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2013 Stawell Gift winner

Focused on teaching



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Gambling reform

Aussies bet on anything

Making history the story of women

BY SHARON WEBB

When Emeritus Professor Lucy Frost gave the 25th John West Memorial Lecture last month an audience of almost 200 people hung on every word.

Evidence that the subject of Tasmanian convicts has changed from being unmentionable to a subject of fascination, Prof. Frost's subject had extra allure, being about transported women and their children.

It felt as though her audience, many members of the booming Launceston Historical Society, physically absorbed the stories of nine-year-old Agnes Hall, sent into a Glasgow bakery with her mother's newly-minted sixpence. And six-year-old Grace McGuire, begging with her mother who had stolen a book.

Both girls boarded the *Atwick* with their convict mothers in September 1837, bound for Tasmania.

When Prof. Frost speaks about the 18 children on the *Atwick* – how four of them were under one year old, how some chose to fend for themselves apart from the convict system on arrival, how many infants and toddlers died at Cascades Female Factory without ever seeing a blade of grass her commitment to revealing the stories of these victims of the

British Empire is apparent.

Prof. Frost has been involved with the management of the Cascades Female Factory since she came to Tasmania in the 1990s. On the board of directors of the historic Hobart site for 10 years, she was involved in the purchase of two parcels of land lost to the site.

She is president of the Female Convicts Research Centre, which is compiling a database of women convicts available to the public for reference or contributions.

And she is vice-president of the Convict Women's Press, whose most recent book, *Convict lives at the Launceston Female Factory*, was published last month and edited by Prof. Frost.

The lives of women and children from the John West lecture are fleshed out in Prof. Frost's 2012 book, *Abandoned women: Scottish convicts exiled beyond the seas*. She seems drawn to women, evidenced by her editorship of another book about female factory women at Ross; she has also written *No place for a nervous lady* and *Those women who go to hotels*.

But for all her commitment to the lives of Australian women, Prof. Frost is American.

A political activist against the Vietnam War, she "chose not to live there" and came to Australia in 1970.

"It was immoral to wage that war," Prof. Frost now says.

"I'm not unusual; lots of people



Photo by Peter Mathew

Emeritus Professor Lucy Frost at the Cascades Female Factory: Framed by the sandstone walls of the Cascades Female Factory, Prof. Frost discusses her work to reveal the lives of the women who came to Tasmania as convicts.

left for Australia, Canada and New Zealand."

But when she arrived in Victoria, this expert in American fiction found censorship laws on literature such as Phillip Roth's *Portnoy's complaint* and William S. Burrough's *Naked lunch* robbed her of her area of expertise. America's loss was Australia's gain when Lucy Frost

began writing about contemporary Australian literature, reviewing and contributing to *Meanjin*.

Having been fully involved in the Tasmanian community while working at UTAS from 1997 to 2009 when she retired, and still energetically involved in researching and writing, Prof. Frost says she has moved from the mountains

and sea of her east Tennessee adolescence, preferring those of Tasmania.

And Tasmania has benefitted from her determination to reveal the lives of women convicts: who suffered, who thrived.

"History has been the story of men, but not anymore," Prof. Frost said.



Associate Professor Greg Nolan

Finding a use for Tasmania's plantation timber

The director of the UTAS Centre for Sustainable Architecture with Wood believes Tasmania's extensive eucalypt plantations could be used to make buildings – with more research.

Associate Professor Greg Nolan said that now a new Tasmanian pulp mill may be off the agenda, CSAW's major driver for 2013 is to work out the best way to use the plantation resource for timber and wood products.

"Nationally, we have about a million hectares of hardwood plantation," he said.

"These are the Australian economy's only major source of Kyoto-compliant carbon sequestration. They absorb and store atmospheric carbon and reduce the nation's total greenhouse gas emissions by four per cent," he said.

"If we don't have an economic use for these plantations, they will be

removed. This creates a significant greenhouse gas issue as we lose the on-going sequestration and gain more emissions. So, finding economic uses for these plantations is a significant environmental and political issue, nationally and internationally."

"The questions for CSAW are what sort of products and structures can you make from the plantation resource: *Could* you get an appearance product from it or only a structural grade one? How do you turn the plantation resource we have into what a building designer needs?"

"CSAW is now seeking to work with the university's new National Centre for Future Forest Industries to answer these questions."

More on timber research, p6.

Our people



Stewart Franks

Professor Franks has joined the UTAS School of Engineering from the University of Newcastle, where he spent 16 years, including three as dean of students. He grew up in the

UK and his research interests in science – hydroclimatology and uncertainty estimation – brought him to Australia. At UTAS Prof. Franks will establish the study of environmental engineering. Prof. Franks is the Australian national representative for the International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS), a non-governmental organisation affiliated with UNESCO that develops science and engineering in hydrology. He is also the president of the commission of IAHS dealing with flood and drought variability.



