Agent Update 55 – 13 January 2004

1. GREAT WINS FOR UOW

Employment prospects for UOW graduates better than Australian National Average

The Graduate Careers Council of Australia has just released its latest employment prospects for university students with the University of Wollongong scoring well above the national employment rate.

While the national employment rate for graduates is 80.1 per cent, UOW has an employment rate of 91.3 per cent for its graduates.

The 2003 Graduate Destination Survey reveals that UOW has achieved a 100 per cent employment success rate for its engineering students. While the job market may be highly competitive for computing science students (national employment average 68.1 per cent), UOW’s computing science graduates have enjoyed a 92 per cent employment success rate.

In almost every field, UOW’s employment rate has outstripped the national average for first degree graduates.

The latest graduate statistics show why UOW has now been the top university four years in a row for students’ “educational experience” and “graduate outcomes” (Good Universities Guide 2004).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Australian National Employment Average</th>
<th>UOW Employment Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Range: 73.5% to 94.1%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>68.1%</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>67.7%</td>
<td>93.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>82.7%</td>
<td>92.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>69.3%</td>
<td>92.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>67.3%</td>
<td>90.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
<td>68.6%</td>
<td>88.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Studies</td>
<td>76.9%</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual &amp; Performing Arts</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
<td>79.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: The Graduate Destination Survey is conducted annually in co-operation with all Australian universities. The survey tracks the activities of new university graduates who completed their qualifications in the previous calendar year. The latest figures appear in the Graduate Careers Council of Australia’s new summary publications, GradStats and The Grad Files. GradStats can be found at the following website: http://www.gradsonline.edu.au/2003gradfiles.htm

2. WOLLONGONG MAKES “TOP TEN” RESEARCH GROUP

The University of Wollongong’s long-standing claim of being a research-intensive institution has received a major boost following its inclusion in a “top 10” table of universities in relation to funding received from the Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Grants.
Wollongong came in at outright eighth on the table surpassing universities much larger in size. In fact, UOW ranked fifth on the “top 10” table based on the relative size of the University.

The Federal Government has announced UOW will receive ARC funding worth $6,688,982. Wollongong joined other Australian universities competing for more than $248 million over three years for 965 projects starting in 2004.

One of the big winners from the latest round of funding has been the ground-breaking work into superconductivity and energy storage materials by Professor Shi Dou and his team in the Institute for Superconducting and Electronic Materials (ISEM).

The ARC funding to UOW also includes the awarding of an Australian Professorial Fellowship to a researcher in evolution biology of world-class renown, Associate Professor Mats Olsson.

3. WOLLONGONG’S SUCCESS IN INDUSTRY-LINKED RESEARCH GRANTS

In May 2003 the Federal Government announced the results of grants linking universities with industry partners, with the University of Wollongong (UOW) awarded more than $2.4 million.

UOW has had 18 projects funded, equalling the same number awarded to Victoria’s Monash University.

The 72 per cent success rate in grant applications achieved by UOW compared well against the national average of 45 per cent.

Federal funding for Linkage Project grants assists academic researchers develop strategic research alliances with industry. Companies from across Australia are co-funders in this round of Linkage Projects, contributing $1.64 for every $1 spent by the Federal Government.

Areas that have received funding at UOW are: Materials engineering, manufacturing engineering, metallurgy, education studies, artificial intelligence and signal and image processing, civil engineering, public health and health services, organic chemistry, environmental engineering, information systems, law, microbiology, zoology, sociology, ecology and evolution.

Further information about UOW’s research strengths can be found in the new UOW International Postgraduate Prospectus.

Kind regards,

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http://www.uow.edu.au/prospective/international/