

# Griffith Gazette

Volume 20 No. 4

A monthly review of news and events

June/July 2005



Explore  
every side  
of yourself

"When you have graduates working on a project this big, they have to be work ready."

Peter Zahnleiter, Sinclair Knight Merz  
(See full story, page 3)

**\$40,000 to win... see inside**





# Research review underway

**S**TUDENTS and staff of a university are privileged to exist in a world that combines teaching and learning with research. A great teacher can change the way you see the world; great research can change the world you live in. Just how universities are funded for this important area of research is currently under review in Australia. The result will have serious implications.

The Research Quality Framework (RQF) is the Federal Government's proposed mechanism for assessing the quality of research in Australian universities and other publicly-funded research agencies.

In the past, research block grants were based on input measures (research dollars earned by universities) and the quantity of research (eg publications, quantity and number of completed research students).

The proposed RQF will place far more emphasis on the

number of research-active staff and the quality of their output.

It is yet to be seen which model the Commonwealth will actually implement, but there are potential pluses and minuses for Griffith.

One interesting development is the concern the Commonwealth is showing in not only the quality of research but also its impact.

Our community engagement focus stands us in good stead, with our research having a strong impact on a wide range of communities.

The government has also indicated its willingness to consider an initiative similar to the UK concept of "third stream funding". This initiative assists universities with knowledge transfer and dissemination. Our robust community partnerships and our Office of

Commercialisation are strong evidence of how we share newly acquired knowledge.

This issue of the *Griffith Gazette* coincides with our annual Open Day, which is your chance to show your university to your family and friends. You can bring them along to see Griffith University's research in action by touring facilities such as the impressive Institute for Glycomics. Alternatively they could enjoy watching the feathers fly as lecturers transform into orators in a public debate.

Both events reflect the multi-dimensional nature of Griffith University. We are focused on increasing our research excellence but we are equally intent on sustaining the cornerstones of interdisciplinarity and excellence in teaching and learning upon which our university was founded.

## Logan clinical placements prepare students for career in pharmacy

**THE first cohort of Master of Pharmacy students has been learning from clinical placements in community and hospital pharmacies during their first semester.**

The 50 students spent 18 days at a community pharmacy learning about the industry's retail side and another two days at Gold Coast or Logan hospital pharmacies.

Logan-Beaudesert Health Service District Director of Pharmacy Peter Reeves welcomed the Griffith student placements and the opportunity to help train future pharmacists.

"We are very supportive of Griffith University's School of Pharmacy because we need many more pharmacists in the industry," he said.

"We are also keen to introduce them to the challenging career choice of hospital pharmacy which is quite different from community pharmacy."

Mr Reeves said the two-day hospital pharmacy program for students included a wide range of topics and experience.

Students visited different wards including paediatric, obstetric, medical, surgical, intensive care and mental health units, where the dispensing of medication often took place at the patients' bedsides.

"They also get a sense of the multidisciplinary environment in which we work alongside doctors, nurses and allied health professionals such as dietitians and social workers," Mr Reeves said.

He said students also learnt non-clinical aspects of the job such as the organisational structure within a public hospital and stock control.

School of Pharmacy lecturer Laetitia Hattingh said the placements provided important practical exposure to both pharmacotherapy and professional practice.

"It's critical to the success of our program that students have the opportunity to integrate their theoretical knowledge with the practice of pharmacy in environments that are focused on good

practice standards and procedures," Ms Hattingh said.

Clinical placements in second semester will be in a three-week block, including one week of structured clinical exposure in a local hospital and two weeks in a community or hospital pharmacy.

Interested students also have the option to experience rural or remote area practice.

**By Mardi Chapman**



**EXPERIENCE:** Master of Pharmacy students Dimitri Costi and Cathy Pham learn the profession from Logan Hospital's Director of Pharmacy, Peter Reeves.

### *In brief*

#### Logan workshop

**THE Business School's business and teacher workshop at Logan was attended by 45 teachers and business people on May 16.**

Department of Management senior lecturer Dr Yvonne Brunetto spoke on business networks and her research discoveries surrounding small to medium sized businesses.

She said she was particularly interested in the factors that determine whether or not businesses benefit from networking.

#### Mollie Holman doctoral medal

**THE Business School's Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics senior lecturer Dr Paresh Narayan has received the 2004 Mollie Holman Doctoral Medal for his PhD thesis.**

The medal, from Monash University, is awarded to the Doctoral candidate judged to have presented the best thesis of the year.

Dr Narayan was nominated for the award after he completed his thesis *An Economic Model of Tourism Demand and a Computable General Equilibrium Analysis of the Impact of Tourism: The Case of the Fiji Islands*.



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Contributors: **Krista Dobinson, Mardi Chapman, Michelle Smith, Rhys Stacker, Shamira Barr, Alexia Deegan**

Photographic orders: **Dominique Cowd**  
Production: **Carolyn Ryan**  
Photography: **Amanda Briggs & Trine Barfod-Jensen**  
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## World-class league to be played at Nathan

**THE Student Rugby League World Cup starts at Nathan on Thursday, June 30. This will be the first time Queensland has hosted the event.**

Teams competing include Australia, England, France, Ireland, New Zealand, Russia, Scotland and Wales. Players will reside at Griffith's Nathan and Mount Gravatt colleges and train at the university's sporting facilities in preparation for games.

The Australian Universities Rugby League team includes Griffith business management student Quin Smith, who was selected from the Queensland universities team after being voted "man of the match" in a game against New South Wales.

As well as playing in the World Cup, Quin will join the Australian team to play New Zealand as the curtain

raiser to the third State of Origin match in July.

In other sporting news, Griffith University will take a team of around 100 athletes to the 2005 Drinks Smart Northern University Games in Cairns from July 3-7.

The team will battle it out with 2000 competitors from 13 other universities across northern New South Wales, Queensland and the Northern Territory, in a bid to win the champion's trophy.

*The games will feature up to 16 sports from basketball to volleyball.*

Students can get involved as an athlete in one of the teams or as an official/referee. For information please contact Griffith Sport on 07 3735 7918 or email [griffithsport@griffith.edu.au](mailto:griffithsport@griffith.edu.au)

# Explore every side of yourself

**GRIFFITH graduates excel in their academic and hands-on ability, but that's not all. Employers like Peter Zahnleiter say our grads shine because they can literally hit the ground running.**

For consulting firm Sinclair Knight Merz, where Mr Zahnleiter is Principal of Environmental Planning, Griffith students are the firm's "graduates of choice".

"They can solve problems without needing to be shown everything, they have good practical grounding, they think for themselves, and they're far more productive because they bring a broad range of skills to their jobs," he explains.

And Sinclair Knight Merz should know. Among its big-ticket projects involving Griffith students was the Environmental Impact Statement prepared for Brisbane's \$279 million Lang Park stadium and the Environmental Impact Statement for Brisbane's North-South Bypass Tunnel project.

The firm continues to employ Griffith environmental scientists and planners.

To find out more about undergraduate and postgraduate degrees across the spectrum of study options available next semester and in 2006, all students and staff, family and friends are encouraged to come along to Open Day on Sunday, July 10.

All campuses will be open from 9am-2pm. And if you're visiting Nathan on the day, see the Australian Universities Rugby League World Cup with Australia versus Wales at 2pm followed by New Zealand versus Scotland at 3.45pm.

For Open Day program details visit [www.griffith.edu.au/penday](http://www.griffith.edu.au/penday)

By Krista Dobinson

## More to beer than bubbles



*LEADING RESEARCH: Vietnamese Prime Minister Khai and Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) Lesley Johnson at the Gold Coast to hear Professor Richard Drew, Hugh Wilkins and PhD candidate Nguyen Lien.*

**SOFRI Protein 10DD could be dubbed a special blend of Vegemite for tropical fruit flies. It's a yeast extract, a by-product of beer production and has been developed by scientists in Australia.**

But unlike the iconic sandwich spread, Sofri Protein 10DD isn't good for tropical fruit flies, with field trials in Vietnam showing a reduction of infestation by up to 95 per cent in some horticultural crops.

Griffith Professor Richard Drew and Dr Vijay Shanmugam, in the Australian School of Environmental Studies at Nathan have developed the non-toxic bait which has just this year been

registered for commercial use in Vietnam.

On a trip to Australia in April, Vietnamese Prime Minister Phan Van Khai welcomed the scientists' invention and their resolve.

"If we can control the (fruit fly) pest... it means a better income for our people," he said.

