Discovering new champions

BY SHARON WEBB & CASSI PATMORE

Beijing’s over – roll on London 2012.

UTAS is primed and ready for the challenge of producing more world-beating athletes for the London Olympics, having been appointed as Tasmania’s only Talent Assessment Centre for aspiring athletes.

In the School of Human Life Sciences in Launceston, potential Olympians will be tested and directed into sports that suit their fitness level and body type.

Lecturer Dr James Fell said the great thing about the initiative of the Australian Sports Commission is that the general public can also access it.

“They can get on the interactive website to find out how to test their own fitness capacity; then they insert their test results,” he said.

“The computer system responds by telling them they are in the top 10 per cent of the population, for example, and if the results are especially good it recommends they visit a testing site such as ours.”

UTAS had one student, Stephanie Grant, and six alumni competing at the Beijing Olympics, with former medical student Scott Brennan claiming the ultimate prize of a gold medal in the men’s double sculls rowing.

The Australian Sports Commission isn’t wasting any time recruiting the next batch of potential Olympians; UTAS will hold its first testing session on 15 September at the Human Life Sciences exercise laboratory.

There, athletes will be measured to assess the predictors of aptitude for certain sports, such as height, weight and arm span. Tests in endurance, speed, power and strength also help find a potential sporting champion.

“We’re identifying talent in fit, young people with the right anatomy for rowing, for example,” Dr Fell said.

“And we’re looking for older people who have already been elite athletes and want to change sports. For example Tasmanian Cameron Wurf was an Olympic rower and tried cycling after doing it for injury rehabilitation. Now he’s an elite cyclist.

“Also, some kids are playing the wrong sports for their physique; we can point them in the right direction.”

Dr Fell and his colleagues Dr Cecilia Shing and Dr Andrew Williams have already worked with athletes preparing for the Olympics through the climate chamber at the Launceston campus.

Beijing Olympian Dan McConnell, a cyclist from Victoria, used the climate chamber to acclimatise to hot and humid weather and prepare his body to endure the physical demands of competition in extreme weather.

“Exposing the athletes to increased temperature and humidity conditions that they will experience in competition leads to a number of physiological adaptations,” said Dr Shing.

The UTAS team works closely with Australian head mountain biking coach Neil Ross, of the Tasmanian Institute of Sport, on research projects to improve athletic performance.

“Neil and Cycling Australia are very aware of what we have here at UTAS and are very keen to strengthen these relationships,” Dr Fell said.

Want to be an athlete? Get online at eTID, the electronic talent identification tool of the Australian Sport Commission’s National Talent Identification and Development program: www.ausport.gov.au/etid

 Rolled gold: UTAS medical graduate Scott Brennan, right, and rowing partner David Crawshay brought home the ultimate prize in the men’s double sculls at Beijing. UTAS is now helping to unearth the next Olympic champions for Australia. Photo: Getty Images.
**Our people**

Andrew Storfer

Dr Andrew Storfer has been awarded an American Fulbright Scholarship to study at UTAS later this year. He is an associate professor in the School of Biological Sciences at Washington State University, where he is studying the ecology and evolution of infectious diseases, and the causes and consequences of diminishing biodiversity.

Martin Walch

UTAS Art School lecturer and PhD candidate Mr Martin Walch won the two-dimensional section of the 20th Hobart Art Prize in August this year. His entry, ‘Dreaming by numbers’, mapped four seasons at one location – a drowned river valley on the Upper Derwent – and explored the details and diversity of the ground.

Michael Solomon

Professor Michael Solomon, a visiting researcher at the ARC Centre for Excellence in Ore Deposits (CODES) at UTAS, was recently awarded the Society of Economic Geologists Penrose Gold Medal for a career of original research in the earth sciences. Prof. Solomon has made important contributions to discovering the origin of massive sulphide deposits. He has not only achieved prominence through his own research, but is also essentially the father of CODES which, under the guidance of Prof. Ross Large, has become one of the world’s top research centres.

