

Study beckons Olympians



Softballer Sandra Allen hits the books again after returning from Athens.



Griffith graduate Robert Newbery considers the prospect of starting another degree.

Griffith students and graduates have made their mark on the world stage by competing in the 2004 Athens Olympics.

Our students achieved a medal haul of two gold, two silver and four bronze, equalling the medal tally of many countries.

In Campus Review (September 1-7) journalist Guy Healy wrote: "Griffith students have achieved the extraordinary result of a single Australian university equalling Sweden – ranked 16th – in total medal numbers and equalling Canada – ranked 18th which also won two gold."

Debut Olympian Sara Carrigan, studying a Bachelor of Education, upstaged the favourites to win the women's road cycling race, while swimmer Lisbeth Lenton (arts), shared gold in the women's 4x100m freestyle relay and won bronze in the 50m freestyle.

Australian softball team members Sandra Allen (education) and arts graduate Marissa Carpadios each came home with a silver medal.

Ms Allen was the only player in the tournament to make it home against the United States.

Griffith graduate Robert Newbery (science) won a second bronze medal in the synchronized platform dive event after finishing third with fellow Griffith student Steven Barnett in the men's synchronised 3m springboard dive.

Students Nikita Cuffe (leisure management) and Naomi Castle (environmental science) were part of the highly ranked women's waterpolo team.

The pair helped Australia move back into the top four nations, but the team was knocked out of medal contention by Greece.

Scholarship holder Deborah Lovely, who is studying a Bachelor of Laws/Arts, finished 13th in the women's 75kg Group A weightlifting.

Jonathon McKain (management) was a member of the Australian soccer team which reached the quarter-finals.

Duncan Free (health science graduate)



Bachelor of Education student Sara Carrigan came home with a gold medal in the women's road cycling at the 2004 Olympics.

represented Australia in the quadruple sculls.

University Sports Scholarship Scheme chairman Professor Alan Knight said Griffith's success at the Olympics was a result of the university's widely recognised sports scholarship program.

"In the late 1980s Griffith set up an innovative scheme designed to assist elite sportspeople," he said.

"The idea behind it was to target young athletes with great sporting skills as well as academic merit and assist them to develop their potential as future community leaders.

"The scholarship scheme is unique in Australia and offers flexibility in study to cater for competition and training demands as well as considerable financial support."

Sandra Allen and Robert Newbery said support from the Griffith community had

greatly helped them coordinate study and training.

Ms Allen said she had three years of her Griffith degree to go, but she was enjoying the course. "The teachers, lecturers and tutors have been awesome and really supportive," she said.

"I did some research and thought Griffith was the most reputable university. I heard a lot of people talk about Griffith and my partner went here."

Mr Newbery said he was trying to get into medicine after completing a Bachelor of Science majoring in molecular biology at Griffith.

"Griffith was really supportive of me the whole time I was here. They helped me work around my sporting commitments," he said.

By Krista Dobinson

Staff and students urged to dob-a-drip

THE university will promote responsible water use by hosting activities at Nathan on October 18 and the Gold Coast on October 21.

There will be information booths, giveaways, a sausage sizzle and the opportunity to win one of two Sea World family passes.

Office of Facilities Management (OFM) sustainability coordinator Samantha Peel said it was the second year the Water Saving Management Program had been in place.

"We have been monitoring water usage

across all campuses, and implementing water saving initiatives in a bid to reduce water consumption," Ms Peel said.

"Technology-based initiatives implemented in the past year to reduce water consumption include the installation of waterless urinals in the OFM building at Nathan and retrofitting taps on Logan and Gold Coast campuses.

"The university has been investigating unaccounted water use at Nathan.

"In the near future new buildings will also be required to harvest rainwater for

use in irrigation and/or flushing of toilets and for waterless urinals and water saving taps to be installed in all toilets."

Ms Peel said technologies were a great start, but were only part of the solution.

"We need to replicate our home-based actions or beliefs in the workplace," she said.

Ms Peel said sustainability was everyone's responsibility and we could help reduce water consumption through simple practices.

To learn more about being water wise visit www.griffith.edu.au/ofm/waterwheel/

Water wise tips

- Don't leave taps running for long periods of time while washing hands.
- Turn off taps after use
- Report leaks to 3875 8888.
- Ensure dishwashers are at capacity – smaller loads are a waste energy and water.



From the Vice Chancellor
Professor Glyn Davis

Graduates to make a difference

Twice a year Griffith holds ceremonies that seem quaintly medieval. These are our graduations, held around March and again in September or October.

The Griffith graduation ceremony, like those of other universities, can be traced to the 12th century and the early universities of Italy and Northern Europe.

Like many archaic ceremonies, the rituals around graduation retain traces of long forgotten conflicts, in this case between academic staff and their universities.

According to historian R.H.C. Davis (1991), in *From Alfred the Great to Stephen*, in medieval times academic staff were called "masters". They were paid no salaries, hired their own teaching space and charged their own fees.

(Later, according to P.F. Grendler in *The Universities of the Italian Renaissance*, universities were funded by city government. Rome imposed a 17.5 per cent tax on

wine to support its university, while fair Padua taxed prostitution to pay the professors.)

Sometime in the 13th century, masters became embroiled in conflict with university Chancellors about who could receive a degree. At heart was a clash over income – with a degree a graduate could enrol in the masters guild and begin teaching. Masters wanted to control membership of the guild, and so entry to the teaching profession.