Lizzi Shires and Debbie Wilson

Associate Professors Lizzi Shires and Debbie Wilson have been appointed

interim co-directors of the Rural Clinical School (RCS) at Burnie. The duo will replace Professor Skinner who is leaving to become the director of the Psychological and Clinical Sciences School at Charles Darwin University. Assoc. Prof. Wilson has been a consultant anaesthetist at the North West Regional Hospital since 1998. She has worked with the UTAS Rural Clinical School since 2007 and has been an associate head for the past year. Assoc. Prof. Shires has been a local GP for nearly a decade. She is also a specialist in public health and has worked as associate head at the Rural Clinical School for the past three years.



Kim Walker

Professor Kim Walker has been appointed as conjoint professor of healthcare improvement by the School of Nursing and Midwifery in collaboration with one of UTAS' major health sector partners, St Vincent's

Private Hospital. Sydney-based Prof. Walker's research and scholarship spans a wide range of interests, from philosophical critiques of nursing culture and education, publication of the many practice development initiatives implemented at the hospital, and most recently, research into a range of acute care priorities. The latter includes improving VTE (venous thromboembolism) prevention through interventions designed to enhance clinician uptake of best evidence and care of the deteriorating patient and effectiveness of clinical communication, as well as a number of projects aimed at developing a culture of patient and family-centred care.



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Amanda folds 'em – and walks away after three decades



Retirement farewell: UTAS and its ongoing success has been a passion for director of events and protocol, Amanda Wojtowicz.

BY **PETER COCHRANE**

As befits a former dean of the Conservatorium of Music, Amanda Wojtowicz's two UTAS farewells were punctuated by music, much laughter and a few tears.

A highlight of the official farewell at the University Club in Sandy Bay was a sing-along led by current Con director Dr Andrew Legg of Monty Python's *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life* – lyric sheets having been passed surreptitiously among the gathering.

The song, it was explained, was a staple, in fact the complete repertoire, of the choir formed by members of the now-defunct Public Relations and University Extension unit (PR&UE), a huge portfolio which Amanda headed in the 1990s. The sing-along had the remarkable effect of leaving Amanda momentarily lost for words.

A week later, at a party in the Studio Theatre on her final day, she got to choose the music. Again the choice was idiosyncratic – Kenny Rogers' country classic *The Gambler*:

'You got to know when to

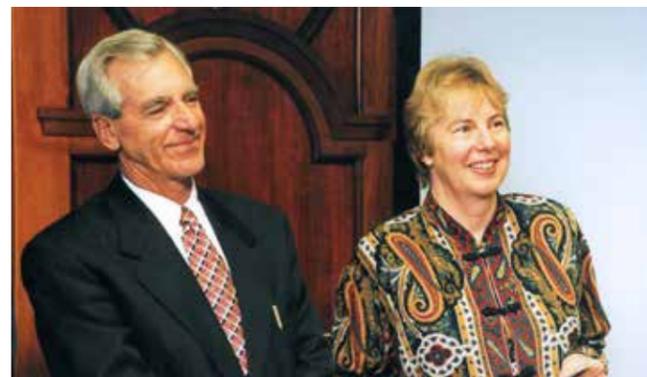
“No one who knows Amanda would believe for a second that such a tireless spirit would easily slip into retirement.”

hold 'em, know when to fold 'em, Know when to walk away and know when to run.'

After 31 years at UTAS, Amanda has finally cashed in her chips and retreated to Ranelagh to begin a new chapter in her life as a honey producer. At least that's what the script says.

No one who knows Amanda would believe for a second that such a tireless spirit would easily slip into retirement.

Colleague Eoin Breen explained her bond with the university: "I didn't know her long before I realised that UTAS and its ongoing success is a passion of hers. This institution ... is absolutely central to



Extraordinary corporate memory: A young Amanda Wojtowicz with former University of Tasmania Foundation board member and alumnus, Nick Cretan.

her being. Then you realise, as a Cruickshank, a descendant of the early Registrar ('JR' Cruickshank) and a professor (F. D. Cruickshank), it's in her DNA. I reckon she thinks and talks about it more than any one."

The VC, in his farewell speech, concluded by saying that Amanda was taking with her an "extraordinary corporate memory, a depth of knowledge about the organisation, its history and its linkages with community, business, educational organisations and government".

As Eoin said: "There are 500,000 people in Tasmania; she personally knows at least 100,000 – and she is working on familiarising herself with those she doesn't know".

Initially Amanda pursued a career in music education and arts management in Canberra, Brisbane and Melbourne after graduating from the then Tasmanian School of Music in 1964 (one of seven students in the first intake). In 1980 she joined the Tasmanian College of Advanced Education, which was absorbed into the university, and she became a lecturer in music education and then the first woman to be elected [by staff] dean of the conservatorium.

The Con was then a moveable cultural feast – as student numbers grew it began to operate in different places, including 1 View Street and the TCAE site at Mt Nelson, and finally after a mooted Hunter St shift was shelved, in its current Sandy Bay Road location.

"I remember grand pianos being lifted by crane onto the upper floors," Amanda said.

