

ADELAIDEAN

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NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

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It's been an interesting start to the academic year. In 1998 the media were predicting that the Asian economic crisis was going to cause huge holes in the International Programs of Australian universities. Here at the Integrated Bridging Program (IBP) we found ourselves scrambling for extra part-time staff to manage the surprise influx of overseas students. Numbers continued to swell, lecturers were crammed into already crowded offices, and the Resource Room was converted into a makeshift office for the last recruit.

It was a hive of activity. As the Intensive Phase of the program got under way at the beginning of February, there seemed to be a permanent queue of students at the front desk, and arguing in the classrooms. Lunch breaks were filled with tales of new students who seemed literally to have run from the airport, rather than miss any of their pre-semester classes with the IBP. We wondered what we'd done to enjoy such popularity.

For those unfamiliar with the work of the IBP, it is an innovative, language-based academic program for international postgraduate students. It was devised and is taught by academic staff from the Advisory Centre for University Education.

Introduced to the University in 1995, the program is designed to meet the

special needs of international postgraduate students as they make the transition to study in an Australian institution. In addition to running weekly workshops on core academic English skills, IBP lecturers regularly consult with individual students and collaborate with staff in the students' faculties. Strongly committed to a student-centred model, the IBP encourages students to direct their own learning, using their individual research interests as the basis for all language development.

In this context, English is not an additional subject to fit in between "real" classes, but the framework for research.

It is this emphasis on "integration" which differentiates the IBP from other pre-enrolment study skills programs or courses. Students' research is integrated with ongoing English language development, within the particular environment of university postgraduate study, and in the broader context of Australian culture. Other "bridging" courses tend to focus on the attainment of minimum English language proficiency scores and generic academic skills. Central to the philosophy of the IBP is the recognition that such a score is a starting point only, and that cultural exchange with international students

demands a two-way relationship, which involves complex cross-cultural learning.

Last year the IBP was shortlisted for a prestigious Australian Award for University Teaching, in the category of "Support for the Special Needs of International Students". Recently, Margaret Cargill, the initiator of the program and winner of a 1997 Stephen Cole the Elder Prize for University Teaching, was invited to present IBP-based research in the UK. She spoke to staff at the Centre for English Language Education at Nottingham University, and at project "SMILE" (Strategies for the Management of Independent Learning Environments) at the University of Hull.

As coordinator of the IBP, I was delighted to accept an invitation last month from Professor John Swales, an internationally acclaimed expert in the field of genre theory and Director of the English Language Institute of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, to speak to his staff at the Institute. In particular, Professor Swales was interested in the structure, implementation, curriculum and pedagogy of the IBP here at the University of Adelaide.

The successful development of the IBP's student-directed and negotiated curriculum has also attracted

widespread interest from a number of other interstate and international institutions, several of whom are now trying to initiate similar programs. Following my presentations at the University of Michigan and at the International TESOL Conference in New York, collaborative work in the development of English Language Programs for international students is now under discussion.

Continued research is vital to the ongoing development of the Integrated Bridging Program. As more international students choose the University of Adelaide for postgraduate research, it will become increasingly important for the IBP to have a core of full-time staff to pursue research and professional development, in addition to the labour-intensive tasks of lecturing, consulting with students and collaborating with other University members.



Cole Prizes for our top teachers

OUTSTANDING teaching efforts by three University of Adelaide staff members have been rewarded with this year's Stephen Cole the Elder Prizes for Excellence in Teaching.

The prizes, presented during the Commemoration Ceremonies in April, were awarded to Dr Derek Abbott (Electrical & Electronic Engineering), Dr Judith Raftery (Public Health), and Dr Dianne Schwerdt (English).

The Stephen Cole the Elder Prizes are nominated by colleagues and students.

Dr Derek Abbott, who completed his PhD in Electronic Engineering at the University of Adelaide, joined the department in 1987.

His teaching responsibilities have included teaching electronics to engineering students in courses where electronics is not the main focus. The principal challenge has been to demonstrate the relevance of the subject to students and to stimulate their interest and generate enthusiasm.

Dr Abbott's success in achieving these aims is testified to by his colleagues and students who speak of his enthusiasm for his subject and for teaching.

One student who wrote in support of Dr Abbott's nomination noted that electronics was a difficult subject which could often lead to a somewhat dry teaching style, but: "Dr Abbott avoids this with his interactive style of lecturing, and gives continuous encouragement to attend to the material."

