

# ADELAIDEAN

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NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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## Adelaide programs offer leading-edge knowledge

A NEW SERIES of computer programs developed at the University of Adelaide is helping students throughout Australia and overseas to learn about geotechnical engineering.

CATIGE (Computer Aided Teaching in



By the time this article appears in print, the Faculty will be well into celebrating the Centenary of the Elder Conservatorium of Music: indoors... outdoors ... new works ... old works ... rehearsals ... concerts ... orchestras ... ensembles ... conductors ... composers ... and Artist-in-Residence Gunther Schuller—arguably the epitome of the compleat musician (to paraphrase the title of his fascinating if somewhat provocative book, *The Compleat Conductor*).

So what exactly are we celebrating? Firstly—and most obviously—the foundation of the ‘Con’ through the generous £20,000 bequest Sir Thomas Elder left to the then School of Music, and which the University used “to establish a Conservatorium of Music, and to build a hall and rooms for teaching purposes ....” (from the 1897 Annual Report). But we’re celebrating more than just bricks and mortar: we’re also celebrating an unequivocal commitment to the aesthetic and artistic dimensions of academe, and to their importance in the life of the University community.

Then there’s a lengthy list of early—and ground-breaking—national ‘firsts’ to celebrate: the Con was the first conservatorium in Australia; it offered the first Professorship in Music (1884), and the first Bachelor of Music degree (although the degree was actually set up in advance of the establishment of the Con); it awarded the first Doctorate in Music (to E Harold Davies in 1903), and saw the composer Ruby Davy graduate as the first female D Mus in 1918.

At the other end of the time-scale we celebrate the outstanding achievements of more recent staff and students: the visionary developments of John Bishop (including the inauguration of the Festival of Arts and the Australian Youth Orchestra); Tristram Cary’s pioneering work in electronic music; the outstanding scholarship of Andrew McCredie and Catherine Ellis; the inspiring teaching of Beryl Kimber, David Swale and David Lockett among others; the works of composers such as Miriam Hyde, Graeme Koehne, Martin Wesley-Smith and Richard Meale; and the consummate artistry of performers such as Lucinda Collins, Janis Laurs, and Connaitre Miller.

And one other very important reason to celebrate: the integral role of the Con in the musical and cultural life not only of the University, but of the wider community. It is the mainstay of organizations such as the AMEB and the South Australian Music Camp, and is heavily involved in the Adelaide and Barossa Festivals. And think how colourless life on campus would be without music at the Commems, without the Bach Festival or the lunchtime and evening concerts—and without all those sometimes weird, but mostly wonderful, sounds drifting across the courtyard from Sir Thomas’ beautiful building!

The choice of Gunther Schuller as the Centenary Artist-in-Residence is no mere accident: in drawing together the various threads that are the life and soul of the Con, he personifies much of what the Centenary celebrates. He shares the same passion and commitment to music that has been the hallmark of the Con over its 100 years. He has been an outstanding performer (a hornplayer); he has conducted not only great professional orchestras, but also more modest student orchestras like our own; he works across the jazz and classical genres; and he is a prolific—and highly regarded—composer (and is currently putting to music the words of the seminal (fifteen page) letter Martin

Luther King wrote in 1963 while he was in jail in Birmingham, Alabama). And to complete the picture, Maestro Schuller has also achieved formidable success in non-performance areas: he is a

distinguished teacher and administrator (former Professor of Composition at Yale, and President of the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston); he is an acknowledged scholar, a publisher and an author of no small repute (and along with the above-mentioned score, he is also writing his autobiography!).

But while the Centenary celebrates the Con’s past and present, it also marks an important turning point not only for the Con, but for the Faculty as a whole: the moment in time when we step back from the past, and move toward a new and challenging future.

Perhaps the most significant initiative is the Faculty’s new structure (although in essence the ‘new’ will actually be a revamped version of its pre-merger self!): as of next year we become a single-unit School led by a Dean and three Associate Deans—Learning and Teaching, Higher Degrees and Research, and External Liaison. Not far behind in significance is the fact that we are well on the way to developing a new range of music courses that will give our students a more comprehensive and integrated general education in music, while preparing them at the same time for the exacting demands of life as a professional musician.

Another particularly exciting initiative to get under way next year is the Graduate Diploma in Chamber Music—the first of its kind in Australia, and taught by the members of the Australian String Quartet, the University’s Quartet-in-Residence. Designed as an intensive performance-focused program for two string quartets, the course shares some similarity with the Chair in Creative Writing in that it will involve a partnership between the University and the Government (through the auspices of ArtsSA).

