

UNITAS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA



UNIVERSITY
OF TASMANIA

Celebrate!



Graduate Award winners,
Elizabeth Thomas and Timothy McCormack,
with Chancellor, Dr Mike Vertigan,
Mrs Jo Le Grew and
Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daryl Le Grew

‘Celebrate’ was the theme of the 2003 University of Tasmania fifth annual Foundation Dinner. And what a celebration it was.

Two outstanding graduates were recognised and 118 Tasmania Scholarship and Bursary winners were showcased before more than 420 guests from business, government and academic spheres.

The post university achievements of former Public Trustee chief executive Elizabeth Thomas and Foundation Australian Red Cross Professor of International Humanitarian Law at the University of Melbourne, Timothy McCormack were recognised with Foundation Graduate Awards.

Professor McCormack has been lauded for his work, both in theory and practice, in International Humanitarian Law and credited with swaying the Australian Government on the

Chemical Weapons Convention and the International Criminal Court.

“Without his expertise in championing the cause, many believe the Government would not have ratified the treaty establishing the International Criminal Court,” Vice-Chancellor Daryl Le Grew said.

Appointed *Amicus Curiae*, or friend of the court, Professor McCormack flew to The Hague the day after the celebrations to give advice on matters of international law to judges presiding over the trial of former Yugoslavian leader Slobodan Milosevic. “It’s a big opportunity for a young Burnie boy,” Professor McCormack said.

He classes his wife as his greatest benefit from university, and credits one of his lecturers as the person who inspired his interest in international humanitarian law, which he believes can “make the world a better place”.

Professor McCormack said North West educated kids can and do “make good”.

“Who would have thought a girl from Yolla and a Burnie boy would be standing on this stage. Just goes to show”.

The Vice-Chancellor introduced Elizabeth Thomas as a trail blazer, with “a capacity for hard work... lots of drive and an immeasurable dose of talent managing and motivating people”. Ms Thomas was the first woman Public Trustee in Tasmania and only the second in Australia.

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Foundation Dinner pics – pages 6 & 7

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Celebrate! *(continued)*

She also had the distinction of being the youngest and the only non-lawyer to hold the post and has been recognised for her contributions to the state beyond the pursuit of career goals, including numerous mentoring programs and roles on various boards.

"The first in her family to attend university, Elizabeth not only excelled in her studies, but has also used her education wisely and well in furthering her professional and personal life," Professor Le Grew said.

Chair of the Tasmania University Foundation, Mr Ian Roberts, said this year's dinner was the best ever.

"It was a tremendous demonstration of the support the University enjoys from the Tasmanian community."

See photos on centre spread.

Excellence in teaching at the University of Tasmania

The Vice-Chancellor met the 2002 Teaching Excellence Award winners and recipients of Teaching Merit Awards earlier this month.

A maximum of six TE awards are made each year, of \$5,000 each, for undergraduate teaching programs/teams (Category A) or individual academic staff members (Category B). The award scheme, established by the University Council in 1991, encourages and rewards excellence in teaching, and recognises the unqualified commitment of the University to create and maintain a teaching and learning environment of the highest standard. All members of the academic staff are eligible to apply.

The Teaching Merit Certificate scheme, like the Teaching Excellence Award scheme, recognises teaching members of academic staff who are judged by peers and students as being highly proficient and competent teachers. There are two categories of Certificates - Individual and Team (or Unit-based). Heads of Schools, peers, and students must make nominations.

A list of the award and merit certificate winners can be found at http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/2002_award_winners.html

The Director of the Flexible Education Unit, Christine Goodacre said, "Teaching Excellence Awards and Teaching Merit Certificates play an important part in recognising and rewarding good teaching practice at the University of Tasmania.

"We are delighted the Vice-Chancellor was able to have the opportunity to meet the 2002 recipients."



Pictured with the Dean, Associate Professor Carey Denholm (far left), and the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Andrew Glenn (far right), are the five recipients of the Board of Graduate Studies by Research Scholarships, Rachelle Padgett, Cheryle Hislop, Ian Bonde, Gay McKinnon and Cameron Potter.

