

# Griffith Gazette

VOLUME 19 NO. 2

A monthly review of news and events

MARCH / APRIL 2004

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## Cambodia heals through art project

By Rachael Layton

**WITNESSING the transformation of rifles, tanks and swords into beautiful sculptures in war ravaged Cambodia has proved a life-altering experience for two photojournalism graduates.**

Adjunct Professor Tim Page, a renowned war photographer famous for his work during the Vietnam War, accompanied Adam Ferguson and Megan Cullen on a one-month trip to photograph the Peace of Art Project Cambodia (PAPC).

Adjunct Professor Page said the project, which introduced young Cambodian art students to alternative art methods using decommissioned weapons, aimed to raise awareness of Cambodian artists and promote a weapon-free society.



PHOTO: MEGAN CULLEN

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POLISHED PROJECT: A Cambodian art student puts the finishing touches on his sculpture for the Peace of Art Project.

## HECS fees and universities

**THE Griffith University Council has set its Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) fee at the maximum level allowed under the Commonwealth Higher Education Support Act 2003.**

The new charge applies in 2005 to undergraduates starting programs (except nursing and education which have been exempted by the Federal Government). Students actively enrolled this year or those on approved Leave of Absence will not incur the new charge unless their enrolment has been cancelled.

Many universities around the country are introducing the new HECS charges.

Staff and students are encouraged to find out more about the important issue of funding Australian universities and the implications of the legislation.

There are many sources of information and Griffith has put in place mechanisms

enabling members of our community to ask questions and have their say.

To find out more, go to the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) website [www.backingaustraliasfuture.gov.au/student\\_info.htm](http://www.backingaustraliasfuture.gov.au/student_info.htm) The DEST website also features an online enquiry form.

There is information on the Griffith student website, including a "have your say" portal. Go to [www.griffith.edu.au/ua/aa/buzzback](http://www.griffith.edu.au/ua/aa/buzzback) Alternatively, contact Student Administration or the Graduate Studies Centre. Telephone, fax, e-mail and campus address details are listed at [www.griffith.edu.au/ua/aa/sta/contact.html](http://www.griffith.edu.au/ua/aa/sta/contact.html). Staff and students can additionally access issues papers and other information at [www.griffith.edu.au/vc/](http://www.griffith.edu.au/vc/)

Vice Chancellor Glyn Davis said the Griffith University Council resolved with regret to set the HECS fee after months of debate and careful consideration.

The Council made the decision at its March 1 meeting. More than 50 people gathered outside the Bray Centre to protest against fees.

Professor Davis said the university made the decision to help resolve a major funding shortfall. The income generated through fees would be used to preserve the quality of academic programs and the student experience, as well as attract and retain leading academics and the best research scholars.

"In keeping with the Griffith ethos, at least 10 per cent of the additional income will be applied to equity programs and scholarships from 2005," he said.

"Griffith will also rigorously review the quality of our academic programs to ensure we deliver the best educational experience we can, with the best academic and research staff, as we work together to produce the best graduates for the professions."

In making its decision, Council endorsed

the establishment of a suite of new internships, study abroad opportunities and Honours scholarships to provide students with more opportunities to achieve their academic potential.

It also agreed to offer full fee-paying places to domestic undergraduate students from next year.

Council has stipulated it would review the decision if there were significant changes to Commonwealth education policy.

A statement on Griffith University Council's decision is available at [www.griffith.edu.au/cgibin/frameit?er/news/2004\\_1/04mar02.html](http://www.griffith.edu.au/cgibin/frameit?er/news/2004_1/04mar02.html)

By Alexia Deegan

• See Vice Chancellor's column page 2

## Fact and fiction in freedom of speech



**ON June 8, 1972 a naked Vietnamese girl ran away from the searing jellied gasoline, or Napalm, bombs that had fallen on her village.**

The image of that little girl became a powerful icon of the suffering being borne by civilians. In a United States already divided by dissent about the legitimacy of its role in Vietnam, it created a sensation, and won for photographer Nick Ut the Pulitzer Prize.

That little girl, Kim Phuc, speaks in support of the Arts and of Griffith photojournalism in the latest testimonial to the university, which I am sure will excite interested debate as it is screened on television in March.

The battle cry of the opponents of the Vietnam War was "question power – and once you get the answers, question the answers".

It is a sound principle, and one that worked; the Vietnam War is often singled out as the first war to be stopped by public opposition. But to do so these opponents of war depended on an even older

principle, freedom of speech, which has been championed by many great minds since the 18th century.

While Minister to pre-revolutionary France, that eloquent articulator of the most lofty American principles, Thomas Jefferson, wrote to James Currie that "our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost".

Perhaps, he had been spending time with the French philosopher Voltaire, who famously did not say "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it".

Universities are aware freedom of speech is strongly linked to good scholarship. And in terms of university governance, at Griffith we believe it is also essential.

The debate about university funding is a critical national debate, and I encourage you to become involved. If you are a Griffith student and have any comments or specific questions about the new policy and how it may affect you, there is a student feedback website at

[www.griffith.edu.au/ua/aa/buzzback/](http://www.griffith.edu.au/ua/aa/buzzback/) or you can

contact any Student Administration or Graduate Studies Centre for further information.

Threatening to sidetrack this critical debate is another issue. You may be aware of claims that the university advertising campaign will absorb the funds raised by fee increases.