In 2004 the Griffith research team established the first Sofri Protein 10DD manufacturing plant at Foster's brewery in My Tho, southern Vietnam. They plan to build more.

"The long-term benefits of wider access to the non-toxic bait include helping communities build local

economies, increasing primary production as well as enabling Vietnam to meet the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures for International Trade," Professor Drew said.

Dr Shanmugam said the non-toxic Sofri Protein 10DD was an effective and safe field pest management system without the environmental and cost implications of broad scale spraying of chemicals. He said Sofri Protein 10DD was applied as a spot treatment on a small part of crop trees, was cheap to buy and safe to use.

By Alexia Deegan

## University changes graduation timing



*ANTICIPATION: Griffith graduands Janet Clarke, Adnan Muratovic, Kerrie Cleland and Joshua Galea enjoy the excitement before their graduation ceremony earlier this year.*

**THE university is changing the timing of graduation ceremonies and Gold Coast students will be the first to walk across the stage this December.**

End-of-year ceremonies will enable graduands to celebrate their achievements with fellow students and friends straight after the exam period.

In the new schedule, graduation ceremonies will be in December and July, instead of March/April and September/October.

As part of the transition, all eligible Gold Coast students will graduate in ceremonies at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre on December 14 and 15, 2005. December graduations will start on all other Griffith campuses in 2006.

Eligibility to graduate at the end of this year is subject to enrolment in a program at the Gold Coast, all degree requirements being met, all outstanding fees being paid, all credit being applied, and confirmation that a student is eligible to graduate following the release of results.

Gold Coast students who miss out on the December ceremony will have their award conferred in absentia or may attend the mid-year ceremony.

Nathan, Logan, Mt Gravatt and South Bank students will graduate in March/April 2006.

Griffith University Vice Chancellor and President Professor Ian O'Connor said graduation ceremonies were important for students as they were a celebration to mark the successful completion of their years of study.

"The current approach to graduation ceremonies is not ideal because the gap of several months after final exams makes it difficult for many students to attend. Many have moved away to start their careers, and international students have returned home," he said. Information on December graduations will be sent to final year Gold Coast students and will be available at [www.griffith.edu.au/graduations](http://www.griffith.edu.au/graduations) in coming months.

By Krista Dobinson

# Ahead of the rest in dental technology

**THE first university in Australia to offer dental technology programs has graduated its inaugural class.**

Five dental technicians completed the one-year Bachelor of Oral Health in Dental Technology post-registration program for those with a minimum of two years' professional experience.

All are now studying the Master of Dental Technology in Prosthetics.

Master's student Simon Versteegen initially trained as an apprentice and has been working in the industry for about 12 years. While it was the hands-on, manual aspects of dental technology that originally attracted him, he gradually became more interested in expanding his role to include a clinical component.

"The Master's program will offer me the opportunity to work for myself as a prosthetist – working directly with my own patients," he said. "The post-registration Bachelor's program was the stepping stone I needed to do the Master's."

The plan to study full-time for two years required Simon to give up his job on the Sunshine Coast, relocate to the Gold Coast and juggle financially with a part-time

income. It also created challenges for him that many mature-age students face, such as coming to grips with necessary computer skills.

"University certainly gets you up-to-date and expands your experience beyond your work. It gives you a more in-depth look at why we do what we do," Simon said.

"I thought it was well worth taking this time out to increase my career opportunities. It is a short-term sacrifice for hopefully long-term gains."

School of Dentistry and Oral Health Dean and Head Professor Newell Johnson congratulated the students for their commitment, self-motivation and application to university studies.

"Our program elevates the scientific standing and basis of the dental technology profession and provides graduates with enhanced opportunities," he said.

Griffith's dental technology students learn alongside students in the dental therapy and dental science programs in a move to encourage more communication between the disciplines and an integrated approach to patient care.

By Mardi Chapman



ALL SMILES: Australia's first Master of Dental Technology in Prosthetics students Neda Nikolovski, Simon Versteegen, Glenn Campbell, Stephanie Shaw and Long Nguyen.

## Josephine Ulrick prizes awarded

**THIS year's prestigious \$10,000 Josephine Ulrick Literature and Poetry prizes have been announced.**

The prizes are administered by the School of Arts on behalf of the Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Foundation for the Arts on the Gold Coast. The Literature Prize was won by Alison Ravenscroft for her short

story *Object Lessons*, and the Poetry Prize was won by Christine Fontana for *Husbandry*.

Associate Professor Nigel Krauth, Ulrick Prize coordinator and Head of the Creative Writing program at Griffith, said the university administered the prizes to show its support of literary writing across the

nation, "and also its keenness to link with a generous local foundation (the Josephine Ulrick and Win Schubert Foundation) in its support for the creative arts". Judges were authors Frank Moorhouse, Amanda Lohrey and Michael Wilding and poets Judith Beveridge and Tom Shapcott.

## In the news

Here's a glimpse of some of Griffith's experts who have made the newspapers, radio and television.

- Dr Melissa Bull (School of Criminology & Criminal Justice) spoke on international drug conventions in *The Courier-Mail*, *Sunday Mail* and *Sydney's Daily Telegraph*, and on Radio National's Perspective program, ABC Southern Queensland, Western Queensland, Hobart and Radio 4BC.
- Emeritus Professor Ian Lowe (School of Science) was interviewed about global warming by ABC Radio Sydney, Radio National, *The Courier-Mail*, *Brisbane News* and *The Geelong Examiner*.
- Articles about Griffith *REVIEW: People Like Us* have appeared in *The Age*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Australian Financial Review* and *Independent Weekly*, and radio interviews with various authors were on Radio National and ABC in Brisbane, Adelaide and Newcastle.
- Associate lecturer Dr Paul Williams (Business) wrote an opinion piece on government secrecy and cabinet confidentiality for *The Courier-Mail*.
- Ben Desbrow (Public Health) has been on ABC Radio in NSW, Newcastle and North Queensland, and in *The Courier-Mail*, *The Sunday Mail* and *The Australian* discussing his research into caffeine.
- Institute for Glycomics Professor Mark von Itzstein was profiled in *The Courier-Mail*.
- Dr Errol Stock (Australian School of Environmental Studies) spoke about declining oil reserves on ABC TV's *Stateline* and in *The Age* and *The Courier-Mail*.
- Head of Brass Peter Luff featured in *Australia's Band World* and on 4barsrest.com website talking about the new brass band major.
- Dr Stephen Smallbone (Criminology and Criminal Justice) took part in an ABC Four Corners on-line forum on child sex offending.
- Dr Jiri Neuzil (Medical Science) was interviewed by Australian Associated Press and Radio 6PR Perth about his research on a potential treatment for mesothelioma.
- School of Environmental and Applied Sciences head Associate Professor Clyde Wild spoke to ABC Radio on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane on the impact of low rainfall on south-east Queensland forests.
- Paul McCarthy (Business) commented on bullying, violence and anger in the workplace in an *Australian Financial Review* feature.

## ARC visits Gold Coast

**THE Australian Research Council (ARC) visited universities in Queensland last week with new Chief Executive Peter Hoj and senior staff.**

At the Gold Coast campus the group toured the Institute for Glycomics and met Griffith's ARC researchers.

Among them were Professors Mark von Itzstein, Lyn Griffiths (Medicine), Abdul Sattar (IT), Ross Guest (Management), Rodger Tomlinson (Environmental Science), Drew Nesdale (Psychology) and Anna Haebich (Arts, Media and Culture).

## Gerardo serenades crowd in Ecuador

**QUEENSLAND Conservatorium Music Studies senior lecturer Dr Gerardo Dirie had the premiere of his "Tres motetes" for mixed choir, clarinet, marimba, and contrabass at the Cathedral of Quito, Ecuador.**

The three-movement work was commissioned by the International Festival of Sacred Music in Ecuador.

It was written for the virtuoso ensemble Vozteso.

Gerardo Dirie was the first international composer to have been selected for the festival which featured musicians from England, The Netherlands, Canada, USA, Venezuela and Ecuador.

About 1500 people attended the performance of Dirie's composition in the historic cathedral which was consecrated in 1572.

# People like us in colliding worlds

**THE latest edition of national quarterly journal *Griffith REVIEW* is themed *People Like Us* and explores questions of real and imagined social and political divisions in Australia.**

Among writers of this edition's essays, memoir, fiction and reviews are Melissa Lucashenko, Mark Mordue, David Dale, Margaret Simons, Merle and Sigrid Thornton, Frank Moorhouse and Madeleine Byrne.

