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UniSA News

A newspaper of the University of South Australia

February 2001 issue

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10 years young, 140 years wise



Happy birthday UniSA! On 1 January this year the University celebrated its 10th birthday and the balloons will be flying all year. [\(full story\)](#)



[Celebrating our people](#)

"I don't know whether to laugh or cry sometimes when I answer an outside call to hear an old familiar voice say, 'Good God Marlene! You're not still there?' " - Marlene Dewar

Teaching emerges as a classy career

Teaching, so recently blighted by low morale, poor status and stretched resources, is about to take off as a career of choice as we move into the true information economy, according to Dean of Education Associate Professor Alan Reid. [\(full story\)](#)



2003 space viticulture

Winegrowers of the future will be able to assess the health of their vines using a combination of satellite imagery, advanced software, and good old-fashioned nous. [\(full story\)](#)



A tour de force

When the deal was struck for UniSA to sponsor a team of riders in the Jacob's Creek Tour Down Under we knew that the branding exercise would be more than worthwhile. The Tour is attended by more than half a million spectators locally and is broadcast to an international viewing audience of 1.6 billion people.

[\(full story\)](#)



IT connects the disabled

The benefits of technological engagement are too good for people with disabilities to ignore, according to Associate Professor Wendy Seymour of UniSA's School of Social Work and Social Policy in a recently published Hawke Institute working paper. ([full story](#))



Other stories

[Professor Mackinnon receives University of Umeå honorary doctorate](#)

Director of the Hawke Institute Professor Alison Mackinnon was awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa (Honorary Doctor) for her 'contribution to gender and higher education in an historical context' by the University of Umeå, Sweden on 18 November last year.

[New library research tool](#)

The library has recently purchased the EBSCO Mega File, comprising Academic search elite, Business source premier, Health source plus, MasterFILE elite, Newspaper source, World magazine bank and many more.

[Staff awards 2000](#)

See the impressive list of recipients of Chancellor's and Vice Chancellor's awards

[Nakata receives Governor's leadership fellowship](#)

Prof Nakata, Director of the Aboriginal Research Centre, was among a group of 29 to be awarded a fellowship by the South Australian Governor Sir Eric Neal.

[Undergrad Handbook an Aussie first](#)

[Murdoch's publications win VC award](#)

Two publishing initiatives, plus high quality customer service, have won Lachlan Murdoch one of the Vice Chancellor's General Staff Excellence Awards for 2000.

[Hit men and women: UniSA website a popular target](#)

In January, UniSA ranked fourth for the number of hits on its home page from among Australia's 22 listed tertiary institutions.

[Staff service awards introduced](#)

In 2001 UniSA will introduce a new staff service award program for staff. The program will include a number of date-of-service awards.

[Mortar\(board\) attacks Vincent](#)

Mortarboards can be dangerous. Just ask Vincent Cheek.

[Ambassador for women](#)

Professor Freda Briggs became one of the Prime Minister's 30 national ambassadors for the recognition of women during a ceremony in Canberra on Australia Day.

[Research update](#)

This year's Undergraduate Handbook replaces both the 100-page international and 100-page domestic guides. It contains more information than ever before and yet is only 30 pages long. How?

[Graduation ceremonies](#)

March issue of UniSANEWS

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From the Vice Chancellor



January 1, 2001 marked the [10th anniversary](#) of the establishment of the University of South Australia by an Act of Parliament. The anniversary, and the events planned for 2001, will enable all of us associated with UniSA to celebrate and focus on those qualities which set our institution apart, contribute to our achievements, and make us distinctive and successful.

UniSA's first ten years have been shaped by significant changes in the external environment. Increased competition, reduced spending by government on higher education, internationalisation of our focus and programs, globalisation, and collaborations have meant that, to succeed, UniSA has had to be innovative and responsive.

As a new institution we embraced the opportunities available to us. We made commitments to quality, diversity, equality and accessibility, as well as to graduating students with distinctive qualities.

Over the last few years we have consolidated our efforts in a number of areas - with some very pleasing outcomes. We have restructured our academic divisions and coordinating portfolios, and worked actively to shape our program profile, manage our research activities, and develop strategic partnerships.

Our student numbers have grown from over 20,000 in March 1991 to more than 28,000 in August 2000, and our operating budget has increased to approximately \$250 million over the same period. More significantly, the percentage of the budget coming from the Commonwealth Government is declining very rapidly in response to a major priority of the last four years - lessening our reliance on the Commonwealth Government's funds.

Perhaps the greatest change in the last few years has been our international focus. Founded as an institution dedicated to serving state and regional needs in a national context, we have committed ourselves to internationalising the curriculum and exporting education. In March 1991 we had 407 international students, in 1995 we had 1,119 international students, and in August 2000 we had more than 6,000 international students. We have all learnt a lot about working with people from other cultures. The University's

cultural diversity has made it a more interesting place to study and work.

To be successful we have had to be innovative, outward looking, collaborative and enterprising. We have all had to learn new skills, work differently and relate to new people in a wide range of partnerships. And herein lies part of our challenge for the future. The next ten years will see the revolution in higher education continue. To remain relevant, engaged and successful we must continue to move in front of change. Future success depends on our planning and action now.

Together we have built a powerful institution - relevant, networked and responsive. On the tenth anniversary of our establishment, we have much of which to be proud. Let's use this year to reflect on and celebrate our achievements, and to work to ensure that UniSA is as successful in its second decade as it has been in its first.

Professor Denise Bradley

Vice Chancellor

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News in brief



Medical honours to Wilkinson

Head of the SA Centre for Rural and Remote Health (a collaboration between UniSA and Adelaide University) Professor David Wilkinson has recently been awarded one of the highest honours to be bestowed on a medical doctor, membership of the Royal College of Physicians (London). Professor Wilkinson received membership of the college without examination in recognition of his distinguished contribution to medicine, and in particular his research in Africa into HIV/AIDS.

In other honours, Prof Wilkinson will visit the University of California in April to work on a review of the effectiveness of the use of microbicides in the prevention of HIV in women at the leading Cochrane HIV/AIDS Research Centre. The project is funded by the World Health Organisation. He has also been appointed to join the international jury of six scientists who will judge the 2001 Interbrew-Baillet Latour Health Prize, one of the most prestigious in Europe and valued at 6 million Belgian Francs.