This is simply wrong. Griffith is not a wealthy university, and is not in a position to afford celebrity fees, which is why the advertisements for Griffith feature internationally-respected personalities with genuine passion for the areas in which Griffith excels.

In 2003, Griffith's advertising budget was roughly equivalent to the University of Queensland and Queensland University of Technology. This year Griffith will be spending less than them on advertising. In fact, the vastly inflated figures being attributed to Griffith's advertising expenditure would comfortably cover the advertising expenditure of the entire Australian higher education sector.

Freedom of speech is important, and so is questioning power. But the facts are an essential ingredient in coming to the right conclusion.



*UP, UP AND AWAY: Camp Hill student Raphael Toobal wears his 'Super Writer' cape. He, and other students at the school, are part of a program which encourages boys to improve their literacy and numeracy skills. Students in the program have surpassed the Queensland State average for reading, writing and mathematics and are now the focus of a Griffith study.*

## Boys' literacy improves in leaps and bounds

**A NEW breed of super hero can be found at Camp Hill Infants State School.**

Wearing a red velvet cape, 'Star Writers' run through the playground with utmost confidence in their ability.

These caped crusaders are the subject of a boys' literacy study by Griffith.

The school is developing innovative teaching strategies that have seen boys' reading, writing and mathematical skills dramatically improve.

Strategies include giving boys a 'Super Writer' cape to wear for a day, to encourage and motivate them and give them public recognition and special treatment for achieving milestones.

Camp Hill Infants School Principal Bev Fluckiger attributed the success of the school's program, which had seen the school's literacy and numeracy results consistently above the State average for both boys and girls, to a number of factors.

Mrs Fluckiger said Camp Hill Infants was a unique learning environment that catered for students from Preschool to Year 2. Young boys are able to follow their natural interests without the influence of older boys.

The school has a play-based curriculum with a focus on making learning fun and an early intervention program to support children in their literacy and numeracy development. Parental

involvement is encouraged throughout the school.

Mrs Fluckiger, who is doing her PhD at Griffith on the writing experiences of culturally diverse children, said she wanted to know why boys at the school were doing so well and asked Education Associate Professor Brendan Bartlett to research the program.

"This study will assist us to recognise the pedagogical approaches that are successful, reinforce them within the school and share this knowledge with educators nationally," Mrs Fluckiger said.

Associate Professor Brendan Bartlett said boys' literacy was an important educational issue as statistics consistently showed boys lagged behind girls in reading, writing and numeracy skills.

He said the theories about why young boys lagged behind their female classmates were a combination of nature and nurture.

"Girls' neuro-physiology is more advanced at this age so their brains are working quicker than boys," he said.

Associate Professor Bartlett said literacy programs had to appeal to both sexes to be effective.

"The Camp Hill project is exciting and action oriented – there's the recognition that boys are boys and do things differently," he said.

**I By Rachael Layton**



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## I In brief

**GRIFFITH will offer a free Study Abroad place in 2004/2005 to a student from Mexico as part of a new Peace Scholarship program initiated by IDP Education Australia.**

The university is one of 27 Australian universities which are providing fee waiver places as part of the \$5.7 million scholarship program being managed by the Peace Scholarship Trust.

The Peace Scholarship Trust aims to promote global understanding and peace through international education.

More information is available at [www.idp.com/globalpeace](http://www.idp.com/globalpeace)

# Saving diversity of tropical fruit species

GRIFFITH researchers are using cryopreservation and *in vitro* propagation to preserve the diversity of tropical fruit species.

The research, headed by Associate Professor Rod Drew, Dr Sarah Ashmore and Dr Mahmoud Azimi-Tabrizi from the Faculty of Science, is part of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation established by the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Associate Professor Drew said the work aimed to preserve the genetic diversity of tropical fruit species in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

"The development of cryopreservation methods and alternative strategies for conservation and regeneration is extremely important if we are to conserve the genetic

resources of these species for future generations," he said.

"Commercial use of particular plant species can often overshadow the number of species which are out there.

"For example, there are approximately 80,000 rice species, yet most people would only have heard about the 10 species grown commercially.

"A similar thing could be said about tropical fruit species in the Asia-Pacific region. There are more than 400 tropical fruit species in our region that are important, not only for income and nutrition, but also as medicine, timber, fuel and livestock feed. Yet only a few of these have been exploited commercially."

Associate Professor Drew said his team

was working on: alternative conservation and regeneration strategies; developing cryopreservation methods for priority species; and disseminating proven technologies to researchers and other users in the region.

"What we are aiming to do is develop novel techniques to preserve as many of the tropical fruit species in our region as possible. This will hopefully ensure that if these species become endangered or extinct in the wild, we will be able to regenerate them from our collections," he said.

The research is supported by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research and the Asian Development Bank.

**I By Anthony Coates**

## Partnerships provide placements

**THE university has forged new industry partnerships with south-east Queensland hospitals for the teaching and clinical placement of medical students.**

The medical school has signed affiliation agreements with Mater Private Hospital, John Flynn Hospital, Tweed Hospital, and Allamanda and Pacific Private hospitals.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Health Planning) Professor Allan Cripps said the agreements were significant and would benefit the medical students, the professions, Griffith's research capabilities and the long-term health of the south-east.