And on a somewhat more uncertain horizon is the possibility of a new, collaborative enterprise between the University, DETAFE (in the shape of Flinders Street School of Music), and the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra. However, heavy reliance on Federal Government largesse—not to mention a successful claim on the hallowed halls of the Torrens Parade Barracks—puts the ambitious proposal at rather high odds.

But among all these changes and developments, one of the happiest for the Faculty is the approval of an Honours degree in Dance, to begin in 1999. Readers may recall the traumas of October 96, when the Faculty was decimated in one fell swoop (or was it ‘foul sweep’?!): Drama was given the death-knell, while Dance was left hanging by the thinnest of threads through the promise of a restructuring exercise (although at the time of the decision no-one really knew what direction that would—or should—take).

While various options were explored—including the possibility of combining Dance and Drama elements in a Performance Studies degree—financial constraints meant that we were unable to fly quite as high as we would have liked. However the re-emergence of Dance gives us hope, and who knows?—perhaps the irony of a Faculty of Performing Arts without a full complement of performing arts can be redressed in the not-too-distant future. Now that would be something to celebrate!





#### GUNTHER, JAZZ AND MORE

The Elder Conservatorium Centenary celebrations continue this week with Artist in Residence Gunther Schuller presenting a public lecture in Elder Hall on Monday 28 September at 6pm.

“An Evening with Gunther Schuller” will be compered by Australian composer and conductor Richard Mills.

\$10 (\$5 for University staff & students).

On Thursday 1 October, Connaitre Miller and the Adelaide Connection pay tribute to the world’s greatest jazz singers in the Centenary Jazz Concert.

Tickets \$20, \$15 concession, and \$10 students/children.

The action moves to the Adelaide Town Hall for the Centenary Concert on Friday 2 October at 8pm, with the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra conducted by Gunther Schuller. The program features works by Schuller himself, local composer Graham Koehne, Mendelssohn and Brahms. \$20 and \$10. All bookings at BASS.

#### SLEDGE DONATED TO MAWSON

A MAN who led an expedition to the South Pole has donated his sledge to the Mawson Antarctic Collection.

Peter Treseder, inspired by the Antarctic expeditions of Sir Douglas Mawson, recently followed in his footsteps and made the long and difficult trek to the South Pole. He took with him a balaclava which belonged to Mawson and is now part of the Mawson Collection.

The collection is housed and cared for at the Coach House in the Historic Precinct of the University of Adelaide’s Waite Campus. A permanent Mawson gallery is also being established at the South Australian Museum as part of a joint project between the museum and the University.

The sledge from Peter Treseder’s Antarctic voyage will be displayed alongside the sledge Mawson used during the first Australian Antarctic expedition in 1911.

#### CREATIVE WRITING FOCUS

CREATIVE WRITING is to be the focus of a new conference at the University of Adelaide.

Called “Lighting the Fuse: Writing for Young and Old”, the conference will be held in the Napier Building and at the SA Writers’ Centre from 9-11 October.

It is the third annual conference of the Association of Australian Writing Programs, which aims to lead discussion on writing, writing courses and innovation within the writing industry.

Registrations are open to anyone with an interest in creative writing and the teaching and learning of writing. For more information contact Martina Nist on (08) 8302 4647.

#### PGSA CONFERENCE

THE QUALITY OF postgraduate coursework will come under the microscope at a conference being hosted by the Adelaide University Postgraduate Students’ Association (PGSA).

Held on Saturday, 10 October, the conference will look at the three Rs of coursework: Responsibilities, Resources and Rights.

Registration is open until W



# Adelaide food research at the 'exciting boundary' of science

**RESEARCH HAS SHOWN** that red wine, green tea and soybeans are good for us, particularly because of their anti-cancer properties—but no-one is quite sure why and how.

These are among the questions driving a small group of scientists at the University of Adelaide's Departments of Chemistry and Pharmacology and the CSIRO's Division of Human Nutrition—with a longer term view of adding the vital flavonoids from these natural products into manufactured products such as bread.

"At the moment there is a causal relationship with these things: 'eat and drink them and they will be good for you'," says Dr Simon Pyke, Chemistry lecturer at the University.

"But it needs to go further than that to understand exactly how it works and quantifying it.

