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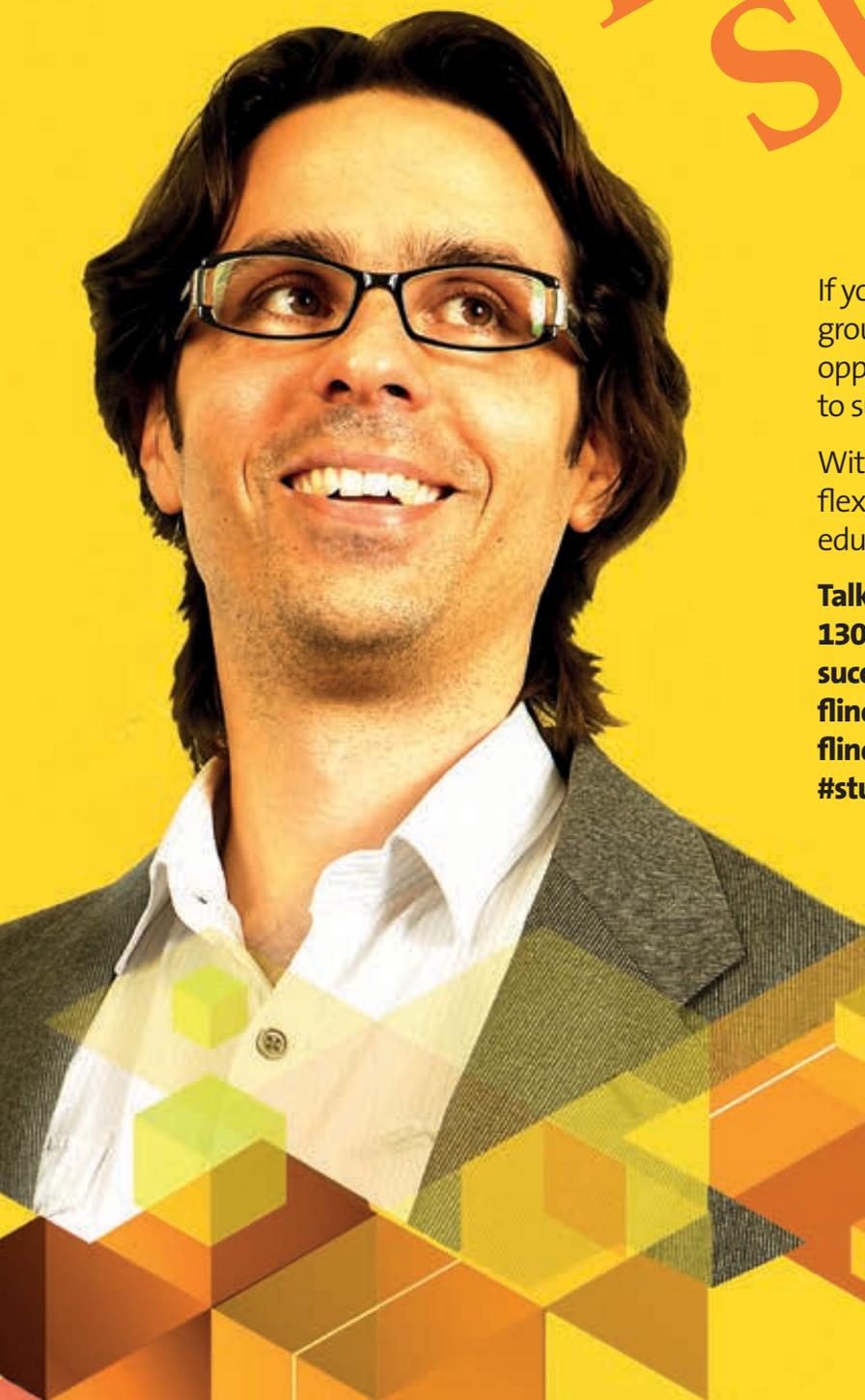
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Encounter

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM FLINDERS UNIVERSITY

Flinders University awarded its 2014 Convocation Medal to the highly successful businessman and alumnus, Junling Liu

Volume 25, 2014–15

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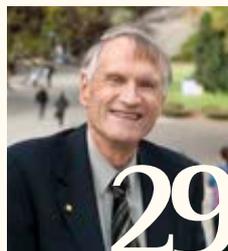
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Tonsley leads Flinders Future Focus delivery

(L-R) Hills CEO Ted Pretty, Flinders University's Director Buildings and Property David Banks, Hills Head of Operations Colin Taylor

With 50th anniversary celebrations only a year away, Flinders is going through an exciting phase of development to create a new face for the University.

In the largest investment program the University has undertaken since it opened in 1966, Flinders Future Focus delivers major infrastructure projects, plus a series of upgrades and refurbishment across campus.

Flinders is investing \$200 million over the next four years to create a dynamic university experience that will transform lives. The new face of Flinders University is one where our students can learn, connect and play in world-class facilities, with the best academics in a supportive and encouraging environment, inspiring achievement so that students and staff alike can reach their full potential.

The University's vision for Flinders at Tonsley will be realised in 2015 with the official unveiling of a new state-of-the-art, six storey, 18,000 square metre facility. The \$120 million teaching, research and innovation space designed by award-winning international architects HASSELL centrally locates the University's School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics, Medical Device Research Institute and Centre for Nanoscale Science and Technology, alongside some of Adelaide's biggest businesses and industry. South Australian-owned technology and communications company Hills is also relocating its South Australian development and innovation centres, product teams and support services to Tonsley.

With over 150 staff and 2,000 students housed at Tonsley, this is a place where our students interact with business, where business interacts with our researchers in areas such as engineering, medical devices and nanoscale technologies, to make the new products and processes of the 21st century.

Flinders at Tonsley is also the hub for our entrepreneurs, next generation start-ups and employers through the New Venture Institute (NVI). Working with industry and business, the NVI runs programs, mentors and helps the next generation of ideas to become reality. Flinders Partners will also be based at Tonsley.

Also located at Flinders at Tonsley is the Cisco Networking Academy, giving Flinders students an opportunity to gain industry recognised Cisco qualifications and where applicable, gain credit from those courses towards their Flinders degrees. This new laboratory is funded by Cisco as part of a "first in its kind" memorandum of understanding signed between Flinders University and Cisco.

An eighteen month transformation of Flinders University's ICT platform placing it at the forefront of higher education institutions worldwide was recognised in September 2014 with the prestigious *iAwards CIO of the Year* accolade being awarded to the University's Pro Vice-Chancellor (Information Services) and Chief Information Officer, Professor Richard Constantine. This extremely prestigious award normally goes to CIOs of very large public companies or governments, and this is the first time that this Award has gone to a university.

The successful roll-out of Connecting Flinders means Flinders now has one of the fastest and most reliable WIFI networks in the world. This major ICT infrastructure investment also includes advanced online teaching and research capability, enhanced video conferencing, and stronger social media collaboration – significantly improving how students, staff and visitors to the University connect locally and globally.

And finally the centrepiece: the Plaza Redevelopment and Student Hub – an exciting new heart for the Flinders' campus – which opens in 2016. Offering a terraced amphitheatre for live performances and outdoor movie screenings; a food court with healthy affordable food options including a café and pub; student kitchens to make a meal with friends; quiet study spaces and group study lounges, the new Plaza and Student Hub is designed to provide the best student experience in Australia.

Complementing the physical transformation of Flinders is a Student Service Delivery project that will support students and meet their needs with an efficient, 'one-stop' service. The University is working on all aspects of that experience with an immediate focus on enabling access to high quality information, advice and support at a time and place which meets student needs. The Student Service Delivery project has been established to design and implement a new service delivery model for Flinders University. In the first instance, Flinders is seeking to create a Centre of Excellence for managing student enquiries and will be working closely with staff and students to determine how best to achieve that.

For more information visit,
flinders.edu.au/flindersfuturefocus

Michelle Bini

The secret of Torrens Island

While the twin chimneys of the power station on Torrens Island are a familiar sight to most Adelaideans, few are aware that in the First World War the island was home to a self-styled 'concentration camp' for up to 400 German detainees.

And thanks to the photographic skills of one of the prisoners, there is a remarkable visual record of their lives behind the barbed wire.

Flinders historian Peter Monteath is co-author of a book about the camp, *Interned: Torrens Island, 1914 to 1915*, and is co-curator of a linked exhibition in the South Australian Migration Museum that will run until mid-2015.

Associate Professor Monteath said the exhibition uses the photos of Paul Dubotzki, brought together from State libraries and other collections (including Dubotzki's home-town in Germany), as the focus for a history of the Torrens Island camp.

Associate Professor Monteath said that initially those detained by the authorities comprised the German crews and passengers of ships that came to Australia at the time of the outbreak of the war.

"They were particularly interested in reservists, those of military age, who, had they been allowed to return to Germany, probably would have been drafted into the army," Associate Professor Monteath said.

As the war progressed and attitudes hardened, the criteria would widen to include naturalised Germans and even some Australian-born Germans.

Conditions in the camp were primitive. The internees lived in tents, and were exposed to the extremes of the elements in summer and winter. Basic food was supplied, and the prisoners cooked for themselves in makeshift kitchens.

Security relied on barbed wire and the isolation of the island, as well as a large contingent of guards. Discipline, after the arrival of camp commandant Captain Hawkes in 1915, was brutal – Dubotzki took photographs of bayonet wounds, and at least one internee was shot.

Inactivity and boredom, however, were probably the internees' greatest enemies.

A consolidation of the internment system, which included other island camps – Rottneest in Western Australia and Bruny



in Tasmania – saw the German prisoners sent to Holdsworth in New South Wales, and the Torrens Island camp was closed in August 1915.

Thanks to military censorship, most of Adelaide's population remained ignorant of the camp's existence. Only after the end of the war were there reports concerning the maltreatment of the internees.

Associate Professor Monteath said the camps, and the internment policy, were a manifestation of Australia's wider policy.

"Levels of anxiety grew, especially after 1916 when Australian forces began fighting Germans on the Western Front, and beyond that the Government had to work harder to persuade people to enlist, so they had to create the sense of an enemy at home," he said.

"It fed the atmosphere of distrust towards people of German heritage, even if the vast majority, no doubt, were loyal Australians, and certainly regarded themselves as such.

"Many of the internees resented their treatment and protested their loyalty, but there were very few avenues of appeal."

The injustice did not end in 1918: many internees, including men with Australian wives and families, were repatriated to Germany after the war.

Interned: Torrens Island, 1914 – 1915 by Peter Monteath, Mandy Paul and Rebecca Martin, is published by Wakefield Press.

Charles Gent



Campus to receive a major makeover



(L-R) Student Tamara Babij, Emeritus Professor Max Brennan, Vice-Chancellor Michael Barber, Chancellor Stephen Gerlach

More than 400 staff, students and alumni were present in September to welcome the start of construction of the Plaza Redevelopment and Student Hub – a project that will redefine the character of Flinders University and enhance the student and staff experience at Bedford Park.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Michael Barber, said the Plaza Redevelopment and Student Hub project will be a “student-owned” space that connects essential services such as associations, retail outlets and academic assistance, as well as providing opportunities for individual or group study and socialising.