"The university's partnerships with Mater Private, John Flynn and Tweed Hospitals will enable Griffith's medical students to undertake clinical placements in their facilities as of next year," he said.

"In addition, our students and staff will have the opportunity to collaborate in areas such as teaching, research and best practice."

## In brief

**AUSTRALIAN cricket coach John Buchanan has accepted a new position as Adjunct Associate Professor in Sports Management.**

Associate Professor Buchanan's role includes giving guest lectures and assisting in the development of new support programs for sporting scholars.

Former Brisbane Lord Mayor Jim Soorley has also accepted a position as Adjunct Professor with the Griffith Business School. Mr Soorley has contributed to the leadership course within the Master of Business Administration and will continue to provide assistance and advice on a range of public sector, management and leadership issues.



Photo: AMANDA BRIGGS

**PRESERVATION TECHNIQUES:** Associate Professor Rod Drew (left) with Dr Florent Engelmann from the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, who was in Australia as part of a month-long training course on plant preservation techniques for representatives from Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines.

# Peace of art in Cambodia

• from page 1

For Adam Ferguson, who has just completed a Bachelor of Photography, the opportunity to photograph and film the Cambodian art students and be involved in the project was an amazing experience.

"Art has suffered in Cambodia so to see them being given the opportunity to express themselves, and have a political climate which allows them to do that, is great," he said.

He and Megan, who received Griffith peace travel grants to fund the trip, spent time with the students, most of whom were in their early to mid 20s, and got a feel for their history, lives and the cultural influences that impacted on their work. "To experience it was humbling in a lot of ways," he said.

Adam, who has set up the Real Eyes

Photo Agency with two other Queensland College of Art graduates, said the trip had inspired him to travel more.

Fellow photojournalism student Megan Cullen is also experiencing wanderlust following the trip and is planning to return to Cambodia to do more photojournalism work.

"This was a good solid story that we could cover and just travelling around the streets we saw so many other stories to be told," she said. "Everywhere you looked, there was a photo to be taken."

Megan said the project not only gave the Cambodian students an artistic avenue in which to convey their message of peace, it also gave them job-specific skills in carpentry and welding.

Job-specific skills were also available to Adam and Megan who did work experience at the *Phnom Penh Post* in Cambodia.



**BEHINDTHEART:** One of the spectacular photos taken by Adam Ferguson on the Peace of Art Project.

The PACC has support from Griffith, the Cambodian Royal University of Fine Arts, European Union Assistance on Curbing Small Arms and Light Weapons in Cambodia and The Halo Trust.

Griffith plans to mount an exhibition of PACC-related works, which will feature a range of artistic mediums including video, photography and sculpture, later this year.

# Long-term campus vision unveiled

**NEW teaching, research and cultural precincts, pedestrian and cycling thoroughfares, and native flora and fauna preserves are features of the university's 20-year Integrated Development Plan for the Gold Coast campus.**

This is a major, long-term vision for the campus and it will bring together environmental and ecological thinking with best practice in engineering and design.

To view the Integrated Development Plan, go to [www.griffith.edu.au/ofm](http://www.griffith.edu.au/ofm)

The expansion will be realised in stages, with stage one to include building a student accommodation complex, the first for Griffith's southern-most campus, followed by the creation of an Olsen Avenue entrance and new recreational facilities.

Gold Coast campus will extend from its existing Parklands site of 26.5 hectares to include another 43 hectares in the parcel of land bordered by Smith Street Motorway, Olsen Avenue, Everest and Edmund Rice drives.

In time, the Parklands and Smith Street locations will be joined by a pedestrian and a vehicle bridge, and there will be pedestrian spines connecting public open spaces with the special-use precincts.

Recreational facilities will be open to the public. The new campus will have a hilltop plaza, a major performing arts and cultural

facility servicing the district, as well as indoor and outdoor sporting facilities including ovals.

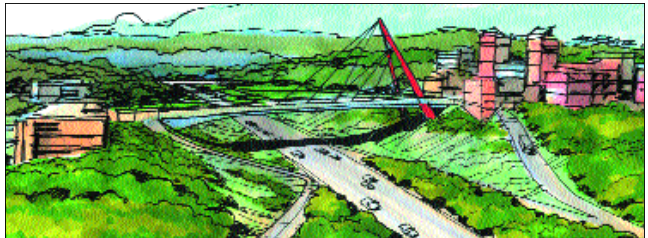
The natural bush space will be enhanced and rehabilitated and there will be wetlands and lakes which will be invaluable eco-environs for the region.

The Integrated Development Plan is a framework for much-needed growth, as the existing buildings and facilities are nearing capacity with 9000 students already studying at the existing Parklands site.

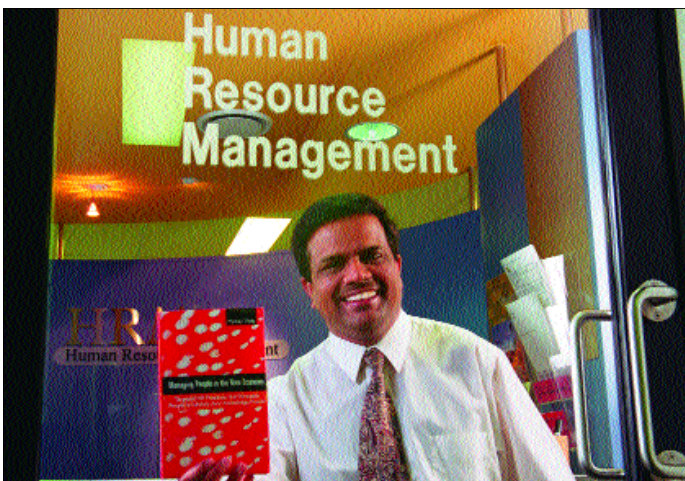
The plan will take two decades to realise, and it will be budgeted for over the coming years.