Board of graduate studies by research awards

At a recent function organized by the Members of the Board of Graduate Studies by Research, presentations were made to five in-coming candidates who were awarded the 2003 Board of Graduate Studies by Research Scholarship, and to ten graduates who were named on the 2002 Dean's Commendation List for Outstanding Doctoral Theses.

The Scholarships, each valued at \$23,294, are awarded to outstanding applicants. Recipients were Ian Bonde (Tasmanian School of Art), Cheryle Hislop (Government), Gay McKinnon (Plant Science), Rachelle Padgett (Geography and Environmental Studies) and Cameron Potter (Engineering).

Nomination for the Dean's Commendation List requires that a PhD candidate receive an assessment at the level of outstanding from both external examiners. The following graduates were admitted:

Dr Philip Bethge (Medicine - Physiology) Assoc Prof S Nicol (Supervisor)
Dr Lucy Clerk (Medicine - Biochemistry) Prof M Clark (Supervisor)
Dr Piers Dunstan (Zoology) Prof C Johnson (Supervisor)
Dr Elizabeth Fulton (Zoology) Prof C Johnson (Supervisor)
Dr Miriam Kirby (Psychology) Dr F Martin (Supervisor)
Dr John Newman (Medicine - Biochemistry) Prof M Clark (Supervisor)
Dr James Phillips (Philosophy) Prof J Malpas (Supervisor)
Dr Stephen Quinn (Mathematics and Physics - Mathematics) Dr A Kelarev (Supervisor)
Dr Yvonne Vucica (Plant Science) Dr A Koutoulis (Supervisor)
Dr Michelle Wallis (Medicine - Biochemistry) Prof M Clark (Supervisor)

The photograph of Kevin Leeson that appeared on page 7 of the last issue of UniTas was provided courtesy of The Mercury Newspaper.

A Message from the Vice-Chancellor

What a month! It's hard to cover all the territory that one would like, but I have been pleased to make some progress in visiting faculties and schools, divisions et al. at our various sites. The response has been heartening and the discussion frank and illuminating.

Highlights are always difficult to underline when so much is happening but my visit to the North-West Centre, and to our communities of interest in the region, was particularly significant. One cannot help but be impressed by the way in which the Cradle Coast area has emerged from difficult circumstances with new enthusiasm and fresh ideas for the future. I was delighted to find that UTas has been instrumental in providing educational opportunities through the North-West Centre. This is greatly appreciated by all concerned in regional communities. I am sure that we can go on from here and grow our involvement in this area of the State that has traditionally not had a great uptake in university education. We are making headway and Megan Cavanagh-Russell and her team are providing a wonderful starting point for students to come on to the campuses. Over time we will be able to offer enhanced opportunities for students to advance at Burnie, especially if we can develop in collaboration with TAFE Tasmania and with the schools and colleges.

The Rural Health Clinical School is also underway in the North-West, with study centres located in local community health facilities and opportunities for students and staff to learn through practice in rural settings. A new appreciation of the problems of regional communities and new opportunities for rural practice for graduates are potential benefits of this important program.

Equally impressive, was seeing how our University research and research training is contributing to and underpinning the development of new industry initiatives in the North-West. Through TIAR, and other research centres, we are providing the graduates and research products that are adding tremendous value to agricultural and service industries. I was delighted to learn that without that contribution new industries would simply not have emerged. Well done to our researchers and research graduates who are fuelling this regional comeback. It is a model for the way in which we must build our community links and respect. It exemplifies all the features of the EDGE agenda – excellence in distinctive areas, coupled with enterprise, producing growth for us and for our communities of interest.

Pausing for a moment on the EDGE agenda, can I say how much I have appreciated the opportunity to present at a range of forums across the University, and in the community. The response to the process has been substantial indeed, with wide ranging discussions from the tearoom to the meeting room. This is good news indeed. The aim is to bring comment back through the faculties, divisions and others and then to identify and agree on the key priorities that will provide a sharp edge to the University Plan. At that point we will be seeking action plans and resources through the budget process for 2004-2006 to implement our objectives. It is crucial that we move our planning out of rhetorical mode and into achievable and affordable action plans. By way of example, I attended an EDGE meeting arranged by Student Services to consider the agenda. In a spirit of broad support, some very

promising models emerged that would help to make service provision more efficient, more client oriented and better able to work between existing divisions and departments in order to make things happen for students. I would encourage everyone engaged in EDGE discussions to think, similarly, of better ways of doing what we do, or even new ways that would create real benefits.