“As Flinders University reflects on the past half century and looks to celebrating our formal 50th Anniversary

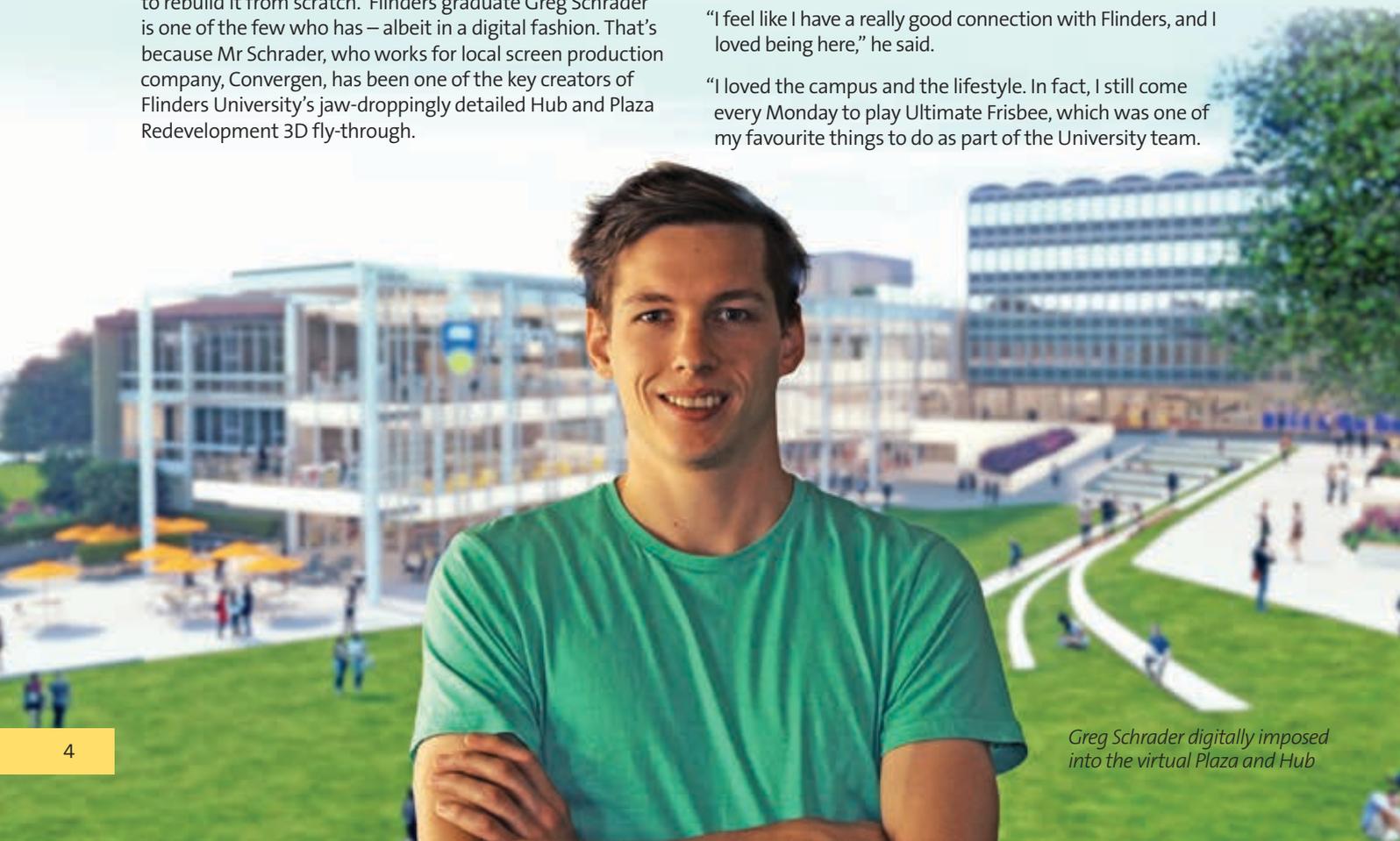
The former student building the future vision of Flinders

It may have been the dream of more than a few students (often in the middle of their exams) to knock down their university. But hardly any would have had the opportunity to rebuild it from scratch. Flinders graduate Greg Schrader is one of the few who has – albeit in a digital fashion. That’s because Mr Schrader, who works for local screen production company, Convergen, has been one of the key creators of Flinders University’s jaw-droppingly detailed Hub and Plaza Redevelopment 3D fly-through.

A Bachelor of Information Technology (2005), Mr Schrader seems relaxed and happy to be back on his old campus as he talks about his time at Flinders – and the task of ‘remaking’ it.

“I feel like I have a really good connection with Flinders, and I loved being here,” he said.

“I loved the campus and the lifestyle. In fact, I still come every Monday to play Ultimate Frisbee, which was one of my favourite things to do as part of the University team.



Greg Schrader digitally imposed into the virtual Plaza and Hub

in time for Flinders 50th anniversary

in 2016, we are creating a future with innovative teaching and learning environments that are responsive to changing student needs," Professor Barber said.

"The new Plaza and Student Hub will become the vibrant heart of the University, offering student support and services as well as social and relaxation spaces, providing the downtime to help students refresh and recharge and to develop strong peer relationships," he said.

The design of the Plaza Redevelopment and Student Hub reflects valuable input from student and staff consultations over the past year. As part of the student consultations, a competition was held for students to

pitch their ideas for possible inclusion in the design of the Plaza Redevelopment and Student Hub, a competition won by Ms Tamara Babij.

Ms Babij said she was "thrilled to see that my suggestions such as group study areas, club spaces, student kitchens and many other aspects aimed at increasing student involvement at the University have been taken aboard".

"Seeing the video of the planned plaza and hub development, I'm confident that the Plaza and Student Hub will make a phenomenal contribution to the student life on campus, providing a forum for students to not only have access to a place to study, but to also socialise and participate in campus clubs and events," Ms Babij said.

The Plaza Redevelopment and Student Hub will feature:

- Quiet study spaces;
- Healthy, affordable, food options;
- Group study lounges;
- A terraced amphitheatre for live performances and screenings;
- Streamlined student service delivery located centrally;
- Improved accessibility to the Central Library;
- Conference facilities;
- A wide range of function venues;
- Free, secure and reliable access to one of the fastest WIFI networks in the world.



"I have quite a variety of roles at Convergen, one of which is programming, while another is 3D work and modelling.

"With the Flinders fly-through, my role was 3D modeller as well as developer for the interactive panoramas."

Mr Schrader's work, which he describes as quite simple really, wowed Flinders visitors, staff and students at a launch in September which coincided with the 50th anniversary of the start of construction of Flinders University at Bedford Park. The Plaza Redevelopment and Student Hub Project is one of the highest profile transformation projects Flinders has embarked on since its establishment in 1966.

More than 400 people watched a big screen 3D flythrough of the future Flinders and, through digital tablets, an interactive 360 degree view of a virtual, transposed future landscape, which moved as the viewer held it against the matching parts of the current plaza.

Designed by award-winning global design and consulting firm Woods Bagot, the \$63 million redevelopment is designed on sustainable and green principles and due for completion by construction firm, Lend Lease, in 2016. It will feature new group study lounges, student kitchens, a terraced amphitheatre for live performances and screenings, streamlined student service

delivery located centrally and improved accessibility to the Central Library and new conference facilities.

Although the Flinders 3D flythrough is one of the most personal projects Mr Schrader has worked on, he has already seen the virtual turned into the actual on projects such as the new Riverbank Bridge which crosses the Torrens to the Adelaide Oval.

"We did a fly through for the new footbridge over the Torrens and because it's finished now when I go and walk along it, it really blows my mind how much it looks like the animation," he said. "I'm hoping it will be the same for Flinders.

"When I'm looking through the Flinders panoramas I can already fairly easily overlay the virtual with the actual environment in my mind because I know it so well."

Mr Schrader says it's been a whirlwind few years since graduation but that he is excited about the future, particularly because of the environment and projects at Convergen.

"Convergen has been in operation since 2009 and I started very shortly after that," he said. "It's been an incredible four and a half years and I've worked on more than 150 projects."

Grant Smyth



Selling the State (and the odd statue)



As a keen soccer fan who has just spent four years in the UK, it's not surprising that Matt Johnson (pictured) likes a round-ball metaphor.

He says while South Australia may not be as flashy as the eastern states, it still boasts a "Premier League economy".

Promoting the State's readiness to do business with the rest of the world is a major part of Mr Johnson's current job in the newly formed Department of State Development, and was also the basis of his duties during his posting to London as the Deputy Agent-General for South Australia.

A 2,000 Economics graduate from Flinders, Mr Johnson was appointed in 2010 to the UK office, where the State has had independent representation since 1858.

Over time, the focus of the office has moved away from representation to more commercially orientated work, Mr Johnson said.

"We work very closely with the Federal Government, with Wine Australia, Tourism Australia and Austrade," Mr Johnson said.

"Our aim is to justify the support back here by providing a platform for South Australian businesses in the UK market, and also an entry point for British businesses and European investors to get more active in our market."

The office works with more than 100 European parent companies with a local presence in South Australia to assist their engagement with government, universities and the private sector.

In recent years, South Australia has also benefited from the involvement of its private sector leaders working in the UK. The 150-member South Australia Club runs four events each year, themed around a specific activity in South Australia.

During his final months in London, Mr Johnson's duties took an unexpected turn with his involvement in a project to honour Matthew Flinders in the UK. Originally conceived around the installation of a commemorative plaque, the project rapidly evolved into the commission of a life-size bronze statue of the explorer to be placed in Euston Station.

As well as organising the unveiling event at Australia House in the Strand, Mr Johnson became part of the project's fundraising, which relied on selling a limited edition of "maquettes" – miniature versions of the statue.

With more maquettes sold in the UK and Australia than were needed to fund the statue, the surplus has been donated to Flinders to establish a new scholarship.

Back in Adelaide, Mr Johnson is heading up the investment and trade function in the Department of State Development.

"On the trade side, it's about developing trade, particularly with countries identified by the State Government as priorities," Mr Johnson said.

The strategy revolves around a network of TradeStart advisers, who provide advice on in-market connections and technical issues to SMEs with ambitions to export their products.

Matt Johnson was presented with a Distinguished Alumni Award at the annual Investigator Lecture in November. Mr Johnson was honoured for "significant contributions to South Australia both in Adelaide and internationally, and to Flinders University through his work on the Matthew Flinders Memorial Statue Steering Committee".

Charles Gent



The Department of State Development's Chief Executive, and Mr Johnson's boss, is Dr Don Russell, who is also a Flinders graduate.

Dr Russell, who followed his honours degree in economics at Flinders with a Masters at Australian National University and

a PhD from the London School of Economics, was principal adviser to Federal Treasurer Paul Keating from 1985 to 1993, and again in 1996.

Dr Russell was Australia's Ambassador to the United States from 1993 to 1995 and was awarded Finders Convocation Medal in 1995.

From 2008 to 2011, Dr Russell was independent chairman of State Super, which manages the \$38 billion New South Wales public service superannuation fund. He has also worked as a global investment strategist at BNY Mellon Asset Management Australia, and for New York research and money management firm Sanford C Bernstein.

From 2011 to 2013, Dr Russell was Secretary of the Federal Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science, Research and Tertiary Education.



Keeping Schoolies safe

With the school year officially over, Encounter Youth chief executive officer Nigel Knowles (pictured) and his seven staffers have recently delivered the event they've been prepping for all year – Schoolies Festival.

The annual Schoolies Festival – which sees thousands of Year 12s flock to Victor Harbor to celebrate the end of their high school education – is managed entirely by the Christian-based, not-for-profit charity and its 600 volunteers, affectionately known as the Encounter Youth “Green Team”.

Working around the clock during the three-day festival, Encounter Youth's specially-trained Green Team volunteers supervise and interact with school-leavers both inside and outside Schoolies Festival – doing everything from cooking free food and picking up rubbish to looking out for teens in trouble.

Before Encounter Youth began in 1999, Schoolies was a chaotic mass gathering of young people – much to the ire of local residents and the Victor Harbor Council.

But thanks to the charity's bevy of volunteers and its partners, including Flinders University, the SA Police, SA Ambulance Service, the Motor Accident Commission and the State Government, Schoolies has been transformed into a safe and fun three-day festival.

“We gained management and structure over something that was out of control,” Mr Knowles says matter-of-factly one Monday morning.

He speaks from a comfy old couch inside the Kings Park Community Church – Encounter Youth's headquarters – because his office is still packed with paperwork and leftover notes from a Schoolies training weekend with Green Team volunteers.

“There's always something to do all year round but when school finishes we're down to the business end,” he says.

“For the first time this year we've run, in partnership with Mitcham Council, a Q&A night designed for parents of Schoolies.

“A lot of parents don't actually realise that Encounter Youth provides the most structured and supervised Schoolies management approach in Australia, so our seminars are a good way to educate parents on what they can do to prepare, but also to alleviate their concerns.”

In 2010 Flinders University became an official sponsor of Encounter Youth. Under the partnership, Flinders sponsors the Flinders University Beach Hut dance venue at Schoolies Festival and provides much-needed financial support to Encounter Youth's Safe Partyng Seminars.

The aim of the Safe Partyng program, Mr Knowles says, is to inform and empower high school students with information on how to “navigate the complexities of coming of age”, including the risks associated with alcohol and other drugs at social events.

This year, more than 130 Safe Partyng Seminars have been delivered SA-wide to over 15,000 students, with the program also expanding to Tasmania and New South Wales for the first time in 2014.

“It's not a shock seminar and we don't tell young people what to do – instead we give them facts and statistics on what their peers are doing to inform them to make safe and sensible decisions.

“We also talk about the impact of alcohol and other drugs on brain development, as well as rational decision-making and emotional responses, then look at planning and preparing for these situations.

“Flinders University has been a fantastic partner in this program – thanks to the University's support we've been able to further our education in SA and now beyond.

“It really sends a message that Flinders cares for young people and wants to make a positive contribution to their lives.”

Emily Charrison

Working to get science a fair hearing

Flinders Law and Environmental Science graduate Carley Bartlett (pictured) is on a quest for understanding.

She wants to understand, for example, why good science is often not included in important decision making. She'd also like to understand why public policy occasionally verges on the irrational or reckless in the face of irrefutable scientific evidence.

This quest has seen her spend the past two years working with the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists as a Graduate Researcher, and will soon take her to the Chambers of Chief Judge of the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales, Brian Preston.

Speaking over the phone from Sydney, she quickly identifies one of the challenges currently facing Australia which could benefit from better use of science.

"I've worked with all thirteen members of the Wentworth Group but in particular I've worked with Professor Bruce Thom, one of the foremost coastal experts in Australia," she said.

"I've been looking at the role of land use planning in preparing for natural disasters and extreme weather events.

"One of the things we've worked on is how we rebuild things destroyed or badly damaged in extreme events.

"Sometimes readily available science is not incorporated into recovery efforts when it seems so obvious it could be.

"If you rebuild something in an area of high risk, particularly with a changing climate, it seems obvious you would reassess if it should be built there at all, but sometimes that doesn't happen.

"Risk of future disasters is not just important when rebuilding, it is also vital when assessing new developments.

"If we can influence planning reforms so there is more consideration of these issues that would be a great thing."

After two years identifying some issues with the Wentworth Group, Ms Bartlett is hoping to achieve a greater understanding of how they are dealt with in law when she begins working as 'tipstaff' for Justice Brian Preston.

"I will sit in court and support the writing of judgments, and work in Chambers with the Judge assisting with drafting speeches and papers," she said.

"That's going to give me a new perspective on the interactions between science and law – for example, what the role of science is in judicial decision making. Hopefully that will help me get a better understanding of how to stand up for science."

Given that Flinders Law School has a proud history of the kind of law reform that Ms Bartlett cares so passionately about, it's not surprising that she has fond memories.

"My time at Flinders was very positive," she said. "I had multiple courses taught by Brendan Grigg, who taught me a lot about Environmental Law.

"I found even the simple practical things, like watching a lot of court proceedings, to be really beneficial."

It was on Flinders University's website, in fact, that she saw the Wentworth Group position.

"I thought it was an incredible opportunity and a great way to combine my science and law background," she said.

"I did a double degree in Law and Environmental Science at Flinders because I loved environmental chemistry in high school and because I also wanted to see how environment fits into the world through law. I had heard of the reputation of Flinders Law School and how it was designed to be more practical and prepare people for the real world and work force.

"I found that to be true. It's given me an invaluable foundation."

Grant Smyth



Flinders congratulates inaugural cotutelle graduate

Jing Wang – the first-ever graduate of a cotutelle PhD awarded by Flinders University – says the experience of living and learning abroad will boost her career opportunities by enriching her research skills and enabling her to build valuable networks.

Ms Wang was awarded her double PhD in June at China's Central South University (CSU), her home institution, following a three-year inter-country comparative study into dementia care in Australia and China, which she undertook as part of a cotutelle agreement between Flinders and CSU.

The concept of a cotutelle, meaning co-tutoring, enables PhD candidates to complete a portion of their doctoral research at home and a portion at a partnering overseas institution, thereby earning a double-badged degree from both their home and host institution.

"The experience of being a PhD candidate in two universities has provided me with more ideas and thoughts about my future research focus, and will facilitate my future collaboration with researchers at Flinders and other Australian universities," Ms Wang said.

"The opportunity to undertake a double doctoral degree will also enhance my prospects in job and grant applications," she said.

Ms Wang's PhD was an extension of an ongoing Flinders-CSU collaborative study that aims to compare aged and dementia care services in Australia and China.

As part of her thesis, she identified the types of burdens encountered by families who care for relatives with dementia in the two countries and explored the impact of these burdens, including the physical, social, emotional, financial and time-intensive challenges, on family caregivers.

She also examined the social, cultural and political challenges affecting family caregivers, and identified possible improvements to dementia care delivery.

Recruiting caregivers from major hospitals, community care centres and nursing homes in Adelaide and China's Hunan province, the study found that relying on family caregivers without adequate dementia services and support by the public healthcare system generates negative health outcomes for both caregivers and their loved ones.

Ms Wang's PhD was supervised by Professor Guo-Ping He at CSU and at Flinders by Dr Lily Xiao and associate supervisor Dr Anita De Bellis.

Dr Xiao, a senior lecturer in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, said the cotutelle has enhanced Ms Wang's research experience and her cultural understanding of Australia, thereby supporting her local and international career prospects.

"The cotutelle has enabled Ms Wang to gain valuable cross-cultural experience and has supported her to build an impressive research track record for job applications," Dr Xiao said.

"In completing her PhD she published three articles in English in international journals with a relatively high rank and impact, as well as two articles in Chinese journals," she said.

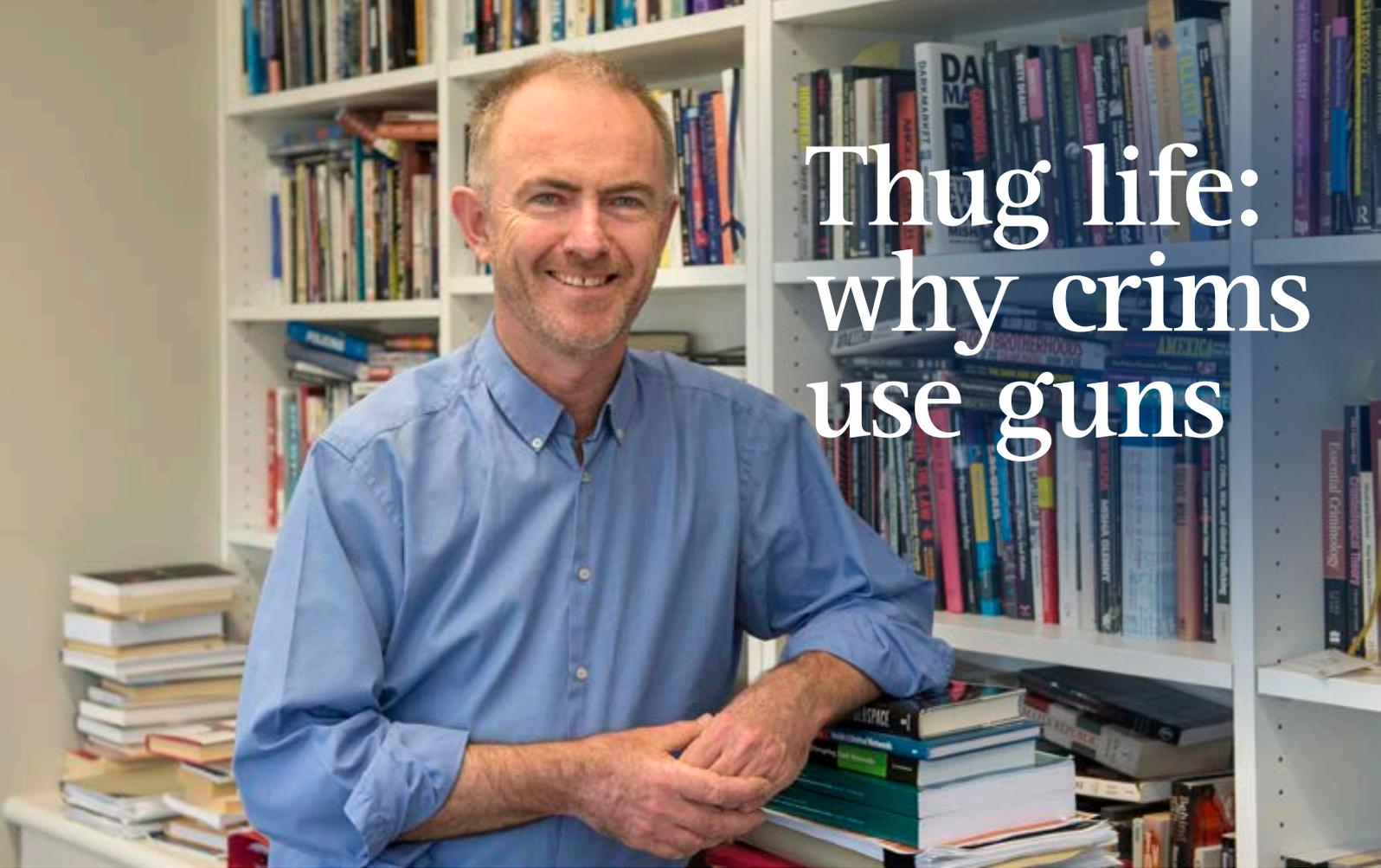
Dr Xiao said the cotutelle has also strengthened the Flinders-CSU collaboration by improving cross-cultural communication during data collection, data analyses and interpretation. She said the program will also support the two teams to build a long-term foundation for research collaboration and a track-record for external grants.

Emily Charrison

大學護理學院 School Of Central South University



(L-R) Flinders University Dr Lily Xiao, Jing Wang and Central South University Professor Guo-Ping He



Thug life: why crims use guns

“Look at me, I’ve got a gun.”

Don’t panic, Flinders University’s resident criminologist Professor Andrew Goldsmith (pictured) doesn’t actually own a gun.

He’s speaking figuratively about the motivations for gun use by criminals.

Apparently, a lot of it comes down to bravado rather than intent to harm.

“People tend to assume that the motivations for gun acquisition and use are to harm or facilitate criminal activity but there’s an element of personal identity, bravado and masculine display that’s also part of the picture,” Professor Goldsmith said.

“It’s about showing off to your mates and appearing tough,” he said.

“There’s also a strong self-protection and intimidation element to gun ownership.”

Most of the research about the uses and meanings of firearms, Professor Goldsmith said, comes from the US and UK, with virtually no information on gun life in Australia.

But thanks to a new grant from the Australian Research Council, Professor Goldsmith is about to conduct an Australian-first study exploring how and why guns are used in criminal life Down Under, thereby building a better

picture of current and emerging trends in Australia’s criminal gun use.

The grant is the first national competitive grant to be awarded to researchers at Flinders’ new Centre for Crime Policy and Research. The Centre was officially launched in June this year.

As part of the three-year study, Professor Goldsmith, fellow Flinders Law School Professor Mark Halsey and Dr David Bright from the University of New South Wales will interview 90 convicted firearms offenders in South Australian and NSW prisons; paying particular attention to the use of illicit firearms in drug trafficking, armed robbery and organised crime.

“We’re interested in offenders’ access to guns, their reasons for acquiring guns, the different ways they use guns and how guns have become part of their identity and commitments to activities in their criminal lives,” Professor Goldsmith, Flinders’ Strategic Professor of Criminology, said.

“We know from international literature that drug trafficking, organised crime activities and armed robbery emerge constantly as areas in which gun possession is prevalent but we want to find out how this relates in the Australian context.

“There seems to be a cultural trend emerging with handguns that we also

want to explore – guns are particularly useful in the criminal world if you can conceal them.”

According to the Australian Crime Commission, there are more than 250,000 illegal long-arms (rifles, shotguns etc) and 10,000 illegal handguns in Australia. Statistics show annual deaths from long-arm weapons dropped by 200 per cent in the 10 years to 2001 while handgun-related homicides almost doubled.

Professor Goldsmith said findings of the research will inform key policy areas including crime prevention, victim assistance, tackling organised crime groups, public reassurance and firearms regulation.

“We’re hoping to create an initial and original contribution to understanding gun crime in Australia, including the links to other crime activities and the expressive dimensions of gun acquisition, display and use.

“The analysis will fill an important policy gap in available knowledge and thereby assist the development of more effective policies to reduce the impact of gun crime within, and upon, Australian communities.”

Emily Charrison

SHAPE-ing the future of SA sport at Flinders



Some of South Australia's top sporting figures made presentations at a symposium to launch Flinders University's new Sport, Health and Physical Education (SHAPE) Research Centre earlier this year.

The SHAPE Centre is a new, multidisciplinary research and development group bringing together researchers in the areas of sport, health and physical education for the benefit of sports clubs, individual athletes and their communities in South Australia.

Unlike other research centres, which primarily focus on performance, SHAPE takes a holistic approach to sport which seeks to improve general health and physical education while also tackling tough social and cultural issues like negative body image and gender issues.

SHAPE Centre Director Professor Murray Drummond, who is one of Australia's leading experts on male body image, said the centre is focused on building a self-sustaining legacy based upon strong partnerships to improve outcomes

for clubs and individual athletes in an unusually diverse range of areas.

"SHAPE will help our local sports clubs by giving them access to important existing research and also by providing an expert service which will evaluate their individual needs and help them improve in the most important areas for them," Professor Drummond said.

In October, young footballers from South Adelaide Football Club got a taste of AFL Draft Camp thanks to the SHAPE Centre.

How high they could jump, how well they ate, how fast they ran, how quickly they recovered and how far they could kick were all under the microscope during a unique two-day Elite Development Academy at Flinders' Bedford Park Campus (pictured).

It was a rare opportunity to get the kind of advanced assessment and advice that most players don't get until they are at least 18.

Port Adelaide player Hamish Hartlett, AFL Premiership winning coach David Parkin, and State Open Women's Football Coach Narelle Smith, were among the well-known faces at the launch event, which was titled "The SHAPE of Australian Football and Sport in the 21st Century".

Grant Smyth

Social media puts body-conscious girls off sport

A growing number of teenage girls are shying away from sports in high school because Facebook and Instagram are making them self-conscious about their bodies, a new Flinders University study reveals.

The study, led by Associate Professor Claire Drummond, found that adolescent girls are becoming increasingly disengaged from physical activity (PA) for a number of reasons, including high levels of body dissatisfaction associated with social media.

The research, which was undertaken from May to August, interviewed 75 girls between the ages of 13 and 17 from five Adelaide schools in a bid to build a better picture of why teenage girls participate – or don't participate – in sports.

Ultimately, the study aimed to increase understanding of the underlying reasons for adolescent girls' PA-related decisions by examining psychosocial influences such as attitudes and perceptions, as well as sociocultural influences such as the role of friends and family.

Associate Professor Drummond said there was a strong connection between social media and poor body image, with sites such as Facebook and Instagram being "somewhat detrimental" to girls and their perseverance of regular PA.

"A lot of the girls who were interviewed actually spend a fair bit of time on 'fitspo' [fitness inspiration] pages. The problem is a lot of these pages contain images of fitness models with six packs and skinny bodies that are completely unattainable by everyday young women," Associate

Professor Drummond, based in the School of Health Sciences, said.

"A lot of the girls said they don't have the time to look like that so what's the point in trying," she said.

"There was a strong feeling of guilt because they didn't have bodies like the fitness models they follow on social media, and this was particularly evident in the 14-15 age group."

Among other findings; girls were less likely to engage in school sports activities in the company of adolescent boys, with the research showing a difference between girls who tried new forms of PA at co-ed schools compared with those from single-sexed schools.

Emily Charrison

Flinders alumni excel in teaching awards

The high quality of the University's teaching was again confirmed with Flinders graduates featuring highly in the *SA Excellence in Public Education Awards* in 2014.

The prestigious annual awards, supported by the State Government, recognise, reward and celebrate the valuable contributions of dedicated and effective education,



"They might think I'm crazy, but as long as they don't mind, that's OK with me," says Dr Sam Moyle (pictured).

Unconventional words, from an unconventional science teacher – but when you've just won one of SA's top teaching awards, the *Early Career Teacher of the Year*, unconventional is the order of the day.

"It's ironic, because I vowed that I would never be a teacher," she continues. "My mum and dad are both teachers, and I swore it would never happen to me. Yet here I am."

Flinders University graduate Dr Moyle is bubbly, energetic and utterly frank about how she ended up teaching at Brighton Secondary school. It's probably part of what makes her such a hit with her students, with whom she engages through innovative science experiments, and even a "Dr Sam Facebook page".

As a special education teacher, Swati Phatak (pictured) savours many proud moments.

But she will never forget the first time she saw a wheelchair-bound student walk independently.

"His father said to me, 'other parents complain when their child runs away from them in shops – my son ran away from me yesterday and I had tears in my eyes,'" Mrs Phatak says.

"Seeing that child walk was a very humbling experience; I know I have to constantly reflect, rethink and modify everything I do for each student I work with because you can't apply one rule of thumb to all students," she says.

Mrs Phatak – a full-time teacher at Modbury Special School and a PhD candidate at Flinders University – has been named *Primary School Teacher of the Year* in the 2014 South Australian Excellence in Public Education Awards.

"When I heard my name being called at the awards ceremony I couldn't believe it.

"It's the first time someone in special education has won so I feel very gratified that people are starting to recognise that special education goes far beyond keeping children safe in school until they're 18.

"Special education is about teaching, learning and personalising the curriculum so each child can reach their full potential."

Born in Mumbai, Mrs Phatak studied a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Education and taught at various schools throughout central India before moving to Australia in 2006. Keen to bridge the gap between research and practice, she undertook a Master of Education at Adelaide University in 2010, a Master of Education (Special Education) at Flinders University in 2011 and



(L-R) Blair Humphries, Matt McInerney with teacher Ben Heathcote

For Ben Heathcote, the decision to become a teacher was easy.

"First and foremost, I've always enjoyed working with young people and helping create opportunities for youth," the 34-year-old Flinders University Education alumnus says.

"And I've always had a love of learning – even though it sounds really clichéd I love learning new things, reading new books and developing new ideas. Becoming a teacher was an obvious combination of my two passions; it's enabled me to work with young people around learning," he says.

This very passion hasn't gone unnoticed by the SA Education Department, nor his students and colleagues at Mt Gambier High School, with Mr Heathcote being named *Secondary School Teacher of the Year* at this year's SA Excellence in Public Education Awards.

child support and child protection workers who help to change lives for the better and make a difference for students and school communities.

The three accolades to Flinders' graduates included the *Early Career Teacher of the Year*, *Primary School Teacher of the Year* and *Secondary School Teacher of the Year*.

"I actually started my career as a lab assistant, but when the opportunity to educate kids about science that was cutting edge and real world came along, it really excited me," she says.

"I could see they were still doing the same experiments I did at school, so I started developing more exciting, relevant experiments to take things a step further."

When it comes to "her kids", inspiration is clearly a two-way street for Dr Moyle.

"When you see the kids go 'wow', it's awesome," she says. "That inspires me, and I get excited seeing their excitement."

"We talk about things like the Iron Man suit and how real-life exo suits for paraplegics are helping them walk again."

"I do that because I think real world applications or viewpoints make science more relatable to kids."

Crucially, she's not just interested in what her students like, but also in what they need.

"One student mentioned that everyone expects them to take notes, but no one ever showed them how," Dr Moyle says.

"I taught them how to reduce note-taking to the size of a post-it note, so they could pick the important things and not include what they didn't need."

Something else Dr Moyle impresses upon her students is that school is not just 'practice' for real life, but part of real life itself.

Grant Smyth

is now in her second year of a Flinders PhD to improve learning outcomes for children with autism.

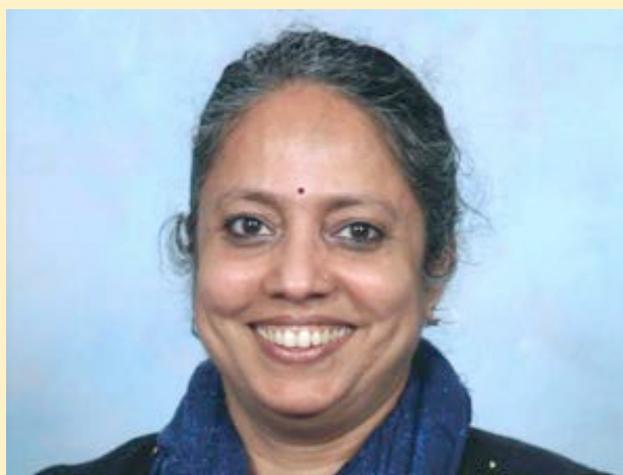
"Because of my own research I can bring about changes in my classroom and measure the outcomes."

"The best thing about being back in the classroom myself is that I'm not having to wait for a professional development course in a few years' time to inform my practice – I can do it right now."

"Teachers ignite young minds, spark knowledge and facilitate individual potential."

"As a teacher, you open a child's eyes to what the world can offer – in my eyes that's one of the greatest lessons you can teach a child; that the world is their oyster."

Emily Charrison



Mr Heathcote began his career as a teacher at Kimba Area School before moving to Mt Gambier High in 2006, where he taught English from Years 8-12 until 2010.

In 2007 he was offered a scholarship by the Education Department for a Graduate Certificate in Neuroscience (Learning) at Flinders – a course he found "enlightening".

"By understanding the brain, how it works and how we learn, teachers can be more effective educators."

From 2011 to 2013 Mr Heathcote worked at Mt Gambier's Independent Learning Centre, helping students that had experienced barriers to learning reengage with education, while at the same time completing his Master of Education at Flinders.

Back at Mt Gambier High for the past year, Mr Heathcote is now the English and Literacy Across the Curriculum Coordinator and also teaches the SACE Research Project for Year 12s.

So what sets him apart from other teachers?

"My approach is based on making students feel supported, engaged and motivated."

"I strongly believe every student is capable of achieving great learning and I think I bring a genuine sense of fun, passion and enjoyment to the classroom because I genuinely enjoy teaching."

"I've been really fortunate to have great teachers and mentors in my own life, including Flinders University, and I love giving that same support to my students."

Emily Charrison



Your support is truly inspiring



The Flinders University Karmel Endowment Fund, named in honour of the University's founding Vice-Chancellor Peter Karmel, continues to go from strength to strength thanks to your ongoing support each year.

The philanthropic gifts provided by people like you help us to fund vital research, invest in infrastructure that enriches our University and the communities we serve and support students in their educational journey. Not only does your support enable opportunities but your commitment to Flinders provides great encouragement to our students, staff and communities.

The Annual Appeal once again has demonstrated that the power of our collective giving can and is making a big difference, with each gift having an immediate impact. In 2014 our alumni and friends gave on average \$100 each. Through our combined efforts we provided financial assistance for over 45 students in need. Together we are providing scholarships and bursaries to students who need help covering expenses, such as travel costs to study placements, rent when in-between jobs or textbooks for study.

In 2014 making a gift to the Karmel Endowment Fund became easier with the availability of an online giving facility. We saw more national and international alumni join our donor community as they made use of this convenient and secure method of supporting a cause, faculty or area of interest.

On behalf of those who are benefiting from your commitment – from Flinders University students and the communities influenced by our programs – thank you for your belief in Flinders and for your valued support. We also sincerely thank the many donors who have chosen to remain anonymous.

Warm regards
Emily Drewniak
Donor Relations Officer

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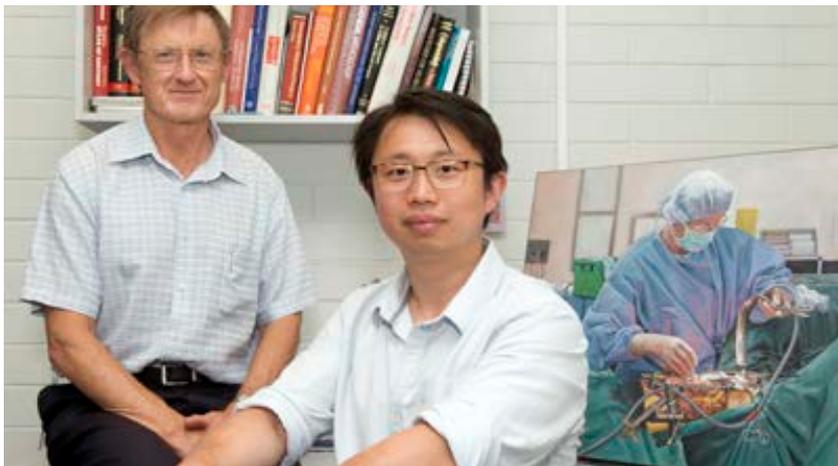
The AET Scholarships for Indigenous Students in Health Sciences, in the Creative Arts and the Professions

AET Discretionary Charitable Trust

Continued page 16

1 | (L-R) Associate Professor Jo Baulderstone from the Bert and Carmel Baulderstone Charitable Trust awarding the inaugural Carmel Baulderstone Scholarship in Nursing and Midwifery to Amanda Fairley.
 2 | Cara Ferguson, recipient of the Hayley Fehring Rural Scholarship and a First Year Education Cost Bursary
 3 | September 2014 graduating students thanking our donors for their support
 4 | Azra Rochester, Scholarship recipient at the Indigenous Donor Morning Tea

Putting private funds to work



Professor David Wattchow (left) with FMC surgical registrar and Flinders PhD candidate Dr Tiong Cheng Sia

PhD research by Dr Tiong Cheng Sia into the enteric nervous system of the gut, sometimes known as the body's "second brain", has been made possible by donations from a group of clinicians who work at Flinders University and Flinders Medical Centre.

Drawing on the proceeds of their private practice, the Clinician's Special Purpose Fund has provided around \$3 million in grants since it was founded some 20 years ago. The Fund's management committee is chaired by surgeon and Flinders graduate Professor David Wattchow.

In that time, the trust fund has financed a continuous PhD scholarship through the FMC Foundation, three separate PhD scholarships, two Fellowships through the University, and numerous smaller grants for students presenting research overseas.

The group also contributed \$1 million to the construction of the Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer.

Dr Sia, a surgical registrar who is currently putting the final touches to his thesis, said his research centred on the mechanisms that allowed peristalsis, the 'squeezing' action that creates

motility in the bowel, to act seemingly independently of the body's major neurotransmitters.

Research on the enteric system has traditionally focused on animal models, but with consent from surgical patients, the Flinders laboratory is now able to use human tissue samples to achieve new insights.

"All in all, it's been a very productive three years, and all of it has been made possible by the Clinician's Special Purpose Fund," Dr Sia said.

Dr Sia said the co-location of research laboratories and FMC's clinical wards creates an almost unique set of opportunities, and the resulting research has put the University among the very top centres for research on the digestive system in Australia.

Professor Wattchow said "our aim now is to continue to use the excess funds from private practice to underwrite research programs."

He said the collaborative nature of research at Flinders is a vindication of the original vision of the Foundation Dean of Medicine, Professor Gus Fraenkel, in co-locating the University's medical school with the hospital.

Charles Gent

From page 15

The Carmel Baulderstone Scholarship

Bert and Carmel Baulderstone Charitable Trust

The LOGOS Centre for Greek Language and Culture

St Basil's Homes(SA), The Foundation for Hellenic Studies, The Halkidikeon Society of SA, The Georgios and Nektarios Mavrangelos Research Scholarship, Aetoloacarnanon Society of SA Mesologi, Mr Steve Christodoulou, Diamond Bros. Transport, Chapleys Group, Hellenic Forum, Mr Stan Gerovasilis, Maras Group, Pan-Laonian Society of SA, Pan-Macedonian Association of SA, Pylian Society of South Australia – NAVARINON, Mr Evan Jackson (Guardian Insurance) Mr John Kari (Hydroil), Ms Theadora Karidis (Karidis Corporation), Mr Arthur Kontopoulos, Mr Rody Papas (H.G.P. Conveyancing)

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The Matthew Flinders Memorial Statue Fund Australia

The Swire Charitable Trust, Peter Dowling, Adele Forsyth-Grant, Barbara Hardy, David Jones, Anwyn Martin

Purchasers of Matthew Flinders Memorial Maquettes

Andrew Marshall, Bernard Booth, David Cappel, David Travers, Doug Seton, Jeff Ellison, Raymond Garrand, Roger Lang, Tim Cooper, Vincent Tremaine



Mortlock Library, image courtesy of State Library

Counting the value of SA's culture

As the pre-eminent Festival State, South Australia has an international reputation for its arts and culture, yet the broader impact of our bustling arts scene is often overshadowed by an emphasis on the bottom line.

For the first time, researchers from Flinders University are developing a set of tools that events and organisations can use to assess the total cultural value of SA's arts calendar and its contribution to the life of the State beyond the economic dollar.

Funded by a \$321,000 Linkage grant from the Australian Research Council, *"Laboratory Adelaide: The Value of Culture"* is exploring the overall worth of three organisations crucial to Adelaide's cultural life; the Adelaide Festival, the State Theatre Company of South Australia and the State Library of South Australia. In partnership with these organisations, the three-year project aims to identify practical ways to action a more wide-ranging notion of public value in assessment reporting.

While the economic flow-on effects of festivals for the hotel, tourism and hospitality sectors is well-established, Flinders University Research Fellow Dr Tully Barnett, who is working on the project, said the total cultural worth of Adelaide's arts scene is largely unknown.

"The value of culture tends to be constructed around its economic impact but this only tells one side of the story," Dr Barnett, based in the School of Humanities and Creative Arts, said.

"For example, the State Library is frequently asked to report on how many books they have and how many people come through their doors. But we're thinking about ways to go deeper and look at the real value that cultural experiences offer society beyond these immediate statistics," she said.

"Economic impact statements calculate dollars that come to SA from outside the State. But this gives the impression that the value of Adelaide's cultural events lies in attracting interstate visitors when really the core users are its residents. We need ways of assessing their value for the people who live here and in ways that go beyond the dollars."

The research team, led by Flinders Strategic Professor of Creative Arts Julian Meyrick, is using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies to look at the total cultural value of the arts and cultural sector.

"One of the difficulties with current measurement exercises is that they have such a short cycle – the annual budget, the forward estimates – so we'll also be looking for ways to measure the value of cultural experiences over a longer time

span, for example how interacting with the State Library as a child has an impact when you are an adult," Dr Barnett said.

The aim of the project, Dr Barnett said, is to provide the Adelaide Festival, the State Theatre Company and the State Library of South Australia with a set of tools they can use to articulate all the benefits they generate for the community.

Dr Barnett hopes the tools will be used both locally and nationally, to provide a more complete picture of the total value of cultural activities and events.

"Every cultural organisation has to produce impact reports but these are very formulaic exercises that only allow space for all the usual statistics.

"We want to help cultural organisations talking about their value on their terms: cultural terms as well as economic ones."

The project, also involving Flinders Associate Professors Steve Brown and Robert Phiddian, and Associate Professor Stephen Boyle from UniSA, builds on a pilot cultural value study on the 2013 Adelaide Festival led by Flinders University. This was the first of its kind in Australia and found that South Australians who weren't festival-goers still valued it at \$16.4 million.

Emily Charrison



Photo: Shane Reid



Flinders maintains strong community links through a comprehensive program of sponsorships across a range of sectors including the arts, sport, education, government, and the media. In 2014, these partnerships delivered numerous work-integrated learning opportunities for students, teaching and research collaborations for students and staff, and raised the profile of Flinders with the broader community.

1 Flinders extended its relationship with the State Theatre Company of South Australia (STCSA) for a further three years with an agreement that provides invaluable ‘hands on’ experience for acting, directing and creative writing students. The flow of highly talented Flinders graduates to the STCSA continued with two directors, eight actors (five of whom debuted with the company) a playwright and a composer featuring in STCSA productions in 2014. The University’s alumni will also have a strong representation in the 2015 program.

Flinders graduate, James Smith, pictured with Miriam Margolyes in the highly acclaimed *Neighbourhood Watch* won the 2014 *Helpmann Academy Bendigo Adelaide Bank Award* for top drama graduate.

Professor Richard Maltby, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Education, Humanities and Law, said Flinders was proud to maintain its record of supporting the arts in South Australia both through the three-year agreement and the creative contributions of its top class drama graduates.

“Flinders has been nurturing the State’s creative talent since the University’s beginnings, and as playwrights, directors, producers and actors, our graduates have made played key roles in the State Theatre Company’s successes,” Professor Maltby said.

“Our partnership with the State Theatre Company is very much a working partnership. Rosalba Clemente, Head of Acting at Flinders, is a former Artistic Director of STCSA, and played opposite Xavier Samuel in last year’s production of *The Seagull* and Flinders Strategic Professor of Creative Arts, Julian Meyrick, is Artistic Counsel to the STCSA,” he said.



2 South Adelaide Football Club had a very successful year on and off the field, winning through to the SANFL preliminary final in 2014. Flinders sponsorship of the Panthers delivers much more than the University's logo on the players' jerseys with physiotherapy, creative writing, marketing and business students gaining tangible insights and experience on game days and within the Club's administration. The University's Sport, Health and Physical Education (SHAPE) Research Centre also collaborated with the Club and delivered a comprehensive two-day training program for young footballers from Adelaide's southern suburbs. The training included access to elite fitness testing, skill analysis technology, coaching and education.

3 Flinders sponsorship of two organisations is captured above with Encounter Youth Education Manager, Kim Price (left) and Flinders' Marketing and Communications Office Events Coordinator, Katherine Reaiche, being interviewed by Coast FM's Dave Hearn. Flinders participates twice a month on the community radio station's Coast Talk program, promoting Flinders' teaching, research and community engagement initiatives. Encounter Youth advocates a message of safe partying and healthy life choices at the annual Schoolies Festival at Victor Harbor in November and in high schools across South Australia and interstate throughout the year.

4 Flinders continued sponsorship of Brand SA's Regional Education Award revealed again the extraordinary innovation and commitment within the education sector in regional South Australia. Flinders Vice-President (Strategy and Community Engagement), Gill Troup, travelled to Roxby Downs in October to present the award for the Far North region to John Sutton for leading a restoration of community confidence, improving staff cohesion, developing teaching talent and raising standards, after a major disruptive period at Coober Pedy Area School.

Peter Gill



From cyber crime to fighting human trafficking

“People ask me if I’m scared to get involved in this kind of work but my sense of outrage that people would do these kinds of things to other human beings is far stronger than any sense of fear.”

Flinders University student Alexandra Baxter is sitting in the library at Flinders University, but her mind is in some of the darkest, most frightening places on Earth.

It’s an unexpected turn in conversation from what she had been discussing just a few minutes earlier, which is how her 29-page report on cyber crime has been published on the South Australian Victim Support Services (VSS) website.

That in itself is a significant achievement for someone in the final year of a Bachelor of Justice and Society, but when Ms Baxter begins talking about her plans for a career saving the victims of human traffickers, her intensity moves to a whole new level.

“People know about people smuggling, boat people and illegal arrivals but they don’t know about human trafficking, and if they did, I think they would be as outraged as I am,” she said.

“A few years ago I took a topic in International Criminal Justice by Associate Professor Marinella Marmo and that’s where my interest in human trafficking came from.

“That interest has grown massively as my moral conscience has grown.”

Ms Baxter says one of the greatest ways of challenging the traffickers is through education.

“It’s important to create education around the risks for women because many women in poorer parts of the world are easily lured in by traffickers,” she said.

“But it’s also just as important to create education for the general public, because if other people understood what was happening then I believe they would have the same sense of outrage that I have.

“This lack of understanding means people often ask why victims don’t cry out or go and get help, and they think it’s somehow their own fault.

“It’s a blame culture that happens within the general public because they don’t understand the kind of fear and coercion the victims face.

“It’s very easy for those of us who have grown up in safe, secure environments to imagine that the rest of the world is like home, but this isn’t true.

“Traffickers prey on the weak and the poor, offering jobs and money in other countries, then take their passports and visas when they arrive, and often make them work in the sex trade for years to ‘pay off’ their debts.

“The blame culture among the general public also makes it harder for victims to seek help, and creates challenges when they try to reintegrate into society, which is really unfair.”

Ms Baxter says she plans on doing Honours in Human Trafficking at Flinders University next year, and that in the longer term she wants to work in the US.

“I’ve thought about working in Australia with the Federal Police, or with the United Nations, but I’m now looking towards the United States,” she said.

“Human trafficking is happening in Australia, although not on the same scale as many other parts of the world, and I’d like to work where I can have the most impact.”

Returning to the topic of her cyber report crime for VSS, Ms Baxter said her time working there gave her invaluable experience of a real workplace.

“My work at VSS was as part of an integrated learning topic for my degree and meant I spent 100 hours working there,” she said.

“I really enjoyed working at VSS because it doesn’t matter what the crime or incident is that people come to them with, they will help, or they will refer people on to get help elsewhere.

“They asked me if I could do a report on cyber crime because there is very little research available on this subject.

“The final report, which is titled *Improving Responses to Cyber Victimization in South Australia*, was more than the topic required but I didn’t want to jeopardise the report by being burdened by a word count.

“Seeing it published on their website has been really exciting and very rewarding.”

Grant Smyth



Allen Bolaffi: a man who believed in South Australia

Allen Bolaffi (pictured left) was a man who defied the stereotypes of accountants as reserved and conservative – his close friend Dr Roger Sexton (pictured) describes him as “an accountant who wouldn’t stick to accounting.”

Mr Bolaffi’s death in June following a sudden illness came as a blow both to Flinders University and South Australia, but his commitment to realising the possibilities of the future will live on through the Memorial Fund established in his name.

In addition to an array of business activities, Mr Bolaffi had strong links with Flinders, serving on its audit committee and also on the advisory board of the New Venture Institute.

With the support of his family, the University is honouring his life with a Memorial Fund that will support both innovative business ideas and health research.

The Managing Partner of accounting and audit firm UHY Haines Norton, Mr Bolaffi was also a director of Arrowcrest, Drake Supermarkets and John Shearer Ltd, and chair of Medvet Sciences at Underdale. He headed the State’s Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce for 20 years,

and was patron of the Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men’s Health.

Remembering his friend and business partner at the Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce (AICC) memorial lunch in July at which the Fund was launched, Flinders Council member and merchant banker Dr Roger Sexton described Allen Bolaffi as a gregarious, happy-go-lucky and “can do” person, who was generous with both his time and his financial acumen.

“Allen lived life to the fullest, both in business and in his personal life, but was equally passionate about giving back to the community in which he lived. He loved South Australia and all that the State provides,” Dr Sexton said.

Dr Sexton said the Fund has been designed to reflect Mr Bolaffi’s enthusiastic involvement in the key areas of venture capital, innovation and disruptive technologies, health care and university education, within the business community of South Australia and beyond.

The Fund will initially focus on two themes: supporting innovative and entrepreneurial new business creation through Flinders University’s New Venture Institute, and supporting research students working in health sciences related to men’s health or infectious viral diseases.

Flinders Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Barber said that Mr Bolaffi’s extraordinary range of business and community activities warranted distinctive recognition.

Given his enthusiastic advocacy and support of entrepreneurial businesses and startup companies, Professor Barber said the themes of the Fund were highly appropriate.

“Allen was especially committed to realising the possibilities of the future, and his family and the University believe the Memorial Fund is an effective way to sustain his vision,” Professor Barber said.

Donors can support themes specifically or donate to the Memorial Fund in an untied way. Financial assistance from the Fund will be allocated on an annual basis from an invested capital base that will provide a perpetual income stream.

The Fund is off to a flying start, with donations totalling \$40,000 from several private donors, including a personal donation from Professor Barber and a significant donation from the AICC.

The Fund will be administered through the University’s Karmel Endowment Fund, and donations to the fund will be tax-deductible



Artwork by Brian Choo

Extraordinary fossil find – Flinders scientist discovers origins of sex

A profound new discovery announced in *Nature* by world-renowned palaeontologist, Flinders Professor John Long, reveals how the intimate act of sexual intercourse first evolved in our deep distant ancestors.

In one of the biggest discoveries in the evolutionary history of sexual reproduction, Professor Long has found that internal fertilisation and copulation was invented by ancient armoured fishes, called placoderms, about 385 million years ago in Scotland.

Placoderms, the most primitive jawed vertebrates, are the earliest vertebrate ancestors of humans.

Published in *Nature* – the world’s leading science journal – the discovery shows that male fossils of the *Microbrachius dicki*, which belong to the antiarch group of placoderms, developed bony L-shaped genital limbs called claspers to transfer sperm to females; and females developed small paired bones to lock the male organs in place for mating.

Measuring about 8cm long, *Microbrachius* lived in ancient lake habitats in Scotland, as well as parts of Estonia and China.

As the paper’s lead author, Professor Long, the Strategic Professor in Palaeontology at Flinders, discovered the ancient fishes mating abilities when he stumbled across a single fossil bone in the collections of the University of Technology in Tallinn, Estonia, last year.

The fossils, he said, symbolise the most primitive known vertebrate sexual organ ever found, demonstrating the first use of internal fertilisation and copulation as a reproductive strategy known in the fossil record.

“*Microbrachius* means little arms but scientists have been baffled for centuries by what these bony paired arms were actually there for. We’ve solved this great mystery because they were there for mating, so that the male could position his claspers into the female genital area,” Professor Long said.

“It was previously thought that reproduction spawned externally in water, and much later down the track in the history of vertebrate evolution,” he said.

“Our earlier discoveries published in *Nature* in 2008 and 2009 of live birth and copulation in placoderms concerned more advanced placoderm groups. Our new discovery now pushes the origin of copulation back even further down the evolutionary ladder, to the most basal of all jawed animals.

“Basically it’s the first branch off the evolutionary tree where these reproductive strategies started.”

In one of the more bizarre findings of his research, Professor Long said the fishes probably copulated from a sideways position with their bony jointed arms locked together.

“With their arms interlocked, these fish looked more like they are square dancing the do-si-do rather than mating.”

Flinders Postdoctoral Research Fellow Dr Brian Choo, a co-author on the paper, said the discovery signifies the first time in evolutionary history that males and females showed distinct physical differences.

“Until this point in evolution, the skeletons of jawed vertebrates couldn’t be distinguished because males and females had the same skeletal structures,” Dr Choo said.

“This is the first time in vertebrate evolution that males and females developed separate reproductive structures, with males developing fixed claspers, and females developing fixed plates to lock the claspers in for mating,” he said.

The discovery highlights the importance of placoderms in the evolution of vertebrate animals, including humans, Professor Long said.

“Placoderms were once thought to be a dead-end group with no live relatives but recent studies show that our own evolution is deeply rooted in placoderms, and that many of the features we have, such as jaws, teeth and paired limbs, first originated with this group of fishes.

“Now, we reveal they gave us the intimate act of sexual intercourse as well.”

Dr Matt Friedman, a palaeobiologist from the University of Oxford, UK, described the discovery as “nothing short of remarkable”.

“Claspers in these fishes demand one of two alternative, but equally provocative, scenarios: either an unprecedented loss of internal fertilisation in vertebrates, or the coherence of the armoured placoderms as a single branch in the tree of life,” Dr Friedman, who was not involved in the study, said.

“Both conclusions fly in the face of received wisdom, and suggest that there is still much to discover about this critical episode in our own extended evolutionary history.”

The research involved collaborators from Australia, Estonia, the UK, Sweden and China, who scrutinised fossil specimens held in museum collections worldwide.

Emily Charrison

Harnessing China's people power



“About 600 to 700 operations for oesophageal cancer are performed in Australia each year. In China, 1,200 cases are treated in just one hospital per annum.

“In other words, China has individual hospitals doing double the number of operations for oesophageal cancer than our entire country.”

Flinders University's Head of Surgery, Professor David Watson (pictured), has just summed up the huge significance of a new partnership between Flinders and China's Central South University (CSU), involving the creation of two joint research laboratories specialising in medical genetics.

The two institutions, which have a five-year history of collaboration, have signed a new Memorandum of Understanding to set up a lab at CSU focusing on cancer genetics, and a lab at Flinders with a focus on the genetics of brain disorders.

The agreement will fund the appointment of two scientists to manage each lab, as well as support for trips to China and Australia each year.

Professor Watson, a pioneer in oesophageal-related disease research and treatment, said the China lab, based at CSU in

Changsha, the capital of Hunan Province, will enable Flinders researchers to tap into CSU's gene sequencing facilities and expertise; as well as China's large population.

“CSU has strengths in gene sequencing so we will be using this expertise and cutting-edge resources to map out nucleic acids, the ingredients that make DNA and RNA, to identify genetic factors in cancer,” Professor Watson said.

“The advantage is twofold; we can tap into CSU's gene sequencing facilities at a cheaper cost than what we could do here, and utilise their expertise because a lot of that work would normally have to be outsourced.

“But the real advantage is the ability to tap into a large population of people – China has hospitals treating huge numbers of patients for many different cancers. For some cancers, one hospital will treat more cases than our entire country.”

Professor Watson said the Flinders lab, which will also focus on medical genetics, will enable CSU to tap into Flinders' expertise in identifying blood markers; potentially leading to blood tests for different types of cancers in the future.

“We will be doing parallel work at Flinders to verify the work at CSU – just because something shows up in a Chinese population doesn't mean it can be extrapolated in Australia so we will still need to see if the results can be generalised across racial groups.