The conflict was resolved by the Pope, who ruled that Chancellors could confer degrees only on those nominated by the masters.

Hence the ceremony of graduation. The masters assemble to hear the list of names of those who will receive degrees. They are making sure the Chancellor does not stray from the agreed list.

In September Griffith University exported its graduation ceremony to Toronto, following a large group

of Griffith education and environmental management students who had returned to Canada after completing their studies.

With 140 graduands and more than 500 families and friends, it was not just a celebration of the successful completion of a course of study, but a sign of Griffith's commitment to its global community.

To mark the occasion not one but two guest speakers addressed the audience – Dean of the Faculty of Education at McGill University, Montreal, Professor Roger Slee, and advocate of the wrongly accused, Rubin Carter.

Professor Slee spoke about how good education also serves social justice.

He told the story of UCLA academic Mike Rose, who decided to test the despairing media reports of public schooling in North America.

On his long tour of schools, Rose

found teachers, social workers and counsellors who were winning extraordinary educational victories with the most disadvantaged kids.

These weren't just feel-good victories. Professor Slee pointed out that one unexpected byproduct was peace: Nobel laureate Amartya Sen has identified educational disparity as one of the key threats to international security.

Professor Slee concluded by asking the graduates to become "educational vigilantes intent on extending educational opportunity", and to go out with a commitment to making a difference through their profession and their neighbourhood.

It is an aspiration so embedded in Griffith's culture it could be repeated at every Griffith graduation. Perhaps we can invent a new ritual, with graduation ceremonies that celebrate not ancient conflict but contemporary agreement.

Playing it safe in arts

QUEENSLAND College of Art lecturer Nick Oughton and Queensland Community Arts Network were awarded \$46,000 from the Creative Industries Development Initiative (CITI) for a pilot program to deliver risk management training to four Queensland regional centres.

It is hoped the program, which delivers occupational health and safety training to arts workers, will be offered nationally following the pilot project.

Mr Oughton, the convenor of Film and Television Production at the Griffith Film School, has been involved with occupational health and safety in the arts for almost 20 years and had identified a gap in relevant training, which could be bridged by delivering a short course in risk management.

"In my investigation into occupational health and safety in the Queensland film and television industry, I identified that independent filmmakers have a high risk of sustaining injury and illness caused by their work," Mr Oughton said.

"It is hoped that the CITI grant and risk management training can change this situation."

Memorable lecture for peace scholarship student

GRIFFITH international peace scholarship student Mariana Trevino did not expect her outlook on life to change so dramatically after hearing "the girl in the picture" speak at a public lecture on August 31.

Ms Trevino, who started studying at Griffith on the Gold Coast in July, said she was "willing to do more for this world" after hearing Kim Phuc speak.

"It's massive to see someone who suffered that much doing heaps of things for humanity, leaving a mark in society," Ms Trevino said.

She said she attended the lecture because she wanted to become more involved in Griffith's activities and because she wanted to learn from a person who had experienced war and was now traveling the world to promote peace.

Ms Trevino of Mexico is among a group of 44 peace scholarship students selected from four countries – Mexico, India, Colombia and Cambodia – to study in Australia through a new \$8.1 million Peace Scholarship Trust.

The trust is an initiative of IDP Education Australia with support from the international education industry and other contributors, and aims to promote global peace and understanding through international education experiences.

Griffith University has pledged ongoing support for the Peace Scholarship program.

Ms Trevino said her decision to study psychology at Griffith stemmed from her curiosity in people and an ongoing interest in other cultures.

"In Mexico I assisted in a kindergarten helping teachers in the classroom, supporting children and



Peace scholarship student Mariana Trevino studying at the Gold Coast.

parents, and preparing special activities for students," she said.

"I have also worked for several youth groups and undertaken missionary activities in poor communities."

She said through her career, she hoped to help improve the quality of life for Mexicans and contribute to greater global understanding and peace by supporting local community groups.

"I believe my study abroad experience will broaden and deepen my understanding of the world," she said.

Griffith has provided Ms Trevino with a fee-waiver place through the Peace Scholarship Trust program. She will undertake a two semester program of university study.



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Girl in the picture gives hope

"When you see the little girl running up the road you can see her calling out and crying out. Don't see her as crying out in pain and fear. See her as crying out for peace."

- Kim Phuc, August 31, 2004

A STANDING ovation erupted when UN Ambassador for Children and Vietnam war survivor Kim Phuc made this impassioned plea to an estimated 1500 people at a Griffith public lecture.

Holding above her head the Pulitzer-prize winning image of her as a badly burnt nine-

year-old running near her village of Trang Bang, her message was as poignant to this 21st century audience as the photograph was when it was published in the press more than 30 years ago.

"You know the children who were running with me in that picture... are my brothers

and my cousins," she told the lecture.

"And the next day that picture went around the world and it became very famous.

"It helped change the way people saw the Vietnam war and all wars. It also changed my life forever."

During her visit to Griffith, Kim Phuc shared her incredible story of survival and her lifetime commitment to the promotion of peace.

She told master of ceremonies and former

60 Minutes journalist Ian Leslie at a dinner Griffith held in her honour of the special bond she has to this day with Associated Press photographer Nick Ut: "Uncle Ut saved my life," she said, explaining how he not only immortalised her on film but he rushed her to hospital and ensured she was given care amid the chaos which followed the bombings.