I am also glad to report that the Deans and Senior Executive of UTas met with school/college Principals over dinner in both Launceston and Hobart recently. I was delighted to host both meetings and like all of you in the University community, look forward to enhancing University/school linkages and developing a range of collaborative projects that can retain students in Tasmania, increase participation from schools that are under-represented, and bring on highly talented youngsters in special programs. The mood of these meetings was most cordial and many Principals were grateful for the chance to interact with the University, some for the

first time, and to network with one another. We will build on this initiative to make our interaction more regular and our desire for a program of joint activities a reality.

On the international front, it was a pleasure to welcome the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Science, Malaysia, Professor Dato Dzulkifli Abdul Razak, and his colleagues to the Hobart campus to sign an MOU on collaboration in Antarctic Science and related areas in the marine sciences and aquaculture. Malaysia has declared an interest in Antarctic affairs and we believe that collaboration of this kind will encourage the Malaysian government to join the other Treaty Nations in our important and joint work in Antarctica. We also see this as a way of encour-

aging more Malaysian postgraduate students to seek to work here and be supervised in their research by UTas staff, and of fostering joint staff research.

Many staff members have also expressed interest in the future of the University's Partnership with the State Government. This is a significant differentiating feature for us nationally. As with any Agreement, after nearly three years of operation, the Partnership is due for a little revamping. We have already met with State departmental heads in order to seek ways forward. Both partners are now considering their priorities and the intention is to meet soon to massage these into a targeted program that is both exciting and achievable. Seeking synergies between the University's research and teaching agenda (especially as it may be enhanced by the EDGE deliberations), and the objectives of the State for development of its economic and social capital, will be important ingredients in our University planning. I look forward to some robust discussions as we move to enhance the Partnership.

Finally (for now) congratulations to all recipients of research and teaching awards. I have had the pleasure of meeting and celebrating with some of these talented researchers and teachers, and to thank them for their commitment to excellence and to UTas.

Regards

Daryl

Professor Daryl Le Grew



Hooked on Tasmania

When Thai student Meechai Iemjinda returned home recently, after more than five years study, he took with him a wealth of newfound knowledge and boxes of textbooks.

But in the back of his mind there must have been thoughts of 'the one that got away' because in the years he spent in Tasmania working toward a PhD in Education, Meechai became an avid angler...

During those few snatched hours away from the books, he headed for the banks of the Tamar, often to Windermere, just a few minutes drive from the Launceston campus.

It's a pastime he says many international students enjoy.

"It's cheap, close to the campus and very relaxing," he said.

Meechai first came to the University of Tasmania to study an intensive language course and stayed on to enrol in a PhD, after securing a scholarship under the Tasmanian International Scholarship program in 1997.

The former Deputy Dean of Education at Silpakorn University in Thailand quickly immersed himself in Tasmanian life. Apart from the fishing and study, Meechai helped foster closer relationships between the University of Tasmania and Thailand. He helped other Thai students settle into their studies in Tasmania, and Thai visitors have appreciated his assistance working with International Services on the Launceston campus.

Meechai also worked with the Tasmanian Principals Institute on its program to train Thai school principals on self-management strategies for the school system.

"Studying in Tasmania has been a really tough challenge but the staff of the University at all levels have been supportive," he said.

He's particularly noticed a big increase in overseas student numbers in the five years he spent on the Launceston campus.

"Over the years the number of students has grown, and as



Dr Meechai Iemjinda presents a token of appreciation to Professor Rudi Lidl.

others learn of the University of Tasmania, its reputation grows," Meechai said.

"It is amazing how students talk. And when they get home tell family and friends about their experiences."

Meechai said that he was moved by the recent conferring of an Honorary Degree on His Majesty, the King of Thailand, by the University of Tasmania.

"This is very special to Thai students," he said.

"Especially being able to return home to Thailand and say that I am a graduate of the University of Tasmania. The same university that has honoured the King."

