Aspiration, perspiration, inspiration: our elite athletes

BY LANA BEST

Four elite athletes currently studying at UTAS are inspiring younger students who may feel torn between pursuing sporting interests and further education.

All four will compete in cycling, rowing, running and iron man events in national or international competitions this year. And all four are studying in the School of Human Life Sciences.

Long-distance runner Josh Harris has just returned from the World University Cross Country Championships in Poland. Rower Taylor Wilczynski is in the running to represent Australia in the 2012 World Rowing Under 23 Championships in Lithuania in July.

Cyclist Alex Clements lined up in the National Road Series Mersey Valley Tour in April, and James Hodge will contest the 2012 SunSmart Ironman 70.3 in Bunbury, WA, this month.

UTAS School of Human Life Sciences Exercise Science course co-ordinator Dr James Fell agrees with the renowned runner Herb Elliott that the best sports people are well-rounded sports people.

Elliott once told a journalist that what appealed to him about his eccentric athletics coach Percy Cerutty was that he seemed to be more interested in "using your sport to develop you into a better human being, than he did in using your sport to become a world champion".

According to Dr Fell: “That is no more evident than when you look at the elite athletes currently studying at UTAS and managing to maintain a good balance with their sport, social and study commitments,” he said.

“Good at everything they do: UTAS elite athletes – runner Josh Harris, cyclist Alex Clements, ironman James Hodge and rower Taylor Wilczynski – who are competing nationally and internationally while studying at the School of Human Life Sciences at Newnham. (Photo courtesy Examiner).”

By Peter Cochrane

The final report of a major external audit commends UTAS for the inclusive nature of the strategic planning process and for the attention the university gives to orientation, induction and involvement of staff.

These commendations are among 11 in the report by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) whose audit concentrated on two themes: internationalisation and learning outcomes.

Other commendations hailed the university’s approach to attracting and fostering high-achievers in research; its responsiveness to meeting the learning needs of regional communities and industry in the Cradle Coast region; the high level of student satisfaction with its teaching; and the scope, quality and effectiveness of its preparatory and supporting programs.

UTAS also received seven affirmations (areas the audit panel believes require improvement already identified by UTAS) and 10 commendations (areas the panel believes require improvement).

The Provost, Professor David Rich, said many of the recommendations are aligned with the university’s new strategic direction and reflect work currently under way.

“The report includes a among set of commendations, many of which have arisen from the solid work done to address the recommendations from the 2005 audit,” he said. “This shows the audit process can lead to valuable organisational improvement.”

“To ensure areas identified for improvement are addressed systematically, a quality improvement plan will be developed by my office in consultation with the university’s senior management team members, Academic Senate and other stakeholders.”

Prof. Rich thanked all audit participants. Panel members interviewed more than 400 UTAS staff, students and community members during visits to the Hobart, Launceston and Burnie campuses in October last year, as well as two offshore sites in China.

The full report is available for download from the TEQSA website: www.teqsa.gov.au
Party party party for Harmony Day

Treacle tart, dolmades and kobba: the UTAS School of Agricultural Science celebrated Harmony Day 2012 with a spectacular multicultural feast where 28 countries were represented in 50 dishes cooked by staff and students. Students and staff gathered in the Ag Sci tea room on the Sandy Bay campus to be greeted by a delicious array of food.

The People’s Choice Awards were judged; first place went to Nega Emiru Debela and Getnet Dino Adem with their Ethiopian dish injera, and second place was awarded jointly to Widad Al-Shawi’s dolmades from Iraq and Ali Al-Naseri’s dish kobba, also from Iraq.

At Newnham more than 1000 people sampled multicultural food and enjoyed entertainment at a huge evening event organised by the Tasmanian University Union and attended by staff, students and cultural groups from across the Launceston community.

The day kicked off literally with a soccer match between the multicultural Launi Allstars and a team of AMC international students – and a shock win for the AMC team.

Hundreds of local school students flooded the campus to cross-question UTAS students from other countries about their food, clothing and lifestyles at the Human Library.

