 or 0403 692 525.

Offers of help on Friday November 19 to sort the donations, or to help sell them on Saturday November 20, are urgently sought. Please call sale co-ordinator Shobha Cameron on 6488 3556 or scameron@admin.uwa.edu.au

A storeroom in the social sciences building has been made available for donations prior to the weekend of the sale. Please call Jack Kirkness for access to the room.

The recycled goods sale will be a great opportunity for the University to engage with the community, but it is more than that. It is also an opportunity to raise money for scholarships for students from Timor Leste (see story on pages 6 and 7). UWA has developed a unique relationship with the new Democratic Republic of Timor Leste and hopes to be able to offers some places to their students in the near future.

The sale will be held on the Oak Lawn from 10am to 4pm on the Saturday.

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Visiting American multi-percussionist Steve Schick — the Paganini of percussion — dazzled audiences and inspired UWA’s percussion teachers and students in a series of workshops and performances last month.

In the space of eight days, Schick presented five public concerts, directed four master classes and led the UWA’s award-winning Defying Gravity percussion ensemble in a daily series of rehearsals.

Several of the Defying Gravity players described Steve Schick’s visit as “a life-changing experience”.

The busy week of percussion culminated in a major new music event - the long-awaited WA premiere performance of Steve Reich’s mesmerising minimalist masterwork Drumming — featuring Schick and Defying Gravity performing to a highly enthusiastic sell-out audience.

“Sometimes,” says printer Travis McGlone, “I go home from work and my brain just hurts!”

It’s because this energetic young man puts everything into his job at UniPrint, and loves the challenge of getting the best possible results.

And it is this attitude that won Travis short-listing in the finals of the Lithographic Institute of Australia’s apprentice of the year award.

He has just completed his four-year apprenticeship and says that what he learnt at UniPrint, before he began his apprenticeship, helped him to excel in his class and to come out at the top.

“I always liked art at school: ink on paper, paint on paper, any colour on paper was what I loved. So I enrolled to study art and design at TAFE but realised it wasn’t quite for me. My father was a printer and so was my mother’s father, so I guess you could say it was in my blood.

“I took a job as a storeman, then doing deliveries, for UniPrint and one day Craig (Mackenzie, Manager of UniPrint) asked me if I’d like to learn how to print.

“Adam Lee taught me so much, all the tricks of the trade, and I really enjoyed it. Then Craig asked me if I’d like to do an apprenticeship. It’s the experience I had here before I even started at TAFE that helped me to do so well,” he said.

The printers at UniPrint work shifts to cover a 15-hour day, and it is rare in those hours that one of the three presses is not working.

Travis says he prefers printing pictures to text. “I like to work on a photo to get it looking really vibrant, with good eye colour. The hardest things are corporate logos — getting the colour exactly right. People bring in business cards and stationery and say they want that colour. But it might be a year or two old, and the colour starts to fade and change soon after it’s printed, so it can be very difficult to reproduce exactly the shade they want.”

He said that most of his work was in-house printing for UWA, including UWAnews every fortnight. “I’ll be making sure that my story and picture look really good!” he said.
I recently attended the Australian Society of Archivists annual conference.

During the conference the profession was accused of being full of stagnant bores who spent their careers “rooting around in each other’s belly button fluff”. It occurred to me, and not for the first time, that records professionals suffer from a real image problem. Our work is associated with darkened rooms, dusty files and ancient index cards. Records Managers themselves are often thought of as nit-picky pedants with fascist tendencies, horn rimmed glasses and (apparently) a belly button fluff problem. However, I must say that these images are born of ignorance, not fact. After all, not many people know what records professionals actually do, or why we’re the kind of people you’d really like to know.

Records form the life blood of any organisation. They document its corporate memory, are used to justify actions and decisions, support accountability and transparency, can stop us from making the same mistakes twice and provide a valuable resource for research. In short, they are extremely important. However, records can be extraordinarily difficult to manage. Have you ever inherited a new job with an old filing system that worked perfectly well for the previous occupant but that appears utterly meaningless to you? Are you, after the last restructure, still struggling to incorporate the records of two or more schools into one record keeping system? Are you hoarding boxes of old files because you’re not really sure what to do with them? What does your email inbox look like right now? Managing and retrieving information are some of the most deceptively difficult tasks that anyone will undertake in the workplace. This is where records professionals can help.

