2011 a year of exciting collaborations at Inveresk

Professors Marie Sierra and Roger Fay are ignoring traditional boundaries: The Schools of Visual and Performing Arts and Architecture and Design are collaborating on everything from course design to overseas marketing.

And if a planned 2011 scoping exercise into establishing screen studies in VPA comes up with positive answers, a new big project with advantages for both schools and the Launceston community could begin over the next couple of years.

Their corresponding deans, professors Margaret Britz of Science, Engineering and Technology and Susan Dodds of Arts, are fully supportive, recognising the natural synergies between the two schools.

According to Prof. Britz: “This is a great example of how the university can grow its intellectual strengths through collaboration and a willingness to stretch the boundaries – or indeed define new ones.”

Prof. Sierra says the changes are already finding a sense of energy and vibrancy among the staff and students.

“The schools already have a successful joint elective unit in ceramics and architecture, developed by Ian Clayton and Zaibet Faladi,” she said.

The most tangible evidence of the collaboration is the Launceston Assistance and Resource Centre (LARC), a street-front office and exhibition/workspace in Launceston’s central George St, situated on real projects under the direction of a registered architect.

LARC was established by architect Christie Dentman to address the needs of clients and client groups who normally do not have the resources to engage an architectural practice.

“It’s a contemporary design office environment for students working on real projects under the direction of a registered architect,” she said.

A projected theatre set design course may also entice some of the 18 Launceston-based theatre companies and students from across Australia for whom there is provision nowhere else.

Above all, the drive for this collaboration is coming from the relationship between the two heads of schools, whose vision and enthusiasm is being bounced back at them by academic staff.

Arts dean Prof. Susan Dodds looks forward to a successful future for the two schools: “I’d expect that these cross-school, cross-faculty interdisciplinary developments will draw students and researchers to the Inveresk campus, reinforcing its status as a unique centre for art, design and performance in Tasmania.”
Maryam wins one for the girls

A career in designing oil tankers: AMC naval architecture student Maryam Pauzi has won the prestigious Cummins Excellence in Maritime Engineering Award. (Photo courtesy of The Examiner)

By NICOLE MAYNE

A n Australian Maritime College student whose future career is designing tankers for the oil and gas industry has won one of the AMC’s most prestigious industry-sponsored awards.

Third-year Bachelor of Engineering (Naval Architecture) student Maryam Pauzi was presented with the Cummins Excellence in Maritime Engineering Award, the first female to receive it and only one of two women in her course.

Her prize is a week-long study tour to Cummins’ research and manufacturing facilities in Columbus, Indiana. Accompanied by the previous two years’ recipients, Jacob Gerke and Ashley Jones, she will also visit major shipyard and offshore facilities, gaining exposure to the maritime industry outside Australia.

Maryam said receiving the accolade was a huge honour and the study trip would allow her to gain invaluable experience in her chosen profession.

“I am looking forward to meeting professionals in the field and seeing how naval architects go about building their ships in American shipyards, because every country is different,” she said.

Cummins South Pacific State Manager Rob Criggie said Maryam displayed the qualities they were looking for in an award recipient.

“More than simply recognising academic excellence, this award is granted to a student who shows leadership, creativity and potential,” he said.

“Maryam has a bright future ahead of her and Cummins is pleased to continue its support of engineering talent at a grassroots level.”

On completing her studies next year Maryam will return to her native Malaysia to pursue a career in naval architecture.

“My deepest gratitude goes to Cummins for this opportunity and I hope it will be a great morale booster for women in engineering everywhere,” she said.

On campus

Bee-ware moment at Newnham

A swarm of bees created a spectacle at the Newnham campus recently after it settled on the wall of the English Language Centre. Ron Rushton, a 20-year beekeeping veteran was called in to deal with the swarm, which he said was a common phenomenon at this time of year.

Mr Rushton managed to coax the swarm into a portable hive and said he would add it to one of his existing hives – he has more than 300 dotted around northern Tasmania.

The swarm that dropped in on the Newnham campus recently after it settled on the wall of the English Language Centre.

Do you have a tidbit for ‘Our people’? Email news snippets on UTAS people to: media.Office@utas.edu.au and mark your email subject: ‘Our people’. 

Our people

David Clerk

David Clerk recently began his appointment with UTAS as the Executive Director Finance. Previously he was executive general manager business strategy at Jemena, in the energy sector. He has also worked at Mars Confectionery, TKU and PricewaterhouseCoopers. David graduated from UTAS with a Bachelor of Commerce (1989).

Sue Dodds

Professor Dodds, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, has been appointed by the Federal Government to the National Enabling Technologies Stakeholder Advisory Council. The council will review new technologies such as biotechnology and nanotechnology to inform the implementation of the $12.2 million National Enabling Technologies Strategy in climate change, medicine, IT and industry.

Judi Walker

Professor Walker has taken up a professional position at Monash University as the head of school and Professor of Rural Health. Prof. Walker made a significant contribution in establishing the University Department of Rural Health and the Rural Clinical School at UTAS. She was inaugural Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning) and deputy dean for the past eight years, serving as deputy chair of Academic Senate.

Margaret Otlowski

Professor Otlowski, Dean of Law, recently represented the Centre for Law and Genetics at the International Data Sharing Conference held in Oxford in the UK. She met colleagues from the US, Canada, Singapore and the UK to plan the next “Making Connections” workshop in Montreal next year and was an invited speaker for the World Federation of Right to Die Societies’ international conference in Melbourne.

Geraldine Castleton

Associate Professor Castleton has been appointed Dean of the School of Education at the University of South Australia. As head of the UTAS School of Education, she helped reshape and redirect the faculty’s study programme to meet national standards. Education dean Professor Ian Hay said Assoc. Prof. Castleton also played a major role in enhancing the faculty’s presence and offerings at the Cradle Coast campus.