"It's believed we hold about 150 people in our close circle and, while we stay in this 'village', the reality is worlds collide around us and force us to share experiences with people who are actually unlike us," *Griffith REVIEW* editor Professor Julianne Schultz said.

These colliding worlds provide the spine of edition eight, with articles examining aspects of suburban and country life, humour and satire, inclusion and exclusion, and creativity and culture.

Events with a number of the authors discussing their works have been held in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane, including Merle Thornton who was guest speaker at the Griffith Literary Lunch at Logan campus recently.

Addressing about 100 staff and guests, Merle talked about the role of the imagination in everyday life – the topic of her "conversation" with daughter Sigrid which appears in the journal – and she peppered it with stories from her childhood, school, university, employment, and her novel *After Moonlight*.

The next edition *Griffith REVIEW: Up North – Myths, Threats & Enchantments* will be released on August 12.

Its writers include Peter Stanley, Murray Sayle, Matthew Condon, Stephen Kinnane, Stephen Muecke, Mark Mordue,

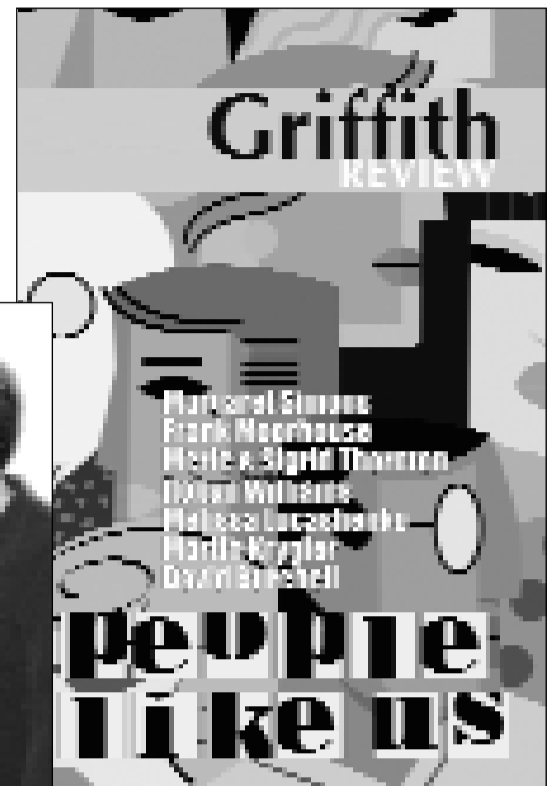
Michael Wesley, Creed O'Hanlon, Noel Pearson, Meera Atkinson, Raymond Evans, Clive Moore, John Kinsela, Christine Zorzi and more.

To subscribe to *Griffith REVIEW* and for an events listing, see [www.griffith.edu.au/griffithreview](http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffithreview)

By **Alexia Deegan**



REVIEWING: At the Griffith Literary Lunch are Chancellor Leneen Forde AC, Merle Thornton and Professor Sharon Bell, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Equity & Community Partnerships).



## IT experience gives school students a taste of uni life

**STUDENTS in Years 6, 7 and 8 proved it's never too early to taste university life when they attended a one-day computer workshop at Logan campus.**

At the Day of Excellence for Information and Communication Technology (ICT), students wrote a computer program to generate a screen saver image, solved a puzzle using encryption, and edited and presented a music video on a projected screen.

The event was part of the Logan Education Alliance, an initiative between 10 Logan and Beaudesert schools and Griffith University.

ICT lecturer Pat Halloran said the event was about developing pathways to university and giving students the chance to learn new computer skills

while having fun.

"The students might still be in primary school, but this was a chance to get them onto a university campus and show them what it's like," he said.

"They've learnt how to collaborate on projects, overcome challenges, and access information from different sources."

Waterford West State School Year 7 student Rebecca Clarke said she already used Microsoft Word and PowerPoint programs for school projects.

"It's good to learn how to use other programs," she said. "I'm not sure what I want to do when I grow up, but I'll probably use a computer."

By **Rhys Stacker**



PATHWAYS TO UNIVERSITY: Year 7 student Nivear Khun explores the opportunities information technology at Griffith University offers.

## Conference a first for key players in strata title sector

**THE Service Industry Research Centre will host "Strata and Community Title in Australia for the 21st Century" – the first conference of its type to be held in the country.**

It will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Gold Coast, from August 31 to September 3.

The national shift towards increased community living in apartment complexes, town houses, aged-care facilities and inner-city developments has seen the number of strata title schemes burgeon to 30,000 in Queensland alone, involving an estimated 300,000 lot owners.

It is estimated that more than 3.5 million people Australia-wide own, live in or work in strata or community title premises.

Conference Chair and centre Director Professor Christopher Guilding said the conference responded to the need for all players in the industry to work together after a period of rapid growth in order to plan carefully for future advancement.

"Given the significance and high growth of the Australian strata title sector, we are overdue for a national conference bringing together the broad spectrum of stakeholders involved," Professor Guilding said.

"The conference will be of interest to anyone with a foothold in

the sector, be they involved in the real estate, development or tourism industries, owner-occupiers, investors, body corporate managers or policy makers at local, state or federal levels.

"It provides an excellent opportunity to advance the cohesiveness and professional standing of the industry as a whole and to enrich our understanding of the myriad managerial, operational and legal issues posed by the strata and community title sector."

The inaugural event has attracted Strata Associates as premier sponsors, and CMS Hospitality, NSW Institute of Strata Title Management and Macquarie Bank as contributing sponsors.

National and international experts addressing the conference include University of Stirling (Scotland) Housing Policy and Practice Unit Director Dr Douglas Robertson, Sustainable Tourism CRC Chairman Sir Frank Moore and lawyer and former NSW Strata Titles Commissioner Robert Browne.

Queensland Government Minister for Tourism, Fair Trading and Wine Industry Development Margaret Keach will open the conference. See: [www.griffith.edu.au/conference/scr2005](http://www.griffith.edu.au/conference/scr2005)

By **Justine Day**

# No hurdle too high for Ruth

LAW School graduate Ruth Link has been named Queensland Young Lawyer of the Year, adding to her long list of achievements and proving no hurdle is too high.

Now working as the Deputy Director's Associate at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal in Brisbane, Ruth also earned admittance as a Legal Practitioner to practice as a Barrister.

This followed her completion of an Arts and Law degree in spite of her struggle with cultural, financial and family issues at the time.

Ruth comes from the Darwa Clan of the Western Yalangi Tribe and grew up in places around north Queensland, before moving to Woodridge in Year 5.

She grew up with her culture and knows some of the language and dancing, but also knows of a people in despair, where alcohol abuse, domestic violence and poverty are part of daily life.

At the age of 14 Ruth left home and worked multiple jobs to pay the rent on a flat while she continued school.

"It was hard not having someone to share the load with," she said. "There was so much despair around me."

Ruth said she wanted to go to university, but didn't believe she could.

While completing Year 12, a Griffith Unireach program visited her high school and changed her view.

In 1997, Ruth started an Arts degree at Griffith, which she completed in 2000.

"Australian history was my passion. It helped me to understand what was happening to Indigenous people and instead of judging them, question why this is happening. That's why I moved from Arts on to Law. I wanted to change things," she said.

"I had help from Griffith's GUMURRII Centre, but especially from Phil Falk, an Indigenous lecturer in the Law School. I wouldn't have got through without him. Phil has been a solicitor for 20 years and he was really approachable and really supported me."

Ruth said the constant financial struggle and family issues

took their toll and she started to doubt her path. She took a year off her studies and went to Hopevale where her Elders told her she had a gift and had to keep going.

Her perseverance paid off.

During her Law degree Ruth was awarded multiple accolades including The Ebsworth and Ebsworth Prize for best Indigenous Graduate at Griffith Law School, the Queensland Law Society Prize for best second and third year Indigenous student, The Ebsworth and Ebsworth Prize for best first year Indigenous student and the GUMURRII Centre's Linda Buxton Memorial Prize.

Just five weeks after giving birth to her daughter, Ruth sat her exams. She completed her studies half way through the following year.

She graduated in August 2004, and was the first Indigenous graduate ever to deliver the Valedictorian speech on behalf of the Business and Law schools.

"My whole family is blown away. So many people are so proud," she said.

Service change

[www.translink.com.au](http://www.translink.com.au) 13 12 30

### The times are changing

From Monday, 27 June 2005 TransLink will be making significant improvements to bus services to and from Griffith University. New Logan City Bus Service route 558 will operate during university semester between Logan and Mt Gravatt campuses, with free transfers to Nathan campus on the existing Griffith University inter-campus bus. Former route 11 passengers travelling between Brisbane city and Logan Campus will now transfer onto route 558 at Griffith University busway station or Loganlea station.