On his return to Silpakorn University, Meechai will resume his place in the Education Faculty, but not at the helm. He wants to put his new skills to the test in the classroom before returning to an administrative role.

Meechai's PhD thesis was entitled *Task-based Learning and Curriculum Innovation in an English Foreign Language Context*. His supervisors were Professor John Williamson and Dr Marion Myhill.

Lithuanian for beginners

An ancient Indo-European language is now available to Tasmanian students. The new course, Lithuanian for Beginners, started on 5 March and is running in Room 214A, Hytten Hall, between 7pm and 9pm on Wednesday nights.

The Lithuanian Studies Society, one of the student societies affiliated with the Tasmania University Union, has arranged the course, which is funded by a grant from the Elena Petravicius Trust, via the Tasmanian Public Trustee. As a result, tuition is free and the texts are supplied to students without charge.

Eleven students are currently studying Lithuanian for Beginners, in a course taught by Dr Al Taskunas, the author of *Unnecessary foreign words in Lithuanian*, which was published in Tasmania in 1998 and sold out in Lithuania within a few weeks of its publication.

As one of the oldest living Indo-European tongues, Lithuanian has a myriad of forms and refinements that have long since disappeared from English and other modern languages. For example:

- Intonation and stresses add a lilt to the language.
- The endings of Lithuanian nouns, pronouns, adjectives and numerals change depending upon their gender and their case (one word may have up to 30 cases).
- A verb has over 100 forms, each conveying a different shade of meaning.

It's challenges like these that make Lithuanian language appealing to linguists, language historians, students of communication and those seeking new academic challenges.

For further information contact:

Al Taskunas 2541.

Sue Kilpatrick helps set new international benchmarks

Work by the Centre for Research and Learning in Regional Australia is earning an international reputation.

The Centre's Director, Dr Sue Kilpatrick has recently returned from a UNESCO-sponsored conference in China.

Dr Kilpatrick's work on the transformation of rural communities through education had attracted interest from UNESCO's International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), based in Paris, and she was one of only four researchers worldwide invited to take part in the Institute's workshop on the contribution of vocational education institutions to local development and lifelong learning in rural areas.

The workshop was part of a conference at the Hebei Agricultural University in Baoding.

The other presenters were from Japan, Honduras and the United States.

While almost half of the delegates were Chinese, and the majority of others were from other developing nations, Dr Kilpatrick said that there was also good representation from many of the international agencies like UNICEF.

It was on the workshop theme: *The contribution of vocational and higher education institutions to local development and lifelong learning in rural areas*, that Dr Kilpatrick was able to draw on her

recent research in Australia.

"Research into the role of vocational education and training (VET) for adults and senior school students on ten sites in rural Australia has examined the role played by educational providers, including the way in which they interact with rural communities.

"The study has highlighted the benefits of a collaborative approach to planning and delivering training. This approach is consistent with emerging theories of social capital that emphasise the crucial part played by networks, values and trust in generating superior outcomes for individuals and communities," Dr Kilpatrick said.

"Education does more than simply provide opportunities for individuals.

"It benefits the whole community in many ways. There are the links that are opened up when communities are drawn together and interact with others," she said.

The International Institute for Educational Planning will publish a book based on the China conference, giving Dr Kilpatrick's work even greater international exposure.

Her work has also been picked up by a UNESCO project in Tibet and an AUSAID project in Poland.

Accolades for Architecture keep coming...

Close on the heels of the University of Tasmania's School of Architecture being named as 'best practice example in the discipline of architecture in Australia' in a recent report commissioned by the Australian Building Energy Council, comes a substantial article published in the prestigious Harvard Design Magazine, extolling the School's relevance on the international stage.

The author, Paolo Tombesi, a Senior Lecturer at the University of Melbourne, names the Tasmanian School of Architecture as one of the few in the world that recognises local conditions "as relevant in the preparation of field intellectuals".

Head of the School of Architecture, Professor Roger Fay, said, "Tombesi expresses eloquently what we have known for many years – that the location of Tasmania's School of Architecture in a provincial city, in the least populous State of Australia, and in a region of great natural beauty, offers our students and staff unique opportunities in teaching and learning and research.