But it is in administration that Amanda has made her greatest contribution to UTAS.

She moved briefly from the Con to the Vice-Chancellor's office before accepting a secondment to ANU in 1996 as acting deputy director, public affairs division, to help orchestrate its 50th anniversary celebrations. She then secured a similar role here, which occupied her from 1997 to 2009. For the past four years she has been director of events and protocol.

Among her legacies is the development of the UTAS Foundation, first established under then Vice-Chancellor Professor Alan Gilbert.

Amanda also looks back with pride on the series of fora, Tas 2010, which brought together leading Tasmanian politicians, business leaders and other movers and shakers twice a year. Organised under Chatham House rules, they included a dinner with guest speaker, followed by a day-long workshop on themes such as the Hydro sell-off and engagement with Asia.

"The Tasmania Together plan grew out of this initiative," she said.

Given such outstanding service, UTAS is about not to surrender entirely its claim on Amanda. She has been recruited to a new Cultural Collections Advisory Council which will provide expert advice on how to showcase UTAS' treasures, including the Fine Arts Collection, the Tyler Collection and the contents of the Classics Museum.

In the meantime, she is pondering Eoin Breen's tongue-in-cheek suggestion that she enlist with the Ranelagh rural fire brigade. His reasoning? "She has quenched a few bushfires at the front door of Admin."

Young teacher wins his "ultimate goal"

BY SHARON WEBB

A UTAS student who won the oldest and richest running race in Australia on Easter Monday says his first priority now is to finish his Bachelor of Education degree.

Andrew Robinson, 20, is in the second year of his degree at the Newnham campus and is focused on becoming an early childhood teacher.

Winning the coveted Stawell Gift, a 120m handicap race first run in 1878 in Stawell, Victoria, netted Andrew \$40,000 which he says he'll use to buy a new car then maybe pay off some HECS debt.

Andrew is the first Tasmanian to win the race since Ken Hutton in 1941 and if there were an award for Gift perseverance, odds are he would win it.

This is Andrew's fourth try at winning the race, which he describes as his "ultimate goal" – and his first time at getting past the gruelling heats deciding the finalists.

The 22 Stawell Gift heats are run on Easter Saturday; heat winners and the next 20 fastest runners go into the Monday semi-finals.

The semis consist of six races, each with seven runners. The six winners go into the Gift.

"When I won the semi I had a sense of relief," Andrew said. "All I wanted to do was run on the Monday with that big supportive crowd and the TV coverage."

"Winning the final still feels surreal. It's a blur – I can't remember parts of the race."

"Before the final I believed I had a good chance at winning and I just concentrated on getting to the line – although 10m from the finish I knew they couldn't beat me."

Because the Stawell Gift is handicapped, the winner is the runner who can rise to the occasion on the day.

Andrew was a rank outsider listed at \$81 with bookmakers before the heats and \$13 before the final. But he gained an edge when favourite Mitchell Williams-Swain, the 2011 winner, had a false start, penalising him an extra metre.

As he studies in Launceston, Andrew gets weekly training instructions by phone from his Hobart-based coach, Ray Quarrell, only joining his Hobart training squad



On target as an early childhood teacher: 2013 Stawell Gift winner Andrew Robinson is studying for his BEd at the UTAS Newnham campus.

fortnightly. Andrew's dad, a former runner himself, helps out in Andrew's training sessions at Windsor Park in Riverside.

But uni doesn't play second fiddle in Andrew's life. He's wanted to teach very young children ever since he worked his gap year as a teacher's aide at Scotch Oakburn College, his old school.

"I loved the year and that's how I got into early childhood teaching," he said. "I also enjoy uni and having the chance to work towards a fulfilling career."

When the furore of Stawell dies down, Andrew will discuss his running future with his Hobart-based coach, Ray Quarrell.

"Training for the Olympics would be a lot of hard work," he said. "I want to finish what I've started and have a career as a teacher."



photo courtesy of AAP

2013 Stawell Gift winner: "Winning the final still feels surreal. It's a blur – I can't remember parts of the race."

In conversation



Professor Peter Rathjen
VICE-CHANCELLOR

A healthy focus in the North

A recent front page of *the Examiner* newspaper was emblazoned with the UTAS red lion and the headline 'Breaking news – healthy injection for North'.

It reported that northern Tasmania might become a centre of sports science, health and well-being under a plan being considered by the university. Like other 'big ideas', the inspiration for this project had its genesis over many months, as we have carefully considered how to use the inherent strengths of the north and north-west to shape the long-term future of our regional campuses.

In the words of our Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Janelle Allison, who wrote for *the Examiner*, it is about "getting the building blocks right, identifying focus areas for specialisations and developing supportive learning environments".

The aim of the project is to establish Launceston as a centre of excellence for education and research in physical activity. New courses at the interface between sport and education, including sports management and allied health, will expand opportunities for Tasmanian and other students who wish to study at UTAS. Co-location of university and sporting facilities will promote both elite sport and broader community participation in exercise. Learnings from research into the benefits of a healthy lifestyle will be communicated to improve health literacy throughout the community.

