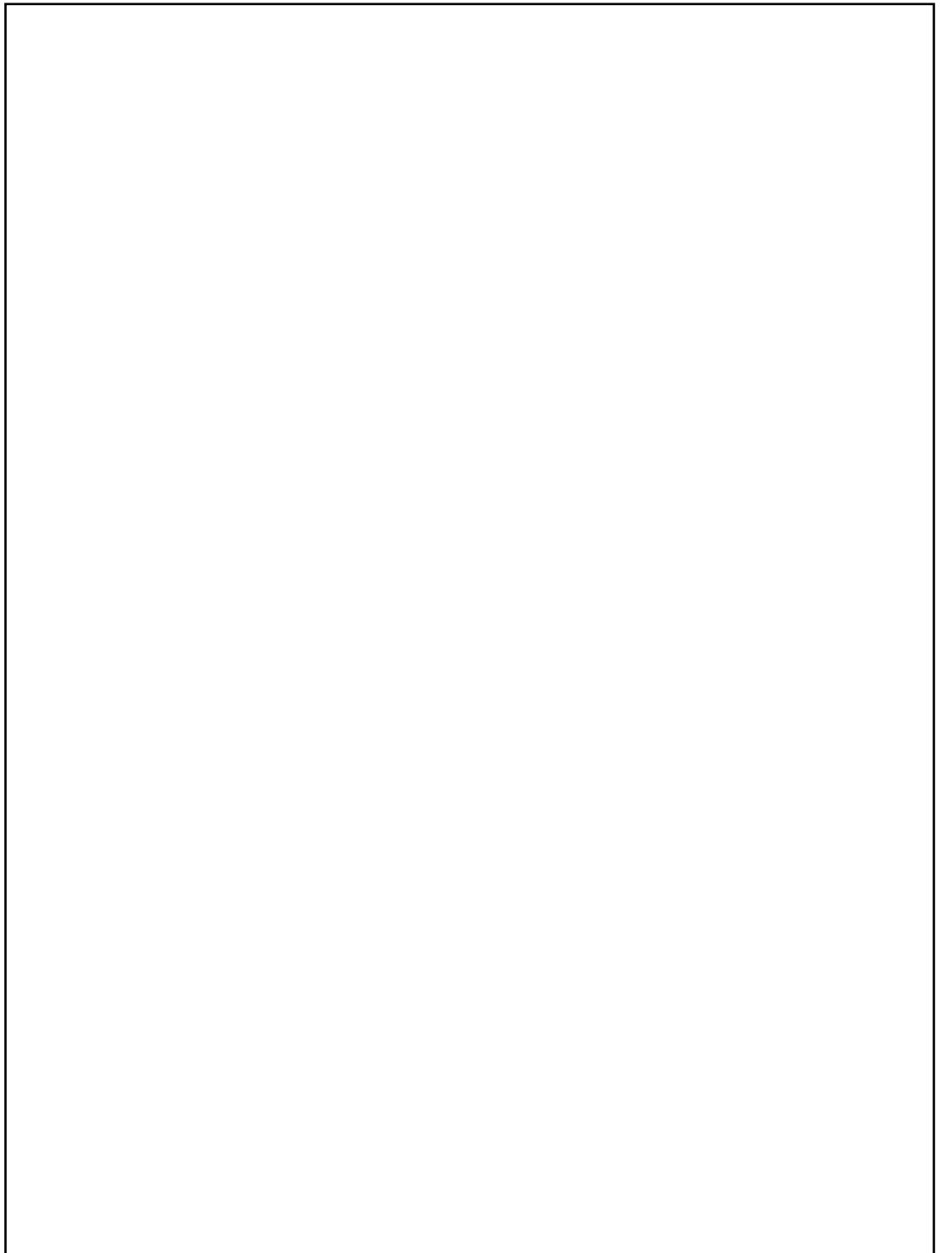

Adelaidean

Vol 5 No 16

NEWS

SEPTEMBER 9, 1996



Acting UP

Examining our Myths

When I moved into the Vice-Chancellor's Office, I took Augustus with me. That is, I took the bust of Augustus that had been in Carol Greenwood's office and moved it into my office — which, of course, left a spot above the fireplace in Carol's office. We were looking for something suitable and had an offer of quite a nice statue, but something wasn't right, so we went up to the Classics Museum and said, "Is there anything else?"; suggesting that perhaps something other than a roman emperor would make a change.