Education Queensland presented the title deeds for the Smith Street land to the university in December 2002 at a celebration on site with the Kombumerri People who gifted the land to Griffith.

*THE ULTIMATE CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT: An artist's impression of the expanded Gold Coast campus from an aerial view (above, right). Planned campus features include Hilltop Plaza (middle, right) and two bridges to connect the Parklands and Smith Street sites (below, right).*



## Are you a guide by the side, or a sage on the stage?



**BLIND adherence to rules and hierarchical authority are no longer relevant to the modern world of 21st century management, according to management lecturer Dr Mohan Thite (pictured).**

Dr Thite, who has been a human resources academic and practitioner for more than 18 years, discusses this in a new book *Managing People in the New Economy*.

His book explores many facets of people management, from recruitment to retention, in the fast emerging knowledge economy of the 21st century.

Dr Thite said today's world of employment was radically different with people working in a highly uncertain, fast moving, hyper competitive and global environment.

"Employees are expected to be intuitive, emotionally intelligent, handle

multiple tasks with multiple solutions and be sensitive to the dynamics of diversity around them," Dr Thite said.

"Managers today need to overhaul the tools of their trade in order to balance an endless array of conflicting choices and paradoxes in managing people.

"Twentieth century management principles, which were characterised by such things as blind compliance to rules, bureaucratic structure, silo mentality and hierarchical authority, need to be replaced by a loosely defined and flexible structure with plenty of autonomy."

He said the modern management structure enabled people to experiment with multiple choices without the fear of failure, and where the leader acted "more as a guide by the side than a sage on the stage".

By Fiona Tristram

# Networks are our 'webs of power'

GRIFFITH REVIEW'S third edition, themed *Webs of Power*, explores the way power and influence are exercised in Australia through networks of mates, families, community groups and politicians.

The quarterly journal is published by the university and ABC Books, and the latest edition is out now.

Editor Julianne Schultz said modern communications, especially the internet and mobile technology, have helped create our networked society which now reaches out across the nation and around the world.

"Essays in this latest edition explore changes in the way we relate to each other and think about the world," she said.

"Yet the bonds from old school ties at this time of rising private school enrolments, are stronger than ever, and there appears to be a revival of nepotism as the children of public figures step into their parents' shoes."

In *Webs of Power*, many networks at various levels in our society are examined, from the revolving door of political patronage, to the small world of Brisbane public life, to the experiences of immigrants and refugee advocates, life in jail and even a children's cricket team.

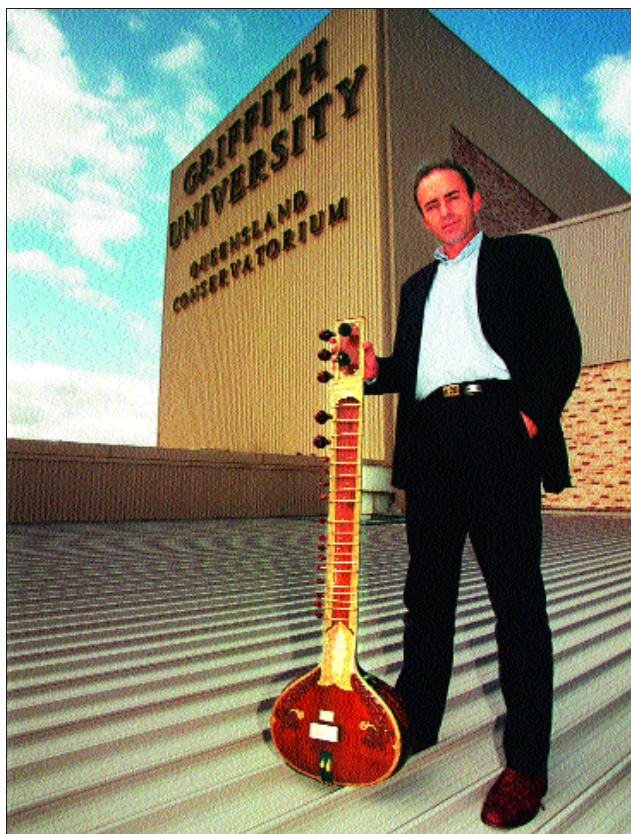
"Networks remain the most pervasive form of social organisation and in *Webs of Power* we try to tease out what this means in practical terms," Dr Schultz said.

"Essays in the collection also delve into the public policy responses – of attempts to bridge the digital divide, to create a wired nation, and foster community and social capital."

Writers in this issue include Mungo MacCallum, Gerard Henderson, Charles Firth, Anne Coombs, Quentin Dempster, Creed O'Hanlon, Frank Moorhouse, Gideon Haigh and Natasha Cica. Go to [www.griffith.edu.au/griffithreview](http://www.griffith.edu.au/griffithreview)



## Getting under the skin of great musicians



**THE recently established Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre is starting a research project to look at what makes a great musical performance and the secrets of successful musicians.**

Centre Director Associate Professor Huib Schippers (pictured), an eminent thinker on music across cultures, relocated from the Netherlands to head the new research centre.

