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### Office of Community and Partnerships

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

**Contact:**  
Community Engagement Manager on Ext. 3110 or [community@uow.edu.au](mailto:community@uow.edu.au)

## Local Aboriginal Centre benefits from Community Exchange program

As part of a new community service learning program, *Community Exchange*, a group of Commerce students presented a marketing plan to the Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation on 27 November.

*Community Exchange* works as a 'matchmaker' to link not-for-profit community groups to resources at the University, providing students with an opportunity to enrich their learning experiences through participation in the broader community.

Five UOW students have been working with the Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation as part of their third-year subject, Marketing Strategy. The students developed a marketing plan to assist Coomaditchie become a sustainable and self-sufficient artists' co-operative.

Representatives from UOW's Faculty of Commerce and Office of Community and Partnerships attended the presentation, along with students and Coomaditchie artists.

*Community Exchange* was established as a pilot by the Office of Community & Partnerships in mid 2008 to encourage and facilitate community service learning (CSL) across the University.

### What is Community Service Learning?

- Involves learning in the community
- Combines service and learning in intentional ways, not in an ad hoc way
- Relates to discipline knowledge
- Always involves an aspect of reflective learning
- Means building and maintaining community partnerships
- Requires a relationship based on mutuality - the student and the community both benefit
- Not "volunteering" for the sake of volunteering, there needs to be a learning component
- Is not about internships or work placements.

### Benefits of Community Service Learning:

- Enhances learning
- Increases the relevancy of education
- Teaches positive values, leadership, civic responsibility
- Empowers students as learners, teachers, achievers and leaders

### Aims of UOW Community Exchange:

- Build community partnerships



Marketing students Sarah Hakos, Naly Saad and Anneke Haverkamp, Sue Leppan, Narelle Thomas and Loraine Brown from Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation, Leanne Crouch and Jan Sullivan from the Office of Community and Partnerships, and student Eva Young.



Coomaditchie artists Loraine Brown and Narelle Thomas demonstrate their work to Marketing students Eva Young and Anneke Haverkamp

- Facilitate community service learning arrangements across disciplines and programs
- Improve internal collaboration between community service learning activities across all faculties.
- Increase student community engagement and encourage in students the development of personal attributes (such as empathy, self esteem, social responsibility, sense of caring for others).

"Essentially it is about students, academics and communities learning and working together to strengthen individuals and community" said Jan Sullivan, Community Engagement Manager.

Visit <http://www.servicelearning.org> or contact OCP on 4221 3110 for further information on CSL. The 9th Annual International Research Conference on Service-Learning and Community Engagement will be hosted by the University of Ottawa and the Canadian Alliance for Community Service-Learning in Ottawa October 9-12, 2009. More information at <http://www.researchslce.org/index.html>

## New Marine and Freshwater Centre in the Shoalhaven

A new \$252,000 collaborative project with the Department of Primary Industries investigating the recreational fishing industry of the South Coast estuaries is just one of the many undertakings at the newly opened Shoalhaven Marine and Freshwater Centre (SMFC).

A kick-start for research and education opportunities in marine and freshwater sciences for the South Coast, SMFC opened its doors to the public on November 17.

Collaborative research with NSW agencies is well underway and new projects are starting up at a rapid pace.

"This demonstrates the void that this much-needed facility can provide in a region with spectacular aquatic resources, for communities that rely on these resources and for government agencies that must manage them sustainably," UOW Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton said.

The SMFC is home to scientists with expertise in marine and fresh water fish and fisheries, marine conservation and ecology, aquaculture and estuarine ecology.

## Community Engagement in 2008

New partnerships, programs and events brought a myriad of opportunities for the University in 2008, as UOW's commitment to the local region and interaction with communities around Australia and overseas continued to flourish.

Community engagement is a core function of UOW and in 2008, the University achieved its goal of 'dynamic engagement with our communities' in a number of ways, including:

- The opening of stage one of the **Innovation Campus** development, a flagship for regional engagement.
- A new partnership between the NSW Government, the Area Health Service and UOW to build the **Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute** (with construction already underway).
- The public launch of the **Social Innovation Network** - a new cross-disciplinary research network which brings together researchers and their community partners dedicated to research that has a strong social impact.
- The first ever **Civic Reception** for new international students held in partnership with the local Council and other education providers.
- A new **Indigenous high school mentoring** program, adding to the growing number of equity-based and outreach programs linking UOW with local schools.
- A new **Global Certificate in Workplace Practice** (targeting international students) and **Commerce Internship Program**, increasing the level of student engagement.

