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Welcome to our first issue of the Research and Innovation Division’s newsletter for 2007, highlighting various research events and achievements, which reflect the University’s vision of Commitment to Research Excellence.

Building on our successes from 2006, we are certainly on track to remain as one of Australia’s best performing research institutions.

We have been following development of the Research Quality Framework (RQF) closely and we are certainly well placed for its implementation. Our success in research in recent years and the development of key platforms such as the Research Information System (RIS) and Research Online (RO) will allow us to respond effectively to the challenge of the RQF. The RQF Management Committee is particularly pleased with the rollout of the new RIS, which will be critical to the RQF submission, including publications, grants, and esteem factors. Our thanks to the enormous efforts and dedication of Bob Cole, Owen McKerrow and the EmLab team in Education.

Prof. Lee Astheimer (PVCR), and myself will be working closely with faculties to discuss our internal processes and undertake the necessary preparatory work, noting that data collection will not commence until 2008. We have also recently nominated a number of UOW staff to be part of DEST RQF Discipline Workshops to assist in the development of the panel-specific sections which will address the RQF Funding Rules. Both Lee and I will keep you informed of any new developments as they become available. In the meantime there is a more thorough update for you in this newsletter (see below)

Another priority for us this year is improving our level of industry and government engagement. Developing and consolidating industry and government partnerships will play a key role in increasing the number of successful industry funding schemes. The benefits of doing so include: securing income to allow for expansion of our research capacity, more publications, patents and the development of stronger partnerships, and the enhancement of our research reputation and impact.

The Research and Innovation Division strongly supports research by our academics, research students and partners, to achieve international and national collaborations and recognition, which brings a sustained benefit to our community.

We look forward to working together to achieve our goals.

Enjoy reading our Bumper issue of the newsletter!

Professor Margaret Sheil (Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research) and Professor Lee Astheimer (Pro Vice-Chancellor of Research)

Research Quality Framework (RQF) – An Update

The long-awaited DEST Research Quality Framework is now upon us. Australian universities have 2007 to collect the data and prepare Evidence Portfolios (EPs) for their research groups. These documents, submitted for evaluation by RQF Panels in April 2008, will provide data on research Quality and Impact over the six year period, 2001-2006. The panel assessments will determine distribution of DEST institutional research funding to the tertiary sector via a new funding model (yet to be announced). At Woolongong, the UoW RQF Management Committee has been engaged in RQF planning for over a year. The RQFMC is chaired by Prof Lee Astheimer (PVC-R), and includes members Prof Margaret Sheil (DVC-R), Prof Rob Whelan (Dean of Science and dean’s representative), Ms Sharon Hughes (Director of the Research Services Office), Mr Peter Evans (RQF Data Manager) and Ms Helen Mandl (Associate Librarian). The RQFMC is particularly pleased with the rollout of the new Research Information System (RIS), designed as a bank of researcher-specific data critical to the RQF submission (including publications, grants, and esteem factors).

In the next two months, the RQFMC will be meeting with Deans, Research Directors and FRC Chairs to identify and populate an initial set of research groups. We will be asking those researchers to provide a list of 6-8 of their best (highest quality) publications (research outputs) to a special UOW RQF repository. These will be combined with quantitative performance data from the RSO to develop early draft EPs. In addition, research groups will be asked to identify their best case studies of research impact, including possible sources of validation. Clearly, development of our submissions will be influenced by DEST’s advice and the final panel guidelines, which are not due until mid-year. Ultimately, it will be important to optimise both our research reputation via our Quality and Impact Scores as well as our funding position via the new funding model. To meet this new challenge and to represent our research as effectively as possible, we will depend upon the cooperation of the entire UOW community. Thanks in advance and I look forward to working with you…..

Prof. Lee Astheimer

ARC College of Experts

Professor Nick Dixon (Science Faculty) was recently appointed as a member of the Australian Research Council College of Experts. Professor Dixon joined the UOW in August, 2006, after having been on the staff of the Research School of Chemistry, at ANU (Canberra) for 20 years. ARC College of Experts provide strategic advice and play a key role in the identification of research excellence. Members are experts of international standing drawn from the Australian research community: from higher education, industry and public sector research organisations.
Funding/Awards News

Recognize your best – nominations and entries for the Australian Museum Eureka Prizes are now open. The Eureka Prizes are Australia’s largest single award program for science with rewards of over $200,000. The UOW has many outstanding candidates in science research, innovation and communication. Last year, researchers from the Department of Chemistry were part of a team which won the Land & Water Eureka Prize for Water Research. Entry details and nomination forms are available on the Australian Museum website at: http://www.australianmuseum.net.au/eureka/

However, please contact Julie Matarczyk (x5874) or juliema@uow.edu.au at the RSO for more information.

ARC Linkage International Awards and Fellowships

Linkage International Awards are for Australian-based researchers to participate in joint research projects with overseas researchers, establishing new collaborations, strengthening ongoing collaborations and providing international research experience for early career researchers. Linkage International Fellowships are intended to fund Australia-based researchers to work in overseas research organisations or to fund overseas researchers to work in Australia. For further information please visit: http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rso/grants/opportunities/external/ or contact Elizabeth Phillips on x4522 or eliza@uow.edu.au

ARC Linkage Projects aim to encourage and develop long-term strategic research alliances between higher education organisations and other organisations, including within industry. The Linkage scheme aims to support collaborative research and to foster opportunities for postdoctoral researchers to pursue internationally-competitive research in collaboration with organisations outside the higher education sector. For further information please visit: http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rso/grants/opportunities/external/ or contact Julie Matarczyk on x5874 (juliema@uow.edu.au)

NHMRC Career Development Awards aim to provide self-directed health and medical researchers a capacity for original independent research and develop their leadership skills in research. The scheme has a particular emphasis on clinical, public health and health service research in order to increase knowledge and support the development of evidence based health policies. For further information please visit: http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rso/grants/opportunities/external/ or contact Sharon Clarke on x 5815 (e-mail: clarke@uow.edu.au).

