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A monthly review of news and events

AUGUST 2004

Cape York Institute a first for Australia

THE launch of the Cape York Institute for Policy and Leadership signals a new era for reform and development of public policy and leadership training for Indigenous Australia.

The Australian and Queensland governments have each committed \$2.5 million to the institute over five years, with Griffith providing substantial in-kind support as the project sponsor.

An academic centre of the university, the institute represents a unique partnership between governments, Griffith and the people of Cape York – a diverse region covering approximately 150,000 sq km and home to some 15,000 people.

The opening celebration in Cairns on July 6 by Premier Peter Beattie and Federal Education, Science and Training Minister Dr Brendan Nelson highlighted the rich diversity of the region and the role its people must play in shaping the future of our nation.

Welcoming more than 250 guests who had travelled from around the country for the event were the Aurukun dancers. Along with thought-provoking speeches were performances by the Djarragun Islander dancers and a poetry reading by institute member and acclaimed artist, choreographer and performer Fiona Doyle, a descendent of the Alngith Wikway and Mbaiwum/Troch People of the Western Cape.

Authority on contemporary issues in Aboriginal Affairs Professor Marcia Langton AM has been appointed to chair the institute's independent Board of Directors which has a majority of Indigenous members.

She said education was key to Aboriginal leadership, and the institute going "from dream to reality on a fast track" was a solid start.

"The enthusiasm and cooperation of the many people who have contributed to the establishment of the institute is a welcome breakthrough in the field of policy and leadership in Indigenous affairs," Professor Langton said.

And institute Director Noel Pearson shared with guests the vision of empowering the Cape's bi-cultural and multi-lingual leaders to make a difference to metropolitan Australia but also to return to the region to effect change at home.



PHOTO: AARON FRANCIS

EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS: In the grounds of Tropical North Queensland TAFE where the institute is based are (from left) Vivian, 8, Mr Noel Pearson and Maleta, 8, enjoying the opening celebrations.



PHOTO: AARON FRANCIS

A POWERFUL PERFORMANCE: The Djarragun College traditional Islander dancers move through the crowd of guests in a performance which is a real crowd pleaser. Accompanying the dancers are Islander musicians and singers.

A university shaped by, and shaping, values



THOSE who founded Griffith in 1971 had few doubts about the institution's

identity and purpose: it would consciously be different, an alternative to the traditional university education offered by the University of Queensland.

To that end, the first Council adopted the reform agenda of the era – programs grounded in interdisciplinarity, a common foundation course for each degree program, team teaching, a problem-solving approach, a more egalitarian structure and organising principles that encouraged participation by staff in decision making. It founded Schools of Modern Asian Studies, Australian Environmental Studies, Humanities and Science. This was a courageous start – a niche strategy in new academic fields.

Griffith has since become a much larger and more comprehensive university, and therefore also more conventional. But a willingness to take risks around new ideas remains core to the university's ethos, as does a deep-seated commitment to social justice and the principles of equity.

This has been a formidable year of beginnings at Griffith. We've opened a new Graduate Centre in Brisbane, and marked a series of milestones on the way to our new Medical and Oral Health schools at the Gold Coast. Griffith has also played a pivotal role in setting up the new Australia and New Zealand School of Government.

But there has been no project more central to the ethos of Griffith University than the Cape York Institute for Policy and Leadership.

The culture and isolation of Cape York have given it a unique set of

issues which can be hard for people outside the Cape to understand. The people of the Cape have often sensed that they are excluded from the halls of power where policy is pondered and pronounced on a daily basis.

The Cape York Institute has come about after many months of work by a team led by Institute Director Noel Pearson and dedicated to providing the communities of the Cape with access to top-level skills in the areas of policy analysis, policy implementation and leadership for the future.

It was therefore with great pride that Griffith hosted the launch in Cairns on July 6 of the new Institute, officially opened by Premier Peter Beattie and Federal Minister for Education, Science and Training Dr Brendan Nelson.

The Cape York Institute will champion reform and innovation in

Indigenous and social welfare policies. But while the Institute is focussed on Cape York, it will build and maintain links with other Indigenous communities around Australia.

On the same day as the launch of the Cape York Institute, but at the other end of the State, Griffith also hosted the launch of the International Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Tourism Education at the Gold Coast campus, by Federal Science Minister Peter McGauran.

The Griffith community can regard both of these achievements with great pride. One hopes that those who founded Griffith back in the '70s are similarly proud that even after 30 years of enormous growth, Griffith has retained its commitment to shaping and being shaped by values.

\$5m institute opens in Cairns

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"To deliver lasting results for Indigenous people, we need to maintain the momentum for change, explore innovative public policy solutions and invest in the skills and capabilities of future generations," he said.

"The Cape York Institute will be an engine for positive change – its launch marks a proud day for the people of Cape York and for Indigenous Australia as a whole."

Federal Education Minister Dr Nelson said the institute would help deliver meaningful career paths for Indigenous leaders and future leaders.

"It will draw on the academic rigour and public-policy expertise of Griffith University to drive reform in areas identified as important by the local community," Dr Nelson said.

These areas include welfare reform, economic development, governance, substance abuse, leadership, and cultural vitality.

Premier Beattie said the institute was potentially a giant step forward, and the Queensland Government enthusiastically supported it.

"It's great to be a part of history," the Premier said.

The institute is now eager to involve Griffith staff in its activities which require expertise in economic development, organisational management and policy, just to name a few areas.

For more information about the institute and its projects, as well as a gallery of photos from the opening, see www.cyi.org.au

By **Alexia Deegan**



AS IT HAPPENED: (from top, left to right) Meeting the media at the launch are (from left) Dr Brendan Nelson, Premier Peter Beattie, Mr Noel Pearson, Professor Marcia Langton and Professor Glyn Davis. Left: Chancellor Leneen Forde and Ciaran O'Faircheallaigh. Right: Fiona Doyle gives an impassioned poetry reading.



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Plant properties reduce pain



RESEARCHERS from Griffith's Institute for Cell and Molecular Therapies are working to develop a new pain-killing pharmaceutical drug derived from an Australian plant.

Institute Director Professor Ron Quinn (pictured) and his colleagues have received a \$174,500 grant from the National Health and Medical Research Council to progress the research project.

The project involves evaluating the analgesic activity of several novel natural products which have been isolated from the *Barringtonia acutangula* plant – a mangrove found in northern Australia, Asia and eastern Africa.

Professor Quinn said many species of *Barringtonia* had been used as traditional medicines.

"We are working with an Aboriginal group from Western Australia who have brought the traditional knowledge of when and where to collect the bark to ensure active ingredients are present," he said.

"The aqueous bark from *Barringtonia acutangula* is used for its analgesic properties. The Aboriginal group brought the traditional knowledge to our attention and continue to be actively involved in the on-going project."