He said the project would look at a cross section of music styles and enlist the help of accomplished musicians.

Classical pianist Stephen Emmerson and Aboriginal musician William Barton are among musicians who have already agreed to be subjects, but opera productions and jazz gigs would also be examined.

"We really appreciate the willingness of the musicians to cooperate, as we will be close to their skins, documenting mistakes and doubts as well as the moments of brilliance and inspiration," Associate Professor Schippers said.

"They allow us a look into the kitchen of music making.

"Digging into the soul of the musician we can see the genesis of a performance.

"Even with a fixed piece of music there is a whole process under the surface."

Associate Professor Schippers said the project was a significant shift away from the majority of existing research.

"Much traditional work in this area delves into structure and history but we're actually looking into what makes a great performance today," he said.

**By Rachael Layton**

## Traffic to flow better with sensor



**DRIVINGAMBITION:** Microelectronic engineering PhD student Julian Kolodko with the motion sensor he is developing for the university's cooperative driverless vehicles. The sensor will allow the vehicles to detect moving objects.

**HAVING a cooperative driverless vehicle operating in a busy street environment is closer to reality thanks to the work of microelectronic engineering PhD student Julian Kolodko.**

Julian has been developing a sensor which attaches to Griffith's cooperative driverless vehicles to detect moving objects which are in close proximity to the vehicle.

Julian is working with Professor Ljubo Vlacic, who

heads one of the world's most advanced research projects into cooperative driverless vehicles.

"My work is related to building a new type of sensor specifically designed to allow driverless cars to easily navigate in an environment where there are many objects moving around," Julian said.

"The design of my sensor is inspired by human vision. We use a camera to obtain visual data, however, rather than using two eyes to determine

how far away objects are, we use a laser radar."

Julian's sensor will soon be installed on the cooperative driverless vehicles, so the vehicle can be programmed to drive without crashing in areas where a lot of moving objects are present.

"This will be particularly useful in areas with significant foot traffic, such as at busy intersections," he said.

**By Anthony Coates**

## The 'fuzz' in financial forecasting

**SOFT computing or fuzzy logic is bringing the "what if" factor to financial forecasting.**

Finance lecturer Dr Mohammad Khoshnevisan, who is recognised worldwide for his expertise in financial forecasting, recently presented papers at the University of California, Berkeley, to an audience of international academics and NASA staff.

"Soft computing differs from conventional computing in that, unlike hard computing, it is tolerant of imprecision, uncertainty and partial truth," Dr Khoshnevisan said.

"In effect, the role model for soft computing is the human mind and creating degrees of truth rather than only true and false."

Dr Khoshnevisan said many financial computer programs were based on historical data, which made projections for the future based on that data.

"The fuzzy logic theory will allow us to make better forecasts in areas of finance because you can work with real time application rather than historical data," he said.

Dr Khoshnevisan has received visiting fellow invitations from the University of California, Berkeley, and Harvard University this year to further develop this area of research.

## A healthy workplace is a happy one

THE Health Service, Student Services, and the Office of Human Resource Management organised a free flu vaccination program for staff in March.

Almost 1200 staff took part in the program, which was held for the first time this year.

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) Professor Ian O'Connor (pictured, getting his flu shot) said the inaugural program demonstrated Griffith's commitment to health and safety in the workplace.

"A flu shot is effective against the most serious strains of influenza, and this program is an opportunity for staff to protect themselves, their families and work colleagues from the serious effects of the flu," he said.



## In the news

Stories about Griffith research and people have featured in the press, on radio and TV. Here's a glimpse of just some of the stories that have made the news.

- Associate Professor Boni Robertson was interviewed on ABC TV about alcohol allegedly being taken into a dry Aboriginal community. She also discussed the Redfern Riots on radio and in *The Courier-Mail*.
- Dr Shirley Morrissey provided expert commentary to *The Courier-Mail*, *Gold Coast Bulletin*, Channel 10 News, *Today Tonight*, Channel 9 Gold Coast News and radio about last month's heatwave.
- Research and Higher Degrees Manager Stephanie Gunn, Office for Graduate Studies, was interviewed by the *Australian Financial Review* about support programs for postgraduate students.
- *The Courier-Mail* interviewed School of Criminology and Criminal Justice Head Professor Ross Homel for stories on youth crime and the gun buyback scheme.
- Education researcher Associate Professor Brendan Bartlett was on ABC TV's *7.30 Report* discussing a study into boys' literacy and numeracy. He was also interviewed on radio about the research.
- Dr Martin Bridgstock, School of Science, was on Channel 9's *Today Show* talking about a survey which found a majority of people believed in the paranormal.
- Associate Professor Justin Malbon, Griffith Law School, wrote an opinion piece for *The Courier-Mail* about the proposed introduction of smart cards in Queensland.
- Associate Professor Pat Dale, Australian School of Environmental Studies, was on Channel 10's *Totally Wild* discussing mosquito control methods.
- Dean of Nursing and Health Professor Debra Creedy spoke to regional radio stations and newspapers, including *The Canberra Times*, about post-natal depression research.
- AISRAP Director Professor Diego De Leo discussed suicide rates in the medical profession in *The Courier-Mail*.
- Ms Lynne Weathered, Griffith Law School, was in the latest edition of *Marie Claire* discussing the Innocence Project.
- Associate Professor Paula Barrett and her team at Pathways Health and Research Centre featured on Channel 9's *A Current Affair* discussing obsessive-compulsive disorder.
- Dr Kristen Lyons, School of Science, was in *The Courier-Mail* discussing the issue of genetically modified food.