Logan City Bus Service routes 558 and 559 will provide more frequent services between Loganlea station and Logan campus. These services will replace former routes 7 and 18.

route 558	route 559
<b>starting</b>	<b>starting</b>
Loganlea Station	Loganlea Station
Mt Gravatt Campus	State Fair (Bundamba)
Loganlea Station	UNSW
Loganlea Station	Becker
Loganlea Station	Arundel
Loganlea Station	Woolloongabba
Loganlea Station	Roseville
Loganlea Station	Campanella

Look out for a copy of the Southern Region Public Transport Services Guide available at Logan City Bus Service. This guide provides all the information you need to know about the new services. For further information visit [www.translink.com.au](http://www.translink.com.au) or call 13 12 30



PROUD MOMENT: Griffith Law School lecturer Phil Falk congratulates graduate Ruth Link on being named Queensland 2005 Young Lawyer of the Year.

## 'Living Art' awarded

QUEENSLAND College of Art Photography senior lecturer Jay Younger has won the annual Living Art Award for her photograph *The Spin Doctors' Mirage IV*.

As part of the win, her photograph features on the exterior of Broadbeach's Aria Building.

The winning work, originally 100x100cm, was chosen from works hung at the Conrad Jupiters Art Prize in 2004.

The Living Art Award, established in 2002 as part of the original design concept for the Aria Building, aims to present a huge reproduction of an artwork each year.

## Tulloch book release

MEDICAL ethicist Dr Gail Tulloch debates the philosophical and legal issues surrounding euthanasia in her newly-released book *Euthanasia – Choice and Death*.

Dr Tulloch has been exploring this increasingly contentious issue for three years, comparing the approaches adopted by the United Kingdom, United States, the Netherlands and Australia. She examined landmark cases, including Nancy Crick's death in 2002. Dr Tulloch is Director of the research program in Biomedical Ethics and Regulation at Griffith's Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance.

She is also a member of the Queensland Health Ethics Advisory Committee and of the university's Human Research Ethics and Animal Ethics committees.

# Workshops switching students on

**THE School of Microelectronic Engineering (MEE) has held workshops as far north as Thursday Island, the most northern point of Australia, to promote electronics to teachers and high school students.**

MEE external workshops engineer Aidan Cameron said he visited Thursday Island, Bamaga and Cairns in recent months to give teachers the skills to conduct electronic lessons in their classes.

He said the workshops were a great way to help students, particularly in isolated areas where students had little opportunity to attend lessons outside school.

At Thursday Island State School, 14 students built their own robots from simple components, while at North Peninsula College in Bamaga students learnt how to construct a bike light.

"At Thursday Island kids from other classes were looking through the windows to see what we were doing. They loved it," Mr Cameron said.

"The workshops give students a basic introduction to electronics. But while they're soldering parts I also explain it's not just about putting things together.

"I talk about research and job opportunities and encourage them to see a pathway to studying electronics at university."

**I By Rhys Stacker**

# Brisbane phone number change

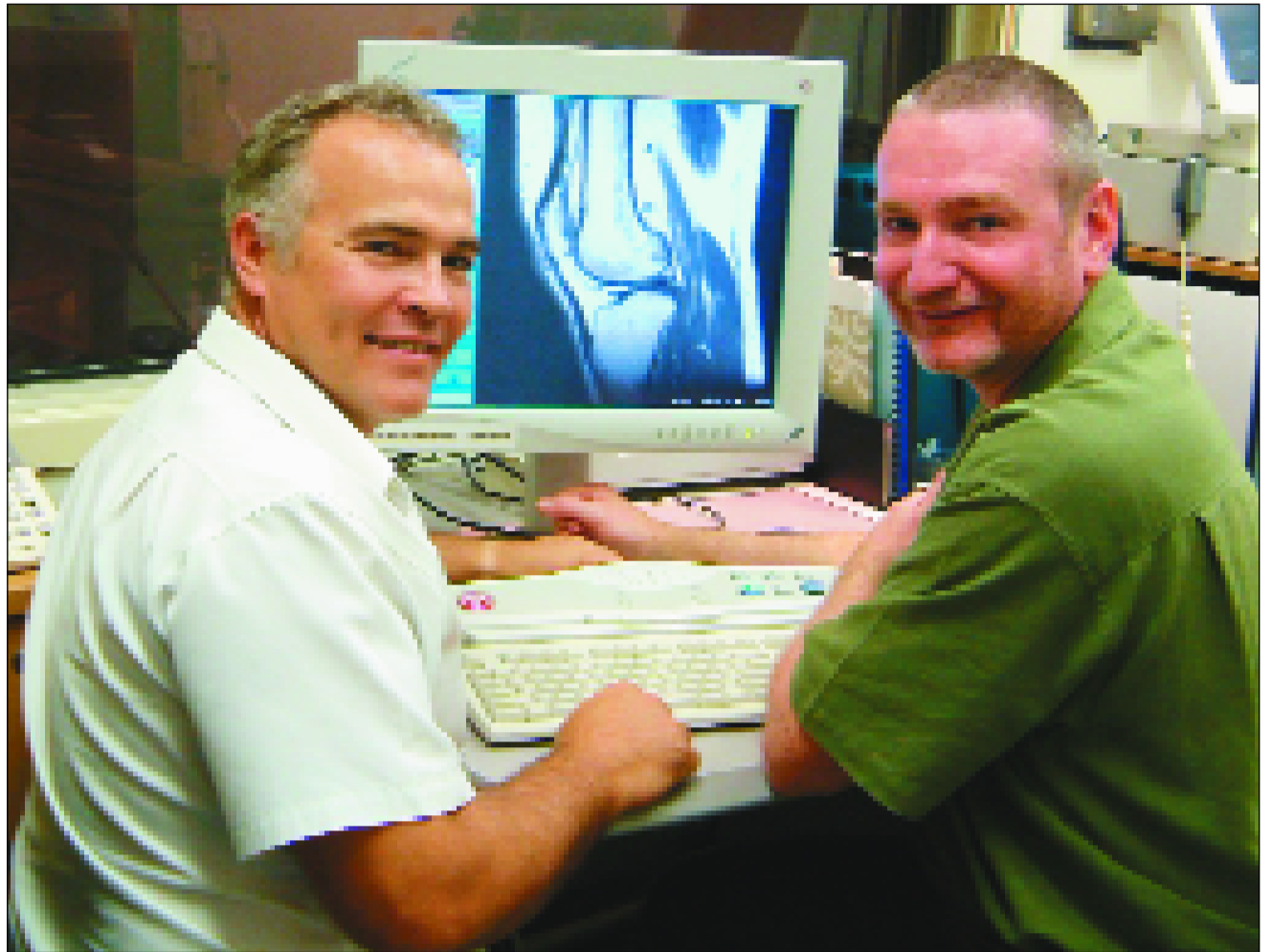
**THE university's phone numbers for Brisbane campuses have changed.**

The new switchboard number to dial is 07 3735 7111, although old numbers will continue to work for the next two years.

Extension numbers will not change but initial numbers will change from 07 3875 xxxx to 07 3735 xxxx.

For more information visit [www.griffith.edu.au/ins/telecoms/new\\_number/](http://www.griffith.edu.au/ins/telecoms/new_number/)

# Boost to research



*IMAGING DEAL: South Coast Radiology's Kevin Finegan and Griffith's Dr Luke Haselar at the MRI workstation.*

**THE university has negotiated an agreement with South Coast Radiology to access magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) for research.**

The agreement, which has been three years in the making, will benefit researchers, including those in Griffith's Heart Foundation Research Centre and School of Medical Sciences, by giving them access to costly MRI equipment.

Griffith funded a \$250,000 machine upgrade to meet research requirements, while South Coast Radiology will donate time on the machine free of charge. Access to MRI equipment can be up to \$1000 per hour.

School of Physiotherapy and Exercise Science lecturer Dr Luke Haseler and former Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences Professor Roger Willis have driven the agreement.

Dr Haseler, whose primary research interest is muscle, said while MRI was normally used to image the brain, he had designed an exercise apparatus for the lower limbs that fits inside the scanner.

The equipment and software upgrade to allow multinuclear spectroscopy with the MRI has also provided him with the

technology to take biochemical measurements of exercising muscles in both health and disease states.

"We now have a fairly unique facility. Only a handful of places in the world can do these metabolic measurements," Dr Haseler said.

With funding from the National Heart Foundation and collaboration with the Prince Charles Hospital, Dr Haseler and colleague Dr Norm Morris will use the MRI equipment to study skeletal muscle function in patients with chronic heart failure.

"We know there is an underlying problem with skeletal muscle in conditions such as chronic heart failure and chronic obstructive airways disease," Dr Haseler said. "With these types of experiments hopefully we will be able to tease out whether the problem is poor blood flow and oxygen delivery to the muscle or a problem within the muscles themselves."

He said the research would also provide evidence about the effectiveness of exercise training in managing these conditions.

**I By Mardi Chapman**

# Photography at QCA snaps up bright deal



*BRIGHT LIGHTS: Third year Photography – Creative Advertising students check out new colour lighting equipment with associate lecturer Peter Wann, convenor David Lloyd and Baltronics managing director Peter Osbourne.*

**PHOTOGRAPHY students and staff at Queensland College of Art (QCA) have access to the best lighting equipment at no cost.**

Griffith University has a relationship with Baltronics, in Sydney, which this year provided \$250,000 of Bron colour lighting equipment.

At the end of the year graduates have the opportunity to buy the equipment at significantly reduced prices, with the remainder being made available to industry. The QCA then places a new order for equipment for the following year.

Photography associate lecturer Peter Wann said the arrangement had benefits for both parties – photography students had access to the "Rolls Royce of lighting" which was always under warranty, and the company was able to increase its reach into the industry.

"We wouldn't be able to afford to buy the lights if this relationship wasn't in place," Mr Wann said.

"Lighting is always going to be important in photography, whether you're using digital or analogue equipment."

**I By Michelle Smith**

# Going global gives Griffith

## Travel enriches student life

**OPPORTUNITIES** that expose students to different cultures and international work environments enrich the learning experience at Griffith and can lead directly to jobs.

Many areas of the university, including Business and Engineering schools, offer overseas industry placements and internships which count towards degrees.

Earlier this year five business undergraduate students returned from Germany after participating in the pilot Ruhr Valley Internship Program, a joint initiative of Griffith and Germany's Duisburg-Essen University.

The students studied German for three weeks in Germany during the Australian summer semester, enjoying Christmas and New Year in Europe, then worked for six weeks in leading German firms in the industrial Ruhr Valley.

The responses from the German companies have been positive, with a Griffith intern receiving a firm offer of employment in Europe upon graduation next year.

The Ruhr Valley interns received funding assistance from Griffith International and the Business School, and their accommodation and local travel was sponsored by Duisburg-Essen University.

Kara Fitzgerald (International Business), 21, said she had clear career goals upon returning to Australia as a result of taking part in the program.

"In the three-month period I was in Germany I developed as a person, both personally and professionally, more than I had in any other period of my life," she said.

Kara, now working in international business development in Sydney, credited her success in large part to her overseas study experience.

Alan Trevitho (International Relations), 38, said he embraced the experience to work in a foreign culture and learn about the German business environment. He also said the international work experience made him more employable.

"I was able to grow a little when it came to a fear of



**EXPERIENCING CULTURE:** Interns Anna Chudzinski, Alan Trevitho and Cherie Alexander (back row), Nicole George-Gipters and Kara Fitzgerald (front row). Photo courtesy of Alan Trevitho.

the unknown," he said. "Any prospective employer would interpret this experience as being able to adjust and learn in a difficult environment."

Meanwhile, 17 third-year engineering students recently returned from a three-month stint in Vietnam as part of their Bachelor of Engineering (Civil Engineering).

The students were placed with construction companies in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi where they worked on bridge building and apartment construction projects. They carried out hands-on tasks including testing soils, conducting experiments and making calculations.

Student James Carden said he lived in a student village and when he wasn't working he helped Vietnamese students with their English homework.

"At first we tried to learn the language, but it's pretty hard so we got by with a few English words and gestures," James said.

The engineering placement scheme started in 1999, with students living and working in a different country each year.

By Rhys Stacker and Krista Dobinson



**WORKING HARD:** Student James Carden on a civil engineering placement in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

## News skills put to test in Vietnam

Caitriona Murtagh, who is completing a Master of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication, was one of two Griffith students who completed an internship at the *Vietnam Economic Times* earlier this year. Caitriona gives an insight into her experiences.

**THE Vietnam Economic Times is one of Vietnam's biggest business journals and, over two months at the magazine's headquarters in Hanoi's Cau Giay district, everything I'd learned in the first year of my Master's degree was put to practical use.**

I edited and proof-read articles about everything from privatisation of state-owned enterprises to urban poverty and AIDS, stretching production skills developed in feature writing, news, and current affairs courses.

Covering Australian trade delegation visits to Hanoi, and travelling to the Mekong Delta to research new agricultural technology put my news gathering and interviewing skills to the test.

While the Vietnamese press gears up to celebrate the 30-year anniversary of victory in the American War, theory from international

and journalism culture subjects came alive.

And I had a rare glimpse of the stories behind the news when colleagues who fought in the war shared their stories with me.

Tears of pride brightening his eyes, an ex-Viet Cong intelligence agent, now an editor, told me that Vietnam won the war fighting with heads and hearts as well as guns.

The insight gained from those personal stories, and the myriad of practical experiences, will have a lasting impact on the way I think and write as a journalist throughout my career.

The idea of doing work experience overseas was a great opportunity and was made possible through a grant from Griffith International.

The internship was facilitated through the efforts of Associate Professor Michael Meadows from the School of Arts, Media and Culture and Sharon Tickle from Griffith International.



**OVERSEAS WORK:** The *Vietnam Economic Times* office in Hanoi.

## Fullbright for Dr O'Connor

**BUSINESS School Department of Politics and Public Policy senior lecturer Dr Brendon O'Connor has won a coveted Fulbright Professional Award in Australian-US Alliance Studies.**

Dr O'Connor will spend about six months at the Australian and New Zealand Studies Centres at Georgetown University in Washington DC and at the University of Texas in Austin.

His research will focus on anti-Americanism and the current state of the US-Australian Alliance.

The prestigious Fulbright program is the largest educational scholarship of its kind and was created by US Senator J William Fulbright and the US Government in 1946.

Brendon is one of three Queenslanders to receive a Fulbright in 2005.

# graduates a cutting edge

## Scholarship winner returns to start her PhD in nursing

**GRADUATE** Hsiao-Yun Chang has returned to the Gold Coast to start her PhD in nursing, after receiving a Griffith international scholarship for postgraduate study.

Hsiao-Yun, who has been working in Taiwan as a nurse educator since 1997, said she had resigned from her teaching position at Jen College of Medicine, Nursing and Management to study at Griffith for three years.

"As everybody is moving towards university-based training for nurses, nurse educators are being actively encouraged to upgrade their qualifications," she said.

Hsiao-Yun started nursing training, the equivalent of TAFE, after junior high school at about age 15. She then worked as a registered nurse for three years before moving to Australia for a university education.

She completed a Bachelor of Nursing at RMIT, then moved to Griffith because it offered mid-year entry for the Master of Nursing. Her Master's thesis was awarded a high distinction.

Hsiao-Yun's impressive CV includes Excellence in Teaching awards from Li Shin Hospital, the publication of clinical skills texts for nurses, and the translation of other nursing books from English to Chinese.

Her PhD, supervised by School of Nursing Professor Anne McMurray and Associate Professor Marianne Wallis and School of Pharmacy lecturer Dr Evelin Tiralongo, will investigate the use of complementary and alternative therapies (CAM) in Taiwan.