Sue Kilpatrick

Associate Professor Sue Kilpatrick, Director of the University Department of Rural Health, will join the technical committee for the Collaborative Partnership for Farming and Fishing Health and Safety. The partnership’s aims include increasing the adoption of safe systems of work on farms, developing information and systems to ensure on-farm safety, and developing training material and delivery modes for farmers. Assoc. Prof. Kilpatrick will work on ways to improve the implementation of research funded by the partnership.

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’.

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**Unitas**

Unitas is the monthly newsletter of the University of Tasmania. It is printed in soy-based ink on stock which is 80 per cent recycled and 20 per cent total chlorine free (TCS mixed source certified). Aluminium printing plates are also recycled after use.

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Editor’s Note: This special student edition of Unitas has been produced with the assistance of final-year students from the UTAS Journalism, Media and Communications program. Carly Dolan, Cassi Patmore and Hayley Saltmarsh were selected to report for Unitas as part of their Professional Placement unit. We hope you enjoy reading their efforts.

Cover fuel-gauge image: stock.xchng/Charlene Sprong

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**Reaching out to refugees**

Grab the digital camera and win big prizes! If you can take photos like this one by 2007 winner Bruce Cartwright, you should enter the UTAS Photo Competition. For the first time the AMC’s photo competition is open to all UTAS staff and students, so camera enthusiasts on all campuses can be in the running for prizes from the expanded 2008 prize pool. If rewards like premium accommodation packages or clothing aren’t enough, there’s always the warm glow that comes from having your picture used in the AMC 2009 calendar and in AMC promotional materials throughout the year. For full competition details go to www.amc.edu.au and follow the links.

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**One world: Associate Professor Martha Kuwee Kumsa chats to one of the delegates at the inclusion conference in Launceston.**

**By Carly Dolan**

The challenges facing refugees both in Tasmania and globally were the focus of a recent conference hosted by UTAS.

Associate Professor Martha Kuwee Kumsa, from Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada, was a keynote speaker at the Social Inclusion and Exclusion of Culturally Diverse Communities: Strategies and Experience Conference held in Launceston.

The two-day event explored a range of issues affecting migrants and their host communities, including employment opportunities, education, housing, health, racism and law enforcement.

Assoc. Prof. Kumsa gave a personal account of her 10 years as an Ethiopian prisoner of conscience in Addis Ababa and her experience as a refugee in Canada.

“When my children and I first moved to Canada, racism was a big issue. The first three years there were tough for my children,” she said.

According to Assoc. Prof. Kumsa, health is a significant issue for migrants and refugees, including the hidden health effects of poverty and discrimination.

“Someone might look alright on the outside, but not alright on the inside,” she said. “Racism is violence.”

The conference attracted academics, refugee and migrant group representatives, and service providers from around Australia.

Co-convenor Dr Rob Andrew, from the School of Education, said the event provided a unique opportunity for a wide range of groups to discuss their experiences.

“It was not only relevant to migrant and refugee communities, but also to all elements of the Launceston community, because it reflected the reality of the changing nature of the Australian community in general, and the Tasmanian community in particular,” he said.

Assoc. Prof. Kumsa said the conference was a significant step toward addressing issues that arise as the population of migrants and refugees grows in Tasmania.

“There is a lot of work to be done. It is very hard to mobilise communities, and so having this conference was very important and very successful,” she said.
Hybrid car research motoring along

BY CARLY DOLAN

A fter six years of research, a team of UTAS engineers are confident that it can create a hybrid car that relies on battery power, ethanol fuel and motors in each of its wheels.

The car is a modified version of a diesel-hydrogen hybrid vehicle that the School of Engineering entered in the 2007 Targa Tasmania rally and will refine using research tested with a hybrid scooter that the team developed late last year.

“An extension to our alternative fuel research, we came up with a scooter that runs on a combination of batteries and an ethanol engine, instead of running on petrol, because ethanol is environmentally friendly,” said team leader Dr Vishy Karri.

