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## Message from the Dean



Welcome to the July edition of Graduate Research News. The new Australian Labour Government elected in November 2007 has indicated significant changes for higher education in Australia. Some very welcome changes already announced are doubling the number of APA scholarships for local students over the next 5 years, and allowing APAI scholarships to be awarded to both local and international students.

UNSW has made submissions to the Department of Innovation, Industry Science and Research Review of the National Innovation System and the House of Representatives Inquiry into Research Training and the Research Workforce issues in Australian Universities. Research training and research students are important issues in both these reviews and among other things, UNSW has recommended:

- increasing the value of APA scholarships by at least 30% to \$26,000 and increasing the length of APA scholarships to 3.5 years with a possible extension to 4 years;
- a review of international postgraduate scholarship to deliver an increased number of high quality, internationally competitive scholarships that fully-fund living and training costs for international students;
- greater flexibility in conditions of scholarships including the ability to hold scholarships tax-free and

part-time to allow mature age students and those with family responsibilities to undertake research part-time;

- more appropriate funding and pathway immigration schemes to encourage and allow retention of high quality international graduates in the Australian workforce;
- better research career paths for PhD graduates including more Fellowships.

The outcomes of these reviews and possible changes to Government policies will probably not occur on a time-frame that will directly impact most currently enrolled students. However, the increased recognition of the importance of research students and the appropriate funds needed to cover the costs of research, including scholarships, is very welcome in the sector.

Margaret Harding  
Pro Vice-Chancellor Research Strategy  
Dean of Graduate Research

### Important Dates & Upcoming Events

- 4 July - [UNSW PhD Completion Scholarships Closes](#)
- 7 July - PRSS Closes, apply thru [MyUNSW](#)
- 18 July - Graduate Research School closed
- 21 July - Semester 2 commences
- 31 July - Volunteer Work Expo ([Careers & Employment](#))

## World Youth Day - UNSW Disruptions & Closures

**W**orld Youth Day is the largest youth event in the world and will be held in Sydney from Tuesday 15 July to Sunday 20 July. Organised by the Catholic Church, up to 500,000 pilgrims and members of the public are expected for the Final Mass on Sunday 20th July, celebrated by the Pope at Randwick Racecourse.

**D**uring this period there will be a number of road closures across Sydney and changes to public transport. There will be no Express Bus service from Eddy ave to UNSW from 15th to 20th July inclusive and there will be some changes to on campus parking. If you plan to travel to UNSW, it is recommended that you allow for additional travel time, as extensive delays are anticipated. For further information visit: <http://www.facilities.unsw.edu.au/worldyouthday/>

**T**he Graduate Research School will be closed from 5pm Thursday 17th July and will re-open at 9am on Monday 21st July.

## Security on Campus

**W**ith the increased number of people in Sydney for World Youth Day, students are reminded to be security conscious when on and around the campus. UNSW has a number of great security services available to students on campus. UNSW Security provide the following tips for students and staff:

- Be alert, assertive and confident – Utilise the security services that are available at the university
- Use the free Night Security Shuttle Bus Service - timetables available from FM Assist
- Contact Security Control Room for a Unibeat Escort to your car or bus stop 9385 6000 free call 1800 626 033
- Keep to well lit areas at night
- Try to walk in groups or pairs, arrange to walk home with friends
- Never take short cuts at night through parks or vacant lots
- Report any lights which are not functioning to UNSW Security
- Don't leave personal property/valuables in unlocked areas/venues remember
- Carry only the money you need for the day and try to avoid carrying other expensive items around such as laptops and digital cameras
- Keep your money and wallet in your front pocket and keep your bag in front of you
- Be aware of your surroundings, avoid long conversations on your mobile or SMS while walking
- Don't walk around with your ear phones in your ears with music blaring
- If required, use the blue intercom 'help points' located around the campus to contact the Security Control Centre for assistance.



**R**emember to report all incidents to UNSW Security on 9385 6666, 1800 626 003, from any help phone, lift phone or visit the security office in the Mathews Building.

## The Julian Small Foundation Annual Research Grant

Applications are now open for the Julian Small Foundation Research Grant. This grant was founded in the memory of Julian Small, a leading industrial lawyer, by his partners at Minter Ellison. The Foundation's key objective is to promote and foster study, research, and development of the law relating to employment and industrial relations in Australia.

Selection will be based on a research proposal which clearly sets out how the research will advance thinking and practice in the area of employment law and industrial relations in Australia. Applications are open to postgraduate students undertaking research and involved in the study of employment related law, or industrial relations.



One or more grants of up to \$12,000 will be awarded. No grant will be less than \$4,000.

Applications forms can be obtained by emailing Michelle Fiddes, michelle.fiddes@minterellison.com. For more information, call Michelle Fiddes (02) 9921 4814.

