

UOW Community News

University-Community Engagement Newsletter

Issue 1, February 2007 ♦ <http://www.uow.edu.au/about/community/>



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Office of Community and Partnerships

Please keep us informed of your community engagement activities and initiatives so we can help to heighten awareness of this important aspect of the University's operations.

Contact: The Community Relations Coordinator on Ext.3110 or email: ocp@uow.edu.au.

UOW Online Events Calendar – never miss anything again

The University of Wollongong's integrated on-line events calendar provides a one-stop source of information for UOW staff, students, parents, alumni and members of the broader community.

The Events Calendar is free and open to all staff and registered student groups and organisations including programs that partner with the University. It's a great way to both promote your upcoming events and plan around other events and activities happening on campus.

A *Community Billboard* Calendar is also available to members of the community to list their annual fundraising events, along with major cultural events that include concerts and performances.

So if you're searching for an event or promoting one visit: <http://www.uow.edu.au/events>



Awards recognise University/community engagement

Chancellor's Award for Excellent in Community Service

The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Community Service has been established in 2007 to recognise achievement in Community Service and highlight the personal contributions that UOW alumni and others make to the enrichment of their community and advancement of their society.

Two distinguished awards are offered each year relating to support for the University and service to the community; one for UOW alumni and the other for community members (or community groups). The annual award carries a prize of \$2000.

Details about the award including guidelines and nomination forms will be available shortly. Keep an eye out for details about the award and links to this website on the Community & Partners website: <http://www.uow.edu.au/about/community/>

Staff Award final reminder

Nominations for the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Community Engagement close this **Friday 23rd February**.

The award is open to all UOW staff and carries a prize of \$2000. Read the guidelines and download a nomination form at: <http://www.uow.edu.au/about/community/staffaward.html>

Spotlight: On the Environmental

UOW hosts international water recycling seminar

The University brought water recycling into the mainstream earlier this month when it hosted a seminar on a range of very timely issues, featuring a number of experts from across the globe.

As debate rages about the urgent need to conserve water in Australia and throughout the world, the seminar addressed a range of key topics and focused on the needs and challenges of bringing research, practice and policy together to develop innovative solutions for battling the water shortage crisis.

Sponsored by Sydney Water and featuring an address from its Managing Director, Dr Kerry Schott, the seminar was the culmination of a 4-year international project titled AQUAREC that was funded by the European Commission and in Australia by the Australian Government and involved 17 worldwide institutions (including UOW) researching integrated concepts in water recycling.

The two-day seminar was officially opened by Minister for Regional Development, Small Business, Water Utilities and the Illawarra, Mr David Campbell, who welcomed the range of speakers to the University and Illawarra region.

Read more at

<http://media.uow.edu.au/news/2007/0202b/index.html>

Funding for Environmental Projects

The Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority and the Australian and NSW Governments provide funding under the **Community Partnership Fund**. The fund's aim is to support educational projects, training and other capacity-building activities that develop the community's knowledge of, skills in and commitment to improved natural resource management.

For more information contact Jane Caldwell at the Southern Rivers Catchment Management Authority. Phone (02) 4224 9703 or email jane.caldwell@cma.nsw.gov.au

For more information visit

<http://www.southern.cma.nsw.gov.au/community.php>

The Australian Government **Envirofund** is the local action component of the Australian Government's \$3 billion Natural Heritage Trust. It helps communities undertake local projects aimed at conserving biodiversity and promoting sustainable resource use.

Groups and individuals, including staff of the University can apply for grants of up to \$50,000 (GST inclusive) to carry out on-ground and other actions to target local problems.

Round 9 is now open with a total of \$20 million in funding available for projects across Australia.

Copies of the Round 9 Guide and Application Form are now available at <http://www.nht.gov.au/envirofund/>

Applications close at 5pm on Friday 27 April 2007.

"Roots & Shoots" - Global Program for Youth

Young people & educators are invited to attend an information session to learn about a Global Environmental and Humanitarian Education Program for Youth called "Roots & Shoots"

The Program is new to Australia and is presented by the Jane Goodall Institute under the banner "INSPIRE, TAKE ACTION, MAKE A DIFFERENCE".