Dr Karri said because the car prototype involves modifying an existing vehicle, it could be marketed at under $20,000 compared to models being showcased in Germany and Japan at $250,000. The cost of running the car will also be drastically reduced by recharging with a plug-in that uses hydro energy.

Lacing up for a challenge

UTAS students again pounded the asphalt in this year’s Launceston 10km, with team members setting out to slash their personal best times on the fast course.

“We trained pretty hard under the guidance of fellow staff member and accredited exercise physiologist from the School of Human Life Sciences Dr Cecilia Shing,” said women’s team captain Marie-Louise Bird.

Fellow team members who competed this year were Kirsten Koh, Dawn Penney and Sharon Hetherington, competing under the team name L’WannaRun – With Us.

“We are all about having a go and supporting community events and I think the name reflects that,” said Ms Bird.

UTAS individuals who also headed for the starting line included Kevin Lyall, Amanda Crawford, Casey Mainsbridge and Steve Tristram. Several minutes were shaved off race times from last year, with Steve Tristram breaking the 40-minute barrier – a goal he had been pursuing for some time.

The event was the perfect preparation for the Festival of Marathons at Ross, which is being co-ordinated by the UTAS Centre for Human Movement and will be held on Sunday 7 September.

The event includes a children’s fun run challenge, a 10 km walk/run, half marathon and full marathon. Competitors can visit the event website (http://www.rossmarathons.org.au) to access training and nutrition tips from an accredited exercise physiologist.

“Training for a marathon does not have to involve a huge number of hours pounding the pavement. It is far better to have planned training sessions that emphasise quality and are tailored to your individual fitness level,” said Dr Shing.

Jump in my car: Dr Vishy Karri and his engineering team are modifying their Targa hybrid car to make it even more energy efficient.

The motors in each wheel start the main engine and give the car more power when accelerating. They are also used to recharge the battery.

“Tasmania is a renewable energy island and we have an innovative way of putting things together to make it cheaper and make it more affordable to the wider public,” Dr Karri said.

The UTAS prototype also differs from others in the world because it includes an inbuilt intelligent control system which allows it to automatically switch to the ethanol when going up hills. Hybrid cars on the market at the moment do not have this advanced control system that optimises the amount of fuel needed.

The engineering team is currently improving and fine tuning the system and hopes to unveil the test car by the end of the year.

An accredited exercise physiologist can provide you with a scientific training program that will ensure you make the most of your training time and maximise your performance on race day.”

To find an accredited exercise physiologist log onto the Australasian Association for Exercise and Sport Science website at www.aaes.com.au

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Up close

Hisako Umeoka
Administration assistant, School of Asian Languages and Studies, Hobart campus.

A hometown memory I grew up in rural Japan, in Nabari City on the island of Honshu. I remember lots of rice fields, vegetable patches, and not many buildings. It was a beautiful town, and I still love to visit.

Another life I used to teach Japanese at UTAS, but before I came to Tasmania I worked as a human resources officer for Nabatô, a mining company in the Northern Territory.

To have fun I like shopping, gardening, having lunch with friends and reading.

Long-term goals To be totally positive in all areas of my life. I try not to say negative things and I try to concentrate on positive things every day.

Passionate about Music, especially classical and soothing piano music. I started playing the piano when I was two or three years old, and then later I learned the clarinet. My children all love music too, and my son is a bassoon player in Europe.

Reading The Tao of Daily Life, it’s a very good book.

What are you listening to? I listen to classical and orchestral music, and I also listen to Wayne Dyer and Deepak Chopra’s speeches about positive living.

Keeping an eye on the ocean

BY NATALIE JOHNSTON

ANTARCTIC & MARINE

Immersed in piles of papers and books, Associate Professor Stewart Frusher rarely notices the sparkling ocean views from his waterfront office.

But it is clearly the sea that absorbs Assoc. Prof. Frusher in his new role as climate change theme leader for the Tasmanian Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute (TAFI).