Closing Date date: Friday 12 September 2008

## UNSW Student Awards & Achievements

### COFA Fine Art PhD Student Invited to Write Essay

COFA PhD Fine art candidate André Brodyk was invited to write an essay for a new anthology on art and Biotechnology entitled 'Art In The Biotech Era'.

Brodyk's essay is entitled 'non@ode code'. His interest is in genetic technology models centred on recombinant DNA technologies for adaptation in critical new media art practices. Brodyk discusses biologically mediated 'Genetic art' practices in relation to novel DNA coding strategies in the work of three artists, Eduardo Kac, Joe Davis and the author.

The book is edited by Melentie Pandilovsky and published by the



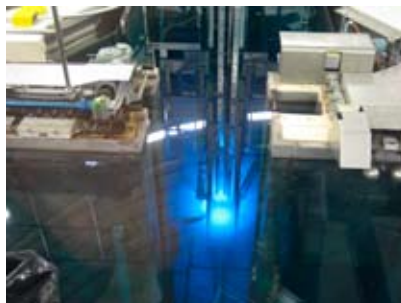
Experimental Art Foundation Inc. in Adelaide in February 2008. ISBN 0-949836-52-4

Brodyk's essay appears on pages 76-86. Images of the artist's work from the related antecedent exhibition entitled 'Art of the Biotech Era' also shown at the EAF appear on pages 196-197.

## UNSW Student Awards & Achievements Continued

### Neutron scattering in Berlin

PhD student Banchachit Saensunon and Associate Professor Glen Stewart, from the School of Physical, Environmental and Mathematical Sciences (PEMS) UNSW@ADFA, recently visited the Berlin Neutron Scattering Centre (BENSIC) and the Reactor Institute Delft in the Netherlands.



The purpose of the trip was to allow measurements of Banchachit's specimens, which will form a substantial component of his PhD thesis investigating the influence of the crystal field interaction in rare earth intermetallic compounds. Banchachit also presented a seminar on his recent PhD thesis work during this trip.

on a platform above the pool and view this surreal effect.

Banchachit's trip was supported by a Business Services Overseas Travel Grant from the Faculty.

The highlight of Banchachit's visit was the opportunity to view the small reactor's core with its blue Cherenkov radiation (produced by the neutrons travelling faster than the speed of light in the water!). This is one of the few reactors where visitors are able to stand



### UNSW Student Wins Best Presentation at Ageing Masterclass

Congratulations to Anne Wills, a PhD student in the Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC) who won an award as part of a collaborative project at the Emerging Researchers in Ageing Masterclass held at the University of Queensland.



As part of her award, Anne will be presenting a paper to an audience of students, academics, policy makers and practitioners at the Emerging Researchers in Ageing 2008 Conference to be held in November this year. Anne's paper will also

be published in the peer reviewed conference proceedings.

Anne is supervised by Professor Bettina Cass and Professor Deborah Brennan in the SPRC at UNSW.

## UNSW Student Awarded Gowrie Trust Fund Scholarship

Congratulations also to Jacquie Thomas, PhD Student in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Jacquie has recently been awarded the Gowrie Scholarship provided by the Gowrie Scholarship Trust Fund.

The Gowrie Scholarships are awarded to members of the Defence Force or descendants of members of the Defence Force to undertake postgraduate research. The scholarships are tenable for two years at \$4000 per annum. Jacquie has been serving in the Army Reserves for nearly four years and her Grandfather served in the Japanese occupations forces after World War II.

Jacquie's research with Sydney Water Corporation is looking at opportunistic pathogen re-growth in reuse water utilised in warm water applications such as cooling towers.

## U Committee Prize For Research Excellence In Science

Congratulations to Dr Frank Ruess, graduate of the School of Physics, upon his award of the U Committee Prize for Research Excellence in Science.

The award was established through the generosity of the U Committee to reflect its commitment, and that of the Faculty of Science, to encouraging, rewarding and celebrating outstanding research excellence by doctoral students within the Faculty of Science, and their supervisors.

Frank won the lucrative, \$10,000 cash award for his pioneering PhD thesis entitled, "The Development of a Novel Atomic Device Fabrication Strategy Using Scanning Probe Systems", which was published in



Prize winner, Dr Frank Ruess, with U Committee President, Dr Pamela Macdonald

2006 under the supervision of Professor Michelle Simmons, herself a recent awardee of a prestigious ARC Federation Fellowship.

## UNSW Research Students in the News

PhD student, Steven Gao, from the Faculty of Science, recently had his picture appear in the Australian Newspaper. The article in the Australian was about the ethics of embryonic stem cell research. Steven is carrying out his thesis on converting human embryonic stem cells into insulin-producing cells as a therapy for insulin-dependent diabetes. Steven is conducting his research in the Diabetes Transplant Unit.



**Please advise Iona Reid, Student Liaison Manager, in the Graduate Research School of upcoming events including seminars, conferences and any research student achievements or awards for incorporation into 'Graduate Research Student News' and our News and Events website listing.**