

griffithgazette

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Building healthy lives



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VC voice

Professor
Ian O'Connor



At the beginning of this year, I joined the Premier of Queensland Peter Beattie in welcoming our third cohort of medical students to Griffith University. The medical and oral health programs were major initiatives and to many it may appear that these programs marked Griffith University's initial move into the health field. In fact, Griffith not only has a long history of education in the health professions and sciences, we have also used our multi-disciplinary approach and strong history of social responsibility to encompass the idea of healthy lives for all Australians across disciplines.

A healthy life is one where the person is not only physically robust but also mentally resilient. It is a life of interconnectedness where there is a sense of belonging. The old Irish saying, "It is in the shelter of each other that the people live", sums up what it really means to belong to a society that looks after its members and empowers them to care for others and to reach out for help when they need it.

In this context, providing health professionals is an important part of the solution to the many crises we face, but it is far from a cure-all for these myriad issues. Our country faces a number of compelling health issues including serious long-term health problems for Indigenous peoples and an ageing Australian population. As Professor Anna Haebich pointed out at the recent launch for the 'Creative for Life' project, it is predicted that in a decade, South-East

Queensland's biggest business will be aged care. Health then is not just about providing doctors and dentists who care for the aged, but also about how we as a society provide for all our citizens in need. The 'Creative for Life' project aims to promote creativity and healthy living across cultures with a particular focus on creative ideas for our ageing society.

The aim of 'building healthy lives' most certainly transcends any single Griffith discipline. In fact, the pages of this Griffith Gazette reveal that this has certainly been taken to heart across the University. For example, you will see Griffith Health working to redress Indigenous health inequities, the School of Psychology bringing relief to hassled parents through its P-Tot program, and the School of Public Health's community food garden at the Logan campus helping immigrants build a sense of community.

In listening to the podcast of Professor Haebich's speech (http://www.griffith.edu.au/centre/cpci/content_creativeforlife.html) from the 'Creative for Life' launch, I was particularly struck by her phrase "everything important comes from those collisions of the heart". We do well to remember that the ideas about building healthy lives in this issue don't just exist as grant proposals and lifeless pieces of paper; they begin as a passion for the researchers, academics and students across our university. Their "collisions of the heart" are making a real difference and are leading the way in our mission to build healthy lives. I trust you will enjoy hearing about them. ■

From the wilds to the world

Eskitis Natural Product Discovery showcased the medicinal properties of Australian flora and fauna to the world at BIO 2007, the world's leading biotech convention. *Story* Jeannette Langan

Eskitis Institute for Cellular and Molecular Biology Professor Ron Quinn and lead researcher Associate Professor Vicky Avery showcased the capabilities of the Institute in isolating lifesaving drug compounds from natural products at the annual event in Boston in May.

The Natural Product Discovery unit is home to the Queensland Compound Library, a massive collection of 300 000 compounds isolated from 25 000 unique plants and animals collected from Australia, the Great Barrier Reef, Papua New Guinea and parts of China.

Compiled over 13 years, the \$100 million collection is now being made publicly accessible to drug companies worldwide for the first time.

"Since its launch in 1993, the study has revealed more than 40 plants and 1500 marine animals previously unknown to science," Professor Quinn said.

"These could hold the key to discovering medicines to battle the 21st century's most devastating diseases: cancer, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease and illnesses of the central nervous system." ■



MEDICINE MAN: Ron Quinn was a member of the Eskitis Natural Product Discovery team at BIO 2007.



May 25, 2007

Building bridges Our Statement on Reconciliation

In 2007, Griffith University recognises the 40th anniversary of the 1967 Referendum.

We declare our desire and vision to provide equitable educational opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

As a way forward, we acknowledge:

- The critical role access to education plays in the empowerment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- The importance of a curriculum that embodies the intellectual contributions of Elders and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learning.
- The value of an inclusive community that recognises the benefits of cooperation, partnership and mutual respect.

Led by our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee and involving Elders, local community members, and Griffith University staff and students we commit to real and meaningful reconciliation.



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Front cover: Twenty-year-old Anita Heerschop takes time out from her Bachelor of Health Promotion studies at Logan campus.

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Action on Indigenous health

A policy briefing paper from the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation and Oxfam Australia reports the life expectancy of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders remains about 17 years less than that of other Australians. It states potentially manageable conditions such as diabetes and infectious diseases persist as intractable, long-term health problems in these communities.

Close the Gap: Solutions to the Indigenous Health Crisis facing Australia, April 2007.

Story Mardi Chapman



MAKING A DIFFERENCE: High rates of dental decay in Aboriginal children adversely impact on their general health, school attendance and educational attainment. Griffith will focus on improving indigenous oral health with financial support from Colgate.

The high-tech advances in medical science and healthcare that many Australians enjoy have failed to make a dent on the appalling rates of injury, disease and premature death in Indigenous communities.

In a number of initiatives, Griffith Health is demonstrating its efforts towards making a difference to these health inequalities—at the same time supporting the University's longstanding commitment to social justice and equity.

According to a joint report by the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and Oxfam Australia (April, 2007), "further training and development of the Indigenous health workforce" is critical to any sustainable improvement in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health.

Griffith's Dean of Nursing and Midwifery Associate Professor Elizabeth Patterson said nurses were the largest discipline in the health workforce, and facilitating more Indigenous students into the profession was one way to help redress the health inequities.

In line with recommendations from the Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses, the school has appointed Indigenous nurse academic Mrs Noela Baigrie to support the recruitment and retention of Indigenous nursing students.

"While our Indigenous students can access generic support from the GUMURRII Centre, this new position can be more targeted at attracting students into nursing, supporting them in their study and helping them consider career options," Associate Professor Patterson said.

Mrs Baigrie has been visiting Indigenous

students at Logan high schools and encouraging them to consider a career in nursing.

"I talk to them about the importance of achieving health equality for our people and our communities and how having more Indigenous nurses will be a significant step forward," she said.

Mrs Baigrie is one of three Indigenous academics appointed recently under schemes to facilitate experienced Indigenous health

practitioners into teaching and research careers.

Social worker Alf Davis joined the School of Human Services and Vanessa Lee was appointed to the School of Public Health.

Head of the School of Human Services Dr Jayne Clapton said the strategy was helping to build academic capacity in the school and adding depth to the curriculum.

"It is important for our students to have an awareness of Indigenous issues, to

appreciate how individuals experience human service systems and the constraints that impact on the capacity for people to have good lives," Dr Clapton said.

"Alf draws on extensive experience in juvenile justice, child protection, and child and adolescent mental health that enables students to better understand the challenges of good human service practice."

Indigenous issues are also increasingly reflected in the curriculum with new courses such as Australian Indigenous Practice, developed by the school with specific funding from the Queensland Department of Child Safety.

The course is part of the set curriculum for social work, human services in child and family

studies, and human services students with majors in child protection or community and family studies. It is available as an elective for other students.

The NACCHO report also highlighted the importance of mainstream health services being responsive and culturally sensitive to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

Dentistry and oral health students are already working on research placements in the Aboriginal communities of Arukun in Cape York and Cherbourg in South-East Queensland.

However, staff and student exposure to the challenges and rewards of working in Indigenous communities is likely to increase following an agreement with Colgate-Palmolive to support rural, remote and Indigenous oral health.

"The Colgate Chair in Rural, Remote and Indigenous Oral Health provides us with a fantastic opportunity to help advance oral health outcomes in these needy areas by driving innovative research, education and community service," said Dean of Dentistry and Oral Health Professor Newell Johnson.

He said tooth extractions, often requiring a general anaesthetic and hospital stay, were one of the most common reasons for Indigenous people to leave their communities to access healthcare.

A Memorandum of Understanding between Griffith and Barambah Regional Medical Service has also enabled medical and physiotherapy students to experience the tyranny of distance and multiple health needs that complicate health care provision in Indigenous communities.