In due course Aphrodite was delivered to us and we've been amused by the comments as people come in to talk to Carol. Several people have asked why we have a statue of the Virgin Mary in the office. After I had overheard some of these queries, I went out and explained to that day's questioner that it seemed obvious that this wasn't the Virgin Mary, because she is portrayed (I believe without exception) wearing clothes. Our Aphrodite has only the very skimpiest of drapes. However, it was easy to see why people had asked if our statue was the Virgin; the overall shape is very like the statue one sees in Catholic Churches and European grottos. Indeed, it's a perfect example of the way new religions often conveniently transform the icons of old religions when they gain ascendancy. The myths of the old religion are adapted to the myths of the new and continue on much as before.

As with religion, so with universities. Old myths about previous university funding often persist into times when those funding regimes no longer exist. One example is the idea that if we put on more courses we can get more staff. At the moment we work in a devolved funding system where there is a decreasing bottom line and new courses actually mean considerable extra costs in all but the most exceptional cases.

As we now move to a new funding regime with the possibility of undergraduate fees, with very few places that are Commonwealth-funded for postgraduate coursework, and with the need to achieve the University's mission to be an internationally referenced research university, it is essential that we examine our myths. In this context, I am particularly pleased with the initial reports from the three working parties that are examining budget issues around the University. They must not only look at the issues in the light of the facts, but also consider the myths that have built up and decide how we can either kill some of them off or adapt them to the new regime.

MARY O'KANE

Martindale Hall



Your story 26 August 1996 ("Students in landscape study for Martindale Hall")

refers.

For the record this lovely property was never bequeathed to the University. Mr Mortlock, the owner, left the University a half share in his Estate. That consisted of his farm (on which the Hall stands), shares and cash. Instead of liquidating the Estate the University decided to take the farm since when there has been this impression that that was a bequest.

It wasn't — it was an investment decision.

David R Beecher
Deputy Registrar

GUEST COMMENTARY

Budget Planning

The Commonwealth Government's intentions are now known for funding universities in the next triennium and the Senior Management Group is actively examining future strategic options for the University.

During the past couple of weeks I was somewhat surprised to be asked on three different occasions why the University spends more than 40% of its income on "Administration" and that this would be a good place to look for the foreshadowed budget efficiencies. Naturally I took some time to explain our general budget framework and was able to show that "Administrative Overheads" run at about 10% of discretionary income.

I believe that it would be useful for the whole University community to have a general understanding of the construction of our Budget. I have taken the 1996 Budget as the framework for my analysis.

In 1996 approximately \$155m was available for allocation. This figure excludes non-discretionary income of about \$80m such as research grants, contracts and other tied funds.

The \$155m has been distributed as follows:-

Academic Divisions: \$93.0m - 60.0%
Academic Funding held centrally: \$7.5m - 4.8%¹
University Libraries: \$11.0m - 7.1%
Other Academic Support: \$ 2.5m - 1.6%²
Capital Buildings: \$11.0m - 7.1%
University Overheads: \$ 6.0m - 3.9%³
Property Services: \$8.5m - 5.5%⁴
Administration: \$15.5m - 10.0%⁵

I hope that this analysis will stimulate informed debate about the future management of our resources. For example, would the devolution of the allocations held centrally for some Academic Support Services and University Overheads and then charging areas for actual use encourage more efficient use of these resources? Should we outsource more of the routine activities? Printing, cleaning, gardening, security have been tested through external tender processes and

now operate as internal business enterprises with competitive cost structures. Could we do the same with routine teaching? Are there distance learning modules which might meet service teaching requirements?

The Commonwealth Budget also includes policy changes which allow fees for undergraduate courses after the University has met its profile obligations to the Government. In future, most postgraduate coursework courses will be fee paying. What opportunities does this provide to the University for income generation? Can we take more international students and in what courses?

As we move into a more deregulated environment there will be more opportunities for income generation but also more risks associated with 'the market'. What level of risk can be managed while still protecting core activities?

I should be pleased to receive creative comments over the next few weeks as our financial planning for the next triennium is developed.



Adelaidean

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The newspaper of The University of Adelaide

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Engineers take a crack at major Adelaide house problem

Ever wondered how you could prevent those cracks appearing in the walls of your house? Wish you'd known how bad those cracks would be before you started building?

