

Issue 1  
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# RESEARCH & INNOVATION NEWS

<http://www.uow.edu.au/research/newsletter/>

University of Wollongong



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## RQF UPDATE

Late last year, following the election of the new Federal Government, the implementation of the RQF was cancelled. Senator Carr announced that the Government is committed to a new streamlined, internationally-recognised, research quality assurance exercise using metrics or other agreed quality measures appropriate to each research discipline. As at 5 February, the timeline for implementing the new approach had not yet been confirmed.

Given the continued emphasis by the Government on research quality, the University continued to compile the "quality" components of the RQF Group Portfolios, that is: the "Best 4" outputs and justifications for their selection; group Context Statements; research income data.

The information that has been collected will:

- Be forwarded the new Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) for information; and

- inform Faculty Research Reviews in March (co-ordinated by RSO) and other internal faculty assessment exercises at the discretion of the Dean.

I would like to thank the RQF Project Team, research leaders, research group members and faculty administrative coordinators for their outstanding contribution to the RQF preparations throughout 2007. The process has provided us with valuable information which will help the University to strengthen its research performance, improve its strategies for supporting research growth and optimise its performance in any new research assessment exercise.

**With Thanks**

**Professor Lee Astheimer**

– **Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)**



## RESEARCH SERVICES OFFICE

<http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rso>

### Funding Success

#### 2007 Research Partnership Scheme Outcomes

The outcome of the third round of the 2007 URC Research Partnership Scheme has now been announced. Four Partnership Development grants totalling \$22,000 were awarded to: Dr Xiaolin Wang (Engineering), Ms Lois Burgess (Commerce), Professor Kathleen Clapham (Woolyungah Indigenous Centre) and Dr Timothy Cohen (Science - for a multi-disciplinary Science/Creative Arts project). Two Project grants were awarded to Professor Buddhima Indraratna (Engineering) and Professor Wenche Ommundsen (Arts) for a total of \$27,000. Full details of applications funded during 2007 are available at: <https://intranet.uow.edu.au/raid/rso/grantoutcomes/UOW032258.html>

#### NHMRC Training Fellowships

The Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon Nicola Roxon MP, has announced the 2008 results for the NHMRC Training Fellowships. UOW achieved a 50% success rate with 2 successful fellowships awarded. These fellowships are highly competitive with UOW applicants competing with researchers from Medical Institutes and Universities with established Medical Schools.

Congratulations to the following successful applicants:

- **Dr Qing (Dennis) Wang** from the School of Health Sciences was awarded an Australian-based Biomedical Fellowship for the project titled 'Simvastatin prevents dopaminergic neuronal injury in experimental PD models via activation of NF-kB and MMP 9 and 3.' Funding of \$279,000 over four years was awarded.
- **Dr Jason Cole** from the School of Biological Sciences was awarded an overseas-based Biomedical Fellowship for the project titled 'Defining the mechanism of group A streptococcal flesh-eating invasive disease.' Funding of \$279,000 over four years was awarded.

#### NSW Environmental Trust

Congratulations to **A/Prof Kristine French** and **Dr Tanya Mason**, who have successfully applied for funding from the NSW Environmental Trust for two projects. Under the Restoration and Rehabilitation program Kristine and Tanya were awarded \$88,465 for their project 'Which species are best to plant to prevent reinvasion by Bitou Bush?'. Funding under the Research Seeding program was awarded to only five projects with Kristine and Tanya's project 'How can restored plant communities resist future invaders?' awarded \$19,840.

#### 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.uow.edu.au/informatics/math/scs/> or email [statcon@uow.edu.au](mailto:statcon@uow.edu.au).

### Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Due Date	Activity
FRIDAY 7 March, 2008	ARC Discovery Project applications due to the ARC
FRIDAY 14 March, 2008	NHMRC Project Grant applications due to the NHMRC
FRIDAY 28 March 2008	International Science Linkages Australia-China Fund due
FRIDAY, 11 April 2008	International Science Linkages Competitive Grants due

## RESEARCH ETHICS

### AGENDA DEADLINES AND MEETING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC)

##### - Health and Medical

Upcoming meeting on March 11th

(agenda deadline February 25th)

Next meeting April 8th (agenda deadline March 24th)

#### Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC)

##### - Humanities, Social Science & Behavioural

Upcoming meeting on February 21st

(agenda deadline Feb 6th).