"Given this wonderful location, our emphasis on timber, environmentally sustainable design and learning-by-making, makes great sense."



Professor Roger Fay

University of Tasmania Foundation Dinner



8 Bill Lawson, Sinclair Knight Merz and Lea Lawson.

9 Paul Gee, Tas Alkaloids, Jacky Hartnett, School of Computing, Allan Canty, School of Chemistry and Brian Hartnett, Managing Director Tasmanian Alkaloids.

10 Evan Rolley, Managing Director Forestry Tasmania, Lily Burgess, Human Resources Forestry Tasmania with their scholar Mary Syrotynskij (*left*).



Scott Gadd, Rebeka Burton, Linda Homsey, Department of Premier and Cabinet with Premier of Tasmania scholars: Luke Paine, Laura Farnell, Jeremy Breen, Jacob Poke and James Thorp.



1 Professor Sue Johnston and Professor Don Chalmers.

2 Dr June Olley, School of Agricultural Science with Ms Rhonda Ewart, University Foundation.

3 Justice Peter Heerey, Professor Kate Warner, Professor Tim McCormack and Hon. Prof. Father Michael Tate.

4 Professor Rudi Lidl and Commissioner Richard McCready.

5 John Brodie and Dr Joan Woodbury AM. (seated on left)

6 Tony Hart, Managing Director Clemenger Tasmania, with scholarship students: Amanda Castray, Anthony White and Stephanie Waterhouse and Tony White, University Account Director.

7 Dr Clementine Mucha, CEO Hobart Water.



Philosophy and film

Philosophy and Film is a new film society associated with and financed by the University's School of Philosophy. It is part of the School's continuing efforts to bring philosophy to as wide an audience as possible through the promotion of the idea that philosophy is not merely a cloistered academic activity, but rather, an integral aspect of all our lives.

A secondary, but still important, goal of the society is to promote philosophical reflection on the nature of film itself.

Screenings, accompanied by talks and/or open discussions,

will begin at 7 pm on the first Thursday of every month, starting in April.

Membership is free and the association should be able to sign you up at any screening, providing you arrive at least ten minutes before the start.

For more information please contact:

Dr David Coady – phone: 2272 email:

David.Coady@utas.edu.au or Joel Stafford – phone: 7872

email: joels@postoffice.utas.edu.au

Scholarship winners become high achievers

A long-standing relationship with the Tasmanian Electronic Commerce Centre has reaped many rewards for the University of Tasmania, not least for winners of the annual TECC scholarship.

There have been five winners since the scholarship was launched in 1998 to recognise outstanding achievement in the field of Information Systems.

Eva Murray, who graduated from the University in 2001 with Honours in Information Systems, joined Garrisons as part of a graduate recruitment program in January 2002.

During her first year, Eva updated the company's financial planning software so consultants could download information regarding their clients' investments directly from a centralised data warehouse.

Eva then joined the database team working on maintaining the data warehouse.

Last December, Eva published a paper relating to trust issues between traders and online auction house eBay at the 13th Australasian Conference of Information Systems held by the Victoria University of Technology in Melbourne.

Matthew Fassett, the 1999 TECC Scholarship winner, has enjoyed a wide-ranging career since graduating with a Bachelor of Information Systems with Honours.

His first position was as an analyst with global management consulting company Accenture, which he joined in January 2000.

As a newcomer to an organisation with operations in 52 countries and a work force of about 75,000, Matthew was sent for training at the company's global training facility at

St Charles, near Chicago.

After completing 'boot camp', Matthew joined a function point analysis project with Telstra before moving to a business-to-business project where he was responsible for developing a time-phased financial model to quantify the financial impacts (costs and benefits) relating to a business concept conceived by a start-up e-business venture.

He then became a business analyst reviewing the business case for a media management company and was involved in various business development efforts such as proposals, market research and other internal projects, including a number of international projects.

Last year, Matthew was promoted to strategy consultant and joined a project to optimise the assortment and placement of goods throughout more than 200 stores of a leading Hong Kong grocery retailer, ParknShop.

After this intense period of activity, Matthew has decided on a career change and earlier this year announced a switch to study Medicine. He has returned to the University of Tasmania to do so.

The University of Tasmania is a shareholder of the TECC. For further information about the TECC's activities, phone: 6336 7777 email: info@tecc.com.au or visit the website at www.tecc.com.au



Photo by Deanne Rogers

Tasmanian Media Awards

Nicole Johnston from the ABC picked up the University of Tasmania's Award for Excellence in Reporting on Science and Technology at the 2003 Media Awards held earlier this month.

The category was open to all media – print, photographic and electronic – and was established by the Public Relations &

University Extension Unit to recognise excellence in reporting on issues associated with science and technology, and to promote an understanding of those fields.

Nicole won the award for her stories about research in Antarctica. She received a \$500 cheque and Certificate.

Philip Brooks

Documentary filmmaker

1953 – 2003

“Philip Brooks, expatriate Australian documentary filmmaker, has died at the age of 49. With his customary sense of style he managed to do it in the south of Spain, within sight of the Atlantic Ocean,” says Helen Garner in the obituary she wrote for the Age Newspaper.

Brooks is remembered at this university with fondness. According to people like Paul Rigby, the Director of International Services, Brooks was a larger than life, charismatic character.

“His personality and wicked sense of humour had him in all kinds of bother when I studied with him for a brief time,” he said.

Rigby grinned and with tongue in cheek, feigned innocence and said it was

Philip’s fault that they both got into mischief.

Getting into mischief was something Brooks relished, along with anything new.

Garner’s tribute to Brooks throws a lot of light on his mercurial ways; “When his father worked in Ethiopia for UNESCO, Philip spent his 13th year at a school in Addis Ababa. His love for Africa dated from that time, as did, perhaps, his notorious inability to stay in one spot, and his reckless openness to everything foreign and new”.

After a brief stint in London, Brooks moved to Paris, where he was based for the rest of his life. It was there Garner says that he “began to turn himself, by

sheer force of will, into a roving freelance journalist, a job to which, with his charm and cheek, he was well suited.

“When he finally found the work he loved – making and producing documentary films – he poured into it all his manic energy and drive, and took it to the cusps and outer edges of race, sexuality and the law, where he had always been happiest.”

You can hear the regret in Garner’s voice when she writes... “In 1999 he came back to shoot his only really personal documentary, *My Own Private Oz*, a relaxed and charming filmic reconnection with his old friends from the 1970s. Too late we realised that it was also a valedictory.”

A tribute to Professor Ian Smith

Ian Haldane Smith, former Professor of French at the University of Tasmania, died on December 21 at the age of 78 years.

The Melbourne Professor came to Tasmania in 1958 to take up the Chair of French, holding that position until his retirement in 1988.

During that time, Ian led hundreds of students to an appreciation of the French language and its literature. Those students have spread through the world, sometimes as teachers or interpreters, but more often simply as educated people whose character and sensibility were modified by their acquaintance with one of the world’s great cultures.

Outside the University, Professor Smith was actively concerned with encouraging the teaching of French in



schools, especially through the Alliance Française, of which he was President for many years. He also served as Honorary Consul for France for fifteen years. His services were recognised by the French Government who conferred two decorations upon him: *Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite* and *Officier des*

Palmes Académiques.

As a member of the University, Ian is remembered as a scholar and departmental head, and for his active participation in University affairs in difficult times. He played a large part in the negotiations concerning University tenure after the Royal Commission and the Orr case, for example. He is uniquely remembered, however, for his wit and eloquence at the Professorial Board, at Table Thirteen in the “Senior Common Room” (now the University Club) and on University Council.

A short extract from the eulogy given by Emeritus Professor W.D. Joske at Emeritus Professor Ian Smith’s funeral in December last year.

An opportunity to get your stories in *Campus Review*

Published every Wednesday, *Campus Review*’s news and analysis is excellent. It provides coverage of the higher education, vocational education and training sectors.

Campus Review, *Education Review (Australia)* and *New Zealand Education Review* is read by ministers of education, academics, administrators, government policy makers, TAFE institute directors, managers and lecturers, private providers, principals and teachers. The combined readership has been

significantly increased, and is now running at about 86,000.

If you would like to reach this audience, please provide material to the Media Office – 2124 – email Media.Office@utas.edu.au and it will be forwarded to *Campus Review*.

The Media Office can’t guarantee all stories will be published, but can guarantee it will do its very best to push them forward.

James Vickers appointed Chair of Pathology

The University of Tasmania's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Daryl Le Grew, has announced the appointment of Professor James Vickers to the Chair of Pathology.

"Professor Vickers is a highly-respected and well-credentialed academic," Professor Le Grew said.

"His research includes study into neurodegenerative disease and 'acquired' forms of neuronal injury such as brain trauma, and his work attracts huge interest nationally and internationally."

James Vickers completed a Bachelor of Science (Hons) at the University of Tasmania and then gained a PhD from Flinders University in South Australia.

Following postdoctoral research at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, he returned to the University of



Tasmania in 1994 as a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) 'CJ Martin' Research Fellow, and subsequently progressed through the NHMRC Research Fellowship scheme, picking up a swag of awards along the way.

The Launceston born 37 year-old currently holds four NHMRC project grants and is a co-founder of the University's School of Medicine NeuroRepair research group along with Dr Adrian West (Biochemistry) and Dr Inn Chuah (Anatomy and Physiology).

"Professor Vickers' leadership and research skills are greatly valued," the Vice-Chancellor said. "We are delighted that he has agreed to accept the appointment."

Professor Vickers is based within the University's Clinical School in Hobart.

Teaching matters

Early last December more than 180 University staff from all three centres attended a one-day internal conference 'Teaching Matters 2002'.

The purpose of the conference was to showcase good teaching practice at the University and provide an opportunity for staff to share their experiences in adopting innovative approaches to teaching and learning.

It was the first event of its kind at UTas.

The attendance far exceeded the organisers' expectations and demonstrated the interest within the University in teaching and learning issues.

There were workshops, presentations, demonstrations and showcases that covered a wide variety of subjects in the theory and practice of teaching.

Keynote speaker was Associate Professor Geoffrey Waugh from the University of New South Wales, whose subject was *Perspectives on teaching: Is the group or the individual primary in teaching and learning?*

The day also included a 'trade-show' area with numerous displays from UTas staff, industry representatives and the Education Department.

The next 'Teaching Matters 2003' conference will be opened by the Vice-Chancellor and is scheduled for November 26 this year.

"The University takes very seriously its responsibility to provide a quality teaching and learning environment," said Christine Goodacre, Director of the Flexible Education Unit.

"Teaching Matters will become an annual showcase event for staff to share their teaching experiences and showcase examples of good teaching practice."



Mrs Lynn Marshall, Mr Brian Marshall, Dean of the Hobart Campus of Guilford Young College, Sister Pamela Davis, Principal of Guilford Young College, Professor Roslyn Arnold, School of Education, University of Tasmania and Mr Paul Ford, Dean of the Glenorchy Campus of Guilford Young College.

A matter of principals

Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew and wife Jo, entertained the Principals from all year 11 and 12 Tasmanian colleges, and the schools' District Superintendents, at functions held in Launceston and Hobart this month.

Professor Le Grew expressed his wish to establish even stronger partnerships with Tasmanian schools and said he is keen to maintain an ongoing dialogue with Principals, Superintendents and staff.

The functions, an initiative of the Student Recruitment and Marketing Unit, were an ideal forum in which to promote the University's 2004 course guide and to reveal the theme for this year's Open Days - *Be more than you can imagine*.

The new course guide, with its distinctive purple cover, features a 'larger than life' Tasmanian Honey Bee, and uses that theme to promote the benefits of continuing onto higher education and studying at the University of Tasmania.

The course guide provides invaluable information for prospective students and their families.

You may be interested to know that the Bee was noted in mythology as being a messenger from the Gods.

Performances and Exhibitions (continued from back page)

this exhibition which includes works by Michaye Boulter, Tim Burns, Geoff Dyer, Kerry Gregan, Patrick Grieve, Christine Hiller, David Keeling, Stephen Lees, Anne Morrison, Ian Parry, Susan Robson, Richard Wastell, Philip Wolfhagen and Bill Yaxley. Paul Zika is

the curator.
**On display until 6 April,
12 noon – 5 pm daily.**
Plimsoll Gallery, Centre for the Arts, Hunter Street, Hobart.
Further information is available on 6226 4309.