"That picture didn't let me go," Kim Phuc admitted to dinner guests, as she discussed her time in exile in Cuba and then her defection to Canada.

On stage later that night, Kim Phuc was reunited with Nguyet Pham who was at the hospital in 1972 when the badly burnt nine-year-old was admitted. Nguyet Pham, now living in Brisbane, nursed Kim Phuc who endured 17 operations to help give her an independent life.

A gracious, warm and motivated ambassador for goodwill, Kim Phuc now devotes her life to peace and has established The Kim Foundation, a not-for-profit charity helping today's child victims of war and building orphanages in Uganda, East Timor, Romania and Tajikistan.

Kim Phuc's public lecture is webcast on <http://www.griffith.edu.au/er/campaign/phuc/kimlecture/>

By Alexia Deegan



Kim Phuc and former nurse Nguyet Pham.



Kim Phuc addressing 1500 people at the public lecture.

Going the whole hog

WITH its unmistakable sound and distinct design, Harley-Davidson is one of the most successful and recognisable brand names in the world. But why?

Gold Coast marketing lecturer Sharon Schembri said she was seeking answers to the branding success of Harley-Davidson in her latest research.

"No other product has ever evoked such pride and identification in an owner like this brand. People actually tattoo the brand on their person," Ms Schembri said.

"The Harley-Davidson experience is more than just the bike. It is a way of life," she said.

Ms Schembri said she turned to the Gold Coast Harley Owners Group (HOG) chapters to understand the meaning of the brand.

"In order to understand the brand you have to understand the people," she said.

"The HOG chapters are a subculture found throughout the world, but are particularly strong in Australia."

Ms Schembri, a recent owner of her own 1200 Sportster Harley-Davidson bike, said research had not been developed since 1995 when two American professors looked into the structure and ethos of the American brand.

"I am interested in how it works here in Australia. Despite our own Australian patriotism we have embraced the legend that is Harley-Davidson," Ms Schembri said.

"The aim of this research is to describe the consumerism of the Harley-Davidson subculture.

"Once we have an understanding of the social construction behind this brand, we can then possibly build a model to emulate it.

"This can then be used by not only marketers but also for building a stronger community ethos."

By Fiona Tristram

Substance abuse action

NOEL Pearson discussed the Cape York Institute's Substance Abuse Strategy at a recent Griffith University Centre for Public Policy Research seminar.

The strategy can be found online at www.cyi.org.au

The seminar was one in a

series hosted by the university. Upcoming sessions include a briefing on the Australia and New Zealand School of Government by Professor John Wanna.

For more information go to <http://www.griffith.edu.au/centre/cgpp/>

Award winning photo to help child victims of war

QUEENSLAND College of Art student Bill Watson was awarded the inaugural Kim Foundation Award for Photojournalism for his photograph of children on a merry-go-round.

The Kim Foundation was set up by Kim Phuc, who was immortalised in Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Nick Ut's image of her as the badly burnt nine-year-old running away from a napalm attack during the Vietnam War in 1972.

Ms Phuc presented Bill with the award at an industry networking function during her visit to Brisbane.

The winning image will be featured on Christmas cards to raise money for The Kim Foundation which helps young victims of war.

Mr Watson's prize included a trophy designed by Queensland College of Art fine art lecturer and silversmith Lyle Tweeddale.

The 22-year-old photojournalism student said the

award win was a "total surprise".

"Having your image reproduced like that and for such a good cause is amazing," he said. "It's humbling to be associated with a person such as Kim Phuc."

He said the winning photo captured the sense of a carefree childhood which was in contrast to the lives of the children for whom it will be used to help.

Griffith University photography convenor Earle Bridger said the judging panel chose Bill's image because it was positive and highlighted the wonderment and freedom of childhood.

More than 200 photographs from more than 40 students were entered in the competition which was open to all photojournalism students.

Photojournalism lecturers Earle Bridger, Charles Page and David Lloyd judged the award.

By Rachael Layton



The winning photograph of children on a playground merry-go-round.



Photojournalism student Bill Watson accepts the inaugural Kim Foundation Award.

Celebrations at home in Canada



Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, Professor Roger Slee and Vice Chancellor Professor Glyn Davis AC on stage at the Toronto graduation ceremony.

MORE than 700 people – including 140 students – attended Griffith's first graduation ceremony in Toronto, Canada, on September 12.

Most graduating students received their Master of Teaching (Primary and Secondary) degrees, while others received certificates in environmental management programs.

Valedictorians were Jason Henry and Jill Misener, and receiving her PhD was Lorna Collingridge.

Guest speakers were distinguished educationalist and McGill University's Dean of Education Professor Roger Slee and Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, who endorses the Griffith Innocence Project and was last year awarded an honorary doctorate.

Professor Slee said having the ceremony in Canada gave students the important opportunity to celebrate their achievements on home soil with family and friends.

He spoke warmly about the university, its "intellectual mission", and the responsibility now on its graduates to make a difference to their professions and the world at large.

"Griffith has stood for something which is at the heart of what drew me to education in the first place – the opportunity to develop research and teaching that assists us to understand fundamental social issues in order to develop new knowledge and institutional practices to equip us to change our world," he said.

"As members of the global community... in a world that is tearing itself apart, there is much for us to confront.

"As graduates of a fine and socially active university you carry great responsibilities into your spheres of professional practice. I wish you well as you embark on this journey."

