UWA: a world of possibilities
We help you play proud conference host.

Perth Convention Bureau has helped bring thousands of national and international conferences to Western Australia over the past 40 years. Why not let us help you secure and host your conference here too?

We offer up to $50,000 in assistance for your bid, and we do all the legwork. What’s more, our services are free. As conference host, you have the opportunity to raise your personal and professional profile, showcase local expertise and achievements, and even attract sponsorships.

We’re more than ready to help you make your mark on WA when you bring a conference home. Talk to us and we’ll show you how easily you can become a proud conference host.
CONTENTS

In Focus: campus news and views 2
From the Vice-Chancellery 7
Music’s power and glory 8
Simply the best! 11
Read all about it? 13
Guest columnist: Dr Geoff Gallop 16
Managing the boom 18
UWA farewells its Vice-Chancellor 21
The parallel universes of Pakistan 26
Newsmaker: James Edelman 29
Bequest will advance mathematics 31
Making a festival 32
Unravelling the dismissal 35
Taking care of the nurses 37
Grad News 39
Grad Briefs 43

Cover image: Three young visitors to UWA's Open Day: Jessica Han, Carrie Zhao and Evan Zhao. The children are regular Open Day visitors. "They love to go every year," says their mum. (Photo: Matt Galligan)

Uniview is produced by UWA Public Affairs
Director: Doug Durack (doug.durack@uwa.edu.au)
Editor: Trea Wiltshire (trea.wiltshire@uwa.edu.au)
Grad Briefs: Terry Larder (terry.larder@uwa.edu.au)
Design: Graham Harvey, UniPrint (www.uniprint.uwa.edu.au)
Advertising: Trea Wiltshire +61 8 6488 1914
Editorial: Public Affairs, The University of Western Australia, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, WA 6009
Telephone: +61 8 6488 1914, Fax: +61 8 6488 1192
Address Changes: Terry Larder +61 8 6488 2447,
Fax: +61 8 6488 7996, Email: terry.larder@uwa.edu.au

Uniview is published three times a year. Summer edition: February. Winter edition: June. Spring edition: October. The magazine is printed using vegetable-based inks on paper that is chlorine-free and sourced from plantation timber. Both paper manufacture and printing are approved to the highest environmental standards. Material from Uniview may be reproduced accompanied by an appropriate credit.

Uniview can be viewed at www.publishing.uwa.edu.au
UWA website: www.uwa.edu.au

Opening minds at UWA
Young visitors to UWA’s annual Open Day get to see a lot of amazing things – from chemical experiments to examining the delicate tracery of a moth’s wings (see In Focus)

The bold and beautiful decade
Jeremy Kirwan-Ward, Blue escape, 1970, acrylic on canvas, The University of Western Australia Art Collection, © The University of Western Australia – one of 36 works on display at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery’s Recent Past exhibition (see In Focus)
At UWA we welcome visitors to our campus on a daily basis. They arrive to do research in the Reid Library, to visit an exhibition at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery or to discuss a significant artefact with experts at the Berndt Museum of Anthropology. They also enjoy lunch-time concerts by School of Music students or networking and socialising with friends at the University Club.

Some come to keep fit at UWA Sports’ refurbished gym, while others simply enjoy strolling through our National Estate registered gardens to admire the seasonal show of azaleas.

Once a year, however, visitor numbers spiral as prospective students gather for Open Day and families explore the State’s longest-established university. Selecting a career course can be a perplexing business; that’s why the University marshals its academics, researchers, student advisors and current students to inform, guide and enthuse Open Day visitors.

The advice and entertainment on offer appears to be much appreciated for visitor numbers are rising, with the August event attracting a record of more than 25,000 visitors.

Open Day is a great occasion for all involved. Staff and students feel pride in sharing their world of learning and research with the wider community. In the grounds, groups of high school students exchange notes on what they’ve seen and heard. In the faculties, families with young children move from one display to the next, discovering the world of possibilities that is UWA.

Our cover captures the wide-eyed wonder of youngsters learning to operate that most basic of research tools: the microscope. And yes, a picture is worth a thousand words!

More than 70 graduates gathered in Sydney recently to celebrate their alma mater including former Prime Minister Bob Hawke and former Western Australian Premier Geoff Gallop.

The Vice-Chancellor told the gathering that the Good Universities Guide had recently ranked UWA equal first in Australia on key performance measures, including graduate starting salaries, positive graduate outcomes, staff qualifications, student/staff ratio, research intensity, research grants and student demand.

In his address, Dr Geoff Gallop hailed UWA as one of this State’s most important institutions. This distinguished graduate is our Guest Columnist in this issue (see page 16).

Dr Susan Prescott, a new UWA Publishing title, takes readers behind the journalist’s eyes to observe his adventures and perceptions on what it takes to move from the ordinary to the extraordinary.

Bookings for Dr Susan Prescott: The Allergy Epidemic and Chris Sheedy: Guinness World Records open mid-November.

For Summer School details visit: www.extension.uwa.edu.au

**Extension events**

UWA specialist in childhood allergy and immunology, Dr Susan Prescott will outline the current state of allergy research at a special UWA Extension event on 1 February 2012. The Princess Margaret Hospital specialist will also address the environmental and genetic factors involved in allergies.

On the 22 March, Extension guest speaker Chris Sheedy tells how he has been an international adjudicator for the Guinness World Records for 15 years.

**New book on allergy ‘epidemic’**

Allergies are a growing global problem and UWA researcher Dr Susan Prescott, has recently written a book that answers many of the questions challenging parents and allergy sufferers.

The Allergy Epidemic, a new UWA Publishing title, takes readers behind...
Save the date!

If you loved your time at UWA and welcome the chance to revisit some of your old haunts, save the second weekend in February 2013 for a special event marking UWA’s centenary.

We’re letting you know well in advance because we appreciate graduates are very busy people and those based overseas will want to add our Inaugural Alumni Weekend to travel plans for 2013. The fact that the event coincides with the Perth International Arts Festival is a bonus.

The three-day program will offer reunions, food, fun, visits, tours, exhibitions and academic talks. You’ll have a chance to workout at UWA Sports’ refurbished gym, swim in the pool, and relive those golden sporting moments on the tennis courts or James Oval. And there will be plenty of opportunities to reconnect with classmates and friends. An added attraction will be the option of staying at one of UWA’s residential colleges.

The event being planned by UWA’s Office of Development and Alumni Relations will be held from Friday 8 February to Sunday 10, 2013, and invitations will be sent to alumni by mid-2012. Please register your expression of interest and ensure we have your current details by emailing: events-alumni@uwa.edu.au

You can then start planning to draw together the group that made your time at UWA so memorable.

UWA’s Eureka Prize finalist

Ben Corry

Associate Professor Ben Corry is the sort of role model scientist who inspires young Open Day visitors. His UWA research has stirred international interest, been published in a string of prestigious journals and been reported in New Scientist, National Geographic and on the ABC’s Science Show.

Recently, he became a finalist for the Eureka Prize for Outstanding Young Researcher.

Over the past five years, the 2008 Young Scientist of the Year has broken new ground by bringing together two different strands of scientific research. The UWA researcher has developed strategies to make desalination much cheaper using novel porous membranes that mimic principles at play in membrane channels responsible for electrical signalling in the body.

“Although much of the earth is covered in ice,” says A/Professor Corry. “With demands on global water increasing, many communities are turning to desalination. “The key idea of my work is to allow desalination to occur with much less energy input. When describing my research, people are surprised that I study both biology and desalination technology. They don’t see the link, yet it’s the key element that allowed the development of the novel membranes. Only once the connection between these disparate research areas was made could ideas flow between them.”

Clearly the Eureka Prize finalist has a unique blend of skills and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Robyn Owens says the potential impact of his work is enormous.

“Ben’s fundamental studies of ion-channel proteins have helped scientists understand a range of biological processes. This is guiding research into neuromuscular disease and helping to develop new classes of antibiotics. “He has transferred his knowledge of biological channels into finding ways to improve the efficiency of water via reverse osmosis. This research could have global consequences,” says Professor Owens. “Ben is also mentoring the next generation of scientists by supervising research students at UWA.”

A/Professor Corry has published 50 papers in prestigious national and international journals and his work has accrued some 1,000 citations.
Three Nobel Laureates were on hand when the annual Marshall-Warren Lecture was held at UWA in August. Nobel Laureate Professor Michael Spence, Professor of Economics at New York University’s Stern Business School, delivered a timely analysis on the way forward following the global financial crisis. Professor Barry Marshall and Emeritus Professor Robin Warren (Nobel Prize winners 2005) were in the audience.


The visiting economist was awarded the 2001 Nobel Prize with Joseph Stiglitz and George Akerlof. Professor Spence’s book The Next Convergence: The Future of Economic Growth in a Multispeed World, published in Australia by UWA Publishing, examines the rapid recent economic growth in developing countries.

When UWA graduate Peter Pang, President of Bosch (China), addressed the UWA Alumni Shanghai Cocktail Party recently, he painted a glowing picture of his time at UWA studying electronic engineering.

“I see these University years as the turning point in my life. I benefited a great deal from the knowledge, experience and spirit I gained as an overseas student and a resident at St George’s College. The free and open Australian way of life added another dimension to my thinking and influenced my later personal development,” he told his audience.

“The University was beautiful, the air so clean, the sky so blue... This free and spacious environment – with the most friendly and helpful people I’ve ever known – was most conducive for learning and individual character development.”

Mr Pang, winner of the 2010 Alumni of the Year Award from the Australia China Alumni Association, said Australia’s future challenge was to find ways to broaden its portfolio of involvement with China to include more non-resource based projects. China’s strategic emerging industries, including biotechnology, high-end equipment manufacturing, alternative energy and new energy vehicles, offered considerable potential for research and development cooperation he said.

“Co-operation between Australia and China has never been more important to both countries. I hope the UWA Alumni Shanghai gathering will take place regularly,” said the graduate.

In this issue we profile Professor Alan Robson who retires as Vice-Chancellor early next year. The good news is that the much-admired leader will not be lost to UWA as an agricultural scientist. He intends to return to the area of research in the Institute of Agriculture that first brought him to this University for PhD studies.

Professor Robson will be succeeded by Professor Paul Johnson who assumes his appointment early next year. An economist who is currently the Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University, Professor Johnson has a doctorate from Oxford, as does his wife Susannah (also an economist). Like Professor Robson, he was the first in his family to study at university. He jokes that when the University of Bath opened, his parents thought it a bad move “because it brought long-haired hippies into our beautiful city!”

However, that hometown university opened the teenager’s eyes to a whole new world and he went on to study economics and history before joining the London School of Economics and Political Science.

UWA farewell its Vice-Chancellor

Graduates gather in China

In this issue we profile Professor Alan Robson who retires as Vice-Chancellor early next year. The good news is that the much-admired leader will not be lost to UWA as an agricultural scientist. He intends to return to the area of research in the Institute of Agriculture that first brought him to this University for PhD studies.

Professor Robson will be succeeded by Professor Paul Johnson who assumes his appointment early next year. An economist who is currently the Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University, Professor Johnson has a doctorate from Oxford, as does his wife Susannah (also an economist). Like Professor Robson, he was the first in his family to study at university. He jokes that when the University of Bath opened, his parents thought it a bad move “because it brought long-haired hippies into our beautiful city!”

However, that hometown university opened the teenager’s eyes to a whole new world and he went on to study economics and history before joining the London School of Economics and Political Science.

In this issue we profile Professor Alan Robson who retires as Vice-Chancellor early next year. The good news is that the much-admired leader will not be lost to UWA as an agricultural scientist. He intends to return to the area of research in the Institute of Agriculture that first brought him to this University for PhD studies.

Professor Robson will be succeeded by Professor Paul Johnson who assumes his appointment early next year. An economist who is currently the Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University, Professor Johnson has a doctorate from Oxford, as does his wife Susannah (also an economist). Like Professor Robson, he was the first in his family to study at university. He jokes that when the University of Bath opened, his parents thought it a bad move “because it brought long-haired hippies into our beautiful city!”

However, that hometown university opened the teenager’s eyes to a whole new world and he went on to study economics and history before joining the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Three Nobel Laureates: Professor Barry Marshall, Professor Michael Spence and Emeritus Professor Robin Warren Three Nobel Laureates were on hand when the annual Marshall-Warren Lecture was held at UWA in August. Nobel Laureate Professor Michael Spence, Professor of Economics at New York University’s Stern Business School, delivered a timely analysis on the way forward following the global financial crisis. Professor Barry Marshall and Emeritus Professor Robin Warren (Nobel Prize winners 2005) were in the audience.

The visiting economist was awarded the 2001 Nobel Prize with Joseph Stiglitz and George Akerlof. Professor Spence’s book The Next Convergence: The Future of Economic Growth in a Multispeed World, published in Australia by UWA Publishing, examines the rapid recent economic growth in developing countries.

The New Zealand born writer paid tribute to UWA graduate and writer (and former teacher) Gail Jones and Brenda Walker, for validating his ambition to be a writer.

Author and teacher Winthrop Professor Brenda Walker of UWA’s School of English and Cultural Studies, recently won the $30,000 Kibble Literary Award for her moving memoir Reading by Moonlight: How Books Saved a Life. It was the author’s second Kibble win, having taken the prize in 2006 for her acclaimed World War I novel The Wing of Night.

Also enjoying literary success is her PhD student Stephen Daisley whose debut novel Traitor won the Prime Minister’s Literary Award (fiction) along with the New Writing award at this year’s New South Wales Premier’s Literary Award.

The New Zealand born writer paid tribute to UWA graduate and writer (and former teacher) Gail Jones and Brenda Walker, for validating his ambition to be a writer.

The New Zealand born writer paid tribute to UWA graduate and writer (and former teacher) Gail Jones and Brenda Walker, for validating his ambition to be a writer.

The New Zealand born writer paid tribute to UWA graduate and writer (and former teacher) Gail Jones and Brenda Walker, for validating his ambition to be a writer.
The Graduate Dramatic Society is presenting one of the great American classics: Arthur Miller’s first success, All My Sons. The acclaimed and much revived play takes place in a single day in 1947 and sets social responsibility against personal gain. Directed by Barry Park, All My Sons will be performed at the Dolphin Theatre (4 – 12 November). Bookings through BOCs.