Next meeting March 20th (agenda deadline March 5th)

Following Meeting April 24th (agenda deadline April 9th)

#### Animal Ethics Committee

##### Upcoming meeting 21st February

(agenda deadline January 31st )

Next meeting April 3rd (agenda deadline March 13th)

Training Session: 12 March

(contact Janine McFarlane x 5908)

#### Gene Technology Review Committee

Upcoming meeting March 6th

(agenda deadline February 21st )

More information at: [www.uow.edu.au/research/rso/ethics/](http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rso/ethics/)

## Carrick Grants

The Carrick Institute is dedicated to promoting excellence in learning and teaching in Australian higher education. The Institute has an annual budget of \$27 million to help achieve its aim. Although this budget may be reduced in coming years, it remains a very exciting opportunity and we are hoping to place UoW in the best position possible to capitalise on this initiative. It is being increasingly recognised throughout the higher education sector that quality learning and teaching is a vital and valuable function of academic life.

**There are three Carrick Grant programs, Competitive Grants, Leadership for Excellence in Learning and Teaching and the Priority Projects Program. Applications for the first round close on 27 March, 2008.**

Please visit <http://www.carrickinstitute.edu.au/carrick/go> for more information.

The RSO office and CEDIR are developing a range of tools and support materials to help applicants. Such materials include information regarding formulating budgets, editing applications, and mentoring by past Carrick Grant recipients. Please contact Janine McFarlane (x5908 or [janinemc@uow.edu.au](mailto:janinemc@uow.edu.au)) at the Research Services Office as soon as possible for assistance with developing your Carrick Grant application.

## Uni in the Brewery 2008

Our 2008 program includes some very interesting researchers speaking about their work. We hope you can come along and enjoy a beer or wine at the Five Island Brewery. All staff, students and the general public are welcome and encouraged to contribute in discussion.



Presentations scheduled for this year:

**19th March - 5:30pm-6:30pm**

**Associate Professor Wilma Vialle**

(Faculty of Education)

“Pink or Paris? Girls, giftedness and popular culture”

**7th May - 5:30pm-6:30pm**

**Professor Wilf Yeo**

(Graduate School of Medicine)

**20th August - 5:30pm-6:30pm**

**Dr Adam Dolnik**

(Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention)

**22nd October - 5:30pm-6:30pm**

**Associate Professor Sharon Robinson**

(School of Biological Sciences)

More at:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/research/unibrewery/index.html>

Please check for any program changes.

## Research Strength Showcase Series 2008

With the completion of the UOW Professorial Lecture Series (which began in 2005), RaID will be trialing a new initiative for 2008 - **The Research Strengths Showcase Series.**

This new lecture series will provide an opportunity to showcase the research conducted within each of UOW's Research Strengths, and introduce the researchers involved to the general campus and community.

**Current Schedule for 2008 (but please check the website for any changes)**

Session One	
Wednesday 12th March	<b>Leon Kane Maguire</b> Intelligent Polymer Research Institute
Wednesday 16th April	<b>John Norrish</b> Engineering Manufacturing
Wednesday 21st May	<b>Anatoly Rozenfeld</b> Centre for Medical Radiation Physics
Session Two	
Wednesday 6th August	<b>Philip Ogunbona</b> Telecommunications and Information Technology Research Institute
Wednesday 10th September	<b>Shixue Dou</b> Institute for Superconducting and Electronic Materials
Wednesday 15th October	<b>Paul Keller</b> Centre for Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacology
<b>All Presentations will be held at lunchtime (12.30-1.30pm) Building 20 , Lecture Theatre 2</b>	

All Presentations will be held at lunchtime (12.30-1.30pm) Building 20 , Lecture Theatre 2. Sandwiches will also be available for those attending.

More at: <http://www.uow.edu.au/research/news/strengthseries/>

## Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research Supervision - Nominations now open

- 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 and guidelines can be downloaded at <http://www.uow.edu.au/research/awards/index.html> or visit the Research Student Centre for a hard copy. Closing date Friday, 4th April 2008.

## 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 of 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), Thesis Submission and Examination. Seminars will commence in the week of 4th March 2008. An email advising of the program will be sent to all HDR students in mid February.

information, please contact Julie King, Thesis Officer in the Research Student Centre, on (02) 4221 3208 or [Julie\\_King@uow.edu.au](mailto:Julie_King@uow.edu.au)

**NOTE FOR CONTINUING STUDENTS – Re-enrolling students will be automatically re-enrolled on receipt of a completed APR.**

## Annual Progress Reports are now overdue

The 2007 Annual Progress Reports (APR) were released to HDR students in October 2007. The APR process for Higher Degree Research (HDR) students is via SOLS. Supervisors are asked to complete their students APR as a matter of urgency. HDR candidates will not automatically be enrolled for 2008 unless a completed APR is received.