Mr Carter, who received an honorary doctorate from Griffith last year for his work supporting the wrongly convicted, discussed the ongoing fight for the innocent. He received a standing ovation.



Graduands making the final touches to their gowns at the Toronto ceremony.



Jason Henry gives a valedictorian address.



Chancellor Leneen Forde AC presenting testamurs in Canada.

Peace in the aftermath of war in Cambodia

A PHOTOGRAPH of a young girl begging on a Cambodian street was one of the powerful images in a photographic exhibition which opened at the QCA to commemorate the United Nations-declared International Day of Peace – September 21.

The *Aftermath* exhibition, which will run until October 20, features photographs taken by Griffith Adjunct Professor and renowned war photographer Tim Page and Griffith graduates Adam Ferguson and Megan Cullen who earlier this year documented the Peace Art Project Cambodia (PAPC).

PAPC introduces Cambodian art students to modern metal-sculpting techniques using decommissioned weapons.

The project raises awareness about Cambodian artists and, at the same time, promotes a weapon-free society.

As part of Griffith's involvement in PAPC, it hosted a visit in September by

three Cambodian student artists and PAPC coordinators Neil Wilford, a small arms specialist, and Sasha Constable, an artist in her own right.

The visiting students – Sophan

Samkhan, Ou Vanndy and Toun Thorneakea – worked with QCA sculptor Brad Nunn to extend their skills. They donated the sculptures they made while in Brisbane to the university.



Adam Ferguson's photograph of a young girl begging in Cambodia is one of 48 images on display during the *Aftermath* exhibition at QCA.

Toun Thorneakea said he wanted his art to challenge people's views of modern-day Cambodia.

"There has been a lot of conflict and fighting in Cambodia and I want my work to show that we are now working for peace," he said.

Neil Wilford said the Australian visit was a crucial part of presenting PAPC to the western world.

"Having the link with Tim Page and Griffith shows the international appeal of the work and the strength of the project," Mr Wilford said. "We wanted the project to provide opportunities for young Cambodians – a valuable exchange that was mutually beneficial."

The Cambodian government, the European Union ASAC Disarmament Program and high profile celebrities including Emma Thompson and Angelina Jolie support PAPC.

By Rachael Layton

Changing careers proves to be award winning for Karen

KAREN Cooley's decision to leave a successful career in administration to follow her dream of becoming a journalist paid off in September when she was announced Australian student journalist of the year.

For Karen, the national Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance Just Super Student Journalist of the Year award confirmed her belief that following her passion was the right decision.

Karen, who has just completed her Master of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication, submitted an article "Just one more sleep" which she wrote for a feature writing course.

Her first-hand account of a visit to a crematorium explored the taboo subject of death and what happens to our bodies after we die.

The judges described Karen's article as "the most captivating print piece" and "hard to put down".

The Courier-Mail agreed with the judges and published the story in September.

The announcement of the award, made in Adelaide, was a surprise experience for Karen who was notified by email at her workplace in the Brisbane office of a mining company.

"It was a surreal experience but really quite exciting," she said.

Three years ago Karen, 39, reached a point in her life where she needed a new challenge and was looking for a change of career.

As a research adviser to former Queensland premier Rob Borbidge, Karen had viewed the workings of the media from the other side.

She enrolled as a part-time, mature-age student but enjoyed studying so much, she decided to sell her house and work part-time so she could be a full-time student.

Karen said as a mature-age, on-campus student she was fortunate to be able to bring life experience into her writing, as well as learn from and advise younger students.

She also cites her lecturers and mentors as inspirations for her success.

Among one of her mentors is freelance journalist Susan Brown with whom she made initial contact when interviewing her for an assignment.

"I've always had the belief I've been lucky that I've had people who've mentored me so I plan to give back to others when I can," she said.

Karen is now concentrating on finding work as a journalist while looking at her longer-term plans of organising her wedding to partner Quentin and the possibility of one day undertaking a PhD.

By Rachael Layton



Karen Cooley has been named Australian student journalist of the year.

Graduates responsible for future of our world



Westpac Corporation Director Ted Evans at the Griffith ceremony.



Artist Davida Allen receives an honorary doctorate.

A TOTAL of 1130 Griffith graduands were presented with their testamurs in four Brisbane graduation ceremonies in August.

The ceremonies were for Arts, Education, Health, Science, Business and Law students.

At the time of going to press two October ceremonies were underway on the Gold Coast.

Brisbane ceremony guest speakers were artist Davida Allen, Queensland Institute of Medical Research Director Professor Michael Good, Westpac Corporation Director Ted Evans and Australian Institute of Management Chief Executive Carolyn Barker.

Ms Allen and Mr Evans were additionally awarded honorary Doctor of the University degrees in recognition of their outstanding contributions to their professions and the wider community.

In an address to graduates Mr Evans said Griffith

University had "come a very long way in only 30-odd years". He said he was proud to now consider it "my" university.

Mr Evans said today's university graduates faced "a profound obligation to ensure that Australia's future is not left to luck".

"The bigger challenges seem to me to lie in two directions. One is the future of our free market economy, and the second is our ability to live with the natural environment," he said.

Mr Evans urged all graduates to become socially responsible leaders of the future.

Attending the ceremonies were Chancellor Leneen Forde AC, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) Professor Ian O'Connor, former recipients of honorary doctorate awards, senior academics, special guests, graduands and their families.