Dr Abbott introduced an innovative level of interaction with students, answering any question they had about their topic and providing feedback to questions via email. He

also offered cash prizes (whatever he had in his wallet at the time) to the student who asked the best question of the day.

Students expressed their appreciation of his accessibility, friendliness,

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Jared Thomas - a “Flash Red Ford” in Africa

JARED THOMAS might not be a household name in his home city of Adelaide, but he's already carved a name for himself in the African nations of Uganda and Kenya.

The 23-year-old writer's first play,
F1

Profile: Riding the crest of a wave to Adelaide

PROFESSOR IAN YOUNG came to the University of Adelaide to take up the position of Executive Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Computer and Mathematical Scienc

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE
ACTA2118UA

Annual General Meeting

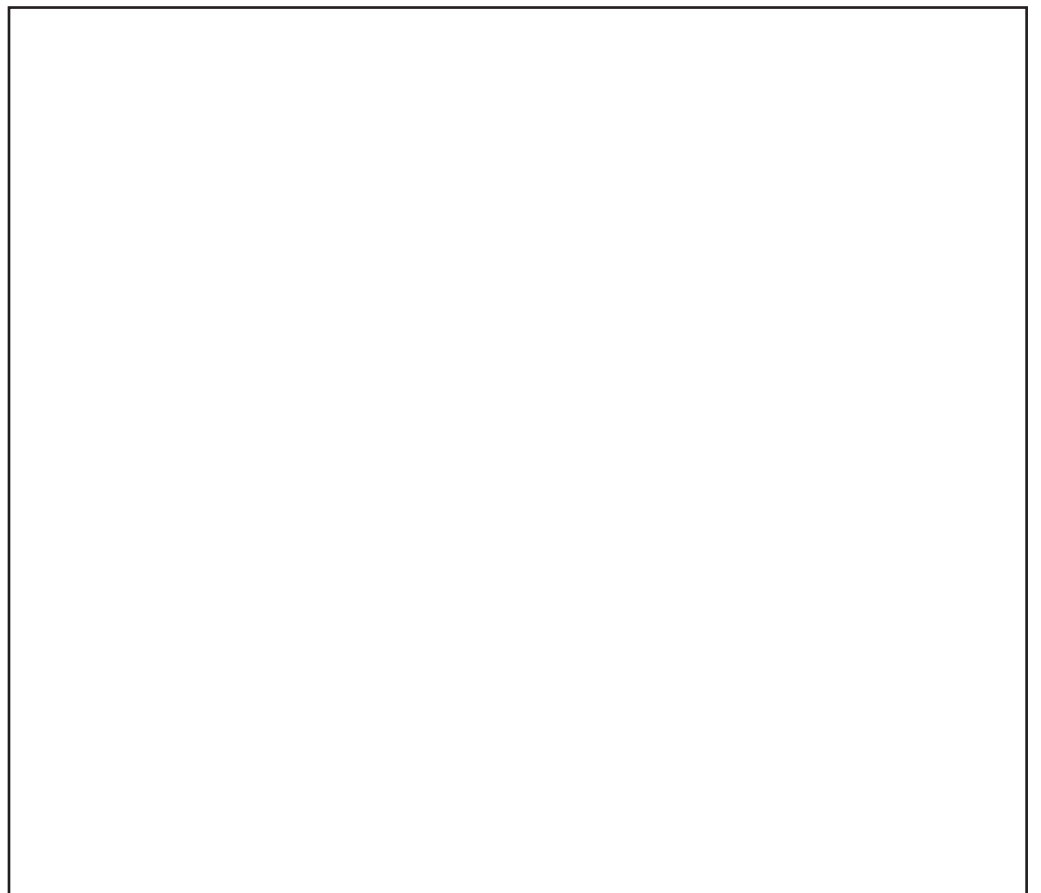
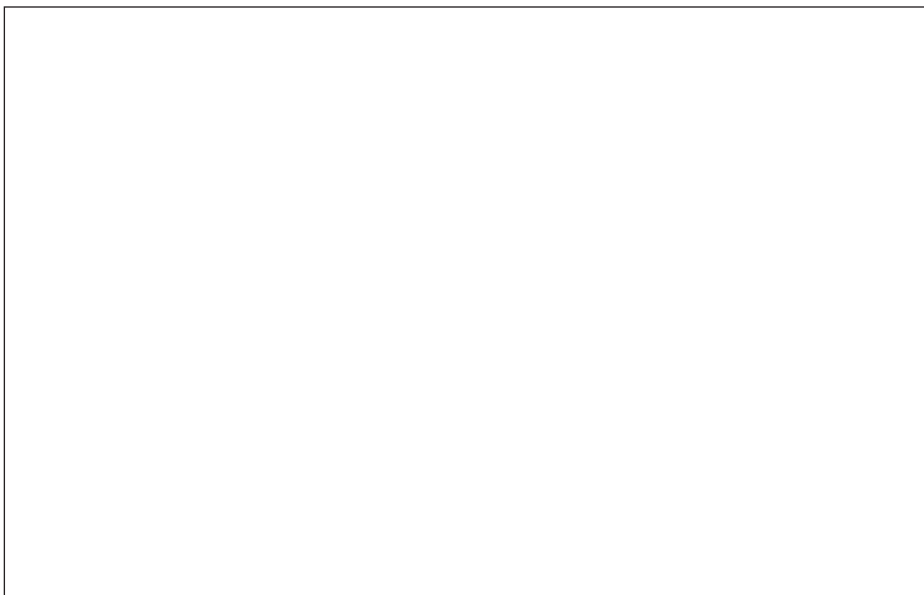
In accordance with clause 20.1.2 of the Constitution of the University of Adelaide Alumni Association notice is given to members that the 1999 Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Thursday 24 June 1999 at 7.30pm in Napier Lecture Theatre 102, Napier Building, North Terrace Campus.