## PODS – RESEARCH RELATED COURSES

<https://intranet.uow.edu.au/pods/>

## HDR Student Enrolment Checking for 2008

Autumn Session and Spring Session Enrolment Variations have begun and all HDR students are asked to check their enrolment details are correct. Please send any variations (leave of absence, change of status etc) are sent to the Enrolment Officer, June Toussis, by the 31st March 2008.

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

## 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, 26 February 2008. If you have any questions about this event or your enrolment please contact Mari Dwarthe, HDR Events Officer in the Research Student Centre on (02) 4221 5454, [mdwarte@uow.edu.au](mailto:mdwarte@uow.edu.au). A registration form can also be downloaded from <http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rsc/news/orientation/>

28-Apr	Developing your Research Grant Writing Skills - Day 1
19-May	Developing your Research Grant Writing Skills - Day 2
2-Oct	Developing your Research Grant Writing Skills- Day 1
23-Oct	Developing your Research Grant Writing Skills- Day 2

7-Mar	Research Grant Management - IP
09-Apr	Research Grant Management - Personnel Management
21-Apr	Research Grant Management - Finance Management
21-May	Research Grant Management - Reporting Outcomes
06-Jun	Research Grant Management - Where to Publish
24-Jun	Research Grant Management - Managing Partnerships
09-Jul	Research Grant Management - Networking

## Submitting your thesis for examination soon?

In order to avoid incurring fees for Autumn Session 2008 (including international tuition fees and student body charges), you must submit your thesis by 31 March 2008. 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

03-Apr	Supervising HDR Students Module 1
17-Apr	Supervising HDR Students Module 2
17-Apr	Supervising HDR Students Module 3
	Supervising HDR Students Module 4 FACULTY BASED

Nomination for courses administered by PODS is via Web Kiosk. Please visit the PODS training calendar for any changes or for other courses:

<https://intranet.uow.edu.au/pods/calendar/index.html>

## Tips for Tendering Workshop

The Commercial Research Unit is holding a workshop on Tuesday 18th March 2008 for all UOW staff currently participating, or interested in tender processes. The workshop entitled **'Tips for Tendering'** will cover various topics including:

- Why tender and the role of tendering
- Understanding the tender process
- How to prepare a winning tender
- Legal considerations in the tender process and mandatory conditions in government tenders
- Tendering support at UOW.

You can enrol in the **'Tips for Tendering'** workshop by visiting the Employee Web Kiosk

([https://wss.uow.edu.au/wssprdb/wk8003\\$.startup](https://wss.uow.edu.au/wssprdb/wk8003$.startup)) and nominating the workshop under 'Training Request'. If you would like to learn more about the workshop or have any questions please contact Leisa Ridges on [leisa@uow.edu.au](mailto:leisa@uow.edu.au) or phone x4817.

## Research Commercialisation Workshops

In conjunction with UniQuest Pty Ltd, UOW is running two interactive workshops in 2008, 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.

URL: <http://www.uow.edu.au/research/workshops/index.html>



**THE WORKSHOPS WILL BE HELD AT THE NOVOTEL TWIN WATERS RESORT, SUNSHINE COAST, QLD.**

**Academic Researchers' Workshop (1-2 May)**

**HDR Postgraduate Student Workshop (17-18 April)**

## Commercial Research Project Success

In January 2008, the Faculty of Education hosted the inaugural **Australian Government Summer School for Teachers of Literacy and Numeracy**. This was a large commercial research project, worth more than \$2.4 million, that the Faculty of Education (led by Prof Bev Derewianka) won through a competitive tender process.

For a two-week period, 225 primary and secondary teachers participated in an intensive program of lectures, workshops and tutorials. Each participant designed an action learning project to be implemented on their return to the classroom. This involved identifying a specific area of need in their school, developing a research plan in collaboration with their peers, and incorporating insights gained from the international and national guest speakers and from the numerous workshops on current issues surrounding the teaching of literacy and numeracy in Australian schools. Typical of the feedback was that from Terri Cartmill, a teacher from Western Australia: *"It's been so inspiring and motivating. It was great to meet other teachers who are passionate about their profession. I think I'll be enthusiastic for years to come. The experience has given me so many new ideas. I can't wait to get back to the classroom to try them out."*

The Summer School was considered hugely successful.

## THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AWARDS

This group of awards recognises the contributions that academic staff and their partners are making towards research excellence. The categories are:

- Research Excellence for Senior Researchers
- Research Excellence for Emerging Researchers
- Outstanding Achievement in Research Partnership and;
- Excellence in Research Supervision.

Guidelines and nomination forms: <http://www.uow.edu.au/research/awards/index.html>

Nominations close 4 April 2008.



## New academic and postgraduate spaces – providing a room of one's own

Most researchers know the frustration of trying to carve out quiet time amidst interruptions, visitors and phone calls. The Library is helping to ease this frustration with a new and improved range of spaces for researchers. With the completion of the Library extension we can now offer an unprecedented level of service to the UOW research community.

The Academic Space on Level 2 features reading chairs, large tables and computer workstations. Light, quiet and with views to tree tops, the room offers an atmosphere conducive to concentration and thought.

Two spaces are now available exclusively to postgraduate students. Located on the Ground Level, one space is equipped with individual carrels and computer workstations. The other room has larger tables for quiet group work and chairs for relaxed reading.

Access to these spaces is by coded keypad. Ask at the Information Desk for the code.



Academic Space



Postgraduate Space 1

Postgraduate Space 2

## Diving into a literature review?

With more than 300 databases to choose from, we understand that launching a literature review can be overwhelming. Use the following tips to get started and stay afloat:

- Record your **keywords** and any **synonyms**. This saves time and ensures a comprehensive search.
- Note the name of the database and the number of articles retrieved. Revising or changing your search will go swimmingly.
- Click on the *Tips* link next to the name of the database to find out the truncation symbol and how to use proximity searches.
- Check for review articles using a limiting function (available in some databases) or by typing the word 'review' (in other databases).
- Add research words to your search. Try 'qualitative', 'quantitative', 'statistics', 'bibliography'.
- Stay current and set up email alerts.
- Feeling adrift? Contact Lucia Tome, Research Training Librarian, for a *sounding* appointment. (Sounding: a measure of the depth of water)



More information: Lucia Tome, Research Training Librarian ext: 3066 or e-mail: [lucia\\_tome@uow.edu.au](mailto:lucia_tome@uow.edu.au)

## PUBLICATIONS

The quarterly publication 'Fast Thinking' has produced the inaugural annual publication 'Fast Thinking's Australian Explorer' targeting the US market. Guest contributors include Professor Gerard Sutton, Professor Gordon Wallace, Dr Shady Cosgrove and Nick Hartgerink. The UOW articles explore the Australia-U.S. research alliance in the areas of intelligent materials, nanotechnology and defence. Other articles make mention of Foreign Student Exchange partnerships, of U.S. academics Bill Buttemer and Lee Astheimer and how they epitomise the close ties between US and Australian universities, and of U.S. born

academic and writer Shady Cosgrove who is now recognized as one of Australia's emerging authors. On the IT front, an article on US global technology services and management consulting firm Accenture's establishment of an IT centre with the UOW to service the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is also mentioned. 'Fast Thinking's Australian Explorer' is a production of ETN-COM (ISSN 1833-0800) and is distributed in the US through Austrade and Barnes & Noble bookstore. For enquiries about local distribution, please e-mail [info@etncom.com](mailto:info@etncom.com) or call the publisher on 02-9418 7100.

UOW scientists from the ARC Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science

(ACES)/Intelligent Polymer Research Institute (IPRI) have made an exciting discovery that enables processing and fabrication of an abundant form of carbon with extraordinary properties. Results of the discovery were released in the prestigious international journal, 'Nature' (*Nanotechnology*), in January. Director of the ACES, **Professor Gordon Wallace**, said results already indicated that the discovery would lead to advances in energy conversion, energy storage and as new electrodes in medical bionics. The discovery was led by QE2 Fellow in ACES/IPRI, **Dr Dan Li**. Other collaborators included recent Fulbright Fellow at the University of Wollongong, **Professor Ric Kanar**, who hails from UCLA in the United

States, and University of Wollongong PhD student, **Benjamin Mueller**. The *Nature (Nanotechnology)* paper is titled, 'Processable aqueous dispersions of graphene nanosheets'.

**Dr Slobodan Jergic and Prof Nick Dixon (School of Chemistry)** are co-authors of a paper published on-line in January in "Nature Structural and Molecular Biology" (DOI: 10.1038/nsmb.1381) with colleagues from Harvard Medical School (HMS) and James Cook University. The paper, entitled "Single-molecule studies of fork dynamics in *Escherichia coli* DNA replication" describes the first real-time observations of the protein machine that copies DNA in bacteria working on single DNA molecules. The study, funded in part by an ARC Linkage International Award, studied proteins produced in the Dixon laboratory using apparatus developed by Dr Antoine van Oijen at HMS. **Prof Dixon** was recently awarded an ARC Australian Professorial Fellowship to extend this collaboration to establish single-molecule DNA techniques at UOW.