“I’m excited about this role. In my previous job I always had concerns about the impact of climate change, particularly in rock lobster fishery, where I had undertaken considerable research in the past,” he said.

In his new role, Assoc. Prof. Frusher ensures that TAFI’s three main programs — aquaculture, marine environment and fisheries — are aware of the latest developments in climate change funding.

The new position is already bearing fruit, with Assoc. Prof. Frusher leading a team of UTAS staff that secured a $200,000 tender from the Department of Climate Change to provide a case study on the impacts of climate change on the Tasmanian east coast rock lobster fishery.

“I’ve got at least 1000 species that is particularly vulnerable to changes in the ocean currents,” Assoc. Prof. Frusher said.

Assoc. Prof. Frusher has worked at TAFI since its inception in 1998. He was TAFI’s crustacean Section Leader from 1998 to 2003 and has led the Sustainable Fisheries Research Program since 2003.

“I’m passionate about fisheries,” he said. “They provide important social and economic contributions to rural and coastal populations around the world.”

Assoc. Prof. Frusher believes the fishery industry faces a number of significant challenges, including the strong Australian dollar, world oil prices and the impact of climate change.

But Tasmania, he adds, is perfectly placed to monitor any changes in the marine environment.

“In Tasmania, nutrient-poor currents meet the richer sub-Antarctic waters, making Tasmania an exciting natural laboratory,” he said.

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) Gail Hart and Mr Neil Triwett (both far left) with Australian Teaching and Learning Council Citation awardees. Photo by Janusz Molinski.

Teaching and learning success

Six UTAS staff who have made a longstanding contribution to the quality of student learning were formally recognised in the Australian Learning and Teaching Council Citations presented in Melbourne last month. Each recipient received $10,000.

“It is heartening to see these people recognised nationally as well as by the University,” UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew said.

The recipients were, as pictured, from far right:

Dr Kim Beswick School of Education
For commitment to and leadership of continual improvement of student learning in the Faculty of Business, particularly in relation to mathematics education.

Dr Mary Scott School of Art, Hobart
For sustained excellence in teaching and for developing and implementing effective and stimulating learning activities for Visual Art and Design students.

Dr Kerry Howells School of Law
For the continual development and contextualised application of a unique approach to reflective practice that greatly enhances learning and teaching and fosters greater student engagement.

Mr Rick Snell School of Law
For his outstanding capacity to inspire and encourage student learning across the undergraduate law degree from first-year to final-year students.

Dr Margaret Baguley School of Education
For outstanding contribution in building awareness of the effectiveness of visual arts strategies to build confidence, encourage higher-order thinking skills and enhance student engagement.

Ms Rikki Mawad TUU
For commitment to ensuring student-centred and well-informed contributions in University decision-making and for dedication in seeking to enhance the overall student experience at UTAS.

Tasmanian history online

THE ONLINE VERSION of The Companion to Tasmanian History has been launched by the Centre for Tasmanian Historical studies at UTAS.

Edited by Dr Alison Alexander, the full-searchable edition of the book launched in 2005 contains 1089 articles by 418 authors covering every topic from Aboriginal art to zoos and every Tasmanian district from Adamsfield to Zeehan.

Next edition: The submission deadline for the October issue of Unitas is 15 Sept

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**Snipping away emissions**

**BY ELLEN SALATHIEL**

With governments of all sizes looking to cut their emissions, a UTAS student is hoping to give Brighton Council the scissors.

Oliver Heyward from the UTAS School of Engineering is preparing a comprehensive study of the Brighton municipality’s carbon footprint as part of his masters project.

His research looks at how to achieve a sustainable carbon footprint by developing localised strategies in which local problems are assessed and overcome with local resources and projects.

“Although the issues are fairly specific to the local area,” Mr Heyward said, “you might have efficiency losses in the system that are specific to an area and that you don’t have elsewhere.”

At this stage, Mr Heyward is collecting data to map the cause of most of the emissions in the municipality.