## New heart studies are on the pulse



RESEARCH UNDER THE MICROSCOPE: Heart Foundation Research Centre director Professor John Headrick with research student Amanda Zotta at work in one of the centre's labs. The centre is home to the latest in cardiovascular and pulmonary research.

THE Heart Foundation Research Centre announced new research projects such as studies into the effects of macadamia oil and selenium on heart health at an event on the Gold Coast in February.

Heart Foundation Research Centre Director Professor John Headrick said the centre was unique within the Australian biomedical community because its focus was on ageing.

"Our research activities focus on basic principles of cardiovascular science that have broad relevance and application, primarily looking at the impact of ageing on heart and lung disease," he said.

The university forged a partnership with the National Heart Foundation of Australia in 2002 and has developed a state-of-the-art facility for quality cardiovascular and pulmonary research at the Gold Coast campus.

Heart Foundation Executive Director Cameron Prout said the foundation was delighted to be in partnership with Griffith to provide a facility for conducting the latest in heart research.

"We are committed to funding the best research and the brightest researchers in Australia and regard Professor Headrick as a research ambassador who is not only training the researchers of the future, but further contributing to our knowledge of cardiovascular disease," he said.

By Melissa Pizzato

## Postgraduate Perspectives



PhD student Victoria Vyvyan, received first class honours last year for her Bachelor of Business Management (Honours) and will now continue to explore in her PhD research the investment choices that people make. Victoria is also currently teaching Financial Planning at the Logan and Nathan campuses. Along with her supervisors Associate Professor Chew Ng and Dr Mark Brimble, Victoria is facilitating a series of workshops to empower women to take control of their finances and get ahead.

Victoria writes this Postgraduate Perspectives.

EVEN though in-principle support for socially responsible investing has been positive, the take up has been slower than you would expect. My research explored this reaction and focused on the difference between people's attitudes and the choices that they actually made.

I conducted an experiment that asked people to allocate money to a range of investments according to how much they liked those investments.

Later, I asked about their attitudes to socially responsible investing criteria and regular

investment criteria.

The results showed that even though people express positive attitudes to criteria specific to socially responsible investing, they do not give these factors equivalent consideration when making an actual investment decision.

My PhD will focus on how people make investment decisions. While completing this research I've also had the opportunity of facilitating workshops for women to enhance their understanding of money management and investing. This has been made possible from a

Griffith University Community Grant given to my supervisors to work with Logan Women's Health Centre to run these workshops.

These workshops have received support from the women in the Logan area, and already they are noticing a difference in their attitudes and behaviours as far as their money management goes.

I have found this project to be a positive experience to work on in tandem with my studies, as I have been able to apply my financial planning skills to support women of all means at a community level.

# Tax is more than mere numbers, Brett says

Best teaching practice is encouraged, rewarded and recognised at Griffith with the Excellence in Teaching Awards. Each month, Griffith Gazette will profile a winner from the 2003 round. In this edition, Fiona Tristram talks to the joint winner of the Early Career Award.

**TAXATION** law lecturer Brett Freudenberg has been recognised for best teaching practice with a 2003 Griffith Excellence in Teaching Award for Early Career lecturers.

Mr Freudenberg has been teaching at Griffith since 2001 as the course convenor

and lecturer for the Department of Accounting, Finance and Economics.

The award recognises Mr Freudenberg's ability to capture the imagination of his students and bring relevance to what otherwise might be a dry subject area.

Mr Freudenberg aims to teach students that tax is not just facts and figures, but an important part of Australia's political and social environment.

"I want to get across to the students that the tax system can have a significant influence on the social justice of Australia, particularly when taxpayers artificially manipulate the tax system," he said.

Students who nominated Mr Freudenberg for the award commented on his creative, highly organised, accessible and empathetic approach to teaching.

Mr Freudenberg is also a PhD student. His research will focus on the adoption of hybrid corporations for taxation purposes in Australia.



Photo: TRINE BARFOD-JENSEN

## Global politics in genetic engineering

DR RICHARD Hindmarsh, Australian School of Environmental Studies, and Professor Herbert Gottweis, a high-profile political scientist from the University of Vienna, are presenting an international workshop in Vienna called *Towards a Global Politics of Genetic Engineering Regulation* in July.

Attracting leading scholars in biotechnology and society studies and participatory governance, it will discuss controversies and regulatory developments and "green" biotechnology (GM food and crops) and "red" biotechnology (stem cell research and gene therapy) in the last 30 years.

In the lead up to the international workshop, Professor Gottweis will deliver three seminars, with support from the Centre for Governance and Policy, at Griffith.

The seminars are:

- EcoCentre. When: Wednesday, April 21, 6.30pm for a 7.30pm start. Topic: Agriculture Biotechnology and Nature: Safety, Strategies and Struggles in the Global Arena.
- Centre for Governance and Public Policy. When: Friday, April 2, 11.30am-1pm. Topic: The Rhetoric of Biotechnology Policy-Making.
- Australian School of Environmental Studies Seminar. When: Tuesday, April 27, noon-1pm. Topic: Dealing with Uncertainties: Governing Genomics in the 21st century.