“At the end of the day it's about complementing each other's strengths; for Flinders to have access to large patient cohorts means we can address questions more quickly and know the results are accurate and meaningful.

“The benefit for CSU is that they will be able to learn a lot from our strategic focus on integrating lab work with clinical outcomes, particularly our new ideas and techniques for identifying patients with cancer, based on blood tests.”

Emily Charrison

An agreement between China's Central South University (CSU) and Flinders University will intensify links between the institutions, and includes the setting up of research laboratories on each other's campuses.

The new Memorandum of Understanding was signed during a visit to Flinders by a delegation of seven senior staff from Central South University headed by CSU Vice-President, Professor Zhuohua Zhang. CSU is located in Changsha, the capital city of Hunan province.

Cancer researcher and surgeon Professor David Watson is to head a laboratory focused on cancer genetics at CSU. Professor Watson will spend several weeks in Changsha each year supervising postgraduate students and leading research that will employ CSU's powerful gene-sequencing capacity.

Vice-President and neuroscientist Professor Zhuohua Zhang, who was made an honorary professor of Flinders University during the visit, will direct the laboratory at Flinders, which will be run by a CSU nominee.

Other CSU staff on the visit were Professor Chen Xiaohong, Dean of the Business School; Professor Liang Shuquan, Dean of the School of Materials Science and Engineering; Professor Chen Fangping, President of CSU's Third Xiangya Hospital; Professor Xia Kun, Dean of the School of Life Science; Mr Jeffery Gao Dongbo, Deputy Director of the Department of International Cooperation and Exchange; and Professor Wang Honghong, Deputy Dean of the School of Nursing.

Following the establishment last year with CSU of the joint China-Australia General Practitioner Education, Training and Research Centre in Changsha, Flinders is developing a Master in General Practice Leadership and Education as part of a suite of postgraduate courses for China.

The Centre is a platform for Chinese medical students to become part of the nation's first wave of GPs. A national strategy to move China's health system away from hospital-based care aims to produce some 400,000 qualified GPs by 2020.

Flinders film makers with One Eye on the big time

They're sitting on a beach in Santa Monica, California, just days after winning the Jury Award in the Dark Matters Category at the Austin Film Festival for their film *One Eyed Girl*. It's warm, the sun is shining, they're surrounded by sun loungers, and behind them is a two-storey whitewashed beach house.

But just as the idea of home-grown Adelaide film makers, and former Flinders University students, Nick Matthews, Craig Behenna and David Ngo living it up in LA begins to take root, Craig drops a bombshell.

"We're actually crammed into one little room, and we've just been blowing up our air beds together. It's all starting to feel just a bit toooo intimate!"

Listening over the telephone from Adelaide, it's clear that their current logistical conniptions haven't dimmed their excitement at such lofty recognition for their dark thriller, which was produced, written, directed and shot entirely in South Australia.

One Eyed Girl is a disturbing psychological thriller which tells the story of a young psychiatrist, 'Travis', played by Mark Leonard Winter, who after the death of a patient, attempts to find spiritual redemption with a close-knit doomsday cult.

The Girl is played by Australian actor Tilda Cobham-Hervey, who recently starred in another award winning film by former Flinders students, *52 Tuesdays*.

Asked whether viewers picked up on the South Australian backdrop, Nick lets one of the movie's reviewers do the talking.

"A few people have picked up on the location, but really it's just a good story," he says. "One reviewer said it's a psychological landscape, not a literal one."

All three film makers studied at Flinders University's Drama Centre, which has produced a string of award winning actors, writers, producers and directors.

"I think one of the best things Flinders Drama Centre does, particularly for writers and directors, is give you a good grounding in how to pull apart and see how things are constructed. Anne Thompson - Director of Drama Studies - in particular was a great influence on me," says Craig.

"I had a great time at Flinders," adds producer, David Ngo, "particularly with the theory work and with Mike Walsh and John McConchie.

"They opened my mind about how to dissect films and think about storytelling."

Director Nick also has fond memories, but reveals that his inspiration for the film began long before his time at Bedford Park. "I went to an alternative school and I brought that experience to the table," he says.

The final word, however, goes to the film's director, Nick.

"I suppose from a thematic point of view, we wanted to make a psychological thriller, and to play around with this idea of cult," he says.

"As we worked, it became clearer that we wanted to deal with a troubled soul and a troubled man; to create a complex protagonist within the cadre of a thriller.

"We wanted to pull that off, and that's what's so amazing about being honoured at Austin.

"It's cool that there are people out there who get that."

One Eyed Girl is due for general release in Australia in April 2015. More about the film and Projector Films can be found at [facebook.com/oneeyedgirl](https://www.facebook.com/oneeyedgirl)

Grant Smyth

(L-R) Tilda Cobham-Hervey, Craig Behenna, Nick Matthews and David Ngo



Battling for quality education – by any medium necessary

“All of the disasters have been useful; I will now have to go onto Facebook.”

Educator and Flinders University donor Erica Jolly has been talking about the “complete failure” of her book *Challenging the Divide* to break down the barrier between science and literature.

Another useful disaster, she says – but she’s not giving up.

Ms Jolly, a former Deputy Principal at Mawson and Marion High Schools, has a passion for education.

“You must understand there is a difference between education and schooling,” she says.

“The power of schooling is in setting people up to do what you want them to do, but the power of education stops us from descending into barbarism.”

A veteran of the ‘Techs’, and pioneer of the aspirational teaching methods of the 1960s and 1970s, she has firsthand experience of the ‘good old days’.

“Girls were prepared for temporary occupations before becoming mothers,” she says. “Boys were told not to worry about English and literature and discouraged from anything else.”

One of her inspirations is the late Brian Hannaford, who was Principal of Marion High School and employed her as a Deputy Principal.

“Hannaford was thirty years ahead,” she says. “He allowed every child the opportunity to make it to a fifth year of study, and the school was excellent.

Ms Jolly’s is a stalwart of the Australian Federation of Graduate Women, a founding member of the History Teachers’ Association and was a Member of Flinders University Council and then Academic Senate at Flinders for 12 years.

Her two great concerns are for the education of women and Indigenous Australians.

Her relationship with Flinders came about because of another useful disaster.

“In 1969 the University of Adelaide decided not to allow me to cross from History to English Literature as the precursor to an MA.

“I was advised to see what they might do ‘up the hill’; and in 1969 was accepted to study a number of courses to ascertain whether I could cross disciplines.

“After being deemed fit, I gained my Master’s in English Literature in 1978.”

She helped establish the Australian Science and Mathematics School; advocated for the School of Education to become part of the Faculty of Education, Humanities, Law and Theology and in 1994 organised a seminar for girls to celebrate the Women’s Suffrage Centenary.

She has the longest record of giving, and supports a bursary for an Aboriginal or Islander student in the School of Education or Special education.

Asked what difference it makes, she is frank. “I don’t know. What I do know is that for an Indigenous person to become involved in education requires great courage, and I want to support them.”

A printing error at her local newspaper was her first useful disaster.

“I was lucky because I got a scholarship by default, not merit,” she says. “And even luckier because the Anglican Sisters at St Peter’s honoured a printing error and turned a two-year scholarship into a five-year scholarship.”

Her own book of poems, titled *Pomegranates*, addresses social concerns such as economic and political equity.

Through her words and actions – but especially her words – she says she will continue to fight for a quality education for all children.

Her words have, she says, always been her most potent weapon.

Towards the end of our interview. Her eyes fill up, and she takes a long breath.

“I’ve been accused of being too emotional about education,” she says.

“Humphrey Tranter at Flinders University told me never to let anyone tell me I couldn’t think because of it. Flinders has been very good to me.”

Grant Smyth



NVI continues pushing back the boundaries



(L-R) Luke Larsen, Charlotte Francis, Penny Curtis, James Stewart, Samson Selladurai and Matt Salier

The New Venture Institute (NVI) at Flinders has taken its message – and a group of its most successful startups – on a tour of the United States.

Led by NVI Director, Matt Salier, the four entrepreneurs were hosted by tech giants including Google, Twitter and IBM as they travelled through San Francisco, Austin, Philadelphia and New York City.

The group (pictured), who are all graduates of NVI's start-up program, Venture Dorm, included Luke Larsen, Penny Curtis, Samson Selladurai and James Stewart.

They got to check out the startup scene in the US and to have some high profile outsiders provide invaluable input about their own ideas.

Mr Salier said the trip helped them to “raise their eye lines and perceptions of what their products and startups can do”.

“This was about helping these young people get a sense of this amazingly dynamic startup environment,” he said. “Each of these locations are where it happens in a large market of hundreds of millions of people.

“The trip took us to the Google Campus and Twitter's Runway Accelerator in San Francisco, and the International Accelerator, Austin Technology Incubator, Capital Factory and IC2 Institute in Austin.

“We wanted these young entrepreneurs to come back saying, ‘we shouldn't just be thinking about a market as big as Adelaide or Australia – we should be thinking about markets as big as America and Asia’”

Penny Curtis said the trip had given her the opportunity to promote her group pay website, Partipay, to some of the leading businesspeople in the hi-tech industry.

“It's about finding a path to the cusp of innovation of IT for me, to identify future trends, to help me redefine where the product will go in the future,” she said.

Partipay is a payment portal through which a user can make a page for a one-off event, and which automatically sends reminders to pay.

MailChimp, a multimillion-dollar email marketing business, hosted Ms Curtis for a special look around their operations in Atlanta.

The New Venture Institute was established in June 2013 to create connections between the Flinders University and businesses, organisations and entrepreneurs outside of the academic environment.

In a short space of time it has become the centre of innovation and entrepreneurship at the University focusing the already rich skills the University has in this area.

It aims to connect Flinders University's staff, students and resources with external businesses, entrepreneurs, students and innovators to create and foster an entrepreneurial community.

NVI offers several programs in business and entrepreneurship to anyone interested in being part of Adelaide's growing start-up scene.

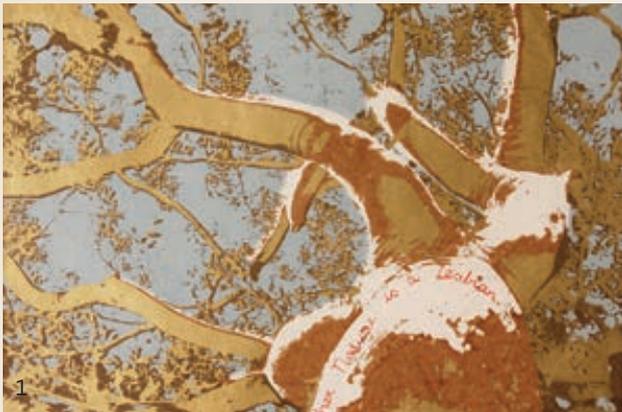
Programs include Venture Dorm, Enterprise Workshop, Flinders Enterprise Consulting and speakers events such as Entrepreneurs in Conversation and New Venture Lab.

Its newest venture is the eNVision Incubator Space, a co-working space where teams of start-ups can get together to work on their businesses.

NVI will also be at the heart of Flinders' new \$120 million investment at Tonsley, where it will bring to life the connection between innovations, entrepreneurs and companies looking to transform their businesses in this dynamic innovation precinct.

Grant Smyth

Showcasing great art at Flinders City Gallery



Looking back at a year that was for the Flinders University City Gallery begins with the laboratory of sound and imagery in Julie Gough's experimental *Testing Ground*, followed by a political punch in the face from *Mother Nature is a Lesbian* which drew on South Australia's rich history of poster making. Art merged with science and intrigue in *The Microscope Project* shining new light on old technology, whilst *Ben Quilty: After Afghanistan* drew crowds to witness the emotional and psychological effects of war intensely expressed in paint. The final exhibition for the year *Bimblebox: art – science – nature* offered an artist group's creative response to a unique and significant environment at risk.