** marine ecologist’s top award**

**Professor Carlos Duarte**

The Director of UWA’s Oceans Institute, Professor Carlos Duarte, has been awarded the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea’s top award. The marine ecologist has made invaluable contributions to marine science and oceanography, including leading the Spanish Malaspina 2010 Expedition that explored ocean biodiversity while charting the impact of global change.

The UWA researcher was awarded the Prix d’Excellence at a ceremony during the ICES Annual Science Conference in Poland in September. Professor Duarte said the award recognised that “the vision of UWA’s Oceans Institute – to provide ocean solutions for humanity’s grand challenges – is shared and appreciated by our peers.”

**Kids on campus**

School holiday fun for children aged 5 – 12 is happening on campus right now, and plans are already under way for the Christmas holiday multi-sport programs which begin on December 15 and (after the Christmas break) resume in January. For details of the December and January programs, visit the website: www.sport.uwa.edu.au/ustk

**The bold and beautiful decades**

The 70s and 80s were dynamic decades in Australian art, characterised by bold works that were distinctively Australian yet international in outlook. Many artists travelled – like Sydney Ball who worked with Mark Rothko in New York – bringing back ideas that influenced the direction of Australian art.

These are the critical decades featured in the exhibition Recent Past: Australian painting of the 70s and 80s at the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, and there are some lively public programs centred on the exhibition.

One of these dares academics to encapsulate their ideas about a painting into just seven minutes. This was the challenge for an invited panel of researchers, writers, cultural historians and artists who recently participated in the 7 Minute Speeches.

UWA Museums is reaching out to new audiences through the art gallery and the relocated Berndt Museum which opens its new exhibition space in January.

The cultural initiatives are being developed by Eve-Anne O’Regan (Marketing) and Julia Alessandrini (Public and Academic Programs).

“It’s an exciting time to be at UWA,” says Ms O’Regan. “UWA Museums is bringing staff, students and the public together in creative and entertaining ways. We’ll be offering a range of events that encompass visual arts, music, performance, anthropology and science, so keep an eye on our website.”

Recent Past traces a modern history of Australian painting through the work of 36 artists over half of whom worked in Western Australia. It runs until 23 December.

“Abstraction, representation, politics, local history, the life of the mind and spirit, the stuff of paint and colour – all are vigorously explored by these artists,” says Professor Ted Snell, Director of the Cultural Precinct.

Artists featured include Sidney Nolan, Carol Rucyard, European émigré Lidija Dombrovskas Larsen and Jeremy Kirwan-Ward.

The works were acquired for the UWA Art Collection during the period leading to the opening of the Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery which this year celebrates its 21st birthday.

For exhibition details, visit: www.culturalprecinct.uwa.edu.au

**A Century of Seasons**

UWA’s Friends of the Grounds appreciated they were on to a winner when they launched a photographic contest and produced their first calendar of memorable campus images. The third Friends of the Grounds calendar, the 2012 A Century of Seasons, is now on sale ($12) at the UWA Visitors Centre and the University Club.

**Winthrop Professor Marcus Atlas, founding director of the Ear Science Institute Australia, which is dedicated to improving the lives of those with hearing disorders, has received two major awards this year. In May, he was presented with the AMA (WA) Award for his pioneering work in Otolaryngology, and in August the Dr Harry Blackmore Award in recognition of his work on behalf of the hearing impaired. In accepting the award from Mr Tony Simpson MLA and Mr Barry MacKinnon, W/ Professor Atlas paid tribute to the trustees, board, management and staff of the non-profit institute.**

Institute director wins award

Winthrop Professor Marcus Atlas, founding director of the Ear Science Institute Australia, which is dedicated to improving the lives of those with hearing disorders, has received two major awards this year. In May, he was presented with the AMA (WA) Award for his pioneering work in Otolaryngology, and in August the Dr Harry Blackmore Award in recognition of his work on behalf of the hearing impaired. In accepting the award from Mr Tony Simpson MLA and Mr Barry MacKinnon, W/ Professor Atlas paid tribute to the trustees, board, management and staff of the non-profit institute.
New Courses flagship degree

With a degree in medieval English literature from the Australian National University, two research degrees from the University of Melbourne, a postdoctoral fellowship at La Trobe and 30 years of teaching experience, Professor Jenna Mead is admirably qualified to co-ordinate UWA’s New Courses flagship degree: the Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours).

This challenging program for high-achieving students features an intensive research focus, extensive team work and communication skills development along with support for an overseas study experience.

One of Professor Mead’s current research projects (a Geoffrey Chaucer translation of a Latin text) takes her into the realm of astronomy, the sort of adventurous cross-disciplinary leap she hopes students in the BPhil will take in their stride.

Seeking this sort of richness of knowledge is what the University hopes to foster in the BPhil students. Until now, this four-year undergraduate degree was only offered by ANU. It begins at UWA next year with a cohort of 30 students with ATAR scores of 98 or above. They’ll arrive on campus prior to their peers, attending a summer residence at St Catherine’s College where they will work on a group research project for a week. Along with others in New Courses, students will be encouraged to consider a semester of study abroad.

There will be places in the degree for students from low socio-economic backgrounds, places for Indigenous students, international students and mature-age students.

“We will also consider a secondary intake at the beginning of an undergraduate’s second year, for students with high marks,” says A/Professor Mead.

For information visit: www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/courses-and-careers/undergraduate/phil-honours

Paving the way to success

At the launch: Patricia Kalls, Brenda Mazzucchelli, Erica Smyth and Elizabeth Davies

UWA’s Oak Lawn holds a special place in the hearts of students and graduates.

Guild President (2009) Dom Rose chose the landmark site for the University’s 100 Treasures from UWA published earlier this year and available at UWA’s Visitors Centre.

“For students, it’s the heart and soul of campus,” says Dom. “There is nothing better than lying under the massive oaks, listening to music and discussing all those important questions of life.

“Imagine what the old trees could tell us about the generations of students who have rushed to complete assignments in their shade, or the young loves that have blossomed or fallen apart at their feet? They’ve seen student politicians made and broken during guild elections and activists desperately fighting for any number of causes…”

The Oak Lawn precinct is being further enhanced by the Graduates Walk project that is creating a paved area around the perimeter of the popular student retreat. To date, some 150 granite pavers engraved with names, qualifications and year of graduation have been laid.

On a wintry day in July, the Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Robson welcomed many distinguished graduates for the official opening of the Graduates Walk. Organised by the Centenary Trust for Women, it is hoped that 7,000 plaques will be laid by the end of UWA’s centenary celebrations in 2013.

Dr Erica Smyth, Chair of the Trust, sees the walk as a chance for graduates to celebrate their time at UWA by marking a place in time with other graduates.

The plaques are already a roll of honour that remembers graduates like Thomas Cullity (1919) – and three generations of the Cullity family were at the ceremony, including Rhodes Scholar Jackie McArthur, great-granddaughter of Thomas.

More than 100,000 graduates have passed through the University since it opened its doors to students in 1913.
Graduations: marking individual and institutional success

Reflecting that the recent Spring graduation ceremonies were my last as Vice-Chancellor, I was struck yet again by the substance of the familiar statement that ‘the strength of our University is built on its graduates’.

Beyond the ceremonies that are landmarks in personal achievement as students move to graduate or postgraduate status, there is the added significance that here is an opportunity for the wider community to recognise the great endeavour that goes into the making of these highly educated and highly employable citizens.

That our students are both is reflected in this University ranking as equal first (with the Australian National University) in the Good Universities Guide’s measures of positive graduate outcomes.

Our graduates leave this University in a wonderful position to contribute positively to communities locally, nationally and internationally. We know that nations with populations that are well educated are those in which most people – even those who have not had access to higher education – enjoy greater prosperity, well-being and political and environmental stability.

Knowledge, curiosity, inquiry, enthusiasm and commitment are all hallmarks of our graduates and they also reflect the success of the University’s teaching and research programs – and these are also positively acknowledged in Good University Guide rankings.

Also striking to me is the increasing imperative to fulfil our graduates’ potential and aspiration to work internationally in a range of cultures, communities and careers. And again, the success of our graduates in all these areas increasingly builds our reputation as a high-quality global university.

A wonderful feature of these ceremonies is the occasional address delivered by a person of distinction who, through success in a chosen field, speaks of their journey and shares the wisdom gained along the way.

Each ceremony also features the important valedictory address which brings a student voice to the occasion.

Over the years, these addresses have covered a vast array of subjects. However, the overall message from students on the threshold of careers revolves around the pursuit of excellence and a determination to be bold in future endeavours, backed by confidence in their abilities.

Above all, our graduations highlight the fact that the University’s motto – Seek Wisdom – is perhaps more relevant than ever to today’s graduates facing a world where global knowledge has become the new currency.

I think there is something in the interpretation of graduation ceremonies in the United States as a ‘commencement’. This term recognises – amid all the celebrations of completion – that this is really a beginning: not only of countless individual careers but of the release of new energy and new ways of thinking that graduates bring to the fields they enter.

All of these positive ‘good news’ factors spur our University to pursue the ambitious goal of being counted among the world’s best 100 universities in 2013 when we celebrate out centenary.

To put this determination into context, the world currently accommodates some 10,000 institutions defined as ‘universities’. Currently the well-respected Shanghai Jiao Tong World University Rankings places UWA 110th in the world – and, impressively, 33rd in Life and Agricultural Sciences.

Our centenary goal is not based on ego but on an understanding that improving the strength of our University through the quality of our teaching and learning is the very best way we can contribute to the communities we serve.

The excellent recent feedback this University has received from two well-recognised rating agencies augurs well for our ambitious centenary agenda. It is also deeply satisfying for a Vice-Chancellor preparing to hand over to his successor in early 2012.

Alan Robson
Vice-Chancellor

FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLERY
Music’s power and glory

The return to the School of Music of a virtuoso violinist much in demand has been welcomed by staff, students and the graduates he continues to mentor. Trea Wiltshire reports.

Winthrop Professor Paul Wright, Director of Strings Studies, has spent nearly two years in the ‘hot house’ atmosphere of the Australian National Academy of Music in Melbourne, Australia’s only national performance-based training institution.

UWA’s virtuoso violinist was seconded to the Academy that offers intensive programs to outstanding young music graduates – and he felt very much at home there. In 2009, nine of the 55 selected were graduates from UWA’s School of Music, “the highest representation of any university,” says Professor Wright.

“Being the musical equivalent of the Australian Institute of Sport, the academy attracts the cream of instrumental students from around Australia and the teaching environment is entirely centred on performance,” says the musician.

“Most non-performance duties, like administration, are handled by a wonderfully supportive office team so teachers are given the mental space to do the job properly. This makes for an invigorating environment and it certainly gave me a new lease of creativity.”

Would he want his best strings students to aim for academy selection?

Above: Expression of Spring, David Gregson, oil on canvas, 1984, Gregson Collection (Photo: Richard Woldendorp)
Left: Paul Wright at New York’s Julliard School of Music and as a boy selected for the Yehudi Menuhin School in the UK.
“That depends very much on a student’s personality and career plans,” says Professor Wright. “It is a fairly competitive ‘sink or swim’ environment. There are no fees for students, in fact they receive a bursary to attend. This means that students who are not 100 per cent committed are not invited back.”

The young Paul Wright became 100 per cent committed to his violin from an early age, despite facing schoolyard hassles over his love of music while growing up in Adelaide.

“Luckily I was saved by the fact that I was also pretty good at football,” he recalls.

However, it was the violin and the power of music that loomed large in his life ever since his mother returned home from an antique shop with a violin rather than the table she had intended to buy.

“Her father had played the violin, so it was a sentimental purchase,” the musician remembers – and it instantly appealed to a small boy already captivated by the sound of the solo violin he heard on the old black and white movies his parents would watch at night.

Despite the condition of the violin, the young boy managed to get a tune out of the instrument and from then on he slept with it every night and took it to school.

Eventually his father went to the local music store with a hundred dollars in his pocket and told the sales assistant he needed a violin for his son – and believed a Stradivarius was a reputable make!

While the fledgling performer had to wait to play an instrument made by the famous Antonio Stradivari, Paul Wright’s early mastery of the violin won him the attention of a musician who regularly performed on one: the celebrated Yehudi Menuhin who founded an international music school that Paul would attend.

“My parents never pushed me too much but they recognised I had a passion for music so they sent an audition tape to the Yehudi Menuhin School in the United Kingdom. The school accepted about five students a year from around the world, so when a letter arrived saying I’d been accepted we all went into shock and my parents asked would I like to go?”

At the time the 11-year-old had been described by acclaimed Australian violinist Brenton Langbein, Professor of Music at Basle University in Switzerland, as having “a rare musical talent”.

“If he is given a chance…I have absolutely no doubt he will be one of the finest musicians Australia has produced,” said the violinist who later founded the International Barossa Music Festival.

His acceptance at the prestigious school was just such a chance, although it meant a family move from Adelaide to London so that he could enter the boarding school set in the Surrey countryside.

Housed in a Victorian Gothic mansion overlooking green hills and woodlands, the Yehudi Menuhin School of Music was a world away from the Christian Brothers College in Adelaide where “my peers considered it was not particularly manly to be a musician”. However, the musician still recalls the college’s head brother being passionate about music and allowing him to miss maths classes so that he could practise!

At the school presided over by the celebrated violinist, the pupils were immersed in music but had a complex curriculum divided between music and academic subjects. It was an environment in which the young Australian thrived, ensuring he progressed from the Yehudi Menuhin School to London’s Guildhall School.

Did he ever doubt that music would be his life?

“My longest period of doubt lasted two weeks,” recalls Professor Wright. “I wanted to quit because I was going through a bad time with a teacher in London. I felt I had stagnated so I went to see Yehudi and he was very helpful and encouraging. He said it was just a phase and advised me to change teachers.”

Paul Wright was 18 at the time and soon after he was accepted by the famous Juilliard School of Music in New York.

“That period of doubt has made me very conscious of the negative and demoralising impact that a certain approach to teaching can have,” he says.

“Music is like a vast mansion. When a student first comes for lessons, he or she may not know of the many rooms that exist. The great joy lies in...
Celebrate the start of summer overlooking the beautiful Swan River at Symphony by the Bay; the premier performance of the Perth Symphony Orchestra featuring soprano Sara Macliver.

Sunday 13 November
University Club Members $75 / Non Members $85
Riley Oval, The University of Western Australia
Tickets: www.bocsticketing.com.au or 9484 1133

During a distinguished career, Professor Wright has been concertmaster of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, guest concertmaster of the Australian Chamber Orchestra, Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and the West Australian Symphony Orchestra. He is co-founder of Ensemble Battistin, an 18th period instrument group based in Perth. He is the recipient of an Australian Research Council Linkage Grant investigating aspects of French Baroque music that has involved the production of five CD recordings.

