The Research EDGE

The Graduate Research Centre. Supporting your research.

ISSUE 3
MAY 2012

DOT POINT NEWS

- **Graduate Research Centre goes local**
  In June, the GRC is holding a barbeque on each campus for research degree students and staff. Students will be able to ask GRC staff questions and meet other students. We will email you once dates are confirmed.

- **New marketing coordinator**
  Marina Bosco will replace Lisa McDonald for 12 months in the Marketing and Development Unit. The Graduate Research Centre looks forward to working with her!

- **Student feedback**
  The Graduate Research Centre enjoyed this feedback from a completing student: ‘I wish to take the opportunity to thank the GRC staff for all their assistance and time throughout my candidature. Your clear and responsive direction was very much appreciated.’

- **Graduation Ceremonies**
  Congratulations to the 64 PhD and 8 masters by research graduands who received their awards from 26 to 30 March.

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From the Dean of Graduate Studies

The highlight for me this month was a visit to the University of Copenhagen, where there was great interest in collaborating on PhD supervision in research areas in which both universities have research strengths.

Under our newly approved **Dual Award policy**, a PhD student could graduate with a testamur from both institutions, and be supported by a UniSA International Postgraduate Scholarship. One student has already applied, and Magnus Nydén, the new director of the Ian Wark Research Institute, is in the process of negotiating another.

These are exciting times for UniSA in terms of starting to recruit a whole new cohort of excellent international students. Please make them feel welcome, and introduce them to pie floaters, festivals and the football!

Enjoy this issue, and remember the invitation to **provide feedback** at any time.

**Prof Phil Weinstein**

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**Student success snapshot**

Professor Janek Ratnatunga and Dina Wahyuni, PhD candidate, School of Commerce, were invited to a special meeting on Carbon Development Mechanisms by the United Nations (UN) Climate Change Secretariat.

**Chris Boha**, PhD candidate, School of Art, Architecture and Design, won the 2012 National Student Art Glass Prize for his work ‘Pile of Bones’. Chris received a full scholarship to attend two master classes and a conference at North Lands Creative Glass in Scotland.


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**Thai sisters – a dual act**

Chansiri Suksri chose UniSA on the advice of her sister Jintawadee who had heard about the reputations of Prof Michael Taylor and the Transport Systems Centre (now part of the Barbara Hardy Institute) through a lecturer at RMIT. She was awarded a President’s Scholarship, and asked Jintawadee to also consider UniSA.

The outcome? Both sisters are doing their PhDs at UniSA within the Transport Systems Centre.

Chansiri thinks UniSA has a good research environment with ‘many research fellows who have expertise in the field of transport to give comments/feedback ... so this extends my research vision’. Jintawadee also finds the suggestions and support from centre staff in fortnightly group meetings very valuable.

The sisters appreciate the Library (access to journals and interlibrary loans), UniSafe escorts (when working late at night), professional development funds, workshops, and office and computer facilities. These are ‘great services and support’ for students that make UniSA stand out.

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Below left: Prof Phil Weinstein in the Swedish landscape  
**Below right:** (L to R) Dr Wen Long Yue (supervisor), Chansiri, Dr Raluca Raicu (supervisor), Jintawadee, Prof Michael Taylor (supervisor)

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**agree**

**When you see this, please remove it.**

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**Pictured:** Lego graduand
Publishing your research: open access publishing

Researchers around the world have questioned the business models of traditional publishers who derive healthy profit margins from providing access to publicly-funded research. Advocates of the open access publishing model argue that research papers should be available to everyone.

Benefits of the open access model
- Authors retain their copyright
- Enhanced research impact and improved dissemination
- Immediate access to the latest research
- Research is usually peer-reviewed
- Increased research citation

Several reputable publishers publish open access journals including PLOS, Hindawi and Biomed Central. If you are considering publishing in an open access journal you will need to factor in how much it costs to publish, and whether the publisher is reputable.

Determining the credibility of an open access publisher
- View their website – is it well-designed and functional?
- Download some articles and assess their quality – is the research current?
- Do they send out mass emails? If they do, avoid them.
- Are the journals published regularly? If not, avoid them.
- Check the editorial boards – are they known in your field?

Sourcing open access journals and further reading
- DOAJ: Directory of open access journals
- Assessing the scamminess of a purported open-access publisher
- Persistent myths about open access scientific publishing
- Wellcome Trust joins ‘academic spring’ to open up science

Scholarship opportunities

Internationalise your research
Would you like to gain an international perspective and improve your thesis?

Maurice de Rohan International Scholarships
The scholarship, valued at up to $15,000 plus a travel grant of $2,500 to cover airfares, will be awarded to an Australian citizen studying for a doctoral degree or upgrading from a masters by research degree for travel to the UK or USA. Applications (extended) close 11 May.

International Travel Grants
If you are a successful applicant for an International Travel Grant (up to $5,000 towards travel and living expenses), you can undertake research, data collection or work with institutional or industry partners in an overseas location. Applications close 30 June.

Fulbright Postgraduate Scholarships
Fulbright Postgraduate Scholarships are available to Australian citizens to engage in 8–12 months of research relevant to an Australian PhD. These scholarships are valued at up to US$45,000.

An information session about this prestigious scholarship will be held Tuesday 8 May 1–2pm, City West campus, GK2-15 (RSVP Wendy Bowes)

Applications open 1 June and close 31 August.
More information (eligibility and how to apply)
Other overseas opportunities for research degree students

Undertake study, research and professional development
Are you a high-achieving international or domestic student?

2013 Endeavour Awards
This Australian Government internationally competitive, merit-based scholarship program provides opportunities for citizens of the Asia Pacific, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas to undertake study, research and professional development in Australia. Awards are also available for Australians.

Applications open 1 June and close 31 August.
Award overview for Australian and international applicants

Web news

Student and staff portals
You will notice that the UniSA website now looks different. To access your key sites you will need to click on the For students link at the top of the site and use the student portal as your gateway. Staff will click on the For staff link.

Relocated RESA site
Research Education Support Activities (RESA) has moved to a new location. All links in the Research degree students website and student and staff portals will go straight there.

Your ePortfolio
Create your web profile using the ePortfolio system: build your resumé, publish a blog, showcase achievements and academic knowledge, network, or all of the above.

Upcoming events – keep your diary free!

Mindfulness 4-week workshop
Thurs 3, 10, 17 and 24 May
City West campus (location variable). More information

Fulbright Postgraduate Scholarships information session
Tues 8 May
City West campus, GK2-15, 1–2pm (RSVP Wendy Bowes). (See ‘Scholarship opportunities’ for more information.)

3 Minute Thesis workshops
Mon 14 and Wed 30 May
Could you present your thesis topic in just three minutes? Develop your presentation skills – participate in 3MT workshops. More information and to register

GRC barbecues across campuses
June (date TBC)
Mix with Graduate Research Centre staff at this event.