The Harmony exhibition in the NEW Gallery with works including painting, sculpture, textile, ceramics, photography and theatre celebrated the cultural diversity and high quality artwork produced by UTAS international students.

Organiser Leanne Arnott from the Launceston Community and Engagement office said the feedback from Launceston’s schools was “brilliant”.

“I was delighted to see the sheer enjoyment on the children’s faces, and their interaction with many of the international and English language students was priceless,” she said.

At the Sandy Bay event agricultural postdoctoral researchers Edgar Bonales and Georgina Valencia attended the event with their two-year-old daughter Isabella.

Encapsulating the day, Edgar said: “I haven’t been here for long but Australia itself seems to be a good fusion of culture.”

Sampling Harmony Day countries and cultures: Georgina Valencia and Edgar Bonales from the UTAS School of Agricultural Science with their daughter Isabella at the Harmony Day feast at Sandy Bay.

Multicultural learning: AMC second-year student Ahmed Al-Ameri taught Cole Dennison, 9, of Mowbray Heights Primary School to tie the ghutra, the traditional head-dress of the United Arab Emirates.
Cedric’s research has healthy goal

Research measures lobster health and nutrition: Dr Cedric Simon from the UTAS Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies has won a $55,000 award to pursue his lobster research.

BY SAM EAST

A UTAS researcher in the worldwide race to rear rock lobsters in captivity has won a $55,000 award allowing him to collaborate with Canadian industry leaders and researchers in assessing lobster condition and health.

Dr Cedric Simon from the UTAS Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies not only won a $22,000 national Science and Innovation Award for Young People in Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry but was also awarded the special Minister’s Award, worth $33,000.

The awards allow anyone aged 18–35 working or studying in the rural industries to undertake innovative projects contributing to the ongoing success and sustainability of Australia’s agricultural, fisheries and forestry industries.

‘Developing a safe way to assess lobsters in controlled laboratories will help manage wild stocks and improve yield and product quality.’

Cedric’s research addresses seafood security including proper nutrition, critical for getting lobsters to market size.

“Developing a safe way to accurately assess the nutrition, digestion and reproduction condition of lobsters in controlled laboratories will help manage wild stocks and improve yield and product quality,” he explained.

The awards will allow Cedric to collaborate with Canada to learn how standard veterinarian diagnostic equipment can be used to quickly assess lobster condition and health through blood samples.

Two case studies will also be performed to validate the science and techniques: a nutritional experiment with cultured eastern rock lobster juveniles fed a range of diets and a study of the condition of wild stocks of southern rock lobster sampled from both slow and fast-growing Tasmanian populations.

“This project will benefit the lobster fishing and aquaculture industries,” Cedric said.

“Live lobster holding and handling facilities will gain knowledge about their stock’s nutritional status, leading to improved methods for shipping live lobsters.”

In conversation

Taking the talk to the road

The field lies open to talent

One of the defining statements in Open to Talent, the university’s new strategic vision, is the assertion that “Tasmania deserves a world class university.” As the only university on the island, part of a national system in which student mobility remains rare, it falls to UTAS to accept this responsibility. We have chosen to embrace the role.

UTAS is a fine university, forged in the tradition of universities the world over. Yet we are by necessity and design peculiarly and uniquely Tasmanian institution.

Over the past year, much enterprise has been directed to mapping directions for this university over the coming decade. We have chosen to describe the UTAS we aspire to be in 2020, recognising that the pathway to achievement of our ambitions will be subject to factors in the economic, social, political and higher education environment which we cannot control, but for which we need to be equipped to respond.

During the latter part of March, university staff at all campuses attended forums to discuss how our institution is tracking and where our future might lie. It was an opportunity to continue the conversation initiated last year as the genesis of Open to Talent. Communication across the broad and dispersed organisation that is UTAS and that is inclusive of groups outside the university has proven challenging. However, it is our goal to create the commonality of purpose and shared aspirations that imbue our plan with meaning.

Many of the challenges that confront us are shared with other universities, nationally and internationally: uncapping of undergraduate places, capping of pre- and post-graduate courses, research performance and funding, infrastructure and stimulus funding, international student markets, curriculum responsiveness, student experience and administrative support are top of mind issues for Australia’s highest performing institutions.