The Gold Coast Hospital's director of orthopaedic surgery Dr Don Pitchford said students had been travelling to Cherbourg with hospital specialists on bimonthly visits, gaining a

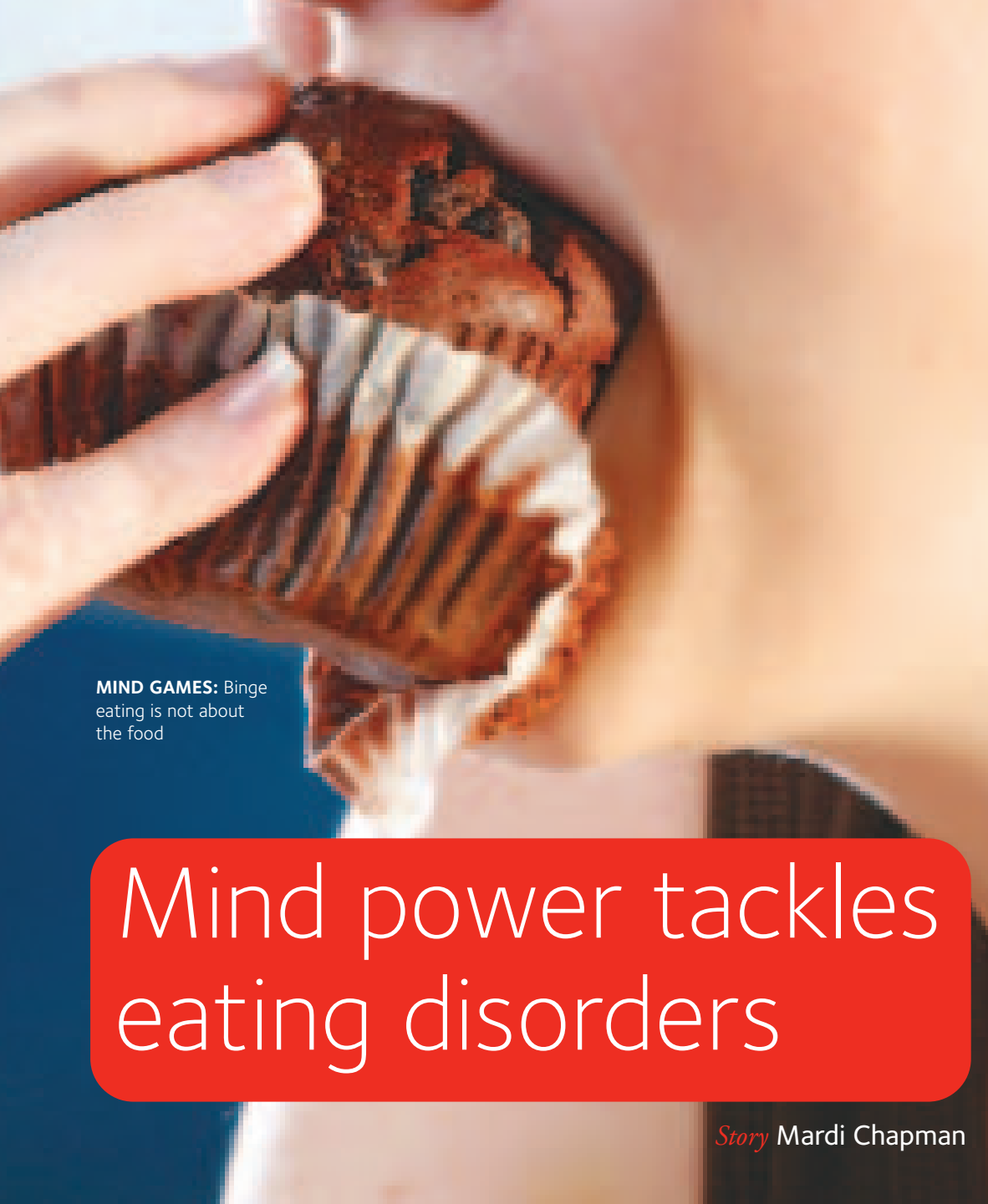


A CULTURE OF CARING: Noela Baigrie works with Indigenous nurses to improve Aboriginal health.

glimpse of social issues and pathologies in communities they may not otherwise experience.

"I'm interested in helping prepare the next generation to practise medicine, not just in hospitals on the eastern seaboard but to get them started on an exciting journey exploring other options," Dr Pitchford said.

"The visits help students understand Indigenous culture, specific health needs and strategies such as the important role of conservative forms of treatment when working in remote settings." ■



MIND GAMES: Binge eating is not about the food

Mind power tackles eating disorders

Story Mardi Chapman

Mindfulness, a psychological approach based on Buddhist philosophy and practice, is proving to be a promising treatment option for women who struggle with binge eating and bulimia.

School of Psychology PhD students Michelle Hanisch and Angela Morgan are using the group treatment to help women understand and deal with the emotions that trigger their binges.

Women who have been through the eight-week program have shown clinically significant and immediate improvements in depression, anxiety, stress, bingeing and purging. The improvements have been maintained and even strengthened in some outcome measures at a one month follow-up.

"Women also report less dissatisfaction with their bodies, increased self-esteem and improved personal relationships," Ms Morgan said.

Mindfulness involves exercises similar to meditation that can help people live more in the present moment, develop a healthy acceptance of self and become aware of potentially destructive habitual responses.

Unlike many therapies for eating disorders, there is less focus on food and controlling eating and more on providing freedom from difficult thoughts and emotions.

"Participants learn that thoughts and emotions don't have any power over us as they are just passing phenomena and aren't permanent," Ms Morgan said.

Ms Hanisch said women who binged were often high-achievers and perfectionists.

When such women perceived they didn't measure up to self-imposed standards or were not in control of situations, they indulged in secretive eating binges. A typical late-night binge could involve four litres of icecream and a couple of packets of chocolate biscuits, Ms Hanisch said.

"Many women develop elaborate methods of hiding the evidence of their binges and some feel so guilty afterwards they also induce vomiting, overuse laxatives or exercise excessively to counteract the effects of the binge," she said.

"Binge eating is largely a distraction—a temporary escape from events and emotions that nevertheless can cause long-term physical problems including electrolyte imbalances. Instead, women need to learn how to react in a different way."

The findings will be presented to the Eating Disorders Association of Queensland in June and at the World Congress of Behavioural and Cognitive Therapies in Barcelona in July.

Women interested in accessing the treatment at no cost can contact the research team on 07 3735 3324. ■

Creative solutions for healthy living

Story Sara Collins

As the nation grapples with health woes, students face the challenge to come up with original and creative solutions to ensure healthier living.



Griffith University's Health4Life Challenge, a competition for secondary school students in Years 8 to 12, offers great prizes to students and schools for developing new or improved health initiatives.

Health4Life Challenge Secretary Jeannette Soriano said the competition encouraged students to think outside the square and put forward original ideas for healthier lifestyles.

"Through digital art—videos, digital images, websites or software—students may depict topics such as childhood obesity, music therapy, leisure, resort design, work-life balance, food, business practices and their impact on health," Ms Soriano said.

Pro Vice Chancellor Community Partnerships Professor Max Standage said Griffith University was proud to actively promote good health and active lifestyles in the community.

"The Health4Life Challenge raises awareness about health issues, encourages students to

provide creative responses for better outcomes, but more importantly, intends to deliver on these outcomes," Professor Standage said.

"We hope to see the healthier solutions identified in the School Project category actually implemented in the schools."

"The School Project group carries a \$5000 prize for the winner. The judges will be looking for innovative thinking and environmentally-friendly solutions, which aim to improve the health of students," Ms Soriano said.

"The Digital Project category is open to an individual or a group and \$500 will be awarded to the winner. This category encourages students to depict a health issue through digital art and a visual display."

All schools are encouraged to enter with entries open until June 15. All digital projects must be submitted by June 22. ■

Opinion

What is a healthy life?

Did you read about Ben Cousins, the former captain of the West Coast Eagles AFL team? To many of us he seemed the ultimate in health. He has the remarkable capacity to run over 20 kilometres, then sprint and leap for a match winning mark. He won a Brownlow medal, the ultimate individual award in his sport, and was a premiership captain of his team. Yet, the media has reported he uses various illicit drugs, his long-term relationship with his partner has ended, and his football career is suspended indefinitely. Health seems to be more than just physical capacity.