Professor Quinn's team have recently confirmed this biological activity in an animal model assay.

The next stage of the project will focus on the large-scale extraction and isolation of the novel compounds in sufficient quantities that will allow for their pharmacological evaluation as potential analgesic drugs.

By Anthony Coates

Make a date with history...



LIFE has been an amazing journey for Kim Phuc. She survived war-torn Vietnam, lived through virtual exile in Cuba, before gaining political asylum in Canada and going on to become a United Nations Ambassador for Children.

But take a step back in time. It was her photograph in 1972 running down a Vietnamese road as she screamed in agony, her body seared by napalm, which not only made news pages around the globe but brought

many questions to the fore over the very human cost of war.

That image of Kim Phuc went on to earn Associated Press photographer Nick Ut a coveted Pulitzer Prize. It also stands as a reminder that, more than 30 years on, with the Iraq conflict and images of Abu Ghraib fresh in the mind, there are still children innocently suffering because of war.

Griffith University is proud to present a series of events for industry and the wider community

to hear Kim Phuc tell her important story. Event seats are strictly limited. Details are available online at www.griffith.edu.au

During the visit to Griffith, she will also present the inaugural Kim Foundation Award for Photojournalism to a Queensland College of Art photojournalism student. Kim endorses the university's photojournalism and other arts offerings as the arts have the capacity to shape, influence and change public perceptions for the better.

More student places, more programs

THE university has received 1,654 new student places – the largest single allocation to an Australian university – enabling it to offer Social Work for the first time and to provide extra places in a range of programs at some campuses.

The new places, announced recently by the Australian Government, would be rolled out between 2005-2007, with 580 of these available as early as next year.

Griffith has been seeking additional places for many years, especially for the Gold Coast campus which serves the fastest growing region in the country.

With the new student places, this campus will now offer a degree in secondary education for the first time.

Gold Coast campus will also offer International Relations, Medical Science, Dental Science and combined Law Degrees from 2005.

Among Gold Coast campus programs to be expanded are:

- Arts, Communication and Journalism (extra 60 places)
- Psychology (30)
- Business, Finance (40)
- Sports Management, Event Management and Tourism (40)
- Environmental Planning (20)
- Nursing (40)
- Design Studies, Digital Design (25)

Logan campus will offer the new Social Work program, as well as

offer extra places in:

- Nursing (40)
- Business Management, Financial Planning and Investments (30)
- Human Services (30)
- Health Promotion (30)

In addition, there will be 25 new nursing places offered through Griffith's Nathan campus under the Australian Government's Aged Care Package announced in the Federal Budget.

Statewide project tackles the difficulties of learning

A \$600,000 study to pinpoint the best ways of helping students with learning difficulties is underway at Griffith.

Researchers hope *Interventions in Literacy and Numeracy* will gauge the success and cost-effectiveness of interventions designed to address learning difficulties for students in Years 2 to 7 across Queensland.

Griffith's Centre for Applied Language, Literacy and Communication Studies (CALLCS) is carrying out the research for Education Queensland, the research team

including CALLCS Director Associate Professor Claire Wyatt-Smith, Professor John Elkins, and Dr Lenore Ferguson from Education Queensland.

Schools from State, Catholic and independent sectors will be involved in the study which is being funded by the Australian Government's Department of Education, Science and Training.

Associate Professor Claire Wyatt-Smith said findings would be provided to teachers and other education professionals to inform

practice, policy and research.

"The research should identify the kinds of interventions that are effective for particular groups of students in particular learning contexts," she said.

"This will provide a basis for the further development of informed policies in intervention practices in literacy and numeracy in the middle phase of learning in particular."

Researchers will look at data from tests including the Years 3, 5 and 7 Literacy and Numeracy Tests, as well as teacher-generated

information about relevant learning contexts and student achievements.

The project will engage with the wide range of teaching staff, administration, parents and other staff from other relevant organisations to examine the nature and impact of interventions available to students with learning difficulties.

It will also generate case studies of exemplary practice in schools.

By Simon Atkinson

Hormones genetically linked to migraines

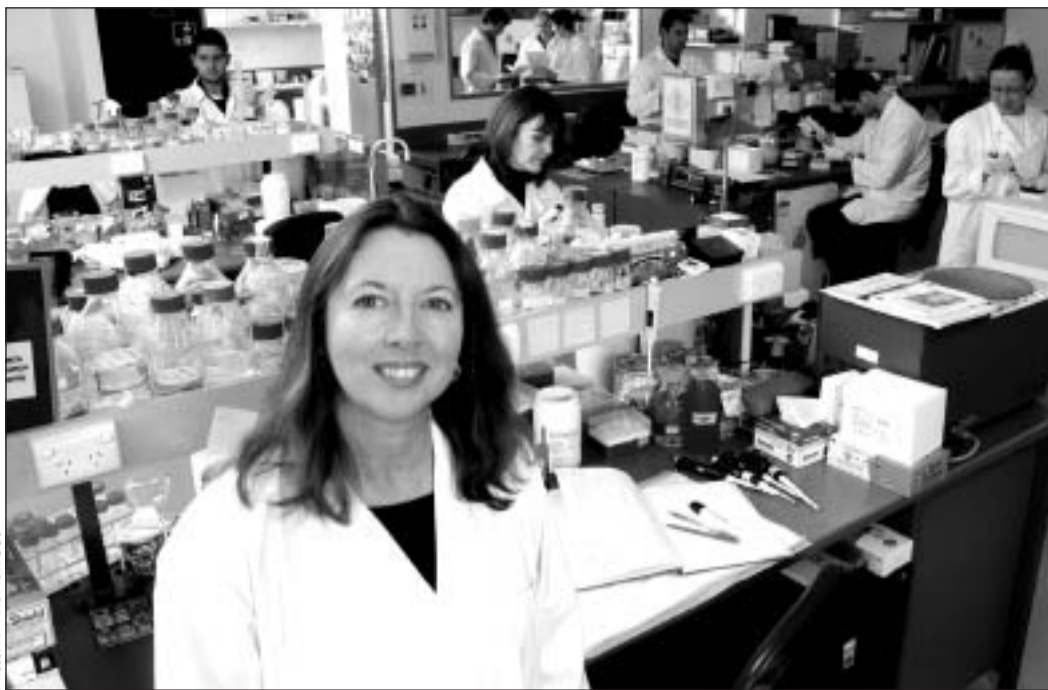


Photo: AMANDA BRIGGS

DIRECTOR of the Genomics Research Centre Professor Lyn Griffiths (pictured) and her team of researchers at the university have identified a genetic link between hormones and migraine.

Professor Griffiths said it was the first time a hormone receptor gene had been associated with migraine.

"We always knew that hormones were involved, now we know that there is a genetic basis," Professor Griffiths said.

"It seems so obvious now, but it's a whole new area of discovery.

"This is the initial finding, now we need to look at the mutations to see how a change in the DNA sequence affects the gene.

"There is more than one gene involved in migraine and different variations affect people differently."

Professor Griffiths said women were three times more likely than men to suffer from migraine and they often experienced their first migraine at puberty.

"Pregnancy and menopause can also play havoc with migraine, which shows further evidence that hormones such as oestrogen and progesterone are implicated," she said.

"There is also what we call a 'menstrual migraine' whereby migraine becomes linked to the menstrual cycle."

While an effective treatment for the condition has not yet been identified, an awareness of the genetic link in hormones could help migraine management, particularly during hormonal changes.

Professor Griffiths said Hormone Replacement Therapy and the Pill in some cases could worsen migraine, while in other cases lessen it.

"If women find their migraine worsens after going on the Pill, they may want to rethink their birth control options," she said.

Professor Griffiths and her team at the Genomics Research Centre at the Gold Coast campus last year discovered that people who suffered from migraine might be genetically predisposed to suffering a stroke. Earlier, her team identified areas on chromosomes 1, 19 and X where migraine genes were found.

The Genomics Research Centre has been seeking volunteer migraine sufferers to provide blood samples at its Southport clinic (opposite the Gold Coast Hospital) for its research purposes.

Contact Sharon Quinlan on 07 5509 7300 to find out how you can help the centre and its quest to find a cure for migraine.

By Greer Quinn

Facts about migraines

- Migraine affects the nervous system of the body, causing nausea, vomiting and debilitating headaches
- As many as 12 per cent of Australians suffer from migraine
- About 90 per cent of migraine sufferers turn to painkillers to ease their pain, sometimes in excessive amounts
- At present, the accurate diagnosis of migraine is difficult and current drug treatments only seem to be effective in some patients
- Migraine tends to worsen in the 20s, but begins to ease in the 30s and 40s before almost dropping off completely in the 50s
- With 10 years of migraine research behind them, Professor Griffiths and her team at the Genomics Research Centre are one of the world leaders in the field.

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Time will tell success of Indigenous courts

IT is more than five years since the first Indigenous urban sentencing court was convened in Australia, but it's still too early to measure the success, say Griffith University researchers.

The Australian Institute of Criminology has published a paper *Indigenous Courts and Justice Practices* in Australia by Elena Marchetti and Professor Kathy Daly (both of Griffith's School of Criminology and Criminal Justice), available at www.aic.gov.au

The researchers found while more Indigenous sentencing courts are being created, they vary dramatically in their environment, the way they operate and their legal jurisdiction.

Ms Marchetti said: "It will take years to see the long-term influences of the Indigenous courts and justice practices. What we do know is they are not grinding offenders down or pushing them further into the criminal justice system."

Learning to remember workshops

DIRECTOR of Griffith's Memory Clinic Dr Lydia Hohaus recently ran a series of memory workshops designed for healthy senior citizens who wished to improve their memory performance in everyday life.

The program consisted of a series of five clinics held on Mondays June 28-July 26.

During the workshops, Dr Hohaus discussed how memory worked, how it changed during the ageing process, the influences on memory and strategies for improving memory.

Dingo to narrate wolf

TELEVISION personality Ernie Dingo will be the narrator of the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University's upcoming production of *Peter and the Wolf*.

The Conservatorium Chamber Orchestra performs Prokofiev's timeless favourite as well as Schubert's *Unfinished* Symphony and Beethoven's Symphony No.5 at the concert on August 13.

\$2 million international tourism education centre opens

FEDERAL Minister for Science Peter McGauran has launched the new International Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Tourism Education (ICE-STE) at the Gold Coast campus.

ICE-STE aims to profile Australian excellence in tourism and hospitality education to the international market through visiting scholars, international student scholarships and support for Australian study tours abroad.

University Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) Professor Lesley Johnson said Griffith was a

strong supporter of the new centre which has links with the Sustainable Tourism Cooperative Research Centre (STCRC).

"The International Centre of Excellence positions Griffith and the Cooperative Research Centre as a potential world leader in research, education and innovation for one of the world's largest industries – tourism," Professor Johnson said.

"The centre's director is well-known and respected Griffith University Professor Beverley Sparks and her leadership will

help develop global tourism education, especially in our Asia-Pacific region."

Sir Frank Moore, Chair of the Tourism CRC said: "Education is a major export industry for Australia contributing approximately \$6 billion per year. Tourism is rapidly growing in the Asia Pacific and there is enormous potential for Australia to take the lead in educating the new generation of tourism employees and owners in the region."

The Gold Coast is a major

destination for international students looking to study tourism and hospitality. Queensland hosts about one quarter of all international tourism and hospitality students.

"The Gold Coast acts as a great 'laboratory' for tourism and hospitality students providing them with access to a wide range of hotels, theme parks, beaches and more as part of their education and training," Sir Frank said.

Secondary students experience uni life



PATHWAYS TO HIGHER EDUCATION: (from left) Current student James Kerwin, secondary students Amanda Acutt, Ryan Taylor, Griffith graduate Julie Acton and Sharlene Payn enjoy a tour of the Nathan campus.

A GRIFFITH Student Services pilot program has provided more than 38 Queensland secondary high school students with disabilities with an experience of life at university.

The two-day Tertiary Education Experience allowed students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to experience the physical, technological and social aspects of being a higher education student.

Parents of the students who attended the program were also invited to an evening presentation on tertiary study options for students with disabilities.

Project Officer Liz Reid organised the experience with the assistance of Griffith's Manager of Student Equity Services Judy Hartley, Griffith Disabilities Services staff, TAFE Queensland and other Brisbane-based universities.

A Griffith Community Services Grant provided the necessary funding.

Ms Hartley said the program encouraged secondary students with disabilities to consider continuing their studies at a tertiary level.

"It provides them, as well as their parents, with information about support services and aims to demystify and remove perceived barriers about tertiary level study and work," she said.

Ms Hartley said all participants in the program were matched with mentors who were current students with disabilities studying at university or TAFE.

"The mentors share their experiences and discuss how they have coped at university or TAFE with the participants," she said.

Secondary students involved also met Griffith graduate Julie Acton, who was born

blind. She gave a presentation on the support she received and the strategies she found useful while studying at Griffith.

"Having past and current Griffith students involved in the program provided the participants with an opportunity to benefit from the experiences of other people with disabilities who have really made a go of and succeeded at tertiary studies," Ms Hartley said.

Other activities and information sessions throughout the two-day program included a learning on-line experience, a support services forum with QTAC and Centrelink information, and a study skills and transition workshop.

The program was held at Griffith's Nathan campus and at Moreton Institute of TAFE.

By Jenny Waller

School of medicine takes a step closer to accreditation

GRIFFITH is on track to admit its first medical school students in January 2005, after a positive assessment visit by the Australian Medical Council (AMC) accreditation team.

The June 7-11 assessment marked a huge milestone for the university and the regional community.

The School of Medicine staff, their clinical partners and broader community colleagues welcomed the opportunity to meet and present their program to the AMC team which was completing the final stage of an accreditation process.

During the assessment, the AMC evaluated the university and its program in detail, assessing facilities, teaching resources, regional clinical sites, community relationships, as well as the university's many strengths in research, IT and student support services.

At the end of the assessment visit, the Chair of the AMC team delivered an interim report that reflected the strengths of the program and the significant support provided by the university and the broader community.

School of Medicine Foundation Dean Professor Judy Searle said one of the school's most valuable assets was the support it has received from the broader community.

"There was enormous community enthusiasm and the medical school was thrilled to have had the opportunity to showcase its exciting curriculum," Professor Searle said.



A VIEW OF THE FUTURE: The latest computer-generated images of the Medical and Oral Health Facility as it will look upon completion.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Health Planning) Professor Cripps said the university's staff and partners were delighted to demonstrate

their many strengths to the AMC team.

"I would like to especially thank our staff and partners for their

invaluable input and their tireless efforts," Professor Cripps said.

By Greer Quinn

Medical staff recruitment

GRIFFITH is in the process of recruiting more than 80 clinicians to become involved in the new School of Medicine (program subject to AMC accreditation).

Ways clinicians can become involved include participating in student selection interviews, teaching, mentoring, research development and collaboration.

To register, visit www.griffith.edu.au/medicine/partners.html

\$36m building on schedule

THE new \$36 million Medical and Oral Health Facility is on schedule to meet teaching requirements for February 2005.

Located beside the Gold Coast Hospital in Southport, the planned seven-storey building is now up to its third floor.

Once completed, the building will provide world-class clinical, laboratory, and associated teaching and research facilities for the School of Medicine, the School of Oral Health and the public.

It is being built by Thiess on land provided by the State Government.

Features of the 12,000 square metre complex include: two lecture theatres; a library with computerised learning centre; a community dental clinic with 52 dental chairs; a fully appointed dental technology laboratory; anatomy teaching laboratories and tutorial rooms; a clinical skills laboratory; museum, histology and pathology facilities; and seminar and meeting rooms.

Smithsonian Fellowship to help biodiversity research

GRIFFITH'S Chair of Ecology, Professor Roger Kitching (pictured), has been named as a Smithsonian Fellow for 2004.

Professor Kitching, Australian School of Environmental Studies, will participate in a major collaborative international project with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama to survey insect biodiversity.

He will join 30 entomologists from 20 countries participating in the IBISCA project *Investigating the Biodiversity of Soil and Canopy Arthropods*.

The IBISCA project is a year-long study of biodiversity in the rainforests of Panama designed to quantify the vertical changes in community structure of arthropods which occur from the ground zone to the high canopy.

Professor Kitching spent five weeks in the field participating in Phase One of this project in 2003 and the Queensland Smithsonian Fellowship will support Phase Two of the project.

"This award provides increased capacity to undertake this important research and recognises the significance of the IBISCA project," Professor Kitching said. "What we learn from IBISCA should greatly improve our understanding of one of our



important ecosystems."

Professor Kitching said his research journey to this point had been long but rewarding.

"For more than 20 years I have sweated through rainforests from New England to Cat Tien - from Cape

Tribulation to Madang. With lots of help, I have sorted hundreds of thousands of insects from samples from the leaf litter to the high canopy.

"It is fair to say that we now recognise important patterns within pristine and disturbed rainforests which previously were

ecological black holes."

The Queensland Smithsonian Fellowship Program provides the opportunity for local researchers to undertake projects at the prestigious Smithsonian Institute in Washington.

Professor Kitching will visit Panama early in 2005 and then proceed to the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC, to further his research on the vast diversity of rainforest moths as an important contribution to the IBISCA Project.

With the encouragement of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, he will also explore organising a comparable international collaborative project to study insect biodiversity in Queensland's rainforests when he returns.

The Smithsonian Institute is regarded as the world's largest museum complex and research organisation. The Queensland - Smithsonian Fellowship Program is a collaboration between the Queensland Government and the Smithsonian Institute and aims to foster an interchange of knowledge and skills.

By Anthony Coates

Choir shares cultural beliefs through song



GRIFFITH'S Gumurrii Centre has formed a choir which aims to share Indigenous cultural beliefs through music.

The choir *No Worrie GUMURRII* has 19 members who practice for two hours a week during semester.

Gumurrii Centre coordinator Barry Malezer said the group was formed in late 2003 to provide entertainment for a Gummurri Centre graduates' farewell.

"Now numbers have increased, and the students involved see it as a chance to promote Indigenous Australian music and issues to the Griffith community," Mr Malezer said.

He said the choir also provided students with the opportunity to socialise with one another and take their minds off the stress of studying.

"We have performed at three important functions this year," he said.

"Our biggest performance was for the International Health Promotion Conference at the Botanical Gardens. We performed at Mt Coot-tha in front of 150 people. The atmosphere was great and everyone had a good time."

The choir is currently working with Aboriginal singer/performer Shem Leisha, who is negotiating the recording of his first album.

He has invited *No Worrie GUMURRII* to perform and record with him, using the didgeridoo and other traditional instruments.

"We've started to put together a repertoire of songs which are traditional, in language, about social justice and contemporary issues," Mr Malezer said. "A recent idea we've had is to create a signature song. We want this song to reflect the diversity of our members who come from across Australia."

The signature song is due to be created next semester.

For more information on performances contact Barry Malezer on 07 3875 7653.

By Kassmena Birch

A VOCAL FANFARE: (from left) Natursha Nicol, Lyn Price, Nathaneal Alan Birch, Magrit Sycamore and Barry Malezer.

Smart card debate Safety a priority with controlled burns

LAW Lecturer Dr Justin Malbon was one of the speakers at a free public debate to discuss the issues surrounding the proposed new Queensland driver's licence.

Dr Malbon said the card, which would contain a computer chip with cardholders' personal information, could lead to serious privacy invasion.

Other speakers included Queensland Council of Civil Liberties President Ian Dearden, Queensland Public Service Union representative Alex Scott, Independent MP Liz Cunningham and a representative from Queensland Transport.

MOU signed

GRIFFITH has more than 230 agreements with overseas countries – an important global network which promotes multicultural collaboration and exchange.

The university has now signed its first Memorandum of Understanding with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The agreement, with the Iranian Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT) and the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MHME), aims to foster educational and research opportunities for students and staff.

Attending a recent meeting with senior Griffith representatives to discuss the agreement were Iranian Counsel to Australia Professor Javad Farhoudi, MSRT/MHME Iranian Vice Minister for Student Affairs Mr Zarifian and incoming consulate Dr Koohian.



ON SITE: Vice Chancellor Professor Glyn Davis helps extinguish the controlled burn. INSET: University Fire Officer Howard Wattz goes over plans for the hazard reduction burn with Professor Davis.

FIRE management staff have started scheduled hazard reduction burns in forest around Nathan and Mt Gravatt campuses.

University Fire Officer Howard Wattz said the controlled burns would cover more than 60 hectares of land and reduce the likelihood of wildfires.

Last month, Vice Chancellor Professor Glyn Davis was invited to see first-hand how our fire management staff plan for and manage a controlled burn.

Professor Davis was briefed on the objectives and safety aspects of hazard reduction burns before he helped fire management staff light and extinguish a controlled fire.

The controlled burn he assisted with took place in scrub country between the EcoCentre and the Mt Gravatt Cemetery.

"Our responsibility is to protect human life, property and our surrounds which extend beyond our campuses to the QEII Hospital, ANZ Stadium, main roads and local residential areas," Mr Wattz said.

"Preparation for a burn-off is tremendous but it's an important part of maintaining the pristine Toohey Forest setting around our Nathan and Mt Gravatt campuses," he said.

Griffith has more than 30 trained staff in fire management practices, plus three bush fire response vehicles with one capable of carrying up to 1000 litres of water, and a bushfire station located at Nathan campus.

Brisbane City Council fire management staff and vehicles can also be called upon to assist. All burn-offs are carried out in accordance with the Toohey Forest fire management plan.

By Jenny Waller

Faiths show support for refugees

MORE than half the 50 million refugees who have fled persecution and conflict in the past five decades have returned home, United Nations Higher Commission for Refugees official Susan Harris-Rimmer told religious and community leaders at Griffith's Multi-Faith Centre World Refugee Day forum.

In her address on the day's theme *A Place to Call Home*, Ms Harris-Rimmer said there was a perception among the mainly industrialised nations that an overwhelming number of refugees simply wanted to restart their lives in a new country.

"The vast majority, however, have returned to their own, often devastated, homelands," she said. "Last year alone, 1.1 million refugees went home. The biggest single group – some 646,000 people – returned to Afghanistan, bringing to more than 3 million the number of Afghan refugees and displaced who have gone home since 2002."

Ms Harris-Rimmer said it was those refugees who could never go home who required the generosity and burden-sharing by asylum countries and by the relatively small number of predominantly developed nations that accepted the bulk of resettled refugees.

"To seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution is a fundamental human right," she said. "All of us need a place to call home – a place where we belong."

"Refugees are separated from all that is familiar – from family, friends, work, community and culture. They are faced with an uncertain future in a strange land. The sense of loss and alienation can be overwhelming."

Ms Harris-Rimmer said it was important for all Australians, regardless of faith, race or background, to support refugees from around the world in their

courageous struggle to rebuild their lives.

"Our religious and community leaders can all assist in that process by extending a welcoming hand and by recognising that refugees are true survivors who can make valuable contributions to our communities," she said.

Representatives of the different faiths who attended the Multi-Faith Centre dialogue and forum read a *Religious Leaders' Statement on Refugees* (see below).

By Jenny Waller

Religious leaders' statement on refugees

We stand here together to confirm our common humanity. The world is troubled by conflicts that are often caused by individuals or groups purporting to act in the name of religion.

These conflicts often produce victims, who are persecuted because of their different religious beliefs, political ideology, ethnic, national or cultural origin. To escape such persecution they may attempt to flee to another country seeking safety, shelter and the opportunity to start a new life. International Law describes such people as asylum seekers and gives them the right to seek formal recognition as refugees.

We acknowledge that the traditional sources of our various religions teach us to resolve conflict, seek peace and provide care to those who need it.

We therefore call on all members of faith communities to turn to their traditional sources for guidance and support refugees in their pursuit of a new life in their new country.

In particular we call on our elected leaders to follow these teachings of compassion and care for the persecuted by applying these teachings to the plight of refugees and asylum seekers.



WALKING TOGETHER: Representatives of the different faiths (front, left to right) Gita Beyzaee, Dr Robyn Lui, Multi-Faith Centre Director Professor Toh Swee-Hin, UNHCR official Susan Harris-Rimmer, Rev Chueh Shan, (back, left to right) David Beyzaee, Garth Read, Rabbi Uri Thernal and Margaret Naylor.

Our country has a proud history of settling refugees from many parts of the world. They have made important contributions to our national, social and economic development.

As we stand here together during Refugee Week we ask that our elected leaders consider the issues concerning refugees and asylum seekers. In particular we ask them to reflect whether current policies are compatible with the ethical and moral principles enshrined in the traditional teachings of their faith. We implore them to employ compassion, welfare and humanitarianism in their considerations when they reflect on such grave matters as mandatory detention of asylum seekers or temporary protection visas.

May our elected leaders be guided by the wisdom of these teachings and may their eternal truths provide them with strength.

May all those who work for refugees, wherever they are, be blessed with strength, wisdom and courage to succeed in their humanitarian work. May they be rewarded by witnessing happiness and well-being restored to those who suffer at the hands of others. Let us all be grateful for their effort, motivation and commitment.

May we all endeavour to contribute to the well-being of our society by practising the common humanity which we share by respecting our differences, but working together for a just, harmonious and peaceful society.


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Motherhood under the microscope

COMPANIES and social policy-makers need to value women more both as mothers and workers, a Griffith conference has heard.

Dean of Arts Professor Kay Ferres said individuals, businesses and policy-makers needed to change their mindset on the value of motherhood and on maternity leave.

"The value of the work at home and the cost of loss in career somehow has to get into this discussion," Professor Ferres said.

She was speaking at *Constructing and Contesting Motherhood* organised in conjunction with Griffith's Department of Industrial Relations, Griffith Business School, and the Faculty of Arts.

Around 30 people attended the event, which was timely in the wake of the Playschool scandal – something not lost on Chancellor Leneen Forde AC.

In her opening address, Ms Forde said: "Divided on the question of war in Iraq and at odds on world trade, they [politicians] are finally presenting a united front on what kind of families our pre-schoolers should be allowed to see when they look through the windows at Playschool. And it is certainly not one with two mummies."

'Fathers are pretty much at liberty to walk away if they so choose but increasingly we have a legal system which insists that women keep on facilitating the relationship between children and fathers'

- Head of the Griffith Law School, Professor Sandra Berns

In another talk, Professor Sandra Berns, head of the Griffith Law School, argued increasing political and legal pressures on women to mediate the relationship of the child with his or her father reinstates a form of neo-Rousseauian patriarchy.

She said divorce or separation no longer meant women could walk away from their relationships, and pointed to the hands-on approach to fatherhood envisioned in judicial rulings and by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs Inquiry into child custody arrangements.

"Fathers are pretty much at liberty to walk away if they so choose but increasingly we have a legal system which insists that women keep on facilitating the relationship between children and fathers," she said.

And senior Lecturer Elizabeth Van Acker, Department of Politics and Public Policy, responded to Federal Government aims to

give mothers more choice and flexibility, as set out in the 2004 Budget.

She said there was little evidence to suggest women want more babies or can afford the expense of raising them, even with short-term financial incentives.

The conference also featured a keynote speech from visiting Professor Eileen Yeo, Centre for Gender Studies, University of Strathclyde, Scotland. Her three-month visit was sponsored by a range of elements across business, arts, and science.

Professor Yeo provided a broad sweep that covered the changing meanings of motherhood for 300 years.

"Until the late 18th Century, good women were obedient and productive housewives," she said.

"But there was then a powerful change which came to dominance from the mid-19th Century that a good woman was a mother, and in the UK and America in

particular, a mother who raised children at home. This created problems for the working classes, and those who had little choice but to work.

'Today, the idea of women as mothers is still very powerful. Although the majority seem to be working mothers, there is still not enough support for women to be able to have children and also work'

- Professor Eileen Yeo, Centre for Gender Studies, University of Strathclyde, Scotland

"Today, the idea of women as mothers is still very powerful. Although the majority seem to be working mothers,

there is still not enough support for women to be able to have children and also work."

Conference Co-convenor Dr Janis Bailey, Department of Industrial Relations, said she was delighted at the success of the event.

"It was designed as the ultimate multidisciplinary conference, and with papers examining the topic from legal, political, sociological, historical, industrial relations, occupational health and safety and visual arts perspectives, it certainly was that," she said.

Dr Bailey also commented that it was good to bring together researchers from across Griffith who were interested in gender issues – many of whom had not met each other prior to this conference.

Conference papers will be now published in the special issue of a journal.

By Simon Atkinson

For Howard's a Federation Fellow



GRIFFITH quantum physicist Associate Professor Howard Wiseman (pictured) has been awarded a prestigious Australian Research Council (ARC) Federation Fellowship.

The Commonwealth award carries an annual salary of \$235,000 each year for five years.

Associate Professor Wiseman joins fellow Griffith colleague Professor

Mark Von Itzstein as a Federation Fellow. Professor von Itzstein received his award in 2002.

Associate Professor Wiseman's success has been recognised in the past, recently winning the coveted national Malcolm McIntosh Physical Scientist of the Year award and the Australian Academy of Science's Pawsey Medal for Excellence in Physics Research.

Recognised as a world authority on quantum control, he is best known for developing a new technique to measure phase-one of the quantum properties of light.

His work is now changing the way scientists look at the field of quantum technology.

By Anthony Coates

QCA student has designs on international poster prize

A POSTER condemning the use of fur trim on clothes has won a Griffith student a national competition.

Fran Johnson-Cash, 20, from Hunchy in the Sunshine Coast Hinterlands, designed the anti-fur poster as part of a project in her graphic design course at the university's Queensland College of Art (QCA).

She was awarded \$1000 by Humane Society International for her evocative entry. Now the poster will go into an international competition and be judged along with the finalists from Europe, America, United Kingdom & Ireland and Canada. The overall international winner will receive 5,000 euros, a trip to Paris and will see their work used

globally by the Fur Free Alliance. Fran is in the third year of her Bachelor of Design Studies at Griffith.

She said a green design module in her course had encouraged her to work on projects which she believed in.

One of the Australian judges, artist Wendy Sharpe, said Fran's design had an immediacy that attracted attention and clearly conveyed the contradiction that beauty can be achieved by the slaughter of animals.

Humane Society International director Verna Simpson handed over the \$1000 cheque at a ceremony at QCA. Verna said the poster competition message focused on fur trim because more animals were used each year for fur trim than

for fur coats. "Designers and retailers are selling more fur-trimmed items than ever," she said.

In other QCA news, fellow Bachelor of Design students Renee Mulder (Interior Design) and Jarren Nylund (Honours) both received a Commendation Award in the Emerging Student Designer category of 2004 Queensland Design Awards.

Renee's project, *Waiting for Godot Set Design*, was a hypothetical set design for the Bille Brown Studio, made possible after her design internship with the Queensland Theatre Company in 2003.

Jarren's project, *Collection of Type Faces*, forms part of his thesis *Type is meant to be red*.

Nobel laureate discusses synthetic metals research

NOBEL Laureate in Chemistry, Professor Alan MacDiarmid, University of Pennsylvania, has told Griffith scientists about his research into synthetic metals.

Professor MacDiarmid visited Australia in July as a guest of Griffith and spoke at *Interact 2004* – a conference held by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI) and sponsored by the university.

He told attendees about his research into synthetic metals which are organic polymers that possess the electrical, magnetic, and optical properties of metals but still retain the mechanical properties and processibility commonly associated with a conventional polymers and plastics.

At the conference, Griffith researcher Associate Professor Richard John presented Professor MacDiarmid with the RACI Breyer Medal for outstanding achievements in the field of Electrochemistry.

Professor MacDiarmid is one of the world's best known chemists and has contributed significantly to the research and development of conducting polymers since 1977. He has authored more than 600 research papers and 25 patents.



CHEMISTRY RESEARCHERS: (from left) Associate Professor Richard John, Nobel Laureate Professor Alan MacDiarmid and Dr Peter Teasdale.

Rowers take the paddle to Poland



LIFE IS BUT A DREAM: Students Suzanne Brown and Tara Kelly in training on the Brisbane River for the Under 23 World Regatta in Poland.

UNIVERSITY rowers Suzanne Brown and Tara Kelly compete this month at the Under 23 World Regatta in Poland.

The pair is in the Women's Under 23s Double Scull event and is believed to be the first Australian rowing team to comprise only Griffith students.

"We are truly excited," Tara, who studies leisure management, said. "We've been training for months, so hopefully our hard work will pay off when we compete overseas."

Tara and Suzanne had to split their training sessions between Brisbane and Tweed Heads because they lived so far apart.

"We actually reside in different states, Tara in Northern New South Wales and myself in Brisbane," Suzanne, a health student, said. "So it's been a matter of working around those obstacles and striving to do the very best we can."

Suzanne is a member of Brisbane Rowing Club and Tara a member of Tweed Heads Rowing Club.

Both have an impressive rowing history, each achieving individual and team success at National Rowing Championships.

At this year's national championships, Tara and Suzanne won the same event they will compete in at the Under 23 World Regatta.

The two left for Germany in July to participate in a training camp which should stand them in good stead for the championships.

The Queensland Academy of Sport, Rowing Australia and Griffith Sport partly funded their trip to the World Regatta.

I By Jenny Waller

Peace education empowers change, says Professor

RECENT worldwide outrage over the coalition force's alleged abuse and torture of Iraqi prisoners demonstrates powerful nations, which claim to be beacons of democracy and human rights, can fail in upholding professed ideals, says a Griffith peace educator.

"We need to demand of our governments and leaders that human rights be consistently applied," Professor Toh Swee-Hin, Director of Griffith's Multi-Faith Centre, said in his professorial lecture *Uprooting Violence, Cultivating Peace: Education for an Engaged Spirituality*.

"Our fingers can't point only at governments or rulers who are not our allies or those who happen to be out of favour," Professor Toh said to the audience of more than 60 Griffith staff, students, faith and religious leaders and community members.

"It is imperative to be self-critical and accountable for aiding and supporting, based on economic, political and/or strategic reasons, governments which are committing human rights violations at home or abroad," he said.

Professor Toh Swee-Hin went on to say, that

within a holistic framework of peace education, promoting human rights and responsibilities was an essential theme.

"Stressing one's rights, without affirming accompanying responsibilities, means that we ourselves may be directly or indirectly complicit in the violation of rights," he said.

"For example, the rights of students to a safe and caring school environment, requires them to act responsibly and to uphold the rights of others including their peers, teachers and the wider community."

Other essential themes of peace education, outlined by Professor Toh, include: dismantling the culture of war; living with justice and compassion; building inter-cultural respect, reconciliation and solidarity; living in harmony with the Earth; and cultivating inner peace.

"In this age of mass media, we wake up daily to the horrors, destruction, and tragedy of violence and armed conflicts in many corners of the world," Professor Toh said. "There are billions mired in global poverty, billions don't have access to safe drinking water or adequate housing and we live today on the verge of an ecological crisis."

He stressed that "peace cannot be just the absence of war". A peaceful world, in his view, is also necessarily based on structures and relationships of local and global justice and sustainability, including "fair trade, ethical conduct of transnational corporations, and a paradigm of globalization that does not lead to greater suffering for marginalized sectors".

He said the good news, however, was that a growing number of people – individuals, families, organisations and networks - refused to feel hopeless and despair in the face of such realities.

"As their work of peacebuilding expands and intensifies, the role of education is increasingly recognised as indispensable," he said.

"Peace education has two major goals. First, it seeks to raise critical awareness and understanding of the root causes of all forms of conflicts and violence from micro to macro-levels of life.

"Second, based on this understanding, people should feel empowered to take action for transformation, to change our realities from a culture of violence to a culture of peace."

Professor Toh recalled a peace education

workshop he carried out with the Armed Forces of the Philippines where the 80 participants arrived with fully-loaded weapons and had to be persuaded to put them aside so they wouldn't get in the way of the workshop.

"The experience enabled us to see battle-hardened soldiers as human beings who can be moved by a participatory educational process to reflect on the root causes of peacelessness in which their lives are intertwined," he said.

Professor Toh concluded by saying the peace education quest was necessarily slow, demanding much patience and perseverance as education, whether in formal or non-formal levels, was inevitably a gradual process, and often not as spectacular as some actions for peacebuilding.

"It is a process of sowing seeds not just in the younger generation, which will hopefully mature as peaceful human beings, but definitely in today's adults whose decision-making and actions have decisive impact on shaping the world that our youth will inherit," he said.

For information about upcoming professorial lectures see *What's On*, page 12.

William enjoys the sounds of success

GROWING up in Mount Isa, William Barton (pictured) had a father who strummed country and western tunes on the guitar and a mother with a powerful operatic voice.

But it was his uncle playing didgeridoo which really captured Barton's imagination – and the instrument became Barton's own chosen path in life.

Now the 23-year-old will embark on the next step in his artistic development after being granted the prestigious Lord Mayor's Young and Emerging Artists' Fellowship for 2004.

Barton was nominated for the award by Griffith's new Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre (QCRC) where he will be working with staff and students to explore the possibilities of cultural exchange.

He is also receiving private tuition within the QCRC, and is gaining a deeper understanding of protecting his rights as a musician through intellectual property.

Barton says he feels honoured to receive the fellowship which will allow him to continue in his quest to firmly position the didgeridoo in contemporary Australian music.

"This prize will enable me to further my artistic development, and enable me to share my music with more audiences," he said.

"I also feel it is a sign of respect for the traditional ties I have as an Indigenous artist working with musicians from various backgrounds. It will also strengthen links between Brisbane City Council, the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University (QCGU) and myself."

QCRC director Huib Schippers is excited about the possibilities the fellowship creates both for the young didgeridoo master and for the QCGU.

"William is a truly remarkable musical presence in Brisbane. With his work as a performer, teacher and community musician, he seems to effortlessly bridge gaps between traditional Aboriginal and contemporary Australian cultural realities," he said.

"As part of the plan that underlies the fellowship, William will interact with students and staff of the QCGU at various levels: In performance, composition, music technology, teaching and learning, and in research.

"In that way, we can build towards a productive and lasting dialogue between Indigenous and other forms of music, which is long overdue in much of the established music world. William's input in this process is invaluable."

Barton recently appeared at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre Concert Hall, playing in the world premiere of Peter Sculthorpe's *Songs of the Sea and Sky* for strings and didgeridoo – and appears on a CD of the music.

Among Barton's other recent achievements are last year's Freedman Fellowship from the Music Council of Australia, and a starring role in Peter Sculthorpe's *Requiem* which premiered at the Adelaide Festival in March.

Work in the pipeline includes collaboration with The Australian Voices, Isorhythmos, US-composer William Duckworth, and a number of orchestras in Australia and beyond, culminating in a UK appearance with the London Philharmonic in May 2005.



Photo: BRENDAN LAYTON

Griffith wins Taiwanese health training consultancy

GRIFFITH recently won a one-month contract worth \$200,000 to provide public health training to a high profile group of 19 Taiwanese health officials.

It was the first time an Australian university had won this contract – previously it had been awarded to universities from the USA.

The School of Public Health's Associate Professor Cordia Chu, who played a key role in building the ties that enabled Griffith to win the consultancy, said she believed it would be the first of many.

"We had very positive feedback from the attendees, many of whom held senior positions within Taiwanese government," she said. "We valued the opportunity to share information on health policy and public health management and to showcase our facilities and expertise."

During the visit, key officials from different sectors within Taiwan's government studied how to develop strategic health plans to address future environmental and population challenges.

"They were particularly interested in our Australian perspective which differed from their previous experiences in the US," Associate Professor Chu said.

"They were impressed with our level of expertise, innovation and our multi-



IN VIDEO CONFERENCE: Associate Professor Cordia Chu (right) with the Director General of Taiwan's National Bureau of Health Promotion Professor Shio Jean Lin.

sector partnerships in the area of public health."

The Director General of Taiwan's National Bureau of Health Promotion, Professor Shio Jean Lin, was among the attendees of a videoconference

transmitted from Griffith's Nathan campus, which was simultaneously broadcast into three separate Taiwanese cities during the last week of the visit.

By Greer Quinn

Jazz pianist picks up the beat at Conservatorium

LEADING Australian jazz pianist and composer Paul Grabowsky is giving a lecture and performance at Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University in September.

His free talk takes place at the Ian Hangar Recital Hall at 6pm on Tuesday, September 7.

The following day, in the same venue, Grabowsky will perform a

program of music from *Bach to Bacharach*.

This also starts at 6pm and tickets are \$20/\$10 from Qtix 136 246 or www.qtix.com.au

Melanesian legend depicted in winning artwork

THE desire to tell a traditional and sacred story through a modern medium has helped Indigenous artist and Griffith student Dennis Nona win an international art prize.

Dennis's etching print *Mumiuh Sikui Mikai* was made joint winner of the 4th Angel Orensanz Foundation International Art Award in New York.

The blue, black and seagrass coloured etching is now in Manhattan, before it is exhibited in Paris and Venice and features in international art magazines.

Dennis, from Badu island, a West-Central Torres Strait Island, is studying a Master of Visual Arts at the university's Queensland College of Art.

His winning work depicts the healing powers of Mumiuh Sikui Mikai (Chief Sikui the healer) who, according to a Melanesian legend, was the sorcerer and the healer of Siuai in south west Bougainville.

Dennis collaborated with friend Alex Dawia, grandson of Mumiuh Sikui, who shared the story with him and asked him to capture it.

The winning image shows Sikui wearing pesii "a traditional currency" around his neck and carrying Siuai baskets. He is healing a sick man, chewing betel nut and medicinal plant roots before spitting them out to take away the bad spirits around him.

Dennis says he regrets not attending the awards, but felt he should stay in Australia and focus on the work he is doing at Griffith.

"When I received an email telling me I had won, I could not believe it," Dennis said.

"But I am really happy that people appreciate our work and our culture. Hopefully, it will become more appreciated while in museums.

"On my island, people are really proud of what I am doing and are encouraging other young people to go to universities such as Griffith.

"There are only a handful of older people left back home. It is good if our young people can be educated, then come back to record their culture before it dies out.

"It is in our blood to write about our culture. People from the outside try, but of course mistakes are made – perhaps because our elders do not open up and tell the whole story to outsiders and feel more comfortable with their own people who can also understand the language. Education is the key."

Dennis's art can be found in collections around the world. Last year, he joined artists from 19 countries at England's Brighton Festival where he exhibited works in Dream traces – contemporary Australian Aboriginal art.



Photo: TRINE BARFOD-JENSEN

AWARD WINNING ARTIST: Dennis Nona with a print of his etching *Mumiuh Sikui Mikai*

By Simon Atkinson

What's on

PROFESSORIAL LECTURES

August 19. Professor Glenda Strachan, Griffith Business School – "Women's Work is Never Done: The Intersection of Work and Family". Time: 5.30-6.30pm. Venue: Theatre 1, Nathan campus.

September 23. Professor Lyn Griffiths, School of Health Science – "GeneHunting: The Search for Genes Involved in Complex Human Disorders". Time: 5.30-6.30pm. Venue: Theatre 4, Gold Coast campus.

October 21. Professor Brad Sherman, Griffith Law School – "Owning Nature: A History". Time: 5.30-6.30pm. Venue: Theatre 1, Nathan campus.

November 18. Professor Sima Dimitrijević, School of Microelectronic Engineering – "The Great Concepts: A Focus on Creation and Knowledge". Time: 5.30-6.30pm. Venue: Theatre 1, Nathan campus.

EVENTS

August 13. Ernie Dingo joins Griffith's Michael Morgan and Chamber Orchestra to narrate *Peter and the Wolf Opus 67* by Serge Prokofiev. Proceeds will be donated to the Mater Children's Hospital. Time: 7.30pm. Venue: Conservatorium Theatre.

Bookings Qtix 136 246 or www.qtix.com.au

August 17. The School of Physiotherapy and Exercise Science hosts an educational dinner, where students are blind-folded while they dine and socialise. The idea is for students to gain insight into what it is like to have a disability. This builds the empathy needed for their working careers as physiotherapists or in other related areas. Venue: CJ's Restaurant, Gold Coast campus. Phone Mara Bennett 07 5552 8694.

August 18. Alumni in Action. Wound down and blown out. Time: 6pm. Venue: Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University. Cost: \$8.

August 27. The Symphony Orchestra conducted by Resident Conductor Michael Morgan will perform Rimsky-Korsakov's masterwork for orchestra, *Scheherazade Op.35* along with two very special and rarely heard works, the first by Glazunov, the suite *From the Middle Ages* and the second featuring Euphonium soloist Thomas Humphrey in the *Wilby Concerto for Euphonium*. Time: 7.30pm. Venue: Conservatorium Theatre. Bookings Qtix 136 246 or www.qtix.com.au

August 30. An evening with Kim Phuc. Time: 6.30pm. Venue: Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. For bookings phone 3308 3494.

September 3. Cities and museums: local and global challenges. Local, national and international speakers lead the discussion at this one-day forum co-hosted by Griffith's Centre for Public Culture and Ideas. Venue: Queensland College of Art, South Bank. Visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/MoB/whats_on_at_mob

September 7. Public lecture by jazz pianist and composer, Paul Grabowski. Time: 6pm. Venue: Ian Hanger Recital Hall, Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, South Bank. Contact Jeff Wecker 07 3875 6241.

September 8. Jazz pianist and composer, Paul Grabowski performs a program of music from *Bach to Bacharach*. Time: 6pm. Venue: Ian Hanger Recital Hall, QCGU, South Bank. Bookings Qtix 136 246 or www.qtix.com.au

September 11. Alumni in Action. Collusion performs four world premieres. Venue: Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University. Cost: \$8.

September 12-18. The Magic Flute by Mozart. Presented by

the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University in association with QPAC and the ENERGEX Brisbane Festival. Venue: Conservatorium Theatre. Bookings essential 136 246 or www.qtix.com.au

October 1. Internationalisation: What does it mean for you? A Griffith staff symposium on issues such as internationalisation of curriculum and teaching, and learning and support which caters for the increasing cultural diversity of Griffith students. Email internationalisation@griffith.edu.au

October 6. Alumni in Action. Quartet Cannonball – How Do We Get Up There? Time: 6pm. Venue: Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University. Cost: \$8.

October 13. Griffith Lecture by Hugh Mackay. Time: 6.30pm. Venue: Ian Hanger Recital Hall, QCGU, South Bank.

CONFERENCES

December 8-9. 12th Annual International Conference on Post-compulsory Education and Training hosted by the Centre for Learning Research. Venue: Crown Plaza Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast. Contact R Roebuck 07 3875 5862.