

New Finance Degree responds to demands of the marketplace

A new undergraduate degree — the Bachelor of Finance — will be offered by the University of Adelaide to students looking for future employment in the finance, trade and merchant banking industries.

This attractive new course is a joint offering of the faculties of Economics & Commerce and Mathematical & Computer Sciences. The core subjects to be undertaken by students are drawn from the strengths within each of these faculties.

Graduates of the Bachelor of Finance are likely to gain employment with trading and merchant banks, investment firms, consulting specialists and private and public corporations, including government regulatory authorities.

Openings for graduates are in treasury and risk management, stock broking, fund and portfolio management, international trade and derivatives trading and pricing, many of which are covered by professional bodies.

The new Finance Degree was launched by the Treasurer and Acting Premier of South Australia, Mr Stephen Baker, on Tuesday, 10 September. In his address Mr Baker highlighted the developing role of Adelaide as a centre for the electronic-based finance industry, and the need to provide suitably qualified staff locally.



Professor Jonathan Pincus, Head, Department of Economics, and Dr Chris Caton, Executive Vice-President, Bankers Trust Australia. Photo by Vivian Piovesan.

“The faculties involved are combining their expertise and, in responding to the demands of the marketplace, are offering students a degree program which provides relevant skills,” Mr Baker said.

A high level of industry interest in the new Finance Degree was also

demonstrated at the launch. The Executive Vice-President of Bankers Trust Australia, Dr Chris Caton, announced that the best graduating Finance student would receive a \$2000 cash prize from Bankers Trust.

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The News IN BRIEF

ALGAL TOXIN PROJECT

The increasing risk of problems to health of toxic blue-green algae in water supplies in Australia is being investigated by Professor Ian Falconer (Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic) in a major research project about to begin in Adelaide.

The Cooperative Research Centre for Water Quality and Treatment has funded a \$360,000 research project on the tumourigenic effects of cyanobacterial toxins in drinking water. This follows from Professor Falconer's earlier experimental work on tumour growth and blue-green algae in drinking water.

The work is to be done in the Department of Clinical & Experimental Pharmacology of the Medical School, where work is

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Interactive CD-ROM teaches SA school kids to like Science

A new CD-ROM is encouraging young South Australians to discover exciting career possibilities in science. Called *likeScience*, the CD-ROM gives school students a multimedia voyage through the wide range of careers and study opportunities available to them.

High-quality colour digital images and video clips are a feature of this interactive guide, helping to explain the courses available in the University of Adelaide's Faculty of Science and the careers to which those courses can lead.

Almost 1000 copies of the *likeScience* CD-ROM and promotional posters will be distributed free to all secondary schools in the State.

"If South Australia is to sustain its international competitiveness, we must encourage young people to take up studies and careers in the sciences," said Professor of Natural Philosophy Paul Davies, who officially launched the CD-ROM on Friday, 6 September.

"*likeScience* does precisely that, by making information about science courses and careers accessible and fun. The CD-ROM represents Adelaide Science's commitment to fostering South Australia's scientific expertise," he said.

Professor Davies said the use of CD-ROM technology to spread the word of science was vitally important, as many young people were well acquainted with computers and CD-ROMs either in the home or at school.

likeScience works on both

Macintosh and IBM compatible/MS Windows computers and is simple to use and easy to install.

The project to develop the CD-ROM was headed by the Science Faculty's Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning) Dr Pat James, with Mr Ian Roberts from the Science Learning and Teaching Excellence program responsi-

ble for the authoring and navigation

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University of Adelaide Professor of Psychiatry Sandy McFarlane is one of the co-editors and co-authors of a new international book which summarises the current state of world research into Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

The book, *Traumatic Stress: the Effects of Overwhelming Experience on Mind, Body and Society*, was launched in May this year in New York. It looks at the background and history of post traumatic stress disorder, the kinds of acute reactions people suffer because of trauma such as war and car accidents, the treatment of traumatic stress, and the social and cultural issues that surround this disorder.

Sandy McFarlane (based at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital) is one of three editors of the book, joining Dr Bessell van der Kolk from Harvard Medical School and Professor Lars Weisaeth from the University of Oslo. Their collaboration represents years of study and research at the highest level into traumatic stress.

"Post traumatic stress disorder is not a new condition, but it's had a very chequered history in psychiatry for a variety of reasons, including the way in which society has been willing to deal with war veterans and victims in general," Professor

McFarlane said.

"It was only in 1980 that formal systems of diagnosis accepted post traumatic stress disorder as a specific disorder, and that was really out of the work done with veterans from the Vietnam War and also through the advocacy of the women's movement, dealing with victims of child sexual abuse and the victims of rape.

"This book is an attempt to summarise the knowledge and information that's been gained in the first 15 years of research, not only to highlight the understanding that we've developed but also to identify many of the problems and the issues that surround the field," he said.

Professor McFarlane first studied post traumatic stress disorder following South

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The first intake into the Bachelor of Finance program will be in March 1997 with about 40 places available to school leavers. Additional places will be made available for current tertiary students who wish to transfer into the program.