## Staff Profile

### A/Prof Adam Dolnik

Director of Research Programs  
Centre for Transnational Crime  
Prevention (CTCP)



### Community engagement activities

My recent community engagement activities have included the delivery of over 20 specialised training courses and more than 100 presentations for various audiences including senior government officials, law enforcement, intelligence and defense agencies, incident command, hostage negotiation and tactical response units, international organisations, and academic institutions in over 30 countries worldwide.

Some of the agencies that I have worked with to date include:

- International organisations: ASEAN Secretariat, United Nations Terrorism Prevention Branch, Europol, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and Interpol.
- Law enforcement: Chilean National Police, Colombian Administrative Department for Security (DAS), New York City Police Department, Australian Federal Police (AFP), Beijing Police, New Zealand Police, London Metropolitan Police, Turkish National Police and Dutch National Police.
- Security agencies: Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), Chinese Ministry of Public Security, Singapore Armed Forces, Singaporean Defence Science Technology Organisation (DSTA), Hawaiian National Guard and Singaporean Defence Science Organisation.
- Professional Associations: California Association of Hostage Negotiators, American Water Works Association Research Foundation, ASEAN Hotel Security Conference, Asia Pacific Aviation Security Forum, American National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA).

Beyond working with governments and organisations, I also contribute to raising awareness of the challenges involved in effectively countering the threat among the general public. Terrorism is a threat that thrives on fear and it is the unknown that we fear the most. It follows that increasing knowledge of the general population can help build community resilience, which is one of the key components of a comprehensive strategy to make the tactic of terrorism less effective. As a part of this effort I frequently provide commentary for local, national, and international media and provide public lectures for the community in our region, including "Uni in the Brewery" events, a presentation at the recent ACT Alumni dinner in Canberra and an invited lunchtime lecture at the Lowy Institute for International Policy in Sydney.

Contact [community@uow.edu.au](mailto:community@uow.edu.au) if you are interested in being featured in the **Staff Profile**.

## Launch of "The Early Years"

With an emphasis on community, social equity and justice, the new four-year Bachelor of Education – The Early Years (to commence in 2009) brings an exciting new approach to professional preparation for professionals in the early childhood sector.

The program was developed in collaboration with the community and officially launched on 22 October by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton.

"The aim of the degree is to ensure graduates are well equipped for the expanding and increasingly demanding role of the early childhood educator," Professor Sutton said.

Director of Early Childhood Education at UOW, Dr Jillian Trezise, said the course focuses on the developing child (under school age) in the context of their family and community.

"The theory is supported by ongoing practical and field placements in a variety of locations in both main stream prior to school settings and child and family services to ensure a whole industry perspective," Dr Trezise said.

The course is expected to appeal to school leavers and non school leavers who wish to pursue a career working with under

school aged children in settings such as all licensed child care areas, child and family support services, early intervention services, local government community services and recreational children's services.



*Pictured at the launch of the new Bachelor of Education Early Years degree are (from left) Director of Early Childhood Education, Dr Jillian Trezise; Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Paul Chandler; and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Gerard Sutton*

## Community group 'discover' UOW

Members of the local St Therese Church Group enjoyed a tour of the Library, Art Collection, Graduate School of Medicine and Howard Worner Rock and Mineral Collection recently as part of the Community Tours program.

The Tours program is a service provided by the Office of Community and Partnerships and is an opportunity for the community to learn about the developments at UOW, engage in the cultural and social life of the University and learn more about the services and facilities available.

"It's like a buffet really - a little bit of this and a little bit of that and hopefully a return to savour the areas they enjoyed the most," said Liz Hilton, University Fellow and tour leader.