In Australia we spend ever more money on health care, yet Australian children are worse off now on many health indicators (such as rates of child obesity and depression) than they were a generation ago. Most adults report a chronic struggle to juggle work and family commitments; family breakdown and domestic violence are pervasive social problems; mental health and drug problems remain persistent; we have a high national suicide rate; and the health of Indigenous people is as bad as in the world's poorest countries. Our ever-increasing national wealth provides the trappings of affluence such as plasma TVs and 3G phones, but Australians rate their well-being as unimproved relative to a generation ago.

In a series of studies with colleagues, I developed and evaluated couple and family education programs to assist people manage life challenges such as becoming parents and diagnosis and management of serious illness such as psychosis, diabetes and cancer. Collectively this work convinced me that a healthy life is more than just an individual choice. For people to lead healthy lives they need family and friends who have the time, knowledge and desire to nurture them. I also have come to appreciate how families are limited by whether their broader environment promotes healthy living. For example, achieving work/family balance is helped by good social policy and family-friendly employment as well as individual and family actions.

The Griffith Institute of Health and Medical Research (GIHMR) has been established to do multi-disciplinary research that empowers communities of people to lead healthy lives. It undertakes such research as the Griffith Study of Population Health which began this year. This program examines the complex interplay of the physical and social environment, family and individual lifestyles, physiology and genetics that influence major national health challenges like childhood obesity, injury, cancer, mental health problems and substance abuse. The institute's evolving research seeks to promote better health for us all. ■

Kim Halford is director of the Griffith Institute of Health and Medical Research and Dean (Research) of the Health Group.

Work/life balance under pressure

Story Fiona Taylor

Australian working hours are currently among the longest in the industrialised world and Australian families are increasingly suffering time pressure and stress.



ACHIEVING BALANCE: Workplaces need to share the responsibility of easing time pressure by being more family-friendly.

Griffith Business School Leisure Management Professor Peter Brown says Australia is not the 'lucky country' anymore.

"A recent report by the Relationships Forum Australia placed Australia as the second-worst developed country in terms of working hours," Professor Brown said.

"Australia performed poorly in the areas of long hours worked, proportion of the workforce working on weeknights and weekends, and proportion of workers in casual employment.

"These three combined, challenge the myth of Australia as the so-called 'lucky country'."

Professor Brown said although there was no data yet on Australian workers, Canadian data – which is very similar to Australia – showed that work/life conflict among time pressured employees costs the health care system an estimated \$10 billion a year.

"There needs to be a three-pronged solution to the issues of work/life balance with strategies developed at the household, workplace and government levels," Professor Brown said.

"My research suggests outsourcing labour, such as ironing, childcare and cleaning, can assist households in reducing time pressure. However, not all parents can afford this option.

"Another strategy is to negotiate roles in the household so kids understand it's fair they contribute to doing chores."

Professor Brown said workplaces should also share some of the responsibility of easing time pressure by being more family-friendly.

"Workplaces need to provide good leave provisions such as parental leave and flexible leave which can be used if kids are sick," he said.

"The key is to give workers more flexibility in how they use their time."

Professor Brown said although a number of companies did have family-friendly provisions, small scale businesses couldn't always provide these, which led into the third level response—government policies.

"There needs to be government framework support for businesses.

"This is where WorkChoices has sent Australia backwards, as many employees have bargained away conditions to the detriment of their health."

Professor Brown said a greater focus on the health costs of work/life imbalance was required before Australia will be able to live up to the reputation of the 'lucky country' again.

Professor Brown recently presented his research findings into work/life tensions at a conference in Portugal. The research was funded by the Australian Research Council and was conducted in conjunction with colleagues from the University of Newcastle and University of Melbourne ■

Fast-track to a medical career

Medical practitioners of the future will graduate faster thanks to a new accelerated program.

Smart students in a hurry to make a difference can now study Griffith's intensive two-year Bachelor of Medical Science.

Introduced this year, the degree program is a fast, intensive pathway for high-achieving students to secure the background they need for an exciting medical career.

Deputy Head of the School of Biomolecular and Physical Sciences and program convenor at Nathan campus, Associate Professor Denis Crane said students who achieved high marks in the Bachelor of Medical Science would have guaranteed entry into the four-year Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery at Griffith.

"This will enable hard-working students to graduate as doctors with a Bachelor of Medical Science, Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery in just six years," he said.

"If at the end of the two years they decide on

a different career, they will already have a valuable qualification enabling them to work in a variety of science or health research careers, or go on to other graduate-level study."

Linda Hey is one of the small group of high-achievers selected for the first intake of students chosen for a place in the degree this year.

"Growing up I decided I simply wanted my life to be about contribution and the life-changing impact I could have on others. When I teamed this desire up with my passion for anatomy and medicine, the only logical step was to become a doctor," Linda said.

"I'm particularly inspired by people like Patch Adams and Ben Carson, who make a real difference in kids' lives."

Linda said she thought the accelerated program would help keep students focused.

"I was going to enrol in a three-year degree, but I didn't really want long breaks. When I saw the new program I thought I'd go for it.



HIGHER, FASTER, SMARTER: High-achieving medical students can now become qualified in just six years.

"I had to sit an exam and interview, but it was very exciting when I found out I was accepted in the first intake.

"I only started in January this year, and I can't believe I could be ready to start a graduate Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery just 20 months later!" ■



Memories preserved

Story Deborah Marshall

Imagine being able to share and preserve your family or community's history online for future generations to enjoy.

Brisbane Memories, a new web-based research project directed by Professor Paul Turnbull, head of Griffith's School of Arts, gives members of the public the opportunity to do just that.

"At no other time in our history have older Australians been so diverse in cultural background. Networked communication technologies now offer them exciting means to enrich their lives in diverse ways," Professor Turnbull said.

In collaboration with Griffith's Computing Services, the Brisbane Memories project provides a free, accessible and user-friendly website, allowing family and community historians to publish their research and share a range of image and other media files with their fellow researchers.

"What particularly attracted me to this project is that we are providing a means for these community researchers to interact with each other and also learn how to use information technology to create, publish and preserve important aspects of our history and heritage.

"I am especially hoping that the project will increase our understanding of the nature and benefits of supporting older Australians in creative use of information technologies," he said.

Professor Turnbull is internationally recognised for his research on making history in networked digital media. He will be working on Brisbane Memories in collaboration with fellow Centre for Public Culture and Ideas members, Drs Jonathan Richards and Suzanne Goopy, and Annabel Lloyd, archivist of the Brisbane City Council and architect of the Council Library Service's highly successful program of support for local historical societies.

Visit the prototype website at:

<http://eresearch.griffith.edu.au/brisbanememories> ■

Creative for Life is an initiative of the Centre for Public Culture and Ideas at Griffith University. The program seeks creative approaches to issues facing Australia's ageing society. It takes a fresh look at creativity and healthy living across all ages and cultures and celebrates creative processes and the ways they enrich our communities.

Creative for Life brings together an exciting new range of expertise and skills from the Creative Arts, Humanities and Life Sciences. The program includes more than 30 visual artists, public artists, designers, performers, filmmakers, historians, photographers, IT experts, media analysts, philosophers, curators, ethicists, educators, health practitioners, public and social health experts, and cultural analysts.

Child's play rewards

Story Mardi Chapman

It might look like child's play in the School of Psychology but the research being undertaken is seriously grown up—supporting children and parents and contributing to happy, healthy families.

The School of Psychology's Family Interaction and Take Action programs are producing cutting-edge research outcomes and providing graduate students with unique opportunities to develop their professional skills.

Since its establishment in 2001 under the direction of Associate Professor Melanie Zimmer-Gembeck, the Family Interaction Program has received funding of more than \$1 million to develop and study innovative interventions for parents and their young children.

In the flagship Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) program, psychologists use a play-based therapy to improve problem behaviours in 3-7 year old children and reduce stress levels in their parents.

As well as delivering the program to parents from the Gold Coast campus, Griffith has also



HAPPY AND HEALTHY: Griffith's psychological programs provide much needed support for families.

trained counsellors and social workers from Lifeline to disseminate the program in communities including Cairns, Mackay, Beenleigh, Logan and Brisbane.