2007 URC Research Partnerships Scheme

The URC Research Partnership Scheme aims to support the establishment of co-operative projects in either new research directions with existing or potential partner organisations (Project Grants), or to allow researchers to undertake scoping studies to identify potential partners or projects (Partnership Development Grants). Under the scheme funds are awarded for a period of 1 year.

The guidelines and application forms for the URC Research Partnerships Scheme for 2007 have been revised and are now available from the RSO website: https://intranet.uow.edu.au/content/raid/rso/InternalFunding/index.html

While applications may be submitted at any time throughout the year, there will now be three rounds of assessment – in March, June and October. Accordingly, please note the following 2007 closing dates for submission of applications:

- Round 1: 16 March
- Round 2: 22 June
- Round 3: 26 October

Please address any enquiries to Elizabeth Phillips on extension 4522 or by email: eliza@uow.edu.au

Funding Success

Under the Fabrication Capability of the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS), UOW has been awarded $1.5 million from NCRIS and NSW State Development funds to further develop fabrication of novel polymer and ceramic nano-materials, and organic electronic nano-devices. The funds will be used for infrastructure upgrades and positions for senior research fellows in the Institute for Superconducting Electronic Materials (ISEM) led by Prof. Shi Dou and in the Intelligent Polymer Research Institute led by Prof. Gordon Wallace.

Professor David Steel has been successful in obtaining over $900,000 in funding from the DEST Collaboration &Structural Reform Fund. The project “Applied Statistics Education and Research Collaboration” will form a new Centre involving the statistics hubs at four Australian universities, Wollongong, Newcastle, New England and Western Sydney and will involve
HREC application forms.

A reminder that the NHMRC has introduced a national ethics application form which is currently being accepted by the UoW/SEISAHS HREC on a trial basis. Researchers applying to more than one HREC should investigate whether it would be advantageous to use this form.

The NSW Dept of Education and Training introduced a new process last year, SERAP, to review applications to conduct research in NSW public schools. To avoid duplication the HREC has developed a modified HREC application form which can be submitted with a copy of the SERAP application for HREC review.

DEST - ISL

UOW researchers awarded DEST International Science Linkages Grants.
- Professor Walker, in collaboration with researchers from the University of Tennessee and the University of California, was awarded $446,250: “Defining the mechanism of group A streptococcal flesh-eating invasive disease”.
- Professor Wilson and Dr Andrew Aquilina, in collaboration with the University of Cambridge, were awarded $40,800: “Building a Protein Folding Disease Focussed Link with the University of Cambridge”.
- Prof. Chao Zhang: “Development of terahertz emitters based on electronic and hybrid spintronic materials” worth $50,000
- Prof. Shi Dou: “Development of superconducting materials for electrical applications” worth $80,000
- Prof. Gordon Wallace: “International Consortium on Organic Solar Cells (ICOS)”
- Prof. Anatoly Rozenfeld: “Magneto-Microbeam Radiation Therapy: Effect of magnetic field on absorbed dose distribution and cell survival” worth $20,000.

Ms Yasmine Probst, Prof Linda Tapsell, A/Prof Lori Lockyer, Prof David Steel, Dr Marijka Batterham and Prof Barry Harper, have been awarded an NHMRC Development Grant for their project “The DietAdvice website: a new innovation for dietitians in clinical practice”. This grant will provide $138,338 in funding for the one year project.

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URC Strategic Research Initiatives (SRI) and URC Research Networks

Guidelines for URC Strategic Research Initiatives and URC Research Networks are now available.

URC Strategic Research Initiatives aims to support the development of the research capacity of small teams with a clear trajectory for growth as evidenced by excellent research outcomes and/or a high level of external funding over the past 3 years. Applications will be accepted at any time during the triennial cycle (currently 2007-09) and will typically provide support for 2-3 years.

URC Research Networks provides funding to support the development and coordination of research collaborations between groups of researchers (or nodes) across disciplinary and organisational boundaries. Applications will be accepted at any time during the triennial cycle and will typically provide support for up to 3 years. For further information refer to the RSO website or contact Sharon Hughes, RSO (shughes@uow.edu.au)

Statistical Advice available

The Statistical Consulting Service (SCS) in the School of Mathematics and Applied Statistics provides UOW researchers with statistical advice. The consultants are all experienced statisticians and researchers and most have industry experience. They can advise on planning surveys and experiments, statistical analysis, presentation of results and preparation of grant applications. Statistical advice often has the greatest benefit in the planning stage of a project and researchers are encouraged to consult with the SCS at this stage. For more information, or to arrange a meeting, see http://www.math.uow.edu.au/scs or email statcon@uow.edu.au.

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RESEARCH ETHICS

AGENDA DEADLINES AND MEETING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) - Health and Medical
Upcoming meeting on March 6th (agenda deadline February 19th)
Next meeting April 3rd (agenda deadline March 19th)

Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) - Humanities, Social Science & Behavioural
Upcoming meeting on March 15th (agenda deadline Feb 28th).
Next meeting April 19th (agenda deadline April 4th)

Animal Ethics Committee
Upcoming meeting 15th February (agenda deadline January 25th)
Next meeting April 5th (agenda deadline March 15th)
Training Session will be held in March – Date TBA (contact Penny Potter x3350)

Gene Technology Review Committee
Upcoming meeting March 1st (agenda deadline February 15th)

PROFESSORIAL LECTURE SERIES 2007

General and academic staff are welcome to attend these lunchtime lectures, to hear about the research work and achievements of academic staff members who have either been promoted to Professorial level or are recent appointments to the University. Coming up we have:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SPEAKER, FACULTY &amp; TALK TITLE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14th March</td>
<td>Tony Hulbert - Science “Oils ain't oils ... the importance of fats from seeds, leaves and meat”</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>12:30pm-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 4th April</td>
<td>Christoph Antons - Law “The diffusion of intellectual property law in Southeast Asia: an institutional analysis”</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>12:30pm-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2nd May</td>
<td>Simon Ville - Commerce “The ‘Big End of Town’: the Origins and Role of Corporate Leadership in Australia”</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>12:30pm-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th May</td>
<td>Linda Tapsell - Health &amp; Behavioural Science “What makes food functional?”</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>12:30pm-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1st August</td>
<td>Susan Dodds - Arts “Big Picture Bioethics: Public Reasoning and Values Contestations”</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>12:30pm-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22nd August</td>
<td>Diana Wood-Conroy - Creative Arts “The Paphos Theatre, Cyprus: conjunctions of art and archaeology”</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>12:30pm-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 19th September</td>
<td>Colin Woodroffe - Science “Climate Change and the Coast of Australia”</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>12:30pm-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17th October</td>
<td>Will Price - Science “Phytoestrogens: are they Soy Good for you? Adventures with Bioactive compounds.”</td>
<td>20.2</td>
<td>12:30pm-1:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All presentations are in 20.2 (12:30pm-1:30pm). Please note the location and time change! Sandwiches will also be available for those attending.

Excellence in Research Supervision

NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN for the 2006 Vice Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research Supervision

- Is your research supervisor enthusiastic about your research?
- Does your research supervisor assist you to acquire additional skills and knowledge relevant to your research?
- Is your research supervisor responsive to your particular needs (eg. if you are working, a part-time student, a parent, different cultural background)?
- Is your research supervisor open to communication at times other than those formally specified?
- Do you feel that your research supervisor is supportive at all times (the good and the bad days along the rocky road of research)?
- Does your research supervisor meet with you on a regular basis at a mutually convenient time?

If you have responded positively to all of the above, you have one outstanding research supervisor on your hands! The nomination form can be downloaded from the raid newsletter or visit the Research Student Centre for a hard copy. The closing date is Friday, 23 February 2007.
Research training seminars for HDR students

Are you a new or re-enrolling research student who would like to get some extra training in different aspects of research? The Higher Degree Research (HDR) Student Seminar Series is a free charge program specifically designed for HDR Students. Seminars are separated into modules so that you can easily identify the seminars that will suit you based on what stage you are at in your candidature.

Some of the Seminars to be presented this session include: Endnote, Thesis Writing, Your Gateway to Research at UOW, Your Rights and Responsibilities to Your Research, Helpful tips for Presenting at a Conference: science model (open to all HDR students), Publishing Tips for New Research Students: science model (1st and 2nd year HDR students), Thesis Submission and Examination. Seminars will commence in the week of 13 March 2007. An email advising of the program will be sent to all HDR students in mid February.

Annual Progress Reports are now overdue

The 2006 Annual Progress Reports (APR) were released to HDR students in October 2006. The APR process for Higher Degree Research (HDR) students is via SOLS. Guidelines for students, academic staff and a set of FAQs are available at on the raid website. Supervisors are asked to complete their students APR as a matter of urgency. HDR candidates will not be enrolled for 2007 unless a completed APR is received.

Higher Degree Research (HDR) Student Orientation and Enrolment Day

The compulsory autumn session Higher Degree Research (HDR) Student Orientation and Enrolment Day for HDR students will be held from 9.00am on Tuesday, 27 February 2007. If you have any questions about this event or your enrolment please contact Mari Dwarte, HDR Events Officer in the Research Student Centre on (02) 4221 5454 or mdwarte@uow.edu.au. A registration form can also be downloaded from http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rsc/news/orientation/

Note for continuing students – Re-enrolling students will be automatically re-enrolled on receipt of a completed APR.

Submitting your thesis for examination soon?

In order to avoid incurring fees for Autumn Session 2007 (including international tuition fees and student body charges), you must submit your thesis by 31 March 2007. If you submit your thesis after this date, you must enrol for Autumn session and pay the appropriate tuition fee. Please note that you must be enrolled at the time of submission. For further information, please contact Julie King, Thesis Officer in the Research Student Centre, on (02) 4221 3208 or Julie_King@uow.edu.au.

In conjunction with UniQuest Pty Ltd., UOW is running two interactive workshops in 2007, tailored to the needs of university academic researchers and higher degree postgraduate research students respectively. The workshops offer an intensive grounding in the basics of commercialisation and intellectual property protection. Any UOW researcher interested in enhancing their awareness or applying their innovations and expertise in the community is encouraged to apply.

Speakers are drawn from industry, the investment community, UoW and UniQuest to provide researchers with an informative and practical insight into the commercial environment. University researchers who have successfully commercialised their research will also present their stories.

Topics covered include:

- Why commercialise?
- Safeguard your research outcomes (and still publish);
- Access to research funding from investors, industry and government;
- Taking your research to the market, the options - from consulting to strategic industry partnerships to start-up companies; and
- Career alternatives.

The workshops will be held at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort, Sunshine Coast, QLD.

PODS – Research related courses

Professional & Organisational Development Services (PODS) offer a range of professional and career development courses for both Academic and General Staff.

1) Research Grant Management Series

This workshop series is designed for academic staff who have been awarded a research grant and general staff who provide research grant administrative support. Staff who have recently been awarded internal grants (eg, small grants) and/or external grants (eg, ARC/NHMRC etc) are particularly encouraged to attend. Each workshop is designed to stand alone and staff are welcome to attend all or some of the workshops.

- Intellectual Property 14th March 12:30-1:30pm
- Personnel Management 30th March 12:30-1:30pm
- Finance Management 12th April 12:30-1:30pm
- Ethics 1st May 12:30-1:30pm
- Where to Publish 11th May 12:30-1:30pm
- Reporting Outcomes 24th May 12:30-1:30pm
- Managing Partnerships 7th June 12:30-1:30pm

2) Supervising Higher Degree Research Students

New to Supervising? This program is designed for academic staff who currently supervise postgraduate students and general staff who provide administrative support for research supervisors.

- March/April Workshops
  - Polices and Procedures Tuesday 20th March, 9:30am - 12:30pm
  - Roles and Responsibilities Tuesday 3rd April, 9:30am - 12:30pm
  - Assisting Completion Tuesday 17th April, 9:30am - 12:30pm

More Info: https://intranet.uow.edu.au/content/pods/calendar/index.html

MIC NEWS
The Centre for Medical Radiation Physics through the leadership of Anatoly Rozenfeld's have been recognised as a research partner for the National Space Biomedical Research Institute in the US. The University of Wollongong stands aside prestigious organisations such as NASA Johnson Space Centre, Sloane-Kettering Cancer Institute and University of Oxford. Details can be found on www.nsbri.org

Building a better Library!

2007 will be especially busy at the Library, with an exciting renovation project underway to transform the building into a vibrant campus hub. Over the next year the Library will be transformed into a more open and transparent structure, with updated interiors and a range of flexible study spaces. The extension will provide expanded study, computing and collection storage space. It will also encompass a larger, better-equipped postgraduate study space. This means more desks, seats, computers and resources for you!

You can keep up to date with the extension by checking our website or the display in the foyer. We will keep you informed of:

- what’s happening in the building, as it happens
- which areas are affected by the building works
- where you can find a quiet spot
- what other options are available for access to study space and computers

We appreciate your patience and flexibility during this challenging time. Our friendly staff are always available to answer your questions – in person and online – and you can post any feedback at: http://www.library.uow.edu.au/feedback/index.html

Collecting UOW Publications

The University’s annual collection of publications for DEST is underway. Academicians should enter the details of their publications into the Research Information System (RIS), change the status to ‘Seeking Faculty Verification’ and forward a printed copy of the publication to their relevant Faculty Publication Officer.

One of the many benefits of RIS is that publications can be entered as they are published, throughout the year, rather than awaiting the annual collection period. Faculty and Library staff will be verifying publications on an ongoing basis. The sooner they are entered and verified, the sooner they appear in the publications list for the academic and their faculty.

Increase the “Quality” of your Publications

Dr. Berenika Webster from the University College of London delivered a presentation on Bibliometrics in Higher Education at the recent Elsevier Bibliometrics Seminar in Sydney. Below are some of her tips on how to increase the “quality” of your publications and attract higher citations.

- Publish in the right journals (ie. high impact journals)
- Publish in English
- Write review articles
- Engage in basic research
- Become a journal editor
- Find a co-author from the UK or USA
- Gain external funding
- Make your paper available in an institutional repository (ie.UOW’s Research Online)
- Advertise your publications on listserves and websites (ie. UOW’s Research Information System)
- Network – professional and social contacts in your research area increase if you know one another

Follow the research of the Nobel Prize Winners

In recognition of the research of the 2006 Nobel Laureates, Elsevier has made available, free of charge, the full text of the 102 articles written by the winners and published with Elsevier. Read more at: http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/intro.cws_home/2005nobelprizes

Nobel Prize recipient Professor Alan MacDiarmid passed away on February 7th 2007. Alan was a friend and great supporter of the UoW. He collaborated on many projects with the Intelligent Polymer Research Institute (IPRI) since he and Professor Wallace first met in 1988. Alan won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2000 and was a distinguished scientist. His enthusiasm and love for scientific research was manifest and appreciated by all, including the many young researchers to whom he gave so generously of his time. His leadership and the inspiration that he provided were simply astounding. His support for the UOW’s IPRI and ACES enabled the groups to be established and to grow to what they are today. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.
Professor Mike Morwood is the UOW’s newest member of the Hobbit research team at the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences. He has agreed to present (along with Prof. Bert Roberts and Dr Kira Westaway) the first Uni in the Brewery lecture for the year on Wednesday 7th March (5:30pm-6:30pm). Come along to hear what he has to say about his Hobbit research and moving to Wollongong University.

Dr Karen Charlton has recently relocated to Australia from Cape Town, South Africa to take up a position of Senior Research Fellow at the Smart Foods Centre. She is a Dietitian, with training in Epidemiology. In South Africa, her research expertise was in the area of nutrition and chronic diseases of lifestyle, more specifically the role of dietary interventions in the management of hypertension. She led a series of studies targeting a public health strategy to lower blood pressure. At the Smart Foods Centre, Dr Charlton joins a successful clinical team that works to investigate the impact of different dietary patterns on human metabolism. Trials currently underway at the Centre include the impact of high protein diets on weight loss and body composition, as well as the role of polyunsaturated fat (particularly omega-3 fatty acids), in fat oxidation. The Centre combines basic science research with studies in food habits, consumer trends, and regulatory food issues. Close collaboration with food industry partners enables translation of research findings into the development and commercialization of healthier food products that will reduce the risk of lifestyle diseases in the Australian population.

Professor Matt Wand joined the School of Mathematics and Applied Statistics as Research Professor of Statistics in January this year. He has held previous positions at University of New South Wales, Harvard University, Rice University (Houston, USA) and Texas A&M University. His interests include statistical modelling and methodology, computational biology and the interface between Statistics and Computing Science. University of Wollongong has a strong and growing Statistics group and Professor Wand is looking forward to working with his new colleagues on methodology and software for dealing with the ongoing explosion of data. Professor Wand is a local product. He was born in Wollongong Hospital and educated at St Pius X School, Unanderra, and Edmund Rice College, Mt Keira. He completed undergraduate studies at University of Wollongong in 1986.

Dr Jun Shen (School of Information Systems and Technology, Informatics) focuses his research in automating business processes with advanced web technologies. Dr Shen is collaborating with Germany and US universities in this area. He joined UoW because of its research-intensive reputation. He was recently elevated to a Senior Member of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) and has once again been invited to become a Program Committee (PC) member for the conference in services computing (IEEE Congress on Services). IEEE is known as “the world’s largest professional association for the advancement of technology”. Through its global membership, the IEEE is a leading authority on areas ranging from aerospace systems, computers and telecommunications to biomedical engineering, electric power and consumer electronics.

Dr Helen McGregor, Associate Research Fellow, with the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, is also with the Environment Research Institute, Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO). Helen uses stable isotope and geochemical records from coral microatolls to reconstruct El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) variability from about 6000 years ago to present. The microatolls come from Christmas Island, central Pacific. In collaboration with colleagues at ANSTO she intends to use radiocarbon as a tracer of La Niña variability. Helen’s previous position was at the University of Bremen, Germany focusing on alkenone sea surface temperature (SST) reconstruction from 500BC to 1998AD, using ultra-high resolution sediment cores from the Cape Ghir upwelling system, Morocco.

Helen’s research is innovative in that will use precise radiocarbon dating to identify individual fossil microatolls that overlap slightly in age, then ‘wiggle-match’ the climate signals together. Each microatoll represents a climate ‘window’ several decades, so by overlapping several of these windows she can reconstruct a longer record of climate variability. “I chose to come to UOW so I could focus on coral-based research and UOW has the expertise and facilities to conduct this research. Prof. Colin Woodroffe, from the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, not only has extensive experience in working with microatolls, but has also collected excellent samples from Christmas Island. In addition, the stable isotope and trace element facilities are available in the School to perform the geochemical analyses. The weather in Wollongong also has a certain appeal compared to the cold, grey and drizzly days in northern Germany.”

Professor Ross Bradstock Recently, the NSW Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) and the NSW Rural Fire Service joined with the University of Wollongong to establish the Centre for Environmental Risk Management of Bushfires (CERMB). Professor Ross Bradstock (formerly with DEC), has been seconded to the UOW for 5 years, as the Director of the CERMB. Since its launch last October CERMB has developed major collaborative research projects aimed at understanding how bushfire risk will be altered by global change in NSW. These projects are in collaboration with NSW DEC, ANU and UNSW under funding from the NSW Greenhouse Office, NSW Environmental Trusts, Austral- ian Greenhouse Office (DEH), Bushfire CRC and the ARC. The projects are a wide variety of work, ranging from understanding how plant species are distributed along macro gradients of temperature and moisture at regional scales to long-term computer simulation of fire activity under climate change and differing scenarios of management. The primary thrust of the work is to understand how fire regimes and vegetation may change not only under global warming, but also changes to human populations and other factors such as invasive species. The will provide a basis for assessing risk to people and their properties, effects on biodiversity and the sort of management approaches that may be needed to cope with environmental change in the future.

Professor Nick Dixon was appointed Professor of Biological Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry, at the end of August, 2006, after having been on the staff of the Research School of Chemistry, at ANU (Canberra) for 20 years. His research focuses on the chemistry of natural molecular machines in biological systems. As a model system, he and his team study the assembly of about 30 protein molecules that collaborate to make DNA in cells that are about to divide. “After many years of research, we now know who the individual proteins are and what they look like, and we have a pretty good idea of what each of them does. The challenge now is to learn how they coordinate their interactions in a perfectly orchestrated way - in effect to make a movie of the whole machine in action. One of the new techniques that can help with this is protein mass spectrometry. So the opportunity to make use of the
world-class mass spectrometry facilities in the Department of Chemistry is one of the main attractions that led me to UOW.”

Professor Wenche Ommundsen (Professor of English Literatures - Faculty of Arts)
“My research orientation, and research passion, have moved about quite a bit over time. What has remained constant is my passion for literature, particularly fiction. At the moment I am reading this year’s crop of Australian literary fiction along with Chinese chick-lit.

“I am currently writing papers about fiction dealing with refugees and mandatory detention, which have been major themes in Australian literature since the Tampa crisis of 2001. I am also completing an ARC-funded project on literature and public culture, which means that I am studying things like literary festivals, celebrity authors and literary weblogs. My longest-standing research interest is in multicultural or diasporic literatures, and the ways in which writers and other artists from minority ethnic backgrounds relate to both the mainstream culture and that of their original homelands. In recent years I have concentrated on writers of Asian, particularly Chinese background. I am particularly fascinated by the rapid changes that are taking place as a consequence of globalisation and the economical and cultural transformations in China.

Associate Professor Timothy Nohe from the Department of Visual Arts at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in the USA was granted a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award (2006/07), to conduct research and teach Sonic Art at the UOW’s School of Art and Design, Faculty of Creative Arts. His aim is to heighten awareness of the potential to save millions of dollars and improve safety for the rail industry. The research project was led by UOW’s Professor of Civil Engineering Buddhima Indraratna, and managed by RailCorp Senior Geotechnical Advisor David Christie.

Mr Christie said that for rail-track operators, the innovative research meant significantly reduced maintenance costs, improved rail transportation safety, and less quarry waste-product - all related to the adoption of a new ballast grading, already in use by RailCorp.

“As a result of this research project, we now have new standards of ballast construction that have the potential to reduce settlement of the track, minimise breakage of the ballast and increase the lateral stability of the track.” Mr Christie said. RailCorp has submitted the revised ballast standards to the Australian Standards for National adoption. Prof Indraratna and his UoW research team are currently verifying the research findings at a RailCorp test track site at Bulli on the NSW South Coast.

“We have designed and built innovative large-scale testing equipment unique to Australia. UOW doctoral research students are carrying out cutting-edge analyses of field-test results. Our research findings have now also been adopted in other countries including the UK.” Prof Indraratna said.

The ballast project is one of approximately 40 Rail CRC research projects established and supported under the Australian Government’s Cooperative Research Centres Programme. Rail CRC consists of rail industry partners – Rail Corp, TMG Rail Technology, ARTC, Pacific National, and Queensland Rail - and six university partners – the University of Wollongong, University of South Australia, Central Queensland University, Monash University, The University of Queensland, and Queensland University of Technology. More information on this and other Rail CRC: http://www.railcrc.com.au/news/railtrackdesign.html

Hobbit project moves forward….to Wollongong

Professor Mike Morwood, the newest edition to the UOW’s GeoQuEST research group (previously of UNE), has recently published a fascinating account of the Indonesian research project to date, entitled “Discovery of the Hobbit”. This literary contribution outlines the events leading up to the discovery of a new species of human in an isolated cave site in western Flores, and the controversy surrounding its analysis and interpretation.

The director of the Liang Bua excavation, and discoverer of Homo floresiensis, Thomas Sutikna, will be arriving in Wollongong this year to begin PhD research focusing on extending the Indonesian research project to a neighbouring island, Sulawesi. In addition, the third of three PhD candidates associated with the discovery, Kira Westaway, graduated from the University of Wollongong in December, and was successful in the latest ARC Discovery project funding to continue research into reconstructing the climates and environments in which the hobbits lived. The team plans to continue excavations at Liang Bua this year.

Allan Chivas and Adriana Garcia (Faculty of Science – School of Earth and Environmental Sciences) have been awarded a NSW Environmental Trust grant of $199,216 for the project: ‘Natural versus Human Impacts: Management of the Macquarie Marshes’. This was a collaboration with Paul Hesse at Macquarie University and Scott Mooney at Uni of NSW.

Associate Professor Michael Boyd from UOW’s School of Civil, Mining & Environmental Engineering and his PhD student Dr Nanayakkara Bodhinyake have been awarded the 2006 GN Alexander Medal by the Institution of Engineers Australia, a prestigious Engineering award for their work on predicting flooding in a wide range of catchments. More than 200 papers were
Robust and Accurate Head Pose Tracking Using a Single Camera” and was co-authored by Dr Koren Ward and Dr Ian Piper (Informatics). This award follows on from another Best Paper Award at the International Conference on Sensing Technology held recently in New Zealand. In addition to this Simon was also awarded two Best Poster awards at recent SITACS Postgraduate Research Tradeshows and an award for innovation at Trailblazer 2005. Simon’s research involves the development of haptic and electro-tactile substitute vision systems and user interfaces for the visually impaired.

Dolnicar, S. & Grün, B. have won the Best Paper Award in the Marketing Research and Research Methodology Track 2006; ANZMAC Journal of European Marketing, for their paper “Answer Format Suitability - The Interdependence of Answer Format and Construct Measured”.

The Faculty of Informatics has recently partnered with Motorola to fit out a Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) Lab. The lab will provide state-of-the-art equipment to support teaching and research. Tim Coltman, Eryk Dutkiewicz and Katina Michael look forward to the opportunities that the Lab will provide for future industry linkages in the area of supply chain management.

Profs. Zhang, Mao and Jin from the Shanghai Jiao Tong University visited University of Wollongong last year. They signed a MoU with Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Prof. Sheil and met with UoW management and Informatics Faculty professors. Profs. Zhang, Mao and Jin received visiting appointments at UoW. Reciprocal visiting appointments at Shanghai Jiao Tong University were received by Prof. Chicharo, Prof. Dutkiewicz and A/Prof. Huang (TITR).

Professor Lee Astheimer has been appointed as the Australian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee (AVCC) representative on the Australian and New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching (ANZCCART).

Biomechanics researcher wins ‘Best New NSW Talent’

The highly competitive David Garlick Memorial Scholarship for ‘Best New NSW Talent in Applied Sports Medicine’ has been won by Deirdre McGhee from the University of Wollongong’s Biomechanics Research laboratory. The $15,000 award will enable Ms McGhee to conduct further research into her work investigating the biomechanics of breast movement, brassiere design and fit to prevent musculoskeletal injuries and allowing female athletes of all breast sizes to comfortably and safely participate in sport.

This award was recently presented at the 9th Annual NSW Sports Safety Awards Presentation Dinner, hosted by the NSW Sporting Injuries Committee at the Telstra Stadium in Sydney.

Synchrotron Magneto-Microbeam Radiation Therapy (MMRT) research at CMRP.

CMRP has been carrying out research for the last 5 years in the area of Microbeam Radiation Therapy (MRT) in collaboration with European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF), in France.

Innovative fundamental research on the improvement of Radiobiological Efficiency of radiation therapy by using a magnetic field during the irradiation was initiated at CMRP by Prof Anatoly Rozenfeld several years ago. The first promising results were obtained at the end of 2006 on cell survival experiments using the X-ray radiobiological facility granted by Cancer Institute NSW, in collaboration with Westmead Cancer Research Institute. Further verification of these results will be carried out in 2007.

This innovative research at CMRP was further supported with a DEST Grant awarded in January 2007 under the French-Australian Science and Technology (FAST) Programme.

In recognition of this research leading to the improvement of cancer treatment CMRP PhD student Ms Heidi Nettelback was invited to apply for a prestigious French Eiffel Doctorate Scholarship to conduct research and complete her PhD at the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF), in France. For her research on MMRT she was also awarded the Best Postgraduate Presentation Award at the MedPhys06 Conference.

Associate Professor Beverly Walker, Dept of Psychology and Illawarra Institute of Mental Health is the first author for an article published in the 2007 the Annual Review Of Psychology. The article, titled “The Elaboration of Personal Construct Psychology”, was written with Professor David Winter at the University of Hertfordshire, UK. This is a considerable honour as publication by invitation only. In the past 25 years only four other Australians have had articles in this journal, which, with an impact factor of 9.8, is the highest ranking...
mainstream psychology journal. The article is an overview of 50 years of Personal Construct literature. This area has been one of major focus and expertise within the psychology department that has resulted in a number of productive exchanges with academics and practitioners world-wide.

**Professor Diana Wood Conroy**'s book, ‘Fabric of the Ancient Theatre’ will be printed in Cyprus as a paperback in April this year. The paperback edition will be launched at the Old Weaving Mill in Nicosia Cyprus on 18 April 2007. It is published by Moufflon Publications in Cyprus (http://www.moufflonpublications.com/) and is distributed in Europe. It is available in Australia through the Australian Book Group in Drouin, Victoria (http://www.australianbookgroup.com.au/). Diana is with the Faculty of Creative Arts and will be participating in the Professorial Lecture Series this year (22nd August).

**UOW art goes to Canada.**

Staff of the School of Art & Design, Faculty of Creative Arts (FCA) will present a group exhibition titled “Out on the Patio” at Capilano College in Vancouver from 5th February to 5th March 2007. Works from the artists have been sent for display as part of an ongoing collaboration between Australian and Canadian art educators. In February 2006 artworks from their Canadian counterparts was exhibited in the Faculty of Creative Arts and this year the School of Art & Design staff reciprocate with their exhibition. Artists are: Gregor Cullen, Dr Lisa Anderson, , Brogan Bunt, Didier Balez, Dr Penelope Harris, Jacky Redgate, Richard Hook, Jelle Van Den Berg, Prof Diana Wood Conroy, Sue Blanchfield, and guest Timothy Nohe, Fulbright Scholar at FCA.

A new exhibition of limited edition prints by **Mary Rosengren** (Visual Arts Postgraduate student in the Faculty of Creative Arts) has recently been published by Pharos Editions. These works of visual and textual material are contemporary views of vegetation from western science and include historical accounts of plant subjects from European artist-scientists of 17th & 19th Centuries. Mary Rosengren recently re-established her practice in Australia after 15 years in the UK. Her work is represented in national and private collections. http://www.pharoseditions.com.au/about_us.html

A group of graduating Performance students from the Faculty of Creative Arts was invited to present a devised performance at the Hanoi International Festival of Experimental Theatre in December 2006. The students were the youngest performers at the festival and received television and radio coverage for their work. The students were, Eammon Bryant, Tom Downey, Hester Gascoigne, Heather Mitchell, Mark Pritchard, Emily Walker, Rhys Wilson and Annaliise Szota. Their participation in the International Festival was arranged by Janys Hayes (Performance Lecturer with the School of Music and Drama) and is part of an ongoing collaboration between the UOW Performance area and the Vietnam-Australiia Cultural Exchange Program run by Duong Le Quy and the Hanoi Academy of Theatre and Film.

Professor Glenda Strachan (Griffith University) and Professor Mary Barrett (Commerce) have been awarded a prestigious grant worth almost $10,000 from CPA (Certified Practising Accountants) Australia for their project “Retaining professional accountants’ skills: Women in small accounting firms”.

An edited book by **Professor Mary Barrett** (Commerce) and Professor Marilyn Davidson (Centre for Diversity and Work Psychology, Manchester Business School, University of Manchester) “Gender and Communication at Work” has had some international impact. An article was published in Britain’s The Times newspaper (September, 2006) and there have been comments and discussion on the ‘Women’s Hour’ in the UK. Both media institutions were particularly intrigued by the work on gender issues and electronic communication.

**Alumni student Laura Perusco and Dr K. Michael (Informatics) will have a paper titled: “Control, Trust, Privacy, and Security: EVALUATING LOCATION-BASED SERVICES” published in the special issue on Security and Usability in the next issue of the IEEE Technology and Society Magazine. (IEEE is the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers).**

**The year ahead for NCEFF** - The National Centre of Excellence in Functional Foods’ third year of operation demonstrated growth and strength in the diverse range of services it offers food industry organisations. In addition to providing science projects underpinning functional food developments, NCEFF has systematically evaluated the science behind close to 50 health claims made on foods. To date NCEFF has worked with fourteen food companies, including nine large companies, six of which are among Australia’s top 50 largest food companies. Their recent two day planning workshop brought together members of the Food Industry, founding R&D partner organisations including representatives from CSIRO, DPI Victoria, Food Science Australia, and the NFIS Innovation team. This meeting developed a foundation for an exciting new business model which will help establish the Centre as a one stop shop and independent broker between the food industry and research providers.