On 13 November Winthrop Professor Paul Wright will be one of several solo artists featured in the inaugural Symphony by the Bay, an exciting new event on the musical calendar.

This large-scale orchestral performance organised by The University Club of Western Australia is expected to attract more than 2,000 people and is in the league of events at Leeuwin and Sandalford wineries.

The University Club anticipates that Symphony by the Bay will become an annual event and this year’s performance will feature the Perth Symphony Orchestra that was founded last year to provide this State with an orchestra able to work in varied environments, across genres and in regional areas.

The first concert will feature renowned Australian soprano (and UWA graduate) Sara Macliver, Paul Wright (concertmaster), Sophie Walker (cello) and Chief Conductor Jessica Gethin.

Local music lovers will also have a chance to hear Professor Wright when he leads musicians and emerging UWA artists in Culmination (22 October at Winthrop Hall). Every year the outstanding ability of School of Music students and staff is highlighted at this concert featuring finalists for the prestigious Vose Memorial Prize for Music. The program includes the Winthrop Singers under the direction of Nicholas Bannan performing Copland’s In the Beginning.
Back in 1994, aged 23 and still a relatively inexperienced registered nurse, Belinda Wozencroft was the only applicant for a job to establish the first permanent health clinic in one of Australia’s most remote communities in the Western Desert.

“There was just the once-a-day hook-up with the Royal Flying Doctor Service radio, no assurance of running water or regular food supplies, so I must have displayed the required level of madness to get the job,” she quips.

Camels were chased off the landing strip when the single engine aircraft deposited her in Punmu on “a day I knew I would never forget!”

So began three years during which she became known as ‘Linda, Punmu sister’ as the clinic took shape with the enthusiastic help of locals. Health programs were developed in consultation with Aboriginal health workers, community members, teachers, storekeepers – whoever wanted input and ownership of the program. Most of the health workers trained on the job and, if willing, left the community for further training.

“The most successful programs were those that grew out of problems the community identified,” recalls the graduate.

“One was a Home and Community Care (HACC) program for the elderly. Because there was no designated building, meals were run out of my kitchen and were delivered to old people in the clinic Toyota. My contribution was the ‘milli milli’ paper work and after 18 months we were able to get funding for a HACC house.

“The ear health program was another success. Initially, everyone seemed to have discharging ears – it was a rarity to find an intact ear drum – and the impact on hearing, language development and education was huge.

“As this was a priority, we developed a community-driven, multidisciplinary program. Ears were syringed or cleaned daily, records were kept, the schools were involved, every child was

---

Above: Graduate Belinda Wozencroft (Photo: Brian Cassey for Medical Observer)
This October, remember to have your free screening mammogram at BreastScreen WA

October is Australia’s breast cancer awareness month. It is important for women 50 years or over to have a FREE breast screening mammogram at BreastScreen WA every two years.

Once is not enough.

For an appointment phone 13 20 50

Metropolitan locations: Cannington, Fremantle, Joondalup, Midland, Mirrabooka, Padbury, Perth City and Rockingham.

Rural locations: Check your local media for pink mobile clinic visit.

www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au

Helping Deliver a Healthy WA
Today people are getting their news in profoundly different ways. In addition to conventional sources, we learn of major news events from mobile phone footage of uprisings, amateur videos of earthquakes and tsunamis, Facebook and Twitter exchanges and from individual bloggers and sites such as the Huffington Post.

Commenting on the media’s changing face, The Economist magazine suggests the internet is taking the news industry back to the conversational culture of the coffee house and pamphleteer – before the Sun pioneered the use of advertising to sell papers on the streets of New York in 1833.

“Now the news industry is returning to something closer to the coffee house,” observed the magazine.

“The internet is making news more participatory, social, diverse and partisan, reviving the discursive ethos of the era before mass media. That will have profound effects on society and politics.”

As the news agenda extends well beyond traditional sources, so do the challenges of getting the story right. All of which makes UWA’s new Master of International Journalism a much-needed addition to the new postgraduate courses offered next year.

“As long as journalists embrace the changing landscape rather than fight it there are opportunities to enhance the work we do with so many emerging platforms on offer,” says the Foundation Professor in Journalism, Winthrop Professor Peter van Onselen.
When he moved from academia into full-time journalism in 2009, political columnist and broadcaster Peter van Onselen quickly appreciated that leaders of the profession did not have a high regard for the training universities offer budding journalists.

At that time, the UWA graduate became contributing editor at The Australian which publishes his weekly political column. Today he also hosts Agenda for Sky News and in both workplaces he has become aware that most editors would welcome a higher level of skills in the graduates they hire.

“UWA’s new Master of International Journalism is my answer to that widespread criticism,” says Professor van Onselen, who joined UWA earlier this year to develop an intensive one-year course likely to have wide appeal. And it’s a course that is clearly in demand.

The new course will be offered next year and the UWA graduate says that it will draw on industry professionals as well as scholars. The aim is to provide students with a high degree of practical experience along with a solid grounding in the history, theory and practice of the profession.

“The key difference with other courses nationally will be the level of engagement provided by the working journalists teaching into the course,” says W/Professor van Onselen.

“One of the common criticisms of journalists is that they don’t know enough about their subject matter. I want graduates of the degree course to have that depth of knowledge – of politics, business and culture,” he says.

“This area interests me because I came to journalism sideways. My PhD at UWA in political science provided me with the expertise that eventually took me into journalism. Politics is my speciality, my comfort zone and I am completely at home writing about it. However, I would be one of very few specialists in journalism.”

Peter van Onselen doesn’t believe that university courses will be the only avenue that produces journalists. In fact one of the drawcard guest lecturers in the Master’s course will be The Australian’s Editor-at-Large Paul Kelly, a classic example of a writer who earned his nickname ‘the professor’ through the body of his political writing, in books and in the media.

“The aim of the course is to inject that degree of expertise into graduates – because that is not happening enough at the moment,” says the course co-ordinator.

“The only way to change the status of the profession is to improve training and to make sure that graduates also get a good grounding in ethical practices. This is a profession going through enormous changes and we already know that there are high quality graduates who want to study further in this area.

“These graduates may already have a degree in politics or economics, while others could be working journalists who feel they would benefit from further study. There will also be participants who work in a related area and want a greater insight into the workings of the print and electronic media.”

The Master of International Journalism will be offered on a full-time or part-time basis over three semesters and will comprise 12 units. Full-time units will be completed over a year, including a summer semester; part-time over 18 months.

Peter van Onselen is ideally suited to co-ordinating such a course. He completed a BA with first class honours and a Master’s at the University of New South Wales and a PhD at UWA.

He was an Associate Professor at Edith Cowan University before joining The Australian following the publication of his John Winston Howard: The Biography (Melbourne University Press). He has been a contributor to Australia’s leading academic journal on politics, The Australian Journal of Political Science.

The Winthrop Professor, who commutes between Sydney and Perth, will teach units on print and broadcast journalism as well as advanced writing. He will be joined by The Australian’s Paul Kelly and Sky News journalist Ashleigh Gillon, winner of the Canberra Press Gallery’s Young Achiever Award, who is moving back home to Perth at the end of this year. Other lecturers will include Sky Chief Political Correspondent Kieran Gilbert, a member of the Federal Parliament’s press gallery since 2003; investigative reporter Anthony Klan, a Gold Walkley finalist and WA born and bred Geoff Elliott, now the Business Editor at The Australian.

Guest lecturers will include an array of local and national media talents, such as David Speers, Michael Stutchbury and Paul Lampanthakis.
Graduate welcomes new course

Jessica Strutt has always been fascinated by politics and the UWA graduate used her BA in Politics and History as a launch pad into journalism.

After stints on Perth’s two newspapers and as politics reporter on a local TV station, her wide experience in the media recently saw her appointed as a senior media adviser to the WA Premier.

“In an age where education is highly valued, I think the Master of International Journalism will fill a gap,” says the graduate. “The practical focus of the course and its emphasis on the increasing diversity of modern media reflects the true nature of journalism today. The biggest challenge in the media is maintaining the quality of our product as the demands grow on us to do more with less.”

Jessica began her career in journalism as a cadet with the Merredin Mercury writing stories that ranged over local government, courts, community activities and sporting events. She then joined the Sunday Times in Perth and later The West Australian where her strengths at breaking news stories, covering State Parliament and writing political sketches and features saw her appointed State Political Reporter. An offer to hold a similar post at Channel Nine Perth followed.

In September last year Jessica was selected for a prestigious US Government International Visitor Leadership Program that involved travelling to several major cities including Washington and New York as guest of the Department of State.

“The trip spanned a month and the fact that we were there for mid-term elections was obviously a highlight,” recalls the graduate. “We visited newspapers, television and radio stations to get a real feel of how the media works over there.”

Jessica sees her strengths as being a good team player, but also as a “self-starter able to generate my own story ideas and follow-ups”.

“I don’t know where I’ll end up in my career but I certainly hope I can continue to make a living from combining my two loves: politics and people,” she says.

Uni Sport 4 Kids runs during school holidays and is a fun and exciting multi-sport day camp for children aged 5 - 12.

Prices start from only $42/day.

Give the gift of a homemade Christmas with Anna Gare

For this and other great gift ideas visit www.extension.uwa.edu.au or email at extension@uwa.edu.au now for your free program.

UWA Extension – follow us on Facebook and Twitter.
What is or has been the most important institution in the history of Western Australia?


We might look to the cathedrals in Perth and the traditions they represent, the House on the Hill that passes the laws, the big corporations – government and private – that have created infrastructure and jobs, the TLC and its unions, the many clubs and associations that have supported the environment, arts and sport, or the longstanding newspapers like The West Australian or the Sunday Times that have gathered and disseminated opinion and news.

What we want is a good society with that proper mix of spirituality and materiality, order and liberty, free enterprise and social obligation, tradition and creativity, commerce and culture, and economics and the environment.

Unfortunately achieving that balance is never easy. On the one side we have conservatism and complacency, and on the other fundamentalism and extremism. Some care too little and some care too much. We need therefore to ignite the passions of the former and temper the enthusiasm of the latter.

This is where our universities come into play. Their ‘gods’ are – or at least they should be – rationality and empiricism. T H Huxley put it brilliantly in his 1889 article on agnosticism: “Positively the principle may be expressed: In matters of the intellect, follow your reason as far as it will take you, without regard to any other consideration. And negatively: In matters of the intellect do not pretend that conclusions are certain which are not demonstrated or demonstrable.”

It’s hard to find a better description of the responsibilities of an academic.

It was this world view that lay behind the establishment of The University of Western Australia. Yes it was true that the founders saw the importance of the utilitarian task of educating the best and brightest in the professions so the State could prosper, but this was to be done by way of a free and secular university. What should matter to this University is ‘the evidence’, not only when it came to selecting students and staff where the merit principle should apply but also when it came to teaching and research where the principles of modern science should apply when judging performance.

However, when it came to education the 1911 Act also made it clear that “special encouragement and assistance should be afforded those who may be hindered in the acquisition of sound knowledge and useful learning by lack of opportunity or means”.

---

Above: Dr Geoff Gallop
The University was mandated to promote and actively support not just itself but also wider opportunities and the ideal of an educated society.

One would hope that other institutions in our society would spread the message of the true meaning of education in both word and deed but this can’t be guaranteed. Politics is the art of compromise and alliance building. Religion is too focused on faith or doctrine. Business wants to make a profit. Social movements have a tendency to gild the lily. Artists are often bewitched by utopianism. Journalists love a good story and often ignore the facts when telling it. The temptations associated with power, profit, idealism and news reporting will always be with us.

Universities aren’t immune from these tendencies and this shouldn’t surprise us – they need financial support from governments and corporations, special interests have their research agendas, academics want influence and students have often been spearthrowers for revolutionary causes.

What makes universities different is their mandate to support free inquiry and scientific endeavour. When other institutions fail in this regard it doesn’t surprise us but when it happens in a university we are troubled – or at least we should be!

This takes me back to The University of Western Australia. It may be going too far to say it is WA’s most important institution, but it is right up there.

It has provided an excellent education for generations of leaders in a range of professions. I can’t speak highly enough of the education I received in economics, economic history and the history of economic thought from 1969 to 1971. Indeed I remember many of the lectures as if they were delivered yesterday!

WHAT MAKES UNIVERSITIES DIFFERENT IS THEIR MANDATE

It has delivered adult education and external studies. Its researchers have solved many puzzles and assisted many decision makers in both the private and public sectors. It was home to a Nobel Prize in 2005. Its students have taken up many causes and the Uni Camp for Kids is Perth’s oldest registered children’s charity. Its Perth International Arts Festival brings the city alive. Through the Colombo Plan it brought overseas students to the State, many of whom have become long-term advocates for Australia. It practised multiculturalism before the idea was popularised.

I’m pretty sure there is a widespread understanding of the significance of UWA’s contribution to the life of Western Australia. If there isn’t, those of us with knowledge about these things have a responsibility to spread the message.

Achieve a more prestigious qualification in science education

Western Australia’s leading university now has places available for our Graduate Diploma of Education (Secondary) and Master of Teaching (Secondary).

For details please call 6488 2388 or visit our website education.uwa.edu.au/courses/teaching

The first section of the Centenary Trust for Women Graduates’ Walk is now open. It is a great display of achievement that shows the diversity of the UWA graduates.

You are invited to be part of it!

Any UWA graduate can purchase a paver inscribed with their name, degree(s) and graduation year. Multiple pavers can be bought for family or friends and these groups of pavers can be laid together. Check the families that are proudly together at the Oak Lawn. By purchasing a paver you will assist women who require financial support to continue their studies at UWA.

Simply download the form from www.uwa.edu.au/ctw or call +61 8 6488 4207 and ask the Graduates’ Walk Project Officer, Marita Gardener for further information.

Come and see the Oak Lawn and help us pave the way for generations to come!
Managing the boom

UWA's new Dean of the Business School says that while Australia's resources boom quarantined it from the worst of the global financial crisis, it must learn to manage its two-speed economy.

In August, when the new Dean of the UWA Business School, Professor Phil Dolan, was preparing to move into his new office overlooking the southern campus, there was good news and bad news.

The good news was that the School had just received accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) – the only business school in Western Australia to do so. This recognition of high quality teaching was a further accolade of excellence for an institution that had already achieved international quality (EQUIS) accreditation.

The bad news was that the financial world appeared to be in turmoil.

The ratings agency Standard and Poor's had just downgraded the United States' triple A credit rating, setting off seismic volatility on global stock exchanges. The irony was not lost on economists who – like Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz – held credit agencies culpable for contributing to the subprime crisis that precipitated the global financial crisis.

While Australia – riding the China resources boom – appeared to be quarantined from the worst of the crisis, Professor Dolan acknowledged that our nation also faces the considerable challenge of learning to manage its two-speed economy.

This complex economic backdrop of winners and losers made it an interesting time to be at the helm of one of Australia's leading business schools, and to be enrolling in a business degree.

Do the world's business schools experience enrolment fluctuations in response to financial turmoil?

Professor Dolan says that global turbulence has less impact in Australian universities than it does in the United States.

"The economic climate doesn't generally affect undergraduate enrolments but it can have an impact at postgraduate level," he explains.

"Enrolments tend to be counter cyclical, so if there is a downturn and a rise in unemployment, full-time postgraduate enrolments generally rise. However, executive education tends to be pro-cyclical because companies spend more on this type of education when the economy is doing well."

Following the global financial crisis, MBA degrees from leading American business schools came in for some criticism, with critics claiming that newly graduated financial ‘whizz kids’ – with little domain knowledge of the businesses they ran – had become part of the problem.

Above: The UWA Business School
Next page: Professor Phil Dolan
Was the criticism warranted?
Professor Dolan, who completed his PhD at Stanford University, working under the supervision of Nobel Laureate Professor William Sharpe, says that some of it was.

“There was certainly not enough focus on teaching the ethical aspects of business,” he says. “However, having said that, some would argue that you can’t teach people to be ethical. What you can do is to provide the tools and the framework for them to make good decisions,” he says.

“Part of the problem was the incentive structures that were in place, because they encouraged people to take big risks with other people’s money. When it paid off it was fine, but it was a case of heads I win, tails you lose – a situation that can distort people’s behaviour.

“In terms of guilty parties or villains, while there were some fringe criminal elements at play, the meltdown had more to do with a series of pressures pushing in the wrong direction. Loose monetary policy, regulations not as tight as they could have been and not as well written as they should have been. Add to that the situation that some organisations involved in subprime losses – like the banks – were perceived to be too big to fail.

“It’s also worth remembering that there were people at the time who realised things weren’t good, but they weren’t listened to. There were economists who had developed models that predicted exactly what could and did happen. However, most people had their heads in the sand in the steadfast belief that housing prices always go up.”

What about the role of those ratings agencies?
“They were highly conflicted because they were rating debt instruments issued by banks and the banks were paying them, so their assessments were in no way independent,” says Professor Dolan.

“What’s interesting is that everyone knew the ratings process was potentially contaminated – it was no secret – so why didn’t investors take that into account?

“Certainly those who came through the GFC now have a much more jaundiced view about the agencies and will factor that in to their future thinking.

“However, a lot of big institutional investors – like US pension funds – can only buy securities that have been rated investment grade. Perhaps we need to look at the whole process of rating. For instance, should rating become a public service provided by a utility rather than a privately owned company? However, that doesn’t necessarily guarantee that the rating process will be in better hands. You might replace one set of problems with another.”

Professor Dolan believes that in moving forward, the most important issue is transparency: when you consider an investment you know exactly what is involved, and what incentives are at play in producing its rating.

Australia came through the GFC in good shape, he says, because our economy doesn’t have the imbalances that built up in other locations.

“I think the challenge here is how to manage the highly successful resources boom that has its own imbalances and pressures. That is something we need to grapple with,” says Professor Dolan.

“The trick is how you manage a boom – that pours money into certain sectors – so its benefits are felt across the whole economy. The current generation of Australians may do well from the boom, but how do we lock in the good times for the next generation?

THE TRICK IS HOW YOU MANAGE A BOOM – THAT POURES MONEY INTO CERTAIN SECTORS – SO ITS BENEFITS ARE FELT ACROSS THE WHOLE ECONOMY

“There is the option of sovereign wealth funds, but will future governments be able to keep their hands off the funds or will the money get spent unwisely?”

What Professor Dolan would like to see is a far higher level of financial literacy in the community and he believes the Business School can play an important outreach role in achieving this.

Professor Dolan came to UWA from Macquarie University where he was Professor of Finance and Head of the Department of Applied Finance and Actuarial
Studies. His area of research interest is decision-making in relation to investment fund management.

The Stanford graduate says that while some Business Schools in the US have differing focuses – Stanford, for instance, has a strong emphasis on technology because of its location in Silicon Valley – there is not the same degree of variability in Australia.

AUSTRALIA CAME THROUGH THE GFC IN GOOD SHAPE BECAUSE OUR ECONOMY DOESN'T HAVE THE IMBALANCES THAT BUILT UP IN OTHER LOCATIONS

“I think given the importance of the mining sector in WA, there could be scope for UWA to focus on this area and that is something I will be exploring,” says Professor Dolan. “After meetings with the sector, I appreciate that its binding constraint is often not raising financial capital to undertake projects but the shortage of human capital. That is why this University has rallied to fill that gap.

“To operate successfully in this sector, organisations need to call on a range of skills apart from those relating to exploration and extraction. They need to understand finance, human resource management and marketing.

“Understanding the economy is also important because a lot of mining projects are long term in nature, so you need reliable economic forecasts plus the requisite economic research. These are areas in which the Business School offers exceptional expertise.”

UWA’s Business School moved into its state-of-the-art home on campus in 2009 and the move has undoubtedly enhanced the School’s already solid reputation for providing students with access to some of the best facilities in Australia. It offers both undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, along with executive management courses.

Western Australia’s business community has been generous in its support for the School, contributing to the construction of the award-winning building, and endowing chairs and scholarships. Many of the State’s most outstanding business identities serve on the School’s board.

The School currently has more than 160 full-time staff and is home to more than 20 per cent of UWA’s student body, with more than 6,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students studying in WA and offshore in Singapore.

Before she left UWA, the former Dean, Professor Tracey Horton, said that the School's latest accreditation from the AACSB was gratifying.

“In the last five years we have introduced a new Master of Professional Accounting and a revamped Master of Commerce, moved into a new $50m state-of-the-art building and consolidated our relationship with around 30 corporate partners,” said the UWA graduate.

Executive Vice-President and Chief Accreditation Officer of the AACSB International, Jerry Trapnell, said it took a great deal of self-evaluation and determination to earn AACSB accreditation.

“UWA has not only met specific standards of excellence, but has also made a commitment to ongoing improvement to ensure the institution continues to deliver high quality education to its students,” Mr Trapnell said.

AACSB International is a global non-profit organisation devoted to the advancement of management education. EQUIS accreditation is controlled by the European Foundation for Management Development. It recognises the high international standard of degree programs, research, executive education, community outreach and internationalisation.
As he prepares to leave the office he has occupied for two decades, first as Deputy, then as Vice-Chancellor, Alan Robson looks back over his long association with the University he first came to as a PhD student.

When he walks out of the Vice-Chancellery for the last time early next year, Professor Alan Robson knows he will miss the close-knit Vice-Chancellor staff. He also admits he’ll miss the artworks on the wall – particularly the vivid colours of Guy Grey Smith’s Breakaway Country Mount Magnet and the insight and design of Howard Taylor’s Skeletal Remains – and the green tracery of trees and shaded lawns beyond the Prescott Room where he has welcomed countless visitors, local and international.

What he admits he won’t miss are the exceptionally long hours he’s invested in his leadership of this University over two decades, first as Deputy, then as Vice-Chancellor.

“It’s been a very demanding job and yes, I do work long hours because the job is completely open-ended and there’s always something more you can do,” he muses. “I’ve been very fortunate because I have a wonderfully supportive wife and family who made it possible for me to be so committed.”

As he enters the last few months of his term as Vice-Chancellor, those who’ve worked closely with him acknowledge the steely determination and drive that lie behind a genial leader.

Professor Robson has quietly steered UWA into tertiary education’s increasingly global arena, setting an ambitious course for its recognition among the world’s great universities. It is an appropriate aim for a University that in 2013 will mark the centenary of the enrolment of students at Western Australia’s longest established university.

Beyond the campus, Professor Robson’s leadership and the strategic targets he set have been endorsed by business, industry and government leaders alike. Closer links with a research-intensive University committed to training the next generation of innovators and leaders is now widely acknowledged as mutually beneficial – not only by industry giants fuelling the State’s phenomenal growth but also by schools and students excited by the widening employment prospects in areas.

--------------------

Uniview The University of Western Australia | 21
of frontier research such as radio astronomy and biotechnology.

As they wish well, Perth’s community leaders will commend Professor Robson’s insistence that the University never lose sight of its prime function: to be acknowledged as one of this State’s great assets, a resource for the entire community.

In this respect, UWA’s Vice-Chancellor shares the vision of UWA’s first benefactor, Sir John Winthrop Hackett: securing “higher education … for the sons of the people”.

Professor Robson has amended this vision to include the 21st century imperative of equity, advancing the initiatives put in place by UWA’s first female Vice-Chancellor, Professor Fay Gale. Increasing the number of women at senior levels and supporting a family-friendly workplace have ensured that UWA has been the Federal Government’s Employer of Choice for Women for an exceptional nine consecutive years.

Not a person to look back, Professor Robson acknowledges that, while happy to retire from the challenging roles he has held since 1993, he’s not ready to leave the campus he loves and that he joined as an agricultural scientist in 1974.

“I can’t imagine not having an interest to turn my mind to – and my home just isn’t large enough for all the books I’ve accumulated,” he muses. “My plan is to return to a research role in the Institute of Agriculture – Agriculture being sufficiently far away from the Vice-Chancellor that the new Vice-Chancellor won’t feel I’m looking over his shoulder!”

International travel is also on his radar, including a visit to the windswept Shetland Islands off Scotland, home to his great grandfather who ran away to sea when he was 15.

John Johnson jumped ship in Victoria and worked his way up from farm labourer to prosperous farmer and pillar of the community on a Gippsland property in Orbost, on the edge of alpine Snowy River country.

“Apparently I looked very like my great grandfather,” he says. “When I was 21 and visited Orbost, someone came up and said: ‘You must be related to John Johnson’. I’m wondering if the same thing will happen when we visit the Shetlands.”

When he enrolled in Agricultural Science at the University of Melbourne, Alan Robson was the first member of his family to go to university.

“My father was a country school teacher and I spent my first five years of schooling at one of his one-teacher country schools,” he remembers.

When his father died, Alan was 12 and his mother went out to work to support the family.

“She was terrific. As a farmer’s daughter she was resourceful, but it was a hard life. I worked all through school delivering papers, helping to run a news agency and working on farms. I also spent two years National Service in the Australian Army. I was a lousy soldier but I made it through officer training and learnt a lot, including if you’re in a position to tell people what to do, it’s better to gain their support first. It was a good lesson to learn.”

Scholarships funded by local farmers saw him through university and he arrived at UWA as a PhD student, newly-married and just 21. UWA and Western Australia made a good first impression and in 1974 he returned as a lecturer in plant nutrition.

“Gwenda and I immediately loved WA. We sensed there were no barriers here, a great feeling of being free,” he recalls. “The strength of the Faculty was another plus. It was a very productive period and there were excellent people.”

GwendA AND I IMMEDIATELY LOvED wA. wE sENSED thERE wERE No BArrIERS hERE, A GRAtE FEELING OF BEING fREE

This page: Alan Robson and his wife Gwenda on arrival at UWA
Next page: 1. Mrs Julie Michael, Professor Robson, Mrs Gwenda Robson, Dr Ken Michael, Dr Erica Smyth and broadcaster Dr Geraldine Doogue at a Centenary Trust for Women’s event; 2. With former UK Prime Minister Tony Blair, who visited UWA to discuss his Faith and Globalisation initiative; 3. With Emeritus Professor Robert Street, on the naming of a lecture theatre for the former Vice-Chancellor (1978 – 1986); 4. With Australia’s Ambassador to the United States, UWA graduate Kim Beazley at a gathering of graduates in New York; 5. Presenting the Australian University Games 2010 Overall Champion Trophy to team leader Meg Cinanni; 6. With Young Tall Poppy Science Award winner Dr Kristen Nowak and Champion Trophy to team leader Meg Cinanni; 7. With (then) Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Seares and (then) Minister for Education, Julia Gillard; 8. With Chancellor Dr Michael Chaney and Indonesia’s Vice-President, Professor Dr Boediono, when the UWA graduate was awarded an Honorary Doctorate earlier this year; 9. With Dr Harold Clough at the Clough Scholars dinner; 10. During discussions on campus with Premier Colin Barnett, Dr Michael Chaney and Dr Kim Hames; 11. With (then) Premier Alan Carpenter, Australia’s (then) Foreign Minister Stephen Smith, as US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice signs the visitors’ book at the University Club reception in her honour
and Fay was making significant changes to planning processes and introducing performance-based budgeting,” he recalls.

“Changes in structure, equity, development and public affairs had begun prior to Fay’s appointment but she accelerated the process. Unfortunately, she became ill and in her final year I became Acting Vice-Chancellor.

“I was keen to maintain the momentum for change, particularly in the area of gender equity and in strengthening teaching and learning,” he recalls.

When the post of Vice-Chancellor became available, he applied but saw the job go to Professor Deryck Schreuder.

“I remember being disappointed but I stayed on because Deryck gave me a lot of responsibility as Deputy, leaving much of the day-to-day running to me as he represented the University on the national and international stage. At the time we appreciated that benchmarking UWA’s performance against leading international institutions was essential.”

When appointed Vice-Chancellor, Professor Robson was determined to take UWA even further into the international arena, as a founding member of the Matariki Network of Universities and a partner in the prestigious Worldwide Universities Network.

“The University is growing enormously – in 2000 we had 15,000 students, today that figure is 23,000. When I joined UWA there were few international students; now 20 per cent of our students are international and they come from 80 countries and our research income has tripled in the last decade.”

During his term of office, he has seen many researchers and students honoured at the highest international level: Professors Barry Marshall and Robin Warren won Nobel Prizes while students regularly secure Rhodes, Fulbright and Sir John Monash Scholarships that take them to another level of study. He has also had the satisfaction of seeing UWA research commercialised in vital areas such as new plant varieties, telecommunication and medical science.

Is there a danger that growth spurred by success could dilute the qualities that have made UWA the first choice of the majority of high-achieving school leavers?

“At present we have 23,000 students and have set the ceiling at 25,000 but this is something that Senate is considering because if we do nothing, we will certainly grow to 30,000. This needs to be addressed in the light of Perth’s population which is expected to rise to 3.5 million by 2050,” says Professor Robson.

“My feeling is we must never compromise the quality of teaching and research and should constantly position ourselves at the high end of...”

---

Above left: Professor Robson on his appointment as Deputy Vice-Chancellor

I CAME TO THE VICE-CHANCELLERY IN 1993 WHEN A NEW EXECUTIVE WAS BEING APPOINTED … I WAS KEEN TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM FOR CHANGE

The young soil scientist rose swiftly through the ranks, and within a decade had been appointed to the vacant chair in Soil Science. A year later he was Dean of the Faculty – but not for long.

At the time UWA was applying to host the Co-operative Research Centre for Legumes in Mediterranean Agriculture (CLIMA) that was established with $2m funding. Alan Robson was its Foundation Director.

The Centre quickly established itself as a research leader acknowledged internationally, and Professor Robson’s leadership caught the eye of Vice-Chancellor Fay Gale who persuaded him to be her Deputy. He agreed, provided he could spend a year getting CLIMA established.

“I came to this office in the Vice-Chancellorcy in 1993 when a new executive was being appointed...”
the market. Our 21st century mantra – Achieve International Excellence – is important as we move towards being in the top 50 by 2050. The University needs to keep stretching itself because that is the way we can best serve Western Australia.”

The Vice-Chancellor sees UWA as an ‘international gateway’ bringing to Western Australia leading international researchers with expertise that would not otherwise be imported. He cites as an example the recruitment of leading international academics. Given the high publication rate of UWA research in prestigious international journals, Professor Robson also sees the University as “a gateway of ideas”.

“Australia may produce just two per cent of the world’s research but we communicate with researchers who produce the remaining 98 per cent. That is why we put such emphasis on networks like the Worldwide University Network and collaborative research that gets our people working with experts across the world,” says Professor Robson.

“Already our track record of publication is impressive, bettered only by Australian National University.”

What are the challenges he leaves his successor?

“We already recruit the cream of undergraduates but must work harder for the highest quality postgraduates and we must continue to recruit high quality staff,” he says.

“Our unrelenting commitment must always be to improve the quality of the student experience at UWA, including the opportunity to live on campus.

“One of the characteristics of the world’s top universities is that they are essentially residential. We won’t get to that point but if students live closer to the University they’ll engage with all the activities on campus, enriching their UWA experience.”

Professor Robson would also like to see more study abroad opportunities and greater participation by less advantaged people and Indigenous and remote Australians.

As one of Australia’s Group of Eight research-intensive universities Professor Robson also sees as ‘unfinished business’ the concentration of research in centres and institutes (such as the newly-created Oceans Institute) while the focus of teaching is concentrated in schools with academics belonging to both schools and research hubs.

“The scale of research has increased exponentially and requires sophisticated equipment, so you need large multi-disciplinary groups of researchers working together. That’s the matrix that has proved so successful for us in medical research,” he says.

That brings the further challenge of increasing the resources available if the University is to count itself among the top 50 universities in the world by 2050.

“When we analysed top international universities of comparable size, their funding per student was 20 per cent higher than ours, so we need to increase funding from all sources, Federal, State, industry, the community and the ‘UWA family’ of graduates.”

It’s clear that while preparing to leave office, this Vice-Chancellor is unlikely to relinquish his commitment to advancing UWA, even when he returns to the Institute of Agriculture and his focus becomes those billions of organisms in a handful of earth that could just prove to be the key to a more productive agricultural sector in the future.

WE MUST NEVER COMPROMISE THE QUALITY OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH AND SHOULD POSITION OURSELVES AT THE HIGH END OF THE MARKET

Certainly his legacy is clear to all who worked with him.

Kadambot Siddique began working with Alan Robson when joining the faculty as a PhD student. Today he is Director of UWA’s Institute of Agriculture.

“Alan’s clear thinking about the culture, history, nature and development of UWA have helped to position this University internationally,” says Winthrop Professor Siddique. “He doesn’t believe in bureaucracy; he wants exciting and strategic projects done without wasting time. He strongly believes that unnecessary red tape is a killer of novel ideas. His positive approach to new ideas has helped me enormously throughout my career.

“Alan has the outstanding ability of bringing the best out of his students, staff and colleagues. His success as a leader is that ability to motivate staff and students and create the environment that helps them to ‘get the job done’.”

Says Professor Margaret Seares, former Deputy Vice-Chancellor: “Alan Robson is one of the most strategic thinkers I’ve known in the field of tertiary education and both UWA and the Australian higher education sector at large have been beneficiaries of his clear insight and understanding of the sector. But you only discover this gradually with Alan because he doesn’t fill discussion with ‘management-speak’, nor does he pontificate to all and sundry.

“He thinks and reads and observes, until he’s ready to share his ideas with his team and to galvanise them to move forward with him. This, I believe, is the mark of a great leader.

“Vice-Chancellors come and go; some are remembered and some easily forgotten. Alan will be among the former and for those who worked for and with him, he’ll always be synonymous with a great institution that he helped to make all the greater.”
The parallel universes of Pakistan

UWA’s Centre for Muslim States and Societies is advancing knowledge on how debates on Islam and being Muslim shape events in Pakistan and permeate the diaspora.

Media reports from Pakistan invariably deal with disasters.

In her office at the Centre for Muslim States and Societies she heads at UWA, Professor Samina Yasmeen is scrolling through daily media reports that include Taliban attacks on a girls’ school and suggestions that Pakistan’s Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) agency was involved in the terror attacks on Mumbai and in offering a safe haven for Osama bin Laden. The news agency reports also suggest that US Secretary of State Hilary Clinton is veering between frustration and a conviction that the US must continue providing aid for its ally. To walk away from Pakistan would have dire consequences, she warns.

Professor Yasmeen agrees. An advocate of active engagement and support, she sees a role for the UWA Centre for Muslim States and Societies in strengthening links with Pakistan and countering the media’s negative portrayal of the country in which she grew up. With strong connections at many levels – personal, academic, political and military – Professor Yasmeen regularly experiences both the challenges and the far more positive perspectives of a nation frequently represented as being ‘on the brink’.

From her vantage point as a political scientist (and a researcher initially educated in Pakistan) Professor Yasmeen sees advances in education and business; the phenomenal uptake of electronic technology; and a reversal of the ‘brain drain’ as some Pakistanis return to contribute to a vibrant, educated business sector.

The political scientist believes the Centre for Muslim States and Societies can play multiple roles in helping to reinforce these advances while increasing understanding of the nation’s challenges. Her own leadership in the field of social justice, human rights and multiculturalism was recently recognised with the Sir Ronald Wilson Leadership Award at the Citizen of the Year awards ceremony.

The UWA Centre that Professor Yasmeen leads regularly hosts scholars, politicians, political analysts, army chiefs and counter-terrorism experts who share their expertise with students, politicians, the media and the public. Meanwhile its academics and...
students are engaged in research and exchanges in a range of areas including the role faith-based educational institutions hold in shaping identities, diasporic activism, Pakistan’s nuclear and foreign relations and counter-terrorism. UWA also provides scholarships to Pakistani students wishing to advance their studies at this University.

“If we fail to understand where Islamist or Muslim ideas fit in the thinking of people in Pakistan – and in the thinking of Muslim migrants in Australia – we are only getting part of the story,” she says. “While it is important to look at the economic, political and social conditions of the country, unless we are aware of thinking in Pakistan and in the wider Muslim diaspora, we risk failure in our engagement with this important country in our region.”

Professor Yasmeen emphasises that the UWA Centre – launched in 2005 and working collaboratively with the Australian National University’s Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies and Melbourne University’s National Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies – has assembled significant expertise.

“I would like to think we can make a significant contribution to the question of how to offer support to Pakistan without alienating people, how to contribute to food security and counter-terrorism in considered ways that don’t alienate the people we want to help,” she says. “We need to be constantly aware that every intervention we make in Pakistan, even with aid, will have a social impact. We need to make sure that our interventions don’t contribute to militancy.

“We also need to appreciate that in Pakistan there are parallel universes – that even during a spate of horrendous killings, there will be a whole swath of Pakistani society committed to a very liberal understanding of human rights.”

The UWA Centre has a dual focus in terms of research: one explores the social inclusion of Muslims in the West (with a focus on Australia), the other looks at developments in Pakistan, including Islamic and social ideas, foreign policy relationships, ethnic conflicts and militant organisations.

Current research in the latter area looks at ideology within the Deobandi ultra-conservative movement, the impact of ethnic conflict on women and children, Islamic identity in India and India’s relationship with Pakistan. Moving further afield, a PhD student is studying legal, gender and cultural factors underlying the issue of honour killings in the Middle East.

To get a better understanding of Muslim identity in Australia, Centre students are exploring issues like Muslim parenting, the extent to which migrant families access local services, the burqa debate, the experiences of Muslim women in workplaces, and the Muslim sense of identity and perceived inclusion or exclusion.

Collaborating with the School of Law’s Professor Robyn Carroll, the Centre has organised workshops (attended by imams, women and those working with Muslim communities) on issues of family law in Australia. These sessions addressed misinformation perpetuated by informal advisory networks that can result in the observation of Islamic rather than Australian laws by migrants.

“Having identified a gap in understanding about local laws, we are filling this niche and also raising awareness of the Islamic justice system among our local judiciary,” she says.

Another fruitful area of research investigates some of Western Australia’s first Pakistani Muslim migrants, including a six-generation family. The family first arrived in the booming Goldfields in the 19th century and, despite coming with little, went on to found a banking empire in both Pakistan and India. Interns at the Centre have interviewed three generations of the family which is now spread throughout Australia.

“My hope is that the material we gather will become a book that illustrates the positive way that Muslim immigrant families have engaged with Australia while retaining links with Pakistan.”

IF WE FAIL TO UNDERSTAND WHERE ISLAMIST OR MUSLIM IDEAS FIT IN THE THINKING OF PEOPLE IN PAKISTAN … WE ARE ONLY GETTING PART OF THE STORY
While the Centre opened in 2005, it built on research UWA had started in the early 1990s, a time when, observes Professor Yasmeen, there was scant archival material on the Pakistani diaspora either in the United States or Britain.

“Paradoxically, 9/11 changed that and has led to more research in the area,” says Professor Yasmeen. “However, I believe that around the world the need for centres like this is not yet fully appreciated.

“At the In the Zone conference that brought business leaders, economists and diplomats to UWA, it was heartening to hear Dr Richard Smith, Australia’s Special Envoy for Afghanistan and Pakistan, confirm what I firmly believe: that UWA plays an active role in policy-relevant research on Pakistan. [Dr Smith, a UWA graduate, has had a distinguished career as a diplomat, including being Australia’s Ambassador to Indonesia.]”

“My dream is that within Australia and beyond, this Centre becomes synonymous with questions of Muslim identity and showcases our expertise and research in the broader area of social, cultural and political issues in Pakistan.”

Given the concentration of expertise within the Centre, and the fact that it recently welcomed a new PhD student from Pakistan – a former brigadier in the military – would seem to indicate that this is an achievable aim.

At the 2011 WA Citizen of the Year Awards, UWA graduate John Poynton, Chairman of Celebrate WA, said that Professor Yasmeen was highly respected in government and academic circles for her contributions to research on Muslims in Australia.

Professor Yasmeen is Vice-President of the Australian Institute of International Affairs (WA Branch) and serves on the National Australia Day Council. She was also a member of the Australian Multicultural Advisory Council convened in 2008 to make recommendations on multicultural policy, social cohesion, and the community and civic participation of migrants.

The Centre will hold an event to celebrate the Faiz Centennial Year on 20 November 2011.

“The event, centred on the legendary Pakistani poet who won global acclaim, will highlight the presence of progressive Muslim voices that reverberate through the region,” says the UWA researcher.

The Centre is also planning a training program next year on Understanding Muslim Societies.
As a secondary student, did you have a clear idea of what you wanted to study?
I wanted to study law from as long ago as I can remember. As a child my family used to meet for Sunday lunch at my grandparents’ house. My grandfather was a lawyer, and my uncles were (and are) lawyers. So the conversation often focused upon law. The legal puzzles fascinated me. I remember an acrimonious debate concerning the legitimacy of the word ‘estoppel’, a legal term which I had heard for the first time that day when one of my uncles placed it on a triple word score in Scrabble. A quarter of a century later, I wrote the chapter on estoppel in the leading English text called *Snell’s Equity*. There are still many mysteries about the doctrine, but it is clear that its French name is a misleading description of its content and that the Scrabble points were rightly denied. I was also brought up by a mother who was a teacher. She loved her job although she was always juggling many commitments with a full-time job and three children. Her passion for teaching was a strong influence on my desire to study a subject which I could later teach.

Until recently, James Edelman was Professor of the Law of Obligations at Oxford and a Director of Studies at Keble College. A barrister in both England and Australia, he advised regularly on cases in both countries and appeared regularly in appeals in both. He was the youngest law professor in the history of Oxford and recently he became the youngest judge appointed to the WA Supreme Court. Justice Edelman is married to Sarah Percy who will take up an academic post in international relations at UWA.
How did you view your future career when studying at UWA and what were the ‘landmarks’ that helped to shape your career?

The first university lecture I ever attended was Economics 101, given by James Stirling’s biographer, Pamela Statham-Drew. Pam was also my tutor, and later a colleague. Her passion for the subject inspired my interest in economics. It also inspired me as a teacher. When I ran out of permitted electives at UWA in Economics, I enrolled in a third degree at Murdoch so that I could cover all the material in economics and finance which interested me. My first teaching position was also as a tutor in Economics. I realised then how much I enjoyed teaching and I knew that I wanted it to be a part of my career.

But I was probably always going to gravitate towards teaching law. In law, the landmarks which shaped my career were the people with whom I worked. At UWA, the most notable was the supervisor of my honours thesis, Grant Donaldson, a practitioner who had returned from Oxford and who had an infectious enthusiasm for legal doctrine as well as other more eclectic matters. In 1996, Grant recommended a lecture to me which was being given by a professor visiting Western Australia from Oxford called Peter Birks. Peter’s performance was electric. I have only ever seen two other lecturers (Stephen Jay Gould and Ronald Dworkin) who could engage an audience the way Peter did. When I was admitted to Oxford, I immediately emailed Peter to ask if he would supervise me. I studied for a doctorate, with Peter’s supervision, for nearly two years. He was omnipresent. Emails sent at 3am would receive immediate, usually apodictic, replies.

In professional legal practice, the highlights were again extraordinary people with whom I worked, as well as several important cases. Immediately after law school I worked for a year as the associate (judicial assistant) to Justice John Toohey, and was then articled at Blake Dawson Waldron with Richard Fisher. I also worked for several years as a barrister in chambers with Malcolm McCusker QC, continuing to practise from his chambers, although less regularly, after I moved to England. In London I joined the chambers of Lord Grabiner QC, One Essex Court. In this period of a little more than a decade of legal practice in these places, the greatest highlights were the small number of cases where I felt that the work I did went beyond seeking justice for those whose cause I was advancing. In those few cases, I assisted with the determination of legal and factual issues which had the potential to help shape the way people think.

What are the major challenges of your current role and what are the personal qualities that have proved to be assets in your career?

When this question was put to me, I was a barrister in London, Professor of the Law of Obligations in Oxford and Director of Studies at Keble College. The biggest challenge was combining the demands of a full-time teaching and research position and a heavy calendar of practice and court commitments, with a young family. Occasionally I managed some creative solutions. Some of the most engaging legal debates about my research took place in the very early hours of the morning, pushing my son or daughter in a jogging stroller through the mist of the Port Meadow, whilst arguing with Professor Joshua Getzler (usually about a point of 19th century procedure in the law of trusts).

I have now returned to Perth as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia. I am still discovering the challenges of the job, but as with the challenges of my career in Oxford and London, the greatest assets in my life remain my wife, Sarah, and my two children, Tatiana and Jonah. No matter what the challenge or the difficulty, they always make me smile.

What is your working day like and how do you relax?

In England, almost every working day was different. On any day work might involve any or all of the following: appearing in court; writing an opinion; conferences with solicitors; researching or writing an academic article or book; editing a law review; university or college committee meetings; marking student essays; lecturing or leading seminars; supervising my research students; or teaching in small tutorials. I tried to make sure that the manner in which I worked was different. For instance, if the sun was shining, I liked to teach my tutorials as Socratic exchanges whilst walking around the University Parks.

My working days usually commence at home around 5am. But there is no clear line for me between work and relaxation. Working on legal matters which interest me, and reading, whether law or not, is relaxing. But outside the law, I also find relaxation by spending time with my family and, whenever I can, swimming, running or paddling surfskis.

What does the future hold?

As I write this, I have just started a new job as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia. Unless the age of retirement changes, I will potentially be a judge for another 33 years. It is difficult to think ahead over the next 33 years, but I hope to develop the best techniques for ensuring fairness and justice in every case I hear and to treat everyone equally, and with respect.

As for teaching, judges at the Supreme Court have an Associate and a Research Associate. So I still have the opportunity to teach and exchange ideas, albeit with a very small class. In the future, I also hope to have some (small) involvement with one or more of Western Australia’s law schools.
Bequest will advance mathematics

The generous bequest of a teacher with a passion for mathematics will support its teaching at UWA.

"Inspiring maths teachers are what we need in Australian schools, because fewer and fewer students are studying advanced mathematics and this is affecting their progress in courses such as engineering, physics, computer science and other sciences," warns UWA’s Winthrop Professor Cheryl Praeger, one of the world’s most highly cited mathematicians.

One such inspired maths educator was the late Muriel Horsfall who along with her sisters Margaret and Constance studied at UWA and went on to become highly respected educators.

Ms Horsfall had a great love of maths and followed her Arts degree with a Diploma in Education, later teaching in Geraldton and Midland High Schools before travelling and working in Tasmania, New South Wales and England.

The talented graduate never forgot how a Hackett Scholarship had helped her university studies. Along with her sisters, Ms Horsfall was determined to assist young people by funding bursaries and as the last surviving member of her family, she left a bequest of $650,000 to this University.

The graduate was 102 when she died and her unrestricted bequest arrived at UWA just when the Year of Mathematics was being planned.

When UWA receives an unrestricted bequest, the University’s most pressing needs are aligned with the donor’s background or vocation.

The University is determined to raise the profile of mathematics teaching and to raise funds for a Chair of Mathematics Education to push the frontiers of maths education in Australia and to allow Western Australia to set a new national standard.

And that makes sense given the role of maths in engineering and physics in a State that has become a key international player in radio astronomy and the energy industry.

“It was serendipitous that the Year of Mathematics and a generous bequest from a maths teacher converged at the same time,” says Anne Liddle, Manager of Planned Giving in the Office of Development and Alumni Relations. “Our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Robson, has decided to allocate Muriel Horsfall’s bequest to support mathematics education which aligns itself with Muriel’s life’s work and passion.

“UWA assures all donors that one hundred per cent of their donations and bequests are used for the purpose intended by the donor. We have established a clear policy for bequests which sets out standards and best practice for the University’s bequest program.

“While Muriel’s bequest was unrestricted, we also receive bequests intended for a specific purpose within the University. It is a gratifying process to work with intending bequestors to ensure the area in which they want to bequeath at UWA is feasible and relevant well into the future so UWA can honour this when the bequest is realised.”

“We are beholden to those who bequeath for their vision and generosity in support of the University.”

For more information about bequeathing to UWA, contact Anne Liddle, in the strictest confidence, on +61 8 6488 8537 or email: anne.liddle@uwa.edu.au

Above: Winthrop Professor Cheryl Praeger
The new Artistic Director of the Perth Festival promises that the 60th anniversary program in 2012 will be a winner.

When she was in the throes of producing her final Perth Festival, Shelagh Magadza said of her successor, Jonathan Holloway, who had arrived in Perth with his young family: “Jonathan circles this office five times a day and he’s got this energy that he’s only just holding back. It’s wonderful.”

Well the Festival stage is now set, the energetic young Englishman’s energy has been unleashed and Perth is watching with interest as the new director takes the helm of the southern hemisphere’s oldest multi-arts Festival.

Not only has he been pacing the Festival’s campus office, but Jonathan Holloway has also dipped into the archives. He appreciates that the major international festival he now heads has its roots on the UWA campus in the 1950s – when, after attending an Edinburgh Festival, Professor Fred Alexander and John Birman determined that Perth should have an annual showcase of world-class theatre, dance, music and film.

Studying the increasingly ambitious programs mounted by five previous directors over 59 years, Jonathan Holloway also appreciates what a complex balancing act the Festival has become. It is a ‘something for everyone’ challenge for programmers: fun events for the family that give people a sense that this is THEIR festival, cool music events for Gen Y, intellectually adventurous and innovative new works, along with ‘wow!’ events bringing artists or companies to our State that might not otherwise perform here.

Jonathan Holloway is no stranger to orchestrating festivals. He spent the last six years as Artistic Director and Chief Executive of the Norfolk and Norwich Festival in the UK, overseeing a phenomenal increase in audiences from 35,000 to 330,000.

And little wonder: during his time, the program expanded to embrace large-scale outdoor events, a children’s festival, theatre and visual arts. Major works were commissioned from the likes of John Tavener and Jonathan Dove, there were rare UK appearances

Above: Beautiful Burnout
Left: Jonathan Holloway
Next page: Peter Brook’s A Magic Flute, which will play at the Octagon (Photo: Pascal Victor)
from Phillip Glass and John Cale, and some 15,000 young people were involved in Creative Partnerships for the region.

The UK festival, he says, was not unlike Perth in terms of isolation – for Norwich is one of the UK’s most remote cities, closer to Amsterdam than to London. It also boasts one of the nation’s oldest arts festivals. When he arrived he found a “small but beautiful” festival focused mainly on music and he set about growing it.

When encouraged to apply for the job at the helm of the Perth Festival he already knew our festival by reputation.

“It is one of the world’s great festivals though people in Perth don’t necessarily clock just how well respected it is among artists,” he says.

Next year the Festival celebrates its 60th anniversary and Jonathan is determined that great artists will be involved to help us celebrate, but more important to him is building on the strong connection the Festival has made with its audience.

“If you cancelled a festival in London people would be sad about it for a minute but if you wrapped up a festival like this it would have a profound impact on the city. Because we’re a bit removed from the rest of the world, the Festival is hugely important and hugely appreciated,” says Mr Holloway.

“The companies that sponsor the Festival are also very much behind it, so it feels like you are pushing into an open door – and that’s great.”

Recently, Rio Tinto increased its support for the family and education program for the next three years, doubling its commitment. Rio’s WA Future Fund Chair Greg Lilleyman said the company had been operating in WA for more than 40 years and wanted to attract and retain an innovative workforce.

“We’re committed to supporting projects that showcase Perth as a vibrant, diverse and creative city,” he said.

Jonathan Holloway clearly relishes the business of orchestrating a festival, not for the egocentric reason of putting his individual stamp on it, but because it involves bringing together so many diverse people and ideas and shaping it in such a way that magic happens.

“If you get things right and your team comes together and the people respond, there is an energy that happens that is quite extraordinary,” he says.

“It takes a lot of people buying into that moment, but when you create that buzz it can unite an entire city and make it proud of its festival.”

Where do you begin when putting together a multi-arts festival?

“I start with the idea and shape of a festival and the impact I want it to have. So I started by looking over previous festivals and talking to people about their sense of a festival. Then you put that aside and make your own. And it needs to be relevant, exciting, dynamic, engaging and utterly compelling,” says the new director.

WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO BE BOTH P T BARNUM WHEN IT COMES TO SELLING TICKETS AND TELLING A STORY AND UMBERTO ECO WHEN IT COMES TO LOOKING AT THE DEPTH AND THE IDEAS WITHIN THE FESTIVAL

“It will be exciting for me to see how people respond and to get a sense of audiences up close. The conversations I’ve had with donors, friends, sponsors and supporters have all been incredibly positive and now I can’t wait for the public to see the 2012 festival. It’s our 60th, so the stakes are very high, the tension is there and it’s a great way to be working.

“I was lucky to inherit an entirely blank sheet, so the 2012 program is 100 per cent mine and my team’s.

“The fact that we’re located on the UWA campus makes us one of a handful of festivals in the world
that link both an independent, free-floating festival organisation with a university home base.

“Therefore we have the ability to be both P T Barnum when it comes to selling tickets and telling a story and Umberto Eco when it comes to looking at the depth and the ideas within the Festival.

“We can do both output – which is extraordinary and full of flair – and the thinking behind that output, which allows us to look at process as well.

“UWA is one of those great universities which has a fascinating history but has always been forward looking. With a new Vice-Chancellor coming early next year, a new direction for the Festival, and a new energy in Perth itself – evident in the foreshore and in ambitious companies like Rio Tinto – we feel we’re here to harness all that energy and to give the city a 60th anniversary festival it won’t forget!”

In his four-year cycle as Artistic Director, Jonathan Holloway has committed to match a world-class international arts program with artistic exchanges and international and regional engagement that strengthens the arts sector and raises the global profile of Western Australia.

Joining his Festival team are Annette Madden who has been appointed Associate Producer, Jo Metcalf also joins the programming team as Contemporary Music Associate.

---

**Festival preview**

The Perth Festival recently offered a glimpse of some of the big attractions coming our way in 2012.

From France comes James Thiérrée’s Compagnie du Hanneton which has won four Moliere Awards, his country’s highest accolade in theatre. His performance brings together incredible physical feats with spectacular visuals. In this production of Raoul, he battles giant jellyfish, tumbles through phantasmagoric storms and finally faces off with his ultimate nemesis: the man in the mirror.

From America comes Dance, a mixture of movement, music and film by choreographer Lucinda Childs, composer Philip Glass and visual artist Sol LeWitt. It caused a sensation in 1979 and now has a second life.

A Magic Flute, an Australian exclusive, is a new Peter Brook production of a timeless Mozart classic featuring a talented ensemble of young singers. It is presented by CICT/Theatre des Bouffes du Nord.

And from Scotland there is Beautiful Burnout from Frantic Assembly and the National Theatre of Scotland. This is a knock-out production from the world of boxing, with a pulsating soundtrack by electronic heavyweights Underworld.

The full program for the 2012 Festival will be launched on November 2.

---

**Accommodation at St George’s College**

Located opposite The University of Western Australia and backing on to Kings Park, St George’s College offers a range of reasonably priced, short-term accommodation for conference guests, visiting academics and students.

**Available all year:**
- Guest Room (from $90 per night*)

**Available from 28 November 2011 – 24 February 2012:**
- Single Budget Room ($65 per night*)
- Single Ensuite Room ($80 per night*)
- Two Bedroom Ensuite ($140 per night*)
- Self-contained Townhouse (from $250 per night*)

*All prices are inclusive of breakfast and subject to change without notice.

For more information please visit our website: www.stgeorgescollege.com.au

For enquiries and bookings call: 08 9449 5555 or email: admin@stgeorgescollege.com.au

---

**Sale**

- RRP $79.95
- Sale $16.95
- Member $15.26

- RRP $75.00
- Sale $24.95
- Member $19.95

- RRP $49.95
- Sale $16.95
- Member $15.26

- RRP $19.99
- Sale $14.95
- Member $13.46

**Members save more in-store and online.**

The Co-op Bookshop
University of Western Australia – Crawley Campus
The Guild Village Hackett Drive (Hackett Entry 2), Crawley WA 6009
P: (08) 6488 2069 F: (08) 6488 1007 E: uwa@coop-bookshop.com.au
UNIVERSITY CO-OPERATIVE BOOKSHOP LTD

---

34 | Uniview Spring 2011
Unravelling the dismissal

UWA graduate Nicholas Hasluck is a former Supreme Court judge who has produced award-winning fiction throughout his career. His latest novel *Dismissal* explores the imagined behind-the-scenes dramas and ambiguities of one of the most newsworthy events in Australia’s political history.

Few episodes in recent political history have been more loaded with drama than those that unfolded on the steps of Parliament House in Canberra on Remembrance Day, 1975.

UWA graduate Nicholas Hasluck’s latest foray into fiction uses the dismissal of Gough Whitlam’s Labor Government by the Governor-General Sir John Kerr as the political backdrop to his 10th novel, *Dismissal*, which was recently published by Harper Collins Australia.

“That day of reckoning marked the end of one controversy – the blocking of Supply Bills by Liberal Party senators – but led to another: whether the Governor-General was entitled to or should have acted as he did in deposing a Prime Minister with a majority in the House of Representatives,” says the UWA graduate. “Both of these controversies aroused fierce passions at the time, and both have a continuing political relevance.”

In assembling his cast of non-fictional characters – Whitlam, Malcolm Fraser, Sir Garfield Barwick and Kerr – the author explores to what extent past ties, personal flaws or vagaries of character might have motivated their actions.

He sees his fictional characters as “the brightly-costumed players gossiping and conniving in a corner by the footlights, close enough to the audience to be listened to attentively – their bawdy asides, their dark suspicions.”

Nicholas Hasluck is intrigued by whether “the elements of the drama and the characters of the principal players allowed for a different denouement before the curtain fell.”

The principal fictional character in *Dismissal* is a barrister, once on the far left of politics, who has become one of the Whitlam government’s inner circle by November 1975 – “a courtier with his own ambitions, one who has much to lose.”

The author says that a puzzling feature of the crucial period was that “immediately after the dismissal the Labor team in the Senate voted with the Liberals to pass the Supply Bills, paving the way for the election Malcolm Fraser wanted.”

It is an area of ambiguity that the novel explores.

Nicholas Hasluck was born in Canberra and is the son of former Governor General Sir Paul Hasluck.
He studied law at both UWA and Oxford University and spent some time as an editorial assistant in Fleet Street in the 1960s before returning to Australia to become a practising lawyer in Perth and eventually a Supreme Court judge, completing his term recently.

The author hopes that the novel will stir interest in those who will move beyond his novel to memoirs of protagonists, histories of the event and even to the legal texts.

“The word ‘novel’ is a warning sign to be careful. It is also an invitation – an encouragement to step through the looking-glass to look at the world in a new light,” he says. “Imagined worlds can illuminate the facts and may prove to be of use in determining what we have to forget, what we must remember and what can only be supplied by our imaginations in order to comprehend what an important moment in Australian political history felt like.”

Mr Hasluck’s remembering and embellishing of the events has been well received.

Andrew Croome observed in The Australian: “There’s a strong feeling of insider knowledge in Hasluck’s depictions of Canberra and Sydney, as well as his portrayal of Whitlam, John Kerr, Garfield Barwick, Doc Evatt and others … “Hasluck’s great achievement is the surprising thread his fiction weaves through our 20th century, from atomic tests to the stain of East Timor, to that most famous of speeches on the crowded front steps of Parliament House … “Hasluck’s most urgent point, though, concerns the power of rumour and speculation, the limits of human and historical knowing.”

A former deputy chair of the Australia Council and chair of the Literature Board, Mr Hasluck has been chair of the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize since 2006. He has been twice shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Prize and his previous works of fiction include The Bellarmine Jug (winner of The Age Book of the Year Award) and The Country Without Music which was joint winner (with Tim Winton’s Cloudstreet) of the WA Premier’s Book Prize.

Has straddling the legal and literary world helped or hindered the writer?

Mr Hasluck acknowledges that Dismissal was his first novel for over a decade due to the demands of judicial life, but added wryly: “While on the bench I was constantly reminded that law has much in common with literature: a concern for the fate of the individual in society, an interest in the truth of any matter in contention and a familiarity with different forms of storytelling – the legal system depends upon stories being told well.”

Join Australia’s top-ranked university in Life and Agricultural Sciences.*

Fourteen new Masters programs will be offered in 2012 in the areas of Agriculture, Biology, Environment, Hydrogeology, Environmental Economics, Geoscience, and Urban and Regional Planning.

From 2012 Commonwealth Supported Places are available for many of our coursework programs.

For more information please call us on 6488 1644 or visit our website at science.uwa.edu.au/courses/postgrad

*(Shanghai Jiao Tong Academic Ranking of World Universities 2010)
Taking care of the nurses

With its first cohort of Master of Nursing Science graduates taking up appointments, UWA is helping to battle the shortage of nurses. It is also conducting the much-needed workplace research that will help to retain nurses and improve patient outcomes.

In response to a chronic shortage of nurses – both nationally and internationally – UWA introduced a Masters of Nursing Science and recently it shared the satisfaction of 16 mature age students who celebrated the completion of their two-year degree course. Ranging in age from 26 to 50, the Masters students had come from diverse academic backgrounds, from commerce to science.

Nursing research and training has also been boosted by the appointment of Desley Hegney as Winthrop Professor of Nursing at UWA and Professor of Nursing Research at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. Professor Hegney has wide experience in the development of nurse practitioner programs. Her joint appointment cements a partnership between academics and industry to build nursing research and help nurses improve the quality of patient care.

“Nurses have always been at the top of the ‘most respected job’ list but we were always seen as the equivalent of nuns in terms of selfless dedication. ‘Born to be a nurse’ were terms used when I was growing up,” says Professor Hegney.

“Now there is recognition that in complex care situations regardless of setting – hospital, doctors’ rooms, school, remote area, community health or occupational health – nurses require a higher skill and knowledge base to be competent in their practice. Yet some people still think nurses should be ‘trained’ in hospitals as we used to be.

“To attract more nurses into the profession and to retain them, we need to acknowledge that the real shortage is of nurses wanting to work in nursing.

“In this regard, there is much we can do: ensuring good preparation for practice to limit the culture shock of moving into the clinical environment; good graduate programs to support nurses in their careers; and a reasonable nurse/patient ratio.

“There’s a lot of evidence that the ratio of registered nurses to patients has a direct influence on both patient outcomes and retaining nurses in the workforce.

“We also need to ensure nurses are fairly remunerated. Currently nursing assistants working...
THE RATIO OF REGISTERED NURSES TO PATIENTS HAS A DIRECT INFLUENCE ON BOTH PATIENT OUTCOMES AND RETAINING NURSES

in aged care can earn more stacking supermarket shelves – yet they’re responsible for the lives and the quality of life of those in their care.

“This is the focus of the work I’ve been doing and on the positive side there is an indication that more nurses are being employed. However, every day most health facilities face the situation where they can’t adequately staff their facility.”

Professor Hegney’s work on recruitment and retention of rural nurses has been cited extensively within Australia and internationally. She has some 30 publications in the area of the nursing workforce and has also studied whether nurses can provide care at a more advanced level.

“This is where the nurse practitioner model comes in,” says Professor Hegney, who has conducted extensive research for Queensland Nurses Union and the Australian Nursing Federation. These studies have generated interest from across the world.

“It’s nice to know your work is used internationally and to see examples of your research in action,” she says. “We’ve had some excellent examples of our studies being used to improve working conditions of nurses.”

Professor Hegney has worked as Director of the Blue Care Research and Practice Development Centre (University of Queensland) and was Director of the Centre for Rural and Remote Area Health in Queensland. She is foundation editor of the *Australian Journal of Rural Health*.

Professor Matthew Knuiman of UWA’s School of Population Health, said Professor Hegney’s appointment was expected to lead to an increase in the number of nurses undertaking a Masters degree by research at UWA. He also expected that UWA in partnership with Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital and industry partners would develop advanced nursing practice programs, including those leading to endorsement as a nurse practitioner.

Course Co-ordinator of the Master of Nursing Science, Associate Professor Rosemary Saunders, says the course has been well received. It involves more than 800 hours of clinical practice in a range of placements from paediatric to mental health care. Two recent graduates participated in a clinical practicum in Tanzania as part of the WA Department of Health’s Global Health Alliance.
Behind every ‘strong’ man

UWA is a special place for both former Chancellor Dr Ken Michael and his wife Julie. Sally-Ann Jones talks to the pair who contribute much to both the University and Western Australia.

A phrase from a traditional UWA engineering students’ song goes: ‘We are the big strong silent men who do not speak but do things...’

The phrase is loosely based on the Latin motto non loqui, sed facere whose first two words emblazoned the cover of the engineering students’ magazine when Dr Ken Michael was its co-editor in 1960 and the Faculty had few women members.

Dr Michael, former Chancellor of UWA and Governor of Western Australia, said he believed engineers still need to provide the public with enough information about the work they do to demonstrate the infrastructure they create and services they provide support the physical backbone of society. “The recent Australian Engineering Week presented by Engineers Australia is one such good example of this,” he said.

He might have been co-editor of Non Loqui but Dr Michael’s life has been an outstanding success because he is a strong man who does speak. And he will be the guest speaker at the upcoming 50th reunion luncheon for the graduates of 1961.

Dr Michael was the first Greek-Australian Chancellor of any Australian university and first Greek-Australian Governor of any Australian State. He was also chairman of the East Perth Redevelopment Authority and a Commissioner of Main Roads.

Another motto suits him better: behind every strong man there is a strong woman.

Ken Michael met his wife Julie in 1957 at an Hellenic Youth Association Christmas Party. They were 19 and he was a second year engineering student and Julie a dental nurse.

They recently celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary, surrounded by their family. Their daughter Philippa and her husband Andrew Kalafatas have three sons, John, and twins Christian and Michael; and their son Justin and his wife Evangeline have a son and a daughter. These grandchildren bear their grandparents’ first names – Julia and Kenneth – and little Julia attends an early childhood centre in Fairway close to the UWA Ken and Julie Michael Building named in the couple’s honour last year.

It was a stormy and cold winter afternoon, rain lashing the living-room windows of their South Perth home when Unview went to visit them to write this article. As we turned the pages of yellowed copies of Non Loqui and fossicked among scores of black-and-white photos collected during Ken Michael’s undergraduate years, it was obvious that the couple enjoy a magical marriage.

“I haven’t seen this photo of the two of us for years!” Dr Michael exclaimed, holding up a snap of them in their early 20s. It was a monochrome picture of a radiant young woman and her beau. “We were at the T-Square (Architects’) Ball and that’s your pink dress!”

This Unview reporter expressed astonishment that a man would remember the colour of his girlfriend’s frock after more than half a century but husband and wife laughed and explained that the evening had been a bit of a disaster because as an asthmatic he’d been allergic to the dress’ down trim.

“We’d never have believed it if anyone had told me, as an undergraduate, that one day I would be the University’s Chancellor, much less the State’s Governor,” Dr Michael said. “And now that we’re living at home again, we can’t really believe it all happened.”
Convocation, the UWA Graduates Association

Annual Elections

ELECTION OF WARDEN AND DEPUTY WARDEN OF CONVOCATION

ELECTION OF TEN MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF CONVOCATION

Nomination forms are now available for the above positions.

Associate Professor David Hodgkinson will complete his term as Warden of Convocation in March 2012.

Professor Richard Harper will complete his term as Deputy Warden of Convocation in March 2012.

Seven members of the Council of Convocation will complete terms in March 2012, and there are three additional vacancies.

Nomination forms for all positions are now available from Convocation. Please telephone Juanita Perez, the Convocation Officer, on +61 8 6488 1336, or email her on convocation@uwa.edu.au and include your postal address.

All graduates of UWA are automatically members of Convocation and entitled to vote and/or nominate for positions in these elections.

For further information on the elections and the role of Convocation go to www.graduates.uwa.edu.au

The closing date for nominations for all positions is 5.00pm, Friday, 13 January 2012.

Applications received after this date will be invalid.

An evidence-based guide to crime and sentencing

This article by Christine Wheeler (formerly a Judge of the Supreme Court of Western Australia) will appear in the next issue of Uniview.
A Convocation award has helped Rachael Hains-Wesson explore children’s theatre in the United States, writes Sally-Ann Jones.

There could be no better advocate of Theatre for Young Audiences (TFYA) than Rachael Hains-Wesson.

The mother of two sons – Boston (6) and baby Hudson – Rachael is a dynamo who, with her smile-inducing energy and passion for young people’s theatre, can be compared to another UWA graduate, Dr Joan Pope.

While Joan pioneered the TFYA company C.A.T.S in the sixties, spawning generations of theatre-lovers, Rachael is determined to help create the first comprehensive TFYA program in an Australian university where it can be pursued at undergraduate and postgraduate level as a specialised art-form and academic field of study.

And with the experiences gained from having won a Convocation Postgraduate Research Travel Award and discovered the TFYA programs available in many United States universities, she is even more determined to implement a similar program in Australia.

Rachael’s award enabled her to take part in a three-week research project at The University of Wisconsin-Madison where she met UWM’s TFYA postgraduate program coordinator, Professor Manon van de Water.

“Winning this award helped me believe that my dream is starting to become a reality. Wow – that would be awesome!” she said.

Although she’s a busy mum who loves nurturing her own children’s delight in theatre, Rachael is also completing a PhD in Creative Writing focusing on TFYA at UWA and is a professional playwright as well as a teacher-artist. Her PhD research investigates an historical analysis of children’s theatre in Australia from an international perspective and examines the role of the imagination as a scriptwriting and performance technique.

“This will be achieved by historically contextualising and analysing J M Barrie’s Peter Pan which was written in 1904, Charlotte Chorpenning’s The Emperor’s New Clothes written in 1934, and David Holman’s The Small Poppies, written in 2000,” she said.

“For my PhD I’m also developing a full-length children’s play with the working title Swimming in Air that implements the research findings, focusing on the imaginary world and the imaginary companion.”

Rachael’s plays have toured nationally and are published with the Australian Script Centre. She is dedicated to and passionate about supporting up-and-coming and established creative artists at UWA. In this aim, she has re-invented the publication, Trove, now online, with the help of Professor Ted Snell, Director of UWA’s Cultural Precinct, Professor Van Ikin and Associate Professor Stephen Chinna.

Above: Rachael (left) and her USA host Michelle Solberg
From the Warden
Working with the University

Meeting with UWA graduate bodies
In August I met with a number of graduate bodies including Graduate Women (WA) and representatives from UWA faculty and discipline-based graduate associations and residential colleges. Convocation instigated the meeting to (a) discuss matters of common interest between it and UWA’s graduate bodies, and the ways in which we could work together; (b) discuss the various ways in which we keep in touch with graduates; and (c) outline Convocation’s program of events for the year. It was a very productive meeting and a number of collaborative opportunities were identified. These will be taken up over the coming months.

Presence at graduation ceremonies
At each graduation ceremony Convocation formally welcomes new graduates to its ranks through the Warden’s address. Beginning this year with the spring graduations – and in collaboration with UWA Student Administration and others – Convocation will be present in the Winthrop Hall undercroft to informally welcome new graduates with graduate-related material, presentations and offers (including discounted UWA library subscriptions).

Prior to the spring graduations, Convocation, as is its custom, will send letters to those students about to graduate introducing them to their graduate association.