CREEW members book in

Teamwork and research into education are the subjects of two books recently launched by the [Centre for Research in Education, Equity and Work \(CREEW\)](#). *Teamworking: Some international perspectives* is a collection of papers looking at issues such as change management, strategic leadership and organisational culture. *Being, seeking, telling: Expressive approaches to qualitative adult education research* provides new approaches to education research, using mediums such as reflection, artwork and poetry. Orders to Miriam McLean on (08) 8302 6271 (miriam.mclean@unisa.edu.au).

New school for University

A new [School of Pharmaceutical, Molecular and Biomedical Sciences](#) was established at UniSA on 8 January. A College of Pharmacy has been created within the school. The school is an amalgamation of the Schools of Chemical Technology and Pharmacy and Medical Sciences. [Associate Professor Mary Barton](#) has been appointed interim head of the school.

Conference cringe – Here's help

The [Adelaide Convention and Tourism Authority \(ACTA\)](#) will continue in 2001 to provide on-campus help with conference planning and management. ACTA's Business Development Manager (Universities) Jacqui Schmidt will be at City East each Wednesday to assist staff and students with issues ranging from caterers and hotels to budgeting and publicity. Conference loans of up to \$15,000 are also available. Call Jacqui at ACTA on 8303 2333 or via email at jacqui@acta.com.au.

Emails, from a library near you

Email will now be the primary means of communication from the library and will reduce the time and money required to notify clients about requested and overdue items. (In 2000, more than 150,000 printed notices were sent out by the library.) The service will initially be available to staff and on-campus students. Users without an email address will continue to receive printed notices.



Connolly departs.... Beard arrives

The University farewelled the Executive Director of Resources Jan Connolly in January. We wish her the best and thank her for playing a significant part in helping the University better manage its resources. To replace her, UniSA welcomes back one of its own when [Paul Beard](#) begins in February.



Beard graduated in accountancy from UniSA (formerly the SA Institute of Technology) with distinction, winning the Institute Medal for top graduating student. He joins UniSA with a wealth of executive experience, most recently as Manager Finance for AGL and formerly CEO for ETSA Power Ltd. He has also held positions with Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Vision Systems and, in England, with Touche Ross.

A road by any other name

Congratulations to [John Rogers](#) and Valerie Balagengadaran who won the Division of Information Technology, Engineering and the Environment's competition to name roads at Mawson Lakes. Thanks to their efforts, the map now boasts Levels Lane and Campus Lane. Valerie and John won \$50 book or wine vouchers for the naming rites [stet].

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Opinion



Blue skies: Professor Phil Gammage looks for a university of ideas

The idea of a university

The beginning of 2001. UniSA turns 10. Kim Beazley announces ALP policy for an on-line university. Prime Minister John Howard launches the Coalition's \$2.9 billion innovation blueprint for boosting research. The perfect time, UniSANEWS believes, to ask what our universities should be doing and what will become of them in the future. To begin, [Professor Philip Gammage](#) reflects on the rights and wrongs of universities. We want to continue the debate throughout the year, so email us with your views – snippets or articles up to 700 words – at unisa.news@unisa.edu.au

This is my 61st year of university experience. No, I am not exaggerating.

I was born into a family in Oriel College, Oxford in the 1930s and have spent most of my time either studying in universities or teaching in them. Coupled with a childhood listening to elderly dons like Lord Swann, Tolkien, C S Lewis, and Bishop Carpenter, I have at least some idea of what a collective view of a university is like.

I spent a childhood scurrying from buttery to buttery to find the best ice cream, or reading Andrew Lang's fairy stories (he was a Fellow of Oriel). I recall sitting beneath the table in the Codrington Library fingering the original drawings of Christopher Wren. At the end of the Second World War, Oxford had a slowness and charm about it more reminiscent of the Victorian era.

But it's not the idylls I wish to talk of. Rather, I wish to reflect on what the university seemed to be about then and thus now. Important questions arise.

What is unique about a university which we should seek to preserve?

Why have some countries (such as Germany and France) kept their polytechnics and grandes ecoles when England and Australia have rushed into mergers? Why have many universities now got things profoundly wrong, as I believe they have?

A university should exist above all for the enlightenment of adults. It is committed to study and scholarship, to exploration and creativity, to the creation of life-long habits and dispositions of mind which will ensure the supply of humane and sensitive people.

Secondly, it is committed to research and the exploration of new ideas.

Thirdly, it is committed to collegiality, to sharing and criticising the ideas of each other without fear or favour (though one hopes in a kindly and genuinely humble manner).

And fourthly, a university, though dependent on monies from taxpayers and others, must stand largely outside the polity, in a dispassionate and disinterested manner. In short, it can be helped but not bought.

What do we have in reality? We have universities which have become corrupted by the Research Assessment Exercise, in which the language of business and power talk up output and accountability in the most mechanistic of terms, and in which our funding depends on the number of our citations and a narrowly defined view of knowledge.

This is the era of the commodification of knowledge. Many of us struggle to make that article on 'the back legs of a flea' last for several separate articles. We desperately vie with one another for some miniscule government grant (there is little tradition in Australia of the rich giving money). Worse, we write almost masturbatory articles for journals, read by very few. Farewell the democratisation of knowledge.

And so with teaching. The PhD proposal has become almost as bureaucratic and as large as the PhD itself. Where are those days when one could wander in to see a professor with an idea and start from there? Moreover, we now give information in bite-size chunks to our students. They no longer read complete books, and if they do, some academics seem to insist they read our own. We sell these bitten-down versions of degrees and courses to other countries, a sort

of cultural colonisation.

What of tutorials? Where are those long discursive meetings with students, listening to an essay, interrupting with an idea, or deviating with another book to be tried? A lot of teaching is conducted by temporary contract staff paid low wages for mountains of marking. However good such staff are, they cannot always be found when they are needed.

In short, we often act like a grocery shop selling consumables (my family comes from long lines of grocers). The poor students are literally that, impoverished from lack of money, impoverished because ideas are boiled down and synthesised, impoverished (indeed cheated) from lack of attention. Summed up, short-changed by the limited idea of a modern university.