As you may know, UWA has its own Archives and Records section that manages the University’s archival holdings as well as the active records of Central Administration. What you may not know is that Archives and Records have recently embarked on some University-wide initiatives to assist all staff in the management of their records, including those staff in faculties, schools and centres. For example, did you know that anyone can make an appointment for an Archives and Records staff member to give a presentation tailored to your own specific records management needs? Did you know that our website www.archives.uwa.edu.au contains a series of Advice Sheets that inform you on issues as diverse as what to file, tips for managing electronic records and what your legal responsibilities are in relation to record keeping? Best of all, did you know that Archives and Records, in conjunction with Administrative Computing Services, have been developing a web-based application that will help you manage your paper files?

The application is called UReKA (University REcord Keeping Application) and we expect to have it available for release in February 2005. UReKA has been designed to support information retrieval in faculties, schools and centres and is based on the University’s central records management system TRIM. UReKA has a number of the same features as TRIM including a classification system based on the international standard. UReKA allows you to use this classification system to title your files so that your titles are consistent over time. UReKA also allows you to mark records out to individual staff so that you know exactly where your files are. It will let you link records together so that you can see all related files, and it even lets you run a report that identifies those records that are due for archiving or destruction. But, best of all, it helps you to find your files. You can search on title word, date created, file number, file location, retention period, as well as a number of other fields. But wait, there’s more.

UReKA will be free.

Of course, UReKA is merely a record keeping tool that must be used in conjunction with good record management practices. The best results will be gained by employing a project officer to convert your existing record keeping system to UReKA, but we can help you coordinate that as well. Information about UReKA’s progress will be available on our website in the coming months. In the meantime, if you think you might be interested in implementing UReKA and would like to find out more, feel free to contact me on 6488 1854 or email jmcdermott@admin.uwa.edu.au.

And just for the record (sadly, pun intended), I find records professionals to be very dynamic and interesting people. Perhaps it is true that we spend time rooting out belly button fluff, but at least we know how to find it.
FREE GLAUCOMA SCREENING TESTS

Glaucoma, one of the leading causes of blindness in Australia, is a group of eye diseases that gradually steals sight without warning and often without symptoms. Sometimes glaucoma is associated with increased pressure within the eye. This pressure can damage the optic nerve, which is responsible for transmitting visual information from the eye to the brain. At first, there may be a loss of peripheral vision, followed by reductions in central vision and potentially, blindness. Screening is a helpful way to identify people at risk for this disease because slight abnormalities to the visual field can be an indication of early glaucoma. However, abnormalities to the visual field can be due to problems other than glaucoma and screenings such as this are not meant to be a replacement for a thorough eye exam by a qualified eye care professional. If caught early, ophthalmologists can help treat glaucoma by reducing intraocular pressure through the use of medications, such as eye drops, or by surgery if medical therapy is unsuccessful.

FREE HEARING SCREENING TESTS

- Do you find yourself having difficulty hearing lately?
- Are you sometimes unsure of what others around you have said?
- Are you often asking family members and friends to repeat utterances?
- Do you wish that people around you would speak louder and more distinctly?
- Are you sometimes unsure of what others around you have said?
- Do you find yourself having difficulty hearing lately?
- If you answered ‘Yes’ to any or all of the above questions, then you should consider receiving a FREE hearing screening test.

So, if you have concerns about your hearing, or if you know someone else who does, and would like to schedule an appointment to receive your free hearing screening, to schedule an appointment, e-mail: uwa_sai@yahoo.com.

10am – 2pm Saturday 27 November 2004

FJ Clark Theatre, off Monash Avenue, behind the Medical Library of Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Nedlands.

Web Address: http://www.geocities.com/uwa_sai/screening.html
Monday 15 November

**WA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH—BIOETHICS SYMPOSIUM**

‘Genomics Directions: Bioethics and Beyond’, Professor John Harris, distinguished professor of bioethics at the Institute of Medicine, Law and Bioethics, University of Manchester, United Kingdom. Free public lecture. 6pm, Geography Lecture Theatre 1.