## Professor pinpoints the real people smugglers



*THE GREAT DIVIDE:* Professor Brendan Gleeson stands between the skyscrapers and parklands in the heart of Brisbane city. Professor Gleeson is actively involved in public debate on how best to design Australia's urban realms.

**AUSTRALIANS** champion the contribution of high immigration levels to economic growth and to socio-cultural enrichment, yet consecutive federal governments have failed to sufficiently support this ideal, Professor Brendan Gleeson (pictured) told government and community representatives in February.

At his inaugural professorial lecture, Brendan Gleeson told more than 150 people who attended that successive national governments have failed to invest sufficient funds in the urban public realms necessary for a successful migration program.

Professor Gleeson said there was incontrovertible social scientific evidence to support claims that high immigration levels assisted economic growth and led to socio-cultural enrichment in Australia.

"Yet successive national governments have not been prepared to invest sufficiently in the maintenance, let alone the enhancement, of the urban public realms –

especially the education and training spheres – that provide new migrants with the cultural and material resources needed to attain and practise citizenship," Professor Gleeson said.

"These 'receptor' public domains in the urban areas favoured for settlement by newer migrants should function to support and nurture both new arrivals and their host communities."

Professor Gleeson said these domains were under immense pressure and their capacity to safeguard an orderly and peaceful migration program must be doubted.

"This program is one of Australia's most enduring and valuable assets and has been the envy of the world for many decades," he said.

Professor Gleeson said the federal government regarded public domains as the exclusive concern of State and local governments, despite the important role migrants have throughout Australia.

"The effective abandonment of new migrants who must negotiate stressed and degraded public domains as part of their settlement experience is hardly consistent with the idea of a responsible migration program.

"National governments, and the business lobbies that cheer them on, seem prepared to accept the migrants' currency – their profound and manifest contribution to the national economy – without returning in exchange the basic resources for citizenship.

"We grab the cash and give little in return, leaving migrants to fend for themselves amidst a wider population that sometimes resents the social 'stress' generated by laissez-faire population growth and change. Sounds like people smuggling."

By Anthony Coates

## In brief

**QUEENSLAND Conservatorium Griffith University (QCGU) Head of Pre-Tertiary Studies Ralph Hultgren has been instrumental in supporting young musicians through a statewide music competition.**

Mr Hultgren's piece *A Joyful Noise* was commissioned for the Composition and Competition: New Music for Schools project, with funding from the Young Conservatorium and a research grant from QCGU.

*A Joyful Noise* launched the project that has led to Yeppoon State High School and Taranganba Primary School being awarded a prize of a new commissioned piece.

*A Joyful Noise* has recently been published by Brolga Music, one of the major publishers of concert band music in the country and received its US premier in November in Seattle.

## Call for papers

**ORGANISERS of the Economic Education Conference are calling for papers in tertiary economic education.**

The conference, *What we teach and how we teach it: perspective on economics from around the globe*, will be held in Adelaide from July 13-16. More information on the website [www.ecoed.unisa.edu.au](http://www.ecoed.unisa.edu.au)

# Designers, dogs and calendar stars



**SOME may claim design is a dog eat dog world but for a group of Queensland College of Art (QCA) students the creation of a corporate calendar was a fantastic graphic design experience.**

The students, Rachel Strachan, Jacqui Walker and Georgie Plant, produced the winning design for KW Doggett Fine Paper's 2004 calendar.

They competed against eight other student groups, with each team presenting a design concept to the company.

The winning design featured photographs of dogs posing for dog-related sayings, such as sick as a dog, dog's breakfast, top dog

and doggie paddle.

As the winning group, the students spent seven months turning their design concept into a 5000 print-run product which now hangs in the offices of graphic designers and printers Australia wide.

They enlisted the help of QCA photography students who took the photos of the dogs, which ranged from pugs to Dalmatians.

Design lecturer Colin Scobbie said the experience was extremely beneficial for the students.

"It's much more interesting for students to work on a real job like this as they get a lot

more out of it because they are dealing with real clients," he said.

However, the stars of the calendar were not the easiest subjects to work with.

Jacqui said the challenges of trying to get dogs in the right pose for each shot was a time consuming and eventful process.

"We got peed on, one of the dogs was on heat, the dog who needed to be asleep wouldn't sleep," she said. Each photo shoot took several hours.

Rachel described the production of the calendar as the "best and worst design experience".

"We'd often think, why are we doing this?"

Georgie said referring to the long hours and heavy workload, juggling other university subjects while working on the project.

KW Doggett Fine Paper promotions executive Ashley Clarke said the students produced a high standard of work which had to appeal to their client base of designers and printers.

"We're very proud of the calendar," Ms Clarke said. "The students have done a great job and answered all the needs of our clients."

**I By Rachael Layton**

## What's On

### PROFESSORIAL LECTURES

**April 22.** Professor Alan Mackay-Sim, School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Sciences – "Adult Stem Cell Therapy – Imagining Futures in Cell Biology". Time: 5.30-6.30pm. Venue: Theatre 1, Nathan campus.