So I come back to the main point: what is a university about?

The mark of a truly civilised society is that it allows its brightest and best (however defined and at any age) to reflect, to work and, ultimately, to pay back to society. The mark of a civilised university is its collegiality, its openness, its criticism of cant and hypocrisy. A university cares about ideas and blue-sky research. It is one (and there are many others) of a nation's richest think tanks, a jewel and an asset.

Its management styles, if there are such, are warm and consistent, intimate and concerned. Its leaders carry out research themselves, write constantly, and recognise that they too are members of a collegial, sharing community.

A university does not need to cover every subject area. It is not about production-line economics. (Indeed, if it were, it would note the collaborative and flat management structures of many very successful firms like Microsoft and Volvo). The last thing it is is a corporate business or a regal hegemony.

We might all comment that democracies are messy, but in many ways a university exemplifies a democracy at its best, where leaders are elected or sought for their specific skills and when all know they will 'return to the ranks' in due course.

But like a vice chancellor once said to me, too many universities suffer from 'mural dyslexia'. By that he meant they couldn't read the writing on the wall!

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Five to Nine



You could be forgiven for thinking that life is all work. So, in our new column *Five to Nine*, [Gerry Clarke](#) brings you the news about those labours of love which UniSA staff are involved in outside the working week. In his first column, Gerry looks at some of the things which get you buzzing, kicking up your heels, or sailing through to success. Be Gerry's eyes and ears throughout the year and email him those leads about yourself or your colleagues which prove there is indeed another life out there somewhere.

Relay for life: A challenge to all staff

You could be forgiven for thinking that life is all work. So, in our new column *Five to Nine*, Gerry Clarke brings you the news about those labours of love which UniSA staff are involved in outside the working week. In his first column, Gerry looks at some of the things which get you buzzing, kicking up your heels, or sailing through to success. Be Gerry's eyes and ears throughout the year and email him those leads about yourself or your colleagues which prove there is indeed another life out there somewhere.

Like most Australians, services executive officer [Sharon Clews'](#) life has been touched by cancer.

Sharon found out in August 1999 that her father had cancer. With her father living in Queensland, Sharon has not been able to provide the direct support she would have liked. Instead, she is supporting the Anti-Cancer Foundation's Relay for life team event to raise funds for cancer research.

Relay for life is a fun team event which celebrates the courage of survivors and people still fighting cancer and also honours loved ones lost to cancer. South Australia's inaugural Relay for life, a 20-hour event, will be held at the Santos Stadium from 2pm on

Saturday 31 March until 10am on Sunday 1 April. Teams of 10 to 15 people take part in a carnival-type event complete with live entertainment, a special survivor's lap, a candlelight memorial ceremony, and camping.

Sharon is establishing "Team immUNity SA" and has convinced 10th Birthday Project Officer [Shona Hughes](#) and myself to be co-captains of the team. We're looking for game team members. You can also get together a team of 10 to 15 people. Alternatively you can sponsor your colleagues who enter the Relay for life or even volunteer to help on the day or night of the event.

Support the Relay for life by contacting Sharon Clews on 21614 or myself on 20965. More information about the Relay for life is available on the Anti-Cancer Foundation website: www.cancersa.org.au.

Sydney to Hobart success

Congratulations go to [Colin Gordon](#), a lecturer with the School of Pharmaceutical, Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, for his stunning success as a member of the crew of SAP Ausmaid which won handicap honours in this year's Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race.

What a performance by Colin and the team! Ausmaid became the first South Australian registered boat to win the Sydney to Hobart since 1952 and the Cruising Yacht Club of South Australia's first ever winner. The win followed near misses for Colin and the team with a second place in the storm-ravaged race in 1998 and third place in 1999.

Soccer journey of a lifetime

Five to Nine discovered that [Ian Bastable](#), the popular senior security officer at City West, headed off to England in early January on a soccer journey of a lifetime. Can you imagine having try-outs with West Ham, Aston Villa, Bournemouth, Torquay and Bristol Rovers? But it's not Ian kicking the ball. It's his son Ryan who'll be having a go at the big league. We look forward to hearing how Ryan fares.

Robert conquers the summit

UniSA's involvement in the Tour Down Under cycling classic was a stunning success, but for some reason the media did not pick up on the outstanding achievements of one of our veteran cyclists, none other than Magill senior lecturer [Robert Iseman](#), who purchased a Team UniSA shirt for his annual ride to the top of Norton Summit. Robert rides to the top of the summit on his birthday each year and I am sure that Robert won't mind me telling readers that on his recent 60th birthday he rode his best time since he was 55. Robert was obviously inspired by his team UniSA shirt. Well done Robert.

ITSAFL footy pools

AFL football is here and with it the ITSAFL footy pool conducted by [Stephen "Rocky" Stone](#) and associates. Last year 120 staff endured the highs and lows of the pools. If you want to take part in a unique part of UniSA 'culture', get in touch with Rocky at Information Technology Services.

Soapbox

Should UniSA have some form of social club? Email gerry.clarke@unisa.edu.au

Email Gerry Clarke with your own *Five to Nine* stories.

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Accommodation

Walkey Heights (13 kms from north of City), New house, 3 brm with family and lounge, Jan 3rd week to July 2001, \$140/week, Phone Suma, (08) 8395 4416 or (08) 8302 0450 or uma@msc.unisa.edu.au

For sale

Premium quality cold pressed virgin olive oil: \$100 for a case of 1 dozen 375 ml bottles. Contact Ben Walker on 0417 535377 to place your order and arrange delivery

TV for sale – 34 cm (not remote) \$120 Excellent condition Phone (08) 8365 1263 after 6 pm

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Browserbriefs

10th birthday website

January 2001 marks the 10th birthday of UniSA. The University is a modern, vibrant and successful institution, tracing its history back to some of the earliest and most influential educational institutions in this state. To find out more about our history, our people, what's happening during the year, our special 10th birthday edition of New Outlook, our special logo, our merchandise and our alumni, visit this site. Its official launch is on 26 February. It also details events planned for the year. It's your University. Join in the celebrations. <http://www.unisa.edu.au/birthday>

How to catch a cheat

Plagiarism is an age-old problem which is becoming easier to achieve and harder to track down with the proliferation of information available on the Internet. Academics wanting some clues or assistance on the issue should visit the following sites.