"It is well known that the Japanese have a much lower incidence of certain types of disease which are prevalent in the west, particularly cardiovascular and certain types of cancer. The obvious question is what do they do differently?"

"There are environmental factors but there are also dietary factors, which is more interesting because if we can isolate the active compounds and introduce them into our diet then theoretically we can reduce those diseases," says Dr Pyke.

"Soybeans and green tea are two of the dietary factors we are most interested in that are in the Asian diet.

"There has been a lot of work done on these things including the isolation of some of the active constituents known as isoflavones which are a sub-class of flavonoids.

The two we are working on are genistein and daidzein." good science.

The isoflavones of the soybean have an impressive array of pharmacological properties, particularly anti-breast, anti-colon and anti-prostatic cancer activity.

What is not well understood are the mechanisms by which these isoflavones are absorbed across the gastrointestinal tract, metabolised and eliminated from the body.

Dr Pyke and his colleague Dr David Ward are collaborating to answer these questions with CSIRO and the Department of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology.

Their research also forms part of their current bid to establish a Cooperative Research Centre for International Nutrition which will enable them to pursue the work more vigorously.

The research requires close overlap between the disciplines of chemistry and pharmacology—an interaction Dr Pyke says represents the future of

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## Mentoring program go-ahead

**WOMEN** general staff at the University of Adelaide will benefit from a mentoring program established with the aid of a \$15,000 grant from the Director, Student and Staff Services (Mr Ian Creagh), with the support of the Vice-Chancellor.

The program will be coordinated through the Women's Professional Development Network (WPDN), established in 1995 as a grass roots professional development initiative for women general staff at the University.

In 1996 WPDN ran a successful pilot mentoring program for women general staff HEO5 and above, following an analysis which identified mentoring as a high priority developmental need. The program ran with the support of Human Resources and the Equal Opportunity office, and a paper on its outcomes was presented at the 1997

National ATEM (Australian Tertiary Education Management) Conference.

The success of the pilot project led to the submission for funding to run a formal mentoring program.

"This grant is an acknowledgement of the commitment by senior management to women general staff," said WPDN's Liz Pryzibilla, who will coordinate the mentoring project with Lee Jones.

"The mentoring program will assist in removing the recognised barriers which prevent women in higher education from achieving their personal and professional potential."

The program begins in October 1998 and expressions of interest are being sought from potential participants. Further information: Lee Jones (33277) or Liz Pryzibilla (34144).

# Sometimes words have two meanings...

DO JURIES really understand the judge's instructions before deliberating the outcome of a trial?

This is the question Ian Leader-Elliott and Ngaire Naffine in the Faculty of Law at the University of Adelaide have been pondering in recent years.

"Different understandings about the meaning of words like 'reckless' in relation to actions leading to the cause of death could mean the difference between a verdict of murder and manslaughter," said Mr Leader-Elliott.

"Particularly with appeals arising from criminal law cases, an enormous amount of time and effort is often spent examining the judges' instructions to the jury and the meaning of words," he explained.

To test their theory that members of the general public and the legal profession use the same words differently, they carried out a survey in 1997 involving first year law students, first year humanities students, law teachers and practicing lawyers, numbering a hundred respondents of each kind.

Several legal terms were presented for review, including 'recklessness', 'intention', 'voluntariness' and 'consent'.

The results were, as expected by Mr Leader-Elliott and Dr Naffine, that there are significant differences in the way the general public and legal communities—and even sections within the legal community—use and understand these words.

In the case of the word 'consent', respondents to the survey were asked to consider a hypothetical situation in

which a woman agrees to intercourse on the understanding that she is protected by a condom but later finds that a condom was not used by the man.