Open to Talent grapples with the balance between these generic issues and the opportunities that arise from our unique environment and positioning. We have made a commitment to the regions of Tasmania on three campuses, we recognise the importance of research and teaching that reach international standards and we have stated with clarity the relationship we want with community.

I encourage you to make contact with me at: vice.chancellor@utas.edu.au with any feedback.

Peter Rathjen
Vice-Chancellor
www.utas.edu.au/vc

Graduate with grand designs

By Cherie Cooper

International furniture designer BrodieNeill was lucky enough to know from a young age what he wanted to focus his career on.

“I came to university from college, where I was making a few pieces of furniture and literally within the first six weeks of study at the School of Art I understood this was something I loved,” he said on a recent visit to Tasmania.

After gaining his degree at UTAS Brodie completed a masters degree at the Rhode Island School of Design in the US.

From then on, his career has skyrocketed and his elegant and modern furniture pieces have been much lauded.

Brodie’s progressive approach resulted in the much-celebrated E-tune bench and the @ Chair, a design recently included in Time Magazine’s most influential designs.

Other projects of acclaim are the Remix chaise longue and the Revorv chair, both progressive designs that fuse material form with advanced technologies.

His most recent stand-out designs include Closer, a sculptural light form inspired by nature launched at this year’s Milan Furniture Fair, and Glacier: an elegant chaise longue entirely cast in clear glass.

Brodie describes his recent career highlights as consistently exhibiting pieces at the biggest design fairs around the world, including Milan, Paris, New York and London.

Brodie said it was great being surprised by his own creations, in people’s homes or in hotels.

“Sometimes I’m sitting at home watching television and all of a sudden a piece appears on a movie; if it takes you by surprise and catches you out, that’s great.”

While Brodie is London-based, he hasn’t forgotten his Tassie roots.

“Every day I open my mouth and every day I work, I am flying the flag for Tassie owners.”

His family in Tassie doesn’t see him very much but naturally they are “very proud”.

During the visit Brodie, and the recently appointed chief executive of the Australian Sports Commission, Simon Hollingsworth, were both presented with a Foundation Graduate Award by the Chair of the UTAS Foundation, Mr Miles Hampton, for their excellent career achievements.

Brodie also spoke at the UTAS School of Art, where he gained his degree in 2011.
I remember when...  

Community members play up to improve young doctors’ communication skills

"Of course our medical students need a solid grasp of the clinical sciences but the fact remains that most of the complaints they receive as future doctors will be as a result of poor communication with their patients," he said.

At the start of 2012, 10 men and women of various ages began an intensive six-week course in performance skills and improvisation, conducted by drama academic and practitioner Professor Michael Betsford.

Prof. Turner said that working with simulated patients provided an essential bridge between theoretical learning, observation and communicating with real patients.

"I am amazed at the results so far. The impromptu scenarios I saw enacted were deeply moving, authentic and highly instructive," he said.

Recently at MS1 a medical scenario in which a patient, played by Cherie Osborn, was given bad news by a young doctor Lucas Ryan was played out. Looking on and taking notes were two trainer medics, fifth-year students Golsa Adabi and Elvine Neo.

"We have been involved in scenarios before but this is taking it to a new level," said Elvine. "The stimulated patients have the dramatic skills to be able to act out really difficult scenarios."

In this scenario the patient was "pretty aggressive," he said. "It is good to get a feel for what it might be like when we are out in the field. As trainees we do encounter difficult patients when we are visiting wards but often a registrar or resident [doctor] will step in to protect us."

Sometimes it is also nerve-wracking for the stimulated patient, Cherie added, "especially when students are working under exam conditions and you don't want to muck it up for them".

I remember when...
UTAS athletes on track for life success

Four UTAS elite athletes have high-level skills not only in competing nationally and internationally, but in balancing sport and study. LANA BEST reports.

Josh Harris, runner

Josh, 21, has just returned from Poland where he was part of the Australian team contesting the World University Cross Country Championships.

He finished 42nd in a field of more than 100 and the Australian team achieved sixth place overall.