<http://www.epcc.edu/library/cheat.htm>

<http://www.coastal.edu/library/papermil.htm>

AVCC

The Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee website lists information regarding Australia's universities, general news, the AVCC and its policies and activities, related organisations, a site map, search facilities, and links to Australia's 38 member universities. <http://www.avcc.edu.au/>

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10 years young, 140 years wise



Birth of a university, 1991:

As they were, L to R, SA Opposition leader Dale Baker, Chancellor John McDonald, Vice Chancellor Alan Mead, Senior lecturer Beverley Vaughan, SA Minister for Further Education Mike Rann, SA Premier John Bannon, Deputy Vice Chancellor Denise Bradley, Dean of Salisbury Kym Adey

Happy birthday UniSA!

On 1 January this year the University celebrated its [10th birthday](#) and the balloons will be flying all year.

The University was formed in January 1991 by an Act of Parliament when the South Australian Institute of Technology joined with the South Australian College of Advanced Education. But the University's roots go even further back – all the way to 1861 when the SA Society of Art formed the SA School of Design.

Ten years young, 140 wise, UniSA bears the hallmarks of both youth and wisdom.

UniSA [Vice Chancellor Denise Bradley](#) says the University is unique in its capacity to change both itself and the way it does business very rapidly, in particular its embrace and application of new technologies. She praises both academic and general staff for their contribution to an inherently dynamic and innovative environment.

"A most significant achievement of UniSA has been its ability to be industry focussed while delivering on the social equity mission contained in its charter. We have shown

these two go together," she says.

"One strength is we are a planning-driven institution."

Challenging times for higher education

UniSA's birthday celebrations come at the best and the worst of times for higher education in Australia.

With the release of the Howard Government's Innovation action plan on research and the ALP's proposals for a national on-line university, higher education is at last on the agenda after several years of funding cutbacks.

"We now have a situation where both major political parties have a broad innovation agenda for the sector. There are immediate advantages. In the short term higher education is in politicians' brains, back on the policy map," says Prof Bradley.

"But there are no real dollars coming back into the system until the fourth or fifth year. And the Government has not resiled from its determination to take 5,000 higher degree places out of the system."

The challenge for UniSA is to remain relevant and productive in teaching and research in an environment of increasing competition and accountability. According to Prof Bradley, it needs to remain industry focussed, to continue its drive to become a major exporter of education services, and to manage its relationships with government, private enterprise and other universities as effectively as possible.

But in 2001 UniSA can afford to celebrate its real achievements in creating a strong and viable institution while delivering high quality research and teaching programs. Up and coming 10th birthday events are on page 5 of UniSANews. See the birthday website <http://www.unisa.edu.au/birthday> for more details.

Jessie Byrne

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Celebrating our people: Marlene Dewar

[Marlene](#) is leader of UniSA's PABX team, winners of the Vice Chancellor's General Staff Excellence Award in 1999.



"I don't know whether to laugh or cry sometimes when I answer an outside call to hear an old familiar voice say, 'Good God Marlene! You're not still there?' "

"I started with Torrens CAE at the South Road Campus January 1974 and, except for a few months, have always been on the switchboard. I probably am the longest continuous serving person to have been based at Underdale campus.

People wonder how I could possibly have done the same job for all that time but every day is a challenge with different people to talk to and try to help. I enjoy every minute of it.

UniSA is a great place to work. I have also been lucky in having very good people to work with, which makes it so much easier. I enjoy talking and getting to know people from all campuses. Everyone is willing to help in any way they can.

I think it is the people working at UniSA who make it great. There have been so many changes it is no wonder work is never dull. In my spare time?

Well I enjoy most forms of exercise and I would never miss clogging on Tuesday nights."

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Teaching emerges as a classy career



School beckons:
People are turning
back to education as a
worthwhile career
according to
Professor Alan Reid

Teaching, so recently blighted by low morale, poor status and stretched resources, is about to take off as a career of choice as we move into the true information economy, according to Dean of Education Associate [Professor Alan Reid](#).

Increased student interest for UniSA's teaching degrees has raised the TER score required to enrol in the four-year undergraduate education degrees as well as the competition for the two-year degree for graduates.

"People now see teaching as worthwhile. It's a more attractive proposition than it has been in recent times, in part due to small increases in pay, hard won by unions, and increased demand from a worldwide shortage of teachers," Prof Reid says.

"There is also the realisation that educators are at the centre of the information economy, reflected in policies like the Knowledge nation."

The current shortage of teachers has replaced a surplus in the 1980s and early 1990s, with countries around the world snapping up Australian teachers.

In South Australia there is a particular shortage of science, IT and maths teachers, especially in country schools. This shortfall will be exacerbated in SA by a projected mass exodus from the profession in the next decade, when SA teachers, whose average age is now 48 years, are expected to begin retiring.

"The people we are getting now are top class. Teachers in schools describe our students as creative, lively and committed. This will lead to a resurgence of youth and vitality across all sectors of education," says Prof Reid.

Almost all of UniSA's current teaching graduates are getting jobs, especially those who are willing to move to the country, interstate or overseas.

Teachers within SA, however, receive the second lowest start-out salaries within the nation - \$28,494 a year, higher only than NSW at \$28,348. A recent pay award has delivered Victorian teachers \$34,595 in their first year.

Other disincentives to teach also exist. Many day to day administrative tasks have been devolved to schools but decision making has increasingly been centralised. There has also been a crisis in the way teachers are seen in the community generally. In the past both factors have led to low morale within the industry and contributed to a lacklustre image of teaching as a profession, with enrolments reflecting this negativity.

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2003 space viticulture



Precision viticulture: Dr Alan Forghani is developing new software for better grapes

Winegrowers of the future will be able to assess the health of their vines using a combination of satellite imagery, advanced software, and good old-fashioned nous.

World-first software linking aerial maps of vineyards with ground data will help winegrowers to manage all elements of the winegrowing process, including planting, pruning, fertilising, harvesting, and disease management.