**Tuesday 16 November**

**ASTHMA AND ALLERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND THE RAINE FOUNDATION—RAINE LECTURE**

‘TGF beta in lung pathology and physiology’, Professor Jack Gauldie Chairman, Pathology and Molecular Medicine and Director, Centre for Gene Therapeutics, McMaster University. 5pm, Joske Seminar Room, 4th Floor, G Block, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital.

**Friday 19 November**

**LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY**

‘Seeing Reality Through Clouds’, Dr Kevin Judd, Associate Professor, School of Mathematics and Statistics. 1pm, Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery.

**Tuesday 23 November**

**PSYCHOLOGY COLLOQUIUM**

‘Twenty years of ageing in Manchester: Disease, death, sex, depression and poverty …’, Professor Pat Rabbit, Manchester University. For more information contact Andrew Whitehouse at whitea08@tartarus.uwa.edu.au. 11am, venue to be advised.

**MARINE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING SEMINAR**

‘Feeding on suspended particles—linking small scale flows to environmental change’, Stuart Humphries, Advanced Research Fellow from the School of Animal and Microbial Sciences, University of Reading, UK. 4pm, Room 119, School of Water Research.

**Friday 26 November**

**CLIMA SEMINAR**

‘The role of the Export Grains Centre today’, Dr John Hamblin, Export Grains Centre. 4pm, CLIMA Seminar Room.

**LAWRENCE WILSON ART GALLERY**


**NEXT ISSUE**

If you would like your next event to appear in Campus Diary, please enter the details online at http://events.uwa.edu.au/ The deadline for the 29 November issue is 17 November.

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**Campus Diary 15 – 28 November**

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Fax: (08) 9399 1249
Raine Visiting Professor Lecture Series
In conjunction with the Asthma and Allergy Research Institute

Professor Jack Gauldie
Chairman, Pathology and Molecular Medicine
Director, Centre for Gene Therapeutics, McMaster University

will present a Raine Lecture entitled:

TGF beta in lung pathology and physiology

on

Tuesday, 16th November 2004 at 5.00pm.
Light refreshments will be served prior to the lecture.

in

The Joske Seminar Room
4th floor, G Block, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
The QEII Medical Centre

All welcome

Professor Jack Gauldie is recognised internationally for his work in defining the molecular regulation of the acute phase inflammatory response and as a world expert in the areas of cytokine biology and the molecular regulation of chronic inflammation and mucosal immunity. He has published over 300 scientific articles and book chapters.

Prof. Gauldie was first to identify IL-6 as the major regulator of the host Acute Phase Response to infection and trauma, thus linking the innate response to the adaptive immune response. His work with other cytokines, including LIF and IL-1, helped define the signalling pathways involving gp130 and the family of IL-6 like molecules. He developed gene transfer systems to investigate the molecular regulation of acute and chronic inflammation and identified TGF-beta as a critical component of tissue remodelling. Prof. Gauldie’s work in defining TGF-beta regulatory events in the pathogenesis of idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and the identification of inflammation independent events involving mesenchymal epithelial interaction in the propagation of chronic inflammation has received wide recognition. Most recently, he has collaborated with Dr Frank Graham in the use of recombinant adenovirus vectors to deliver growth factors, cytokine genes and co-stimulatory molecules for adjuvant approaches to mucosal immune regulation and immunotherapy of cancer. Animal studies have progressed to human gene therapy trials in breast cancer and melanoma with vectors expressing IL-2 and IL-12 and with dendritic cells loaded with tumor antigen genes. All trials have involved either direct immune stimulation or specific antigen immunisation with cell based vaccines.