### Negotiating Hostage Crises with the New Terrorists

By **Adam Dolnik**, Keith M. Fitzgerald (with Foreword by Gary Noesner)

Published in November last year, this book is about the role of negotiation in resolving terrorist barricade hostage crises. What lessons can be learned from past deadly incidents so that crisis negotiators and decision makers can act with greater effectiveness in the future? What are the lessons the terrorists are learning and how will they affect the dynamics of future incidents? What can we learn about the terrorist threat, and about preventing the escalation of future terrorist hostage-taking situations?

The main focus of this book is on the detailed reconstruction and analysis

of the two most high-profile cases in recent years, the Moscow theater and the Beslan school hostage crises, with a clear purpose of drawing lessons for hostage negotiation strategies in the future. This is an issue of top priority.

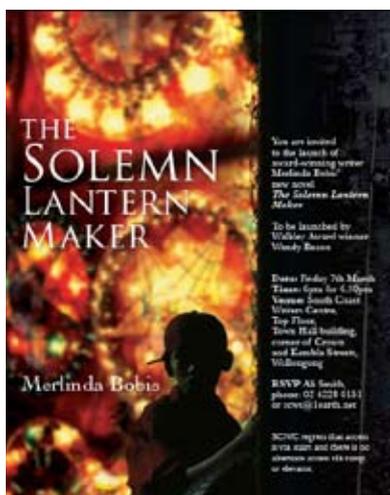


Terrorist manuals from countries such as Saudi Arabia and Iraq reveal that terrorist organizations are very closely observing and analyzing the lessons learned from these two incidents, suggesting that we are likely to see this type of "new" terrorist hostage taking involving large numbers of suicide fighters and executions of hostages at some point in the future. This raises a wide array of questions about appropriate responses and negotiation

strategies. From the first glance, it is clear that we are not prepared. Publisher: Praeger Security International



Award-winning writer **Dr Merlinda Bobis** (Creative Arts) will launch her new novel, 'The Solemn Lantern Maker' (Pier 9, Murdoch Books) on 4 March at Gleebooks, Sydney and on 7 March at the South Coast Writers' Centre, Wollongong. Walkley Award winning journalist Wendy Bacon will be the launch both events. 'The Solemn Lantern Maker' is Dr. Bobis' second novel. Her first, 'Banana Heart Summer', was short-listed for the Australian Literary Society Gold Medal in 2006. The Solemn Lantern Maker will also be launched in Adelaide on 7 April by novelist and University of Adelaide Professor Nicholas Jose and in Melbourne on 29 April by writer and Spinifex publisher Dr. Susan Hawthorne. As well, Dr Bobis will have a Conversation on Politics and Narrative at the National Library of Australia with ABC Radio Arts producer Jane Ulman (3 April), and a lecture at the History and Politics Department at the University of Adelaide. Currently, Dr Bobis is working with Campbelltown Arts Centre in the creative development of her play, 'River, River' for a possible production in November.



A journal article by Lars Bergkvist, former Head of Marketing in the Faculty of Commerce, and **John Rossiter**, Research Professor of Marketing, entitled "The Predictive Validity of Multiple-Item Versus Single-Item Measures of the Same Constructs," was published as the lead article in the May issue of one of the premier journals in marketing, the **Journal of Marketing Research**. Their article has been nominated as one of three finalists for the Paul E. Green Award, presented to the 2007 JMR article that shows or demonstrates the most potential to contribute significantly to the practice of marketing research.

**Literary and Social Diasporas: An Italian perspective by Gaetano Rando (UOW) and Gerry Turcote (University of Notre Dame)** is now available through P.I.E Peter Lang publisher (International Academic Publishers). The volume is a collection of key essays and testimonials which frame a picture of Italy's rich legacy at home, in Europe more widely and in the (post) colonial sphere, with a particular emphasis on the Australian experience. **Gaetano Rando** is Associate Professor in Italian Studies and English Language and Linguistics at the UOW. He has written extensively on Italian Australian studies and the associated migration and cultural issues.