The result, according to UniSA researcher Dr Alan Forghani, will be both better quality and a better quantity of grapes. And that means greater profitability for the industry.

Conceived by the team at UniSA's [Spatial Measurement and Information Group \(SMIG\)](#) in the School of Geoinformatics, Planning and Building, the Viticulture Mapping Expert System (VIMES) project brings together satellite, geological and viticultural data to create the most comprehensive overall information available.

"The concept is to use precision measurements, we could call it precision viticulture, to track the health of sections of vineyards over a whole season," said SMIG leader [David Bruce](#).

"Expert managers will be able to look at their vines on the ground and integrate this with aerial imaging, with the support of VIMES software, to produce a better product, more of it, and with a greater financial return."

Dr Forghani has established Australian Spatial Technologies Pty Ltd to continue the work of SMIG to develop the project for commercial release.

According to Dr Forghani, VIMES will allow growers to interpret

digital maps to more accurately and quickly identify the quality of grapes within vineyards and perhaps even vine by vine.

"The VIMES software will allow growers to maximise available information and to take account of key variables such as rainfall, soil type, diseases, pests, land aspect, vine location, trippers, and weather patterns," he said.

"It will be an important decision-making tool of the future with enormous export promise, as well as the potential to swell the success of South Australia's key winemaking industry."

South Australian winegrowers will be the first to benefit with a trial version targeted for release in 2003. The tested product could be available to growers nationally the following year, with the aim of making it available for international export in 2005.

The project has already attracted corporate interest from the remote sensing imaging company Ball AIMS Pty Ltd (Aerospace) Australia and Coonawarra vine-growing company Rosemount Estate Pty Ltd.

Jessie Byrne

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A tour de force



Force to be reckoned with: UniSA rider Luke Roberts. Photo: Sarah Reed, courtesy of The Advertiser

When the deal was struck for UniSA to sponsor a team of riders in the Jacob's Creek Tour Down Under we knew that the branding exercise would be more than worthwhile. The Tour is attended by more than half a million spectators locally and is broadcast to an international viewing audience of 1.6 billion people.

But there seemed little prospect that our Team UniSA would win. At very best, we might capture one of the jerseys that measure individual best performance during each stage.

So when the team was put together by race director Mike Turtur we were delighted that Brett Aitken, winner of the exciting Maddison event at the Olympics in Sydney, was named as team leader.

Tested by our own dynamic researchers [Professor Kevin Norton](#) and [Dr Tim Olds](#) as one of the world's fittest athletes using the VO2max test (the highest score ever recorded on the test is 93. Aitken scored 90 and only three athletes in the world have been recorded above 90), Aitken was indeed a coup.



But, as we found with major international sporting events, there is always a last minute glitch. The week before the race, Aitken declared that he was just too exhausted to compete.

So the team was reshaped and as the Tour moved into the week of competition we were introduced to our riders - young, inexperienced in an international context, and predominantly Australian juniors. They were a fresh faced lot - surprisingly small wiry young men with high hopes and charming modesty.

No one would have guessed that the eight-man team – Adrian Laidler, Luke Roberts, Kristjan Snorrasson, Lado Fumic, Steve Cunningham, Matt Wilson, Russel Van Hout and Gene Bates – would soon become local heroes.

About 75,000 people came out on a perfect January summer evening to Glenelg to see the start of stage one of the six-stage event. It was clear that the Tour Down Under was indeed a special event.

Cycling is second only to soccer in Europe and attracts a local crowd, but we had no idea there would be so many die-hard fans in Adelaide. At the Bay, a large handmade banner was flung from a balcony, boldly exhorting Team UniSA to win and proudly displaying a map of the State. The banner makers were not UniSA staff or students – but South Aussie cycling fans. That sort of support for Team UniSA was seen time after time.

Eager to maximise the opportunity, we distributed UniSA sun visors at each event, giving away 5,000 visors over the week – that's 5,000 logos popping up in photos or TV shots at one time or another.

But at the end of the day it was the youth and promise of the team that captured people's imagination. Team UniSA won the spontaneous support of thousands at each event. Putting the South Australian University together with young Australian riders was certainly a combination worth cheering for.

Throughout the week the team performed with courage and brought home some fantastic results -

Stage one – Gene Bates won the Share the Road jersey for best under 23 yrs rider; Kristjan Snorrasson named Most Aggressive Rider.

Stage three – Steve Cunningham named Most Aggressive Rider.

Stage four - Luke Roberts won the stage, a gruelling 157km ride from

Unley to Strathalbyn; Gene Bates won the Share the Road Young Riders jersey.

Stage five –Russel Van Hout named Most Aggressive Rider.

Stage six – Gene Bates again won the Share the Road Young Riders jersey and then took out that prize out for the entire Tour.

It's odds on that at least one of these young riders will reminisce in years to come, when he is internationally recognised, that one of his first big breaks came when he rode under the UniSA banner.

Other spin-offs for UniSA included media coverage for research in the School of Physiotherapy, publicity for the work of the School of Physical Education, Exercise and Sports Studies (including in the Tour Down Under program), and a special opportunity for recreation management students to work in the team staging the Tour.

Michele Nardelli

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IT connects the disabled



IT advocate: Professor Wendy Seymour

The benefits of technological engagement are too good for people with disabilities to ignore, according to [Associate Professor Wendy Seymour](#) of UniSA's School of Social Work and Social Policy in a recently published Hawke Institute working paper.

Prof Seymour agrees there are risks, but she believes technology has the ability to help lift bodies out of the limitations of individual illness, disability and disadvantage. She argues that technology can assist disabled people to more fully contribute as citizens and enter into society.

"Technology can relocate the body within the broad ambit of contemporary society and citizenship," she says.

"In a very real sense, it expands the ability of the body. You will see more people with disabilities having the opportunity to 'speak' and 'hear' in ways that, for many of them, simply isn't possible now."

Prof Seymour's working paper, *The technological promise: Enhancing social participation and citizenship for people with disabilities*, is part of her ongoing work on technology and disability.