In accordance with clause 20.1.3 of the Constitution members are advised that any proposed amendments to the Constitution and any motions or items of other business to be considered at the Annual General Meeting must be received by the Executive Secretary not later than 5.00pm on Friday 4 June 1999.

GEOFFREY SAUER
Executive Secretary



THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE



EASTERN SUBURBS:

Beautifully furnished and fully equipped unit, private courtyard, suit 2-4 people, near facilities. Avail. now, \$250.00 p.w. Ph Coralie on 8332 4814.

HOUSE SITTING

WANTED: Family of 3 seeks house sitting arrangement in Adelaide area 6mo-1yr. Moving to Adelaide from US for Orthopaedic Surgery fellowship 8/1/99. Email: <woolley@salus.med.uvm.edu>, fax: 0115-1-802-656-4247.

LONDON HOUSE:

Modern terraced, 2 br., sunroom, dish/w, washing/m, off-street car park, east of Camden town centre, overlooks Regent's Park canal. £225 per week negotiable. Avail from Nov 1999-Jan. 2000. Ph/fax: 0171-388-3401 or <hstrachan@hotmail.com>.

NORTH ADELAIDE:

Cottage for rent, 2 br, avail for appx. 3 months (Aug/Sept - Nov). Beautifully restored and renovated, fully furn, dish washer, gas heating, air/c. off street parking \$300.pw. Suit visiting academic or prof couple. Ph 8267 2350.

NORTH ADELAIDE: Fully furn. room available for rent for 4 months (mid May - mid August). \$80 per week. 10 mins walk from North Terrace Campus, close to amenities. Very stylish house. Ph Ryan or Shane on 8267 6569 after 6pm.

SEATON: 2 Bedroom unit. Private front and back yards. Built-ins. Part furnished. Close to shops, city and transport. \$100 ono. Ph 8353 5544 - Voula.

SEMAPHORE: House avail for rent for 6-12 months - owner abroad. Fully furn, 3 br, near beach, 20 mins to city, ph: 8341 7024.

SWAP - ADELAIDE-

HOBART: Hobart-based consultant requires home/car swap while working in Adelaide from June - August, 1999. House/apartment suitable for married couple (no children). This Hobart single storey home with delightful garden has 2 double br. and well-appointed office in Taroona, near Uni and city. Well-heated, sunny position, views of the Derwent river. Ph/fax Brian / Elizabeth Palfrey on 03 6227 9741 or email: <bpalfrey@southcom.com.au>.

WANTED: Visiting academic from Germany seeks fully furn. house. Suitable for family of four, prefer near city or Eastern suburbs for 1 year from Aug 1999 to July 2000. Ph/Fax: Ewe 8379 9616.

WANTED: Visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon from UK seeks fully furn. 3 br house from end July 1999 for 1 year. Suitable for family of 5. Prefer near Stepney/Gilberton/Walkerville if poss. Ph. Di Bailey 8363 7788 (w) 0407 604169 (m).