**The Centre for Medical Radiation Physics (CMRP) presents the “Image-Guided & Proton Radiotherapy” workshop on 12 March 2007. This one day workshop will focus on advanced methods, including IGRT, IMRT and IGPT, to effectively treat prostate, lung and head and neck tumours. Invited International speakers:**

- Associate Professor Wolfgang A. Tomé, Departments of Human Oncology and Medical Physics, University of Wisconsin, USA
- Dr Reinhard Schulte, MD., Proton Therapy Facility, Loma Linda University Medical Centre, USA
- Plus selected Australian speakers. The workshop is suitable for Radiation Oncologists, Radiation Oncology Medical Physicists and Radiation Therapists. For More information, Peter Vrahas (vrahas@uow.edu.au)

**The Australian Research Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science (ACES)** hosted a three-day international symposium addressing developments and applications in the areas of bionics and energy (7-9 February). Key presentations included:

- Professor Zi Feng Ma (Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China) who spoke on strategies and progress on the development of fuel cell electric vehicles in China. The UOW recently signed a collaborative research agreement with Shanghai Jiao Tong University.
- Professor Mark Cook (St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne) is a neurologist specialising in the treatment of epilepsy which is the commonest serious neurological disease afflicting the population. Attention has now turned to promising new methods of polymer-based drug delivery systems to neural
tissue. St Vincent’s is working in collaboration with UOW researchers.

Biopedagogies Conference in Faculty of Education Tackles the ‘Obesity’ Polemic. Over three days at the end of January (last month) the Faculty of Education and Centre for Interdisciplinary Youth Research held the inaugural Biopedagogies conference, supported by funds from a UOW International Committee Linkage Grant. The event attracted national and international scholars on critical obesity studies and the discussion Professor Valerie Walkerdine from Cardiff University. The work of the three days has resulted in the formation of an international team of researchers who will address the escalating hysteria being promoted by media and government about ‘obesity’. Given recent media claims that health concerns such as cancer are caused by obesity, the formation of the group is a timely intervention. The conference was co-directed by Professor Jan Wright and Dr Valerie Harwood.

• PhD Scholarship with the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences “Determining sea-level history in northeastern Australia from coral microatolls”. An exciting opportunity exists to pursue PhD research as part of a larger ARC-funded research project aimed at improving our understanding of relative sea-level change in northern Australia over past millennia. The project will include significant remote fieldwork in Torres Strait, laboratory analyses and sample preparation, as well as integration with geophysical modelling, being undertaken by Professor Kurt Lambeck and others at ANU. The successful candidate will have an Honours or MSc degree in physical geography, geology, or environmental science, or a suitable alternative qualification, and excellent quantitative and communication skills. Interested candidates should contact the supervisors [scott.smithers@jcu.edu.au or colin@uow.edu.au] with an expression of interest and evidence of capacity to undertake the research. Scholarship duration is 3 years at $19,616 p.a.

• Commercialisation Training Scheme (CTS) Scholarships The Commercialisation Training Scheme (CTS) is a DEST initiative that aims to provide high quality research commercialisation training to HDR students as a means of equipping them with skills necessary to bring ideas, inventions and innovations to the market. To qualify for a CTS scholarship HDR students must enrol in the Graduate Certificate in Research Commercialisation which is offered through the Faculty of Commerce. The Graduate Certificate should take no more than 6 months full time (or part time equivalent) to complete. Successful students will be permitted to enrol concurrently in the Graduate Certificate and their HDR degree (subject to satisfactory progress).

• Scholarship opportunity with UOW’s School of Psychology - “Post adoptive behaviour of enterprise systems implementation”

• PhD Scholarship with UOW’s School of Psychology in applied visual perception: aircraft glideslope control

• Scholarship Opportunity in Philosophy (UOW- Faculty of Arts)

• Turkish Foreign Policy Institute invites applications for the İhsan Dogramaci International Relations Fellowship. The fellowship of USD $20,000 aims at encouraging scholarly research that will contribute to the development and improvement of international relations and friendship and rapprochement among nations. The deadline for applications is February 28, 2007. This year’s general theme will be “Understanding and Dialogue among Civilizations: Opportunities and Constraints”. There will be no discrimination among the applicants as to language, religion, race, citizenship, sex profession or any other similar ground. Juridical persons may also apply. The winner of the Fellowship will be announced no later than April 2007. The fellowship will be paid in three equal instalments. The first instalment will be paid on announcement of the award. The second instalment will be paid at the middle of the one-year project period, provided that a progress report is submitted to and approved by the Institute. The final instalment will be paid when the final report has been submitted to and approved by the Institute at an awards ceremony to be held in Ankara, Turkey in April 2008 (Travel to Ankara will be covered by Bilkent University and local hospitality and accommodation will be provided by the Institute). When the final report is approved, the Fellow will be invited to give a lecture at Bilkent University on the subject of the research project.

The fellowship applicant must provide the following information:

1. Name of the person who will be carrying out the fellowship project;
2. Phone, fax or e-mail where applicant can be reached during office hours;
3. Address where applicant can be reached during the application period;
4. A statement up to 1000 words, explaining the reasons for applying and what it is hoped to accomplish through the Fellowship;
5. Two letters of recommendation provided by supervisors of previous work undertaken by the applicant or by Institutions where he/she has been employed;
6. A detailed resume;
7. Any other publication or works the applicant would like the jury to consider;
8. A budget for the research project.

Applications must be postmarked no later than February 28, 2007. All materials must be included in the application package. Applications should be sent to the following address:

Turkish Foreign Policy Institute
Bilkent University, East Campus. 06533
Ankara - TURKEY

For more details contact:
Tel: + 90 312 2666 28 69,
Fax: + 90 312 266 28 71
e-mail: fpi@foreignpolicy.org.tr

To ensure inclusion of your research news, event or service in the next issue of RaID (due for publication end of April), please e-mail details to wwallace@uow.edu.au by April 13th.