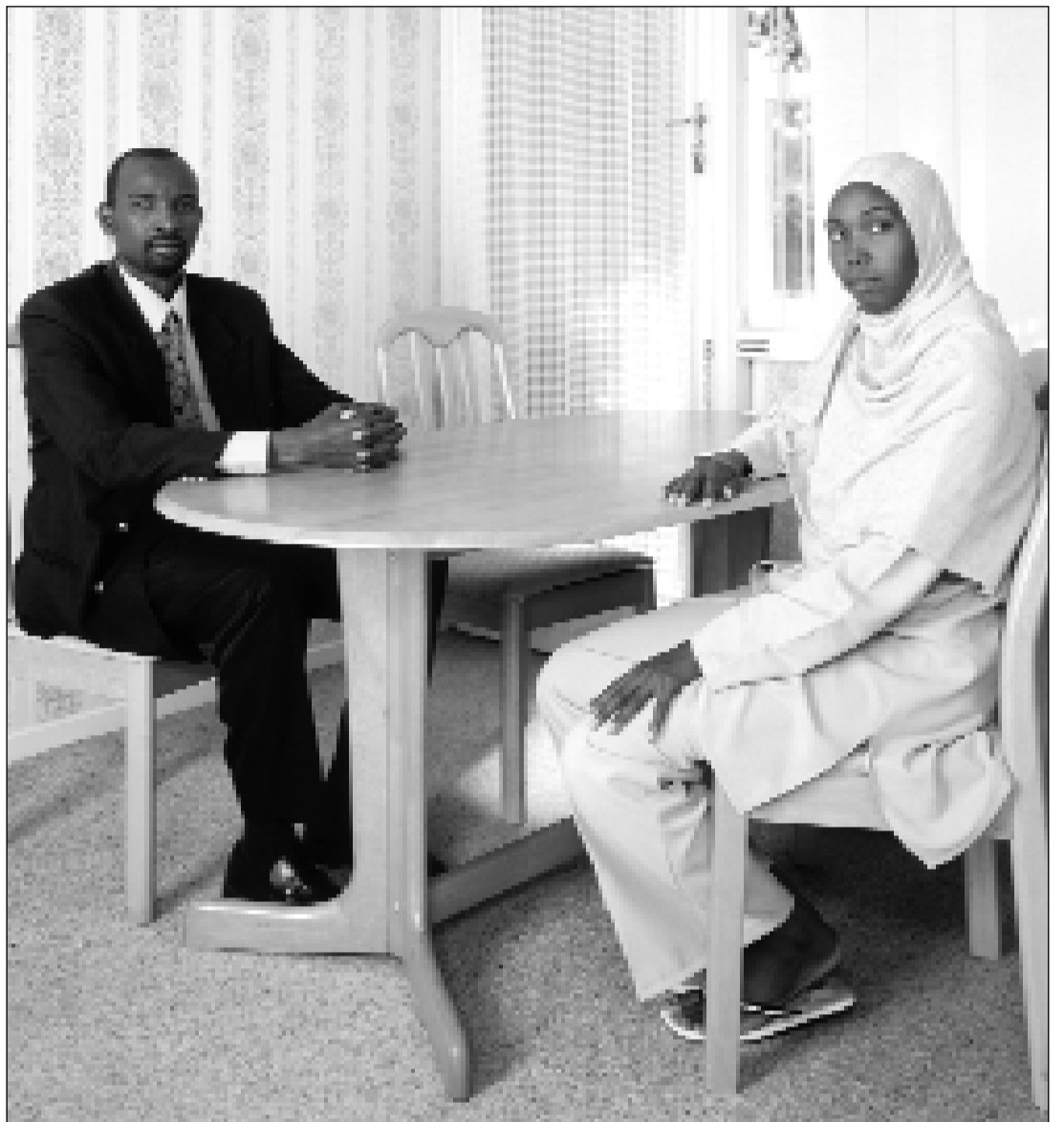
"A lot of people are using these kinds of therapies, often in conjunction with conventional medicine," Hsiao-Yun said.

"It is very important to look at how patients are managing their disease with CAM, especially chronic diseases such as diabetes."

By Mardi Chapman



HIGHER DEGREE: Hsiao-Yun Chang back on the Gold Coast to research complementary therapies.



WINNING PORTRAIT: Cassandra Mathie won the \$15,000 Citigroup Private Bank Australian Photographic Portrait Prize for this portrait titled *Ali and Rahma*.

## Archibald win affirms photographer's work

**WINNING** the Archibald photographic portrait prize has reconfirmed Cassandra Mathie's commitment to practising documentary photography.

The Queensland College of Art graduate is in Beirut on a two-year AusAID-funded project to develop a photography program for marginalised Palestinian refugees.

She recently won the \$15,000 Citigroup Private Bank Australian Photographic Portrait Prize, as part of the 2005 Archibald Prize awards, for her portrait *Ali and Rahma*.

The portrait is from a larger body of work entitled *Elhigrah* (Arabic for "migration") which documents the stories of Sudanese refugees who have resettled in Brisbane.

Cassandra said the win had inspired her.

"The prize, and the recognition for my work, has reconfirmed for me the importance and relevance of documentary images within not only an Australian but an international context," she said.

"My work revolves around telling the stories of people, families and communities who so often are left voiceless through circumstances out of their control.

"My work aims to capture these stories through

imagery and convey them to a wider audience – hence giving voice to my subjects.

"To have had the ability to successfully capture, expose and retell the story of Ali and Rahma is the most significant achievement for me. It is the reason I photograph."

Cassandra started her Beirut project in January and has begun running pilot projects which she will later implement in the south of Lebanon.

She has been working with children and young people, introducing them to photography as a storytelling tool to promote self-esteem and encourage them to rediscover their communities through imagery and develop the skills to retell these stories to their own and other communities.

"The environment is a challenging one – working with a different language and culture is obviously a steep learning curve but one that I am finding both inspiring and motivational.

"There is such a need here for activities that allow people to express themselves, to be creative and to recognise themselves as individuals with strengths, skills and the ability to contribute positively to their community."

By Michelle Smith

# Trading Australia to the world

**TRAVELLING the world and promoting the benefits of trade with Australia are all in a day's work for five Griffith graduates working for Austrade in North and South America.**

Among the crop of successful Australians is Kylie Hargreaves, who works as deputy consul general and senior trade commissioner in Los Angeles, where she has lived for two-and-a-half years.

She manages a team of business development specialists who work with Australian companies to successfully enter the United States market.

There is also a glamorous side to Kylie's role which involves working with famous Australian celebrities, such as country star Keith Urban and 2004 Miss Universe Jennifer Hawkins, to draw attention to smaller Australian successes.

Kylie, who graduated in 1992, said her International Business degree gave her an edge in being selected for Austrade's graduate program in 1993 which was a springboard for her career in international trade.

As the daughter of a diplomat she was exposed to international relations from a young age which shaped her career aspirations and outlook on life.

"As my Griffith Uni ethics teacher once said, as long as you take on new challenges you are always

going to learn new things about yourself and others," Kylie said.

Meanwhile, in South America Mark Argar recently took the post of consul general and senior trade commissioner Latin America in Sao Paulo, Brazil, after working for three years as consul general and trade commissioner in Lima, Peru. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Asian Studies and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Griffith.

"As an undergraduate I was interested in securing a job in international trade on graduation," Mark said. "I studied the MBA to further my knowledge of management. The current job is a perfect blend of both ambitions."

Mark has spent the past three years in Latin America and has a strong belief in the importance of Australia looking beyond Asia for export markets.

Before working in South America, he worked for Australian industry in Taiwan and the Philippines.

Other graduates who are now working for Austrade in the Americas include Michelle Pflaum, (business development manager, San Francisco), Nigel Warren (trade commissioner, Chile) and Paul Martins (Mexico).



*RUBBING SHOULDERS WITH THE STARS: Miss Universe 2004 Jennifer Hawkins, Head of Tourism Australia (Americas) Michael Longdregan and Austrade Senior Trade Commissioner and Griffith graduate Kylie Hargreaves on the red carpet at Australia Week celebrations in Los Angeles.*

## New group email policy

**THE university has a new policy for sending emails to large groups of staff and/or students on a university-wide or a campus-specific basis.**

Under the policy a broadcast email must relate to official university business and its contents must conform to the university's Use of Information Technology Resources Code of Practice.

Acceptable messages include messages to the university community, notification of substantial changes in governance, policy or practice, and emergency email.

Authorisation for the posting of a university-wide distribution email needs to be granted by the relevant member of the executive group, campus Provost or delegate.

For more information contact 07 3735 5555.



*IN TUNE: A new brass band major will be offered through Queensland Conservatorium from 2006.*

## Brass band to belt out tune in G major

**QUEENSLAND Conservatorium Griffith University (QCGU) is extending its reach into the community with the offering of a new brass band major.**

QCGU Head of Brass Peter Luff said the offering, from 2006, was a major step forward for community banding and would help to validate the value of amateur music making both nationally and internationally.

Mr Luff said there were more than 1000 brass musicians and 40 registered bands in Queensland alone.

"Given the community relevance of the genre and interest it has for young musicians, it seemed obvious that, to have a brass department truly representative of the requirements of the professional and amateur music community, we should incorporate brass banding into the current major study offerings," he said.

"We're not so concerned about teaching it as a career outcome, but

validating it as a viable way of putting musicians back into the community.