“What I’m trying to do is establish a greenhouse gas emission inventory which looks at where the emissions are coming from, how much is being produced and who’s doing it then use that as a baseline to decide where the most effective improvements can be made,” he said.

Mapping emissions across a large area is no small task.

Mr Heyward has sent tailored surveys to all businesses, industries and farms in the municipality. He has also sent surveys to more than 200 private homes.

Once the data has been collected and analysed, Mr Heyward will consider which technologies are most appropriate to reduce emissions in the area.

One example is in the electricity supply.

“If you’re producing electricity at the dams, you’ve got huge efficiency losses when you’re transporting the electricity,” Mr Heyward said.

“So there’s potential to set up a distributed power generation network. It might be appropriate to put in solar panels, or geo-thermal or wind power, depending on the local area.”

Mr Heyward hopes his study will create a strategy document the Brighton Council can use, but its implementation would depend on its viability.

“What I hope to get from the studies is whether it’s actually worth going into this level of complexity or not,” Mr Heyward says, “and hopefully it will make a bit of a difference in Brighton.”

**Saving energy starts at home**

**BY CHERIE COOPER**

As a child, Philippa Watson watched parts of her neighbourhood bulldozed and witnessed the ensuing chaos: local wildlife dead or fighting each other for the little food and habitat that was left.

“I saw koalas fighting each other in trees and I had never seen that before: it had an impact on me,” Ms Watson said.

Ms Watson’s passion for the environment led to her working as a sustainable design consultant and an environmental scientist. Her ongoing PhD, Sustainable housing for equity and energy efficiency, continues her interest in the area.

Ms Watson’s research is trying to identify the conditions – at institutional and individual levels – that will support energy-efficient improvements to Tasmanian homes on a large scale.

Using interviews and focus groups with householders and professionals, Ms Watson is gathering a range of thoughts on housing and energy efficiency.

“I’m looking at what people are doing and what else they can do as individual householders and as members of the government, commerce and community,” she said.

Ms Watson said those involved in her research were motivated by the adjustments and improvements they could make to their homes.

“If you are a bit strapped for cash, there are still changes you can make to reduce your energy use.

“Home improvement for energy efficiency can be as small and as simple as changing the door-closing routines of the house, or as large as replacing windows and heating systems,” she said.

Ms Watson also lives by example in her own earth-roofed home which she has “loads of plans” for.

Her research is supported by a co-funded scholarship between the State Government’s Office of Energy Planning and Conservation, and UTAS. Findings from her research will be fed back to the project participants and those working in Tasmanian housing.

Ms Watson’s study is jointly supervised by Dr Elaine Stratford and Dr Aidan Davison from the School of Geography and Environmental Studies, Dr Rowland Akinson from the Housing and Community Research Unit, and Dr Roger Fay from the School of Architecture.
Bringing home that gospel sound

BY HAYLEY SALTMARSH

There is no need to travel to the US to enjoy the vitality of African-American gospel: the Southern Gospel Choir captures the same excitement in Tasmania.

Launched in 2001 by pianist Dr Andrew Legg, acting head of the UTAS Conservatorium of Music, the Southern Gospel Choir began with just 30 members and performed their first concert at the conservatorium.

The aim of starting a gospel choir at the conservatorium was to teach the students that the foundation of contemporary music was gospel,” Dr Legg explained.

The choir has since expanded to three choiral groups: the entire community choir ensemble of around 110 people, the semi-professional “4S” group which records and performs at paid gigs, and the small group of “disciples” who lead the choir in performances.

A number of people have helped the choir to grow and become established in the Tasmanian music scene. Maria Lurighi, the choir’s vocal coach, is among those who have worked with Dr Legg during the past seven years to build the choir into a professional team.

“Andrew and I love gospel music. We wanted to find out exactly what we loved about it, and what the best way to honour that sound was,” said Ms Lurighi.

“We stayed true to ourselves, and we developed a sound that is like no other.”

The choir continues to grow and define its image in Tasmania. In 2005, it recorded and released the CD Great Day, which was nominated for an ARIA award in the World Music category. It also featured on a Myer Christmas album and plans to record again during the next 18 months.