The university's Newnham and Inveresk campuses are ideal sites for this initiative because of the significant health infrastructure, expertise and student accommodation planned or in place. There may also be opportunities for our campuses in the south and north west, heralding a statewide approach to major health-related issues impacting on the Tasmanian population: redressing deficiencies in allied health professionals, improving community wellbeing and creating new economic opportunity.

Over the past few weeks it has become apparent that key university stakeholders, all sides of politics and the broader community see merit in the proposal. Community-based advocacy will be a major determinant of success, particularly in terms of garnering the required government, private enterprise and collaborative investment.

Building and harnessing a critical mass of talent in the north creates opportunity for UTAS and the local community. Our innovative Academy of Creative Industries and Performing Arts will find a northern home on the Inveresk campus, while the Australian Maritime College has been bolstered by targeted recruitment of world-class staff. Each of these initiatives combines regional-specific opportunities for students with the development of industry sectors that create high value jobs. They also align our regional campuses with our strategic intent to build a world class university.

There should be much to celebrate in the North this year.

Peter Rathjen
Vice-Chancellor

www.utas.edu.au/vc



The view
from here

The political realities of gaming reform

Associate Professor Richard Eccleston from the School of Social Sciences provided an overview of the politics of gambling reform in Australia in his recent keynote address to the National Association of Gambling Studies. This is an edited excerpt of his speech.

I'm not a gambler; indeed I take some strange puritanical pride in not only avoiding Melbourne cup functions but also having no idea about any of the horses in the field.

But as a political scientist I am interested in the politics of gambling regulation broadly defined because as a policy arena it is fiercely contested and provides insights into who wields power in the political process. As former Productivity Commission Chair Garry Banks argued: "It (gambling) is hard to think of another area of social policy where this combination of obstacles to good public policy is so marked".

So, what is the rationale for gaming regulation?

A central tenet of Australia's deeply entrenched liberal political culture is that individual liberties should be protected and celebrated. But even among classic liberal scholars this commitment to promoting economic and social freedom is limited by what has come to be known as the 'harm principle'.

Practically, 'harm' can be regarded as limiting another's freedom or life chances without their consent. Moreover, governments have a particular obligation to protect the young, marginalised, poorly educated and ill from exploitation.

To what extent does gambling need to be regulated? Firstly, it is important to acknowledge that for more than 95 per cent of Australians gambling is an informed, rational and presumably enjoyable form of entertainment. Australians have a long tradition of betting on everything and anything: flies crawling up a wall, two-up and horse racing. The challenge for those advocating tighter regulation of gambling is not only to mobilise evidence but to challenge deeply-held norms.

However, there is evidence that 80,000 to 160,000 people are 'problem gamblers' who face adverse

health, emotional and financial impacts, with negative consequences for their families, communities and broader society.

Most of us agree that some form of gaming regulation is justified: the politically challenging question is the scope and nature of it.

While there will always be points of contention, after two decades of research, two Productivity Commission reports and numerous government and parliamentary inquiries there is a solid and growing body of evidence concerning the causes, extent and impact of problem gambling with high intensity Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) or 'pokies' shouldering most of the blame.

Evidence is less clear in terms of the best interventions to reduce problem gambling with the Productivity Commission and Andrew Wilkie advocating Mandatory Pre-Commitment (MPC) technology while the Greens prefer strict bet limits. Given that the incidence of problem gambling is relatively stable we had the time to conduct a thorough and independent evaluation of MPC – its just a pity that the Labor government ran out of political will.

Such a trial would have established whether MPC is an effective policy response to problem gambling. This type of evaluation is especially important in contested policy arenas such as gambling regulation where 'sham regulations' or symbolic policy responses devised so governments are seen to be doing something irrespective of whether it actually achieves policy goals, are all too common. Codes of conduct and various self-help programs may fall into this category.

So why is gambling reform so politically contentious?

There are a host of structural and institutional barriers to more rigorous gambling regulation. These barriers include the concentration of the industry and State government's



Cartoon by Mark Monnone

"Australians have a long tradition of betting on everything and anything: flies crawling up a wall, two-up and horse racing. The challenge is not only to mobilise evidence but to challenge deeply-held norms."

dependence on gaming taxation (\$7–8 billion plus GST) combined with their role as the jurisdiction which regulates the industry.

Given these barriers it is essential that debates about gaming reform remain on the overt political agenda. In his recent book *Quiet politics and business power*, the fantastically named American political scientist, Pepper Culpepper, argues that industry power is much greater when an issue is off the mainstream political agenda and there are no countervailing public interest groups.

Australia clearly needs political entrepreneurs at the interface of the policy and political worlds to sustain and promote the debate. Clearly Nick Xenophon and Andrew Wilkie have made contributions but there are others.

One example is the former NSW auditor-general's recent intervention in relation to the

process for granting additional casino licences in Sydney highlighting the all-too-cosy relationship between casino operators and the major political parties in NSW. Is reform likely?