Many exciting projects lie ahead in 2015 with highlights including: *Art as a Verb*, delving into the world of art as action, bringing together Australian and International practitioners from the 1960s to today; exploring myths and legends of the Torres Strait, with a contemporary twist, is *Strait Protean* featuring the work of multi-skilled artist Brian Robinson; *Penumbra Tales* will reach into the shadows of memory, identity and the peripheral through the medium of photography; and crossing three geographically and culturally distinct regions to offer strikingly different perspective on contemporary Indigenous art-making is *The World is not a Foreign Land*.

The City Gallery - located within the State Library of South Australia - is a public platform for art and ideas. Visit our exhibitions and join our public programs to be inspired and enriched.

Celia Dottore, Exhibitions Manager



1 | Anarchist Feminist Poster Collective. *Mother Nature is a Lesbian*, 1981. Serigraph, colour inks on paper. 38.1 x 51.3 mm, FUAM 2879.007. Courtesy the artist

2 | (L-R) *The Microscope Project* co-curators, Madeline Reece and Fiona Salmon with artist Ian Gibbins. Photo: Ashton Claridge

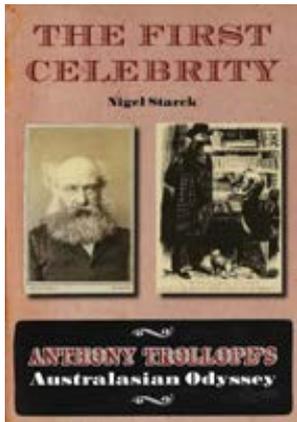
3 | Artist Ben Quilty with *Trooper M, After Afghanistan*, painted in Robertson, New South Wales, 2012, oil on linen, 140 x 190 cm, collection of the artist OL00628.011. Donor Recognition Reception, November 2014. Photo: Alex Drewniak

4 | *Art as a Verb*. Anastasia Klose. *The Kiss Part 3* 2011. Digital print. Photo: Ian Macrae. Courtesy the artist and Tolarno Galleries, Melbourne

Celebrate with us in 2016

Flinders University is looking forward to celebrating our 50th anniversary in 2016.

In Print



Long before Sinatra and the Stones, there was Anthony Trollope.

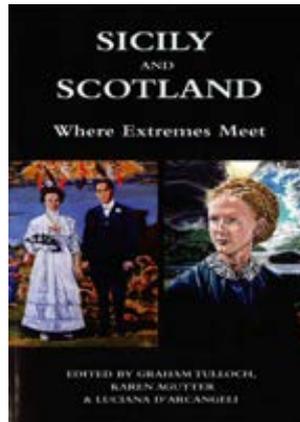
Flinders PhD graduate, broadcaster and journalism academic Dr Nigel Starck has again ventured into print with *The First Celebrity*, an examination of the eminent English author's tour of Australia and New Zealand in the 1870s.

Trollope travelled widely in the two countries, training his novelist's eye on the towns and landscape and recording his impressions of numerous encounters with landowners, convicts, miners, and Indigenous people. The trip was the basis for newspaper articles as well as a memoir, *Australia and New Zealand*.

Trollope was warmly welcomed, and found himself largely charmed and fascinated by the colonies and their inhabitants. But his occasional mild criticisms of colonial society would soon prompt the Australian press to question his accuracy and ridicule his opinions.

Dr Starck's book also traces the history of the Trollope family's extended involvement with Australia – the novelist's son became a sheep farmer and inspired a novel, while one descendant, currently living in New South Wales, is the holder of the family's ancient baronetcy.

The First Celebrity is published by Lansdown Media.



Scotland and Sicily might appear to be poles apart in language, climate, religion and temperament, but a new book reveals significant parallels and resonances between the two.

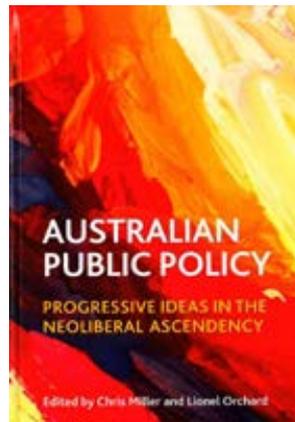
Scottish literature specialist Professor Graham Tulloch and Italian film and drama expert Dr Luciana d'Arcangeli from Flinders are co-editors and contributors to *Sicily and Scotland: Where Extremes Meet* with Dr Karen Agutter.

Professor Tulloch says that the two populations live in the shadows of their much larger, immediate neighbours – England and mainland Italy – yet each has retained a strong, distinctive cultural identity.

Professor Tulloch said that in its 10 chapters, the book aims to compare and contrast the two societies by examining their literature and film, travel writing and emigration.

One shared aspect of life in Sicily and Scotland was the endemic poverty that would result in the exodus of large proportions of the two populations in the 19th century, and another Flinders contributor, historian Professor Eric Richards, writes on attitudes towards Scotland and the tensions within the country that drove emigration, as well as providing an overview of the emigration experiences of Scotland and Sicily.

Scotland and Sicily is published by Troubadour Publishing, UK.



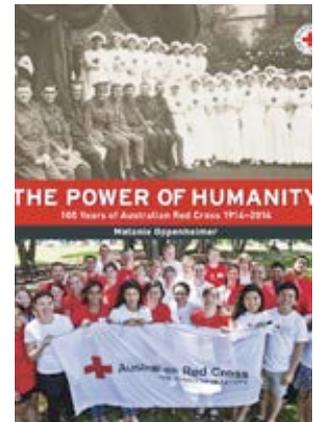
At a time when neoliberal and conservative politics and economics are again in the ascendancy, a new book re-engages with the values and goals of progressive public policy, and the dilemmas facing the achievement of a fairer, more cohesive and sustainable Australia.

Australian Public Policy: Progressive ideas in the neoliberal ascendancy is edited by Dr Chris Miller, former Professor of Social Work at Flinders, and Associate Professor Lionel Orchard of the School of Social and Policy Studies.

The book's 20 chapters explore trends and problems in many areas – economics, welfare, work and industrial relations; social issues including indigenous, education, health, housing, child care and multiculturalism; population, cities and climate change, and natural resource management; and the capacity of Australia's political and public policy institutions to manage increasing complexity across this terrain. Authors include Flinders professors Fran Baum, Judith Dwyer and George Crowder.

"The challenge for social democracy, is to create a cohesive vision embracing new social, economic and political arrangements and relationships built on knowledge and insights about the fundamentally new challenges and changes taking place," the editors write.

Australian Public Policy is published by the UK-based Policy Press.



Having researched Australia's largest volunteer organisation for two decades, Flinders historian Professor Melanie Oppenheimer was commissioned by Australian Red Cross in 2009 to write the organisation's 100-year history in the lead up to its official centenary celebrations this year.

The Power of Humanity: 100 Years of the Australian Red Cross 1914 to 2014 was officially launched in August at Government House in Canberra, with follow up events in every capital city.

The generously illustrated book narrates the history of Australian Red Cross from its inception at the outbreak of World War I through to the rise of the organisation in international aid efforts in modern times.

The Power of Humanity recognises the role of individual branches – including the seven local branches that have achieved an impressive 100 years of continuous service in South Australia – and celebrates the prolific part that women have played throughout the organisation's history

"It's one of the biggest, oldest and most respected voluntary organisations of our time and it continues to play an important role in Australia and the world today," Professor Oppenheimer said.

The Power of Humanity is published by Harper Collins.

Charles Gent

Flinders: an achiever poised for further success

Professor Barber with his official University portrait at his farewell



As a mathematician, I readily appreciate that statistics are an important indicator of outcomes and achievements. But as I retire from the post of Vice-Chancellor having had the privilege of leading Flinders University for the past seven years, I think the changing character and focus of this institution will more precisely define its future. But first to the statistics.

I am very proud to have led a highly talented and committed team of academics and professional staff who have created a stronger university that is attracting a growing number of students. In 2007 undergraduate enrolments were 12,866 and this year we enrolled 16,824 undergraduate students. Postgraduate coursework enrolments have more than doubled from 3,580 to 7,685 in the same period. As a result, Flinders is the fastest growing university in South Australia. Flinders' investment in future infrastructure like Tonsley has seen capital investment rise to \$136 million in 2014 and the value of University assets increase from \$290 million in 2007 to \$820 million now.

But universities are more than bricks and mortar – they are a living, breathing entity full of knowledge, teaching and research skills, and different perceptions of life. Our people apply this human capital in teaching the next generation of nurses, teachers, doctors, scientists, psychologists, creative writers and political leaders. Career options are as wide as our curriculum. Put simply, Flinders transforms lives and creates life opportunities. And as we do so we venture into new territory – literally, in the case of the Northern Territory Medical Program where we have recently welcomed the first graduates from this innovative program that means Territorians, including Indigenous students, can now study entirely in the NT. Flinders engagement with China and Indonesia in teaching and research collaborations is also opening new opportunities for staff and students alike.

However, Flinders is not static, nor inclined to rest on its laurels. Our future success and effectiveness relies on being dynamic and adaptive to changing economic, social and political circumstances. On this front, Flinders has an exciting story to tell. As the completion of Flinders' new building at Tonsley transforms an 'old' manufacturing site to a locus for the 'smart' industries of the future, the University is sending a message that it is confident in the role it will play in the knowledge economy that will define the 21st Century. A site for embedding our computer science, engineering and mathematics teaching with the research prowess of our Medical Device Research Institute and Centre for Nanoscale Science and Technology, and the entrepreneurial initiative and commercialisation potential of the New Venture Institute and Flinders Partners, Tonsley will position Flinders well for the future.

Even before staff and students move into Tonsley in the New Year, we are looking – through the triple-glazed windows of this environmentally sound building – to the future potential of the Tonsley site. I believe there is great scope for Flinders to draw together the skills and knowledge that our people possess in such areas as medical devices, assistive living technologies, and aged and disability care to create a centre for experiential learning and living. Within the mixed residential accommodation proposed for the site, we could create new models of aged and disability care that, coupled with the emerging technologies spawned by our researchers, would enhance the quality of life of our ageing population. In doing so, it would potentially relieve significant pressure on our hospital system. Such an outcome locally would only be the start of the story with Flinders expertise and 'hands on' experience then able to be applied in the big emerging economies, with which Flinders already has strong links, to our north. The challenge Australia faces with a burgeoning aged care sector is writ large in societies like China and Indonesia. I believe Flinders can make a substantial contribution in this space and Tonsley provides a strong foundation for these aspirations.

The Plaza Redevelopment and Student Hub – the cover story for this *Encounter* - is another major investment in Flinders' future that will change the character of the Bedford Park campus, imbuing it with greater appeal and utility. In doing so, this development will achieve, amongst others, two key Strategic Plan goals of enhancing the student experience and enhancing educational opportunities. Taken together with the state-of-the-art connectedness of the new wireless network and related communications infrastructure being rolled out around the campus and a new more effective model of delivering student services now being finalised, and Flinders is a university with much to offer existing and potential students and staff. As these projects are realised and Flinders celebrates its 50th Anniversary in 2016, it will truly be a very clear manifestation of how far this institution has advanced since its inception in 1966.

It has been a pleasure and privilege as Vice-Chancellor for the past seven years to have played a role in this transformation and I thank sincerely all the academic and professional staff who have supported me during this time. I extend a warm welcome and my best wishes to the new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Colin Stirling, who will guide Flinders through an exciting albeit challenging time ahead for the higher education sector.

Professor Michael Barber
Vice-Chancellor



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UNIVERSITY
inspiring achievement

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supports the academic life of the campus
and transforms the student experience.

flinders.edu.au/giving