Unitas

Unitas is the monthly newsletter of the University of Tasmania. It is printed in soy-based ink, the stock which is 80 per cent recycled and 20 per cent total chlorine-free pulp (FSC Mixed Source Certified). Aluminium printing plates are also recycled after use.

Circulation: 1,500 Editor Sharon Webb 03 6226 2591 Email Media.Office@utas.edu.au Production ACIF 03 6226 2591

Contributions are welcome, but items with a broad appeal will be given priority. The Editor reserves the right to edit copy or hold it over for a later issue and/or to decline to publish contributed material. The opinions expressed in Unitas are not necessarily those of UTAS. For a list of Unitas deadlines and guidelines, visit us at www.utas.edu.au/events/unitas.html

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Longford's racetrack recreated courtesy of the HITLab

180mph time machine: Shannon Woolley’s simulation of the Longford race track, created in the UTAS HITLab, delighted former Longford motor racing enthusiasts.

By Luke Scott

A Launceston-based Bachelor of Arts student who has a flair for computing has created a virtual simulation of the historic Longford motor racing circuit. Shannon Woolley built the 3D simulation in his spare time, recreating every detail of the Tasmanian track which was a racing hotspot during the 1950s and 1960s.

Shannon is majoring in human interface technology through the School of Computing and Information Systems. In its heyday motor racing at Longford was enormously popular, with greats like Jack Brabham, Jim Clark, John Surtees and Bruce McLaren all competing there. According to former driver Mike McIvor the track was a dangerous one with some vehicles reaching speeds of more than 180 miles per hour. Both Mr McIvor and former Longford Motor Racing Association secretary Ian Carins said they were stunned by the level of detail in the simulation when they saw it in action recently at the HITLab.

"You can't fault it really," Mr McIvor said of the virtual track. "I raced FX Holdens out there from 1965 to 1968, it was a pretty hairy track. When you went over the long bridge divers were in the water either side of the bridge in case you went through the rails."

"The best in the world raced there. Seeing this makes us wish they'd bring it all back."

The simulator project took more than 18 months to complete, with Shannon often working up to 16 hours a day in his spare time to finish it. Since releasing the virtual track online, it has been downloaded more than 10,000 times by racing simulator enthusiasts around the world.

"I didn't know much about the Longford race circuit until I started researching it," Mr Woolley said.

"I had to do a lot of research; I found a website that had several hundred photos of Longford from the race weekend, back then and that was crucial. There was also a book floating around the library which I found useful, along with a few videos."

While Shannon did the majority of the work on the track himself, he said he had also received help from Longford racing enthusiasts and members of the online racing community.

HITLab interim co-director of management Dr Daniel Rolf said Shannon's project showed how flexible the HITLab's technology could be.

"For example, instead of requiring expensive, dedicated equipment for ship or flight simulators the VisionSpace can be used as part of a configurable environment to satisfy multiple uses," Dr Rolf said.

"You are seeing this as a motor racing track but there is no reason why different periods of history cannot be recreated like this."

"Here you are driving a car, but it could be anything – an aeroplane, a ship, you name it."

"It is an interactive way of immersing yourself in history, getting a sense of what a place was like, what a certain time was like."

Into the future for the HITLab

School of Computing and Information Systems head Dr Julian Dermedosy hopes 2011 will prove a big year for the HITLab.

"The HITLab in 2011 will offer elective units, a minor, a major, a graduate certificate, a diploma and graduate diploma, a coursework masters, honours, and research higher degree masters and PhD programs," Dr Dermedosy said.

"It's a flagship program for Newnham but it will expand to other UTAS campuses. The school welcomes a proposed investment in additional staff. The school proposes a new curriculum, an additional postgraduate staff position to greatly enhance the HITLab's ability to expand its research reach and performance and to engage with stakeholders, particularly in the southern region," Dr Dermedosy said.

"The school remains hopeful of additional staff in Launceston where the HITLab teaching program is based, but is working to manage the delivery of the program."

"While it is true that the new positions have been nominated for Hobart, the investment is indicative of the University's long-term commitment to the lab and to the school more broadly.

"A strong ICT base is essential to many fields of research. The school is hopeful that these new positions will be filled shortly and that additional positions will be made available in Launceston."

Farewell colleagues, one and all

Eight years ago when I walked into the University of Tasmania I felt a tangible sense of this community's receptiveness to innovation and willingness to embrace change.

As I leave this place that excitement has not palled, nor has my enthusiasm and belief in the ability of that can-do attitude emanating from the people here to deliver the best outcomes, not only for UTAS but also for Tasmania.

I leave UTAS content that I have given my all during my journey as Vice-Chancellor, and that I can pass the baton, so to speak, to Vice-Chancellor designate Professor Peter Rathjen, knowing that this organisation is brim full of self-confidence, self-belief and positivity for the future.

When I first came to Tasmania, I met the then premier, Jim Bacon. When we were talking about the state's poor higher education retention rates, he asked me, "Well, what are you going to do about it?"

And I promised him there and then that I would set a path of growth for this University to make it more inclusive and accessible for as wide as possible a cross-section of the community, that I would hunt down investment and that I would empower the team here to lift the profile of Tasmanian research and teaching nationally and internationally.

The only way I could do that was through the good fortune to have an extraordinary collective of talent in the people here and a shared ambition, not only with the UTAS community but also with the political will of both state and federal members and along with industry and business interests.

Our boldest step was to design a strategic plan to carry that agenda forward. It became known as the EDGE agenda, based around Excellence, Distinctiveness, Growth and Engagement. These have been four key words through which every strategic action has been guided, not only for UTAS but also for Tasmania.

I leave UTAS content that I have given my all, content that I have played some small part in the 120-year history and its future. With my departure, the EDGE agenda will come to the next agenda will be unveiled and I look forward to seeing this organisation is brim full of self-confidence, self-belief and positivity for the future.