"This has already proven to be of interest to many young Australian players and will be of great significance to international students."

Mr Luff anticipates the new major will attract Japanese students who currently travel to the UK to study.

He said Japan had the seventh highest number of brass bands after the UK, USA, Switzerland, Australia, Norway and The Netherlands.

QCGU's brass band major will add to the Bachelor of Music program with the introduction of tenor horn, baritone, cornet and flugel horn into the major study offerings, the addition of a literature subject History of Brass Banding in Australia, and the introduction of a Brass Band ensemble.

**By Michelle Smith**

## Prizes to be won in Griffith Innovation Challenge

**CASH and prizes totalling more than \$40,000 are up for grabs in the first Griffith Innovation Challenge.**

To be in the running, final-year students in all disciplines need to form teams of up to five people and develop a business plan for a commercial, service or community-oriented initiative.

Office for Commercialisation Director Neil Finlayson said taking part in the competition would give students the opportunity to work outside of their specialty areas and

gain skills and experience to give them the edge in the workplace.

Mr Finlayson said student teams would work with mentors from industry and the university as they prepared plans and assessed the financial, legal and many other implications of commercialising a product or service.

"You're only limited by your own imagination," Mr Finlayson said.

The competition will be supported by a seminar series to

be held on the Gold Coast and Nathan covering important topics such as intellectual property, business plan writing, presentation skills and marketing.

Registrations close August 12. See the website below.

The Griffith Innovation Challenge is supported by diamond sponsor Dell and the Australian Government's Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources.

**By Alexia Deegan**

**See: [www.griffith.edu.au/commercialisation/griffithinnovationchallenge](http://www.griffith.edu.au/commercialisation/griffithinnovationchallenge)**

## Mentor awarded for postgraduate course supervision

**NURTURING, enthusiastic, supportive, committed** – these were descriptors that cropped up time and again in conversations with students on the special qualities that make Dr Jay Bandaralage an outstanding teacher. An educator for more than 25 years, the Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics senior lecturer recently won Griffith's Honours and Postgraduate Coursework Supervision Award for his exceptional track record in mentoring student coursework.

Dr Bandaralage feels one of his key assets is his strong emotional empathy with his students, particularly those from non-English speaking backgrounds. He attributes this to his own background as an overseas student in Australia in the 1980s. Having experienced first-hand the intellectual, cultural and emotional challenges of adjusting to a new environment, he embraces the opportunity to guide his students through similar transitions where possible.

Regular lunchtime discussions and barbecues are just some of the techniques Dr Bandaralage employs to foster a close-knit postgraduate community.

"Drawing students into informal networks is a useful way to reduce isolation and encourage interaction," he said. "It helps to relieve their loneliness and renew their motivation."

Another attribute Dr Bandaralage's students appreciate is his complete approachability. Former student Darren Mills recalled: "When I was formulating a research proposal, there were times when I would arrive at Dr Bandaralage's door unannounced, hand in my progress and return 30 minutes later to engage in passionate discussions on the comments he had to make. He was totally flexible and accessible."

Dr Bandaralage's positive outlook and can-do attitude are other qualities that draw students to him. Describing him as an outstanding people person, PhD student Athula Naranpanawa, an economist with Queensland Treasury, says: "Dr Bandaralage doesn't believe in giving up. Even if he doesn't have an immediate solution to your problem, he will guide and direct you to other sources. You always come out of a session feeling encouraged and refreshed and ready to battle on."

Dr Bandaralage is one of six outstanding teachers conferred the 2004 Griffith Awards for Excellence in Teaching. The awards are granted annually to Griffith teachers who pursue quality teaching and learning outcomes for students and communities.

By Shamira Barr



TEACHER RECOGNISED: Dr Jay Bandaralage's warmth, empathy and commitment endear him to his students.

# Solo exhibition for linocut printmaker

**TORRES Strait Island linocut printmaker Dennis Nona will hold his first curated solo exhibition in an Australian public gallery at Griffith's DELL Gallery @ QCA throughout June and July.**

The exhibition, *Sesserae*, will feature 70 works, including recent etchings, and will be accompanied by a comprehensive catalogue of the artist's work. It will tour other Australian venues following its Brisbane showing.

Dennis is currently completing his Master of Arts in Visual Arts at Queensland College of Art.

DELL Gallery @ QCA Director Simon Wright said Dennis had become an important ambassador for the contemporary art of the Torres Strait Islands, and his work was attracting international attention.

Dennis recently shared first prize in the Fourth Angel Orensanz Foundation International Award in New York with his work *SIKUE*.

"Dennis' art has also influenced other emerging artists from his community and over the years his works have been acquired by most state and national art institutions,

including the Queensland Art Gallery and National Gallery of Australia," Mr Wright said.

"In 2004-5 Dennis carved and editioned his largest work to date, an impressive and expansive linocut titled *Sesserae*."

"It is the centrepiece of this exhibition and relates the epic ancestral story of a willy-wagtail bird on Badu Island, a narrative that goes to the heart of the importance of story-telling as a way of cultural survival."

*Sesserae: The works of Dennis Nona* will be on display at Dell Gallery @ QCA, South Bank, until July 10.

A publication on Dennis Nona and his work, published by Griffith Artworks, will be launched at Open Day on July 10, at 11.20am on the Lower Grass Court at Queensland College of Art Griffith University.

The launch will feature the Badu Island Dance Team, delegates from the Torres Strait Regional Authority and Badu Council, and Native Title Organisation.

By Michelle Smith

## Students plug in to industry

**TAKING part in the School of Microelectronics Engineering Industrial Affiliates Project (IAP) has proven worthwhile for David Murphy.**

In 2001 David was accepted into the program as a final-year student. He began work with Brisbane electronics firm Gripon, and four years later was made Vice President, Engineering, of Gripon's spin-off company, Grabba.

David said he learned valuable business and project management skills by participating in the IAP, and was now involved in selecting students for Grabba's own IAP. He is currently supervising the projects of final year students Wayne Uroda and William Petterson.

Both students are working on applications to allow palm computer and smart phones to be used as bar code scanners, potentially allowing small businesses to use existing technology.

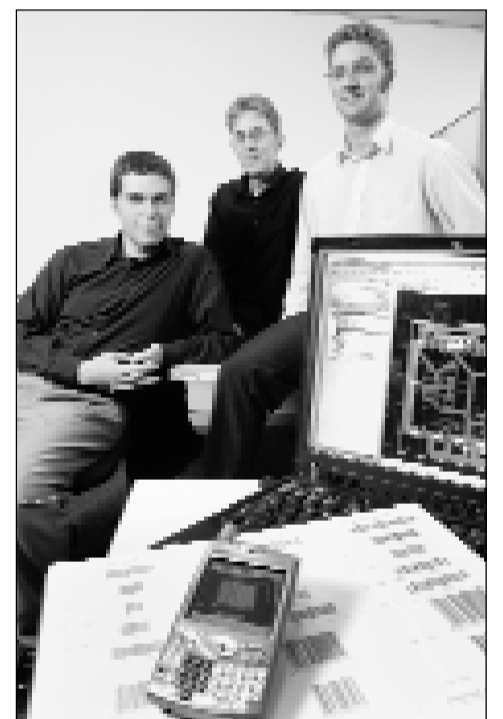
Wayne said his IAP allowed him to combine skills from his degree with those learnt in the industry.

"It's not so much the technical skills, but learning common business skills," Wayne said.

For Gripon managing director Ces Luscombe, IAP allowed the small company to conduct experimental research and development, without the prohibitive expense.

"We can have a student experiment and carry out research and development and then make a determination on whether to proceed. Its low-cost product development," Mr Luscombe said.

By Rhys Stacker



HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE: Wayne Uroda, William Petterson and David Murphy benefit from the Industrial Affiliates Project.

## Research to benefit creek ecosystem

**CENTRE for Riverine Landscape microbial ecologist Dr Peter Pollard has developed groundbreaking pollution monitoring methods as part of his study of Moggill Creek, in Brisbane's north-western suburbs.**

Australian sewerage systems are designed to discharge untreated sewage into local waterways in the event of a system overload or breakdown. The study aims to determine and minimise the impacts of this.

Data loggers, SMS telemetry and DNA fingerprinting are some of the techniques Dr Pollard and his research team will employ as part of a study into the effect of sewage overflows and stormwater run off on creeks, the ecosystem and public health.