**Professor Colin Murray-Wallace** from the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences has been appointed the new Editor-in-Chief of one of the world's leading science journals *Quaternary Science reviews* (one of the flagship journals of publishing company Elsevier with a readership of over four million people). Professor Murray-Wallace is an expert in sea levels and has conducted detailed research into changes in sea levels over recent and geological timescales.

Journalism Lecturer in the Faculty of Creative Arts, **Marcus O'Donnell** and the student publication team of **Paper, Rock Magazine** have been awarded the

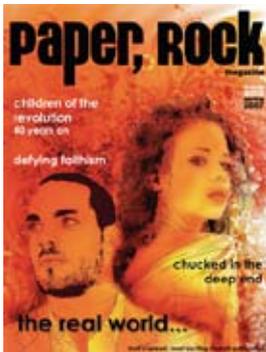
best student publication of the year (2007) at the annual meeting of the Australian Journalism Educators.

**Paper, Rock** was awarded two major prizes: (1) Best occasional magazine and (2) Best publication.

In the first category it was up against strong competition from a number of magazines produced by Journalism schools in Australia, Fiji and New Zealand. The second category, which equates to champion of champions, saw *Paper, Rock* knock off not only its print competition, but the online challengers as well.

*Paper, Rock* was the brainchild of final year journalism students Ben Morgan, Donna Kilby and Sarah Lucre who wanted to put their journalism skills to the test.

Statistics New Zealand and the New Zealand Statistical Association (NZSA) are pleased to announce that **Professor Raymond Chambers**, (Statistical Methodology at the University of Wollongong) will participate in the **Statistics NZ's Overseas Visitors Programme and NZSA's Visiting Lecturer Series**. This is a new initiative largely driven by Statistics NZ with the purpose of bringing an eminent and international official statistician to the country. Professor Chambers will visit with Statistics NZ, and various university statistic departments and NZSA chapters to present research and to spur discussion and interest. He will be in New Zealand for three weeks in March



and April to lecture on a range of topics from his work in small area estimation to measurement error in auxiliary information. Professor Chambers will meet with the following: Statistics NZ (Christchurch and Wellington offices), Canterbury University (Christchurch), Otago University (Dunedin), Victoria University of Wellington, Massey University (Palmerston North), Waikato University (Hamilton), University of Auckland, and Wellington Statistics Group.

PhD student **Ms Sankika Tennakoon** (School of Electrical, Computer and Telecommunications Engineering, Faculty of Informatics) has been invited to attend the 2008 Conference for the Next Generation of Researchers on Power Systems (September 5 to 7), in Tempe (Phoenix) Arizona, USA. Attendance is by invitation only to 20 doctoral researchers worldwide, nearing completion of their studies at universities that are leaders in electric power engineering. Ms Tennakoon will represent the UOW as well as Australia at the conference where she will be giving a presentation on her research topic 'Flicker propagation in radial and interconnected power systems'.

**Prof Patrick Crookes, Prof Sandra Jones, Chris Brewer, Louise Waters and Samantha Reis**, with the support of The Council of Deans of Nursing and Midwifery of Australia and New Zealand (CDNM) have recently completed a project resulting in the development of the **Journal Evaluation Tool (JET)** to rank journals in which nursing and midwifery researchers publish. Using this tool, the team ranked a sample of these journals. The rankings and JET will be made publicly available for download via the Centre for Health Initiatives (CHI) and CDNM websites. CHI will update the rankings on an annual basis, and is also interested in testing the JET for use in other disciplines. For further information please contact Samantha Reis at sreis@uow.edu.au or 4221 5058.

The **Biomechanics Research Laboratory (BRL)** featured prominently at the recent 10th anniversary of the NSW Sport Safety Awards held at a gala dinner at Sydney's Telstra Stadium. **Dr Bridget Munro** was awarded the F.E. Johnson Memorial Fellowship for "Outstanding Achievement by an Established Researcher in the Field of Science and Medicine in Sport" at the awards

ceremony. The highly-competitive award of \$25,000 will enable the recipient to continue research in a specified field of sport science research overseas. Dr Munro's research has focused on investigating rapid deceleration movements and unanticipated side-stepping techniques using innovative mechanical data collection and analysis techniques. Dr Munro intends to pursue collaborative research at the University of Southern California (USA) and the University of Bath (UK).

The **BRL** capped off the night as the recipient of a \$5,000 gold award for "Outstanding Achievement in Applied Research in Sports Medicine by a Research Team". This award was for the team's research on educating female athletes on the benefits of wearing better bras.