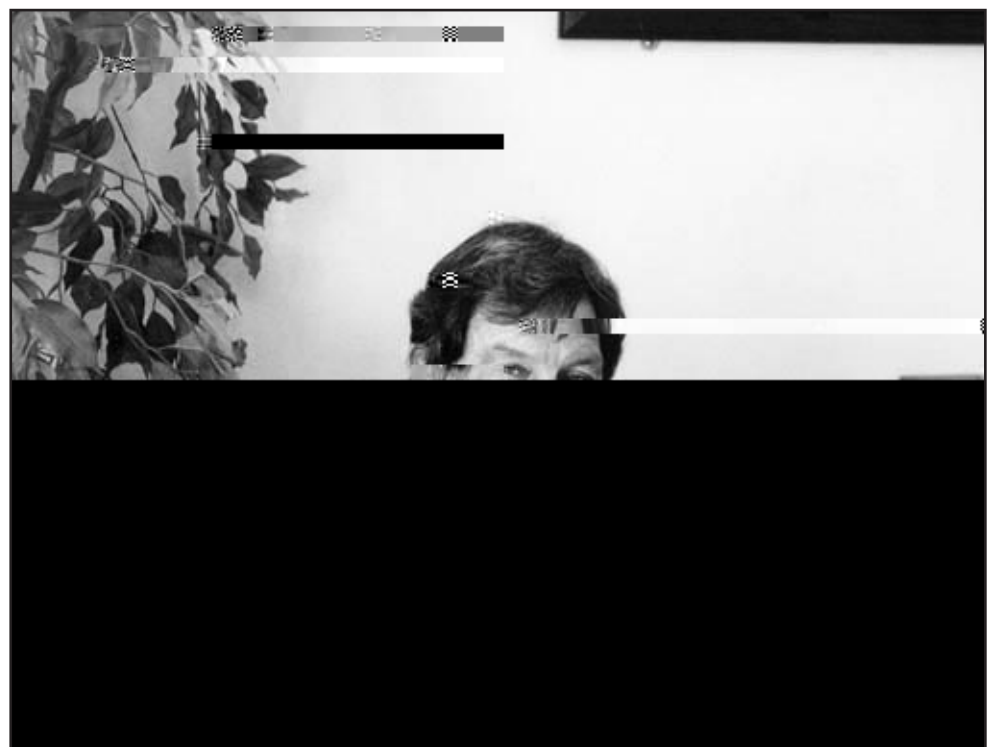
The question then asked was, does this deception constitute rape even though consent had otherwise been given?

Law students, lawyers and non-lawyers responded in general that rape had not taken place. Meanwhile, a group of law academics saw that rape had indeed occurred.

Ian Leader-Elliott speculates that this response by law teachers may well indicate a higher level of acceptance of feminist assumptions by law academics. Also of interest to him is the fact that a significant proportion of these respondents chose not to reveal their sex.

He is keenly interested in other forms of social influence on language usage as well. In the case of the term 'consent', he refers to the influence of marriage manuals written in the early part of this century by the likes of Marie Stopes and Havelock Ellis which encouraged wives to engage in acts of sexual intercourse—under the onus of wifely duty—in conditions which women today would not generally countenance. Hence, 'consent' once meant something quite different to what it does according to present-day community standards.

Mr Leader-Elliott first became interested in the area of law and semantics while reading articles about the philosophy of action relating to criminal law. The more he read, the more his concern grew over the way language was used in legal documents



Ian Leader-Elliott: differences in how legal terms are understood. Photo: John Edge

which was significantly at odds with common usage. In 1984, he participated in the writing of a manual for the Law Institute of Victoria about how these divergent usages could impact on legal processes.

His hopes for the findings of the 1997 survey, to be published initially in the UK later this year, is to bring these issues to the attention of the legal community generally.

While recognising the primary need of judges to 'get the law right' when

advising juries, Ian Leader-Elliott attaches considerable importance to the process of ensuring that juries understand what legal professionals mean when they use particular terminology.

As a strong believer in the jury system, he sees that improvements in communication between judges and juries will help ensure that the tradition of trial-by-jury continues to feature as an option within our court system.

—Tony Cox

## Course fills gap

From Page 1

"We get three days' compassionate leave and research shows that a grieving person is expected (by his or her peers) to be functioning normally after three months. But three months is often a particularly difficult time—the time when grieving people need the most support."

The Graduate Certificate is being run for the first time this year. The 20 students come from a range of backgrounds, with the majority being health professionals.

The course covers counselling theory, skills and practice; an exploration of death, dying and bereavement, including the specific issues relating to HIV/AIDS, spirituality, grief and mourning; medical and psychiatric, legal and ethical issues; and a field education placement.

Dr Clark says many people have outdated views of the grieving process, based on theories developed in the 1960s. However, new work suggests these theories—focusing on the various "stages" of grief—are too prescriptive and do not take into account the vast differences in people's responses to grief.

"These older models cause problems when people don't fit into those stages," she says.

An information session about the Graduate Certificate will be held at Calvary Hospital, Conference Rooms 1 and 2, from 6pm on Tuesday, 13 October. Three scholarships are available for people from rural areas.

—David Washington

## New visions in dentistry

PROFESSOR MILTON SIMS recently gave the 1998 Graham Mount Oration on "Dentistry's Millennium Avalanche". He discusses the topic with Ewart Shaw.