Prof Seymour has interviewed people with a wide range of disabilities, analysing their attitudes to and experiences of new technologies, and the barriers to their use. Conducting interviews on-line, she also raises the question of whether the body must always be present in qualitative research.

Professor Seymour argues that health and rehabilitation professionals have an important role to play in getting people with disabilities on-line.

"Those working with the disabled need to understand the full range

of factors that determine whether people with disabilities use new technologies, including variables such as body image, identity, fear and risk," she argues.

"Understanding these factors is an important first step in helping people with disabilities to engage with technology in ways that increase their equity, social participation and active citizenship."

Other working papers recently published by the Hawke Institute explore the role of general practitioners in increasing the autonomy of patients who are facing death; the influence of global and local factors on the mental health of refugees; the importance of developing a culture of corporate social responsibility; and the lessons to be learnt from the Kurna people to achieve social and ecological sustainability.

The papers are available free of charge from Kate Leeson, editorial assistant at the Hawke Institute, ph (08) 8302 4371, email katherine.leeson@unisa.edu.au, and will soon be available in UniSA libraries and on the Hawke Institute website.

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Professor Mackinnon receives University of Umea honorary doctorate



Ring of honour:
Professor
Alison Mackinnon

Director of the Hawke Institute [Professor Alison Mackinnon](#) was awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa (Honorary Doctor) for her 'contribution to gender and higher education in an historical context' by the University of Umeå, Sweden on 18 November last year.

The university, established in the 1960s, is one of Sweden's largest with 26,000 students.

Prof Mackinnon was among 12 honorary doctors, forty new professors and several university prize-winners who were honoured at a ceremony attended by 1,000 people.

The citations of honorary doctors were presented in Swedish, causing Prof Mackinnon some alarm when laughter broke out as the Dean of Social Sciences, Karl-Gustav Löfgren, read her citation. Apparently he told of her first visit in 1992 when she attended a pro-immigration demonstration. Carrying flaming torches on a dark night in December they stood for an hour in four degrees below zero listening to speeches, an experience which Prof Mackinnon vows never to repeat.

The actual conferring of the degree took place in Latin and required some rehearsal. Each candidate received a laurel wreath, a gold ring placed on the fourth finger of the left hand, and a degree certificate. Finally each candidate was drawn by hand across an imaginary bridge to higher knowledge (in earlier times a real bridge was built on stage).

A banquet for 600 followed with speeches delivered by the Governor of the Province, the Chancellor of all the Swedish universities, Professor Sigbrit Franke, the Chair of the University Board – a senior Volvo board member - and several others. Prof Mackinnon proposed the toast to the university on behalf of her

fellow conferees.

Professor Mackinnon said the experience as a whole was wonderful, as well as being an invaluable opportunity to strengthen the ties between UniSA and the University of Umeå.

"It was a grand occasion with candidates and the audience resplendent in full evening dress. An orchestra and choir provided occasional music throughout the ceremony," she said.

"It is clear that the Swedish state generously supports and values its university system."

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New library research tool

The library has recently purchased the EBSCO Mega File, comprising Academic search elite, Business source premier, Health source plus, MasterFILE elite, Newspaper source, World magazine bank and many more. In addition, the library has moved some key databases including PsycINFO and Emerald to the EBSCO platform.

Students and staff will be able to use the databases whether they are on campus, off campus or offshore. The databases provide access to the full text of journals on-line and can conduct searches across multiple databases at the one time.

Check the library database web pages at <http://www.library.unisa.edu.au/database/ebscohost.htm> if you would like more information.



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Staff awards 2000

Chancellor's Awards for Community Service

The Chancellor's Awards for Community Service recognise and value activities undertaken by university staff and students which provide a significant benefit to community groups.

University of South Australia's Project Team for the South Australian Curriculum, Standards and Accountability (SACSA) Framework

Team coordinators A/Prof Alan Reid and A/Prof Angela Scarino; Team members Valerie Aloa, Jenny Barnett, Carol Biddiss, Elaine Butler, Margaret Calder, Anne Carrington, Mike Chartres, Glenn Cupit, Jim Dellit, Graham Dodd, Prof Marjory Ebbeck, Trevor Feder, A/Prof Lindsay Fitzclarence, Prof Philip Gammage, Dr Judith Gill, Elspeth Harley, A/Prof John Holmes, David Homer, Stephen Keirl, Susan Krieg, David Lloyd, Bill Lucas, Denise MacGregor, A/Prof Carolyn Mathews, Dr Martin Nakata, Vicky Nakata, Kathy Paige, Greg Restall, Dr Sharon Russo, Rosemary Sandstrom, Deborah Sayers, Prof Wendy Schiller, Andrew Scrimgeour, Michele Simons, Dr Karen Starr, Angela Steinberner, A/Prof Patricia Thomson, Lynette Tonkin, Christine Welsh, Bruce White, Pamela Winter, Yvonne Zeegers

Paul Arbon

School of Nursing and Midwifery

Professor Freda Briggs

de Lissa Institute of Early Childhood and Family Studies

SA Centre for Rural and Remote Health

Ian Blue, Jeff Fuller, Dr Gary Misan, Brian Symon, Dr Colin Weetra, Prof David Wilkinson

Hanrahan Community Tapestry Project

Louise Barnes, Kirsty Darlaston, Elizabeth Ho, Kay Lawrence, Karen Russell, Dr Catherine Speck

Media Trio (Media Commentators)

Jackie Cook, A/Prof Kevin Norton, A/Prof Rick Sarre

Special Commendation

School of Nursing and Midwifery Nursing Laboratory Technical Staff Mary Cailotto,
Anne Rogers, Louise Tunbridge

Vice Chancellor's Awards for general staff excellence

The Vice Chancellor's Awards offer university-wide recognition of outstanding contributions by general staff to service initiatives and excellent customer service.

Lachlan Murdoch

Planning Unit

Deborah Sayers

Education, Arts and Social Sciences Division Office

Stephen 'Rocky' Stone

Information Technology Services

Open Day Committee

Julie Charbonneau, Gary Frost, Shona Hughes, Sue Jenkin, Jenni Jobbins, Emma Laurence, Kolynda Maguire, Tracy McCabe, Adrienne Nieuwenhuis, Adele Scott, Sandy Todd, Dianne van Eck, Dawn Walker, David Walters, Patricia Zoia

Street Science Planning Team

Cheryl Barnett, Carolyn Bellamy, Gary Frost, Moira Lawler, Frank Pellas

FLC Online Services Team

Dat Pham, Steve Sara, Dale Wache

UniSANews will feature the winning teams and individuals throughout 2001.