DISHWASHER: Simpson, 3 years old, in excellent cond., \$450, for permanent installation or mobile. Ph: Uli: 8303 6565.

MISC: TV, VCR, Double Mattress, IBM486, Bicycle, Table, and more, Ph: 8338 4152.

NISSAN PINTARA HATCH: 1991, VPJ811. I

Bulletin Board

9.00am **Social Inquiry:** Gender Studies Level 1 & 2 students: Situated Knowledge and Feminist Epistemology by Professor Dorothy Smith (OISE, Toronto, Canada). Venue: Contac

Applications for the following vacancy will be considered only from members of the staff of the University**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
(ACTING)**

(Ref: 4535)

University Library

Salary HEO3: \$26,725 - \$30,467

To provide routine administrative sup

Job Advertisements on the Web

Since late last year all University positions vacant have been advertised on the world wide web, as part of the University's Human Resources website.

This has been a resounding success, judging from the statistics on who is visiting the site.

Approximately 1000 visitors view the site every month, with around 43 hits each day. Overall, 67% of our hits are from Australia. It seems that the most popular time to view job vacancies on our site is between 5-6pm, and Tuesday is the most popular day.

Human Resources will continue to develop and improve the site. If you have any feedback about improvements to the site, please direct it to Michelle Radford in Human Resources, email: <michelle.radford@adelaide.edu.au>.

Job vacancies will continue to appear in the *Adelaidean* as well as on the web. From June, job advertisements in the *Adelaidean* will contain minimal information, and will direct rea

Research Grants & Fellowships

The following is a list of grant, fellowship and other research funding schemes currently available for application. A more detailed electronic version of this listing (Update: Research), together with guidelines and application forms for some of the major schemes, are available at: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/>>. For hard copy application forms and guidelines for any of the funding schemes listed below, contact the Research Branch, ext 35137; or email <louise.moore@adelaide.edu.au>.

Sponsored Programs Information Network (SPIN): SPIN Australia - A database containing current and comprehensive information on over 2,600 government and private funding opportunities. The SPIN web site is accessible via the Research Branch web site.

Industry, Science & Resources; Dept of (DISR) - Technology Diffusion Program (TDP): This Program has three integrated components: Technology Alliances; Technology Transfer; and Online Business. Further information about the TDP is available from the AusIndustry web site: <<http://www.ausindustry.gov.au/tdp>>. U19/98

National Centre for Research Resources (NCRR), USA: Novel Approaches to Enhance Stem Cell Research: Internal closing dates: 18 May, 17 September 1999 and 18 January 2000. U8/99. Further information: <<http://www.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-99-086.html>>. Grant application form (PHS 398): <<http://www.nih.gov/grants/forms.htm>>.

Land & Water Resources Research & Development Corporation (LWRRDC): National Program for Irrigation Research and Development (NPIRD) - Call for Research Proposals: Internal closing date (2-page preliminary proposals): 21 May 1999. U8/99. Web site: <www.lwrrdc.gov.au>.

National Council for the Centenary of Federation - History and Education Program - Round 2: Internal closing date: 21 May 1999. U6/99

Violence Prevention Awards Secretariat, c/o Australian Institute of Criminology: Australian Violence

Prevention Awards 1999: Internal closing date: 21 May 1999. U5/99. Web site: <<http://www.aic.gov.au>>.

Heart Foundation

- Career Research Fellowship
- Clinical and Overseas Research Fellowships
- Postdoctoral Research Fellowships
- Senior Research Fellowship in Nutrition
- Warren McDonald International Fellowship

Internal closing date: 24 May 1999. U4/99

Australian Spinal Research Foundation - Research Grants: Internal closing date: 24 May 1999. U8/99

Westcare Incorporated: The Australian Tuberculosis Research Group - Tuberculosis Research Grants: Internal closing date: 24 May 1999. U8/99

Natural Heritage Trust: Coasts & Clean Seas - Funding for Environmental Projects for 1999-2000: Internal closing date: 25 May 1999. U4/99. Web site: <http://www.environment.gov.au/marine/clean_seas/info.html>.

ORPHAN Australia / Gastroenterological Society of Australia: Travel Grant to attend the Basel Liver Week, Falk Symposia No 114-116, 20-25 October 1999, Basel, Switzerland: