

## Triple treat for institute

**GRIFFITH University's Institute for Glycomics will triple in size after Premier Peter Beattie recently announced \$11 million in state funding.**

The grant, to be matched by Griffith, will see a \$22 million expansion of the institute, which is researching the potential for carbohydrates to be used in drugs to fight cancer and a range of infectious diseases.

Construction of a purpose-built, multi-storey facility will begin next year. The institute will also recruit 100 new scientists, bringing the total number of staff to 155.

Institute for Glycomics Executive Director Professor Mark von Itzstein said the State Government's commitment to the institute would lead to the greatest concentration of multidisciplinary glycomics researchers in the world under one roof.

"Carbohydrates have been shown to play key roles in a host of clinically important diseases, such as cancers that spread around the body through to infections that are caused by bacteria, viruses and parasites," Professor von Itzstein said.

He said the development of "plugs" that stop these carbohydrate-related pathways could lead to new generation drugs and provide answers to many deadly diseases.

Research leader Dr Victoria Korolik is one scientist whose efforts will receive a boost with the expansion of the institute. Dr Korolik is researching *Campylobacter*, *Helicobacter*, other infectious bacteria causing gastro enteritis, ulcers and cancer.

Dr Korolik said the incidence of food-borne gastro caused by *Campylobacter* in Australia now surpassed *Salmonella* and *Shigella* by a factor of at least two.

"Spread through contaminated poultry and meats, unpasteurised milk and unchlorinated water, *Campylobacter* has become a major cause of lost productivity in the workplace and a health issue of concern," she said.

Her research team is currently working on host-bacterial interactions in an attempt to understand disease-causing factors of *Campylobacter*.

By Rhys Stacker



SMART DRUGS: Premier Peter Beattie's announcement of \$11 million in funding for the Institute of Glycomics will be a boost for researchers like Chris Davis (left).



SAFETY FIRST: Mark Quinn has won safety awards and aims to reduce risks for underwater divers.

## Underwater workplace attracts safety whizz

**COMBINING a love of underwater diving and a background in occupational health and a safety has led to a Griffith graduate winning several prestigious safety awards.**

Bachelor of Behavioural Science graduate Mark Quinn has been twice recognised with a National Safety Council of Australia Excellence Award and a Safety Institute of Australia (SIA) medal.

Mr Quinn developed built-in safety systems such as non-return valves and spare air tanks to enhance safety in his diving association.

As the prize for his SIA medal included registration, airfares and accommodation to attend the

annual SIA conference in Cairns last month, he also organised to participate in intensive mentoring and dive audits at sea.

"I like the intensity of critical environments such as the occupational diving environment and can see myself working as a diving inspector or in a major safety role in underwater construction or oil and gas," he said.

Mr Quinn, who completed his degree with a Work and Health major in 2004, is employed as a graduate inspector with Queensland's Department of Industrial Relations (Workplace Health and Safety Queensland).

By Mardi Chapman



### Research

Golfers and lower back pain  
p 3



### People

Wrap up of mid-year graduations  
p 4, 5



### Technology

Mobile phones in the workplace  
p 7



From the Vice Chancellor **Ian O'Connor**

## Inspired innovations

**IN this issue of the Griffith Gazette, you can read all about the latest success for our Institute for Glycomics – \$11 million worth of funding from the State Government, a sum being matched dollar-for-dollar by Griffith as part of our commitment to growing great science, and assisting the Institute's quest to find solutions to a whole host of disorders and diseases.**

Still on the Gold Coast, late last month we hosted the international Thermophiles Conference. For those of you not in the know, these are microbes that thrive when the temperature's around 121 degrees Celsius. Their diversity and their age (they've been around since the primordial soup) also makes them perfect for the harvesting of genetic diversity that could lead to new medical discoveries within both the Institute for Glycomics and Eskitis, the Institute

for Cell and Molecular Therapies.

Of course it's great when your innovation gets recognised, whether it's through increased funding or an international conference. In these cases above, that innovation is in the scientific arena but we're not just good at science.

A case in point is the just completed Pathways to Prevention Symposium. Hosted by Griffith's Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance, the symposium took an innovative approach to crime prevention policy and practice. At least a quarter of the attendees were PhD scholars or early career researchers, and attendees were also an incredibly interdisciplinary group from around the globe.

These demographics were deliberately chosen by the organisers, our own Ross Homel and Alan France from the University of Sheffield. Recognising that scholars early in their careers can contribute to the understanding of significant problems in their field, and recognising the interaction of many disciplines in this area of research, the organisers gave scholars of

all levels and disciplines a forum to ask and answer the big questions about their field of research.

A symposium such as this highlights how our academics are promoting innovative research but we are also doing very well in the teaching stakes. A great success in this regard is our Master of Teaching, marketed specifically to the Canadian market. From a cohort of 12 students in 1996, the yearly intake is now around 300, and it's become so popular that we've had to cap intakes. Griffith's ability to liaise with stakeholders in Ontario and to achieve a program that gives substantial teaching experience with strong mentoring has made us a market leader in Canada for international teacher education programs.

Developing the only dedicated multidisciplinary facility in Australia researching carbohydrates as potential drug discovery agents, bringing together world experts in biotechnology, and in prevention policy and practice, and educating the world's teachers; they all reflect a drive to make things better, to innovate. That's something we can all be proud of, and aspire to.

# US grant supports Parkinson's disease research

**AN AUD\$50,000 grant from the US Parkinson's Disease Foundation will kick off innovative research into the disabling neurodegenerative disease that affects as many as one in 50 people over the age of 65 years.**

Dr Dean Pountney, who joined the School of Medical Science earlier this year, has attracted the funds to study an intracellular protein called alpha-synuclein.

The protein is believed to be a key element in the development of Parkinson's disease by causing the death of neural cells in an area of the brain known as the substantia nigra.

The cell death results in reduced levels of an important neurotransmitter and

classic symptoms such as tremor, stiffness and difficulty with movement.

At the time of diagnosis, people with the disease have already lost a substantial proportion of their neurons and the damage is irreversible. Treatment currently relies on medication attempting to replace the missing neurotransmitter.

Dr Pountney's research may offer an opportunity to prevent the initial cell damage. He has previously described very small, ring-like clusters of alpha-synuclein that appear to be the toxic form of the protein.

However alpha-synuclein can also exist in an apparently inert form in microscopically visible aggregates within the cells.

"We need to understand the molecular architecture of this protein, how the clusters are formed and how they can be stabilised against degradation," Dr Pountney said.

One specific area of interest is the role that calcium may play in stimulating formation of the toxic form of the protein.

"The calcium link is very interesting as we already have drugs that can lower calcium levels."

A Microscopy and Imaging Core Facility has been established within the Genomics Research Centre to support Dr Pountney's and other research.

**I By Mardi Chapman**



*PROTEIN UNDER THE MICROSCOPE: Dr Dean Pountney's research offers the potential for new treatments for Parkinson's disease.*

**Data privacy. See the big picture.**

**The Griffith Public Lecture**

**Data for a Civil Society – How we can harmonise privacy and use population data for public good. Presented by Professor Fiona Stanley AC.**

Professor Stanley will discuss the conundrum between the moral obligation to use record-linked data on individuals for social good, compared with what people perceive is an invasion of privacy and misuse of confidential information. Australian of the Year in 2003, Professor Stanley is the Founding Director of the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, Executive Director of the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth; and Professor, School of Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of Western Australia.

**6pm, Thursday 20 October**  
Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University  
16 Russell Street, South Bank

**Register online**  
at [www.griffith.edu.au/griffithlecture](http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffithlecture) by 13 October.  
Seats are strictly limited and registrations are essential.

**Griffith UNIVERSITY**  
[www.griffith.edu.au](http://www.griffith.edu.au)

## Never too old for law

**CLIVE Prescott marked his graduation from a Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours by celebrating his 50th birthday.**

He received his qualification after six-and-a-half years of part-time study, and took part in the Brisbane graduation ceremony with 300 other Griffith students.

Mr Prescott said he wanted to study law to "excel at this work" in commercial management at XL Express.

"I did a bit of law in my commerce degree . . . back in

1984 but I found there was more and more law necessary in my job," he explained.

"Now I want to get admitted as a corporate solicitor."

While he has studied at a number of universities, he said the accessibility of Nathan campus helped him balance study, full-time work and family life.

"My degree took a lot of commitment but it was personally rewarding."

**I By Marian Angara**



Published by: **External Relations**  
Telephone: 07 3735 7818 or  
07 5552 8217

Guest editor: **Rhys Stacker**

Contributors: **Rhys Stacker, Shamira Barr, Michelle Smith, Mardi Chapman, Alexia Deegan, Marian Angara, Justine Day.**

Layout and production: **Carolyn Ryan**  
Photography: **Amanda Briggs and Trine Barfod-Jensen**

Photographic orders: **Dominique Cowd**

Advertising: **Simone Markham**

Distribution: **Katy Smith**

Registered by Australia Post publication pp446256/0005, ISSN 0818-8483.  
Griffith University CRICOS provider number 00233E

# Lower back pain study drives golf research



FAIRWAY RESEARCH: Kerrie Evans studies the biomechanics of golf swings for its association with low back pain.

**A RESEARCH session for School of Physiotherapy and Exercise Science lecturer Kerrie Evans involves a pair of sunglasses and a couple of hours collecting data on a Gold Coast golf course.**

It's a tough gig but someone has to do it – especially when your PhD topic is golfers and low back pain.

Ms Evans, a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) scholar who has been researching low back pain in golfers for eight years, said low back pain was one of the most common injuries for both professional and amateur golfers,

although the mechanism of injury may be different.

“Professional golfers typically have a controlled swing but the repetitive practise and play puts a lot of load on the lower back. Amateurs may not practise as much, but they are more likely to be practising a poor swing, perhaps have ill fitting equipment, or aren't physically fit for golf,” Ms Evans said.

One of her recent studies found that physical factors such as body mass index and asymmetry in trunk muscle endurance could help predict low back pain in trainee professional golfers.

Another study, using volunteer golfers from Griffith's Golf Management Program, will compare the effect of two different exercise training programs on performance and risk of low back pain.

“The purpose of my study is to find clinically relevant outcomes and identify effective exercise programs for people with low back pain. Prevention of injury is an important area of physiotherapy, particularly with respect to low back pain which is so costly to the community.”

By Mardi Chapman

## In brief

### Cutting-edge curriculum

PRESENT and future law students will gain from Griffith Law School's new law curriculum, to be introduced next year.

A review spanning 18 months has overhauled the structure of the school's five-year combined degree programs and three-year graduate entry program to reflect the latest issues driving legal education.

Under the revamped curriculum, each year's syllabus will progressively equip law students with more advanced skills in areas such as legal theory and interdisciplinarity, ethics, group work, legal and generic skills, Indigenous issues and internationalisation.

### Art workshops

GOLD and Silversmithing Associate Lecturer Liz Shaw recently held a series of jewellery and small-scale carving workshops in the Lockhart River Indigenous community in Cape York.

The workshops used culturally relevant materials, such as shells and bones, and introduced techniques and materials community members weren't familiar with.

Ms Shaw said the workshops attracted large numbers of children right through to Elders, and were seen as a way to involve more of the community in arts practice.

### Prison concert

BACHELOR of Music graduate Janet McKay recently performed at the maximum-security prison Long Lartin, in England.

Performing with the Prison Quintet, the concert was part of the Stratford-upon-Avon International Flute Festival's (SIFF) outreach program.

About 40 inmates crammed into the prison chapel to be treated to music from Bach to Ian Clarke.

### Conference success

GRIFFITH Business School's Mr Ron Dagwell and Dr Carolyn Windsor won best accounting paper for *Gender Differences in the Cultural Values of Multinational Audit Firms: Australian Evidence*, presented at the 4th Global Conference on Business and Economics at Oxford University, UK.

### Genome breakthrough

Dr Christine Wells, School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Sciences, is one of a few women scientists in the global FANTOM consortium which has announced a breakthrough in the mammalian genome. Dr Wells said while genome projects identified, in effect, the alphabet of DNA, it had taken until now for scientists to understand how to arrange the letters into words.

## Tara brings home silver

**WHEN Tara Kelly returns home from an overseas trip, it's often with the type of souvenir that money just can't buy.**

This year the Bachelor of Exercise Science and Business student won a silver medal in the double sculls event at the World Rowing (Under 23 years) Championships held in Amsterdam.

It makes a nice addition to the gold medal she won as a junior at the 2003 World Championships and bronze from last year's Under 23 event.

Ms Kelly, recipient of a Griffith Sports Development Scholarship, started rowing seven years ago.

She lives and trains at Tweed Heads where she completes a two-hour training session twice a day.

“I enjoy rowing because it is a

sport where you get out what you put in, as opposed to some sports where your performance is based more on inherent talent. Rowing is more of a taught skill,” Ms Kelly said.

She trains in a single scull but rows internationally in the double sculls event. She has rowed with a different partner at each world championship event.

Currently rowing in Australia in the open division and ranked ninth in the country, she is already looking ahead two years to when she can race in the open division at international meets.

Until then, she plans to continue juggling study and training.

“A business degree these days is never wasted and majoring in sports management, my career options are wide open.”



MEDAL WINNER: Tara Kelly rowed her way to a silver medal at the recent World Championships.

## Lions roar for equity

**THE Griffith University Lions Club has awarded equity scholarships worth \$1000 each to three first-year students.**

Elise Kavanagh, Louise Simpson and Leon Groves received the scholarships.

Louise, a Bachelor of Photography student who moved from Bundaberg to study at Griffith, also received a Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship.

John Urquhart, Lions Club member and Director of Technical Services at Griffith's Nathan campus, said the club had funded three scholarships every year since 2002.

“The aim of these scholarships is to assist people coming to

university for the first time who are experiencing financial hardship which will impact on their ability to undertake their program of study,” Mr Urquhart said.

“The Macgregor and Griffith University Lions clubs combined have funded over 60 scholarships since 1990.”

Mr Urquhart said among the club's other initiatives were:

- Buying a boat for sailors with disabilities. The Griffith boat operates from Wynnum Marina;
- Conducting an Australian citizenship ceremony at Nathan;
- Buying a “hearing” dog for a Mt Gravatt student with a hearing impairment.

By Marian Angara



1



2



3



4

# Learning by degrees to make a difference

WALKING across the stage to receive a testamur from Chancellor Leneen Forde AC may seem a distant prospect from first year, but not so for more than 1000 students who took these very steps in Canada, Brisbane and the Gold Coast in September.

They were among Griffith's graduating classes of 2005 and they came together, as university custom prescribes, with family, guests and scholars to celebrate their achievements and reaffirm their responsibilities as global citizens.

In Toronto, Canada, Griffith also awarded Phan Kim Phuc an Honorary Doctorate for her lifelong commitment to promoting world peace.

In Brisbane, Chairman of Queensland Events Corporation Des Power addressed graduands.

Mr Power is an award-winning producer and writer who has worked as a

London-based correspondent for the ABC for more than 30 years.

He created and produced this year's 90th anniversary of the ANZAC landing on Gallipoli.

"It's a great privilege to be given the opportunity to speak to the graduates who are at the start of their careers," Mr Power said.

"I hope that their studies leave them with a lust for continued learning."

On the Gold Coast, Victoria Martin graduated from a Master of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication. She said her studies at Griffith started a

new life for her in Australia.

Victoria moved to the Coast from England to study her Master's degree and is now working as Programming Coordinator for Radio Metro.

"I did voluntary work for Radio Metro through Griffith and they offered me a full-time job when I finished my Masters," she said.

"When I was studying in England there was a lot of theory but Griffith really provided me with the hands-on experience that I needed."

By Alexia Deegan

1. RAISING THE BAR: Clayton Utz managing partner Geoff Harley was a guest speaker at the Brisbane graduation ceremony.

2. COMBINED DEGREE: Kylie Wells is the first graduate from the combined Bachelor of Human Services/Bachelor of Education - Primary program. She is currently teaching grade one students at Marsden State School

3. IN THE NEWS: (Left to right) Chancellor Leneen Forde AC, respected TV producer and Queensland Events Corporation chairman Des Power and Vice Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor.

4. SMART ARTS: Painter and Honorary Doctorate recipient Bill Robinson with Philip Bacon Galleries owner Philip Bacon.



HOWZAT: A month working with Indian cricketers was an early career highlight for Master of Physiotherapy graduates Adam Daniels and Shane Tompson.

## Indian cricket summer a big hit with physio therapists

**THE opportunity to work as team physiotherapists for the MRF Cricket Academy in India and complete one of their final clinical placements in a Chennai hospital has been the highlight of the year for two Master of Physiotherapy graduates.**

Adam Daniels and Shane Tompson recently returned from their month-long stay in India. For Adam, a first grade cricketer who plays for Norths in Brisbane, it was also a chance to bat against some of the world's fastest bowlers.

Adam had his first overseas experience last year when he travelled with a Queensland Universities' cricket tour to India.

The idea was born to return to India to combine a supervised hospital placement that would further his study and play more of the game he loves in a country where it is a national passion.

Griffith International and the Griffith Sports College assisted with organising the placements. Shane, while not a cricketer, was also keen to grab the overseas experience.

Their days were typically spent warming up, exercising with and treating injuries in their cricket teams in the early morning, followed by five or six hours working the wards in the Apollo Hospital or Sumdaram Medical Foundation, then back to the cricket academy for a second session.

Although Adam and Shane struggled with language barriers and were amazed by some of the antiquated hospital equipment still in use, both said the experience was career defining.

"Being able to develop our skills under tougher conditions in a different environment was of great value leading into our final clinical placement back in Australia," Adam said.

They also had unique opportunities such as teaching elite cricketers how to help prevent back injuries.

"Australian expertise is perceived to be equal to the world's best standards. Everything we said was taken with a lot of interest," Shane said.

By Mardi Chapman

# Virgin Blue captain earns his degree

VIRGIN Blue Captain Jamie Santolin credits Griffith's academic support services for giving him the skills to complete his degree.

Captain Santolin, who graduated with a Bachelor of Aviation in September, is the first person in his immediate family to possess a university qualification.

He started working for Virgin Blue in 2002 and said his academic abilities, honed at Griffith, had assisted his work, including his membership of an airspace risk assessment panel for Airservice Australia.

"My studies provided me with the ability to develop conclusive arguments in the panel because I didn't just have a better understanding, I was also more open to differing points of view," he said.

"Having a degree doesn't mean you're going to earn more money or that you're so much smarter but it gives you the tools to speak at a level and (in a) language that allows you to contribute to the field so much more effectively."

But it wasn't always that way for Captain Santolin.

Captain Santolin started studying externally for "personal development" in 1998, but found juggling it with work difficult, so took time off.

He returned in 2000, this time seeking direction from Head of School of Aviation Paul Bates.

"Jamie is a very determined person," Professor Bates said.

On advice, Captain Santolin took part in Griffith's Learning Services workshops which aim to teach participants about researching, critical thinking and academic writing.

"These workshops were invaluable to my studies – I can't speak highly enough of them, they were just terrific," Captain Santolin said.

The workshops and tutorials have been specially designed to give students and staff the



FLYING HIGH: Virgin Blue Captain Jamie Santolin credits Griffith's flexibility and learning workshops for his success in aviation.

academic, computing and research skills to assist their personal and professional growth.

Captain Santolin put those new skills to work, renewing his

ambition – and he hasn't looked back.

There to congratulate Captain Santolin at his recent graduation were his 78-year-old dad and 69-

year-old mum, who travelled from North Queensland to celebrate their son's achievement.

By Marian Angara

# NRL stars to tackle off-field degrees



FLEXIBLE LEARNING: (Left to right) Former Broncos star and now Broncos player welfare manager Ben Ikin, current squad member and Griffith graduate Nick Parfitt, Griffith University Pro Vice Chancellor Sharon Bell and Broncos Managing Director Bruno Cullen.

BRISBANE Broncos players now have the chance to be as successful in life as they are on the field, thanks to an agreement between the club and Griffith University.

The Broncos have signed an agreement with Griffith to deliver a range of courses to players from 2006, including professional development subjects, such as financial management, as well as degrees.

One player to have studied at Griffith who applauded the new agreement was NRL squad member Nick Parfitt. He recently graduated with a Bachelor of Leisure Management.

"I studied full time and combined it with professional footy, and it was an extremely difficult time for me," he said.

"Any system that encourages players to study, but takes into account the time required by a full-time athlete, gets my vote of approval and my support."

Broncos Managing Director Bruno Cullen said the team was delighted to work with Griffith because it would give players the chance to build solid foundations for the future.

"It is important for us as a club to attract the best rugby league talent and, as Wayne Bennett has emphasised throughout his coaching career, we have always been about preparing our players for an entire life journey. Obviously we want them to become better footballers, but we also aim to make them better people and that goes well beyond their football careers," Mr Cullen said.

Pro Vice Chancellor (Equity and Community Partnerships) Sharon Bell said the agreement was in keeping with the university's ethos of providing opportunities for individuals to reach their full potential.

"Working with the Broncos is at the heart of our renewed commitment to find pathways to university for people from all walks of life, including those with great sporting talent," she said.

By Alexia Deegan

# Cultural project targets literacy



STORY TIME: Dr Judith Kearney reads a traditional Samoan storybook with Caylen and Elisara Sagala.

- **Dr Janet Ransley** (School of Criminology and Criminal Justice) wrote a Perspectives article for *The Courier-Mail* explaining the legal issues surrounding the demise of the Morris health inquiry.
- **Professor Mark von Itzstein** (Institute for Glycomics) spoke to *The Australian*, *The Courier Mail*, Channel Nine Gold Coast News and ABC radio about a \$22 million expansion of the institute.
- **Professor Patrick Weller** (Department of Politics and Public Policy) was quoted in a *Weekend Australian Magazine* cover story on former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser.
- **Dr Geoff Carter** (Department of Management) spoke on office romances on radio and in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*.
- **Dr Mark Boschen** (School of Psychology) spoke about obsessive-compulsive disorder on radio 4BC and the ABC and in articles that appeared in the *Gold Coast Bulletin*, *Morning Bulletin*, *Cairns Post* and *Newcastle Herald*.
- **Professor Charles Sampford** (Institute for Ethics, Governance and Law) spoke on Radio Nationals' Breakfast program about the end of the Morris health inquiry.
- **Associate Professor Tim Prenzler** (School of Criminology and Criminal Justice) spoke about the security industry on 2UE Radio Sydney and in *The Sunday Mail* (Adelaide).
- **Dr Mohamad Abdalla** (Griffith Islamic Research Unit) commented on a number of issues on ABC radio in Newcastle and on the Gold Coast, on SBS Ethnic Radio, and in *The Australian*, *The Courier-Mail*, *Weekend Australian*, and *Campus Review*.
- **Dr Darryl Jones** (Australian School of Environmental Studies) was interviewed by 5AA Radio in Adelaide and the *Queensland Times* about magpies swooping in spring.
- **Professor Michael Wesley** (Griffith Asia Institute) was interviewed by ABC Southern Queensland (Toowoomba) on how oil supplies will affect security and prosperity.
- **Dr Peter Pollard's** (School of Environmental Engineering) research on the harmful effects of storm water overflows was featured on Channel Nine Gold Coast News, NBN Lismore and ABC Radio.
- **Professor Tony Makin** (Department of Finance, Accounting and Economics) featured in the *Australian Financial Review* saying Australia needed to take note of Asia's high growth rates.
- **Dr Mohan Thite** (Department of Management) was interviewed on the importance of fun at the workplace in *The Courier-Mail* and ABC Radio.
- **Travis Heller** (Australian Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention) was interviewed on ABC radio in Brisbane in the lead up to World Suicide Prevention Day.
- **Emeritus Professor Ian Lowe** (School of Science) was interviewed by ABC Radio on the need to urgently cut greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Professor David Prideaux** (School of Medicine) was quoted in an article in the *Geelong Advertiser* about the likely benefits of a proposed school of medicine for the Geelong region.

**GRIFFITH is helping Logan's Samoan community develop traditional story books in an effort to improve literacy levels in two languages: English and Samoan.**

Dr Judith Kearney, convenor of the primary education degree at Logan and the project's chief investigator, said the main aim was to develop bilingual, culturally relevant reading materials for Samoan children and their families.

"One of the concerns in the Samoan community is that children haven't had a strong background of story reading at home because there are few children's books in their first language. The main reading resource available in Samoan is the Bible," Dr Kearney said.

The project, funded by a Griffith Community Partnership grant, involves Samoan children sharing their traditional stories and helping to illustrate the books with traditional Samoan art. The books will be produced in both Samoan and English.

The students work with Tapau Cowley, a respected Samoan Elder who is completing

postgraduate study at Griffith, and artist Freya Pinney. Griffith academics Dr Maria Dobrenov-Major and Dr Gary Birch, who work in the area of applied linguistics, are also involved.

Dr Kearney said the books would be used in the classroom and at home.

"We recognise that home reading experiences, in any language, are extremely important for young children in that they promote talk, facilitate awareness of written language, and prepare preschool children for

the types of learning experiences they will encounter at school," she said.

The project team is working with five Logan schools but plans to include another five.

"Once the books are completed we will research the structure and content of the interactions they encourage between parents and children, and teachers and students," Dr Kearney said.

By Michelle Smith

# A meeting of musical minds



IN TUNE: Peter Roennfeldt and Kim Walker give a recital of masterworks for bassoon during Professor Walker's visit to Queensland Conservatorium.

**QUEENSLAND Conservatorium staff and students were recently treated to a whirlwind visit by one of the world's most celebrated bassoonists.**

Sydney Conservatorium of Music Dean Professor Kim Walker held a workshop for QCGU's wind instrument students, gave a public lecture on 'Intangibles in Music' for the Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre, and met with staff at the South Bank campus.

She also joined QCGU Director Professor Peter Roennfeldt (performing on piano and harpsichord) for a recital of masterworks for bassoon, including the world premiere of *Three Brief Insinuations* by Head of Composition Dr Stephen Cronin.

It was the first visit to QCGU by Professor Walker who, prior to her appointment to Sydney Conservatorium early last year, was based at the University of Indiana, USA, one of the world's largest music schools.

Professor Roennfeldt said her appointment had been greeted with great interest by Australian musicians and by the National Council of Tertiary Music Schools, of which he is Chair. QCGU is interested in strengthening its links with Sydney Conservatorium.

"We have numerous common issues, such as research outputs in the creative arts, resourcing levels and the nature of academic work within a performing arts institution, and new curriculum directions in the 21st century," Professor Roennfeldt said.

The Sydney and Queensland Conservatoriums were of a similar size and national significance and they shared similar histories, he said. Both were formed by their state governments, in 1915 and 1957 respectively, and both have been within the university sector since the early 1990s.

By Michelle Smith

# Mobiles band-aid solution for work-life balance

**WORKERS are using their personal mobile phones to restore a work-life balance and as a band-aid solution for not being home more often, a new study has found.**

The Griffith Business School study into the emerging issue of personal mobile phone use at the workplace has found most small businesses have yet to form a policy on mobiles but they will have to do so soon.

Department of Management's Ms Lyn Batchelor and Department of Industrial Relations' Dr Keith Townsend said that small businesses, with their informal atmosphere and less structured human resource procedures, were vulnerable to potential conflicts

over the use or exclusion of personal mobiles.

The study looked at the real estate industry and key cutters in retail malls. It found that real estate agents used their personal mobile phones the most.

"The phones served as a business tool, were rarely turned off and almost never used to make personal calls as the sales people wanted to be ready for the next call, which may mean another commission," Ms Batchelor said.

She added that in contrast, the key cutting stall banned personal mobiles altogether.

"Staff found innovative ways around the ban, however, such as diverting calls from their personal



*IN RANGE: Workers are using mobiles as a band-aid solution to restore a work-life balance.*

mobiles to the office phone.

"While employers appear to view mobile phones as inviting staff's non-work lives into the workplace,

some employees see their use as a legitimate and reasonable right.

"This issue presents a new area of contest where management and

employees must tread delicately to ensure good relations remain."

**By Shamira Barr**



*FLYING HIGH: Fly Archerfield's Emery Williams (left) has called on Griffith planning students, including Emma Coutts and Annete Cupitt, to revamp the Archerfield Aerodrome.*

## Environmental planners take to the sky

**SECOND-YEAR and postgraduate environmental planning students are working to revamp a once successful Brisbane airport and at the same time gain valuable practical planning experience.**

Each year, students taking the Development Process Studio course are assigned to do a detailed study on a site in or around Brisbane. This year, the class will focus on Archerfield Aerodrome.

According to course convener Dr Eddo Coiacetto, students will develop a plan for the revitalisation and redevelopment

of the aerodrome.

"Archerfield is the premier general aviation airport in Brisbane, but it has not escaped the downturn in the aviation industry. For example, in the 1970s over 1000 planes operated from the aerodrome, but now the figure is around 250," Dr Coiacetto said.

Fly Archerfield, a non-profit group responsible for exploring business opportunities at the aerodrome and promoting aviation, approached Griffith and invited planning students to visit the site and think about how the aerodrome could be improved.

"The plan will aim to be a model of sustainable development. The project highlights a diversity of tasks where environmental planning skills and processes can be applied," Dr Coiacetto said.

Second year environmental planning student Annete Cupitt said the course was challenging and required a mix of high-level planning and design skills.

"The best thing will be to see if Fly Archerfield puts any of our ideas in place in the future. I think that'll be rewarding," she said.

**By Rhys Stacker**

## Scientists share their smarts

**TROPICAL insect ecology, the theories of Albert Einstein and coastal communities of Canada are examples of the diverse range of experience visiting scientists have brought to Griffith recently.**

Last month, Professor Vojtech Novotny gave a seminar on tropical insect ecology and shared his thoughts on its future as humans continue to pose the biggest threat to the world's oxygen room.

Professor Novotny is one of the world's most cited scientists in the field of insect ecology. He is Head of the Department of Ecology and Conservatorium Biology at the Czech Academy of Sciences.

While at Griffith, Professor Novotny worked closely with Griffith rainforest expert Professor Roger Kitching. Professor Kitching said Professor Novotny was "one of the most distinguished and published ecologists of our time. His work in Papua New Guinea over the past 10 years has set new standards".

Another highlight for staff, students and the public was the

rare insight provided into the mind of Albert Einstein when Professor Hanoch Gutfreund gave a free public lecture recently.

Professor Gutfreund is a former President of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a world expert on Einstein. In his will, Einstein had left all his intellectual property, including his literary estate and personal papers, to the Hebrew University. Professor Gutfreund is the coordinator of these resources.

The University of British Columbia's Professor Ralph Matthews was hosted by the Centre for Governance and Public Policy recently. He has spent over 30 years researching social change and economic development in communities.

Professor Matthews leads the Coastal Communities Project, which studies isolated, resource-dependent communities in British Columbia and the strategies they have used to prosper. He said parallels could be drawn between these communities and Queensland towns.



*EINSTEIN INSIGHT: (Left to right): Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Max Standage, Vice Chancellor and President Ian O'Connor, Hebrew University of Jerusalem former President Professor Hanoch Gutfreund, Henry Malecki and Barry Joseph.*

# Export franchising the way of the future

GRIFFITH researchers remain at the forefront of the \$80 billion Australian franchise industry, with the August launch of a three-year study to develop the world's first strategic model of best practice for international franchising.

The ARC-funded project entitled *International Franchising Success Factors: A guide for Australian franchise systems*, is being undertaken in collaboration with Austrade.

It will identify strategies used by franchisors who successfully penetrate international markets to expand their ventures beyond the domestic economy.

Project leader and franchising expert Professor Lorelle Frazer said

while 20 per cent growth in franchise systems in Australia since 2002 seemed impressive on the surface, around 60 per cent of these systems hold fewer than 30 franchise units.

"This means that the key to expanding and developing the sector lies in exporting," Professor Frazer said.

Austrade Industry Specialist in Franchising, Tourism and Business Services, Cheryl Scott, agreed.

"Our charter is to help Australian businesses export their products, services and intellectual property overseas, so we regard international franchising as an important area of future growth for the 850 franchise systems currently operating in this country," Ms Scott said.

Managing Director and founder of Eagle Boys Pizzas, Tom Potter, is one franchisor who has successfully turned a single outlet established in regional New South Wales 17 years ago into a vast franchising network, which today spans Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and Fiji.

"Franchising is a huge industry which deserves the kind of rigorous research that Griffith is undertaking if the sector is to continue to grow and prosper," Mr Potter said.

"Griffith was the first university to provide structured franchising training in Australia, and this has been of great value to me in developing my top people."

By Justine Day



FRANCHISING FOREFRONT: Professor Lorelle Frazer instructs Daryll Scott (left) and Nick Vincent.

## In brief

### Griffith supports Ideas Festival

GRIFFITH University is pleased to be a major sponsor of the 2006 Ideas Festival. The festival, four days of ideas, innovation and invention, will be held from 29 March – 2 April 2006 at Brisbane's South Bank.

The Ideas Festival is working now to develop a provocative and diverse program of national and international speakers, exhibitions and installations.

Vice Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor said the connection between the Ideas Festival and Griffith was built on a strong joint commitment to supporting and celebrating innovation.

### Child safety expertise recognised

SCHOOL of Human Services lecturer Dr Jennifer Osmond has been appointed to the Queensland Department of Child Safety's Research Advisory Group. Dr Osmond has a background in child protection. She has been involved in the training of child safety officers, and is currently conducting research in the area of foster parents.

The Research Advisory Group, a panel of leading child protection academics, will provide the department with advice on research priorities and strategic direction.

### Five stars for MBA

GRIFFITH'S MBA program has received a five-star rating for the fourth consecutive year, ranking it among the top eleven programs Australia-wide.

The Graduate Management Association of Australia (GMAA), the national association of MBA graduates, assessed Australian MBA courses for 2005 on the basis of the standard and value of each program and placed Griffith's among the top 11 in a field of 55.

The GMAA assessment was based on factors including staff and student quality, linkages with industry and overseas schools, curriculum, facilities and graduate outcomes.

### New centre set up

GRIFFITH Business School has set up a Centre for Financial Independence and Education (CFIE) to address the emerging need for financial education and empowerment in the community.

In a first for universities in Australia, the Logan-based centre develops and conducts small workshops on personal financial management and literacy.

The centre also conducts research into financial capacity, components of financial literacy and the impact of financial literacy education, areas identified by the federal taskforce as lacking in research.

### Band tours

DR Octopus, which consists of a number of Popular Music graduates, was selected as Queensland's best unsigned band for the Coke Live and Local tour.

As a result the band opened for The Living End, Dallas Crane, Spiderbait, P-Money and the Spazzy's at the Brisbane Entertainment Centre on September 30.

## Courting new skills

FURNITURE once used at the old Lands Court Brisbane's original Federal and Family court premises, has been given a new lease of life at Griffith's electronic moot court at Nathan.

A gift to the university by the Department of Justice and Attorney General, the fixtures, which featured in a mini-series on Lindy Chamberlain, include a bar table, chairs, witness box and gallery seating.

The Honorable Rod Welford MP opened the facility at an event attended by judges and senior members of the legal profession.

The new moot court features the latest technology, including computers and screens on the bar table and judge's bench, and a document visualiser.

Law School Dean Associate Professor Justin Malbon said law students would use the moot court to argue hypothetical cases in mock legal proceedings.

"Mooting has a well-established tradition in legal education in Australia and other parts of the world," he said.

"Griffith University has identified

mooting as an essential part of its program and these skills are developed and assessed throughout the undergraduate law degrees. The moot court will provide students with opportunities to learn about the application of new technologies, while providing them with experience in persuasive writing, oral advocacy and other important practice skills."

Associate Professor Malbon said moot court also boosted students' confidence in public speaking, general research, and in presenting themselves professionally in a formal environment.

"Mooting benefits every student, whether or not they plan to follow a traditional legal career," he said.

Griffith Law School was recently ranked Australia's leading public law school in the 2006 *Good Universities Guide*. An independent Course Experience Questionnaire of graduates compiled by the Graduate Careers Council of Australia ranked Griffith Law School the number one law school in the country on a range of measures, including teaching quality and student satisfaction.

## What's on

### LECTURES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11 AND WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

Cool Bytes Lecture Series presents Sally Smart. Melbourne-based Sally Smart's shadowy collaged paintings are informed by historical and personal stories and are imbued with aspects of feminism and psychoanalysis. **Venue:** Gold Coast City Art Gallery, 6pm Tuesday; QCA Lecture Theatre, South Bank, 1pm Wednesday. **See:** www.griffith.edu.au/qca **Contact:** 07 5581 6567

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18 AND

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

Cool Bytes Lecture Series presents Maria Fernanda Cardosa. Maria's stylised constructions are made from animal and organic matter and are abundant with references to mortality, control, violence, metamorphosis and consumption. **Venue:** Gold Coast City Art Gallery, 6pm Tuesday; QCA Lecture Theatre, South Bank, 1pm Wednesday. **See:** www.griffith.edu.au/qca **Contact:** 07 5581 6567

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

Why Nations Can Afford Population Ageing. Free public lecture. Professor Ross Guest argues the effects of population

ageing on economic welfare in the future has been overdone. **Venue:** G17, Theatre 4 (Lecture Theatre 3 and 4 Complex), Gold Coast. **Time:** 5.30pm. Light refreshments will be served. **Contact:** 07 5552 8659

### EVENTS

UNTIL SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30 **place made: Australian Print Workshop.** A National Gallery of Australia travelling exhibition featuring 90 works by 57 artists, providing a snapshot of the involvement of Australian artists in the production of prints and their stylistic, technical and political concerns between 1981 and 2002. **Venue:** DELL Gallery @ QCA,

South Bank. **Hours:** Wednesday –Friday 11am–4pm, Saturday–Sunday noon–4pm. **Contact:** 07 3735 3140.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29 TO FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

**Journalism Education Association conference.** The School of Arts hosts the 30th annual conference of the JEA, which is made up of journalism educators, working professionals and students from Australia and the South Pacific who are committed to the continuous improvement of journalism education and/or training. **Venue:** Gold Coast International Hotel, Surfers Paradise. **See:** http://live-

wirez.gu.edu.au/jea **Contact:** Ben Isakhan, 07 5552 8489, jea@griffith.edu.au

### CONCERTS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12 **Max Olding and Pamela Page concert.** Performing as part of the Queensland Conservatorium's Kawai Keyboard Series. **Venue:** QPAC Concert Hall. **Tickets:** \$10–\$20. **Contact:** 07 3735 6241.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

**Classic Farewell Concert.** The Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra presents Haydn, Koussevitzky and Beethoven. **Venue:** Conservatorium Theatre, South Bank. **Tickets:** \$10–\$20. **Contact:** 07 3735 6241.