When: Wednesday 28 February

Where: Corrimal Library

At: 4.15pm to 6pm

Cost: Free

Contact: Jane Taylor 42 674 512

FREE Project Management Workshops

The Illawarra Area Consultative Committee is running FREE Project Management Workshops for community members and organisations.

Do you have a great idea for a project that is going to benefit your community but just don't know where to start?

Would you like to learn more about project development and project management?

These free workshops will provide you with valuable insights into:

- Developing innovative community projects
- Locating funding sources for community projects
- How to write your grant application
- Managing your project
- Corporate Governance

Training will be interactive and practical.

When: 1 March and continuing on 5 March 2007

Where: Coledale Senior Citizens Centre

At: 9.30am - 3.00pm

Cost: Free (Lunch provided)

Contact: Sue or Lee at the IACC on 42274500

Bookings are essential.

Dementia Awareness

As part of Seniors Week, UOW's Eastern Australia Dementia Training Study Centre will be holding a Dementia Awareness Information Stand in the Wollongong City Centre Mall on Wednesday 14 March from 9am to 4pm.

For further information contact Moira Miller on 4221 5062 or visit <http://dementia.uow.edu.au/>



Special Feature: Aged Care Partnership

Senior Living and Aged Care provider, Horizon Living, has entered into a special partnership with the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences at the University which will provide significant benefits for Horizon Living residents, UOW's students – and aged care research in general.

The partnership agreement with Horizon Living is believed to be the first of its kind between two such institutions.

Under the agreement, Horizon Living will provide clinical placements at its facilities for University of Wollongong students in the areas of nursing, dietetics and nutritional science, exercise science and clinical psychology. Students from the University's new Graduate School of Medicine are also expected to obtain clinical placements within Horizon Living.

The residents of Horizon Living facilities would also benefit from the company's close relationship with the University, with direct access to the latest research and science-based health care.

Read more at

<http://media.uow.edu.au/news/2007/0220a/index.html#>



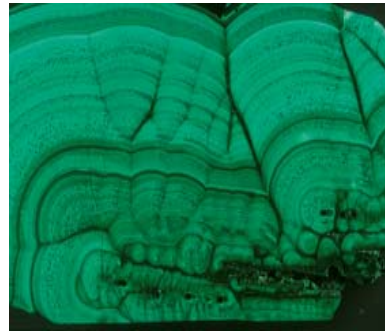
A Memorandum of Understanding between Horizon Living and the University of Wollongong was signed by Horizon Living Managing Director, Mr Fred Ferreira (right) and University of Wollongong Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gerard Sutton on 19 February 2007

Greeting cards support University Collections

A reminder that greeting cards produced by the Office of Community and Partnerships, in conjunction with the Faculties of Creative Arts and Science, are on sale. All monies raised go to support two of the University's unique collections, the UOW Art Collection and the Howard Worner Rock and Mineral Collection.

Each set is comprised of six cards which are available individually (at a cost of \$2.50) or as a set of all six cards (at a cost of \$12 per set). The cards, which are blank inside, are available for sale at the UniShop.

All of the proceeds from the sale of the Howard Worner Collection cards will go to the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences to fund future specimens, while all the proceeds from the sale of the Art Collection cards will go to the UOW Art Collection to raise funds for new artworks and to fund a student prize in the Faculty of Creative Arts.



Collection card series (Agate, Mt Hay, QLD. Photo: Penny Williamson)



For bulk purchase orders contact the Office of Community & Partnerships on 4221 3110.

Further information can be found at

<http://www.uow.edu.au/about/community/cards.html>

Business community meets Medical School's Sim-Man

A fortnight after the University first medical students began their studies, the region's business community had the chance to inspect their new high-tech home.

UOW hosted a cocktail party at the Graduate School of Medicine on 13 February for more than 200 members of The Illawarra Connection business networking group.

Guests had the opportunity to tour the GSM Building, and watch demonstrations of the life-size simulated patients, called Sim-man, that the university has purchased to teach their students. These computer-controlled mannequins can be programmed to exhibit a variety of conditions and symptoms, which the students must identify and treat.