**May 20.** Professor Richard Yeo, School of Arts, Media and Culture – "A Philosopher and his Notebooks: John Locke (1663-1704) on Memory and Information". Time: 5.30-6.30pm. Venue: Theatre 1, Nathan campus.

**June 17.** Professor Swee-Hin Toh, Multi-Faith Centre – "Uprooting Violence, Cultivating Peace: Education for an Engaged Spirituality". Time: 5.30-6.30pm. Venue: Multi-Faith Centre, Nathan campus.

**July 22.** Professor Sharon Bell, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Equity and Community Partnerships) and Provost Logan – "The Secret Lives of Us". Time: 5.30-6.30pm. Venue: Auditorium, Logan campus.

### GRADUATIONS

**March 27.** Commerce and Management (Bachelor of Commerce Degrees – Single and Double, School of Leisure Management) and Law. Time: 2pm. Venue: QPAC.

**April 2.** Commerce and Management (all other Commerce degrees) and Graduate School of Management. Time: 2pm. Venue: QPAC. Queensland College of Art and Arts. Time: 6pm. Venue: QPAC.

**April 3.** Environmental Sciences, Health Sciences and Nursing and Health. Time: 2pm. Venue: QPAC. Engineering and Information Technology Science. Time: 6pm. Venue: QPAC.

**April 13.** Education. Time: 6pm. Venue: QPAC.

**April 15.** Queensland Conservatorium. Time: 6pm. Venue: QCGU.

**April 17.** Arts, Commerce and Management, Education, Queensland College of Art. Time: 1pm. Venue: Logan Entertainment Centre. Engineering and Information Technology, Health Sciences, Nursing and Health, Science. Time: 6pm. Venue: Logan Entertainment Centre.

**April 23.** Commerce and Management (all other

Commerce degrees) and Nursing and Health. Time: 2pm. Venue: Gold Coast Arts Centre. Commerce and Management (Bachelor of Business, Bachelor of Business with Honours, Bachelor of Business/Arts), Law and Graduate School of Management. Time: 6pm. Venue: Gold Coast Arts Centre.

**April 24.** Engineering and Information Technology, Environmental Sciences and Health Sciences. Time: 2pm. Venue: Gold Coast Arts Centre. Arts, Education, Queensland College of Art, Queensland Conservatorium. Time: 6pm. Venue: Gold Coast Arts Centre.

### EVENTS

**March 27.** Alumni in Action. Markos Zografos (piano) and Marly Luske (music technology). Time: 6pm. Venue: Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University. Cost: \$8.

**April 6.** Brisbane Prizes and Awards Night. Time: 6.30pm. Venue: Queensland Conservatorium.

**April 21.** Alumni in Action. Collusion does animation. Time: 6pm. Venue: Queensland Conservatorium. Cost: \$8.

**May 8.** Alumni in Action. Tina Marsden (flute) and Tony van der Meer (guitar). Time: 6pm. Venue: Queensland Conservatorium. Cost: \$8.

**May 14.** Gold Coast Prizes and Awards Night. Time: 6.30pm. Venue: Theatre 4, Gold Coast campus.

**May 20.** Alumni in Action. Misinterpretato. Time: 6pm. Venue: Queensland Conservatorium. Cost: \$8.

**EXHIBITIONS**

**Until March 28.** "This is not America" QCA exhibition, curated by Scott Redford, essay by Chris Chapman, artists featured Destiny Deacon, Vernon Ah Kee, Hiram To, Janet Burchill and Jennifer McCamley. Time: 11am-4pm, Wednesdays to Fridays and noon to 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Venue: QCA Gallery, South Bank.

**SEMINARS**

Griffith Asia Pacific Research Institute Seminars. Time: 12.30-1.50pm. Venue: Macrossan Building (N16), room

1.22, Nathan campus:

**April 22.** Dr Andi Riege, Department of International Business and Asian Studies, Griffith Business School – "Knowledge transfer and sharing barriers within multinational corporations".

**April 29.** Professor Bill Tow, Department of International Business and Asian Studies, Griffith Business School – "GAPRI 'Security' Program".

**May 6.** Professor Sharon Bell, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Equity and Community Partnerships) – "The Anthropologist's Friend(s)".

**May 20.** Associate Professor Leong Liew, Head, Department of International Business and Asian Studies, Griffith Business School – "The making of China's exchange rate policy".

Understanding Environmental Issues Seminars. Time: 12pm. Venue: Building N55, Room 1.12, Nathan campus:

**March 31.** Paul Norton – "Should Environmentalists Support Maternity Leave?".

**April 7.** Emma Jakku – "Maximising the uptake of our research: improving the targeting of projects within CSIRO through socially informed research design and implementation".

**April 21.** Kim Stewart – "Ecofeminism and the role of philosophy in environmental and social justice movements".

**April 28.** Anthony Esposito – "Land and sea rights – an environmental perspective on traditional ownership, native title and the tenure system in Australia".

**May 5.** Cassandra Star and James Whelan – Debate on "Academics are irrelevant".

**May 12.** Karl-Erik Paasonen – "Knifing your nearest: The Jabiluka campaign as a clash of two distinct types of movement".

**May 10.** Giorel Curran – "Being realistic by demanding the impossible: anarchism, environmentalism and 21st century dissent".

**May 26.** Brendon Gleeson – "The Future of Australia's Cities".