

# GradLife

  
University of  
Western Sydney  
Bringing knowledge to life

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### SEEKING JUSTICE

Manuel Ventura's passion  
for international law

### AWARD-WINNING INVENTION

Honours project success  
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using creativity  
in all its forms  
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**VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2  
DECEMBER 2010**

# GradLife

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Printing: UWS Print Services

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For over 20 years graduates of the University of Western Sydney have been making an impact on our communities as they realise their career goals and succeed in life.

The University has produced more than 100,000 graduates during that time.

What makes our graduates stand out is their desire to give back to the community, combined with a strong sense of fairness and social justice.

Each of our graduates has a story to tell and in this issue of GradLife you will meet several of our remarkable graduates.

Graduates like UWS Music Honours student Sarah-Grace Williams, who now has the opportunity to learn from some of the world's most renowned conductors after earning a 2010 Churchill Fellowship.

Helicopter pilot Rosemary Arnold, who graduated from UWS at the age of 70, and now runs the unique Chapel in the Sky service, tells her incredible story and plans for her new book.

You will also read of the stellar career of Visual Arts Honours graduate Craig Ellis who used the creativity skills honed at UWS to run one of Australia's most successful online marketing companies.

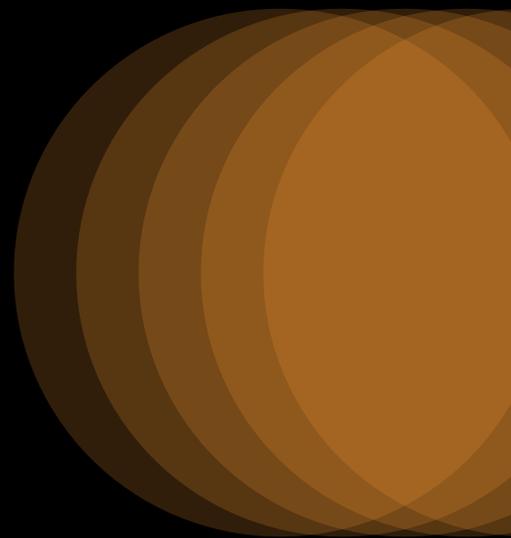
This issue of Gradlife also brings you up to date on recent events in Alumni chapters and the latest news on campus.

As 2010 draws to a close I trust you will continue to share our vision as ambassadors for UWS.

Professor Janice Reid AM  
Vice-Chancellor  
University of Western Sydney



Professor Janice Reid AM  
Vice-Chancellor  
University of Western Sydney



# graduate used creativity in all its forms

An Honours degree in Visual Arts might seem an unlikely preparation for a career as an internet marketer, but it has worked out well for UWS graduate Craig Ellis, now Managing Director of leading internet marketing firm dgmAustralia.

"I have and always will have a passion for creativity, and my life has evolved in a way where I have found other challenges and opportunities which I'm attracted to, while still maintaining a creative outlet to keep my life balanced," Craig says.

Channelling creativity is a key thread running through Craig's career. Having spent four years dedicated to visual arts, he branched out, indulging his diverse passions in a range of roles, such as working with the Interior Design team at Ikea, at Sydney's Capitol Theatre on a production of *Miss Saigon*, and in the live music scene, managing, marketing and doing lighting for bands. He says all of these jobs expanded his experience and learning and provided an avenue for his "creative urges".

## RIDING THE DOT-COM WAVE

After some overseas travel, in 1997 Craig applied for a job with Fairfax Digital on a new online venture – the launch of the Sydney CitySearch Online City Guide. This marked the beginning of his 12-year career in internet marketing, and he worked through the ranks before being headhunted to join Excite Australia (in a joint venture between Optus and Excite). Craig spent a year in a senior business development role before the dot-com crash started to claim its victims – Excite amongst them.

Craig, along with a few remaining Excite staff and a revised business model, was absorbed under the new banner of Optus Interactive, which was trialling interactive TV and offering a broadband portal.

Then with a change in direction at Optus, several online divisions were closed down and Craig was on the move again, joining media representation house Postclick.

"Studying at UWS gave me an environment where I was surrounded by passionate, talented individuals."

By the end of 2003, Craig was one of the few in Australia with six years' experience in the fledgling (and turbulent) internet industry, and as confidence returned and growth began to pick up after the carnage of the dot-com crash, was approached to head up business development for the new Australian arm of a UK company.

He began with dgmAustralia as Business Development Director in January 2004, and six years later, has risen to Managing Director, responsible for 32 staff in Australia and New Zealand.

## DEFINING SUCCESS

Last year, Craig was named in industry magazine AdNews's '40 under 40' list of rising stars in the Australian advertising, media and marketing industry. At just 37, Craig is the oldest person in the company, with the average age of staff around 22 to 24. This type of age profile is common in the internet industry, and is indicative of both its relative youth and the constantly evolving, dynamic nature of the internet itself – an aspect that Craig relishes.

"The digital age has just transposed everything you do in life. When I was at uni, we were still developing the film from our camera, using tapes in a VCR. Now it is all different," he says.

"What's changed in the last 10 years is phenomenal, and in the next 10 it will be a whole new world. But the constant change, evolution and growth is great for a company like ours."

Since its launch in Australia, dgmAustralia – with a focus on always providing innovative ideas and fresh thinking on how brands can use the internet – has become a leader in its field, being called upon to speak at industry events, educate clients, and comment in industry publications.

It is also the most awarded search marketing agency in the region, having won back-to-back IAB Australia Search Marketing Awards, and back-to-back Asia Digital Media Awards for Search Marketing in 2008 and 2009, for its work on big brands such as Dell, Woolworths and St George.

"That recognition is great, especially when we are up against global giants as a smaller independent business. It shows the high level of pride of the people who work here," Craig says.

He attributes the company's success to a combination of factors – having good people at the right time in the internet's evolution, with some hard work thrown in.

"The nature of our DNA is about return on investment – which means minimising budget waste and giving business positive returns. We work across a number of different channels but have a backbone in high client servicing," Craig says, adding that this has resulted in a client retention rate that is "almost unheard of" in the industry.

Having been on the frontline of the ups and downs of the internet's early days, Craig has some fond memories.

"In 1997, when I started working in online, just seeing people's faces when you were showing them a website or portal – some people were critical, others thought it was amazing. At that stage, even the idea of everyone having email addresses was foreign."

Other memorable achievements include getting clients on board for the first time and a cutting-edge Volvo campaign in 2001 which saw the brand make a significant investment in digital for the first time.



## TAKING LESSONS FORWARD

While in some ways Craig took a different path after his university study, his days at the University of Western Sydney left some indelible marks on his approach to his career and life. He says the way of thinking he was introduced to is something he has carried with him.

“Creative elements within the course asked us to think more ‘how’ and ‘why’ rather than ‘what’ and ‘when’, and this is something which is very much with me today.”

Craig also learned the importance of surrounding himself with like-minded people while pursuing a passion.

“It was a great awakening. The lecturers were committed and practising artists themselves. The fact that they were interested just as much in the process of creating art and your line of thinking as the finished product was refreshing and encouraging, as it paid homage to the journey.

“Studying at UWS gave me an environment where I was surrounded by passionate, talented individuals. I found the camaraderie and being around people who wanted to spend their time in this way to be inspiring and creative. I have replicated that in my current position.”

In fact, Craig enjoyed his days at uni so much he would love the opportunity to return one day, saying, “I’d like to be in that environment again, with the life experiences and personal developments I’ve made since I graduated”.

And as he looks ahead to an exciting future at the top of the internet game, he advises other aspiring leaders to “be true to yourself and do what you want to do. Follow your passions and whatever you choose, immerse yourself in it and give yourself the best shot of success”.

# seeking justice in the international courts



For someone with a passion for international law, working at a special United Nations criminal court in The Hague, The Netherlands, is a dream come true; one that UWS graduate Manuel Ventura is living.

After completing a combined Arts/Law degree at the University of Western Sydney (he also has a degree in Economics and Social Sciences (Government and International Relations) with first class honours from the University of Sydney), Manuel travelled to The Hague for a conference in March 2009.

"I decided to apply to the different tribunals to see if I could stay on," Manuel says. He was offered a position as a legal intern assisting the Appeals Counsel in the prosecution of war crimes cases at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), where he worked throughout 2009.

"I was really thrown in the deep end of international criminal law, working on cases I'd only seen on the news or read about in a legal textbook. The highlight was working on a case against Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb politician and first president of the breakaway republic of Republika Srpska. He was one of the top people accused at the ICTY, and his arrest and trial was all over the news. I was lucky enough to work with the prosecutors on his case," Manuel says.

"Another highlight was a related case, against Milan Milutinovic, the former president of Serbia, and several top Serbian civil and military leaders for the events that took place in Kosovo during 1999. This was one of the largest cases in ICTY history."

These plum roles are not necessarily easy to secure, but Manuel's keen interest in international law and having tailored his UWS degree towards that interest stood him in good stead.

"I was really thrown in the deep end of international criminal law, working on cases I'd only seen on the news."

"I chose subjects in criminal law, space law, human rights law, environmental law – everything that would contribute to my understanding of international law," he says, adding that other activities such as the Jessup International Law moot that he participated in while studying were also "looked very highly upon".

After a brief period back in Australia, working as a university tutor and freelance legal editor, Manuel has now headed back to The Hague – taking up a new role in September 2010 to serve in Chambers at the UN's recently established Special Tribunal for Lebanon.

"I'm going to be working for the President of the Tribunal, Judge Antonio Cassese, assisting in the determination of motions and cases before him."

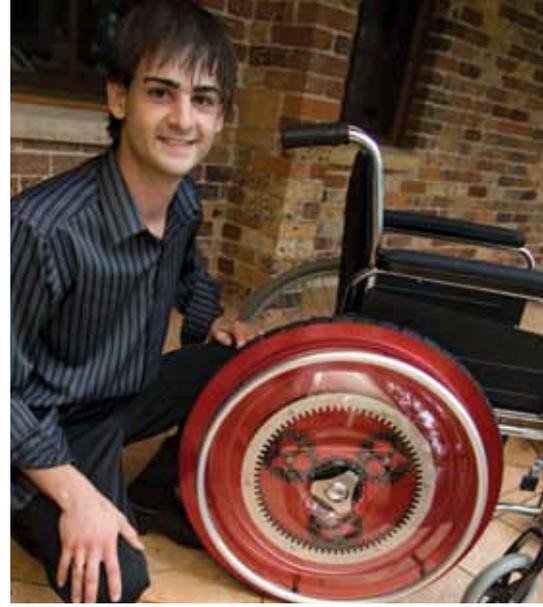
While the appointment is for six months, Manuel hopes to move onto another role in The Hague. In the meantime, he is looking forward to settling back into his adopted home in the Netherlands, describing his first stint living there as "fascinating and fun".

"In the beginning, I thought it might be difficult not knowing the language. But it turns out that everybody speaks perfect English. It is a little expensive, especially in The Hague, but in the wider scheme of things, I had an awesome time. That's why I'm going back."

Manuel says he enjoyed his time at UWS, particularly given it set him on his path with international law.

"It eventually led me to where I am now, and I'm thankful for that."

# honours project turns award-winning invention



When UWS Bachelor of Industrial Design graduate Jacob Grech was searching for a design problem to solve for his final year Honours project in 2008, he didn't have to look any further than his own family.

"At the time, my grandmother was restricted to a wheelchair, and my mum used to complain about how many stairs there were everywhere," says Jacob. "So the problem I wanted to address was the inaccessibility of the built environment for wheelchair users."

As part of his research, Jacob spent a few days in a wheelchair and attempted to complete everyday tasks such as catching public transport and visiting a local shopping centre.

"I was astounded by the number of occasions I was faced with an unpassable object and more specifically, stairs – single steps or roadside kerbs."

Jacob went on to design a set of wheels called FreeTrekka, which fit any current standard wheelchair and allow users to climb stairs and travel over soft ground, including sand. The design consists of a tyre stretched onto a track system by a pair of retractable rollers, which are deployed by small electric motors in the wheel, providing the user with more traction and greater stability.

The invention was included in the end-of-year UWS Industrial Design exhibition, Widevision.

Seeing its promise, UWS Innovation & Consulting worked with Jacob to help him present his prototype to the UWS Intellectual Property Evaluation Panel, which recommended the University lodge a provisional patent for FreeTrekka.

This provided a 12-month period to conduct further research and development before UWS placed a full international patent on the concept. "Since then we have been pursuing industry partners and funding for the prototype and further development," Jacob says.

He also submitted the FreeTrekka for the 2009 Anthill Smart 100 Awards and, despite being up against a field of over 800 other Australian inventions, was awarded second place – leading to both media and commercial interest.

"I believe UWS is more hands-on in their design curriculum compared with other universities."

Dr Stephan Golla, technology commercialisation manager at UWS Innovation & Consulting, worked with Jacob on building relationships with potential industry partners, teaching him how to structure an innovative project, create a pitch, develop a strong view on customer needs and work out the financials behind the plan.

Dr Golla says he has had some interest from potential investors, but the University is still looking for a partner to help fund the investment required to build a full working prototype, which could take around a year from the time of securing funding. Should they be successful in achieving this, the final step in the process is licensing the technology to a manufacturer.

"We have talked to various market players already, and they all love it," Dr Golla says.

While there is still a way to go in the development process for FreeTrekka, Jacob, now 26, has already landed a job in the disability sector, working in design and engineering for a company which performs adaptations on vehicles for people with disabilities.

He got his foot in the door after a friend with a disability mentioned Jacob's invention to the owner of the company.

Longer-term, Jacob would love to have his own design studio or do product design for a large company such as Apple – but in the meantime, getting FreeTrekka to the next stage of production is a priority.

"I'd love to see it commercialised and get it out there, to help a whole lot of people. Seeing in my work how many people have the same issues, it would be very rewarding to solve that problem for them," Jacob says.

Undoubtedly, Jacob's studies at UWS have set him up for a great future in industrial design.

"It was fantastic being able to have the freedom to do whatever you wanted and to solve a real problem in society. I believe UWS is more hands-on in their design curriculum compared with other universities, and I'm very grateful for the help I received with the patenting and commercialisation of my design – that has been a huge benefit."

A woman with dark hair and bangs, wearing a dark suit jacket, is smiling and holding a white baton. The background is dark. The text "graduate wins 2010 Churchill Fellowship" is overlaid on the image.

graduate wins  
2010 Churchill  
Fellowship

UWS graduate Sarah-Grace Williams will have the opportunity to learn from some of the world's most renowned conductors after becoming one of the 2010 recipients of the prestigious Stuart and Norma Leslie Churchill Fellowship.

The Churchill Fellowships are awarded annually to Australians seeking to conduct research overseas to enhance their knowledge in their chosen area, and will allow Sarah-Grace to travel to the UK, Germany, Russia, Ukraine, Norway and USA to undertake lessons and assist conductors of leading European and American orchestras.

It is the latest honour in what has so far been a brilliant career in music.

Sarah-Grace graduated from the University of Western Sydney with a Bachelor of Music with Distinction in 1997, majoring in performance (clarinet) and composition. She chose to study at UWS because she was able to undertake a double-major, which was not offered by many other universities, and went on to obtain first class honours in composition in 1999.

Sarah-Grace grew up in the Penrith area, so the University's proximity was a bonus although not her primary reason for choosing to study there.

"At the time the Music degree was only in its second year and I was excited to become part of a new course, with a fresh vision and great flexibility. I was able to explore many facets of my own musicianship and discover where I wanted to be within the industry," Sarah-Grace says.

"Throughout my degree I was encouraged by my lecturers to follow my passion for conducting, and they allowed me to change my major for my honours degree. Without this flexibility and support, I would not have pursued conducting as a career."

In particular, she singles out Professor Michael Atherton and Dr Diana Blom as being seminal in her career development.

"My mentors and lecturers supported me and allowed me to have confidence in my beliefs and aspirations. They showed me that I could do whatever I wanted," Sarah-Grace says.

"I was encouraged to explore many avenues and become the best musician I could. I am very grateful for the guidance and education I received at UWS during these formative years."

After completing her degree at UWS, Sarah-Grace continued her conducting studies overseas with Alexander Polishchuk in Russia and Jorma Panula in Holland.

"My mentors and lecturers supported me and allowed me to have confidence in my beliefs and aspirations."

She also graduated from Symphony Australia's Conductor Program and has since conducted under the tutelage of renowned conductors Johannes Fritzsch, Janos Furst, Sebastian Lang-Lessing, Christopher Seaman, David Porcelijn, Lutz Koehler and Marco Zuccarini.

Sarah-Grace went on to become the founding Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra, Musical Director and Conductor of the Sydney Opera House Proms Orchestra and was Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of Strathfield Symphony Orchestra between 2006 and 2010.

In addition to the Churchill Fellowship, her work has netted her a handful of other prizes, including the University of Western Sydney Prize for Academic Excellence and Prize for First Place in Performance, and a Symphony Australia Podium Scholarship.

In 2009, Sarah-Grace was appointed the Assistant Conductor for Symphony Australia, assisting the Queensland, Adelaide, West Australian and Tasmanian Symphony Orchestras, where she had also previously been engaged as a Guest Conductor and Presenter. This appointment has cemented her reputation as one of Australia's foremost conductors, and this year she was named by *Limelight Magazine* as one of the top 50 power players in their 'Smart Arts' list for 2010.

Sarah-Grace also lectures in Conducting, Aural, Music Theatre and Choral Studies at the Australian International Conservatorium of Music and the Australian Institute of Music and regularly composes, arranges and records music for films, theatre, symphonic ensembles and chamber groups.

She continues to work as a freelance clarinettist and pianist, radio presenter, vocal coach, accompanist and adjudicator.

Despite this hectic schedule, she describes her work as an absolute thrill, and enjoys the challenges that each new performance brings.

"The fact that I have never considered what I do as a 'job' has to be the best thing. Conducting is an all-encompassing mind and body experience," she says. "The most wonderful thing is leaving the concert platform knowing that you have been part of something very special that can never be repeated. Sharing your passion for music with other musicians and an audience is such an honour, a reward and a blessing."

Sarah-Grace loves being an all-round musician, but sees conducting as a very special facet of performance. "As a clarinettist, I am responsible for one line of music only, like a single piece of a puzzle. As a conductor, you get to look at the whole picture, you get to put the puzzle together. I love studying the works and really getting inside them – harmonically, structurally, historically – and then sharing this with the musicians."

She says she feels blessed to have been able to channel her passion into a career, although there may have been little choice in the matter: "As musicians, somehow it feels as if our job chooses us, not the other way around – you know there is no other option."

Her advice for other young musicians? "Believe in yourself and give it everything you've got. It can be a hard journey sometimes and no one is going to hand it to you on a plate, but anything is possible. Throw yourself into your studies and most importantly, don't let negative people stand in your way. This industry can only thrive if we continue to have fresh, passionate and exciting new blood. Be this!"

# UWS education leader receives national fellowship

The University of Western Sydney's Associate Professor Steve Wilson has received a prestigious Fellowship of the Australian College of Education (ACE), one of the highest honours the college bestows.

The fellowship is a national award, and recognises the Associate Professor for his outstanding professional leadership in higher education and innovation in community collaboration.

According to Dr John DeCourcy, President of the New South Wales branch of the ACE, the Fellowship is a distinctive honour recognising the individual's contribution both in the workplace and in the education community more generally. He says Associate Professor Wilson's leadership has enabled teacher educators to become more connected with the education needs of students and the challenges of schools and systems in Greater Western Sydney.

Associate Professor Wilson was delighted to receive the fellowship.

"I think the key thing for me about this award is that it recognises the commitment that both UWS and its School of Education has made towards making a difference in the Greater Western Sydney region," says Associate Professor Wilson.

"The Fellowship recognises the way we at UWS, and academics in the School of Education in particular, have worked strategically to collaborate and build partnerships with schools in the Greater Western Sydney to improve educational outcomes."

This has included an alignment of the School of Education's research and teaching work with the objectives of the public education system, which Associate Professor Wilson says is "quite unique for a university". One of the outcomes of this strategic focus is that all UWS education students undertake community service learning placements as part of their degree. These placements range from working with members of the refugee community in the local area, to communities in the Northern Territory, and even with students in China and Malaysia.

"We really integrate into the education system in this way, and it enhances the identity of the School of Education with kids in the west," he says.

Associate Professor Wilson's career in education spans 35 years. He originally trained to be a teacher at Wollongong Institute of Education, and then went to teach secondary school in Blaney in the Riverina for eight years. He returned to Sydney to teach at Macquarie Fields and Hoxton Park for another seven years, at the same time undertaking further study – a Bachelor of Arts followed by a Master of Arts in Education by research, both by distance education at the University of New England.

Associate Professor Wilson joined UWS in 1990, and became Head of the University's School of Education in 2005. In 1998 he also graduated with a PhD in Education at UWS, which was based on a study in Western Sydney on how high schools encourage student participation.

"My interest is how students, particularly those of secondary school age, participate in education and make choices in their learning," Associate Professor Wilson says.

"We really integrate into the education system in this way, and it enhances the identity of the School of Education with kids in the west."

Associate Professor Wilson also recently became president of the NSW Teacher Education Council, which represents all the Deans and Heads of Education faculties and schools in NSW.

Having had such an extensive career in the education sector, Associate Professor Wilson says one of the challenges is the highly politicised nature of education.

"Education is subject to a lot of public discussion and political determination, and often different sides of politics have different perspectives. It often confuses teachers to know what best practice is, because policies change and what they are asked to do changes." However, he says while the world has changed, in many respects educational practices have not.

"Kids now are technologically engaged, and it is a real challenge to engage them in passive forms of learning. With access to information and social networking, young people now control and drive their learning themselves. If we look at kids in school, it is a very outmoded model of learning in classrooms if teachers spend much of their time just presenting information to young people. So we are now trying to define what 21st century education might look like in the face of these new ways of learning and communicating."



## EDUCATION ALUMNI NETWORK

Established to ensure UWS education graduates have an avenue to retain their links with the University and fellow graduates, the UWS Education Alumni Network is open to those who studied Teaching, Education, Early Childhood, Social Ecology and Sociology.

To date, over 500 alumni have joined the network. One of the benefits available to members of the Education Alumni Network is access to Graduate Teacher Connect, a social interaction website.

Associate Professor Steve Wilson says, "We're building up a virtual space where our graduates can keep in touch with each other. It is still early days, but we intend to create this connectivity between people and use the space to host online events."

The Education Alumni Network also offers alumni professional learning courses through the Education Knowledge Network. Recognised by the New South Wales Institute of Teachers, some courses are aimed at teachers more generally, while others are designed specifically for recent UWS graduates who are just beginning their teaching careers. Courses are offered in areas such as literacy and maths education, gifted and talented, behaviour management, and technology and teaching, and special rates are available for alumni.

If you are a UWS education graduate and would like to join the UWS Education Alumni Network, visit [www.uws.edu.au/alumni](http://www.uws.edu.au/alumni) and complete the UWS Keep in Touch form. Membership is free.



# finding their feet

For international students new to Australia, the University of Western Sydney's on-campus living options provide more than just a roof over their heads – they offer true 'living and learning' communities that can help international students, in particular, make the most of university life.

Rio Yamaguchi, who is originally from Tokyo, Japan, and is currently undertaking the Master of Clinical Psychology, chose to live at the UWS Residential College in Bankstown so she could focus on learning – but it has also made for a very memorable university experience.

"I chose to live on campus at Bankstown, as it appeared to be the most practical and convenient way for me to concentrate on my studies," says Rio. "Although I had previously studied in Australia at the University of Sydney, living on campus at UWS has made the experience a completely different one."

"As most of the cohorts from my undergraduate degree were local students, I had limited contact with international students during these years. A large number of campus residents are international students and it has provided me with the opportunity to become acquainted with people from different cultural backgrounds," she said.

Accommodating students across five of the six campuses of the university, including in Parramatta, Campbelltown,

Penrith, Bankstown and Hawkesbury, UWS Residential Colleges cater to students from over 35 different countries.

Just over 29 per cent of the students living at UWS Residential Colleges are international students, while other students utilising the accommodation hail from country New South Wales and the greater Sydney region.

Sotheany Vuth, who is originally from Siem Reap in Cambodia, is studying a Masters in Accountancy at UWS and has been living at the UWS Village in Parramatta since July 2009. "The campus accommodation is very convenient because it is close to university," says Sotheany. "I don't have to pay for transportation and I don't have to waste my time travelling to uni." However, she says the highlight of her experience has been the opportunity to live with students from all over the world.

Rio agrees, adding that the communal kitchens in particular give students a unique opportunity to experience one another's culture. "We cook for each other, and I have also been able to expand my repertoire particularly in regards to multicultural cuisine," she says. "I now use ingredients I would never have even considered using before!"

As part of her degree in Advertising and Public Relations at the Complutense University in Madrid, Spain, Alicia Bodas is completing her final two semesters on exchange at UWS as part of the AEN-Utrecht program. She lives at the newly-opened UWS Penrith Residential College and says she would highly recommend on-campus living to other international students.

"I would recommend living on campus to other international students, particularly for the first semester as it is a great way to meet new people," says Alicia. "There are always activities organised by the residence. There is always something to do during the week such as parties, going to the movies and dinners and I can see my friends very often, because we all live together."

Rio says the fitness facilities at the UWS Bankstown Residential College, which, like the other four colleges, include a gym, tennis court and oval, have also helped her manage her stress levels.

The UWS Residential Colleges, which have been home to over 6000 students in the last 10 years, also help students cope with issues of transition and homesickness.

The colleges have a comprehensive student welfare support system, which includes Resident Assistants, student-based social clubs and advisory committees to help international students navigate their way through the experience of studying in another country. However, Rio says living on campus is particularly helpful in assisting non-English speakers adjust to university life in Australia.

"Many students living on campus are international students, so people are generally very accepting of those who do not speak English very well," she says. "Plus you have a fantastic community that are supportive of you, particularly when you do not have family close by. Having the social community and support is the most valuable asset of living on campus."



# graduate now a high flyer

Rosemary Arnold has achieved much since becoming Australia's first female helicopter pilot in 1965, but she says the highlight of her career was being accepted into UWS to study aviation six years ago.

"That was the highlight of my life, going to university; I never dreamed I could do such a thing," says Rosemary, now aged 76. "I was forced to leave school at age 15, got married at 18 and had four kids, and I had given up all hope of ever going to university or furthering my education."

However, as a young mother, Rosemary says her hunger to learn continued. Having harboured a fascination with aeroplanes as a child, she returned to her earlier passion. "I tried various hobbies and then I found flying, and I just couldn't stop," she says. "My husband strongly disapproved, so I kept my flying a secret until actually flying solo on my 28th birthday."

Rosemary became qualified as a commercial pilot and started her own business in 1976, becoming the first Australian woman to operate her own commercial charter company. In the years that followed, she established the Helicopter Association of Australia, organised Australia's first helicopter show at Blacktown Showground and became the first Australian woman to perform a helicopter air-display at an Australian air show.

However, as a woman in what was then a male-dominated industry, Rosemary's career was also marked by prejudice.

"I have turned up for jobs and found that the prejudice against a woman pilot is so great that I have lost the job," she says.

In 2002, Rosemary attended an aviation dinner and met Genevieve Watson, then head of Aviation at the University of Western Sydney, who encouraged her to apply for entrance into the University's Bachelor of Aviation degree. She was accepted into UWS the following year and at the age of 68, began her long-awaited university studies.

"That was the highlight of my life, going to university; I never dreamed I could do such a thing."

"Being so madly excited about going to university I managed to push through it in 18 months, which was rather remarkable," says Rosemary. "There I was graduating in 2004 aged 70 and then a week later, they asked me to lecture in aviation history, which was my strong passion."

Rosemary taught five aviation units at UWS, and at the same time set about achieving another Australian first – to become Australia's first helicopter marriage celebrant.

"My brain had really been stimulated at UWS, so in between semesters I dashed out and did a correspondence course to become a civil marriage celebrant," she says. However, the Attorney General had reservations about allowing Rosemary to simultaneously act as pilot and celebrant and it took 16 months of persistent lobbying for her to be appointed as a civil marriage celebrant.

She now operates Chapel in the Sky Helicopter Weddings, offering couples a rare opportunity to make their wedding day extra special.

Last year, Rosemary also began researching pioneer female pilots after being asked to curate a 400-item historic display for a conference marking the 60th anniversary of the Australian Women Pilots' Association.

She was inspired to write a book based on her research after finding the literature on the subject to be lacking. "I found that there was virtually nothing, no resources for research students interested in women pilots," says Rosemary.

Her soon-to-be-published book, *First Females Above Australia*, features 100 short biographies of pioneer women pilots who flew in the first 100 years from 1909 to 2009. Rosemary describes it as a "very modest book", but hopes that it can be placed in school libraries as a tribute to those women who overcame prejudices to succeed in aviation in Australia and abroad, and inspire students to learn more.

"Today's young girls, who I taught at UWS, have said to me: 'We had no idea of the prejudice in the past. We have always been brought up to believe that we could get a pilot's job without a problem in the world'," says Rosemary. "But at least my book shows that there were people that paved the way. I wanted a salute to them so that they would not be forgotten."

*Photo courtesy Steve Leadenham, Aviation Artist*

# confronting sustainability and population



Opinion piece by Dr James Arvanitakis, UWS Lecturer UWS School of Humanities and Languages.

One of the key political debates of the last 30 years has been focused around 'sustainability'. From the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, through to the 2009 Copenhagen meetings, the vexed question of "What is sustainable for our earth?" has become the focal point for often heated political debate.

While much of the debate has been driven by science, more recently questions of cultural practices have become the focus of our research. For example, we have moved from measuring the environmental impacts of cars to understanding the cultural significance we place on our vehicles such as being markers of adulthood, symbols of freedom and success and convenience.

The environmental impacts are not simply about cars per se, but the way we have become addicted to them as well as the way our cities are designed.

This is the type of puzzle that research centres such as the Centre for Cultural Research at the University of Western Sydney – where I undertake most of my work – are trying to piece together. The philosophy is simple: only by understanding what lies at the base of our motivations and behaviours, can we truly encourage positive change.

One area of much debate that has been framed around the issue of sustainability is 'population numbers'. More accurately, many Australians have started asking "What is the sustainable population size for Australia?"

On the surface, we can look at this question while stuck in a traffic jam on Parramatta Road and start to reflect that Australia is bursting at the seams. We can also look at the vulnerable Australian environment and feel that there is a need to limit the number of people to minimise our environmental footprint.

This is a simple, linear, equation that equates population size to sustainable practices – and while on the surface appears straightforward, I believe is misleading.

I believe there are four reasons why there is a problematic equation that detracts from questions about sustainability and confronting our unsustainable practices.

The first links with resource usage: population size and resource usage are not directly correlated. Yes, we are the driest continent in the world but we continue to grow water intensive crops. We do this while overallocating water usage in the Murray Darling as well as allowing millions of tonnes of rainwater to flow away.

By focusing on population size we ignore sustainable resource usage and simply believe that we can keep wasting resources because there are only 22 million of us.

The second point is about the practicalities of controlling population: both from outside and those already here. Immigrant intake is important for both our economy and our society. While the benefits of immigration to our economy are well documented, I am more interested in social factors.

Families come here to settle and build relationships – and these are often strengthened through the arrival of other family members. This builds community bonds that are essential in Australia being a successful nation both economically and socially. Migrants have always made Australia a more vibrant society.

Then there is the internal question: even before the then Treasurer, Peter Costello, encouraged increased reproduction through the 'baby bonus', Australia's population growth rate was substantial. Do we now control this? Do we place pressure on families via the tax system to discourage multiple offspring? Maybe those skilled migrants that do come here can sign a pledge to limit their reproduction activities?

"It is time we looked at the way we design our cities, develop our housing policies and use our resources in a truly sustainable way."

To put it directly, taking the position that blames our newest and future arrivals for our environmental problems is simply letting the rest of us off the hook and allows our own unsustainable use of resources. This is especially the case when applied to the tiny number of refugees we do admit.

The third issue is our global obligations. We are part of a global community and reap the benefits. The challenge of population numbers is an international issue and simply putting up a fence around Australia and saying 'no more' does not solve anything.

Finally there is the issue of the type of Australia we want. The debates take on an air of 'business as usual' about them: same economic and planning processes, same levels of resource usage, same attitudes to our cities.

It is time we looked at the way we design our cities, develop our housing policies and use our resources in a truly sustainable way.

Please do not get me wrong, I am not saying that population does not play a role in sustainability, but this is simply one of many variables to consider.

This returns us to why we must get beneath the surface level debates: research should not provide simple answers to complex questions but should encourage a more multidimensional understanding of the challenges ahead.

In this way, the challenge of sustainability can only be met when framed by a sense of justice – something that should be fundamental to all our research. Once we confront this, then we can move to change our own unsustainable behaviours.

# UWS News



Professor Peter Shergold AC

## NEW CHANCELLOR FOR UWS IN 2011

Former Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Professor Peter Shergold AC, will take the reins as new Chancellor of the University of Western Sydney in 2011.

The UWS Board of Trustees elected Professor Shergold as successor to Mr John Phillips who retires in December after almost 10 years of exemplary service as Chancellor.

Professor Shergold has had a distinguished academic and public service career for over three decades.

During this time he established the Office of Multicultural Affairs, headed the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) and was Secretary of government departments, including the Department of Education, Science and Training.

From 2003 to 2008 Professor Shergold was the nation's most senior public servant – serving as Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

He has served four Prime Ministers and eight Ministers in both Labor and Coalition governments.

Professor Shergold is currently the Macquarie Group Foundation Professor and Head of the Centre for Social Impact at the University of New South Wales.

## UWS ACADEMICS TOP THE NATION IN LEARNING AND TEACHING

Ten UWS staff members have been recognised for their outstanding contributions to student learning in this year's national Australian Learning and Teaching Council Awards. The UWS recipients for 2010 were:

**Dr Satomi Kawaguchi**, School of Humanities and Languages, UWS Bankstown Campus – Developing the '3-New' approach: Using second language acquisition research, new communication technologies and pedagogy to motivate, inspire and engage students of Japanese for better learning outcomes.

**Dr Catherine Camden-Pratt**, School of Education, UWS Penrith Campus – Foregrounding critical creativity – establishing safe spaces for experimentation using creative learning approaches which transform students' understanding of themselves as agents of change.

**Dr Leanne Rylands**, School of Computing and Mathematics, UWS Penrith Campus – For sustained quality contributions to mathematical learning for all ability levels and backgrounds by motivating and inspiring students in an open, positive and passionate environment.

**Dr Adrian Renshaw**, School of Natural Sciences, UWS Hawkesbury Campus – For excellence in Science teaching broadening participation, engagement and inspiring students to learn using approaches in assessment and feedback that foster independent learning.

**Dr Katrina Barker**, School of Education, UWS Bankstown Campus – For creating an atmosphere of intellectual excitement to influence, inspire and motivate diverse groups of students preparing for careers in teaching.

**Dr Roumen Dimitrov**, School of Communication Arts, UWS Penrith Campus – For successful experiential and engaged learning and teaching that educates public relations students to stand out as professionals.

**Dr Fernanda Duarte**, School of Management, UWS Parramatta Campus – For effectively facilitating transformative learning in a management school through sound scholarship and engaging experientially-based approaches that inspire students to think more critically and ethically.

**Dr Mark Williams**, School of Natural Sciences, UWS Hawkesbury Campus – Innovative online resources provide quality, timely and constructive feedback: enhancing student learning for diverse student cohorts in Chemistry.

**Dr Sharon Andrew**, School of Nursing and Midwifery, UWS Campbelltown Campus – Bridging the research-teaching nexus: applying educational research to ensure an evidence-based approach for improved student outcomes in nursing programs.

**Dr Margaret Clarke**, School of Education, UWS Penrith Campus – For leading quality change in teacher education and influencing improvement of teaching and learning practices through her scholarly work at the University of Western Sydney.



Dr Minh Nguyen

## UWS INVENTION OFFERS JUICE SOLUTION

Food companies are facing tough times as sales volumes of classic sugar-laden drinks decline and greater health awareness drives consumers to seek products with a better taste, minimal processing and improved nutrition. Limitations with current technologies are preventing manufacturers from meeting consumer demands. Available concentration methods yield a product with inferior nutritional and taste characteristics to freshly-squeezed juice.

The challenge for industry is to establish more effective juice production and delivery processes that produce good value products with the taste, look and nutrients that they would have had coming straight from grandma's garden.

UWS researchers at the School of Natural Sciences have invented a new process and specialised equipment that offers a solution to these problems. The Direct Concentration Membrane Distillation Refrigeration (DCMDR) system will provide benefits to the consumer while helping manufacturers to create an innovative product pipeline.

The invention is a proprietary membrane distillation process combined with a head pump. First proof-of-concept with a bench-top scale prototype has shown great scale-up potential. The process works at low temperatures by feeding the un-concentrated liquid at high pressure into the prototype module. This innovative technology allows efficient juice concentration at low temperatures to produce a superior concentrated product which retains the original nutritional and sensorial characteristics.

"Drinking the grape juice concentrated this way is like biting into grapes picked straight from the vine. You can even tell the grape variety," says Dr Minh Nguyen, the man behind the technology.

UWS is now looking at proving its market readiness with a commercial scale prototype. Partners are being sought to assist with this and significant interest has already been shown by industry. For further information please contact Dr Stephan Golla on (02) 9685 9742 or [s.golla@uws.edu.au](mailto:s.golla@uws.edu.au).

## SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS BENEFIT FROM ONLINE PROGRAM

Small businesses often face difficulties trying to create an online presence due to cost, staffing and time constraints but a new initiative, Winning Business Online, will help small businesses overcome the hurdles to get online.

The University of Western Sydney has joined forces with Business Enterprise Centres (BEC) Australia, Pinstripe Media, Fairfax Community Newspapers and Netregistry to empower 20,000 small business operators with the knowledge to use online technologies to help drive business efficiency, build capacity and seize new markets.

Dr Geoffrey Lee, Associate Dean of Engagement in the College of Business at UWS, has completed extensive academic research in the areas of e-business, e-learning and small business, and prior to joining academia he owned and operated several small businesses.

Dr Lee says the program comprises 10 learning modules which have been developed using well-researched teaching methods from the University and information from leading industry practitioners.

The 'Winning Business Online' website can be viewed at the following link: [www.winningbusinessonline.com.au](http://www.winningbusinessonline.com.au).

## UWS RESEARCHER HEADS TO EUROPE

Associate Professor Ian Anderson, from the University of Western Sydney's Centre for Plants and the Environment and School of Natural Sciences, has received a grant from the Australian Academy of Sciences to conduct research in Europe.

The grant, awarded under the International Science Linkages - Science Academies Program, provides support to leading Australian researchers to collaborate with international partners on projects which contribute to Australia's economic, social and environmental wellbeing.

In 2011, Associate Professor Anderson will travel to the INRA research facility in Nancy, France to study the symbiotic relationship of soil fungi and eucalypt trees – which may be impacted by climate change.

Associate Professor Anderson will work with leading scientists at INRA-Nancy, including the centre's Research Director Professor Francis Martin, who have pioneered the identification and regulation of genes involved in the development of the symbiosis.

Associate Professor Anderson leads a team of researchers at UWS who are focused on understanding the impact of climate change on soil fungi and other microorganisms.

Research is a key theme in the multi-million dollar Climate Change and Energy Research Facility (CCERF) based at the Hawkesbury Campus of UWS. The CCERF uniquely studies the impact of climate change on cells, microorganisms, insects, plants and entire ecosystems and is supported by a \$40 million grant from the Australian Government as part the Nation-building Economic Stimulus Plan in 2009.

# celebrating 35 years of education



The University of Western Sydney Bankstown campus traces its history back to 1974. Then it was known as the Milperra College of Advanced Education (MCAE) – the first college to offer specialised teacher and social work education in south-western Sydney.

With 2010 marking the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the campus, this significant milestone in the University's history was celebrated with a series of events in July.

While it may have gone under several different names over the years – the MCAE became the Macarthur Institute of Higher Education on 1 July 1983, and then UWS Bankstown on 3 November 1989 – the aim of the institution has always been the same: to provide tertiary education opportunities in the south-west of Sydney.

Now with 7020 students enrolled, the Bankstown campus is home to the UWS School of Education, Humanities and Languages, Psychology and Social Sciences, as well as world-class research facilities such as the MARCS Auditory Laboratories, Centre for Educational Research, Social Justice and Social Change Research Group, Writing and Society Research Group and the Centre for Citizenship and Public Policy.

## A VISUAL HISTORY

An archive of photographs and memorabilia from the years 1974 to 1982 of the UWS Bankstown campus and its former MCAE was publicly exhibited at the Margot Hardy Gallery as part of the anniversary celebrations.

The works in the exhibition were collected and hung by UWS art curator Monica McMahon with Michael Darby.

Monica says the exhibition gave an overview of the institution's early years, with personal stories of the individuals who shaped the campus incorporated with archive materials. It showed how far the Bankstown campus developed in 35 years, and communicated why it is so important and so necessary to the region.

Associate Professor Deirdre Russell-Bowie, who was involved in organising the celebrations, says, "With the exhibition, we wanted to have a visual documentary of the history and the campus it was, reminiscences from staff and students, and memorabilia which people contributed. It was great for current students and staff to see where it has come from."

## REFLECTING ON MEMORIES

The Campus Life Committee also hosted a luncheon, organised by Viv Nikolareas, for 60 staff employed at the MCAE from 1974 to 1982.

"They were absolutely delighted, partly to catch up with each other, but also to see how the University has developed," Associate Professor Russell-Bowie says.

Bankstown Campus Provost, Professor Nancy Wright, sponsored and opened the event, and guests enjoyed a video greeting from Emeritus Professor David Barr, who was the first lecturer in mathematics education at the institution and went on to become the chief executive of the UWS Macarthur campus. A presentation by Associate Professor Jane Mears and Dr Margaret Sargent revived memories of the early days of social welfare at MCAE, before a viewing of the exhibition.

Four remaining UWS staff members from the former staff of MCAE cut a cake to celebrate 35 years since the start of MCAE. They were:

- » Neil Walker – responsible for the maintenance of the gardens and grounds since 1974
- » Associate Professor Jane Mears – School of Social Work, Welfare and Therapy Studies
- » Associate Professor Robert Lee – School of Humanities and Languages
- » Associate Professor Deirdre Russell-Bowie – School of Education.

Associate Professor Russell-Bowie, who has worked at the University since 1980, says the celebrations aimed to recognise the pioneering work that began on the campus 35 years ago.

"It has become such a large and important university, especially in the west. It started with a really significant group of people who were passionate about teacher education and social work, to a place that was despised stereotypically, to start this new course and lead it for the next 15 years, and I just wanted to honour them," she said.



## OTHER CELEBRATIONS

As part of the celebrations, a 'Share-A-Story' website ([www.uws.edu.au/mcae35](http://www.uws.edu.au/mcae35)) was established for staff and students to share their memories about life on campus in the 1970s.

A commemorative award has also been set up to honour the staff and students who were instrumental in establishing the Bankstown campus. The award will recognise the achievements of top students in Education and Social Work/Social Welfare, who are continuing the tradition of the MCAE through excellence and commitment to their fields.

To make a tax deductible donation towards the fund for this award please visit UWS Foundation at [www.uws.edu.au](http://www.uws.edu.au)

## STORIES FROM THE UWS BANKSTOWN CAMPUS

### Lunchtime parties

Charlie Coorey

"Aside from learning heaps about life and getting my 'pieces of paper', I was also the social coordinator of the Students' Association and used to organise the lunchtime concerts/parties with the wonderful support and friendship of Margaret Zito, our only paid staff support. By far the best gig was getting the Dynamic Hepnotics to perform at our lunch gig. The beer and wine were overflowing and enjoyable lectures in the afternoon followed."

### Those were the days!

Nolene Walker (nee Syme)

"One of the aspects I now appreciate about Milperra CAE is that it gave so many of us 'westy' girls (yes mainly girls and mainly westies in primary education) the opportunity to get a first rate education specifically in teacher education. We went to college five days a week and I remember comparing the hours that my friends did who attended country colleges (usually three days a week and lots of drinking, but I think we did our share of the latter too!). Probably the best aspects of attending Milperra CAE were the lifelong friendships developed. For many years (until our teenagers had their own agendas), a group of ex-Milperra CAE students (1977-79) met with our families and spent a week holidaying in a coastal spot."

### Foundation student memories

Robyn Hardina (nee Hayes)

"The first intake of students at the Milperra College of Advanced Education, of which I was one of the foundation members, was in July 1975. The only course available was a Diploma in Education. Our first introduction to tertiary education was in a very old abandoned primary classroom at Milperra as the building was not finished for our intake. If my memory is correct, our science class had a tutorial outside under the trees."

### Neville Wran visits Macarthur

Kevin Warrington

"Around 1986 or 1987 before we moved Student Administration to Campbelltown, I was Academic Registrar of Macarthur Institute of Higher Education. The annual open day was held on a Saturday and we were lucky enough to have Premier Neville Wran as our official guest. We were told by the Premier's Office that his official car would arrive at 1:00pm and come to the Principal's (Dr David Barr) front door. The entire Executive was standing out the front of Dr Barr's office when all of a sudden the Premier walked up behind us and asked something like, 'Are you expecting me?' Premier Wran had totally surprised and embarrassed us all by coming through the back of the building totally unannounced. But the day turned out well anyway."

### Social Welfare 1978

Dawn J. Smith (nee Robertson)

"I attended Milperra CAE in 1978-79 to complete the Associate Diploma in Social Welfare. I was 36, divorced with two young children, and my Mum gave up work so I could attend college. Two main events stand out from that time - we as the Welfare School overthrew the Teacher Ed students for control of the student union (probably saving many Teacher Ed students from alcoholism because we stopped the Thursday swill). Neville Wran came in July 1978 - Milperra was in flood so he came in a helicopter. We nearly lifted the roof off cheering when he was followed by Gough Whitlam. I will always remember Milperra CAE for the chance it gave me."

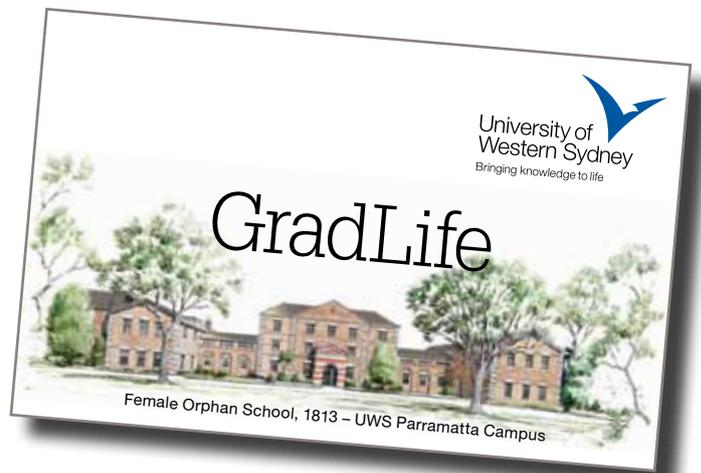
Visit the Share-A-Story website at [www.uws.edu.au/mcae35](http://www.uws.edu.au/mcae35) to read more memories.

# UWS alumni GradLife benefits

Being a member of the UWS GradLife program entitles you to a range of special alumni benefits, including discounted membership to the UWS Library and Gym, discounts at the UWS Bookshop, as well as invitations to special university events. For more information and the entire list of benefits please visit

[www.uws.edu.au/GradLife](http://www.uws.edu.au/GradLife)

All graduates of UWS are eligible for a GradLife Card, so visit [www.uws.edu.au/GradLife](http://www.uws.edu.au/GradLife) to apply for yours today.



## FEATURED BENEFIT



## MEMBERS ONLY, EXCLUSIVE TRAVEL SERVICE

As a valued member of UWS Alumni you are granted access to an exclusive and custom built Travel Portal. Dedicated travel partners, World Travel Professionals, have developed this truly amazing, online travel booking resource. This exciting initiative provides members with tailored travel solutions, member only specials and most importantly, savings, direct to you.

Any one of our members has the opportunity to register for the UWS Alumni Travel Portal. In order to gain access, simply head to the website and enter your details, [uwsalumni.worldtravel.com.au](http://uwsalumni.worldtravel.com.au). Once registered, you will have access to an array of hand selected travel deals and packages, plus a host of other member only benefits. These include:

- » Fresh travel specials, updated weekly
- » Online travel brochures, covering a range of international destinations
- » Snow holiday packages and offers
- » The best cruise deals
- » Self-search functionality for flights, hotels, cruising and insurance
- » Ability to calculate and redeem AMEX points for all things travel
- » Access to Virtuoso Luxury Travel
- » International villa showcase
- » Group and special interest travel
- » Plus, travel consultant service at your fingertips – phone at anytime for all of your personal travel enquiries and bookings

If you're interested in one, many or all of the above UWS Alumni Travel Portal benefits – head to the website <http://uwsalumni.worldtravel.com.au> now and register your interest!





# giving back to graduates

An international internship opened the door for Brad Lanyon to land a job with one of the largest multinational IT organisations in the world, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), straight after graduation.

Brad completed a Bachelor of Business, majoring in human resource management and industrial relations, at UWS, and towards the end of his degree, took advantage of the chance to complete a five-week HR-related internship in India with Telcon, a member of the Tata group, and the country's leading provider of equipment and services in the construction and earth-moving industries.

The trip itself was a real eye-opener for Brad – prior to travelling to India he had only even been to New Zealand, and he gained insights into a whole new culture.

"It was also my first hands-on HR role. So it was a really good corporate experience, and to get that internationally as well – it definitely looks good on your resume," Brad says. At a post-trip function hosted by the University, Brad was lucky enough to meet the Australian HR manager at TCS, where they were undergoing a restructure and looking to hire into their HR team. Brad was offered a graduate position.

"Currently I am looking after graduate recruitment and internships for Australia and New Zealand. I also work on learning and development, performance management, corporate social responsibility initiatives, and expatriate inductions for people coming to Australia from overseas," Brad says.

With 160,000 IT consultants in 42 countries, TCS is a huge company which enjoys a strong reputation for HR excellence. The business process outsourcing arm of TCS was recently honoured with six awards for outstanding HR leadership at the 2010 Asia's Best Employer Brand Awards. Working in HR for such a large multinational firm has its challenges, and Brad's international experience certainly helps when seeking to understand a wide variety of backgrounds and cultures.

"When you work with people across many, many different regions and countries, there are definitely challenges."

"When you work with people across many, many different regions and countries, there are definitely challenges – the cultural and language differences, time zone differences – all these are major factors. TCS is an Indian-based company, so a lot of the operations, policy and processes come out of our office there, but they may not be in tune with Australia, so we have to try to find common ground," Brad says.

Brad relishes the scope of his role – being able to "do a little bit of everything in terms of HR here". In the future, he hopes to work overseas again, this time undertaking a longer stint in another country.

"That's my ultimate goal in the next couple of years," he says. Brad is now involved in giving UWS students and graduates similar opportunities to those he was able to take advantage of.

TCS offers eight-week summer internships in Sydney, as well as international internships.

"We are also offering a scholarship – it is a new initiative, but we are looking to sponsor an eligible IT student for the costs associated with their degree. We then hope that they will be a potential intern and hopefully a graduate with us as well. So there will be a long-term focus on the selected student," Brad says. "This scholarship and our internships are in line with TCS's values, to really help out the communities we are working in."

TCS also offers a graduate program which provides students with the chance to spend two months in India undertaking TCS' Initial Learning Program, before moving to work at the Australian customers' offshore centre for 2–4 months, and then returning to Australia to work on-site for the client.

Having experienced how taking a chance on a new experience can lead to great career outcomes, Brad recommends other students follow suit.

"Whether it be an internship, a course – just take up every opportunity along the way. That's what has got me to where I am today. I only decided to apply for the internship at the last minute. It was by chance that I got the interview for my current job. So now, whenever opportunities come my way, I take the initiative and do whatever I can to jump in the deep end."



# researching emotional intelligence

With around 60 per cent of lost productivity in the workplace due to issues around breach and loss of trust, it is vitally important for workplace leaders to be emotionally intelligent, according to change management expert Dr Sherene Suchy.

She says leadership effectiveness requires interpersonal connection, trust, power, intentionality, resilience and intuition.

Dr Suchy conducted her doctoral research at UWS, and expresses her “deep appreciation to the University for this opportunity”. The research focused on how museum directors coped with a need to shift their operations to a business model, due to changes in public funding for the arts.

Comprising surveys, interviews with directors of almost 100 museums across the USA, Canada, UK and Australia, and comparison of data from other industry sectors, the research, which utilised a social action research methodology, yielded many personal stories about effective change management.

Dr Suchy’s research went on to be published in her 2004 book, *Leading with Passion: Change Management in the 21st Century Museum*, which now appears on reading lists at the Smithsonian and for various museum studies programs in the UK, USA, Canada, France, Taiwan and Australia.

According to her findings, leadership involves four key roles:

- » Representing an organisation’s story internally and externally, guided by passion (a deep love for some part of the job).
- » Creating a context where others can give their best (staff, volunteers, and board members).
- » Ethical entrepreneurship.
- » Nurturing trust relationships with key stakeholders in and around the organisation (staff, government, funding bodies, boards and volunteers).

“The bottom line regarding leadership requirements is emotional intelligence – a smart head and a smart heart,” Dr Suchy says.

Since completing her PhD, Dr Suchy has developed a three-month leadership development program to trial the theories from her research in action, written chapters for museum textbooks and presented at museum conferences on her work.

As a director of consultancy DUO PLUS CHANGE MANAGEMENT, Dr Suchy continues her work in leadership coaching, counselling, and change management and maintains a passion for exploring the relationship between art, beauty, wellbeing and resilience.

# at the public policy coalface

Few are lucky enough to walk out of university and straight into the exciting world of international policy development. But Cedric Hodges, who completed a Bachelor of Business in Economics and Finance with Honours in Economics in 2009, has secured a ringside seat to observe the inner workings of the G-20, the premier forum for international economic cooperation.

Cedric is a graduate policy analyst with the Federal Treasury, in the International and G-20 Division.

“Broadly this type of role involves analysing the impact of proposed policies on the public. However, the G-20 unit is somewhat different. The demands of the G-20 meeting schedule on its constituent nations are substantial,” Cedric says.

“So my job involves monitoring international developments/country positions, liaising with other G-20 member countries, and responding to commitments Australia makes at the G-20, in areas such as reform of the international financial sector, and ensuring a strong, sustainable and balancing economic recovery.”

Such an important role might be daunting for some, but Cedric says he is enjoying the learning opportunities, keeping abreast of the issues, and the interactive infrastructure of the Treasury.

“Everyone is very friendly and willing to provide you with information when you need it. There’s a good culture,” he says.

Being exposed to a wide variety of schools of economic thought at UWS, which he has learned from other graduates is “not commonplace in other universities”, has also been very valuable in preparing him for this role.

Hodges plans to continue working in public policy or economic research, and in the future hopes to return to uni to complete a doctorate.





Jason Donnelly

# law alumni in top jobs

Jason Donnelly is thankful for his mooting experience and the practical training his law degree provided when he finds himself facing Justice McClellan, Chief Judge of Common Law in the NSW Supreme Court.

“Often the Judge will be firing questions at me and I have to answer on the spot. You certainly need that experience when you first have to think on your feet,” Jason says.

This is all part of the job for Jason, who serves as Tipstaff to Justice McClellan. In this prestigious role, he assists the Judge with high-level legal research on very technical questions of law, where precedents may not be well-defined.

“I brief Justice McClellan on summaries of the cases that come before the court, and write memorandums on other questions of law,” Jason says.

He believes being taught by academics of a high calibre at UWS has been integral to his success – which is particularly remarkable given he only completed his degree in 2008 and was admitted as a lawyer in July 2009.

“It has put me in the right place and given me the right kind of skills and experience to move forward, even at a young age,” Jason says.

Daniel Dwyer, who graduated from UWS in 2005 with a double degree in Information Technology and Law, is another successful law graduate. He now works as a solicitor in the technology, media and telco team in the projects division of Freehills, one of the largest law firms in the country.

Daniel also sits on the board of a not-for-profit organisation, called Network Kokoda, which has a focus on health leadership and educational issues in Papua New Guinea.

For Daniel, the hands-on aspects of law at UWS were particularly beneficial.

Daniel Dwyer



“What was great were the actual practical components – while they’re not exactly the same as life in a commercial law firm, they certainly give you a realistic taste of what it’s like,” he says.

With a passion for the commercial aspects of business, Daniel is planning to either continue his career at Freehills advising ASX 200 listed companies, or perhaps move to an in-house role as part of the corporate decision-making team in a company.

“I’ve done that since I’ve been here for a number of different companies, and it’s been great. I think having a background in law is good for general corporate management – you’re across a lot of the issues.”

To join UWS Law Alumni Association visit [www.uws.edu.au/LawAlumni](http://www.uws.edu.au/LawAlumni)



# design for life

UWS design graduate Arthur Koutoulas describes himself as a spatial sculptor and object creator, and his creative style is a reflection of his independent approach to the business of design.

Arthur creates commercial interiors and furniture designs for clients seeking bold design schemes for cafes and bars, retail outlets and consumer products – with Koutoulas-designed venues proliferating in Sydney in particular, but also in Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide, Singapore and the USA.

Although Arthur took some time to settle on a particular area of study, dabbling in visual arts, industrial design and architecture, in 1992 he completed a degree in design at UWS, and immediately landed his first commission.

Rather than travel the more common path of working with a design firm or partnering with another designer, Arthur has always worked independently, establishing his own boutique design consultancy in 1992. This gives him the freedom to stay true to his own design language.

“We do take design risks with a lot of our work and we learn from each project. It helps develop a sense of freedom to be able to be looser but confident,” Arthur says.

While his main focus is interiors, Arthur also designs the products and objects to be featured in the spaces he designs, and many of these products are then

made available for sale through a subsidiary company.

His chairs, tables, stools and lighting products are in high demand by other architects and interior designers.

Over the years, Arthur’s work has also been recognised with design awards. One of his earliest and favourite projects, a design for a bar in Bondi Beach called Blue Bottle, won him the Society of Interior Designers of Australia ‘Best Interior by a Young Designer of the Year’ award.

“Sydney’s cafes and bars at that time were mostly white boxes and very boring, while I had the opportunity, as a recent university graduate, to do something amazingly different and Blue Bottle was just that. It was a large job with a big budget which enabled me to design everything within that space,” Arthur says.

“We had sculptors and artists working on the shapes and everything was custom-made right down to the salt and pepper shakers, sugar bowls and even the ashtrays.”

More recently, his design for Kafa, a café in Sydney’s Surry Hills, has been short-listed for a major hospitality award – with lateral design solutions needed to create a striking interior within the constraints of a small budget. However, Arthur wouldn’t have it any other way.

“I find myself in an enviable position, in that it’s my role to just create, and create what I think will work for each client and project.”

Photo (top right): Kafa Espresso Bar, Surry Hills, Sydney

# alumni online



## UWS ALUMNI FACEBOOK FAN PAGE

Our Facebook Fan page continues to grow with over 1300 fans!

We hope to continue to grow the page, so spread the word!

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# recent events



The Honourable Wayne Swan MP



Symposium delegates



Professor Anthony Pym

## BUILDING A 21ST CENTURY ECONOMY TO DELIVER A FAIR SOCIETY

The Whitlam Institute in partnership with the UWS School of Economics and Finance hosted this high-profile event at the InterContinental Hotel in Sydney, 15 July 2010.

The lunchtime address was given by the Honourable Wayne Swan MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer, and the opening address was given by Mike Baird, NSW Shadow Treasurer. The day's proceedings also featured many other eminent speakers.

Attended by senior policy makers, corporate executives and managers, economists, leaders in the not-for-profit sector, academics and UWS Alumni, the Symposium provided a valuable opportunity for considered, civil, yet robust discourse on ensuring the economy reflects our determination for a fair society.

Video footage of the Symposium presentations is available at [www.youtube.com/whittlamuws](http://www.youtube.com/whittlamuws)

## ITRG SYMPOSIUM

### Technology and the Future of Translation: Research Perspectives

The Interpreting and Translation Research Group hosted its third Annual Research Symposium in July 2010, providing the opportunity for researchers, educators and practitioners to present a range of papers, workshops and plenary sessions on the impact of technologies on the future of the translation and interpreting professions.

This year's international keynote speaker was Professor Anthony Pym from the *Universitat Rovira i Virgili*, Spain. A leading researcher, translator and educator, Professor Pym delivered a keynote speech that set the challenging note to the issues to be considered by delegates. The challenge continued throughout the two-day program, reaching a very lively conclusion at the closing debate involving academics, a technology manager and practising translators.

The Group was thrilled with the quality of contributions received from national and international researchers, as well as the response from delegates. Our UWS Bankstown campus hosted delegates not only from Sydney but also from Melbourne, Brisbane, the ACT and international delegates from Spain, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy and Romania.



Lindsay Heywood, NAATI CEO and Associate Professor Sandra Hale, Leader of the Interpreting and Translation Research Group

The involvement of members of the Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators (AUSIT) and of the CEO of the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) also ensured the event was of relevance to the profession providing practical application, which is a key aim for the Interpreting and Translation Research Group.

You can see symposium abstracts, information from previous symposia and videos of the keynote address and plenary presentations on the Group's website [www.uws.edu.au/itrg](http://www.uws.edu.au/itrg)

For more information on the Interpreting & Translation Alumni Network or to join, please visit [www.uws.edu.au/I&TNetwork](http://www.uws.edu.au/I&TNetwork)



Delegates networking at the Mental Wellbeing Conference

## MENTAL WELLBEING CONFERENCE

The inaugural Mental Wellbeing Conference of the School of Psychology held 14–16 September brought together mental health practitioners, researchers and policy makers from a wide range of disciplines to share knowledge and to discuss today's important mental health issues. In doing so, the aim was to stimulate future cross-disciplinary collaboration.

Pre-conference clinical workshops were held to update practitioners' knowledge and skills in areas such as ADHD, applied psycho-pharmacotherapy and spiritually-augmented CBT.

Keynote speakers included Professor Peter Tyrer, Imperial College, London UK, who discussed recovery for people with long term mentally illness and Professor Beverley Raphael's (UWS) topic was challenges for mental health in the future. A symposium on "Music Therapy and Wellbeing" illustrated the different disciplines at UWS that have researched the roles that music has played during life's journey.



All smiles. Vice-chancellor Janice Reid (right) at the Graduation in September.

## SPRING 2010 GRADUATION CEREMONIES

The latest round of UWS Graduation Ceremonies took place from 21-23 September 2010.

Our newest UWS Alumni celebrated the completion of their studies across a wide range of degrees and disciplines including business, education, nursing, computing and mathematics, engineering, social sciences, and the arts.

Graduands and their guests were delighted to hear from a range of distinguished graduation speakers across the ceremonies, including the Honourable John Hatzistergos MLC, Attorney General of NSW, who addressed some of the lucky UWS business graduands.

For more information on the latest round of ceremonies, or the upcoming Autumn 2011 ceremonies, please visit the New Alumni website at [www.uws.edu.au/NewAlumni](http://www.uws.edu.au/NewAlumni)



Some of our newest Alumni (above and below) on Graduation Day in September.



# upcoming events 2011

## HAWKESBURY ALUMNI 120TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

To ensure that you receive up to date information on the events, join the Hawkesbury Alumni Chapter online at [www.uws.edu.au/hac](http://www.uws.edu.au/hac)

## INTERPRETING AND TRANSLATION RESEARCH GROUP SEMINAR SERIES

For up to date information on the seminars in 2011, join the Interpreting and Translation Alumni Chapter online at [www.uws.edu.au/I&TNetwork](http://www.uws.edu.au/I&TNetwork)

## AUTUMN GRADUATION CEREMONIES

For further information closer to the event please visit [www.uws.edu.au/NewAlumni](http://www.uws.edu.au/NewAlumni)

## UWS LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (UWSLA) OCCASIONAL ADDRESS

To ensure that you receive up to date information on this event, join the UWSLA online at [www.uws.edu.au/LawAlumni](http://www.uws.edu.au/LawAlumni)

**As specific 2011 dates are yet to be advised for these events, please keep an eye out online over the coming months for further information.**

# keep in touch

Update your details, join chapters and stay connected online at

[www.uws.edu.au/KeepInTouch](http://www.uws.edu.au/KeepInTouch)

The University of Western Sydney holds our Alumni in high esteem, taking pride in each graduate as they progress beyond their studies and into their chosen career. Assisting more than 130,000 graduates, UWS Alumni aims to keep all Alumni 'in touch' with UWS. Every new member of the UWS Alumni is also invited to join the GradLife program. Membership is free, with members gaining access to exclusive Chapter Membership, UWS Alumni benefits, and events.