Cracking in houses is caused by the natural expansion and contraction of soils during winter and summer. Adelaide is believed to be one of the worst areas in Australia, and the world, for expansive soils.

But researchers with the

The News IN BRIEF

THAILAND GRANT

Dr John Hatch from the Department of Economics has received a grant from the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs (DEETYA) to establish the subject "The Australian Economy" as a module in the Bachelor of Economics International Program taught at Thammasat University in Bangkok, Thailand.

The subject material was developed last year by Professor Richard Pomfret under a 1994 Australia Thailand University Links Program grant. It is now being fine tuned for a pilot delivery at Thammasat University this year, with final delivery and evaluation in 1997.

The new subject is expected to be of great benefit to Thai students undertaking exchanges with Adelaide and other Australian universities.

The project is another link between the Department of Economics and Thammasat following an exchange agreement set up in 1994. Students from both universities have already taken part, and the Department has won a grant under the UMAP (University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific) Program providing return airfares and language tuition for six BEc students to go on exchange during 1996/97.

ASTRONAUT TO GIVE PUBLIC LECTURE

Astronaut Dr Andrew Thomas will give a public lecture on Wednesday, 18 September in the Florey Lecture Theatre (Medical School North) at 5.15pm.

In May this year Dr Thomas, a graduate of the University of Adelaide's Department of Mechanical Engineering, became the first Australian-born astronaut to go on a Space Shuttle mission. He was a payload commander and mission specialist on board the shuttle Endeavour.

The public lecture has been organised by the Young Engineers Division of the SA Institute of Engineers. Admission is free but bookings are essential. Phone the Institute on (08) 8267 1783.

CONFERENCE: DEFENDING THE ENVIRONMENT

The Adelaide branch of the Australian Centre for Environmental Law (ACEL) is hosting the 3rd Defending the Environment Conference on 21-22 September.

Under the theme, "Global Responsibility at a Local Level", the conference covers a wide range of issues, such as trade and the environment, world heritage, local government initiatives, and the potential conflict between human rights and environmental rights.

The conference will be held in the University's Ligertwood Building. For information phone ACEL Director Mr Paul Leadbeter on (08) 8303 5582.

LIBRARY/GLENSIDE LINK

Staff of the South Australian Mental Health Service (SAMHS) now have access to the full collections of the University of Adelaide Library.

The move follows an agreement signed in July to relocate Glenside Hospital's Hugh M. Birch Library to the University's Barr Smith Library.

The affiliated library service of the University and SAMHS was officially launched on Tuesday, 3 September.

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Innovative project sets sights on diversity

Australia's tertiary student population is becoming increasingly diverse. More women are entering non-traditional fields; the proportion of students from non-English speaking backgrounds is growing. Catering for that diversity is a major issue for educational institutions.

Adelaide work inspires German curriculum

A unique book on the history of scientific instruments written by a University of Adelaide lecturer is now forming the basis of a new curriculum for a major education centre in Germany.

The book, *Scientific Instruments of the Modern Age* by Dr Engelhard Weigl (Department of German Studies), takes a close look at the development of instruments such as the lightning rod, telescope, microscope, vacuum-pump and thermometer, but not from a hard science point of view.

It discusses the impact each of these instruments had on society, including reactions to them by religious and scientific communities, public debates that arose from their development, and their impact on literature and philosophy.

The book, written in German, was translated into Japanese and was first published in Japan in 1990 where it received critical acclaim. This led to a German edition being published in 1991.

Dr Weigl is now using the material in his book to develop a new school curriculum for the teaching of the history of science, at the request of the prestigious Institute

for Science Education at the University of Kiel in Germany.

"It's very pleasing that the Institute, which has an international reputation for development of science curricula, has taken such an interest in my work," Dr Weigl said.

He said he attributed some of the success of his writing to the different approach he took to science.

"I am not a scientist, so it is difficult for me to write a book from the scientific perspective. What I can do is look at the combination of literature, philosophy and history of these instruments, because these are my subjects," Dr Weigl said.

"So far the history of science has been taught as a series of inventions leading to modern-day physics. Any alternative concepts, doubts, reservations and fears are either not mentioned or ridiculed as superstitious.

"But recent experiences with science and technology, such as nuclear power and genetic engineering, have led us to re-evaluate the conflicts of the past," he said.