Given the significant barriers to policy change, promoting gambling reform is a high-risk strategy. When combined with a more general decline in reform capacity in the Australian political system and the timidity of political leadership on both sides of politics the prospects of reform are poor.

However, if problem gambling is deemed to be a significant problem and a decisive response is necessary, then government may be forced to broker a grand bargain where the industry has an interest in reducing the most damaging forms of gaming.

For example, if high-intensity pokies are deemed to

be so damaging to the broader community then government may be able to justify providing the industry with financial incentives to phase them out. Perhaps this could be bundled with a broader package of state funding reforms. While such an approach would be controversial it would be pragmatic and has precedents in National Competition Policy and even the carbon tax.

To conclude, policy change will be slow and incremental because risk-averse politicians will be extremely reluctant to propose and implement bold reforms. An alternative reform pathway is for stakeholders to lead debate by forming coalitions crossing the traditional divide between industry and those who propose tighter regulation. When these cross-class coalitions exist they are difficult for government to ignore.

New Domain nursing building suited to Gen Y and mature-age students

BY PETER COCHRANE

The School of Nursing and Midwifery on the Domain site in Hobart is a “fabulous combination of heritage building and modern facilities”, according to Professor Steven Campbell.

It is a fitting juxtaposition, says Prof. Campbell, who joined UTAS as the Head of School 11 weeks before the refurbished building was officially opened by Senator Carol Brown and the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Rathjen. “We have a combination of Gen Y and mature-age students and this facility has something for everybody.”

Perhaps in a nod to the painstakingly restored central stained-glass window, he said the project represented “a wonderful reflection looking back to the past, and looking to the future with the clinical simulation kit”.

“We are so far ahead of the game here,” he said of the simulation opportunities. “We can put together different situations to challenge the students so when they go out to practice they are better prepared than the average university graduate.”

The locating of the School of Nursing and Midwifery’s fast-track two-year course on the Domain site also has the advantage of bringing the 170 students currently enrolled

into close contact with the staff and other students at the Medical Science 1 and 2 buildings, and the Royal Hobart Hospital.

“It is too easy for health professionals to end up in little silos of nursing and pharmacy and medicine,” Prof. Campbell said. “We leaders in this area want our students to be mingling with other health professionals. It is also very Gen Y to want to be connected with many different people in the university.”

While commonly known as the electrical engineering building, the building has had many uses since its original opening in 1924. At various times it has hosted the teaching of physics and of chemistry. During World War II it housed army personnel.

The refurbishment, overseen by UTAS’ built environment and development team, cost \$5.3 million, largely funded through the Commonwealth Teaching and Learning Capital Fund (Higher Education).

Many features of the original 80-seat lecture theatre have been retained – including student graffiti on the wooden benches. Also retained are the World War II-era chalk drawings found on the wall of a cleaner’s cupboard underneath the staircase.



Nursing and paramedic students: In the original 80-seat lecture theatre. Photo by Sam Rosewarne, Newspix.



The former electrical engineering building: Refurbished at a cost of \$5.3 million.



The leaded-glass window: Previously hidden from view by a partition, it was restored by Gavin Merrington.



From Antarctica to Tasmania: Professor Mark Hunt is heading up the new National Centre for Future Forest Industries at UTAS.

A return to Tasmania for new future forests boss

BY AARON SMITH

UNTIL RECENTLY Professor Mark Hunt was station leader at Australia's East Antarctica base, Casey Station. Now he is reacclimatising to Tasmania, having taken up the role of director of the new National Centre for Future Forest Industries at UTAS.

The centre has been allocated \$2.5 million in federal funding over the next three years to focus on research related to the use of forests for economic benefits.

Tassie born and bred, Prof. Hunt has had a relationship with UTAS spanning more than 20 years, completing his PhD in forest ecophysiology in 1998.

Prof. Hunt says Tasmania is the perfect place for the national research centre to be based, both because UTAS is one of the highest-rated universities in the country for research in forestry and because the state has had a long, complex, though often controversial, forestry sector.

Over the past 20 years Prof. Hunt's career has spanned government, university and the private sector in a variety of forest ecosystems, including tropical and subtropical. As well as his Australian experience, he has completed significant aid work in South-East Asia and the Pacific and he is still adjunct professor for the University of the Sunshine Coast.

"What's needed in this centre is a national perspective," he commented.

"I have been involved with cooperative research centres and other national collaborations for 20 years and my entire career has been about bridging government, industry and university sectors."

CSAW's goal to find a use for Tasmania's plantation timber

BY SHARON WEBB

Now a Tasmanian pulp mill seems unlikely, how do we use the timber in our 233,000 hectares of eucalypt plantations? Associate Professor Greg Nolan from the Centre for Sustainable Architecture with Wood says Tasmania has the manufacturing skills to get the most value out of timber products but faces the question of how to deploy that skill to face the state's timber problems ...