Students spread their wings

GRADUATING this year has been made all the more exciting for two final year hotel management and business students, with the chance to spend 18 months in the "City of Angels".

Glynn Pugh and Carmen Sippel are two of three people from Australia and New Zealand accepted into a traineeship program with Jetabout in Los Angeles.

"This is a perfect learning opportunity and will hopefully open more doors for us," Mr Pugh said.

American company Jetabout sells tourist packages, such as escorted programs, coach tours, adventure, self drive, luxury lodges and an enormous range of hotels and sightseeing tours, to travel agents and consumers.

Mr Pugh and Ms Sippel are not new to working overseas and have previously taken advantage of Griffith's internship program - Ms Sippel in a ski resort in Virginia, United States and Mr Pugh at the Grand Intercontinental Hotel in Seoul, South Korea.

"As we have both worked mainly in hotels, we are looking forward to learning more about selling whole tourist packages," Ms Sippel said.

Before they touch down in LA, part of the students' preparation will be taking in an educational

travel and training experience for 17 days around Australia and New Zealand.

"This opportunity is provided so we have first-hand experience with the product that we will be selling to the American market,"

Mr Pugh said.

They will also receive destination training from the State Tourism Offices of Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Tahiti.

By Fiona Tristram



Carmen Sippel and Glynn Pugh prepare to spend 18 months in Los Angeles.

Academic demystifies DNA

A PROFESSORIAL lecture by Genomics Research Centre Director Professor Lyn Griffiths has shared some of her team's major scientific breakthroughs with the community.

The free public lecture, titled "Gene Hunting: the search for genes involved in complex human disorders", was held at the Gold Coast and aimed to debunk some of the myths that surround DNA research.

"Genetic research has received a great deal of attention during the past few years, but still very little is understood about it," Professor Griffiths said.

"The Genomics Research Centre holds the largest collection of migraine DNA resources in the world and was the first internationally to map and identify common migraine genes."

Professor Griffiths said the team recently discovered a genetic link between hormones and migraine and it was the first time a hormone receptor gene had been associated with migraine.

She said further research was being carried out to see how changes in the DNA sequence affected the gene.

Last year, the research team discovered people who suffered from migraine could be genetically predisposed to suffering a stroke.

Earlier, she said her team identified areas on chromosomes 1, 19 and X where migraine genes are found.

Professor Griffiths said she came from a family of migraine sufferers, so the study into the genetics of migraine was a natural career choice.

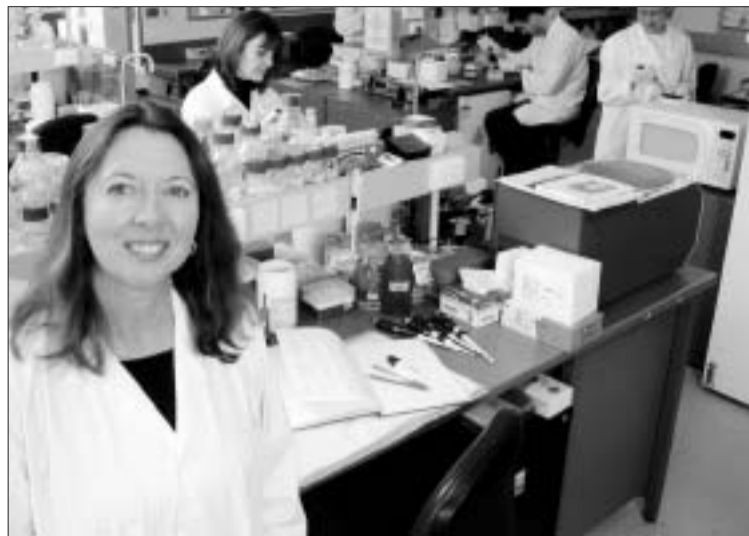
"My mother endured migraine as a teenager and during her 20s and 30s," she said.

"My migraine plight began when I was about 13 or 14 and later the disorder touched both of my children."

Professor Griffiths said when her first child developed migraines she could not understand why no-one was doing research into migraine.

"I began to investigate a possible genetic link and discovered that 90 per cent of migraine sufferers had another close relative who suffered from the disorder," she said.

| By Greer Quinn



Professor Griffiths has been conducting research into genetics at Griffith for a decade.

Opera star

QUEENSLAND Conservatorium student Amy Wilkinson recently won the Metropolitan Opera Young Artists Study Award at the national competition in Sydney.

The award will enable Amy to travel to New York for an intensive period of further study.

Amy played the lead female role of Pamina in the Queensland Conservatorium's production of *The Magic Flute*.

Onn wins with language skills

SCHOOL of Languages and Linguistics student Clement (Choon Yu) Onn won first prize at the annual Queensland Japanese Language Speech Contest on August 29.

His five minute speech in Japanese was on his experience of job hunting in Japan. He will go to Sydney to compete in the national final in October.

QCGU director leads the way

QUEENSLAND Conservatorium director Professor Peter Roennfeldt believes drawing on the past, both musically and culturally, while moving forward to adapt, inspire and inform, is the role of Queensland's leading musical institution.

Professor Roennfeldt, a keyboard performer and conductor specialising in Baroque music, was recently appointed as director – a consolidation of his two years acting in the position and 20 years working at the conservatorium.

He said the Queensland Conservatorium's tendency to present productions of familiar repertoire in a new light was something audiences had come to expect.

"We should be leading where our audiences are going, not just following trends," he said.



Professor Peter Roennfeldt looks to the future.