Dr Weigl said one of the major examples he looked at in his book was the lightning rod, which is

considered to be the first application of a scientific invention.

"On the one hand it was seen as the triumph of modern science, but it also caused major opposition. The first lightning rod in Europe was instantly destroyed by angry peasants," he said.

"This example of applied science shows many similarities to modern-day conflicts over scientific achievements. By looking at the history of scientific instruments from this point of view, we may help today's students understand and solve future problems of applied science more successfully."

As well as forming the basis for a new curriculum at the Institute for Science Education,

Advertisement

SMG UPDATE

"SMG Update" will appear regularly in the Adelaidean to provide an overview of business coming before the Senior Management Group and an insight into how the group discharges its role. It is not intended to be an exhaustive listing. Further information may be obtained from the Director, SMG, Ms Susan Graebner or from Heads of Divisions.

▲ New postgraduate coursework proposals

SMG has examined all coursework proposals coming before Academic Board. This gives Heads of Divisions an opportunity to comment on any implications of one Division's courses for their own Division; and for all SMG members to look at the resource implications of new courses across the University, including in areas such as the Library, administration and computing. The vast array of such course proposals this year, coupled with the current financial climate, has led SMG to review the costing of fee-paying postgraduate courses.

▲ Educational Profiles

Each year the University is required to submit to DEETYA its Educational Profiles Documentation, including planned student load for the next triennium. The University's submission was required to be in before the Government's Budget announcements, so plans were developed on the known funding base at that time. SMG members spent some time discussing the desirable student load "shape" of the University, acknowledging existing areas of overload and highlighting the need to balance overall load. SMG is now revisiting these matters in light of the Commonwealth Government's Higher Education Funding Statement 1996. They were further explored when the SMG met with the DEETYA Profiles Team during the first Profiles Visit on 3 September. The second Profiles Visit will be a joint visit with the University of WA on 28 September.

▲ Inter-university cooperation

SMG has had input into the membership of the committee which Council determined should be established to look at closer cooperation with Flinders University, and had a joint buffet dinner in mid-August with members of Flinders' SMG equivalent. SMG is also actively developing links with the University of WA and has endorsed some goals and objectives for furthering this cooperation.

▲ Financial Reports

SMG receives regular monthly reports, presented by the Director, Finance, on the University's monthly and year-to-date position re expenditure against budget; the cash flow position; and the return on investments and loans. These enable SMG to fulfil its responsibilities to monitor the University's overall financial performance and management. SMG also, of course, has oversight of the preparation of the annual Financial Statements.

▲ Adelaide Graduate Business School

Alumni IN BRIEF

Were you at university in the 1950s?

Victoria Chance is writing a PhD thesis on University students in the 1950s and would like students of that time willing to share their impressions of University life to fill in a survey. Please contact her c/- Department of History, University of Sydney NSW 2006. Alternatively, email vchance@extro.ucc.su.oz.au or phone 02 9399 8242.

Barr Smith Library Dinner

The second Benefactors' Dinner for the Barr Smith Library will be held in the classical, book-lined atmosphere of the Library's beautiful Reading Room on Saturday 21 September at 7.00 for 8.00pm. The cost is \$55 per head for 3 courses, coffee and chocolates and all beverages, with catering by the Adelaide Convention Centre. RSVP to the Alumni Association, tel 8303 4275.

The occasion will also be preceded by the invitation-only launch of *Joanna and Robert: the Barr Smiths' Life in Letters, 1853-1919*, a collection of the letters of the first of the Library's generous benefactors, edited by Fayette Gosse.

The volume is the first major publication of The Barr Smith Press, the imprint of the Barr Smith Library.