CSAW grew out of the UTAS School of Architecture and Design's successful Timber Research Unit; it is active in research and education in sustainable architecture with wood and the use of plantation and regrowth eucalypt timber in building.

Largely externally funded, it operates out of the architecture school at Inveresk and the School of Engineering in Hobart. It has an extensive and established network of collaborative partnerships with Australian industry, research agencies and other universities.

CSAW's major task in 2013 is to find a use for Tasmania's extensive eucalypt plantation timber.

Tasmania has three types of wood resource, Assoc. Prof. Nolan said: native forest hardwoods, plantation pine and plantation eucalypts, mainly

shining gum, *E. nitens*.

"Producers in this state use native forest hardwood primarily to make appearance products – floors, furniture. Under current discussions, 137,000 cubic metres of high-value sawlogs a year will be available until 2020, and then supply drops to about 104,000 cubic metres. That's down from 300,000 a couple of years ago. This is a big change with a big economic impact."

Tasmania has about 77,000 hectares of plantation pine, producing about 450,000 cubic metres of pine sawlogs a year. This material is mainly sawn into structural timber for building, according to Assoc. Prof. Nolan.

"In addition we grow 233,000 hectares of eucalypt plantation, predominantly for fibre (pulp) with some grown for sawlogs.

"Some of this material may be suitable for higher-value appearance products, such as flooring. The rest could be converted into structural products for buildings. But the structural market is competitive and the processes need to be economic," Assoc. Prof. Nolan said.

"This is all tied up with sustainable development of our built environment. Making and operating buildings generates



Finding a use for Tasmania's plantation timber: Head of the School of Architecture and Design, Professor Stephen Loo (left) and the director of the UTAS Centre for Sustainable Architecture with Wood, Associate Professor Greg Nolan (right) tour the Inveresk architecture facilities with Senator Richard Colbeck. The towers in the background were built in CSAW's timber workshops over summer.

large amount of greenhouse gas emissions. If we want a low-carbon economy, we should be making buildings from renewable materials such as wood and using renewable energy to operate them. This energy can also come from wood."

According to Assoc. Prof. Nolan, Tasmania has the manufacturing skills to get the most value out of timber products.

"The question is: How can you deploy that skill to face the problems the state has?"

"CSAW is now seeking to work with the university's new National Centre for Future Forest Industries to answer these questions. The former Forestry CRC was primarily concerned with growing the resource, principally for fibre. Now, the resource is in the ground but we only have one pulp mill running: at Boyer and it uses a pine resource.

"So, we have a significant hardwood resource and we need to find economic applications for it."

Workshops in wood a towering success

BY LANA BEST

From a Victorian coffin-maker to a Western Australian interior designer to a Tamar Valley wood turner there was no shortage of interest in the UTAS School of Architecture and Design summer schools.

Hong Kong designer Victor Leung joined research fellow Dr Jon Shanks and

lecturer Peter Booth from the Centre for Sustainable Architecture with Wood for the Digital Fabrication with Timber Studio.

During the three-day studio participants developed an appreciation of 3D parametric modelling, digitally driven fabrication, rapid prototyping and the design of geometrically complex structures in timber.

Each participant designed and built a scale model of a tower, and one was chosen to be built to a height of 8m in the Inveresk workshop; it now stands beside towers built in the two previous years.

A few weeks later an Australian Timber Design Workshop, also run by CSAW, continued its long tradition of 'learning by making'.

The workshop was

structured to develop skills in design with wood with participants gaining experience in using laser cutters, routers, 3D modelling software and parametric design tools.

Students from UTAS and NSW worked on a small timber structure that would benefit the local community, in this case a garden shed with a difference at St Finn Barr's Primary School in Launceston.

ANU academic's Foundation award is "poignant"

BY SHARON WEBB

Marnie Hughes-Warrington describes her award as 2013 University of Tasmania Foundation Graduate as "a thrill but very poignant for me and my family".

She is currently deputy vice-chancellor (academic) at the Australian National University and her father, former UTAS noted chemistry academic Marshall Hughes, died last year.

"I was happy to accept the award in recognition of his life's work and my mother's support," she said.

"The award was powerful; it affirmed my whole family's sense of attachment to the University of Tasmania."

Professor Hughes-Warrington gained a Bachelor of Education with first-class honours at UTAS in 1992. Her PhD is from Oxford University (1995) gained after she won a Rhodes Scholarship.

She is a historian but her passion is good teaching, hence her current research in 'measuring teaching quality' which involves prestigious collaborators at Melbourne, Griffith and Monash universities. She is also regarded as a world leader in curriculum reform and renewal in history.



University of Tasmania Foundation Graduate for 2013: Currently deputy vice-chancellor (academic) at the Australian National University, Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington gained her Bachelor of Education with first-class honours at UTAS in 1992.

Prof. Hughes-Warrington is currently responsible for enhancing the ANU's national and global leadership in research-led education. Her work takes her from innovative double degree design to

ANU participation in the online consortium edX and the recent \$50m Tuckwell gift for student scholarships.