While Josh’s best events are run over five and 10 kms he is versatile enough to be competitive over 1500 m up to a half marathon, and as he ages he will move up to running marathons.

He covers at least 140 km running seven days a week, broken into 10 sessions: seven ‘easy’ 10 km runs and three longer runs up to 26 km.

In the final semester of his Bachelor of Exercise Science degree, Josh has enjoyed working on the North-West Coast on an AFL placement with the State U18 football team while training seven days a week.

He says he has an “average” diet and even a few drinks on the weekend, but he’s determined to go as far as he can with running, admitting that it limits his social life.

“Fail, it’s not in my dictionary. I’ve got a good dictionary up there and the words “fail” and “failure” have been ruled out for years. I don’t know what people are talking about who use that word. All I do know is temporary non-success, even if I’ve got to wait another 20 years for what I’m after, and I try to put that into people, no matter what their object in life.”

Athletics trainer, philosopher and poet Percy Cerutty.

Taylor Wilczynski, rower

Taylor is in the running to represent Australia in the 2012 World Rowing Under 23 Championships in Lithuania in July and this 21-year-old from Devonport and Mersey Rowing Club member has had to overcome two hip operations and a back injury to get back to his best form.

Taylor has taken advantage of the flexibility of his course and dropped back to part-time this semester as his training builds up to around 25 hours per week.

Six mornings a week he’s on the water, afternoons are reserved for cycling, running and other cross-training methods to build his aerobic ability for what is usually a 6–7 minute race.

Taylor has taken advantage of the flexibility of his course as his training builds up to around 25 hours per week.

He was recently invited by the Vice-Chancellor to join the Golden Key International Honours Society as his results in his exercise science degree are consistently in the top 15 per cent.

Taylor will be spectating at the London Olympics but is aiming to compete at the Olympic Games in Rio in 2016.

James Hodge, triathlete

James, 20, is competing in Buselton, WA, in May to contest the 2012 SunSmart Ironman 70.3. He will soon leave for Charles Sturt University to finish his double degree: a Bachelor of Health Science and a Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science.

In 2008 he was goaded by a mate into entering a triathlon with no training behind him. He finished third, and made the Tasmanian team.

A year later James won the state Triathlon Club Series but found cycling training “boring” so gave it up to body build.

His girlfriend encouraged him to return to triathlons and change his plan to study architecture at UTAS to a double degree in health science because he really wanted to be a radiographer!

Last year he joined the Australian team at the World Championship in Beijing and finished a full 3 minute 15 seconds ahead of the other 694 athletes.

He’s since turned pro and still can’t believe he’s keeping up with the likes of world champion triathlete and ironman Chris McCormack.

James is at the Launceston Aquatic Centre at 5.30am most mornings to swim and runs with the Launceston Triathlon Club on Monday nights; the rest of the week he alternates daily running and cycling.

“I try to keep at least two or three weeks ahead in my course to stay on track,” he said.

From borrowing a bike to professional cyclist: UTAS student Alex Clements balances his exercise science study with training. (Photo courtesy Examiner)
Leading educator honoured in Launceston

Professor Rupert MacLean AO, a former UTAS Launceston student who went on to become a world-renowned educator, author and lecturer, has been awarded the 2012 UTAS Distinguished Alumni Award.

Prof. Maclean now holds three concurrent professorial positions at the Hong Kong Institute of Education: Chair Professor of International Education; UNESCO Chair in Technical and Vocational Education and Training; and Director of the Centre for Lifelong Learning Research and Development.

In addition, he holds academic positions in Melbourne, China, the Philippines and as a Visiting Professor and Senior Research Fellow at the University of Oxford.

Dean of the UTAS Faculty of Education Professor Ian Hay said that Prof. Maclean had made a significant contribution not only to issues around poverty and education in developing countries but also within Australia.

“The same issues pertaining to poverty and access and equity in education that are a problem overseas happen in our own backyard – in parts of Australia and even in pockets within our own state,” he said.

“The range of complex issues Prof. Maclean deals with is a common theme and it also echoes the Gonski Report which aligns education growth with the local economy.”