Marketing and branding review
Finally, over the coming months – and with the support of and in collaboration with the University – Convocation will be undertaking a marketing and branding review, in part to ensure that we continue to effectively represent the interests and concerns of our graduate members. Further information about this review will be provided in the next edition of Uniview.

********

If you would like to talk to me about Convocation-related matters and how Convocation can assist you as a UWA graduate, please contact me through the Convocation office (+61 8 6488 1336) or at convocation@uwa.edu.au

Best wishes
David Hodgkinson
Warden of Convocation

---

In the last edition of Uniview I wrote about the need to consider electronic rather than paper voting (as well as the system of voting) as a means by which to elect the Warden and Deputy Warden of Convocation and members of Convocation to the University Senate. Any such consideration would, of course, involve working closely with the University to ensure the best possible outcome in terms of graduate representation. Convocation is currently engaged in a range of activities which affect graduates, all of which involve – or will involve – a close working relationship with the University and its various bodies. I’d like to outline just four of these activities in this column.

**Review of the UWA Act and statutes**
As you may know, any amendments to University statutes must come before the Council of Convocation for its consideration and, then, to Convocation for its approval. Matters which we have considered in the past few years include admission to courses of the University, method of election of academic and general staff to the University Senate, and the granting and conferring of degrees.

The Council is currently reviewing the University of Western Australia Act and all University statutes, with the aim of completing the review by the University’s centenary in 2013. Its review of the Act is almost complete, and a number of amendments will be proposed to the University for its consideration – amendments which, we believe, will result in more effective governance arrangements. Statutes 9 and 12 (which deal directly with Convocation) will then be reviewed, followed by the other statutes.
Keep in touch!
“Grad Briefs – they’re the first thing I read,” writes one graduate. “They often remind me of former classmates and colleagues and have enabled me to repair and resume long-lost friendships,” writes poet, author and graduate William Grono. That’s what Grad Briefs networking is all about, so let us know where you are, what you’re doing and put us in the picture: hard copy (which we’ll return on request), digital image (tif or jpeg file at 300 dpi). Email to terry.larder@uwa.edu.au or post to Terry Larder, The University of Western Australia, M427, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley, WA 6009. We’d love to hear from you.

1950s

Dudley Campbell (BE 1952) was in engineering construction for many years and worked as the State Managing Director of Macmahon Construction. He worked for the Public Works Department on the Wellington Dam and then with the Hydro-Electric Commission in Hobart. Dudley writes that he has just completed 30 years in racing and breeding horses. He is retired and enjoys working with computers and painting. Dudley lives with his second wife in Yangebup.

June Stephenson (née McLeod) (BE 1959; ME 1979) writes that she is a member of the University Club and likes to be kept well informed about things that interest her at the University.

1960s

Veronica Ninham (née Williams) (BA 1961; BAPsych (Hons) 1975; MPhiys 1980) married Andrew White in 1962 and moved to Sydney, where their two sons were born. Returning to Perth with her family in 1969, she began working with brain injured children and adults at Royal Perth Rehabilitation Hospital. She writes that the challenges of this work prompted her to return to UWA to study Psychology, gaining first class honours and a scholarship. She went on to complete a Master’s degree in Clinical Psychology. Veronica worked with the government and then joined a private practice. Twenty years later, she retired to live in Margaret River and reconnected with an old friend, Barry Ninham (BSc 1957; MSc 1959; HonDSc 2010) and they married in 2007. Barry has been running a research department (BANU) for 40 years, and although officially retired, continues his research work in Canberra and overseas. Veronica has three grandsons and Barry has seven grandchildren and in her spare time she is learning to paint.

1970s

Bruce Haynes (BA 1962; DipEd 1963; BEd 1968; MA 1973) had a lifelong interest in philately. He began collecting when he was aged seven, and now he focuses on postal history. He says that Perth is a good place to collect WA material. "In a junk box at a local philatelic auction I found two covers posted to WA from Germany just before the outbreak of World War I and censored on arrival in WA," he writes. "They are two of the four recorded examples of that censoring." Bruce is Chair of the Perth Philatelic Forum (and has been since 1996) which aims to raise standards of philatelic exhibiting. At present he and other enthusiasts are working towards the Swan River Stamp Show which will be held on 8 and 9 October.

The exhibition is conducted by the Western Australian Philatelic Council under the auspices of the Australian Philatelic Federation.

Bruce is also a keen bird watcher and was president of Birds Australia WA from 2008 – 2010. He has been President of the Philosophy of Education Society of Australia for several years and has been Editor of the Australian Journal of Teacher Education since 1990. He has been involved in teacher education for 30 years.

The Swan River Stamp Show will be held at UWA’s Guild Function Centre in Hackett Drive.

1980s

Achyut Bhandari (BE 1978) retired in 2007 after 30 years working in the Civil Service in Bhutan. He was a diplomat, Head of the Department of Trade and Managing Director of the Bhutanese Postal Corporation. In retirement, he writes that he has been doing consultancy work, but in 2009/10 he studied for his Master’s degree in Social Changes and Development at the University of Newcastle, NSW. Former classmates can contact him at achbhandari53@yahoo.com

Michael Happ (BA 1977; DipEd 1978) was a primary school music specialist and classroom teacher until 1991. He is now an instrumental music tutor teaching six instruments: piano, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet and trombone.

1990s

Laurent Low (BSc 1990) has been working in the IT and Software development environment since 1990. He is presently working for the Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA). Former classmates can contact him at laurent@rocketmail.com

Jenny Byatt (née Dent) (BA 1995) and David Byatt (BA 1998) have worked overseas for several years and have now settled in Bunbury permanently with their one-year-old son. They have been running WA’s only regional ESL language college, West Coast, for the past five years.

Stamp show at UWA

Today Bruce is Chair of the Perth Philatelic Forum (and has been since 1996) which aims to raise standards of philatelic exhibiting. At present he and other enthusiasts are working towards the Swan River Stamp Show which will be held on 8 and 9 October.

The exhibition is conducted by the Western Australian Philatelic Council under the auspices of the Australian Philatelic Federation.

Bruce is also a keen bird watcher and was president of Birds Australia WA from 2008 – 2010. He has been President of the Philosophy of Education Society of Australia for several years and has been Editor of the Australian Journal of Teacher Education since 1990. He has been involved in teacher education for 30 years.

The Swan River Stamp Show will be held at UWA’s Guild Function Centre in Hackett Drive.
Yue Lin Sun (BA 2005; BCom 2005; BA(Hons) 2006) has been working for Asgard Wealth Solutions for the past three years. She has a management role and is undertaking internal management and leadership courses to further her development. Yue Lin writes she is surprised that it is a different career path to that envisaged during uni days, but loves working in service recovery and with such a dynamic company in today’s financial times.

Kristin Reading (BSc 2002) writes that she has just completed her MBA studies specialising in marketing at Deakin University.

2000s

Greg Waddell (MBA 2007) recently married Megan Haines at the Chapel of the Holy Spirit and celebrated with a reception at the Mountain Goat Brewery, in Melbourne. Greg enjoys working in sales and marketing with the Essendon Bombers, while his wife works in sustainability.

Yue Lin Sun (BA 2005; BCom 2005; BA(Hons) 2006) has been working for Asgard Wealth Solutions for the past three years. She has a management role and is undertaking internal management and leadership courses to further her development. Yue Lin writes she is surprised that it is a different career path to that envisaged during uni days, but loves working in service recovery and with such a dynamic company in today’s financial times.

Kristin Reading (BSc 2002) writes that she has just completed her MBA studies specialising in marketing at Deakin University.

2010s

Alexandru Maftei (BCom 2013) is working in the Perth office of Ernst and Young as a graduate in assurance (audit). Former classmates can contact him at maftei@gmail.com.

Lynda Reid (MCl(Audiol) 2010) is working as a fully qualified audiologist at the National Hearing Care Clinic in Maroochydore, in Qld.

Dale Edgar (PhD 2010) writes that he was awarded UWA’s School of Surgery Best Clinical Paper (2009), Royal Perth Hospital’s Medical Research Fund Young Investigators Symposium: Best Paper Clinical Section. Alongside Professor Fiona Wood, he was awarded a Royal Perth Hospital Medical Research Fund project grant in Biomechanics in Acute Burns, a UWA and University of Queensland bilateral collaborative research award. Dale has had 10 papers published since completion of his PhD studies.

Hamid Sohrabi (PhD 2010) writes that he has joined Professor Ralph Martin at Edith Cowan University, working on his search for a better diagnosis and blood biomarker for Alzheimer’s disease. At the same time, they are working on different animal and human models for the prevention and treatment of the disease.

Robert Hastings (PhD 2011) writes that he has been taking it pretty easy since his PhD studies, but has picked up some contract work with a US company, using techniques he developed in his research for processing fingerprint images.

Amy McTaggart (BSc 2011) has commenced graduate medical studies at the University of Sydney. She thanks UWA for a fantastic undergraduate career and for helping her reach this point in her chosen career.

Two novels in a day!

Hal G P Colebatch (PhD 1995) writes that he has two novels published on the same day by international publisher Acashic.

Counterstrike is set in a fictionalised Western Australia in 2015. The hero is a lawyer and part-time academic whose hobby is playing war-games. He embarks on a sailing holiday with a friend to the fictional Hesperides Islands, site of the mysterious disappearance of an Australian warship. He finds that games and reality draw together as he uncovers a complex plot.

Parallel to this is a love story and an evocation of the Swan River at Nedlands, with its bird-haunted shallows and sunlit sandbanks. The central theme is the role of propaganda, mythologising and ‘counter-factual’ knowledge in modern conflict. Beneath the apparently placid surface of things are multiple ironies and an undercurrent of approaching catastrophe.

Time-Machine Troopers is a sequel to H G Wells’s The Time Machine, the great classic of time-travel to the year 802,701, when the human race has split into the sweet and gentle but helpless surface-dwelling Eloi, and the vile, cannibalistic subterranean Morlocks. Aided by a number of eminent Edwaridians, including General Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scouts, Winston Churchill and Wells himself, the time-traveler sets off again for the distant future, better equipped this time, with a mission to rescue the Eloi from their status as the Morlocks’ prey-animals.

Both books are available from the Acashic website.
1000 more reasons to move your mortgage to Unicredit

Unicredit is making it easy to leave your bank behind (or buy your first home) – with $1,000 cash-back¹

If you take this opportunity to move your banking to Unicredit, you will be joining 4.5 million Australians who choose to bank at a place which is not a bank at all… a place with all the products of a bank, but with a different attitude.

As a ‘mutual’ credit union, Unicredit is able to act in the best interests of its members. Unicredit has been providing banking services to University graduates, staff and the Western Suburbs community since the 1960s. The Nedlands Lending Centre provides quality personal service, both for owner/occupiers and investors. Our award winning range of home loans is not available through mortgage brokers – so we don’t pay commissions.

Better flexibility & personal service
Your Personal Lending Consultant, based at our Nedlands Lending Centre, will make the transfer of your mortgage simple and handle all paperwork. There’s no reason to delay.

Better standard variable rate
All Unicredit members pay the one low standard variable rate that allows extra payments and unlimited free redraws. There are no tricky products, hidden conditions or penalty fees to stop you paying out your variable loan early. Look up the website to see how much you can save.

Lower costs & $1,000 cash-back to move¹
No deferred fees – No on-going fees
No lock-in fees – No ‘exit’ fees
On top of this, we’ll provide up to $1,000 cash-back towards your re-finance costs.

For information on Unicredit’s flexible home loans: phone the Nedlands Lending Centre on (08) 9389 1011 – call into 80 Broadway Nedlands or refer to our website: www.unicredit.com.au

¹. Unicredit will reimburse up to $1,000 of standard loan establishment and exit costs for all new property secured loans until 31 December 2011. 2. Minimum loan re-draw $1,000. *Comparison rate is for a loan of $150,000 for a term of 25 years. WARNING: This comparison rate is true only for the example given and may not include all fees and charges. Different terms, fees or other loan amounts may result in a different comparison rate. Fees, conditions & normal lending criteria apply. Please refer to our Fees Schedule available from any Unicredit branch. The University Credit Society Ltd. AFSL/ACL 244168

JMG00106 UV
Thank you to the UWA Business School supporters who have helped our students achieve educational excellence

Thanks to the support of more than 1,000 individual and company donors, The University of Western Australia’s Business School has created an enriched student experience through new scholarships, prizes, visiting professor and fellow programs, and professorial chairs.

**Leadership Circle**
Dr Michael Chaney AO  
Rick Crabb  
Dr Denis Cullity AO CMG & Ann Cullity AM  
Dr Trevor Eastwood AM & Judy Eastwood  
Sir Rod Eddington  
Andrew Frazer  
David MacKinlay  
James & Meredith McClements  
Dr Stan Perron AM & Jean Perron  
Dr John Poynton AM & Dianne Bain  
Don Voelte & Nancy Keegan  
John Willinge & Melina Higgins  
Mannkal Economic Education Foundation  
McCusker Charitable Foundation

**Directors Circle**
Mark & Paige Barnaba  
Craig Coleman  
Adrian & Michela Fini  
Richard & Janine Goyder  
Dr David & Juliane Griffiths  
Tracey & Jonathan Horton  
Dr Anthony Howarth AO & Sally Howarth  
Mark & Carissa Paganin  
Brad Rosser  
Criterion Properties  
Elders  
Entrust Private Wealth Management

**Executive Circle**
Robyn Ahern & Family  
Anthony Barton  
Ian Burvill  
Professor Patricia Dechow & Professor Richard Sloan  
Neil Hamilton  
James & Cate Mactier  
Professor Larry Sjaastad  
Heather Zampatti  
Akamai Management Group  
HBF Health Funds Inc

**Investors Circle**
Tony Adcock  
Robert & Nancy Browning  
Warren Coli  
Karen Field  
Paul Depiazzi  
Warwick Hemsley & Family  
Dr Patricia Kailis AM OBE  
Tim Lyons  
Alan Roughhead  
Gene Tilbrook  
aussiehome.com  
BT Financial Group  
GEM Consulting

We also acknowledge the generous contributions of our many Associate Circle and Affiliate Circle donors.

**Principal Partners**

**Corporate Partners**

**Supporting Partners**

**Gold Corporate Circle Members**

**Silver Corporate Circle Members**

To contribute to developing business education for the Western Australian community, please contact Heather Merritt on (08) 6488 8171.