Her first book, *Fifty key thinkers on history* (2000) has sold 30,000 copies and is now

in its third edition. Since then she has published five more books; her latest, on revisionism in history, is due out in July.

Prof. Hughes-Warrington has taught at Oxford, Leipzig, Monash and Macquarie universities, as well as Harvard and the University of Washington in Seattle.

"The award was powerful; it affirmed my whole family's sense of attachment to the University of Tasmania."

In March she was listed in *The Australian* newspaper's higher education league tables as being among "the top 20 Australian academics to watch".

Responding to the listing, Prof. Hughes-Warrington said: "I hope so. I'd like to see that as meaning people see you as having focus, as caring about the tertiary education sector and wanting to make good changes."

working with six premiers and six treasurers in Liberal and Labor governments.

Nicholas Hope has made an outstanding contribution to economic development in emerging countries at the World Bank and as director of the Centre for International Development at Stanford University.

Dr Hope studied maths and physics at UTAS, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in 1965 and gaining a Rhodes Scholarship. He gained a Bachelor of Arts at Oxford University in 1967 and a Bachelor of Philosophy in Economics in 1969. He went on to study economics at Princeton University, graduating with a PhD in 1975.

Dr Hope was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2012 for service to the international business and finance sector.

Renowned economists honoured by the University of Tasmania Foundation: Dr Nicholas Hope and Don Challen are congratulated by the chair of the UTAS Alumni Committee, Dr Ashley Townsend (centre)

internationally," he said.

Don Challen's career was founded on 15 years as a University of Tasmania academic economist after he graduated as a Bachelor of Economics with first class honours in 1970.

Appointed secretary of the Department of Treasury and Finance in 1993, he held the position for 17 years,

Distinguished Alumni Award.

UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen said recognising the achievement of alumni is important for universities. "Don Challen and Nicholas Hope have made a significant impact in the world of economics, one at a local level, the other

TWO RENOWNED economists were honoured at the recent annual University of Tasmania Foundation dinner.

Former secretary of the Department of Treasury and Finance, Don Challen, and former senior director of the World Bank, Nicholas Hope, were both presented with a



Bouquets



Karli Franks

"It's been the best thing I've ever done for my career," UTAS student Karli Franks said of her recent trip to Canberra to attend the 2013 National Rural Women's Coalition conference. The Graduate Certificate in Business student was chosen

by the Pro vice-chancellor (regional development) to attend, where networking and listening to stories of other rural women from across Australia provided invaluable knowledge and inspiration. "The conference has given some good connections with other rural and regional areas," she said.



Damien Bourke

Two UTAS students have been awarded scholarships in memory of the late Sue Napier, former educator and former member of the Tasmanian House of Assembly. Damien Bourke of Claremont will complete a Master of Teaching

degree with a scholarship valued at \$5,000 a year for two years. Angus King of Marrawah, whose goal is to become a primary school teacher, has been awarded a scholarship valued at \$4,000 a year for four years to complete his Bachelor of Education degree. Both scholarships are funded by the Tasmanian Department of Education.



Kate Longey

Teacher and UTAS alumna Kate Longey has won the Teaching Excellence category of the Southern Cross Young Achiever Awards, sponsored by the UTAS Faculty of Education. Kate teaches at Dominic College in Hobart and has developed

a pilot program for disengaged students, The Magone Program. Now the program's lead teacher, Kate is also responsible for implementing the Rock and Water Program, designed to teach young people safety, integrity, solidarity, self control, self confidence and self respect. As well as the trophy, Kate won \$2,000 and a holiday.



Alice Dwyer

Three graduates from the UTAS School of Architecture and Design have featured in the Design Institute of Australia's Vic/Tas Graduate of the Year Awards held in Melbourne. Environmental design alumnus Alice Dwyer and furniture

design alumnus Matthew Smith won awards for their categories with Erin Lacey, also an interior design honours alumnus, runner-up in the interior design section. Alice and Matthew have qualified for the national award which will be announced in May. The award is created to support designers in the early stages of their careers. Established by the Design Institute of Australia, the awards recognise excellence in emerging designers.

Distinguished economics alumni recognised

New food innovation centre for UTAS



All in favour of Tasmanian food innovation: (Back row from left) DSTO Human Protection and Performance Division research leader Nicholas Beagley, UTAS Dean of the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology Margaret Britz, CFI Director Roger Stanley, DSTO's Human Protection and Performance Division Chief Simon Oldfield, Minister for Defence Science and Personnel Warren Snowdon, MHR Geoff Lyons, DSTO Scottsdale site manager Terry Moon. (Front row from left) UTAS Centre for Food Innovation collaborative agreement signatories CSIRO Chief of Animal, Food and Health Sciences Professor Martin Cole, UTAS VC Peter Rathjen and DSTO's Chief Defence Scientist Dr Alex Zelinsky.

BY **LANA BEST**

“LET’S GET out there and make it happen.”