Jack Gauldie has been Professor and Chair of the Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine at McMaster University for the past 14 years and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and the Royal College of Physicians (Edinburgh). He is a member of the Advisory Board of the Institute of Immunology and Infection in the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and serves on the scientific advisory boards of several companies. He is on the editorial board of several basic and clinical journals, including Journal of Clinical Investigation, and is a regular reviewer of grants from Canadian and USA granting agencies (CIHR, NCIC and NIH). Prof Gauldie holds patents in immune regulation and mucosal vaccine development.
**New Staff**

Welcome to the new staff who joined the University in October:

- **Rosanna Marchesani**, administrative officer, Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts
- **Nicola-Jayne Sivills**, administrative assistant, Convocation
- **Carli Mcleod**, project leader, Facilities Management
- **Hayley Newberry**, accounting clerk, Facilities Management—administration
- **Glenn Kirkland**, security officer, Facilities Management—security
- **Robyn Wilson**, accounting officer, Finance and Resources
- **Dr Brendan Lay**, lecturer, Human Movement and Exercise Science
- **Kevin Chapman**, functional consultant, Office of the Registrar
- **Dr Yasmine Musharbash**, postdoctoral research fellow, Social and Cultural Studies
- **Jan Whitaker**, administrative officer, Surgery and Pathology
- **Sharon Yates**, administrative officer, UWA Extension
- **Emma Griffin**, administrative officer, Vice-Chancellor
- **Stefan Leutenegger**, analyst/programmer, WA Institute for Medical Research

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**FOR SALE**

<table>
<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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHAIR, Ikea black leather recliner with footstool, very good condition.</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIRROR, 700x1600, white metal frame, $50. Contact Maggie at <a href="mailto:mvanputten@library.uwa.edu.au">mvanputten@library.uwa.edu.au</a> or 6488-3657.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HONDA CRV, 1997, full Honda service history with new timing belt. Low kms, 5 speed manual, silver, a/c, p/s, prof tint, excellent cond $18,500. Call Gia at 6488 3390 or 0438 931 933.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAIHATSU Terios DX 2002, dark green, 4 wheel drive, under warranty until 2008, 46,000 kms, rego until April 2005, air con, dual air bag, cd, excellent condition, $14,000 ono. Call 6488 8000 (w), 9383 7424 (h) or 0404 041 298.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HYUNDAI! Excel GLX 1999 Auto, excellent condition, rego until March 2005, $7,800 ono. Call 6488 8000 (w), 9383 7424 (h) or 0404 041 298.</td>
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**FOR RENT**

- **MULLALOO** beachfront holiday house, fully self-contained, sleeps 6–8. Only 25 minutes from Perth CBD with great dune and ocean views. Available for short or medium-term rental. Phone Shelley on 0438 953 652.

**WANTED**

- **NOTEBOOKS/POWERBOOKS** for student laboratory classes. PC: 486 DX2-66, 16MB RAM, 10 MB HD or better; MAC: Power Macintosh running OS 7.6.1, 16 MB RAM, 10MB HD or better. Will pay $100-$150 depending on specs/condition. Contact Craig Macfarlane on 6488 7924 or cmacfrl@cyllene.uwa.edu.au

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**HOUSESITTING**

- EXPERIENCED, responsible young couple available for housesitting January 2005 onwards. Please contact wake@cwr.uwa.edu.au

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**SITUATIONS VACANT**

- **CARERS** needed for intelligent young man with disabilities. Part-time work, would suit dedicated students, staff. Home care in Mosman Park and outings. Please contact Lindy on lindy.brophy@uwa.edu.au or on 0407 845 458.

**Classified advertising is free to all university staff**

To place your advertisement please email enquiries@publishing.uwa.edu.au

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**Redundant Equipment for Sale**

<table>
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<th>ITEM</th>
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<th>AGE (YRS)</th>
<th>COND.</th>
<th>SECTION</th>
<th>CONTACT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple G4 Tower: 350 MHz, 128 MB RAM, 1 MB L2 Cache, 10 GB hard disk; Accessories: SCSI Interface card, Sony SDT-59000 DDS2 tape drive and tapes, Aurora Fuse video capture card and software, Apple ColourSync 20in monitor</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Faculty ECM</td>
<td>Dianne Syme, 6488 3704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photocopier Minolta EP3050, 20 sort bins, document feeder, stapling, duplexers</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Business School</td>
<td>Mark Croonen, 6488 1405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax machine Ricoh Fax8015</td>
<td>offers</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Business School</td>
<td>Mark Croonen, 6488 1405</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Bids should be accepted by Monday 29 November with schools to have first option**

- Schools are reminded that all University equipment available for sale must be advertised in the UWA news. 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.