"There has been immense and continuing interest from potential students at Year-12 level since the Finance Degree was announced provisionally in this year's SATAC guide," said Administrative Course Adviser Mrs Liz Geddes.

"Students already enrolled at the University of

Adelaide have also shown great enthusiasm for the new course. They can undertake the double degree program in either Economics, Commerce or Maths & Computing Science.

"Under new provisions these double degrees can be completed in four years. It's also possible to combine the Bachelor of Finance with Law, making it even more attractive to some students," she said.

For more information about the Bachelor of Finance contact Mrs Liz Geddes on (08) 8303 4499.

—David Ellis

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Dolone Chakravarti and Anna Baillie with their winners' shield. Photo: David Ellis

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A 'mooting' of minds in Vancouver contest

Two University of Adelaide law students and a graduate have won the prestigious Commonwealth Student Mooting Competition in Vancouver, Canada.

Final-year law students Ms Anna Baillie and Ms Dolone Chakravarti and graduate Mr David Crocker last month defeated the best teams from eight Commonwealth nations to win the competition.

Mooting is the term used for arguing a hypothetical legal appeal case. For this competition the case involved two alleged international drug traffickers who were also alleged to be war criminals. Teams from different nations compete against each other, arguing either the case for the drug traffickers or against.

The teams are then judged on the quality of their legal arguments based on their understanding of international law and their presentation style.

Ms Baillie, Ms Chakravarti and Mr Crocker are the only Adelaide team and the second Australian team to win the event. Their

draw included competition with India, the United Kingdom and then South Africa in the grand final.

"We couldn't say that we were very confident, because we were competing against the best mooters from all of these countries. Some have many more tedious and onerous mooting competitions to get through within their own countries, and so their level of competition is very high," said Ms Chakravarti.

"We felt confident we could do well," said Ms Baillie, "but we did get the feeling that it was going to be a very high standard. You can only do your best, really. It was a tough competition and it was a great feeling to win."

The Adelaide team was formed last year following a mooting competition at the University in which the three best mooters were chosen. They went on to win the Australasian Law Students Association championship in Hobart, qualifying them for the Commonwealth competition in Vancouver.

"It's a different story in India, where they have 11 national compe-

titions. Canada has about five or six of them, and their team also has a coach," said Ms Baillie.

"We don't have anything like that. We had a few tips from judges on presentation, but most of our experience came from learning as we went."

"We do have excellent resources here at the University," said Ms Chakravarti. "We have a fairly up-to-date international law collection, and there's a lot of legal research involved in preparing for the competition, so that was very helpful. In some countries the students have to travel from city to city to look up the relevant material, so we were lucky in that regard."

Apart from the shield in which their names are engraved, the achievement of winning the Commonwealth mooting competition is certain to add to the students' credentials.

"It was definitely a good experience for us in terms of learning how to argue a case in a formal setting and also researching that case," Ms Baillie said.

—David Ellis

GUEST COMMENTARY CONTINUED

Producing and Delivering the new doctor

- shift away from hospital based teaching towards community based education
- shift from training in diagnostic and curative medicine towards prevention and health promotion
- promote a change in the academic culture so that teaching is regarded as an academic discipline of equal stature with research, for the purposes of promotion and fund allocation
- develop effective outcome measures concerning our medical graduates, and put in place procedures for monitoring and responding to them
- experiment with the selection process to see if we can identify candidates who will be best suited to the future circumstances and new requirements.
- staff resistance to having to change "tried and tested" methods of teaching
- staff anxiety about experimenting with and adopting new teaching methods
- student pressure that we not "change the rules", by moving away from rote learning masses of facts - whereby they gained entry into the Faculty
- the perceived need to maintain a strong departmental structure, in the interests of the staff and departments - especially for research and cohesion
- a reluctance of academics in the Faculty to accept that the objectives of the medical course must increasingly emphasize vocational training
- resistance to change in the hospitals from clinical teachers, who feel the changes will undervalue their contributions and undermine the status they have achieved over many years of endeavour and community service

What else should we be doing?

I would like to see us:

- educating teaching staff so that they are able to accept, or even opt for, change
- keep what we have that is good; ruthlessly eliminate what obstructs our progress
- reviewing our organizational structure with a view to determining whether the present departmental structure is appropriate for the Medical School of the future and, if it is not, implement appropriate changes
- able to provide/allow a more diverse experience as preparation for a medical career

What stops us?