The study follows Dr Pollard's successful research into the Lota Creek system near Moreton Bay. Both studies have come about through a partnership between Griffith, Brisbane City Council, Brisbane

Water and the Coastal CRC. To immediately gather data when sewage overflow doors open into the creek, Dr Pollard's team has developed a telemetry system that sends text message alerts to his mobile phone. He then activates automatic samplers via the internet.

"I've only got a few minutes to find a computer and activate the auto samplers which take a one-litre sample at key locations in Moggill Creek every few minutes," Dr Pollard said. He also has researchers on call who travel to predetermined points in the river to take measurements.

"The system has a 100 per cent success rate and it allows us to sample five-six kilometres of Moggill Creek within that crucial 90 minutes of the overflow event," he said.

By Rhys Stacker

# Discovering sea turtles

SEA turtles can live for more than 100 years, yet science still has a long way to go when it comes to understanding them.

School of Environmental and Applied Science PhD student Jason van de Merwe hopes to advance what is known about the reptiles and is embarking on an ambitious study looking at the effect of pollution on Green turtles and potentially Hawksbill and Loggerhead turtles.

Harvesting, egg collection and pollution have reduced the numbers of these species in recent years and they are now endangered.

Mr van de Merwe said little was known about how pollution from sewage, crop dusting, fertilisers and storm water run off were affecting turtles.

"Previous toxicology studies of turtles have been opportunistic, relying on sick or dead turtles washing up on beaches," he said.

Mr van de Merwe said he aimed to use non-invasive methods to take samples from turtles, including taking blood samples and shell scrapings from females while they nest on the beach.

His research has so far taken him to Malaysia, North Queensland and South Stradbroke Island. By the end of the study he hopes to have travelled to the Solomon Islands, Japan, Southern China and Hong Kong in a bid to study turtles from polluted and unpolluted areas.

Mr van de Merwe said his desire to help the animals motivated him in his research.

"Some of these turtles are critically endangered. I have passion for the work because the conservation biology research I am doing directly relates to the conservation of the species," he said.



TURTLE STUDY: PhD student Jason van de Merwe studies the effect of pollution on endangered turtles.

## In brief Relay for Life

THE Griffith banner was proudly displayed recently at the annual Relay for Life, a team-walking event that raises funds for the Queensland Cancer Fund.

The School of Psychology on the Gold Coast raised more than \$1500 and entered a 10-person team to collectively walk for about 18 hours during the overnight event.

Walkers were Dr Shirley Morrissey, Dr Melanie Zimmer-Gembeck, Dr Allison Waters, Professor Drew Nesdale, Mark Boschen, Dr Russil Durrant, Dr Frances O'Callaghan, Tracy Ludlow, Katherine Tucker and Tiffany Barnes.

## Cross country

MORE than 85 staff and students took part in the 2005 Griffith University Cross Country in Toohey Forest in May.

Winners in the men's and women's open categories were Richard Blanch and Darlene Wibeto (first) and Jon Giles and Kavita Maharaj (second).

In the men's and women's masters category Michael Robinson and Kerin Behrins came first, followed by Mark Lu (second) and Brian Walpole (third).

Winners in the open walk were Liz Fisher (first) and Kim Carvey (second).

By Rhys Stacker

## What's On

### Lectures

#### TUESDAY, JULY 28

**Compliance, Community Participation and Consumerism: A Sociologist's Contribution to Health Policy Analysis.** Speaker: School of Public Health Professor Stephanie Short. Venue: L06, Auditorium, Logan. Time: 5.30pm. Light refreshments served. Contact: Pam Harvey on p.harvey@griffith.edu.au

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

**Twilight Lecture – Katie Noonan.** Katie Noonan, lead singer of Brisbane group *George*, provides her perspectives on the "intangibles in music" that often prove decisive in distinguishing between mere competence and excellence. Venue: Ian Hanger Recital Hall, South Bank. Time: 6pm. Free. Contact: 07 3735 6241, email concerts@griffith.edu.au See: www.griffith.edu.au/concerts

### Events

#### SATURDAY, JULY 2, TO WEDNESDAY, JULY 6

**Mathematics Education and Society Conference 2005.** The conference will bring together mathematics educators from around the world. Speakers: Professor Mamokgethi Setati (Witwatersrand University), Chris Sarra (Education Queensland and Queensland of the Year) and Professor Stephen Kemmis (Charles Sturt University). See: www.griffith.edu.au/conference/mes2005/ Contact: rzevenbergen@csu.edu.au

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, TO FRIDAY, JULY 8

**Sites of Cosmopolitanism: Citizenship, Aesthetics, Culture Conference.** This conference investigates what is happening to contemporary culture, are we becoming more or less inward-looking in orientation and would appeal to those interested in globalisation, citizenship, aesthetics, cultural consumption, museum studies and urban life. Venue: Queensland College of Art Griffith University, South Bank. Visit: www.griffith.edu.au/centre/cpci/cosmo/home.html

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, TO SATURDAY, JULY 9

**Australian Teacher Education Association Conference 2005.** This conference will explore the forces of internationalisation and globalisation in terms of their impact on educational policies, curriculum and pedagogy in teaching and teacher education. Speakers: Professor Allan Luke, Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice, National Institute of Education, Singapore; Professor Amy BM Tsui, Faculty of Education, The University Hong Kong; Professor Marie Brennan, School of Education, University South Australia. See: www.griffith.edu.au/conference/atea05/ Contact: Dr Maxine Cooper on 07 5552 8623 or email M.Cooper@griffith.edu.au

#### UNTIL SUNDAY, JULY 10

**Sesserae,** the first public gallery solo art exhibition by Torres Strait Island printmaker Dennis Nona. Venue: DELL Gallery @ QCA. Hours: Wednesday-Friday, 11am-4pm, Saturday-Sunday, noon-4pm. Contact: 07 3735 3140.

#### SUNDAY, JULY 10

**Open Day 2005.** Get a taste for university life and find out about Griffith's study and research opportunities. View the university's facilities and talk one-on-one to academic staff, graduates and students about your intended studies. Find out about entry requirements to undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, scholarships and support services. Venue: All campuses (Gold Coast, Logan, Mt Gravatt, Nathan and South Bank). Time: 9am-2pm. See: www.griffith.edu.au/openday

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, TO THURSDAY, JULY 14

**NAIDOC Forum.** This forum will cover major contemporary issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Venue: Lecture Theatre 2, GOC 2.05, Education Building, Gold Coast. Time: 10.30am-3.30pm.

#### FRIDAY, JULY 15, TO THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

**Material Evidence art exhibition.** Ten major works by Jenny Watson. Venue: Dell Gallery @ QCA. Time: Wed-Fri 11am-4pm, Sat-Sun noon-4pm. Contact: 07 3735 3140.

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

**Excellence Expo.** High achievers competition and project display. Venue: South Bank. Contact: Linda Svenson on 07 5552 8370 or email l.svenson@griffith.edu.au

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, TO THURSDAY, SEPT 22

**Thermophiles 2005 – From Evolution to Revolution.** The conference will cover all aspects of microbes living at high temperatures. Contact: Dr Bharat Patel on 07 3735 7695 or email b.patel@griffith.edu.au See: www.griffith.edu.au/conference/thermophile05/

### Concerts

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

**Benjamin Britten's Songs and Sonnets.** Britten specialist Gregory Massingham (tenor) and Therese Milanovic (piano) present an all Britten recital featuring the Seven Sonnets of Michelangelo, a selection of folk song arrangements and Canticles No's 1 and 3 with Peter Luff (french horn). Venue: Ian Hanger Recital Hall, South Bank. Time: 6pm. Cost: \$10 (at the door). Contact: 07 3735 6241 or email concerts@griffith.edu.au See: www.griffith.edu.au/concerts

#### FRIDAY, JULY 29

**Paulene Smith (violin) and Peter Roennfeldt (piano).** This performance presents works by Beethoven and two 19th century composers who were influenced by the German romantic style – Grieg and Busoni. Venue: Ian Hanger Recital Hall, South Bank. Time: 6pm. Cost: \$10 (at the door). Contact: 07 3735 6241 or email concerts@griffith.edu.au See: www.griffith.edu.au/concerts

#### SUNDAY, SEPT 4, TO SATURDAY, SEPT 10

**Albert Herring.** This satirical comedic opera set in the spring of 1900 fires some delicious barbs at the hypocrisy and pomposity of fictitious Loxford's inhabitants. Venue: Conservatorium Theatre, South Bank. Cost: Early bird tickets \$20, on sale until July 29. Contact: Qtix on 136 246 or www.qtix.com.au Contact: 07 3735 6241.