Q: *Why Millennium Avalanche?*

A: I chose the title Millennium Avalanche because I think that dentistry is being and will be engulfed even further in the future by two specific areas—computer dominated teaching, learning and research, that's the first; secondly, dentistry in this country has to move very quickly and smartly into molecular biology areas of research.

Q: *If we look at the second point that you've made, where does microbiology enter into the picture?*

A: Dentistry has up to recent times had a medical/surgical basis where people would make a filling where there was a decay, cut out the decay to a specified pattern, fill it and that was that. The surgical approach was to remove diseased tissue. Now we're getting away from that paradigm and moving into a pharmacological and regenerative paradigm where dentistry is going to look to regenerating new tissue.

For example, it is quite within the realms of possibility that where there are sites of decay in the future it will be possible to regenerate the lost enamel and dentine *in situ*, where the nerve is exposed in a traumatic

accident we will be able to grow new dentine over that nerve.

I think there will be even more radical things. The periodontist will grow new tissue, will grow new bone, will grow new ligament which is the tissue attaching the tooth to the bone, will be able to grow new gum tissue. Where people lose the nerve in the tooth we will have molecular tools, the nano-molecules that we can inject that will be site-specific, target specific cells. They will be able to home in, to carry out repairs via the blood circulation. This is already happening in medicine with, for example, the use of cytokines.

Q: *Your particular area is orthodontics. How will that change?*

A: It's going to change radically. I believe within the next fifteen to twenty years, a patient will come into a clinic. They will have a non-invasive scan taken of their head, facial and dental structures. They will have a saliva sample taken; this will provide a DNA readout; they will have a whole molecular breakdown in front of them and it will be decided by the computer what gene therapy can be administered to that patient, and now, instead of having bands that patient will have microchips on the back of their teeth and will wear a wristwatch computer which will control the movement of the teeth.

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**THE CONCENTRATION** by political parties on short-term vote-grabbing policies is no help at all to industries, like Information Technology, which require longer term strategies for survival and growth, according to Professor Reg Coutts, director of the University of Adelaide's Centre for Telecommunications Information Networking (CTIN).

Professor Coutts, speaking at the recent AEEMA National Forum in Sydney, said that despite an increasingly global marketplace the role of Government was still important and that leadership and the identification and support of key sectors of the IT industry were essential.

"The bi-partisan view that the IT sector is critical in maintaining the long-term economic health and growth of the nation has not been translated into policy," he said.

Professor Coutts said there had been a plethora of reviews and reports on the industry but they

# Hard work opens doors in Mexico

**HARD WORK** and dedication have paid off for a young graduate whose skills have led to an opportunity to work with some of the best researchers in the world, and a chance to directly assist developing countries in their fight against hunger.

Dr Julie Nicol, a graduate from the Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences, has started working with one of the world's largest and most successful wheat breeding organisations.

Based in Mexico, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) is dedicated to helping the poor in low-income countries by increasing the productivity and sustainability of their wheat and maize crops, often the sole diet of poor people.

Working in the world-renowned Wheat Program, Dr Nicol's skills as a Nematologist and Soil Pathologist are crucial in identifying soil-borne diseases, assessing resistance and/or tolerance of plants to the diseases, and working to incorporate those traits into Australian and CIMMYT breeds of wheat.

"Very little work has been done with soil-borne diseases in developing countries, with much of the focus so far aimed at problems associated 'above ground', such as rusts and viruses," Dr Nicol said.

"My work will help identify suitable wheat breeds which have resistance to pathogens found in the soil, and to help understand the mechanisms for these desirable characteristics. This research will not only make a significant difference to Third World countries, but will also help farmers in Australia."

Funded by the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) in Australia, Dr Nicol's position with CIMMYT in Mexico has a special focus on Western Asia and Northern Africa, where climatic conditions and

problems associated with growing

## A L U M N I N E W S

### HEALTH IN ANTIQUITY

What can we learn of the lives of people in the ancient world by applying modern forensic techniques to skeletal remains?

The Alumni Association invites you to a presentation by Professor Maciej Henneberg and Mrs Renata Henneberg, of the Department of Anatomical Sciences, on Thursday 29 October, at 7:00pm.

This activity is free, but to assist with planning please telephone the Alumni Office to indicate your intention to come: 8303 4275.