School of Nursing, Midwifery and Indigenous Health's Senior Lecturer, **Dr Allison Shorten** was recently acknowledged as among the top 10% of peer reviewers by the *British Medical Journal* for 2007. She has recently had two commissioned book chapters published on the importance of informing women's choices about birth after caesarean section. The book chapters follow her development of a decision-aid booklet for women facing the choice of birth after previous caesarean section. The decision-aid booklet is currently being adopted by hospitals around Australia for use in their pregnancy care services. For example one of our largest maternity care providers, Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne, signed a 5 year licence agreement with the University of Wollongong and Dr Shorten, to enable the hospital to produce the decision-aid for women attending their pregnancy care services.

**Associate Professor Tim Coltman (Informatics)** was the joint winner of the 'Best Early Career Researcher Prize' awarded by the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management. The \$4,000 prize, sponsored by Tilde University Press, was accepted at the December 2007 ANZAM Conference.

**Mr George Mickhail (Commerce)** was invited by the French Ministry of Higher Education during Jan/Feb as Professeur des Universites Invite' within the Faculte' Droit Economie et Gestion, Universite' d'Orleans in France. His visiting

appointment in France began 1996 and is renewed annually through a national competitive process for the funding of the position. In France, he is involved in collaborative research and teaching activities. He was also invited to be on the conference review panel of the International Conference on Business Innovation and Information Technology, which was held on the 24th of January 2008 at Dublin City University in Ireland. One of his papers (The Agora-Pnyx Paradox) has been ranked number 1 in the top 10 download list of papers on SSRN (Social Science Research Network).

#### Centre for Medical Radiation Physics (CMRP)

- **Andrew Wroe** was awarded the 2007 AINSE Gold Medal for "Outstanding PhD Thesis". He was supervised by Prof Anatoly Rozenfeld and in part of nanodosimetry by A/Prof Reinhard Schulte, LLUMC, USA. His thesis is entitled: Development in Microdosimetry and Nanodosimetry for Space and Therapeutic Applications.
- First year CMRP PhD student **Amy Ziebell** was awarded the best achievements in PhD research in 2007 (NSW and ACT) at the MedPhys 07 conference at Sydney University. Amy is working on the development of a new innovative semiconductor detector for radiation dosimetry (cellular level) using nanotechnology production facilities at UNSW and ANSTO facility.

Are you a researcher planning to move to, or from, Australia? The **Australian Researchers' Mobility Portal** has all the information you need to make that move easier. [www.mobility.org.au](http://www.mobility.org.au) is supported by *International Science Linkages* established under the Australian Government's innovation statement *Backing Australia's Ability*.



## SCHOLARSHIPS

<http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rsc/student/scholarships/>

### PhD Scholarship in Structural Engineering (School of Civil, Mining and Environmental Engineering).

A 3-year PhD scholarship in the area of design of protective structures is available under the supervision of Dr. Alex Remennikov at the School of Civil, Mining and Environmental Engineering, UOW. The successful applicant will be working on a three-year ARC-Discovery project "Utilising the benefits of high performance steels and infill materials for critical infrastructure protection against extreme loads". The project will involve experimental and numerical investigations of innovative protective structures subject to impact and blast loads. The successful candidate will have a first degree in Civil/Mechanical Engineering or related discipline with at least a 2nd class Honours degree or equivalent. Previous background in structural dynamics is desirable. Applicants should send their CV, academic transcript, English test result (IELTS or TOEFL) plus names and contact details of two referees to: Dr. Alex Remennikov, Faculty of Engineering, University of Wollongong, NSW 2522, Australia, e-mail: alexrem@uow.edu.au.

### PhD Scholarships in Railway (Geotechnical) Engineering (School of Civil, Mining and Environmental Engineering)

Two 3-year PhD scholarships in the field of railway geotechnical engineering are available under the supervision of Prof. Buddhima Indraratna at the School of Civil, Mining and Environmental Engineering, UOW. The successful applicant will be working on a three-year project under the auspices of the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for rail innovation. The project will involve investigation of track behaviour under coal fouled conditions, and implications on performance, analysis and design of rail tracks. The research will include experimental and field components and modelling of track behaviour. The successful candidates will have a first degree in Civil/Environmental Engineering or related discipline with at least a 2nd class Honours degree or equivalent. A Masters degree in Geotechnical Engineering or related field is desirable. Applicants should send their CV, academic transcript, English test result (IELTS or TOEFL)

plus names and contact details of two referees to: Prof Buddhima Indraratna, Faculty of Engineering, University of Wollongong, NSW 2522, Australia, e-mail: [indra@uow.edu.au](mailto:indra@uow.edu.au).