“Despite his overseas appointments, Rupert has maintained close ties with Tasmania, through regular visits and as a visiting lecturer in the UTAS Faculty of Education’s masters program in global education,” Prof. Hay said.

Prof. Maclean enjoys a stellar career in education, both locally and internationally. He has had a highly distinguished 20-year international career with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Since 1990, he has held several significant and prestigious appointments in Yangon, Bangkok, Paris and finally Bonn, where he was the Foundation Director of the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for Education.

His roles with UNESCO were linked by the common purpose of improving education, particularly in developing countries.

His work has included a wide range of challenges, such as creating training models for former Afghan and Liberian child soldiers, improving the promotion of girls and women in rural areas in China, and strengthening and upgrading teacher education in Myanmar.

Prof. Maclean has published widely in his areas of expertise, and is author or co-author of 17 books, numerous chapters in books, research reports, journal articles and papers.

His significant contribution to education internationally was recognised in the 2011 Queen’s Birthday honours list with an Officer of the Order of Australia award for distinguished service to technical and vocational education, particularly through UNESCO.

Bonnie Britton

Bonnie Britton, postgraduate student in the UTAS School of Philosophy, is the 2012 winner of the Gwen Nettlefold Scholarship. The scholarship will support Bonnie through her postgraduate studies.

She studied a Bachelor of Arts followed by honours in philosophy in 2006, achieving first-class results. While she spends a lot of time studying, Bonnie enjoys finding time for bushwalking, gardening and community activities with her husband Carl and two children Romulus and Grace. She also recently trained to be a birth doula (providing non-medical support through a birth) and hopes her research will assist women in better birth experiences.

Jacinta Hamilton

Jacinta Hamilton, originally from north-west Tasmania, is the 16th recipient of the John Kable Memorial Scholarship which gives $5400 a year paid towards HECS for up to four years of study. Jacinta attended Don Academy, Devonport Campus, achieving high results. She is in the second year of a combined business/law degree.

Emilie McDonnell

Emilie McDonnell was awarded the Zoe Ewart Memorial Scholarship in Law for the second year of her Arts/Law degree. The scholarship is valued at $3000 annually for up to four years. As well as achieving excellent academic results Emilie has supported many community activities, including volunteering in Fiji and St Vincent De Paul Outreach camps with refugees. She has also organised activities to promote mental health and the Cancer Council Relay for Life.

Laura Sykes

Laura Sykes has been awarded the Sandy Duncanson Social Justice bursary. Laura has a passion for social justice and aims to assist UTAS to achieve Fairtrade accreditation. Laura’s vision is to grow the movement for Fairtrade on campus with students and staff. She is studying a Bachelor of Arts focusing on international relations. The award of $2,000 will assist Laura with her goals to educate the university community about issues of ethical purchasing and engage with local businesses and community groups. Tasmanian lawyer Alexander (Sandy) Duncanson died in June 2010 aged 37. His family and friends established a fund in his name through the University of Tasmania Foundation. The bursary was launched in 2011 by the Ion-Michael Kirby AC CMG.
Detective work a labour of love

For the love of history. Prof. Rodney Thomson with his three most recent books of which were released in November 2011.

No one could accuse Professor Rodney Thomson of not being methodical. He has completed three exhaustively-researched historical texts, all released in the same month late last year.

A Descriptive Catalogue of the Medieval Manuscripts of Corpus Christi College Oxford (commissioned by the College) describes all of the medieval manuscripts at Corpus Christi College at Oxford University.


The beautifully presented volumes are the result of about five years of hard work. “They were done more or less together but it was accidental that they all came out in the same month,” Prof. Thomson said.

Each publication had to be painstakingly proofread and indeed in quick succession but for the historian it was a labour of love.

“People often talk about automated indexing, you can’t do that, it has to be your own expertise,” he said.

“I do a lot of work with original manuscripts. The distinction between the manuscript and the printed book is that the manuscript is hand-made. No two are identical, each one is unique.”

Prof. Thomson said one of the intriguing aspects of old university books is that having been passed from student to student, the owners often wrote their names in them.