Professor Roennfeldt's passion for travel, to which he brings his love of music and history, is incorporated into his teaching.

"I try and imbue a sense of wider appreciation in the students which then broadens the cultural and social context of the music which they perform," he said.

He said while music transcended culture and time, it was important for musicians to communicate their work so it had relevance in modern, Australian life.

"We need to find that local authentic voice in the art of performing."

Professor Roennfeldt said the Queensland Conservatorium's culture of inclusion and supportiveness meant students had a sense of collaboration and healthy competition.

"The students challenge each other," he said. "They come here to get that input from the broad range of teaching experiences – it's not just about the individual but the collective experience. It's very stimulating seeing people do what they do best."

Professor Roennfeldt started playing piano at 10, and completed undergraduate studies in Brisbane and Adelaide before travelling to the United States on a scholarship to complete his doctorate at the University of Cincinnati.

When it came time to choose a university program, he wavered between music and humanities.

He chose music, but still loves the humanities, particularly history, which comes to the fore in his teaching and research of arts history.

Professor Roennfeldt's future plans include a trip to Shandong College of Arts and Music in China, where he will perform works by American and Australian composers and explore collaborative opportunities.

| By Rachael Layton

Leisure matters in today's world

IN a rapidly changing and often unpredictable world it seems appropriate to re-examine the role of leisure in contemporary society. The eighth World Leisure Congress: Leisure Matters, sponsored by Griffith University, the Queensland Government and Brisbane City Council, did just that.

Attending the congress at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre were more than 500 delegates from all states of Australia, along with representatives from more than 30 countries.

Congress technical program chair and Griffith's Centre for Work, Leisure and Community Research Director, Professor Peter Brown, said the event sought to raise awareness, broaden understanding and improve people's capacity to make "leisure matter".

Professor Brown said research showed leisure contributed to an

individual's health and well-being.

"With careful management and planning it can also contribute to the development of social capital, strengthening of social networks, and promotion of social cohesion," he said.

"A key challenge facing leisure practitioners and researchers is the need to consider various possibilities of the future, and to use evidenced-based practice to inform social and cultural policy and services.

"Things such as the impact of technology and the emerging information society, changing global and socio-political alliances, changing patterns of work and socio-demographic changes on leisure behaviours and values all need to be considered when planning for the future," Professor Brown said.

| By Fiona Tristram

Design challenge

MORE than 300 students from 62 high schools took part in Queensland College of Art's Australian Secondary Schools Digital Design Challenge.

A Robina State High School team of Jamison Banham and Flemming Clausen won the Best Overall Design, Best Achieving School and first place in the Web Page Design category for their design of a homeless youth website.

"Homeless youth" was the theme for the competition's six categories – Web Page, Graphic, Architectural, Three-Dimensional, Junior Three-Dimensional and Junior Graphic Design.

It is the sixth year Griffith has run the competition and the first year it has been run Australia-wide.

Digital Design Challenge co-ordinator Larry Vint said the competition encouraged students to stretch their imagination by generating a design within a specified time frame.



Janet copes well with change from store to study



Janet Scott has no regrets about swapping convenience stores for books.

AN interest in how humans coped with change inspired Janet Scott to undertake a Certificate in Applied Psychology (Vocational) at Griffith University.

No stranger to change, Ms Scott, 46, walked away from a 12-year career buying, selling and managing Gold Coast convenience stores to study.

From her 20s, she had dreamt about studying psychology at university. "During my last four years in convenience stores, I read psychology books while working behind counters," Ms Scott said.

"Human behaviour fascinates me. I've always believed in people's ability to change and propel themselves forward."

Ms Scott said she decided to take on the Certificate Program because as a mature-age student, too much time had lapsed since she had completed high school. "I didn't feel confident about doing the Special Tertiary Admissions Test," she said.

"I wanted to test my abilities and experience university life before making a full-time commitment – the Certificate Program provided those opportunities."

Last year Ms Scott topped a class of 500 students in one subject. Armed with a grade point average of 6.95, Ms Scott has since applied to undertake a Bachelor of Applied Psychology.

"Griffith is the only university I've nominated on my QTAC form," she said.

While keeping an open mind about where her studies might take her, she said she could see herself involved in teaching.

"My fellow students have inspired me. I seem to gravitate towards the younger students and admire them so much for what they have taken on," she said.

By Greer Quinn

Dentistry study raises alarm bells

A SCHOOL of Dentistry and Oral Health academic has raised alarm bells about the number of Queensland children admitted to hospital for dental treatment.

Oral Health Therapy senior lecturer Leonie Short said more than 2000 children under four were admitted to Queensland hospitals last financial year for the treatment of early childhood caries under general anaesthesia.

Ms Short worked with a multi-disciplinary team of academics to produce an analysis of Queensland's dental health services which showed a disproportionate number of children undergoing general anaesthesia, for instance in Cape York.

"The districts of Logan, Beaudesert, Brisbane North, West Moreton, Brisbane South and the Gold Coast were the top five most frequent users of general anaesthetic," Ms Short said.

"But in relation to the whole population, Cape York and Torres Strait recorded the highest proportion with 4.55 per cent of 0-4 year-olds undergoing general anaesthetic for dental purposes."

The financial burden of caries in Queensland, based on costing from the Royal Children's Hospital and data available from Health Information Centre (Queensland Health), was

about \$2.5 million per year.