The things that I see as being major factors in slowing change are:

- all the potential for mutual seduction and self deception this brings
 - insufficient hours in the day and
 - the apparently ever increasing burden of form filling and bureaucracy to "ensure that we are efficient and accountable".
- It is alarming to think that we have to do all these new things in addition to those we have been doing, and that we must do them:
- on a reducing budget,
 - with less staff and
 - with access to patients, who less and less represent the age groups or the major illnesses within the community and who are available to students for less and less time.
- We are told we will have to become ever "more efficient" and "work smarter" and clearly, so we shall. But none of our advisers appears to be addressing the issue as to how this is to come about, in the little time left to us. I have entered into the spirit of the game by meditating on whether I would be better served by viewing all this as "a stunning opportunity" or as "a marvellous challenge"?
- Meanwhile, I derive both inspiration and solace from embracing the slogan: "Life is too short to drink bad wine!". Think about it! It will improve both your quality of life and its quantity (provided you are "moderate", at least in this). Here is an endeavour in which we can truthfully say: this is indeed "the lucky country" and this "the lucky state".

Ted Cleary
Convener Curriculum Committee
Faculty of Medicine

Alumni IN BRIEF

Gothic Revival Architecture talk

On Wednesday 16 October, the Alumni Activities Program offers an illustrated talk by 1996 Churchill Fellow Mr Brian Andrews about Gothic Revival architecture in South Australia.

The Gothic Revival style was very popular in Britain and more distant parts of the British Empire in the nineteenth century. The Mitchell Building is a fine example of this style.

Mr Andrews' talk will explore the features of Gothic Revival architecture, its sources and influences, and the question of why the industrial age saw a revival of interest in this medieval architectural style.

This talk (in the Benham Lecture Theatre at 7.00pm) is FREE, but to assist with planning please call 8303 4275 to indicate that you are coming. Individual and group bookings welcome.

Celebrating History

The Cornell Chapter hosted a celebration on 12 September to mark the publication in 1996 of no less than ten books by members of the Department of History.

The Dean of Arts, Mr Paul Nursey-Bray, spoke briefly to welcome the guests who attended. Professor Brian Coghlan, Chair of the Cornell Chapter, moved a vote of thanks.

The gathering was an informal one and guests had the opportunity to examine the books and speak with the authors.

Golden Jubilee/SRC 50th

The search for past members of the Student Representative Council is bearing fruit, and around one hundred have been issued invitations for the Golden Jubilee Commemoration, at which the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the SRC will be marked.

The Golden Jubilee will be held on 24 October, beginning with a commemoration ceremony in Bonython Hall at 6.00pm.

The Graduates of 1946 will return to the University to celebrate their half-century as graduates of The University of Adelaide. The Golden Jubilee Address will be given this year by Dr Jim Bonnin, a former Head of the Institute for Medical and Veterinary Science.

The ceremony will be followed by a Reunion Dinner in the Upper Refectory, Adelaide University Union Building. Further information is available from the Alumni Office.

Visit to Buckland Park Field Station

Buckland Park Field Station, the University's field station for research into Atmospheric Physics and High Energy Astrophysics, will open its doors to alumni on Sunday 27 October.

The field station is about 40km north of Adelaide near Two Wells, and was acquired by the University in the early 1960s when a large property was broken up.

The Department of Physics and Mathematical Physics established an antenna array covering one square kilometre for a radar system used to measure winds in the upper atmosphere. Since then other radars have been developed and a large array of particle detectors has been installed to study elementary particle air-showers initiated by cosmic ray particles.

The Department and the Alumni Association join in inviting all alumni to come to Buckland Park for a barbecue and a tour of the research facilities. Why not make it a family day out? Further details will be published in the next edition of the *Adelaidean*.

Don't you dare write me a dull Obituary!

Mary Hope St Clair Crampton
18 May 1901 - 8 August 1996

Hope Crampton was Senior Lecturer in French Language and Literature at the University of Adelaide from 1930 to 1960. She was born in Renmark, South Australia, the only child of John Crampton (from North England) and Amy, née St Clair (from Scotland). She attended Girton Girls' School and then the University of Adelaide where she obtained her degree in Classics. After some years in Europe she returned with a Diploma from the Institut de Phonétique, Paris, and joined the staff of Adelaide University, where her father was Lecturer in French. Students of the 40s may remember her swinging into the University grounds at 30mph on "Phut-Phut", her trusty auticycle. Classes were smaller in those days, and colourful characters were prized.

I can hear Hope saying: "Don't you dare write me a dull Obituary!" Dull she never was, with her witty, whimsical sayings and her departures from the academic stereotype.

As a teacher she was infectiously enthusiastic in her presentation of writers she liked, and devastatingly dismissive of those she did not. She had a passion for the well-turned phrase and a distaste for the pedantic. A badly-written essay would earn, "You have indeed shown us what French prose can be", with a glare from her famous lorgnette.

Her favourite French novelist was Balzac: she published a study of an aristocratic bibliophile who had inspired one of Balzac's characters; but better-known among the chosen few was her parody of literary criticism, "The Wen on Grandet's Nose". Her MA thesis, somewhat surprisingly, was on Shelley compared to the "Parnassian" poet Leconte de Lisle. "Publish or perish" was not yet the order of the day, and Hope will be remembered rather as raconteuse and scribbler of humorous

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BEAUMONT: 3br, fully furn incl linen and cutlery. Heated pool. Close to buses. Ring Mary 8431 5202.

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