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Nakata receives Governor's leadership fellowship



SA Governor Sir Eric Neal (left) and Professor Martin Nakata

The evening of 27 November 2000 saw [Associate Professor Martin Nakata](#) complete the inaugural year of the Governor's Leadership Foundation Program.

Prof Nakata, Director of the Aboriginal Research Centre, was among a group of 29 to be awarded a fellowship by the South Australian Governor Sir Eric Neal.

The presentation marked the completion of a one-year SA Business Vision 2010 initiative, committed to developing future leaders of SA.

"Leadership is a talent that can be nurtured, and the quality of its execution can be enhanced," Sir Eric said.

The program operates on the premise that the participants themselves offer the richest resource. Participants are drawn from a wide range of backgrounds and work environs, such as farming, the public sector, small business and academia.

Prof Nakata undertook a program of seminars, workshops, retreats, and a year-long action learning project. Monthly forums were led by prominent leaders of South Australian business and industry, as diverse as police and emergency services and the performing arts.

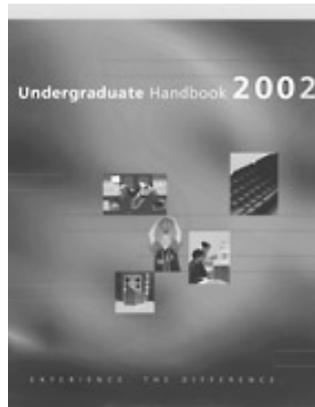
"The camaraderie within the group and the common views about how South Australia can be improved were the best elements of the program," Prof Nakata said.

Elissa Elliot

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Undergrad handbook an Aussie first



This year's Undergraduate Handbook replaces both the 100-page international and 100-page domestic guides. It contains more information than ever before and yet is only 30 pages long. How?

Well it also contains a CD with details of every undergraduate program and weblinks to the UniSA home page.

The new version has a uniquely integrated format which connects the CD with both the printed handbook and the web, via live links, for the most up-to-date information.

"No other university has the information packaged for students and staff in such a meshed fashion. We believe this particular format is an Australian first," says publications coordinator [Tim Hayward-Brown](#) of the Marketing and Development Unit.

"The new hybrid version - half paper, half electronic - brings us another step closer to the web-based model of the future.

"I would like to be able to send people straight to the UniSA website right now, but we need to be mindful of access issues and computer ownership demographics.

"And don't forget there are some people who simply prefer a physical document."

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Murdoch's publications win VC award



Lachlan Murdoch
with Vice Chancellor
Professor Denise
Bradley

Two publishing initiatives, plus high quality customer service, have won [Lachlan Murdoch](#) one of the Vice Chancellor's General Staff Excellence Awards for 2000.

As senior planning analyst in the Planning Unit, Lachlan revamped the unit's website to make it more accessible and useful to staff. He published a load planning model for 2001, allowing divisions to better plan for student enrolments and intakes.

He also led the team which modelled and published a student load pivot table on the site. Staff can download the table to customise their own statistics on student numbers in individual courses.

Vice Chancellor Denise Bradley commended Lachlan for the innovative projects, which made planning across the University both easier and quicker, as well as for his consistently helpful and responsive customer service, including in training and providing expert advice.

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Hit men and women: UniSA website a popular target

In January, UniSA ranked fourth for the number of hits on its home page from among Australia's 22 listed tertiary institutions. On a number of days during the month, UniSA's website was the most 'hit upon' site in the group.

Statistics released in February by <http://www.hitwise.com.au> show that UniSA's highest ranking month in the last year was June 2000 when it had the second largest number of hits in the category.

April 2000 was the worst ever month, when UniSA ranked 17 out of 22. On average, UniSA ranks between seven and 11.

A rolling tally of 28 days covering January and February this year reveals that Monday was by far the most popular day for browsers of the UniSA website, attracting 22 per cent of the four-week total. Saturday was the quietest day, with only eight per cent of hits occurring on that day.

The average visit time to the site at the beginning of February was three minutes and forty five seconds.

Under all Australian categories listed by Hitwise, <http://www.ninemsn.com.au> and <http://www.yahoo.com.au> consistently rank first and second, ninemsn taking a massive 10 per cent of the total traffic on average.

In January, UniSA was ranked 81 under this listing.

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Staff service awards introduced

In 2001 UniSA will introduce a new staff service award program for staff. The program will include a number of date-of-service awards.

"We want to acknowledge those current staff members who have been employed by the University and its antecedent institutions for 10 years or more," said [Vice Chancellor Professor Denise Bradley](#).

"Divisions and portfolios will host important award celebrations throughout the year for staff who have been employed by UniSA and its antecedent institutions for periods of between 10 and 24 years. A university-wide celebration will be held at Brookman Hall later in the year for staff who have service periods of 25 years or more.

"The events are planned as formal recognition of the continued effort and commitment of our staff and will enable us to pass on the University's thanks to staff for their work over many years."

Staff with service periods of between 10 and 24 years will receive information about eligibility and celebrations from divisional human resource officers or portfolio executive officers, and staff with a service period of 25 years or more will receive information from the office of the Vice Chancellor.

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Mortar(board) attacks Vincent

The cap still fits, so wear it. Vincent has his headgear gently restored by academic staff Professor Claire Woods and Nigel Starck



Mortarboards can be dangerous. Just ask Vincent Cheok.

When his BA (Communication and Media Management) class celebrated with the traditional headgear tossing ritual, Vincent became a graduate casualty. His mortarboard landed firmly back on his head, point down.

The result: a deep cut to the scalp and an emergency call for the Adelaide Festival Centre's first aid attendant.

Vincent, a production executive with Saatchi Advertising in Singapore, studied for his degree through UniSA's offshore program.

'Just for a bit of a different look, I'd had my hair blonded for ceremony,' he told UniSANEWS. 'But afterwards it was red and blond.'