They were the rallying words from the foundation director of the new UTAS Centre for Food Innovation (CFI) as it was officially launched this month at the UTAS Newnham campus.

Professor Roger Stanley was addressing more than 70 invited guests ahead of the first coup for the centre – the signing of a collaborative agreement with the Commonwealth Government’s Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) and the

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO).

Prof. Stanley also outlined his vision for the centre, which will bring together the expertise of nutritionists and food technologists to undertake food research on behalf of Tasmania’s primary producers and the DSTO facility in Scottsdale which makes ration packs for Australia’s armed forces.

From freeze-drying pears to pressure-packing fruit juice the centre will be about finding innovative ways to value-add to what farmers already grow to the highest standards.

Prof. Stanley said that

the CFI had become a reality because there is a widespread belief that Tasmania is the right place to produce, process and package quality food that can feed the nation.

“This university has the ability to reach the producers through the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture, and then pull in areas such as the Australian Maritime College with its logistics expertise and the School of Human Life Sciences with its knowledge of nutrition and exercise physiology,” he said.

During the launch UTAS Vice-Chancellor Peter Rathjen, CSIRO chief of animal, food

From freeze-drying pears to pressure-packing fruit juice the centre will be about finding innovative ways to value-add to what farmers already grow to the highest standards.

and health sciences Professor Martin Cole and DSTO’s chief defence scientist Dr Alex Zelinsky signed an agreement that will link Tasmania to national food research networks and initiate joint research projects.

It’s a partnership that aims to help diversify Tasmania’s economic base by growing exports of high-quality, nutritious and value-added food products.

Prof. Rathjen said that he is pleased to see an important agriculture-based centre established in Launceston and he looks forward to it contributing to a brighter future for the state’s primary producers.

“The CFI is already consulting industry to establish regional networks and facilities associated with industry where local producers can work collaboratively and with researchers to test their ideas.”

Elphinstone Scholarship ensures health skills in the NW



Elphinstone Scholarship in Medical Radiation Sciences: The 2013 scholarship recipient Kirsten Loring (right) with Mrs Cheryl Elphinstone, whose family, with the Tasmanian Government, donated the scholarship.

BY **ANNA OSBORNE**

FIRST-YEAR UTAS student Kirsten Loring is the 2013 recipient of the Elphinstone Scholarship in Medical Radiation Sciences.

“I’ve always been interested in health science and decided to study a Bachelor of Health Science in Launceston. I intend to do a masters in medical radiation at Monash University to become a radiation therapist,” Kirsten said.

The scholarship provides her with up to \$20,000 for each year of her degree.

“Having this available has taken a lot of pressure off my everyday life and means that I won’t need to get part-time work; it allows me to achieve the academic results I’d like to reach.”

Kirsten is the fifth recipient of the scholarship, which is part of the \$1.2m Elphinstone Scholarship program. The program has been made available through a partnership between the Tasmania Government and local business Elphinstone Group/Family Trust. It is designed to ensure the North-West Coast retains university graduates who are trained to operate specialised equipment.

Recipients honour a contract to return to work in the region for three years.

What’s on

LECTURES

MAY 10

Public debate

Vitamin D: Should a regular screening program be introduced in Australia? A Menzies Research Institute 25th Anniversary Event

Time: 6:00pm

Venue: Medical Sciences Precinct, Lecture Theatre 2, 17 Liverpool Street, Hobart

Info: Bookings essential, Reception.MSP@utas.edu.au or 03 6226 7700

MAY 17

Blue Sky Series Lecture

Anthea Harris, Chief Executive Officer, Climate Change Authority,

Time: 5:00pm–6:30pm

Venue: Stanley Burbury Theatre, University Centre, Sandy Bay campus

Info: Register online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/blueskyseries> or 03 6232 7453.

MAY 17

The Science of Crowds and Cocktail Parties

A fun and FREE look at the science behind crowd dynamics and cocktail parties with Catalyst presenter, Ruben Meerman.

Time: 7:00pm–8:30pm

Venue: SMOLT Function Room, Salamanca Square

Info: Sarah.Bayne@utas.edu.au

MAY 23

Richard Selby Smith Oration 2013

Professor Geoff Master, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Council for Educational Research

Time: 6:00pm–7:30pm

Venue: Stanley Burbury Theatre, University Centre, Sandy Bay campus

Info: UTAS.Events@utas.edu.au or 03 6226 2521

MAY 30

Grit in the Shell: Learning Cultures in Tasmania - A Workshop

A workshop facilitated by Jane Stratton of THINK + DO TANK. Cost: \$25 per person to be paid upon confirmation of your place.

Time: 10:30am - 3:00pm

Venue: Tamar Room, Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre, Newnham campus

Info: Joanne.McLaren@utas.edu.au or 03 6324 3343

EXHIBITIONS

6 JUNE

Performance of the Hobart Wind Symphony

Time: 7:00pm–8:30pm

Venue: Conservatorium Recital Hall, 5 Sandy Bay Road, Hobart

Info: Conservatorium.Admin@utas.edu.au