“Sometimes the names have been scratched out as the books changed owners.

“One of the nice pieces of detective work I can do now is use ultraviolet light to reveal the previous owner’s name.

“Sometimes they’re famous people. It’s one of the best things about this kind of research.”

“And almost every time I open a manuscript I find something new. Mostly it’s something little but new, such as the name of a medieval owner no-one saw before.”

Prof. Thomson has since released a fourth book (see below).

UTASbooks


In this social history of Tasmania, as seen through the eyes of five father-son generations, the University of Tasmania is the focus of several chapters. Oscar Biggs managed to cross two professors, finally graduating B.Sc. after eight long years. His son, John (the author) graduated in 1957. He was embroiled in the notorious Orm Case. Some 40 years later, he discovered an interesting take on that case.

Turning over a New Leaf: Change and Development in the Medieval Text


Books before print – manuscripts – were modified continuously throughout the medieval period. Focusing on the ninth and twelfth centuries, this volume explores such material changes as well as the varying circumstances under which handwritten books were produced, used and collected. An important theme is the relationship between the physical book and its users.

Can we reflect on reading practices through an examination of the layout of a text? To what extent can we use the contents of libraries to understand the culture of the book? The volume explores such issues by focusing on a broad palette of texts and through a detailed analysis of manuscripts from all corners of Europe.

Landscape Logic

Edited by Ted Lefroy, Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology, Allan Curtis, Anthony Jakeman and James McKee, CSIRO Publishing, 2012

In 2005, researchers from four Australian universities, including the University of Tasmania, and CSIRO joined forces with environmental managers from three state agencies and six regional catchment management authorities to answer the question: “Can we detect the influence of public environmental programs on the condition of our natural resources?”

Landscape Logic describes how this collaboration of 42 researchers and environmental managers went about the research, what they found and what they learned about the challenge of attributing cause to environmental change. The findings discussed in this volume provide valuable messages for environmental managers, land managers, researchers and policymakers.

Facing the facts on youth issues

Key issues affecting young people in Australia: Tasmanian Senator Lisa Singh, ACYS director Prof. Rob White and Walkabout Industries employee Aaron Henricks at the launch of Face the facts.

A DYNAMIC NEW information series aims to give policymakers, government and community workers stats and facts about key issues affecting young people in Australia.

The Australian Clearinghouse for Youth Studies (ACYS) based at UTAS recently launched the first in the Face the facts series, with the topic of youth disability in Australia. ACYS director Professor Rob White from the School of Sociology and Social Work said disability was a key emerging issue for young people identified by youth workers and policymakers.

“The voices of young people with a disability are rarely heard by the decision-makers,” he said.

“This publication provides relevant information to youth workers and policymakers so that they can support young people living with disability.”

Face the facts – Youth disability is the first release in a new ACYS information series. Each includes a ‘snapshot’ – a short, sharp overview of the issues and facts – and a ‘briefing paper’, an in-depth analysis of the factors involved, their policy implications and what lies ahead for these particular issues.

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Each edition of Face the facts has been prepared in consultation with peak bodies and youth affairs representatives. They respond to growing demand for up-to-date information by policy- and decision-makers about key emerging trends in the youth sector.

Prof. White said the sector had identified an urgent need for this kind of information on a variety of topics. Planned future editions include topics such as youth obesity, young people and income support, and youth homelessness.

The first publication was officially launched at Oak Tasmania’s Walkabout Industries, employing people with disabilities in areas such as paper recycling and mail distribution.
The work

Indigenous art reflects past and present

By LANA BEST

Brigitte Wolfe and Dawn Blazeley are indigenous artists who know how to make an impact with their art.

Their exhibition last month at Leoni Duff Galleries in Launceston, entitled Textures – Past and Present, invited contemplation.

A graduate from the school of Visual and Performing Arts, Dawn’s family background is deeply etched in the Furneaux Group of islands. Her work encourages reflection on the Australian landscape before European settlement.

“At 70 I have travelled my life; now I am collecting all my memories and converting them to art to ensure the Aboriginal’s story is passed on truthfully to my grandchildren and generations beyond,” she said.

Brigitte, who teaches art with UTA’s Riawanunna Maritana program, is close to completing a Bachelor of Contemporary Art Studies and her paintings and mixed media sculptures communi-
cate her feelings about Australia as it is today.

A leather and beaten copper bustier was a particularly impressive piece, with a serious message about all females in the modern world, as well as hint of humour in depicting a super-woman persona.

The amazing combination of mixed media, ink drawings and sculpture has drawn plenty of positive feedback according to gallery director Leoni Duff.

“They are both so different in how they interpret their life journeys and heritage and how they reference that in a contem-
porary setting,” she said.

“It’s been a very successful exhibition, such appealing work and depth of content having brought lots of positive comments from visitors.”

Research hub launched at AMC

Working at the AMC Hub: Student Megan Stride enjoys the new facilities for research and higher degree students at the Newnham campus.

BY KIRSTEN WOOLLEY

THE AUSTRALIAN MARITIME College furthered its commitment to the growth of research within the University of Tasmania with the official opening of its research and higher degree hub by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Paddy Nixon.

The hub, which formerly housed the AMC, library, has been redesigned to provide space and facilities for research and higher degree candidates from schools across the northern campus of the university.

Acting Principal of AMC Professor Neil Bose said that as well as providing space for the AMC’s burgeoning research higher degree candidate numbers, the hub could also be an ideal way to encourage cross-discipline research on campus.

“At AMC we aim to more than double our research and higher degree candidate numbers by 2015 and have invested in a scholarship program designed to encourage new students,” Prof. Bose said.

Prof. Nixon said that research students are the life blood of any research university.

“The establishment of this hub on the Newnham campus is a key step to providing the necessary world-class facilities our researchers need,” he said.

The hub’s launch showcased a cross-section of AMC’s research capacity with six short research presentations by candidates on topics ranging from fish skin disease to the slamming behaviour of high-speed catamarans.

What’s on

EXHIBITIONS

4-25 MAY

Exhibition: Work, Place and Change

In 2002 the Academy Gallery established a volunteer membership program of proactive students and members of the wider community. Work, Place and Change will celebrate the ethos of the volunteer club and acknowledge their hard work.

Venue: Gallery C, Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, Inveresk campus

Information: Malcolm.Bywaters@utas.edu.au

4-25 MAY

Exhibition: Phototopic

Penelope Davis produces photographic images without a camera. By moulding and casting objects in materials such as resin and silicone, detailed copies are produced. These are then placed on photographic paper and exposed to coloured light to create ‘photograms’ or, more recently, placed in a scanner and subjected to digital manipulations. Penelope Davis has exhibited widely throughout Australia and overseas.

Phototopic is presented as part of the Academy Gallery Master Artist Program.

Venue: Galleries A, B and C, Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, Inveresk campus

Information: Malcolm.Bywaters@utas.edu.au

4-29 JUNE

Exhibition: How, MCA and PhD Assessment Presentations

See the diversity of contemporary artwork produced by the SVPa postgraduate student cohort.

As part of the Academy Gallery policy of student engagement the exhibition spaces are used for honours and masters degree assessment presentations. In June this is an excellent opportunity for the wider community to see the diversity of contemporary artwork produced by School of Visual and Performing Arts postgraduate students.

Venue: Galleries A, B and C, Academy Gallery, University of Tasmania, Inveresk campus

Information: Malcolm.Bywaters@utas.edu.au

PUBLIC LECTURE

10 MAY

Science and Technology

10:30am

Surfing the Kondratieff Wave

A free public lecture by visiting scholar to UTAS, Prof. Daniel Sarewitz. In this lecture, Professor Sarewitz will discuss the sorts of science and technology policies that might help meet the needs of Tasmania in the broader context of a globalising technological society.

Time: 6-7:30pm

Venue: Stanley Burbury Lecture Theatre, University Centre, Churchill Avenue, Sandy Bay campus

Information: Dr Peat Leith: Peat.Leith@utas.edu.au

For a complete list of, or to contribute to, What’s on visit: www.utas.edu.au. Contributions are free but may be edited.