“People are beginning to associate Tasmania with the Southern Gospel Choir and my hope is that the choir continues to be an iconic part of Tasmanian culture,” Dr Legg said.

In full voice: Dr Andrew Legg, on piano, leads the Southern Gospel Choir during another energetic performance.

UTAS links with Hokkaido

UTAS has brokered an agreement with one of Japan’s top-ranked universities which will promote academic and educational exchange opportunities between the two institutions.

Under the agreement between UTAS and Hokkaido University, each institution will develop a range of cooperative activities involving an exchange of faculty members, research fellows and students, and academic materials, publications and information.

The two universities will also look at opportunities to develop joint research projects and organise symposiums.

UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew and Hokkaido University President Hiroshi Saeki formalised the agreement during Prof. Le Grew’s recent visit to Hokkaido for the G8 University Summit.

Hokkaido University is one of Japan’s best universities, with a reputation in several fields, but is particularly strong in Antarctic research.

UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew and Hokkaido University President Hiroshi Saeki.

New partners: UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew and Hokkaido University President Hiroshi Saeki.
Graduation celebration

University of Tasmania students donned academic attire and celebrated their scholastic achievements in August, with more than 1100 students attending Hobart and Launceston graduation ceremonies.

Four ceremonies were held at the University Centre (Hobart campus) on Friday 8 August and Saturday 9 August, while Launceston students were awarded their degrees on Saturday 16 August at the Albert Hall.

Grads enjoyed clear skies for most of their ceremonies and the lively atmosphere reflected the joy of reaching the pinnacle of their academic study.

University of Tasmania Chancellor Damian Bugg and Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew conferred degrees to students from the faculties of Education, Law, Health Science, Business, Science, Engineering and Technology, and Arts.

Professor Le Grew said that all graduates were to be congratulated on their achievements.

“Graduation is the crowning achievement of years of hard work and dedication by students, and the support of their family and friends. It is a time to celebrate not only individual success, but also the vital contribution that these

Above: Jenah Makarewicz (right) helps Jess Preece with her mortar board before the Hobart graduation ceremony. Right: Dr Ashley Edwards, right, from the School of Zoology with Dr Heidi Auman, who was awarded her doctorate at the August graduations.

graduates continue to make to Tasmania,” he said.

The ceremonies included a number of esteemed speakers, including Professor Richard Wielbinks, honorary degree recipient (Doctor of Science), and Dr Margaret Stones, honorary degree recipient (Doctor of Letters).

Vitamin D puzzle

One of the puzzles that inspired Roslyn Malley’s PhD is the relationship, if any, between vitamin D, the skin immune system and skin cancer.

It is well known that sunshine produces not only vitamin D, but can also cause skin cancer, leading researchers like Roslyn to question whether it is the production of vitamin D which alters the skin’s immune system and makes it susceptible to cancer.

“We’re not sure whether vitamin D production in the skin alters the risk of skin cancer development,” said Roslyn, who is also a medical doctor.

“We have found for many years that vitamin D is important for bone health, but it’s only really been in the last 10 or 15 years that we have started to understand that it has really important functions for the immune system as well.”

As part of her research, Roslyn has examined how vitamin D might affect the skin’s immune system at different stages in life.

“It appears that the skin immune system responds differently to vitamin D deficiency in early life than it does in later life.

“We’re not sure whether vitamin D production in the skin alters the risk of skin cancer development.”

“We also know that excessive sun exposure and sunburn in early life is associated with developing skin cancer in later life. There is something in that, and we would like to clarify if vitamin D has a role,” she said.

Through experiments using mice, Roslyn has also found that the impact of vitamin D deficiency differs between genders.

“We set up a mouse model where we make the mice vitamin D deficient and then study their immune system to see if there is any difference compared to the normal mice. We found there are differences between male and female mice, so we think that potentially vitamin D nutrition might have different outcomes in males and females and this might have implications for (health) recommendations,” Roslyn said.