Anyone interested in taking part in the tours program can contact the Office of Community and Partnerships on 4221 5131 or [community@uow.edu.au](mailto:community@uow.edu.au). Further information can be found at [www.uow.edu.au/about/community/tours](http://www.uow.edu.au/about/community/tours)



*Pictured (clockwise): tour participants interacting with the Sim Man at a tour of the Graduate School of Medicine, led by Jenni Broadhead; participants enjoy strolling through the UOW campus grounds; viewing the Art Collections, joined by Tanya Barton-Saad; Penny Williamson from the Faculty of Science showcases the Howard Worner Rock and Mineral Collection.*



## Welcome2Wollongong back in 2009!

International students will once again be welcomed to the Wollongong region at a Civic Reception and International Festival to be held on Friday, 27 February 2009. UOW has joined forces with the Illawarra TAFE Institute, Department of Education, Wollongong City Council and other business and community groups for the event. The Welcome2Wollongong festival was first launched in February 2008. Further details can be found at <http://w2w.uow.edu.au>



*Pictured below: A performance at the Welcome2Wollongong Festival held in February 2008.*



## Public Interest Events

15-19 December 2008  
**Graduation Ceremonies**

**Venue:** University Hall (11), University of Wollongong.  
**Time:** Various. See website for full details.  
**Website:** <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/graduation>  
**Contact:** Tori Funnell - [torimc@uow.edu.au](mailto:torimc@uow.edu.au)

28 November - 19 December 2008  
**2008 Visual Arts and Graphic Design Graduation Show - The Rabbit Hole**

**Venue:** Building 25, Faculty of Creative Arts  
**Time:** Exhibition ends 19 December 2008  
**Website:** <http://www.uow.edu.au/crearts/>  
**Contact:** Tanya Barton-Saad, [tanyab@uow.edu.au](mailto:tanyab@uow.edu.au)

21-23 January 2009  
**18th Annual UOW Siemens Science Experience**

An informative and fun three days for school students entering Year 10 in 2009. The program will include plenty of hands-on science activities and a field trip.  
**Venue:** University of Wollongong.  
**Registration:** open until 15 December 2008  
**Website:** <http://www.scienceexperience.com.au>  
**Contact:** Melissa Thompson - [melissa@uow.edu.au](mailto:melissa@uow.edu.au)

## AUCEA National Conference 2009 Call for Abstracts

Abstracts of papers are invited for the AUCEA National Conference 2009 to be hosted by the University of South Australia. Submission deadline is 5pm 17th December to [oue@uws.edu.au](mailto:oue@uws.edu.au)  
The conference will be held 8-10 July 2009, and the theme is Strategic Directions in Regional Engagement: Industry, Business and Community Partnerships. Abstracts will be considered for inclusion in the conference for the following categories: Research Paper; Case Study; or Essay/Reflection/Opinion.  
Contact Louise Eljiz at [oue@uws.edu.au](mailto:oue@uws.edu.au) for more details or visit the following website [www.aucea.net.au](http://www.aucea.net.au)

## UOW Cares Christmas Giving Appeal

Staff at UOW are supporting community organisations through the UOW CARES Christmas Giving Appeal.

In lieu of gifts, staff can give the gift of shelter to a pet on behalf of animal-lovers in their office; or a chicken to an impoverished family; help restore sight to people in the developing world; or help children break the cycle of disadvantage through education.

UOW Cares is a voluntary program which provides the opportunity for staff to make regular, pre-tax donations to charitable organisations through their pay each fortnight. Since its inception in July 2007, staff have contributed over \$50,000 to a range of community causes. Further information can be found at [www.uow.edu.au/about/community/giving](http://www.uow.edu.au/about/community/giving)



## IMB Community Foundation Apply for project funding for 2009

Community groups, Chambers of Commerce, local councils, educational institutions, service clubs and other not-for-profit organisations are encouraged to approach the Foundation with requests for funding for a community project in 2009.

The application process consists of 2 stages:  
Stage 1: Applicants must submit a two page Letter of Request by 5pm, Wednesday 31 December 2008.  
Stage 2: The Foundation will advise if your project has been shortlisted by 6 February 2009 and a formal application is required by 27 February 2009.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.imb.com.au/AboutIMB/Foundation.asp> or contact: IMB Community Foundation, Phone: 1800 22 32 42 Email: [foundation@imb.com.au](mailto:foundation@imb.com.au)

UOW Community News is produced by the Office of Community & Partnerships. Your contributions and comments are welcome. Please email [community@uow.edu.au](mailto:community@uow.edu.au) or phone 4221 3110.