Celebrating History

The Cornell Chapter (Arts and Performing Arts) has organised a spe-

Return of the Astronaut

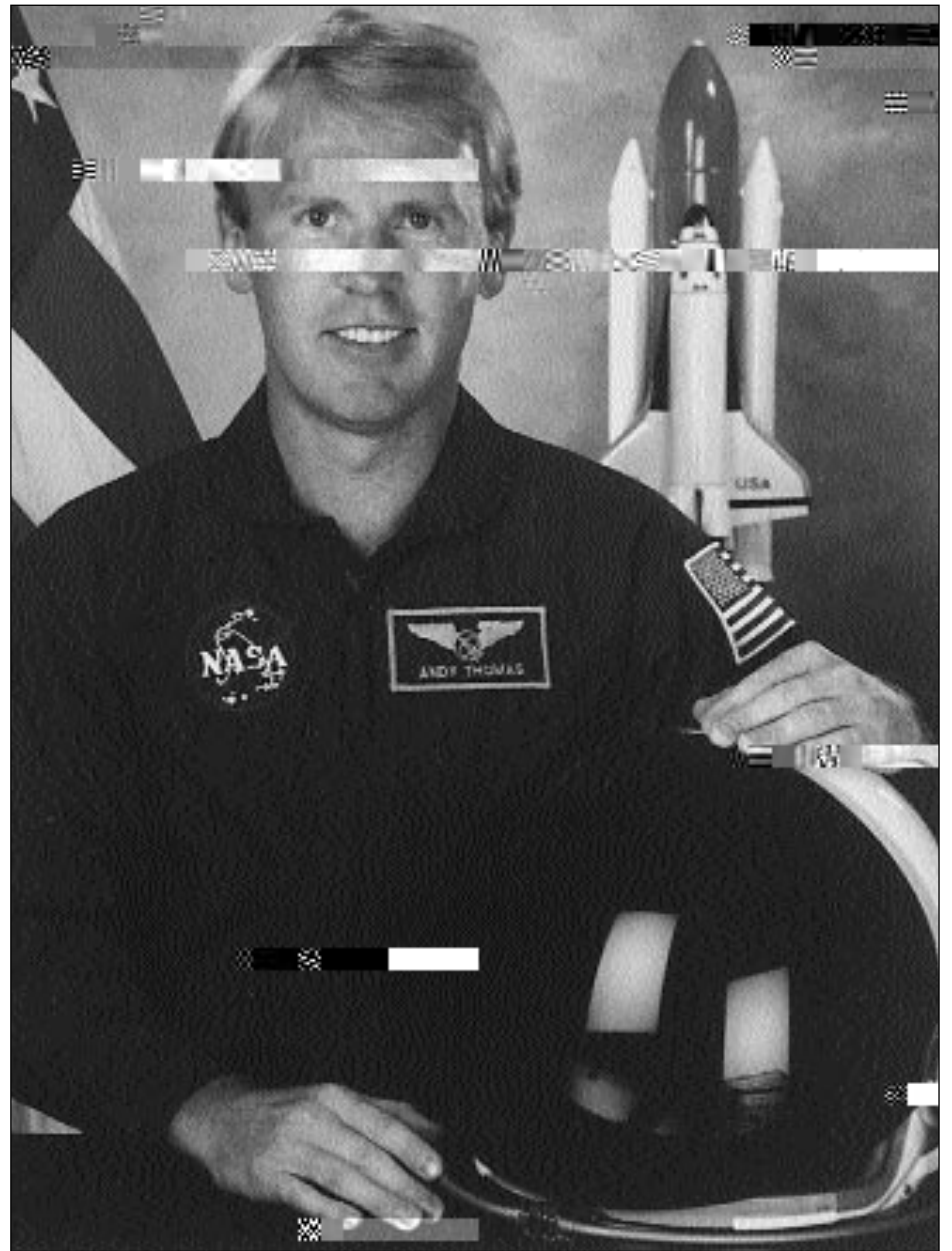
Astronaut Dr Andrew Thomas (BE Mech '73 PhD '78) will be the Chapman (Engineering) Association's special guest at a cocktail party at 6.45pm on Wednesday 18 September 1996.

Professor Paul Davies will interview Andrew Thomas on a series of issues including his reflections on his recent Mission on Space Shuttle Endeavour (including video clips of mission activities), his general experience within the US aerospace industry over 20 years and the changes he has observed, and opportunities for individuals and companies in the aerospace business against the background of major rationalisation taking place worldwide.

The cocktail party will be held in the Gallery/Little Cinema in Union House at the University of Adelaide and will include a light buffet meal with champagne, wine, beer and soft drinks. Cocktails commence at 6.45pm and the interview at 7.45pm.

The all-inclusive cost for Chapman Association and Alumni Association members is \$20, and for non-members \$25. Places will be limited so advance bookings are essential.

For bookings, location map and parking information, telephone the Alumni Association on 8303 4275. Bookings must be accompanied by payment (Visa, Mastercard).