### ALUMNI AFTERNOON FOR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

There will be a social gathering for University of Adelaide alumni attending the International Alumni Convention on the afternoon of Sunday 4 October. Details are available from the Alumni Office: 8303 4275.

Those alumni who have registered for the Convention and who wish to attend this informal event are encouraged to attend.

### CAMPUS TOURS: SHARE YOUR UNIVERSITY WITH A FRIEND

Are you expecting visitors from interstate or overseas? Do you have friends looking for an interesting morning's exploration? Are you a member of an organisation looking for something 'different' for its social program?

The Alumni Association offers walking tours of the North Terrace Campus on Tuesday mornings at 10:30am. The tours last one and a half hours, and the cost is \$3 per person. Proceeds go to the Alumni Association's Scholarship Fund. Groups are welcome: please telephone 8303 4275.

The tour includes some strenuous sections, with stairs to be negotiated. Participants are urged to wear comfortable shoes.

### AFUW ACTIVITIES

The Australian Federation of University Women SA Inc reminds members that it is time to renew membership.

AFUW needs your support in its work to better the status of women and girls, to promote education, and to provide some practical help to students.

Women graduates who are interested in joining AFUW SA Inc can contact the Membership Officer, AFUW SA Inc, C/- Mail Room, the University of Adelaide.

Ordinary membership is \$50; postgraduate student membership is \$40. Women who have graduated from university courses requiring less than 3 years' full time study are eligible for Associate Membership, which is \$20.

October General Meeting: Tuesday 27, 7:30-10:00pm. "Flinders University Tournament of the Minds".

AGM, Tuesday 24 November, 7:30-10:00pm, at St Ann's College. Speaker: Ms Ruth Blenkiron, SA Deputy Commissioner for Equal Opportunity.

AFUW SA Inc is affiliated to the International Federation of University Women. Visit the Web site at <<http://www.ifuw.org>>.

**ASCOT PARK:** 3 br, unfurn, two-storey town-house, b-ins, carpet, 2 toilets, carport, close to transport & shops, \$145 pw. Ph 8357 7886 (ah).

**EXCHANGE:** London - English scholar, wife and young child want to swap comfortable Islington house for an Adelaide house for 2 months beginning early or mid-January 1999. Ph Hugh Stretton 8267 1012, fax 8223 1460.

**SECOND VALLEY:** Spacious home sleeps 9, 2 double br (one with ensuite), 5 single, all mod convs, overhead fans throughout, superb views, 5 mins walk to beach. Ph 8327 0761.

**WANTED:** Furn home or unit required urgently until

end of year for professional couple and 2 children. Pets and garden cared for. Ph Christine 8235 8000.

**WANTED:** Furn apartment/house. Periods as short as 1 month while you're on leave. References available. Ph Jim 8259 5895 or email <Jim.Winkles@dsto.defence.gov



# Bulletin Board

**1.00pm Microbiology & Immunology Seminar:** Regulation of prolonged P-selectin expression on endothelium by Dr Yeesim Khew-Goodall (Hansen Centre for Cancer Research/IMVS). Departmental Library, 5th Floor, Medical School South.

**1.10pm History Staff/Postgraduate Seminar:** The Making and Remaking of the Australian Boy: middle-class ideals of manly youth in Australia, 1870-1920 by Mr Martin Crotty (History, University of Melbourne). Common Room, 4th Floor, Napier Building.

**4.00pm Crop Protection Seminar:** Nematodes vs Snails: Who's got the legs to stand on? by Dr Suzanne Charwat (Postdoctoral Fellow). Charles Hawker Conference Centre, Waite Campus.

**12noon Lyell McEwin Health Service Tuesday Grand Round:** The Role of Nitric Oxide in Heart Failure by Dr Margaret Anne Arstall (Cardiologist, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital). Conference Room 1, Community Health Building, Lyell McEwin.

**1.10pm Anatomical Sciences Seminar:** Expression of blood-brain barrier markers in toxin-induced brain oedema by Dr M Ghabriel (Anatomical Sciences). Room S127, Medical School, South Wing.

**6.00pm Centre for Intercultural Studies & Multicultural Education Seminar:** Business and Ethics: Making the Right Choices by Mr Douglas Henck (Senior Vice-President of the American International Group). Council Room, 7th Floor, Hughes Building. Refreshments from 5.30pm. Enquiries: Elizabeth Balan / Mariusz Kurgan 8303 5788.

**11.30am MLC/ACUE Seminar:** Developmental Dyslexia: Description, experiences a0.60puearo

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