I have been privileged to have been at the helm of UTAS and to have been living in Tasmania during an exceptional time. With my wife, Jo, I have met some truly remarkable and talented people, many of whom will remain friends as we move back to Victoria.

I would like to thank my colleagues here at UTAS, in state and federal government and in business and industry; the stakeholders, without any doubt, within the Tasmanian community. It has been an amazing ride, one which would not have been possible without your support, your enthusiasm and your trust.

Warm regards,

Daryl Le Grew

Vice-Chancellor

Professor Daryl Le Grew

www.utas.edu.au/vc
Hobart’s council lacking ‘grace or grasp’ on cottage demolition issue

PROMESSOR OF HISTORY PAM SHARPE says she is tiring of defending built heritage against local government that seems to lack grace or grasp...

New training unit sees AMC expand into Perth

by Nicole Mayne

Australia’s national institute for maritime education, training and research, the Australian Maritime College (AMC), has set up camp in Perth.

AMC opened an internationally accredited Dynamic Positioning Operator Training Facility in Northbridge, Western Australia, on 22 November.

Dynamic Positioning (DP) is a computer controlled system which maintains a vessel’s position and heading by using its propellers and thrusters, in conjunction with environmental data, to calculate the effect of wind, wave and currents. It is frequently used by offshore supply vessels to hold position without the use of an anchor, and by large cruise ships for mooring off beaches or inaccessible ports.

DP operators are in high demand in the offshore oil and gas industry and this investment follows the successful opening of AMC’s first DP unit in Launceston last year. Before that Australians had to travel overseas to gain the necessary accredited training.

AMC Search chief executive officer John Foster said the decision to base a second DP unit in Perth was based on industry demand.

“I expect that the facility will be a more convenient location than Tasmania for many potential trainees who work in the burgeoning offshore oil and gas industry in Western Australia,” Mr Foster said.

“AMC believes that having practising DP operators delivering the training enhances the realism and relevancy of the learning experience for trainees.”

The AMC DP unit will soon to offer a series of non-traditional DP courses, including technical courses.

Role at UTAS

I’m doing a 12-month business administration traineeship. As the title suggests, I assist with many different aspects of the general running of the office (AKA the Fishbowl).

Best about job/area

The people. Everyone here in education is very friendly and supportive. It’s a great team to be a part of.

Things that make me laugh

Hearing a funny story about one of my friends (or a funny one about me, for that matter!).

Ambitions

To finish my traineeship and then either find a funny one about me, for that matter!)

Favourite subject at school

Music! I used to miss other classes just to spend more time in music.

When I’m not working

I usually spend my time with friends, exercising, reading, watching movies or playing drums.

Favourite hobby

Playing drums. I’ve been playing for eight years now. I’m still not very good but it’s loads of fun.

Secret talent

Making styfry.

Reading

At the moment I am reading Necronomicon: The Best Weird Tales of H.P. Lovecraft by H.P. Lovecraft.

Listening to

Right now – Lamb of God and Metallica (getting ready for their concert in Melbourne!).

Holiday

I would really like to visit Vietnam, Russia and New Zealand.

Contact

NICOLE MAYNE

AMC DP Unit, University of Tasmania, Hobart

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Next Edition: The submission deadline for the March issue of Unitas is 11 February

Contact

Unitas

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Up close

Jed Tyberek

Administrative Assistant, Faculty of Education, Newnham

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Unitas
An energised UTAS: the Le Grew era

Professor John Williamson

In one of many speeches farewelling UTAS Vice-Chancellor Daryl Le Grew, Prof John Williamson from the Faculty of Education analyses the ‘Le Grew era’..."cademics often refer to the ‘life’ of their institutions by referring to the tenure of their vice-chancellor. So what does the Le Grew era look like? Daryl, from the time of interview for the job and when he took office, spoke of UTAS as an institution respected and engaged with its local community, where the core values of learning and teaching, the creation and dissemination of knowledge, and respect for critical enquiry and comment would be at the centre of his vision. We were fortunate that we had the man with the qualities of openness, humour, warmth and empathy to help move the vision into reality. It must be said also that these ambitions for the university and the personal qualities have led to many of us smiling over our Sunday breakfast as we read the local newspapers to ‘see’ what it was that UTAS was going to do next.

Many will highlight in the Le Grew era the wonderful advocacy of Daryl in Canberra and elsewhere which has resulted in a raft of new buildings and facilities – and the reshaping of many of our urban landscapes. This is, if you like, a physical reminder. My highlights, however, are less physically tangible; in the longer term though I think they may be more enduring. Daryl has been committed to the idea of participation in higher education for all with talent and motivation and has steered the development of national policy at the national level. He has also seen the facilitation of learning through scholarly based, high quality teaching as an activity to be championed and rewarded.

Finally, Daryl arrived at UTAS when we had lost some direction. He has provided a vision through the EDGE Agenda that has energised the whole University and will continue to shape our strategic thinking for years to come.

In sum, the Le Grew era has been one of confidence in ourselves and the successful meeting of many challenges, and a culture and style of working together that seeks to challenge us all to do our best within a supportive framework.

These achievements – and the many hours required to bring them to fruition – depend upon strong family support. Daryl’s wife Jo has been a wonderful partner to Daryl in his role as VC and, in her own right, a terrific ambassador for UTAS.

We wish Daryl and Jo a wonderfully creative and busy ‘retirement’.

First nervous day at UTAS: Chancellor Mike Vertigan greets Professor Daryl Le Grew and Jo Le Grew on the Vice-Chancellor’s first day on the job in 2003.

Checking out Sim Man: Professor Le Grew practises his bedside manner in 2007 with Sim Man, a nursing simulation mannequin, and Professor Denise Fassett, head of the School of Nursing and Midwifery.

Thanks to an inspiring leader

UTAS Chancellor Mr Damian Bugg paid tribute to Professor Daryl Le Grew as a leader who has led and inspired the university community. “Daryl Le Grew is a glass-half-filled person, an optimistic, energetic and inspirational leader,” he said.

“Daryl encouraged us to excel, to pitch to our strengths, to embrace an aggressive growth strategy and to engage with our community.”

Mr Bugg said that under Prof. Le Grew’s leadership the university had grown in size and confidence.

“It is better positioned to serve the community of Tasmania and Australia, it has an international footprint which has grown both on and off shore,” he said. Mr Bugg said that Prof. Le Grew had set aggressive targets and he had used his influence to the university’s advantage.

“[Daryl] believed we had to use the distinctiveness of our positioning and concentrate on the strengths we already had to obtain that edge,” he said.

“One such strength was our advantage of being a single university state. We already had a good relationship with the State Government but we had to improve that.”

Mr Bugg said Prof. Le Grew clearly achieved that outcome, with the Premier also congratulating him on his term as Vice-Chancellor during a speech in State Parliament.

Commitment to education shared

Tasmanian Premier David Bartlett paid tribute to Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew in State Parliament last month.

“I wish to pay special tribute to Professor Daryl Le Grew,” he said.

“When I think about Prof. Le Grew, I am reminded of the words of Nelson Mandela who said, ‘a good man has died, he lived a good life, and always a formidable combination’.

“Prof. Le Grew has shown himself to be someone who thinks big, acts strategically and is able to engage with and inspire the Tasmanian community.”

Mr Bartlett said that Prof. Le Grew’s expertise in architecture ‘galvanized a dialogue in this state’ about Tasmania’s built environment, especially in relation to the University’s presence throughout this state.

“Prof. Le Grew has worked closely with the government and this has allowed us to build a strong relationship between the government and the university.”

Mr Bartlett said the government and the university have shared a common vision for higher education in this state, as had he and Prof. Le Grew.

“IT is a vision that has seen increased participation rates, a wider range of educational pathways, and further expansion of the university campus throughout Tasmania,” he said.

Prof. Le Grew and I have shared a very good and very productive relationship – we share a vision of Tasmania as a place where education is held in the highest regard and where excellence is of the utmost importance.

“We also share a commitment to innovation and we both value Tasmania’s potential as a hothouse for study and significant research.”

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Korean students see Tassie through the eyes of locals

BY MICHELLE NICHOLS

A trio of university students from Korea on a study exchange credit a UTAS program for helping them get through initial loneliness — and for opening a whole new world of local experiences.

Mihyun Kim, Jin Suk Kim and Yejin Bae came to Tasmania for a year on an exchange as part of their studies in education. Keen to improve their English and make friends, they found it difficult to make connections.

“I felt nobody cared for me and I didn’t know much about Tasmania. It was a tough start. These guys [other girls] were the only ones I could depend on. I really wanted to meet Australians,” said Yejin Bae.

The Community Friends and Networks Program (CFNP) was a chance to meet locals and get to know Hobart and southern Tasmania through the eyes of someone who lives here. The program began at UTAS in 2009 in the Support and Equity Unit and aims to link “new to town” students into the wider community with people who share combined interests and mutual ideas.

“Students are matched up with local individuals, couples or families who invite them into their lives and introduce them to their community. The three girls joined in November and were matched up with two Tasmanian couples.

“Now I can go to the city or places nearby like Salamanca and I see people I know to have a coffee with them,” Jin Suk Kim said. “I’ve made a lot of friends.”

Common activities included bushwalks and food, as the girls and the couples took turns to prepare meals for each other.

“We cooked Korean noodles and tried lots of different Australian food. We enjoyed it all,” Jin Suk Kim said.

CFNP co-coordinator Laura Della-Fasquio said one of the girls mentioned that one of the most exciting moments was when they were able to share humour. “She realised: Oh we are having a joke — we really are friends.”

The girls want to become teachers of English. Mihyun Kim says she is now very excited about teaching English in Korea, and will encourage her students to learn to handle queries relating to English and make connections. In presenting a professional profile, the students are expected to improve their English and make connections, and be exposed to the workplace, to improve their English and make connections.

“The program provides a student with a mentor and helps them to learn more about the individual career pathway they wish to pursue. The aim is to equip students with the skills to develop a professional identity.”

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UTAS students willing and able to experience workplace culture

BY MICHELLE NICHOLS

Third-year Bachelor of Tourism student Claire Cenin likes to talk to people and a new UTAS-run program is helping her gain the vital work-related experiences students need to secure her career as a travel agent.

Throughout 2010, 11 UTAS students with a disability have been matched to mentors from the public, private, industry and community sector through the Willing and Able Mentoring Program (WAM).

National Disability Coordination Officer in the UTAS Support and Equity Unit Debbie Hindle said WAM was developed because students with a disability frequently finish their education with little experience of the work environment or understanding of the skills they need to develop in order to start a career.

“The program provides a student with a mentor and helps them to learn more about the individual career pathway they wish to pursue,” Debbie said. “The aim is to equip students with the skills to develop a professional identity.”

WAM is a national program originating at Deakin University, providing a program of six to eight meetings that focus on career development. It offers an experience of workplace culture; skills in presenting a professional profile (such as how to write resumes etc.); networks within the industry; information about the career environment and clarity about career direction.

For eight weeks, Claire was offered mentoring by the Federal Group where she spent time in their contact centre, learning to handle queries relating to Federal properties across the state.

“It has been a good opportunity to get exposure to the workplace,” Claire said.

“My time in the call centre has helped to show me what’s involved, though my preference is to talk to people face to face.”

Claire was mentored by Rachel Moore from Federal Group who helped give Claire an insight into the workings of one of the Tasmania’s largest employers.

“It was difficult to know how to prepare for these and try to work out what the questions might be. But it was also really good to be able to get some experience attending interviews,” Claire said.

Rachel also passed on tips on self-marketing and advice on how Claire can work to get herself known in the industry she would like to work in.

The National Disability Coordination Officer program is a funding initiative of the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.
Exhibitions

UTAS contemporary artists

The University of Tasmania’s two art schools displayed student work in their graduate shows marking the end of the year.

The Tasmanian School of Art graduate show, Future legends, and the School of Visual and Performing Arts’ show, Make me a sandwich, featured examples of electronic media, furniture design, graphic design, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture.

The exhibitions celebrated the artistic achievements of more than 170 students.

Future legends was opened by Mark Fraser, Director of the Museum of Old and New Art; Make me a sandwich was opened by the head of school, Professor Marie Sierra.

Mannequin, by Laura Drury: (Left) This piece primarily revolves around the portrayal of my alter-ego. Through self-portraiture, I present the audience with a feminine fantasy. Elaborate styling of costume and specific location work to captivate the viewer, as each image depicts a specific characteristic of my most inner sanctum. These highly saturate large scale prints each present a compelling, flamboyant array of my concealed self. (Bachelors of Fine Arts, Hobart)

Untitled, by Lee Harper: (Right) I cover objects to remove their facade, stripping each object back to the individual almost biological forms to reveal their identity. Brightly coloured banal household items appear as domesticated ‘aminalistic’ objects whose relationship with the viewer transforms between playful representations of ‘creatures’ and objects of ‘fetish’ that contain quirky novelty values within contemporary suburban sub-cultures. The pastel coloured intimate objects assume familial representations which when grouped position viewers to consider their own perceptions and meanings of individual identity in families. (Bachelor of Contemporary Arts, Inveresk)

World Beyond the Horizon, by Simon Bourke: (Right) This work explores the way people witness and experience variations of light falling on a landscape. I used the case study of the 1979 Mt Erebus disaster in Antarctica to explore degraded visual functioning, a condition resulting from variable perceptual experiences. The landscape of Northern Tasmania was surveyed from the cockpit of an aircraft – the ‘flight view’, where sound recordings and video data were collected as raw material for the project. The intention was to explore ways that I can create an immersive video installation that conveys the sense of personal escape and connection with the landscape while flying. (PhD in Visual and Performing Arts, Inveresk)

Untitiled, by Ros Hokanson: (Above) This work seeks to discuss the many layers and facets of memory. I am interested in exploring the relationship between the physical act of remembering and the elusive ephemeral emotions that trigger and recall events experienced in the past. With the use of multi-layered forms utilising colour to express both the passage of time and the frequent lucidity of experience, I intend to engage the viewer with images of varying depths. This allows for the impression of looking through time into a fragment of memory. (Bachelor of Fine Arts, Hobart)
**Rhodes Scholar aims to enrich the lives of others**

**BY CHERIE COOPER**

A combination of compassion, dedication, and perseverance characterises the winner of the 2011 Rhodes Scholarship, 23-year-old Elizabeth Murray.

Elizabeth said she takes great satisfaction in helping others.

“I believe that ending the day with the knowledge that you have enriched someone else’s life is one of the most fulfilling experiences a person can know,” she said.

Elizabeth was recently presented with the Rhodes Scholarship at Government House, accompanied by her mother and grandmother, who were both extremely proud of her achievement.

Elizabeth hopes to enrich the lives of others through the advancement of neuroscience.

“I plan to undertake a Masters of Science in Neuroscience at Oxford University to investigate the recovery of function after brain damage,” she said.

At UTAS Elizabeth completed a Bachelor of Psychology with first class honours in 2009.

Elizabeth said her life experience and studies have led her to develop a passion for neuroscience with a view to becoming a researcher/practitioner in clinical neuropsychology.

Born in Launceston, Elizabeth completed part of her degree at the UTAS Newnham campus but completed the final year of her undergraduate degree and her honours year in Hobart.

Throughout her time at UTAS Elizabeth achieved consistently excellent results and was placed on the Dean’s Roll of Excellence every year of her undergraduate degree.

She was awarded the University Medal in 2009.

Elizabeth was also awarded the Dean’s Citation for the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology for outstanding academic performance in undergraduate and Honours courses.

While at UTAS Elizabeth worked casually for the University’s Peer Assisted Study Sessions Program, supporting first-year students studying psychology – and won a national Peer Leader Award for this role in 2009.

As well as her academic pursuits, Elizabeth is passionate about travelling and recently returned from a solo trip around the world. She wrote segments of her Rhodes application in different locations along the way.

She has participated in a wide range of volunteer activities, including volunteer dog walking at the RSPCA, hamper-packing with St Vincent de Paul and assisting underprivileged children in sail training onboard the Young Endeavour Sail Training Ship.

Elizabeth also loves classic literature, the theatre and is passionate about sport. She enjoys netball, orienteering, cross country and athletics, but says rowing is her “one true love.”

**Education Faculty awards 2010**

The Faculty of Education hosted its annual student awards evenings in October, at which students from all three campuses were awarded prizes and certificates in recognition of their outstanding academic achievements.

Michael Voss, who graduated last year from the Cradle Coast campus with an Honours degree in education, was this year’s recipient of the T.E. Doe Prize in Education for best overall performance by a full-time first degree student in the Bachelor of Education program.

Michael was also awarded the Mathematics Association of Tasmania Prize for the highest achievement in mathematics education units in B. Teach primary.

The Faculty of Education, Associate Professor Brian Pirkis Memorial Medal: Katrina Mclab. B. Ed. honours graduate with the highest GPA in final year.

Terry Woodward Memorial Prize: Belinda King. Third-year student with outstanding results in arts education.

Institute of Technology Education Prize: Ian Digney. Top graduating student in secondary technology education specialisation.

Australian Literacy Educators’ Association Literacy Education Award: Sarah Hampton. Excellence in literacy teaching and learning.

Mathematics Association of Tasmania Prize: Michael Voss. Highest achievement in mathematics education units in the B. Ed.

Mathematics Association of Tasmania Prize: Therese Smith. Highest achievement in mathematics education units in B. Teach middle school.

Mathematics Association of Tasmania Prize: Marcus Balsiger. Highest achievement in mathematics education units in B. Teach primary.

Mathematics Association of Tasmania Prize: Belinda Tyrell. Highest achievement in mathematics education units in B. Teach secondary.

T.E. Doe Prize in Education: Michael Voss. Best overall performance by a full-time first degree student in the Bachelor of Education program.

Education IV Prize: Myra Hawkins. Greatest proficiency in curriculum studies in final year B.Ed.

John Andrew Johnson Memorial Prize: Angela Deconinck. Greatest proficiency in B. Teach professional studies.

Home Economics Institute of Australia (Tas) Inc. Muriel Marshal Memorial Prize: Allison Clark. The most outstanding final year student in food and textiles technology.

Brian Pirkis Memorial Medal: Katrina McIab. B. Ed. honours graduate with the highest GPA in final year.

Twelve outstanding UTAS Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) leaders have been recognised nationally for their contribution to student learning.

Loren Atkins with PASS program coordinator, Dr Jane Skalicky of CALT, and Kate Picone. Kate won the award in the new leader category. Kate is studying a Bachelor of Marine Science and commenced as a PASS leader at UTAS this year, running PASS sessions for plant biology and ecology. Not only was this Kate’s first year as a leader, it was also the first year that PASS was offered in the discipline of plant science, and Kate was the only leader supporting the unit. Kate won her award in the new leader category.

The judges from the International Centre for Supplemental Instruction at the University of Kansas City, Missouri, commented on the strength of the applicants overall and with PASS programs running in more than 30 universities across the Australasian region, it is a mark of the quality of the UTAS program and its leaders, that we should be so successful.

**High-achieving students PASS on their knowledge to peers**

Two outstanding UTAS Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) leaders have been recognised nationally for their contribution to student learning.

Loren Atkins and Kate Picone were two of only eight leaders across the Australasian region to receive national Peer Leader Achievement Awards in recognition of excellence and contribution to student learning at the 2010 Gold Coast ceremony.

The UTAS PASS Program is coordinated by Dr Jane Skalicky from the UTAS Centre for the Advancement of Learning and Teaching (CALT) and has this year employed 46 high-achieving students in the role of PASS leader and has been on offer to more than 4,000 UTAS students.

Loren is studying a combined Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Law degree and has been working in the UTAS PASS Program for three years, initially as a PASS leader in zoology, and for the past two years as a senior PASS mentor, supporting a group of PASS leaders across a range of discipline areas. Loren won her award in the senior leader category.

Kate is studying a Bachelor of Marine Science and commenced as a PASS leader at UTAS this year, running PASS sessions for plant biology and ecology. Not only was this Kate’s first year as a leader, it was also the first year that PASS was offered in the discipline of plant science, and Kate was the only leader supporting the unit. Kate won her award in the new leader category.

Greatness is just around the corner: 2011 Rhodes Scholar Elizabeth Murray and UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew.
High-achieving students get a taste of uni life

Cameron Ritchie had no trouble settling into UTAS life after taking part in the High Achiever Program.

New scholarships to benefit NW radiographers

Announcement of the Elphinstone scholarships: Professor Judi Walker, Rural Clinical School, Dale and Cheryl Elphinstone, The Elphinstone Group; Professor Madeleine Ball, School of Human Life Sciences; Jane Holden, North West Area Health Service; UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew.

Training tomorrow’s leaders

Leading the way: Elizabeth Park completed the Vice-Chancellor’s Leadership Award.

By Merian Ellis

North-West coast students wanting to pursue a career in medical radiation sciences will benefit from a new scholarship program designed to ensure the North-West Coast retains university graduates with the skills to pursue careers in medical imaging or radiography.

The Elphinstone Scholarship in Medical Radiation Sciences was recently launched by UTAS, the Elphinstone Group, the Tasmanian Government and the North West Area Health Service (NWAHS).

The banded scholarship is worth $1.2 million and will run for six years.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daryl Le Grew, welcomed the announcement saying that the scholarships would provide significant financial support to students to pursue studies in medical radiation sciences.

In 2011, scholarships will be offered to two North-West students, one to a second-year student and the other to a Year 12 student, who gain a place to study a Bachelor of Health Science/Medical Radiation Science (Medical Imaging).

The Elphinstone Scholarship covers all HECS fees, accommodation, transport and other associated costs, including textbooks, for the duration of the students’ studies. During university holidays students will be given employment in medical imaging with the NWAHS.

The students will enter into a contract with the NWAHS to work in the North-West region for a three-year period, beginning within five years of graduation, subject to employment positions being available within that time.

With no course costs, students can obtain possible credit towards a relevant UTAS degree and the marks can also contribute to the calculation of a student’s Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

When I began my degree at UTAS in 2009, it felt like home.”

Manager of Student Recruitment and Marketing, Jo Bailey, said the program has been very successful since it first started in 2004.

“The number of participants in the High Achiever Program has continued to grow. This year has seen the largest intake to date, with more than 30 students participating in the program, and we are optimistic that this level of interest will continue into 2011, Ms Bailey said.

For Cameron the experience was “I talked to some of my friends who studied English and classics as part of the program and they had a great experience of lectures. With Japanese classes were taught in a small classroom rather than a lecture theatre: I got a good insight into self-paced learning as assignment dates were given in advance so I could plan ahead.”

This year Cameron has joined the Student Ambassador Program, and through this has assisted in promoting the benefits of the High Achiever Program to local senior secondary students.

“I encourage students to apply and tell them that they’ve got nothing to lose and everything to gain. If you have a real passion for a particular subject and can demonstrate it to staff, it helps.”

Applications for the High Achiever Program close on 21 January 2011. For further information, contact the Uni Info Centre on 1300 363 864.

By Cherie Cooper

A new experience for students combining leadership development and volunteering recently culminated in an award ceremony at the Launceston and Hobart UTAS campuses.

Presenting the awards, UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew said seeing the students emerging as future leaders was inspirational.

The Vice-Chancellor’s Leadership Award was piloted in 2010 by staff in Career Development and Employment.

The award was created to educate, challenge and inspire, strengthening students.

‘Leaders must have the common touch and learn how to communicate with everyone, no matter who they are.’

It is designed to strengthen students’ work ethic, community awareness, leadership and employability, as well as their skills in communication, teamwork, and problem solving – skills sought by employers.

Around 60 students from across Hobart and Launceston, including two students who travelled from the North-West to attend the Launceston seminars met the requirements for the award.

Prof. Le Grew said it was important to develop the leadership qualities of integrity and humility. ‘Leaders must have the common touch and learn how to communicate with everyone, no matter who they are,’ he said.

Elizaeth Park, a third-year Arts/Business student, successfully completed the award and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Elizabeth volunteered with the Make a Wish Foundation’s Hobart branch during the year as part of the course and is looking forward to continuing that community service.
Alumnus memories of a smaller UTAS

BY SHARON WEBB

In 1945 a UTAS graduate, as a law student, Sandy Duncanson lived at Christ College for three years and in “digs” in Dynnyrne for the fourth. Sandy joined the Tenants Union and met Professor Harry Hanson, a world authority on public administration, who encouraged him to forge ahead with his interest in church administration.

Sandy Duncanson died aged 37, having difficulty with landlords.

The Sandy Duncanson Social Justice Fund has been established by the University in memory of a Hobart lawyer who died of cancer in 2006.

His PhD thesis, gained in the 1960s at Leeds University in the UK, was titled Ministry and Management: it became the foundation book in this field, followed by a second book, Management in the Church.

"After my Tasmanian studies I went to theological college in Adelaide and became an ordained minister," Dr Rudge said.

"I served for 10 years as a priest in the Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn."

As Dr Rudge describes it, his career in the Anglican Church “went a different way” from the more usual climb from priesthood into the church hierarchy.

In 1963 he went to England to St Augustine’s College in Canterbury and met Professor Harry Hanson, a world authority on public administration, who encouraged him to forge ahead with his interest in church administration.

Studied at Leeds University and his books followed, and Dr Rudge worked in the UK as a management consultant in church management for several years before returning to Australia.

For a boy who grew up on his father’s farm at Table Cape, Dr Rudge has travelled a long way in a long career. He attended Burnie High School and in university holidays, away from the neo-gothic sandstone of Domain House, he dug potatoes in the rich red North-West Coast soil to pay his way.

Now things have turned full-circle and plans are being drawn up to refurbish the building, Dr Rudge knew as the University of Tasmania.

As Prof. Le Grew said: “This is not just our original home, it is also the sentimental home for the University.

“It represents the beginning of UTAS in 1890 as the fourth oldest university in Australia.”

A lasting tribute to a UTAS great

BY CATHERINE ROGERS

Famously followed by his students for many years, he was dedicated to using his professional talents to help the most vulnerable in society.

"He was a remarkable man who was an exemplar of values in action..."

"Mahatma Gandhi famously once said: Be the change you want to see in the world. That sums up Sandy.

"He was a remarkable man who was an exemplar of values in action, unusually dedicated to using his professional talents to help the most vulnerable in society."

The Sandy Duncanson Social Justice Fund has been established by the University of Tasmania Foundation. Sandy’s friends and family aim to raise $60,000. Donations can be made through www.utas.edu.au/foundation.

Significant professional legacy: The WD Joske Memorial Trust will support a biennial philosophy colloquium.

BY SHARON WEBB

A fund in memory of a Hobart lawyer who died of cancer recently has been established to promote social justice issues.

The Sandy Duncanson Social Justice Fund will grant an annual student bursary and hold an annual public lecture on social justice issues.

"He was a remarkable man who was an exemplar of values in action..."

"Mahatma Gandhi famously once said: Be the change you want to see in the world. That sums up Sandy.

A UTAS graduate, as a law student he once spent two weeks at Woomera for a South Australian legal firm interviewing refugees seeking asylum – only days before violent protests there led to refugees being blasted with water cannon.

Sandy joined the Tenants Union in 2004 and was appointed the principal lawyer there in 2005.

He supported many tenants over the years and pushed for rental law reform; he was also instrumental in forming the Private Rental Tenancy Support Service, a service for tenants having difficulty with landlords.

Dr Natasha Cica from the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Ethics said she strongly supports the new fund.

A tribute to a life cut short: The Sandy Duncanson Social Justice Fund will grant an annual student bursary and hold an annual public lecture on social justice issues.

"He was a remarkable man who was an exemplar of values in action..."

"Mahatma Gandhi famously once said: Be the change you want to see in the world. That sums up Sandy.

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"He was a remarkable man who was an exemplar of values in action..."

"Mahatma Gandhi famously once said: Be the change you want to see in the world. That sums up Sandy.

A well-loved and respected teacher, Prof. Joske is still remembered by the many students who were taught by him. He maintained a close relationship with the school and the University up until the time of his death in 2006.

The WD Joske Memorial Trust will support the biennial philosophy colloquium, which will now be named in his honour.

Professor Jeff Malpas said the colloquium aims to promote philosophical exchange and dialogue that draws on international, national and community perspectives, and engages philosophical discussion across a range of disciplines and perspectives.

"It is a particularly appropriate and fitting way to name the Trust after Prof. Joske as it embodies ideas of intellectual exchange and engagement that were at the heart of his life and work," he said.