Universities well placed for successful development work: expert visitor

Australia has unprecedented opportunities for development and fundraising in educational institutions, and to pass up these opportunities will cost it dearly in the future.

This message was delivered in strong terms by Peter Buchanan, President and CEO of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), speaking at a breakfast meeting on Friday 30 August hosted by ADAPE SA (Association of Development and Alumni Professionals in Education).

CASE is a US-based international organisation which provides resources and advice for development (fundraising) work in educational institutions. CASE is presently working on ways of communicating best practice among development professionals internationally.

In opening his remarks, Mr Buchanan stated that it was widely accepted that in today's world, education is more important than ever before. There has also been a shift in perception that views education as a benefit to the individual rather than to society, with a result that students are increasingly expected to pay the costs of their courses and governments are cutting back their contributions.

"This is true in the United States,

Canada, Europe, the United Kingdom and China as well as in Australia," he said. "Furthermore, nobody expects that there will be a return to the level of government support enjoyed in the past."

He suggested that Australia was well placed for successful development work.

"Australian studies of philanthropy suggest that people in this country are very generous, far more generous than Americans," he remarked. "During the 1980s, individual giving in Australia increased some 700%, and education was the largest recipient of corporate giving."

Mr Buchanan said, "Those circumstances should be enough to persuade any rational person that development is crucial to education in Australia."

What is wrong with development work in Australia in Peter Buchanan's opinion is that Australian universities and schools do not have everyone on the same wavelength. Everyone from the head of the institution to the person who answers the telephone must recognise his or her place in the scheme of things.

Buchanan pleaded with those present not to repeat the US mistake of wasting time arguing about who was more important in the institution's

development effort.

"Development has three main components: Alumni Relations, Communications, and Fundraising. They are all important and they must all work together as part of a coherent whole. If one of those components is missing, then your development effort will not work. You cannot run a development program that does not have these three parts, and they must be considered together."

Too often, he asserted, if a development program is failing it is because the leadership of the institution has not recognised its importance and made a wholehearted commitment to it.

"We talk of 'external relations,'" he said, "but the battle is internal. Heads of institutions have a responsibility to define and set a shared sense of mission. You are not going to be successful without a sense of vision and strategic process."

Peter Buchanan met with key people in the University of Adelaide later in the day where he repeated his message.

After leaving Adelaide, he travelled to the national ADAPE conference at Bond University where he was one of four international speakers.

—Adrienne Eccles

AVAILABLE: Townhouse, 2 br, study, courtyard garden, close to shops & transport. \$140 pw. Ph 8333 0698.

BELAIR: Share accomm - Suit student, 2mins to transport, only 15 mins to city. Private phoneline avail. \$75 pw + elec/phone. No bond necessary. Ph Simon 8278 8442 or 018 835 328.

HOUSE SITTER: Mature, avail immediately, long-term preferred. Refs avail, pets welcome. Ph 8273 0693.

KANGAROO ISLAND: Vivonne Bay. Self contained architecturally-designed house, sleeps 5, beach, wildlife. Ph 8338 6404.

NORTH ADELAIDE: Large well lit room, unfurn, close to transport, shops and cafes. Studio space included. \$75 pw + bond and expenses. Ph John 8361 8726.

NORWOOD: 2 br, bluestone cottage. Furn, including washing machine & crockery, etc. Living room and dining area, small garden, off-street parking, close to bus and shops. Suit couple. \$190 pw. Ph 8302 2047 (w) or 8332 1413 (h).

ROSTREVOR: Unfurn, 4 br

house avail. Study, office and generous family area. Avail for 6 months (extension negotiable). Ph George Noicos 018 856 396.

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BEDROOM FURNITURE: Pine bunks, mattresses, ladder, bookcase. Conventional or L-shape set up. \$150. Ph 8278 3636 (evenings only)

CARPET: New, greyish-pink, approx 4.8m x 2.8m, edged. \$150. Ph Paul 8379 4156 (ah).

FALCON: XF wagon, auto, 1987 update, white, cloth interior, power steer, 6 seater, air cond, Ghia mags, tow bar, 3 months reg, low kms. VUO 808. \$6,250 ono. Ph Gina 8303 5183.

HOUSE: 3 br, close to O-Bahn, Tea Tree Plaza, Modbury Hospital. \$96,500 ono. Ph 8265 4028.

LAND: 30m x 15m, fenced 2 sides, soil report, level block, ocean and hills views, southern area. \$25,500. Ph 8326 5026 (after 6pm).

MAZDA: 626, 1980, good cond, reliable, air cond, LPG conv. SJV 338. \$2500 ono. Ph Michael Symonds 8363 3850 or email: msymonds@physiol.adelaide.edu.au

MISC: Single bed, excellent cond, \$95 ono. Bookcase (1.5m x 1m), good cond, \$45 ono. Ph Evan 8303 7286 or 8271 3184 (h).

MODEM: DataCraft 14.4 kbps/960bps. \$185 ono. Ph Jennifer 8267 4009 or email: j.wang@aitec.edu.au

MOTOR CYCLE: Suzuki '90, RGV 250, red and white, exc cond, THM 799. \$4,500ono. Ph 8369 1908.

PRINTER: Panasonic dot matrix KX-P1180, in excellent cond. \$100. Ph Graham 8303 5264 or email: gfalkenberg@registry.adelaide.edu.au

SKIS: Dynamic 190cm, lock bindings, boots; Salomen SX91 Equipe, 7.5 poles. \$300 ono. Ph 8431 2762.

NISSAN MICRA: 1995 LX silver (metallic paint), 8,900km, grey trim, match-

ing sheepskin covers, immac cond, under factory warranty. VTZ 735. \$13,300 ono. Ph Esther 8201 3852 or 8293 1158 (ah) or email: laes@cc.flinders.edu.au

DAIHATSU CHARADE: 5 door hatch, 1993, white, VNT 744, 44,910km, auto, air cond, alarm & immobiliser, floor mats, mudflaps. Contact Michael Koorndyk, ext 35256. Tender submissions in a sealed envelope marked Tender No W179 to the Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus by Mon 16 Sept 1996.

FORD FALCON: Futura wagon, 1995, VSM426, white, 40,000km, ABS brakes, auto, air cond, floor-mats, mudflaps. Inspection Wed 11 Sept (9am - 1pm), Waite Campus Vehicle Compound, ph Peter Cassidy, ext 37293. Tenders in a sealed envelope marked Tender No W176 to the Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus, by Fri 13 Sept 1996.

LABORATORY EQUIPMENT: Galvanometer, Lapidary polishing machine, syn pulse generator, bio-chart, monitor, project screen electric meter, projector, water bath, specimen jolder, thermal expansion furnace, fibre optic guides, Kine exaleta cameras, drawing items, computer, printer and much more. Ph Dr Owen Makinson 8303 3288 (Mon - Wed, 10am-4pm).

MISC EQUIPMENT: VT100 terminal, mono monitors, PC230 with 20Mb HD, Epson printers, dot matrix 132 column and other items. Ph Werner 8303 4132.

SUZUKI: 4WD Stockman tray top, 1993, white, VLV 185, 25,200km, air cond, manual, tow pack. Inspection Wed 11 Sept (8.30am-1pm) Property Services, Waite, Rob Wittkowsky, ext 37429. Tenders in a sealed envelope marked Tender No W175 to the Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus, by Fri 13 Sept 1996.

TOYOTA CAMRY: Wagon 1994, white, VPD 025, 40,000km, auto, air cond, floor-mats, mudflaps. Inspection 11 Sept (9am - 1pm), Waite Campus Vehicle Compound, ph Peter Cassidy ext

37293. Tenders in a sealed envelope marked Tender No W177 to the Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus by Fri 13 Sept 1996.

TOYOTA COROLLA: Seca 1.6ltr hatch, 1995, white, VRX 647, 63,000km, auto, air cond, immobiliser. Inspection Thurs 12 Sept (9am - 12 noon) ETU, Hughes Building, off Gate 20 North Tce, ph Sue Green ext 34740. Tenders in a sealed envelope marked Tender No W178 to Purchasing Manager, Waite Campus by Mon 16 Sept 1996.

MICROSCOPE: For student, any condition with or without case. Ph 8303 3159 or 8359 0880 (ah) or email: sspenny@mecheng.adelaide.edu.au

PARTICIPANTS: To take part in a study on eating disorders. If you are female, aged between 16-50 years and have significant problems with your eating, contact Maria Belperio 8303 5693. Participants will be required to complete some