With the damage hidden under a turban-style bandage, Vincent put his mortarboard back on. Carefully.

Photo: Sam Noonan

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Ambassador for women

[Professor Freda Briggs](#) became one of the Prime Minister's 30 national ambassadors for the recognition of women during a ceremony in Canberra on Australia Day. Prof Briggs was appointed spokesperson for South Australia.

The ambassadors will work to see an increase in the number of nominations of women for national awards.

Only eight women have been winners of the Young Achiever of the Year and Australian of the Year awards over their 42-year histories.



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Research update

International

Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International

Research Grants

Support for research on the cause, cure, treatment, and/or prevention of diabetes and its complications.

External closing dates 1 February,
15 October and 1 September 2001

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany

DAAD – Grants for Study and Research in the Federal Republic of Germany

Scholarships and short term visits.

<http://www.daad.de>

Closing date – various

New Grant Opportunities

Australian Research Council – New National Competitive Grants Program

Discovery and Linkage Grants 2001

Discovery - Projects (replaces the ARC Large Grants and Fellowship Scheme)

<http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/discovery/projects/default.htm>

Internal closing date 26 February 2001

External closing date 16 March 2001

Discovery - Indigenous Researchers Development - (replaces the ARC Indigenous Researchers Development Scheme)

<http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/discovery/ird/default.htm>

Internal closing date 7 June 2001

External closing date 21 June 2001

Linkage - Projects (replaces ARC Strategic Partnerships with Industry, Research and Training)

<http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/linkage/projects/default.htm>

Internal closing date 29 March 2001

External closing date 12 April 2001

For applications seeking only a stipend to support an APAI(s):

Internal closing date 20 April 2001

External closing date 4 May 2001

Linkage - International Program (replaces the International Researcher Exchange Scheme [IREX])

<http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/linkage/international/default.htm>

Internal closing date -

Fellowships: 16 March 2001

Awards: at any time

External closing date

Fellowships: 30 March 2001

Awards: at any time

Linkage - Infrastructure (replaces Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities Program)

<http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/linkage/infrastructure/default.htm>

Internal closing date 18 May 2001

External closing date 1 June 2001

Australian Flora Foundation

Preliminary Applications - Research Grants for funding in 2002

Original scientific projects on the biology and cultivation of Australian plants.

Internal closing date 26 February 2001

External closing date 10 March 2001

Heart Foundation

Grant-In-Aid

Internal closing date 16 March 2001

External closing date 30 March 2001

Multiple Sclerosis Australia

MS Australia invites applications for the 2002-2003 period under the following schemes:

<http://www.msaustralia.org.au>

Project Grants

Internal closing date 18 May 2001

External closing date 26 May 2001

Seeding Grants

Internal closing date 17 August 2001

External closing date 31 August 2001

Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation

Establishment Grants for Viertel Clinical Investigators

Awards for \$550,000 given on a once only basis. Eligible applicants will be medical graduates or graduates of other clinical disciplines who have completed both their clinical and research training which will normally be at doctoral level and should be commencing their first definitive career position, or have been in such a post for no more than 24 months on 30 April 2001.

Internal closing date 16 April 2001

External closing date 30 April 2001

New Fellowship Opportunities

Australian Academy of Science

2001-2002

An award under the Scheme for Oxford Nuffield Medical Fellowships in either a clinical medicine or medical science department of the University.

Internal closing date 19 March 2001

External closing date 31 March 2001

Birds Australia

Stuart Leslie Bird Research Award

The aim of this award is to fund the research work of postgraduate students in Australia, enabling them to participate in essential fieldwork and attend scientific conferences.

Internal closing date 19 March 2001

External closing date 31 March 2001

Brain Foundation SA

Elizabeth Penfold Simpson Prize

The Brain Foundation (SA) is offering a prize of \$15,000 for the best original research work in any of the basic or clinical neurosciences carried out wholly or chiefly in South Australia during the period of 1 January 1999 – 31 December 2000.

External closing date 30 March 2001

Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation

Senior Medical Research Fellowships

Provide both salary and project grant support for outstanding Australian medical researchers. The total value of the award is \$825,000.

Internal closing date 16 April 2001

External closing date 30 April 2001

Please contact Ms Maria Arena

telephone (08) 8302 3954

Email: Maria.A.Arena@unisa.edu.au for further information about any of the above items.

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Graduation ceremonies

Monday 23 April at 10.30 am

Division of Business and Enterprise

- School of International Business
- International Graduate School of Management
- BUE Division Office

Monday 23 April at 3.00 pm

Division of Health Sciences

- School of Chemical Technology
- School of Medical Radiation
- School of Nursing Studies (Underdale)
- School of Occupational Therapy
- School of Physical Education

Tuesday 24 April at 10.30 am

Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences

- Louis Laybourne-Smith School of Architecture and Design
- South Australian School of Art
- School of Education (Underdale)
- The Unaipon School

Tuesday 24 April at 3.00 pm

Division of Information Technology, Engineering and the Environment

- School of Advanced Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering
- School of Electronic and Information Engineering
- School of Computer and Information Science
- School of Engineering
- School of Environmental and Recreational Management
- School of Geoinformatics, Planning and Building
- School of Geological Science, Minerals and Civil Engineering
- School of Mathematics
- School of Physics and Electronic Systems Engineering

Thursday 26 April at 10.30 am

Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences

- School of Communication and Information Studies
- School of International Studies
- School of Psychology
- EASS Division Office

Thursday 26 April at 3.00 pm

Division of Health Sciences

- School of Nursing (City)
- School of Physiotherapy
- School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences

Friday 27 April at 10.30 am

Division of Business and Enterprise

- School of Accounting and Information Systems
- School of Marketing

Friday 27 April at 3.00 pm

Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences

- de Lissa Institute of Early Childhood and Family Studies
- School of Education (Magill)
- School of Social Work and Social Policy

Friday 4 May at 2.00 pm

Whyalla Campus

Monday 5 November at 10.30 am

University wide

Monday 5 November at 3.00 pm

University wide

Wednesday 19 December at 10.30 am

International students

Wednesday 19 December at 3.00 pm

International students