While Roslyn’s research is focusing on the skin immune system, she hopes the research will produce evidence that can be applied to other parts of the human immune system.

“If we keep finding all these bits of information and can put them together, it’s exciting.”

Thinking outside the square

Tasmania is emerging as an island of innovation.

The Australian Innovation Research Centre (AIRC) at UTAS recently released the findings of its Tasmanian Innovation Census, with the results showing that innovation is pervasive across the Tasmanian economy, with “high proportions” of innovating firms.

The AIRC explains “innovation” like this: science-based innovation involves participation in emerging sectors such as biotechnology or nanotechnology, while innovation in existing industries, products and processes involves consistent technological upgrading of existing activities.

Tasmania has traditionally ranked the lowest of all Australian states when it comes to research and development surveys. In order to get a clearer picture, the Tasmanian Department of Economic Development and Tourism provided funding to the AIRC to undertake the Tasmanian Innovation Census, which used much bigger samples and a different methodology to the previous national research and development surveys.

The project went into the field in mid-2007, with an aim to cover all sectors of the economy and all firms with five or more employees. This included sectors such as agriculture, horticulture, mining and fishing, which are usually excluded from national surveys. The census received responses from more than 1500 businesses, which took several months to collate.

The census revealed that 79.1 per cent of businesses across all sectors were “innovation active” – meaning they had either introduced new products, or new production processes, in the past year. It also found that the proportion of Tasmanian firms earning revenue from new or significantly changed products was equivalent to the average for the European Union in previous EU surveys.

UTAS was also found to play a highly significant role in Tasmania’s innovation economy, having collaborative links with 142 innovation-active firms. …………


My PhD

Roselyn Malley

Menzies Malley

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UTAS books

Networked Language: Culture and History in Australian Poetry

Philip Mead, School of English, Journalism and European Languages (Australian Scholarly Publishing, 2008)

This is a monograph study of Australian poetry and the result of a fascination with poetic language and the networks of culture and history within which it lives.

The language of poetry, which may at times appear obscure or enigmatically uncommunicative, is nevertheless always meaningful in the time and place of its creation. This study presents new ways of understanding Australian poetry, drawing on an equal fascination with the uniflora of poetry and the complexity of culture.

Tall Tales and True: India, Historiography and British Imperial Imaginings

Edited by Kate Brittlebank, School of History and Classics (Monash University Press, 2008)

Tall tales is an interdisciplinary collection of eight case studies. Written in an engaging and accessible style in order to appeal not only to specialists, but also to students, teachers and general readers, it presents re-assessments of a number of emblematic people and events that appear within the narrative of British imperial power: the Black Hole of Calcutta, Governor-General Warren Hastings, Tipu Sultan of Mysore, Arthur Wellesley and the battle of Assaye, the Sikh Maharaja Ranjit Singh, William Sleeman and the thugs, and the Indian Revolt of 1857–1858.
Summer school a virtual reality

Experiencing virtual reality within the new UTAS Hitlab will be a highlight of the Tasmanian Creative Arts Summer School to be held at Launceston’s Academy of the Arts in January 2009.

Dance will also be a new feature of the 10-day program with Launceston College launching a new contemporary dance summer school.

Summer school manager Allysia Nolan said students interested in dance would have the opportunity to attain tertiary recognition for their developing abilities.

“This year the summer school will offer 19 creative arts workshops, including visual arts, history, theatre, cuisine, ceramics, glass studies, public speaking and professional practice,” she said.

“Newstead College will offer its popular rock music summer school again; Launceston College will run its concert and stage band program.

“This year’s stunning pianist, Ambre Hammond, will perform again in 2009 and watercolourist Tony Smibert will be artist-in-residence.”

In the past two years the Tasmanian Creative Arts Summer School has attracted dozens of UTAS students who can enjoy hands-on engagement with the creative arts while also adding a unit towards their degree.

Summer school director Professor Vincent McGrath said the school was also open to people from interstate.

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