Read more at

<http://media.uow.edu.au/news/2007/0215a/index.html>



Professor Don Iverson (right) introduces Sim-man to Dr John D'Arcy and Judy Wood during an inspection of the Graduate School of Medicine

Upcoming Public Events



Community Tour

13 March: 10-12noon **CAMPUS WALKING TOUR**

As part of Seniors Week, members of the community are invited to participate in a walking tour of the University. The tour will include an inspection of the latest art exhibition and brief talks by various academics.

Contact: Leanne Crouch /Jan Sullivan

Bookings: Tel 4221 3110

Email community@uow.edu.au

Free Public Lecture

14 March: 12:30pm to 1:30pm "OILS AINT OILS ... THE IMPORTANCE OF FATS FROM SEEDS, LEAVES AND MEAT"

Prof Tony Hulbert from the Faculty of Science will speak about his latest research into metabolism and the effects of dietary fats on membrane composition, physiological function and health.

Film Festival

24 March: 5pm to 9pm **SHORT SITED 11 FILM FESTIVAL**

Don't miss the Illawarra's largest short film festival! The Festival provides a screening space for filmmakers local, national and international.

Venue: Wollongong University Hall

Website: www.shortsited.org

Contact: Julie Prsa contact@shortsited.org

Art Exhibition

Until 9 March: 10am to 4pm **ERRATIC ART 3**

An exhibition of paintings by seven artists from Sydney and Wollongong. Curated by Robert Howe in collaboration with Megan West, this exciting and colourful exhibition strives to address aspects of human frailty in a flawless environment.

Venue: Long Gallery, Upstairs, Building 25

Faculty of Creative Arts

Website: <http://www.uow.edu.au/crearts/>

Contact: Tanya Barton tanyab@uow.edu.au

Free Performance

26 February 12:30pm to 1:30pm **TAIWANESE PERFORMANCE ARTIST SHIH-HUE TU**

Following her appearance at the Queer Asian Sites, International Conference of Asian Queer Studies in February, Taiwanese performance artist Shih-Hue Tu from Taipei National University of the Arts, Taiwan will present a public performance at UOW.

Venue: Performance space, building 25

Website: <http://www.uow.edu.au/crearts/>

Contact: Tanya Barton tanyab@uow.edu.au

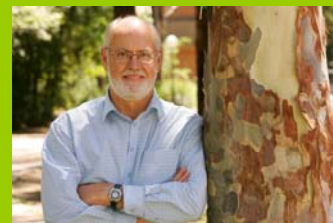
A more detailed listing of events on campus is available at <http://webevents.uow.edu.au/>

Staff Profile

Ron West

Position:

Associate Professor & Director,
Marine and Freshwater Centre
(Shoalhaven Campus)



Faculty

School of Biological Sciences, Science Faculty

Community Engagement Activities:

- Linkages with community groups along the NSW south coast, from Port Hacking to Eden, providing technical advice, public seminars and taking part in community-run marine science activities
- Involved in providing research advice and running small-scale, low-cost, research projects for community groups, councils, local catchment and estuary management committees
- Over the past decade a member of many advisory committees including: Fisheries Scientific Committee; Dendrobium Mine Independent Expert Review Committee; Southern Coalfields – Independent Expert Panel; Wollongong Estuary Management Committee (past Chair); Coast and Clean Seas Committee; South Coast Indigenous Aquaculture Committee; Marine and Coastal Working Group; and Scientific Committee on Wildlife Use
- Provided management advice to many national, state and local governments, particularly through scientific panels and workshops, on issues such as: environmental flow requirements; algal blooms. Impacts of fishing; environmental targets for catchments; wetland assessments; aquaculture development and coastal management.

Why is community engagement important?

The mantra of "global problems, local action" is fundamental to improving the sustainable management of the coast, and local action should be based on good science.

But community engagement presents a conundrum for scientists, whose success is usually measured by international recognition, national grants and scientific publications. It leads to a balancing act between the often-insatiable demands from community groups to get involved in local problems, and the need to stay internationally competitive by addressing global issues.

[Note: if you are interested in being featured in the Staff Profile, contact ocp@uow.edu.au]