"About 30 per cent of these procedures were carried out in private hospital settings while the rest were carried out in public hospitals," she said.

"These procedures carry the health risks associated with general anaesthesia and psychological costs for infants, children and parents or carers."

Ms Short presented an analysis of dental treatment data in public and private hospitals in Queensland at the Australian College of Health Service Executives conference.

"Patients are more likely to undergo an extraction in public hospitals while patients are more likely to undergo more tooth-conserving procedures in private hospitals," she said.

She said at seven per cent Queensland had the lowest level of water fluoridation and some of the worst decay rates in Australia.

"One of the best features of water fluoridation is it helps everyone in the community, not just those who can afford to go to the dentist every six months for check-ups or to undergo fluoride treatments," she said.

By Greer Quinn

Who's listening to the radio?

MORE than seven million Australians listened to community radio every month, a recent national survey of community broadcasting found.

As an extension of that study, journalism researchers Associate Professor Michael Meadows, Dr Susan Forde and Dr Jacqui Ewart have been awarded a \$455,000 linkage grant to examine the appeal of community broadcasting.

The team will work with the Community Broadcasting Foundation, Department of Communication, Information Technology and the Arts, and the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia on the project "Regional, remote and radical: Australian community broadcasting audiences talk back".

Associate Professor Meadows said there were about 300 community radio stations and six community television stations in Australia.

"Community radio plays an important role in people's lives at a community level," he said. "There's plenty of anecdotal evidence that a diverse range of Australians aren't getting the information they want from mainstream broadcasting."

The two-year project will be the first comprehensive qualitative audience study of the community broadcasting sector and has international significance. It will include focus group research involving multilingual audiences from Indigenous and ethnic communities around the country, along with a broad cross section of general listeners and viewers.

The study complements the team's 2002 research which examined the cultural and public role of Australian community radio.

By Rachael Layton

Student shares pillow talk

GOLD Coast multimedia student and long-time surfer Elmar Trefz is riding on the crest of a wave after receiving widespread recognition for his interactive design piece, the Wave Pillow.

Mr Trefz said the pillow for surfers was designed to vibrate according to the size of the waves.

"The pillow can be programmed to wake you up if the waves are over a certain size and/or the wind is not onshore," he said.

"If the waves are high, the device vibrates strongly. If they are low, it vibrates at a lower level and if they are bad it doesn't vibrate at all and lets you continue sleeping."

"You can set it to a time, say 5.30am, or make an interactive request to wake you up only if

it's good enough."

Mr Trefz said the Wave Pillow could communicate wave quality by reading information from the internet on wind direction, frequency of surf waves and wave size.

"The computer is connected to software and to activate it the surfer needs only put their head on the pillow or alternatively preset it to a certain time (for example 5.30am) for vibrations to start."

"The Wave Pillow is a normal pillow with a custom-made vibrator inside which is protected by a case that senses pressure to activate it."

Mr Trefz said he was interested in how the internet could be liberated and extended from the screen, to interact with the outside world.

"Interaction design is a new

field, focusing on interactions between humans and objects and how to display information in new and innovative forms," he said.

He said he was inspired to create the Wave Pillow while completing a degree in multimedia at the Gold Coast and after being introduced to the concept of "physical computing" by Futurefarmers in San Francisco.

Mr Trefz said he hoped to further develop the Wave Pillow by incorporating more features such as making the product independent from a computer by using an SMS service.

Following a stream of media attention, Mr Trefz has moved to Sydney's Bondi Beach to seek investors and a business to manufacture his prototype.



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Showing our support

IN support of World Suicide Prevention Day, Griffith's Australian Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention (AISRAP) joined a group of high profile sportspeople, musicians and community representatives to reflect on the issue.

At the event AISRAP lecturer and clinical psychologist Jacinta Hawgood talked about the role evidence-based research played in the prevention of suicide. The event was organised by Community Action for the Prevention of Suicide in Brisbane on September 10.

Queensland Reds Rugby Union players, who lost one of their team members to suicide earlier this year, cooked a free barbecue breakfast.

There were also a number of speakers including former lead singer of Chocolate Starfish Adam Thompson and former rugby union player Chris Handy.

Review of strategic plan in full swing



Professor Rory Hume and Bachelor of Communication student Ro-Anne Johnson at Logan.

“IN good shape” was how Professor Rory Hume described Griffith University during his two-week residency in September – the first part of an extensive review of the strategic plan.

The plan, called The Griffith Project, was endorsed by Council in 2002 and addressed issues including how to meet the university's infrastructure needs, along with ongoing innovation, equity and community engagement, entrepreneurship and internationalisation.

To view the plan and supporting documents, go to <http://www.griffith.edu.au/ua/aa/plans/>

Formerly Vice Chancellor of the University of New South Wales, Professor Hume was engaged by Griffith to conduct the review and identify challenges, opportunities and strategic directions in the

decade ahead.

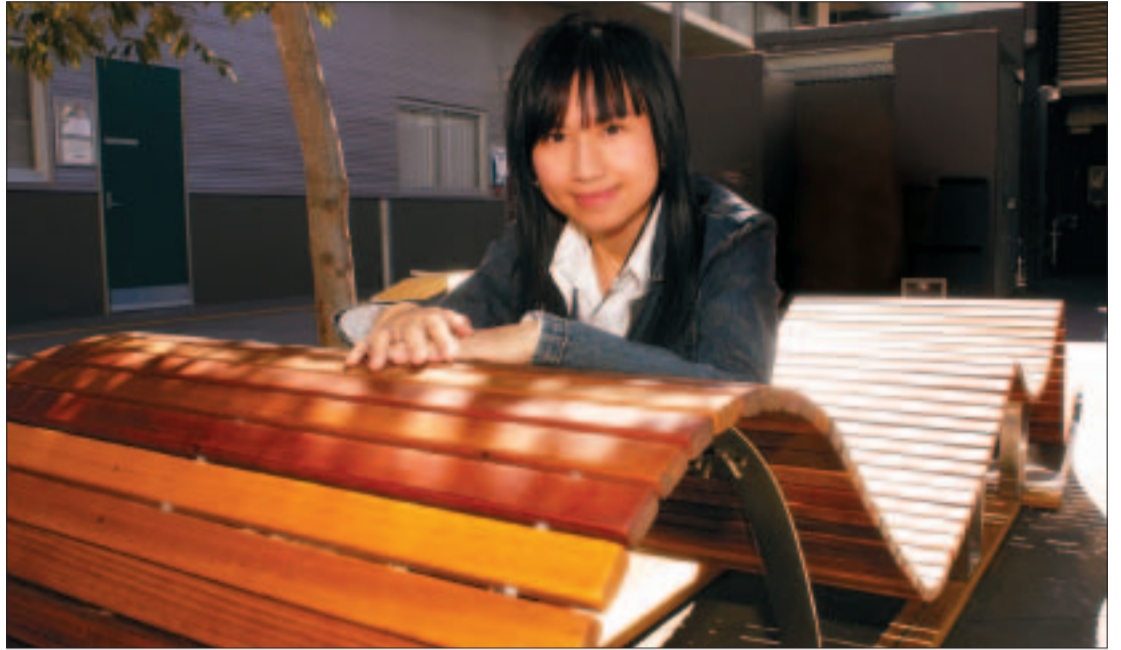
Submissions from across the Griffith community were invited as part of the information gathering process and, while in Queensland, Professor Hume met students, staff, graduates and representatives of external organisations.

During the visit he said Griffith's “history of inclusive planning” was a distinctive feature of its learning culture and it was “comfortable keeping the planning method alive”.

The Griffith ethos, he said, was one of openness and confidence and there was a clear understanding of its vision and strategic objectives.

“I do believe the university has been soundly governed and soundly administered,” he said. Professor Hume's report would be submitted to Council at the end of the year.

Designers showcase furniture in Tokyo



Design student Tammy Liew relaxes on the wooden park bench she designed for Tokyo Design Week.

DESIGN students have created fun and functional street furniture for an exhibition at Tokyo Design Week in September.

The six pieces of furniture – ranging from a hammock-style park bench to leaning spaces – were designed in the Furniture Design Course and fabricated in the Design Project 3 course within the Bachelor of Design.

Design lecturer Sam Di Mauro said the product and interior design students worked with graphic design students on the documentation and publicity for showcasing the collection in Japan.

It is the first time Queensland College of Art students have exhibited at the design show which attracts students from 40 Japanese universities, 20 international universities and where other exhibitions run concurrently and feature the work of professional designers from around the world.

“The exposure at an international level for this is very significant as it may open up a lot of doors,” Mr Di Mauro said.

He said students designed the pieces, then organised for prototypes to be manufactured and shipped to Tokyo for the two-week exhibition.

Belinda Smith, who designed a combination seat, step and landmark structure which features a huge,

orange dot, said she wanted to create a piece that could be used as a meeting spot.

“I've lived and travelled in a lot of cities and the question of where you meet people is always an issue – this is a new concept for street furniture,” she said.

She said she was excited about exhibiting her work in Japan.

“Japanese culture has been such an inspiration during my design career,” she said.

Belinda said she had also written a children's book to accompany the design.

Tammy Liew, who designed a wooden park bench called “Sunday”, said she was inspired by people relaxing and enjoying life on a Sunday.

“I wanted to have some fun and design something that makes people happy,” she said.

Fellow student Gary Cheung designed a leaning seat for people waiting in public spaces while Genevieve Phun designed the “L2 for Lean-to” a multi-function, wall-mounted table.

Designs by Ana Navas and Alithia Egea will also be part of the Griffith exhibit which was financed by Design at Griffith University, with sponsorship from Ronstan Architectural Rigging Systems.

By Rachael Layton

New complex IMERSD in music

A \$5 million multi-media and music technology complex will be launched at the Queensland Conservatorium in October.

Arts and Education Minister Anna Bligh will officially open Intermedia, Music Education and Research Design (IMERSD), a

state-of-the-art surround-sound recording, post-production and research facility.

Village Roadshow executive vice president and newly appointed adjunct professor Mike Lake will be one of the key speakers at the launch.

Multimedia senior lecturer Paul

Draper said the studios included the latest industry-specific technology and would be used collaboratively by staff, students, industry partners and alumni in research and industry-focused projects.

He said IMERSD would be used for music production, composition, film sound-tracking, sound for theatre and public art, and the development of research publications utilising new media materials.

“IMERSD will assist the Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre in an innovative publishing arm which profiles research in creative arts practice and music education,” Dr Draper said.

He said the facility would also be an excellent resource for the Griffith Film School and would continue to focus the strong partnerships across the Griffith Arts community.



Paul Draper in the new high-tech studio at the Queensland Conservatorium.