### Scholarship with the School of Information Systems and Technology

A scholarship for an ARC Industry Linkage project to investigate factors related to the implementation of **health information systems in residential aged care sector** is available. A series of longitudinal studies will be conducted to develop an Information Systems Success Model to measure the benefits of computerized documentation in residential aged care with five industry partners from three states. Fields of research: health informatics, IT technology adoption in aged care, health technology assessment. Applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents, and hold relevant research-based degree in either human sciences, informatics, social sciences, management or education. Career professionals interested in returning to higher degree studies are particularly encouraged to apply. Contact Dr. Ping Yu ([ping@uow.edu.au](mailto:ping@uow.edu.au)).

### Faculty of Law - Centre for Transnational Crime Prevention

Up to three (3) Higher Degree Research (HDR) Tuition Fee Exemption Scholarships and University Postgraduate Awards are available for students to undertake a Doctor of Philosophy (Law) to conduct research in the area of terrorism studies and/or transnational crime prevention. Topics of particular interest include but are not limited to:

- Home-grown terrorism
- Terrorist uses of the internet
- Terrorist financing
- The relationship between terrorism and transnational crime
- The relationship between terrorism and international conflict

The HDR Tuition Fee Exemption Scholarship will cover international student tuition fees (currently AUD\$19,000 per year). The annual University Postgraduate Award stipend is AUD\$20,007.

Working knowledge of a foreign language (Arabic would be an advantage).

Deadline is 29 February 2008

Contact Dr Adam Dolnik, CTCP. [adamd@uow.edu.au](mailto:adamd@uow.edu.au) or Ph: 02 - 4221 3255.

# WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES



**Narrative Inquiry: Breathing Life into Talk, Text and the Visual**, is the title of a conference to be held in the Faculty of Education on 22 and 23 February 2008.



A burgeoning interest in narrative theory and practice is evident in virtually every area of the human sciences and related professions. One of the reasons for this increased interest is that stories and their analysis can document experiences whilst acting as a catalyst for personal and social change in the lives of those who participate in the process. Stories record, challenge, shape and propel our lives. They can provide an important platform for giving voice to those who are marginalised. As such, narrative inquiry meets the demands of many in the humanities and social sciences regarding empowerment and change in the personal, social and political arenas.



The keynote speaker will be Professor Catherine Kohler Riessman of Boston College, an acclaimed teacher and internationally renowned researcher. For further details: <http://www2.bc.edu/~riessman/> Conference chair is Dr Pauline Lysaght. For further details contact Dr Gillian Vogl ([gillian@uow.edu.au](mailto:gillian@uow.edu.au)) or visit the website: [http://edserver1.uow.edu.au/NI\\_conference/](http://edserver1.uow.edu.au/NI_conference/)

**The Centre for Medical Radiation Physics (CMRP)** is hosted biannual International Workshops **Micro-Mini Dosimetry and its applications ( MMD 2008)** , 7-8 April 2008 and **New Technologies in Prostate Cancer Treatment (IPCT 2008)** 9-10April, 2008 .

MMD is devoted to the development of new radiation detection instrumentation for radiation medicine, space and radiation industry as well as fundamental aspects of radiobiology including simulation of radiation damage (DNA level). IPCT will be a forum of outstanding physicians, radiation oncologists and medical physicists working in prostate cancer treatments to compare different technologies and discuss benefits and limitations, to improve clinical outcome and develop new instrumentation. Colleagues from all around the world will be attending.

For more information and registration please visit:

[http://www.uow.edu.au/conferences/MMD\\_2008/index.html](http://www.uow.edu.au/conferences/MMD_2008/index.html)

## Research Commercialisation Workshops

In conjunction with UniQuest Pty Ltd, UOW is running two interactive workshops in 2008, 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.

> Academic Researchers' Workshop: 1- 2 May 2008

> HDR Postgraduate Student Workshop: 17 - 18 April 2008

More at: <http://www.uow.edu.au/research/workshops/>

To ensure inclusion of your research news, event or service in the next issue of RaID (due for publication mid April), please e-mail details to [vwallace@uow.edu.au](mailto:vwallace@uow.edu.au) by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

## “Profiling our Research Partners”

This new publication is a collection of articles describing many of the UOW's exciting and strategic research collaborations with national and international partners (industry and institutions). It also includes information on our Research Strengths (2007-2009), the innovation campus and commercialising our research. The profile is now available online at: <http://www.uow.edu.au/research/profile/>