Program coordinator and psychologist Rae Thomas said their research was continuing to refine options for delivering PCIT to families in a cost-effective manner.

"For example, what was originally a longer program is now delivered in a more user-

friendly, 12-week package."

Associate Professor Zimmer-Gembeck has just launched a downward extension of the program, specifically for families with toddlers from 12-30 months old, which she is confident will be as successful as PCIT.

"If we can intervene earlier in the parent-child relationship we can stop years of frustration, and improve parental feelings of connection to their children," she said.

The Take Action Program offers group therapy to children between four and 12 years of age whose lives are adversely affected by anxiety problems.

Program director Dr Allison Waters said as many as 10-20 per cent of children may have elevated levels of fear and anxiety about social situations, school performance, separation from parents, or specific situations such as the water, darkness and heights.

"Children's anxiety can be expressed as distress, physical illnesses, avoidance behaviours, temper tantrums or poor performance. Our aim is to help these children learn strategies to manage anxiety and enjoy the things that other children their ages do," Dr Waters said.

Now in its second year, the program assists children to recognise and manage anxiety symptoms, confront rather than avoid their fears and to develop useful social skills. Parents are also shown strategies to support their children without reinforcing anxious behaviours.

About 85 per cent of children who have been through the program no longer meet the diagnostic criteria for an anxiety disorder at post-treatment and follow-up assessments.

"Parents report that their children are more confident in dealing with difficult situations and also describe feeling more confident and competent as parents," Dr Waters said.

The program will soon be disseminated to reach many other families through Child and Youth Community Health and the training of other health professionals.

PCIT is funded by the Queensland Department of Child Safety through to 2010 and initial funding for the toddler program has come from the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund. ■

How their garden grows

Story Mardi Chapman

A local initiative continues to reap benefits for both students and new immigrants.



HEALTHY HARVEST: Joseph Akonda, Helen Modong and Sam Takada inspect the crops at the Logan campus community food garden.

The community food garden on Griffith's Logan campus is set to expand further this year in recognition of its growing value as a resource for teaching, research and community engagement.

School of Public Health nutritionist Dr Shawn

Somerset's vision for the food garden included a space where students from public health, dietetics, nursing, human services, environmental science and other disciplines could re-connect with the basics of food production.

However the garden has also developed a unique role in the wider Logan community by offering an activity which helps with the settlement of new immigrants.

Dr Somerset said food gardening provided health benefits by focusing attention on fresh and nutritious plant foods, increasing physical activity, and meeting social and psychological needs.

"As a society we have lost touch with the origins of food. The garden provides a facility for health students to experience the health promoting potential of gardens and explore the direct link between food production and consumption," Dr Somerset said.

The garden also provides an example for local schools and community groups who are interested in setting up food gardens.

For immigrants and refugees from countries such as Burundi, the Congo and Sudan, the garden also provides an opportunity to participate in familiar activities, revisit food traditions, and help develop a sense of connectedness in the transition to their new community.

Logan-based community organisation A.C.C.E.S. Services Inc assists in the settlement of more than 500 new immigrants into the local community each year.

Settlement project officer Sam Takada said the project was useful in terms of building self-esteem and community capacity, and even as a potential business model if participants decided

A new Bachelor of Public Health will be offered at Logan and Gold Coast campuses from 2008, for students interested in careers which can help promote safe and healthy lifestyles and prevent disease and injury. Public health professionals focus on a population-based approach to improving health rather than an individual focus. There is a healthy demand for graduates from potential employers including all levels of government, the private and not-for-profit sectors. The new program features a common first year to expose students to the breadth of public health practice along with core knowledge and skills. Students can then undertake majors in each of the four main disciplines of nutrition, health promotion, environmental health, or workplace health and rehabilitation. The major in nutrition can also articulate into the existing two-year Master of Nutrition and Dietetics.

to take their crops to local markets.

"The garden project provides our clients with obvious benefits in terms of physical and mental health but also exciting opportunities to come together with other members of the community including Griffith staff and students," Mr Takada said.

"They enjoy growing traditional crops such as cassava and it gives them some control over their lives."

Griffith University Community Partnership Project funding this year will provide additional infrastructure at the garden including shade and rainwater collection. ■

Schools embrace healthy competition

Griffith University challenges Queensland schools to live, work and teach sustainability.

The Griffith School of Engineering will again host the national schools' Sustainable Living Challenge in Queensland this year.

The popular competition challenges students, teachers and the wider school community to put their ideas for a healthy planet into action, said

coordinator of the Challenge's Queensland node, Cheryl Paten.

"Last year's winners' ideas included a litter-free lunch box day, a recycled-materials fashion parade, a school organic food garden and designs for a no-emissions building," she said.

"The quality of Queensland entries is extremely

high, which shows the level of environmental awareness within our schools. Last year 10 of the 40 national finalists and five of the 14 awarded schools were from Queensland," Cheryl said.

Winners represent a cross section of urban and rural schools.

"For example Wondai State High School, near Kingaroy is a rural school that has been a real beacon for other schools to follow," Cheryl said.

"They involved teachers, students and the wider community putting sustainability concepts into action."

Wondai's projects included growing and eating

healthy foods, managing organic waste by setting up class worm farms, designing environmental signage around the school and modelling 'water saving' houses.

"There is no better way for our children to prepare for the environmental challenges ahead than through identifying problems and solutions in their own schools and homes," she said.

The Sustainable Living Challenge is coordinated nationally by the University of New South Wales in partnership with the United Nations Environment Program, and in Queensland by Griffith University. It is sponsored in Queensland by the Port of Brisbane Corporation. ■

Moving on: abuse survivors tell the world

Story Deborah Marshall

Abuse survivors are using drama to help them cope with life.

Adult survivors of childhood institutional abuse are learning to live with their trauma thanks to a unique project combining drama and counselling.

The group's work culminated in a theatre performance of *Memoirs of the Forgotten Ones* at the Metro Arts Theatre in March.

The performance marked the end of the three-year project—*Moving On*—a joint initiative of Griffith University and the Aftercare Resource Centre (a program of Relationships Australia).

Professor Bruce Burton, from Griffith's Education faculty, said many of the participants had experienced major life changes since beginning the project in

October 2003.

"Some have taken up further study, jobs or volunteer work with other people," Professor Burton said.

"Our group has certainly shown much greater self-confidence, self-esteem and the ability to take control of their lives—much of which they have attributed to the program.

"Many of the participants wanted to do a major theatrical production to tell the world what's happened to them and to get a sense of closure."

Professor Burton said drama had been used for many years as a major therapeutic tool in helping people deal with difficult or traumatic experiences in a safe environment by enabling them to explore their stories through re-enactment.

"But this is the first time that drama has been used in conjunction with counselling to help victims of institutional childhood abuse."

The project was funded by a \$60 000 Australian Research Council Linkage Grant. ■



ACTING OUT: *Moving On* director and Griffith University Masters student Sarah Woodland directs Michael Turnbull, Walter Blackwell, Kym Dekker and Bambi Ewe before a theatre performance.



Story Sara Collins

Sacred site revealed

SACRED SITE: Project co-director Dr Matthew Kelleher examines an engraving of 'Eagle-Hawk', a key Indigenous icon.

Newly discovered Aboriginal rock art sites found on the outskirts of Sydney are proving to be among the most sacred Indigenous locations in south east Australia.

The sites were first discovered by a Griffith University led team of archaeologists, Indigenous people and bushwalkers in October last year but their significance has only just been realised.

Further research conducted in April in a remote region of Wollemi National Park in the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, 65 kilometres from Sydney, has led the team to conclude the area studied is a major location of ancestral beings and spiritual importance.

Griffith University Professor Paul Tacon led the expedition, which found representations of 'Eagle-Hawk'—who Aboriginal people believe created part of south east Australia's landscape—and key ancestral beings Baiame and Daramulan, indicating the area possesses strong cultural importance.

"No other rock art site in south east Australia depicts all the key ancestral beings in the one place, with the site containing more than any other in the country," Professor Tacon said.

"Due to the area's remoteness and rugged terrain people in ancient times could not live there for long periods of time, suggesting

they would make pilgrimages to the area because of its spiritual importance."

Professor Tacon's team also found evidence that males and females of all ages were brought to the area, identifying it as an unrestricted teaching site.

"The absence of the hallmarks of a male initiation site, and the presence of white hand stencils (both those of children and adults) and charcoal drawings of human figures and macropods confirms this theory," he said.

Professor Tacon said that while rock art was most commonly found in the northern part of Australia, this latest discovery confirmed that south east Australia still has strong links to Aboriginal culture and art practice.

"With all the change that has occurred in the greater Sydney region, it has been felt by some people that Aboriginal culture has been lost but this find, along with other archaeological discoveries, strengthens our links to this ancient civilisation.

"We believe this is just the beginning of what is out there and are excited about the future possibilities of what our work could uncover." ■

Research talent rewarded

Story Mardi Chapman

Griffith's talent pool of early career researchers has been boosted with the awarding of two prestigious research fellowships through the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

Dr Nat Brown returns to the Institute for Glycomics courtesy of a Howard Florey Centenary Research Fellowship and Dr Jason Peart, also a Howard Florey recipient in 2005, has been awarded a Career Development Award to continue his work in the Heart Foundation Research Centre.

Both researchers studied at Griffith from undergraduate to doctoral level before heading to North America for postdoctoral positions. The Howard Florey fellowships—a scheme designed to counteract the brain drain of Australian talent—lured them back.

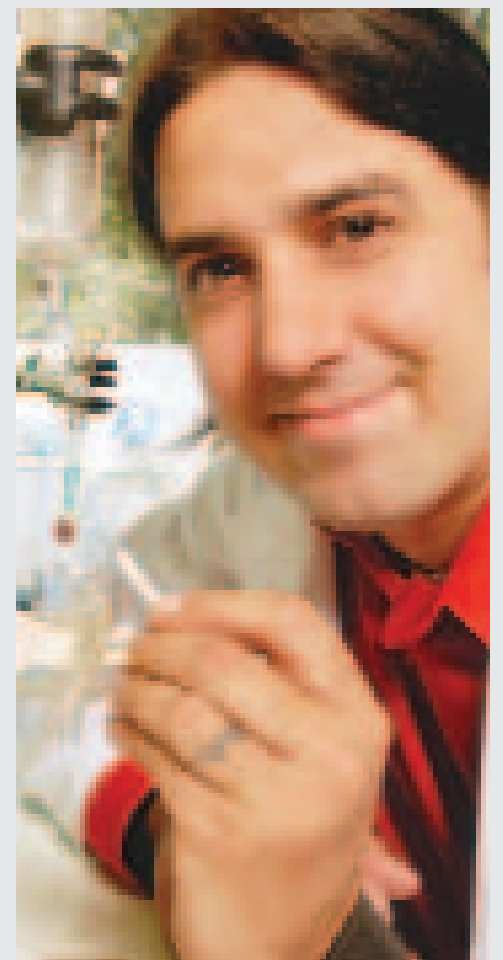
Dr Brown will focus on improving our understanding of how the bacteria *Salmonella* and enterohaemorrhagic *E. coli* cause typhoid and gastroenteritis.

"The bacteria inject proteins into host cells which then go on to usurp normal host cell functions for the benefit of the bacteria," he said. "It's kind of like the bacteria hijack host cells to help them out. My work will focus on trying to understand part of this puzzle."

The research follows on from his role in the identification and subsequent characterisation of new *Salmonella* genes involved in causing disease while based at the University of British Columbia.

Dr Peart's research focuses on the molecular mechanisms by which cardiac injury can be limited following heart attacks.

His postdoctoral position at the



RESEARCH EXCELLENCE: Dr Jason Peart aims to help make old hearts young again with the support of his NHMRC Career Development Award.

Medical College of Wisconsin was supported by the American Heart Association. Dr Peart said he was delighted that the Howard Florey fellowship then enabled his return to the Heart Foundation Research Centre he calls the "leading lab in Australia for this type of work."

Now the Career Development Award, which supports early career researchers who have demonstrated excellence in their respective fields, allows Dr Peart to continue studying the particular roles of adenosine and opioids in cardioprotection.

The research paves the way for new therapies designed to specifically manage heart disease in our older population. ■

After the full time **siren**

Story Fiona Taylor

The future looks bright for young sports stars thanks to a new Griffith Sports College program.

Griffith Sports College Manager Michael Jeh said elite athletes are learning to be good role models through an innovative new program, *After the full-time siren*.

Mr Jeh said the program was developed in response to a growing need.

"Each day, it seems a fresh story breaks, concerning another elite athlete's transgression and another controversy," Mr Jeh said.

The pilot program, *After the full-time siren*, is aimed at tackling these problems at the source—providing athletes with basic skills and perspectives on life to increase their potential as role models.

"As we've seen with Ben Cousins (AFL) and Andrew Johns (NRL) recently, athletes have got to learn to deal with issues like illicit substance abuse and career-ending injuries," Mr Jeh said.

"The more educated they are about 'life', the better they are likely to cope with these traumatic moments and the better example they set for the next generation, who view these players as heroes."

After the full-time siren was developed in consultation with Brisbane's major sporting teams and is believed to be an Australian first. It is aimed at 'rookie' athletes who are beginning their professional careers and is delivered in a multi-sport setting, to remove athletes from their comfort zone.



MODEL CITIZENS: Rookie elite athletes with former State of Origin player Ben Ikin and GSC Manager Michael Jeh, who created the new life-skills program.

The 16-week program focuses on areas deemed 'high risk' in athletes' lifestyles. Topics include the responsibilities of being a public role model, balancing life on and off the field, cooking, drinking responsibly, defensive driving and service to the community.

More than 30 rookie athletes aged 17–24 are involved in the program, from the Broncos, Bulls, Reds, Queensland Academy of Sport, Sunnybank Rugby and Logan Basketball.

Griffith students have also been involved, adding to the educational experience. Journalism students have designed and delivered the media

skills workshops and a group of Griffith Film School students is making a documentary of the program, both as part of their assessment.

There are also a number of guest presenters who can relate to the athletes, such as former State of Origin player Ben Ikin.

Ben, who was also the Broncos player welfare officer, played a key role in the development of the program with Mr Jeh and Joe Dawes from Queensland Cricket. Sports Management Associate Lecturer Caroline Ringuet also donated her time as Course Convenor.

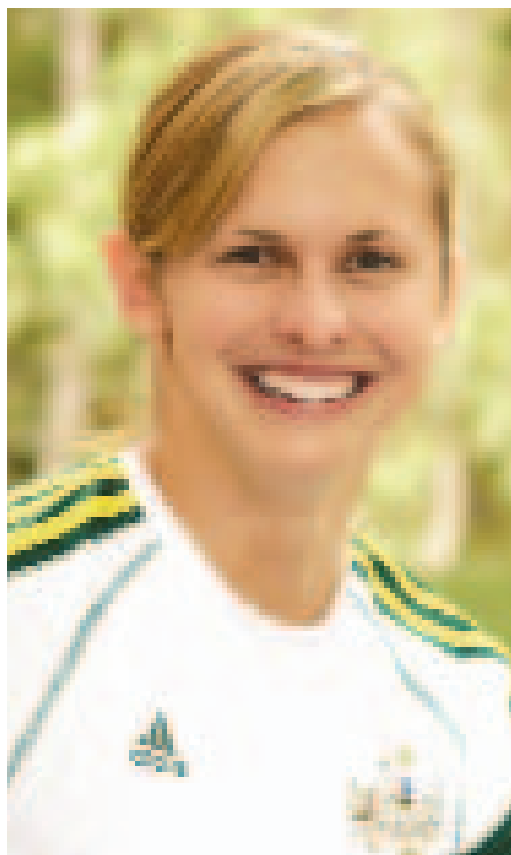
Mr Jeh said the program had received

great support.

"The sporting teams enthusiastically embraced the idea and the Queensland government was equally quick to support the concept," Mr Jeh said.

"The Ikin Group came on board as the major sponsor, willing to back the idea because it was the right thing to do rather than for any great commercial leverage. The Constellation Group has also gotten behind the program as a support sponsor."

If the pilot program is successful, it will be rolled out across the country. ■



Libby wins in and out of the pool

Story Sara Collins

Combining record breaking times, top marks and wedding bells is like water off a duck's back to swimming superstar Libby Lenton.

After a stellar run at the Swimming World Championships in March which saw her take home five gold medals, Libby Lenton went on to become the first female to swim 100 metres freestyle in under 53 seconds.

However, the Olympic medallist had her eyes set on a different set of rings when she married her long-time partner in April.

Not content with winning gold medals and planning a wedding, the Griffith University communications student is also proving a success in her studies, with distinctions in two of her subjects.

"I've always been a very driven and determined person and I've always enjoyed competition and the challenges that come with setting goals and trying to achieve them," Libby said.

"I think it's really important to have a good life balance with all things that you do. For me, when I was just swimming and everything was solely focused around that, it became detrimental to my performance in the pool because it was very draining and intense.

"Studying at university lets me take my mind off swimming when I

need it, and that challenges me in a different way to training."

Michael Jeh, Manager of the Griffith Sports College said he was constantly impressed with Libby's positive attitude and determination.

"A day before the World Championships Libby called me because her computer had crashed just as she was submitting an online assessment and she was concerned her results hadn't gone through," Mr Jeh said.

"This is typical of Libby's commitment, which produces not only great results in her swimming life but in her university and personal life."

Griffith University Vice Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor said Libby was another prime example of the calibre of students Griffith attracts.

"We are proud of her achievements as both a sportswoman and a Griffith student and we wish her all the best for her future endeavours," Professor O'Connor said.

"Griffith encourages all of its students and staff to strive for success not only in their educational goals but in their personal lives and Libby is an inspiration to all of us." ■

Security centre to safeguard Australia

Australia's first Centre of Excellence for Policing and Security worth more than \$15 million will be based at Griffith University following a recent announcement by the Australian Research Council.

Griffith University leads a partnership with the Australian National University, the University of Queensland and Charles Sturt University on a five-year project to create an internationally-regarded centre of research excellence that will help prevent crime and safeguard Australia.

Vice Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor said the Centre's world-class scholars would expand Australia's understanding of trans-national threats and help build new responses to the challenges of the 21st century.

"The centre's proposed program of research will uncover the key vulnerabilities of Australian society and help to design and help implement fair, evidenced-based appropriate policing and

security responses," Professor O'Connor said.

Centre director Professor Lorraine Mazerolle from Griffith's School of Criminology and Criminal Justice said the centre would strengthen communities and enhance Australia's security role in the Asia-Pacific region and globally.

"Our vision is to enhance Australia's security by conducting high quality research to understand the threats facing Australia and work with policy makers, police and security leaders to respond better to these threats," Professor Mazerolle said.

The centre is funded by a \$10 million ARC grant with \$1 million from the Queensland Government over five years and \$4.43 million from other sources. ■



MOOT SUCCESS: Griffith Law students Michael de Waard (left) and Cameron Low with Dr Ingeborg Schwenzer, a judge at the Vis East Moot Competition in Hong Kong.

Student success no moot point

Story Fiona Taylor

Griffith law students have proven to be among the best in the world, performing well at two international commercial arbitration moot competitions.

Law student Michael de Waard was named runner up best oralist at the Vis East Moot Competition in Hong Kong.

Michael and teammate Cameron Low also received an honorable mention for their claimant's memorandum of argument and made it to the finals of the competition, placing fourth against 40 international teams.

A second Griffith team, involving students Kate Ogg, Tim Elliss and Erin Chalk, competed in the Vis International Moot Competition in Vienna and placed in the top third against more than 175 teams.

Michael said the standard of competition "blew them away".

"The arbitrators were very experienced, in fact, one of our arbitrators, Dr Ingeborg Schwenzer, was an original drafter of the

Convention on the International Sale of Goods (CISG)—the law applicable to the dispute," Michael said.

"It was incredible to be able to argue points of the law she had actually drafted. You could not get anything past her. Her feedback was very kind and she was impressed with our knowledge and oral advocacy skills. It really was an honour."

Michael said the moot also strengthened his desire to practise international commercial arbitration.

"It would be great to be able to practise in this field having networked with many prominent arbitrators, practitioners and scholars," Michael said.

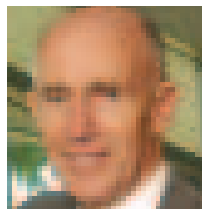
"We have also had insight into the future of international arbitration, its benefits and downfalls, and where it is heading."

Michael also acknowledged the support of the team coach, Senior Law Lecturer Therese Wilson.

"Our success is a direct result of Therese's coaching and the time she invested in us. This opportunity would not be available to Griffith students if it weren't for her tireless efforts.

"We owe this wonderful opportunity to her and to our sponsor—Khory McCormick, partner of Minter Ellison Lawyers." ■

New skills in a single bound



Griffith Business School (GBS) is introducing a range of specialist courses to make the transition into postgraduate study easier. Griffith Pro Vice

Chancellor of Business Professor Michael Powell (pictured above) said the GBS had developed a range of specialist courses aimed at providing targeted skills and capabilities, and at the same time, an introduction to postgraduate university study.

"Universities need to get smarter about how they deliver programs and courses, so they are readily accessible and add value, which is why the GBS is introducing this range of specialist courses," Professor Powell said.

"Through the new courses students can select an area relevant to their current work

roles, giving them skills which are of immediate benefit and which contribute to their professional development."

The courses run for 13 weeks with no on-going commitment required.

However, each specialist course is also part of a Masters degree, so if students decide to continue to a full Masters program they can receive credit for the courses already completed.

Courses are available across a number of business areas such as customer relationship management, leadership development, accounting, corporate finance, human resource management, international business, sports management, franchising and politics.

For further information on specialist courses visit www.griffith.edu.au/specialistcourses telephone 1800 145 155 or email gbs@griffith.edu.au ■

Blocking the flight path of bird flu

Story Jeannette Langan

Griffith's Institute for Glycomics is again attracting international attention for its work battling the looming threat of a global influenza pandemic.

Institute for Glycomics Director Professor Mark von Itzstein has just been presented the 2007 Zimmer International Scholar Award from the University of Cincinnati in recognition of his research in glycoscience and medicinal chemistry.

Professor von Itzstein delivered a series of lectures at the University of Cincinnati that showcased the discovery of anti-influenza drugs and other potential anti-viral drugs for the treatment of significant virus-induced diseases.

As one of Australia's leading influenza virus drug designers, Professor von Itzstein has been closely watching the progress of the H5N1 'bird flu' pandemic, and other emerging viral threats.

"Viruses require constant vigilance. There's often a public perception that when a vaccine for an illness such as flu or rotavirus is made available it's a panacea, but that's not the case," he said.

"Many viruses are 'shape shifters' with an incredible ability to constantly evolve and mutate to avoid detection by a host's

immune system, so stockpiling existing drugs becomes useless.

"The goal with glycomics drug design is to identify what remains constant within the virus, and target that to produce broad spectrum anti-viral drugs."

The institute is one of a handful of specialist facilities worldwide working on carbohydrate-based 'glycopharmaceuticals' which are widely tipped as the world's next wonder-drugs for their capacity to block the ability of a disease to replicate.

Professor von Itzstein said while flu has always been one of humanity's most relentless killers, the threat level had escalated.

"With increasing international travel, climate change and more intensive agricultural practices, the opportunity for viral mutation and transmission has increased.

"The problem is it still takes 6-12 months after an outbreak to identify and characterise the virus—if at all available to researchers—and develop a vaccine suitable to that strain," he said. ■

Funding for consumer voice



CONSUMER VOICE: Griffith's Centre for Credit and Consumer Law has received a funding boost.

Combating issues like increasing household debt and ensuring consumer needs have a voice in policy debate are two benefits from increased support for Griffith University's Centre for Credit and Consumer Law (CCCL).

The CCCL has received a further \$65 000 in funding from the Queensland Government's Consumer Credit Fund to help continue its work. The University also matched the amount.

CCCL Director Nicola Howell (pictured inset above) said the funding highlighted the importance of the centre's work.

"The Government's continued commitment to the centre is very welcome, and will enable us to continue researching and reporting on the very topical area of consumer credit," Ms Howell said.

Among other things, the funding will be used to continue research on the need for interest rate caps, issues surrounding over-commitment, responsible lending and borrowing, and financial counselling.

"Consumer credit is very much a part of

our economy and our society, and when individuals become over-committed, the consequences can be devastating and long-lasting," Ms Howell said.

"Credit card debt has increased 14 per cent in only one year and there are more and more media reports of increased foreclosures on family homes.

"Consumer education and information initiatives are a key part of any response to these issues, but we also need to ensure that our laws and regulations are up to the task."

The CCCL works with consumers, industry and government and acts as a voice—particularly for low income and vulnerable people—in policy development and legal debate.

"Through research, the CCCL can help to inform policy decisions, and ensure regulatory framework is up to the challenges of our complex society," Ms Howell said.

The CCCL is also focused on helping develop a consumer advocacy sector in Queensland by working with community and consumer organisations across the state. ■

Health help

University life is not all about books and exams. Sara Collins takes a look at how Griffith and its students promote a healthy outlook.

New sports precinct to keep community fit

A cash injection of more than \$3.5 million is set to help Griffith's Mt Gravatt's sporting precinct compete with the best.

Griffith students and the local community will benefit from the upgrade of the sporting facilities on campus, which has been made possible through funding from the Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund.

Vice Chancellor Professor Ian O'Connor said the upgrade was in line with Griffith's ethos of supporting a healthy lifestyle for staff and students, as well as its local community.

"We are very pleased to receive funds towards a state-of-the-art recreational and sporting precinct, which will enhance the campus and community life," Professor O'Connor said.

"The upgraded sports precinct will have a new \$2.8 million tennis complex, with twelve tennis courts. The existing basketball and netball courts will also be refurbished.

"The new facility will benefit our students, staff and the local community. We are keen to promote community health and believe this is a positive step towards increasing social and sporting activities." ■

Only heartbeats away

Life on campus has become safer with the arrival of cardiac equipment which can help save lives in the event of a heart attack.

Head of Health Services Elizabeth Campbell said the purchase of four Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) meant an increase in the survival chances for any person suffering a sudden cardiac arrest on campus.

"Current statistics released by St John Ambulance indicate more than 30 000 Australians die each year from a sudden cardiac arrest and 75 per cent of cardiac arrests occur outside hospitals," Ms Campbell said.

"According to St John's, survival following a cardiac arrest is highly dependent on the time taken to deliver defibrillation, with every one minute following the attack resulting in a 10 per cent reduction in survival, so having AEDs readily available on campus is vital."

The AEDs are designed for ease of use, meaning they are accessible to everyone, and have both voice and visual instructions.

Campus Health and Safety committees initiated the acquisition of AEDs in 2006.

The AEDs are part of Griffith's commitment to providing a safe campus environment for students, staff and the wider public. Other initiatives undertaken by the University include annual flu vaccinations, the Red Cross Mobile Blood Bank, gymnasiums and sports facilities, and free short-term counselling sessions for staff and students. ■



LIFE SAVER: External defibrillators will potentially be life-saving in a cardiac emergency.

Health for a brighter future

A committed group of Griffith students have joined forces to form HOPE4HEALTH, a not-for-profit organisation which aims to advance and promote equitable health outcomes for local, rural, Indigenous and international communities.

HOPE4HEALTH President Marty Brewster said the main focus for the group in 2007 was their HOPE4GHANA project—fundraising to help provide a maternity ward and family planning clinic for a medical centre in the village of Dabaa in Ghana, West Africa.

"Stage one of the centre—a dispensary, laboratory, and consulting rooms for outpatient services, immunisation facilities, and minor medical procedures—is funded by another Gold Coast organisation, The Watson Foundation," Marty said.

"Stage two of the project will be funded by HOPE4HEALTH, and once it is completed, a number of our members hope to complete their fourth year placement at

the hospital".

The group was formed by medicine and dentistry students after Mr Brewster got chatting to his room mate about a hospital in Ghana that was in need of urgent medical infrastructure and supplies.

"With our background in health degrees, we all believed it was the perfect cause to rally around," Marty said.

"It's actually taken us all by surprise how quickly it's evolved. It's great to see so much support which has helped make the project become even bigger than first hoped for."

The group's major fundraiser for 2007 is a gala dinner which has attracted recently retired International President of Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors without Borders) Dr Rowan Gillies as guest speaker.

Other fundraisers this year include a corporate golf day at Hope Island Resort on Thursday September 27.

For all enquiries please contact Marty Brewster on 0401 238 358 or visit www.hope4health.org.au ■



HOPE4HEALTH: Marty Brewster, Chantelle Berenger and David Rawson hope to raise funds for Ghana.



DISEASE DETECTOR: Oleg Pyankov, Associate Professor Igor Agranovski and Ruth Huang with the detector.

Project speeds disease detection

Story Jeannette Langan

Griffith School of Engineering researchers are working on a hand-held device that can rapidly detect viruses and bacteria ranging from biological weapons to bird flu, in a matter of hours.

The project uses a hand-held sampler in combination with DNA/RNA fingerprinting lab technology to reduce the time taken to detect and identify airborne biological agents from around two to five days, to just two hours.

Project leader Associate Professor Igor Agranovski said the next goal is to speed up the detection process even further, by miniaturising the technology so primary detection could be rapidly carried out on the spot inside the pocket-sized device.

The engineering team worked with microbiologists in Queensland and Russia to refine the device. Recent findings have just been published in the latest *International Journal of Environmental Microbiology*.

Associate Professor Agranovski said the device samples air, trapping the sample in tiny bubbles within a liquid medium.

The sample is then analysed using lab technology called real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR/RT-PCR), a method of DNA/RNA fingerprinting that enables a small sample of microbial DNA/RNA to be quickly and

selectively identified and replicated for study.

"The advantage of this arrangement is that it enables fast detection. But if a particular pathogen in the air is detected, the remaining collecting liquid from the sampler can be further analysed by more accurate and time-consuming methods to estimate the number of infectious and live micro-organisms in the atmosphere," he said.

Various device development stages were funded by the Australian Research Council, National Institute of Health (USA) and National Security Science and Technology Unit (Australian Government).

Associate Professor Agranovski said there was huge potential for the technology to quickly identify the presence of airborne diseases such as bird flu in an agricultural setting, or testing for dangerous biological agents that may have been released accidentally or deliberately as a weapon.

"There was clearly a need for the development of rapid analytical procedures to meet the expectations of anti-terrorist and defence units, public health and agriculture specialists," he said. ■

Twined together



An exhibition highlighting the extraordinary fibre work made by Kunwinjku women from the 'stone country' of western Arnhem Land is on display at the DELL Gallery, Queensland College of Art until June 10.

Twined Together: Kumadj Njalehnjaleken, is the first major showcase of work from women artists of Gunbalanya and surrounds.

Developed collaboratively by the Museum Victoria and Injalak Arts and Crafts, the exhibition provides an

insight into the complexity and artistry of fibre forms, including baskets, bags and mats, which were all utilised by Kunwinjku people.

Displaying 82 visually spectacular works, the exhibition also provides a fascinating opportunity to learn more about the fibre work of western Arnhem Land. This work is linked to the story of south eastern Australian Indigenous people, as missionary workers in the 1920s took the coiling technique north from its traditional home near the Murray River.

The work uses three techniques—twining, coiling and knotting—characterised by deep purple and pink dyes found only in the stone country.

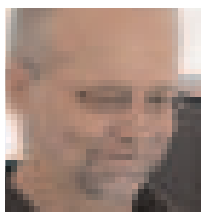
Twined Together: Kumadj Njalehnjaleken is a Museum Victoria travelling exhibition. The exhibition was developed in partnership with Injalak Arts and Crafts Association. It was first shown at Melbourne Museum from May 13 to December 4, 2005. ■

Movers and shakers



Professor Claire Rickard has been appointed to the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Nathan. Originally from Brisbane but most recently with the University of Tasmania, Professor Rickard has been promoting and leading nursing

research in areas such as intravascular therapy and devices, critical care, and the clinical research workforce. Professor Rickard brings her substantial expertise in clinical trials methodology to Griffith's Research Centre for Clinical Practice Innovation. Her particular areas of research such as care of patients with intravascular catheters and intensive care delirium add another dimension to the growing program of research in the area of critical care nursing.

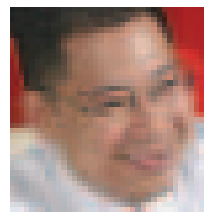


Associate Professor Paul Cleveland has been appointed Director of the Queensland College of Art (QCA). He has enjoyed a long career in design, working in London and Melbourne before starting at QCA in the 1980s.

Associate Professor Cleveland has been involved in the establishment of a number of innovative programs associated with digital media, such as the Bachelor of Digital Design and the Master of Digital Design. His previous roles at the QCA include Deputy Director Development and International, where he was involved in developing the College's international marketing profile. Most recently he was in the Associate Director role in which he steered change management issues associated with the QCA external review.

Dr Jem Bendell, a world leading expert in global social change, has been appointed as an Adjunct Associate Professor with the Griffith Business School (GBS). For the past 10 years Dr Bendell has been involved in, advised on and written about global social change, focusing on the relationship of corporations to sustainable development. He was involved in the creation of the Marine Stewardship Council in 1996, co-wrote the first book on cross-sectoral partnerships for sustainable development and has

written more than 40 publications including four reports for the United Nations. Dr Bendell will make a valuable contribution to GBS projects and curriculum development.



Dr Ly Qui Trung has been appointed as an Adjunct Professor with the Griffith Business School. A Griffith alumnus, Dr Trung has been recognised for his contribution to the tourism and hospitality industry in Vietnam. Dr Trung's continuing

and active involvement includes speaking at specialised seminars, publishing books and other publications, teaching and research. Dr Trung is considered a pioneer in franchising in Vietnam with his Pho 24 food chain. As the first Vietnamese and youngest foreigner to be awarded the Adjunct Professor title, Dr Trung will work with Griffith in various areas including research, teaching and international development.

Professor Boni Robertson has been appointed to the position of Professor, Indigenous Policy, working in the area of community partnership and engagement. Previously the Director of the GUMURRII Centre since 1995, Professor Robertson has held senior appointments at The University of Queensland and as State Chair of the Ministerial Indigenous Education Advisory Committee. Professor Robertson's main research interests include social policy, health, law and justice, and community development. Her work has a strong emphasis on identifying proactive, solution-oriented interventions that enhance life circumstances for Indigenous peoples.

School of Dentistry and Oral Health academic staff have recently been recognised with Fellowship of the Australasian Section of the International College of Dentists. Associate **Professor Kerrod Hallett** was recognised for excellence and community service in the field of paediatric dentistry. Dean and Head of School **Professor Newell Johnson** was also recognised for his leadership in oral medicine and pathology and in dental education. ■

What's on

Concerts and exhibitions

Wednesday, May 30

Divertimenti—the Conservatorium's premier string ensemble, *Divertimenti* will explore standard and contemporary works for string orchestra including Debussy's beautiful work for solo harp, Swedish composer Dag Wiren's Serenade for Strings and CPE Bach's Symphony in B Flat Major. **Venue:** Ian Hanger Recital Hall, South Bank. **Time:** 6pm. **Cost:** \$10 (at the door)

Friday, June 1

Hoffman Ensemble and QCGU Jazz Ensemble: Jazz Cafes feature staff and student groups from the Conservatorium, presenting a variety of jazz styles and tunes. The Red Note Cafe is licensed and offers a range of hot and cold food. **Venue:** Red Note Café – Level 1, Conservatorium Building, South Bank. **Time:** 5–7pm. **Cost:** Free

Friday, June 1

Roy Howat – part of the Kawai Keyboard Series, is internationally renowned as both a pianist and scholar whose concerts, broadcasts and lectures regularly take him worldwide. **Venue:** Ian Hanger Recital Hall, South Bank. **Time:** 6–7.15pm. **Cost:** \$20/\$10 qtx 136 246 or www.qtx.com.au

Friday, June 1

Val Machin Opera Scenes: *Orpheus in the Underworld* is the first of several 'send-up' operettas that Offenbach drew from Greek mythology. In this

unashamedly Gallic version of the classic legend, Orpheus travels to Hades not so much to rescue his abducted wife Euridice—who is the object of the affections of both Jupiter and Pluto—but rather to restore his own respectability. **Venue:** Conservatorium Theatre, South Bank. **Time:** 7.30pm. **Cost:** \$25/\$15 qtx 136 246 or www.qtx.com.au

Lectures and conferences

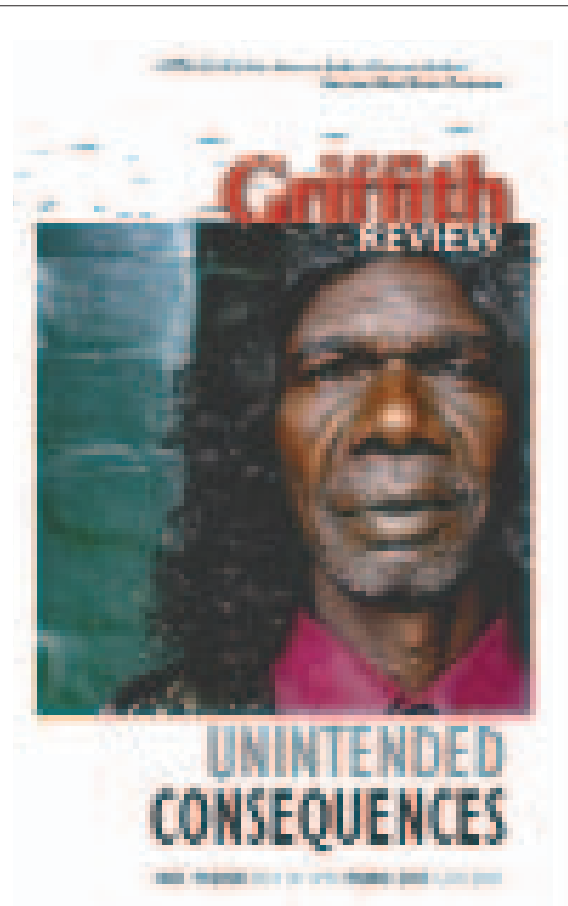
Tuesday, June 26

Global impact of Industrial Fisheries on Marine Ecosystem and Food Security Professor Daniel Pauly, Director of the Fisheries Centre at the University of British Columbia, will give a public lecture on the impact of uncontrolled commercial fishing on global food webs. **Venue:** Griffith University, Gold Coast campus G17 Lecture Theatre. **Time:** 7pm **Cost:** Free

Other events

Thursday, June 14

Secondary consequences of rainforest fragmentation for seed dispersal—PhD candidate Cath Moran will speak on her work on rainforest conservation within the Centre for Innovative Conservation Strategies. **Venue:** Nathan campus N72-1.18 Business 2. **Time:** 2–3pm. **Cost:** Free.



Griffith REVIEW 16: Unintended Consequences explores what happens when things do not go according to plan – politically and personally.

Noel Pearson, Australia's most innovative and effective Aboriginal leader, considers the role of 'white guilt' in perpetuating the cycle of victimhood in Indigenous relations and proposes a way forward to embrace the ideals of the 1967 referendum.

Other writers include *10 Canoes* film director Rolf de Heer, veteran

journalist Murray Sayle, Professor Michael Wesley from the Griffith Asia Institute, and more.

This edition moves from the big issues—war, bureaucracy, technology and the media—to quirky personal tales that reveal how we are surrounded by unintended consequences.

Special offer to Griffith Gazette readers: subscribe online to Griffith REVIEW and save \$35.90 for one year and \$79.85 for two years. Use promo code GG when subscribing at www.griffith.edu.au/griffithreview