"Prof. Joske left behind a significant institutional and professional legacy."

"He rebuilt philosophy at the University at a critical time in its history. His work exemplified an approach to philosophy directly concerned with the important issues of human life and passionately committed to the importance of clear thinking and open dialogue."

"Prof. Joske served on the Professorial Board (1982–1983), was Dean of the Faculty of Arts (1970–72) and the University Librarian which he chaired (1977–82). For many years, he represented UTAS on the State Library Board of Tasmania which he chaired (1977–82). He was a distinguished member of the Australian philosophical community and was President of the Australasian Association of Philosophers in 1969–70. His essay ‘The Meaning of Life’ is much read and often cited by students and academics alike."

Sandy Duncanson’s passion for justice lives on
Let there be light – on the Salamanca lawns

BY LUKE SCOTT

A team of three UTAS PhD students used coloured LED lights to revitalise Hobart’s Salamanca lawns and take third place in this year’s OUCH online design challenge.

Hobart-based computing and information systems students Harry Rolf, Patrick Burns and Matt D’Orazio were thrilled to score a place in the gruelling 24-hour competition, which saw them pitted against teams from around the world.

The competition challenges students to develop a solution for a design brief, blog their thoughts and ideas, write a 400-word essay and create a video prototype to explain their concept solution.

The design brief this year was to revitalise an unused space, like glow worms in a cave.

Mr Rolf said people had slowly begun to enter the lawns to play with the LED throwies.

“One group was really enthusiastic, running around picking these things up wherever we had put them and bringing them back to us,” he laughed.

“They were intrigued by what was going on. We had a couple other groups that picked them up and were a little bit more sceptical.

“We also had several LEDs that were taken – people just walked off with them.

“So as a prototype, an initial experiment in some kind of participatory design, I think it went really well.”

Bright idea: Computing and information systems student Patrick Burns assembles the LED throwies on a park bench at Salamanca during the competition.

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MY PHD

Cherie Hawkins
Institute of Regional Development
Cradle Coast campus

Adolescent girls’ aspirations

When I found out in February that I had secured an Elite Scholarship for my research project, I felt like I had been given a ticket to a new exciting journey.

The title of my PhD is ‘Young, female and looking to the future: Exploring the aspirations of adolescent girls in regional Tasmania’.

The idea for the research came from a project I had co-ordinated in the local community called Just Us Girls, where we matched up Grade 8, 9 and 10 girls with inspirational young women from the local community. The project was supported by Women Tasmania and there were 12 girls involved.

We found mentors in successful careers that interested the girls, so they could have a clearer picture of what their future could look like. The girls and the mentors had regular casual meetings to talk about the girls’ aspirations and how they could achieve them.

We took the girls away on a camp with the mentors and this was when I really heard what the girls were saying about what they wanted to do with their lives.

What amazed me most is that they were talking about the same challenges that I had faced when I was making decisions about my future 20 years ago. I was just blown away by how little things had changed.

Twenty years ago not many of the people that I went to high school with went on to further education because it just wasn’t supported by your family or peers. You were pretty much on your own. It was really difficult.

Parents and friends would ask: ‘What sort of job is that going to get you? How will you pay the bills?’

When I was working with these other girls and discovered it was still happening, I decided that I really wanted to find out more about the factors that shape the career decisions made by young women in rural communities.

I am delighted to be able to spend some time looking more deeply at the aspirations of adolescent girls and those things which are influencing their aspirations.

I’m really interested in how certain things are influencing what young girls aim for and what their means in terms of the support and resources they may need to achieve these ambitions. The research may also raise a few questions about what this means for our region.

My research will focus on interviews with around 10 girls aged 14–16 years who are living in West and North West Tasmania.

I will be asking them about their career and life aspirations to get a picture of their values and what they want to be. I need to find out about their interests and background learning experience and the significant people in their lives. It will involve ongoing conversations over a 12-month period.

My aim is to help identify what capacity building mechanisms could be looked at to create opportunities for young women in rural regions who are making decisions about their future.
Burnie-based artist Patrick Grieve is known for his bold colours and borders: red basalt soil and verdant crops in the seaside paddocks of North-West Tasmania.

Patrick's latest exhibition reflects the influence of his recent holiday to the northern hemisphere, and the impacts of the softer shapes and hues of the landscapes of Provence and Tuscany.

The exhibition Made in Italy currently hangs in the Atrium Gallery at UTAS Cradle Coast campus and was opened by UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew.

Patrick Grieve says the European landscape required a different treatment from his usual style of painting.

"While we were there I filled a sketch book with drawings and had a little water-colour set I used every day. When I came back to paint, I found that my usual approach with hard lines had to soften. We look out on Bass Strait every day and my work has that hard-edged sense of the gun-barrel edge of the sea on the horizon," he explained.

"The sunlight in France and Italy is softer than here and the wildflowers were out so it was more dappled; the application of paint became broken areas of colour rather than slabs. It was about softening the horizon line and using less geometric shapes.

"There farmers don't flatten things to make them straight, they go with nature, so things are less geometric. It is not broad acre farming; it is all still small family owned farms so the patterns are much more organic."

Grieve explains the different palette required for the paintings: "The soils were poor and brown, so I had to substitute my favourite fertile red of soil for the red of the poppies. The fields were quite lush after a really wet winter and the grasslands were very lush so I used purple to balance out the strength of the green."

In Europe Patrick Grieve took the opportunity to visit some of the major art galleries such as the Tate, the Louvre and some of the larger galleries in Venice. But he says art galleries in many of the smaller towns were just as inspiring.

"In Montepulciano we dropped into a little gallery and I saw a small painting by an Italian impressionist artist I had never heard of, painted at the turn of the century. "It was of a field of grass, and the application of paint was much softer than the way I am used to painting. This work had a much bigger impact on me than any of the better known masters' paintings in the bigger galleries," he said.