Charity Breakfast for medical research
Venue: Meehans Restaurant,
Hotel Grand Chancellor
Thursday 10 April - 7.30 am
Cost: \$22 (or table of 10 for \$200)
Further information: Phone: 6222 8088

Seminars and Forums

Public Symposium 2003

followed by open discussion

Impact on Society of Forced Migration

Topics include: history and nature of human migrations; recent forced migrations to Australian shores; treatment of asylum seekers – impacts on society; and impacts of forced migration on children.

Chair: Dr Douglas Carter, Aust Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ASTSS)

Speakers: Dr Paul Valent, ASTSS and Dr Dasia Black-Gutman, Child and Family Psychologist

Thursday 3 April, 7.30 pm

Stanley Burbury Theatre, Hobart campus.

School of History and Classics and The Centre for Tasmanian Historical Studies

Robert Cottle, Staffordshire University, England

Staffordshire Chartist Convicts: the 1842 Potteries Rioters in Van Diemen's Land

Wednesday 2 April, 4.10 pm

Room 477A, Humanities Building, Hobart campus.

Phill Hilton, University of Tasmania
Branded D on the Left Side: Transported Soldiers to VDL

Wednesday 9 April, 4.10 pm

Room 477A, Humanities Building, Hobart campus.

Further information is available on 6226 2298.

School of Aquaculture

Honours seminars

Wednesday 2 April, 12 pm

Lecture Theatre LT7, Science Building, Launceston campus.

Mr Felipe Suplicy, University of Tasmania
Modelling carrying capacity aspects for a shellfish farm in Brazil

Wednesday 9 April, 12 pm

Lecture Theatre LT7, Science Building, Launceston campus.

Further information available from Christopher Bolch on 6324 3815.

School of Sociology & Social Work

Dr Roberta Julian

Transnational Identity in the Hmong Diaspora: Hegemonic Discourse and the Diasporic Public Sphere

Friday 4 April, 2.15 pm

Room 319, Arts Building, Hobart campus.

Ms Kristin Natalier

What Does It Mean to Leave The Nest? The Relationship Between Independence and Accommodation in the Absence of Standardized Life Biographies.

Friday 11 April, 2.15 pm

Room 319, Arts Building, Hobart campus.

Further information is available from Dr Brett Hutchins on 6226 2362.

School of Government

Dr Janet Albrechtsen, Columnist, *The Australian*
The International Criminal Court is International Law's Newest, Sexiest Accoutrement: Will it be a court of law or politics?

Friday 4 April, 2 pm

Room 586, Arts Building, Hobart campus.

Professor Peter Chalk, Deakin University
Transnational Threats in the Asia-Pacific
Friday 11 April, 2 pm

Room 586, Arts Building, Hobart campus.

Further information available on 6226 2331.

School of Chemistry

Professor Mark Gordon, Iowa State University
A Cluster-Based Approach to Solvation

Wednesday 2 April, 12 pm

Chemistry Lecture Theatre C2, Hobart campus.

Dr Peter Nichols, CSIRO Marine Research
Value-Adding Australian Marine Oils: From Waste to Products and an Update on Seafood 'Good Oil' Composition

Wednesday 9 April, 12 pm

Chemistry Lecture Theatre C2, Hobart campus.
Further information is available from Dr Brian Yates on 6226 2167.

School of Philosophy

Jack Reynolds, University of Tasmania
Derrida and Merleau-Ponty on the punctum caecum: visibility and invisibility in the perspective of the artist

Wednesday 2 April, 3 pm

Room 209, Arts Building, Hobart campus.

Robyn Ferrell, University of Tasmania
Mother Theory: towards an ontology of the maternal

Wednesday 9 April, 3 pm

Room 209, Arts Building, Hobart campus.
Further information is available from Sandra Kellett on 6226 2255.

Philosophy & Film – War and Courage

The screening of the Stanley Kubrick film *Paths of Glory*, will be accompanied by a talk by Dr David Coady. *Paths of Glory* is based on a novel that had its origins in an actual incident in World War 1. The film does not appeal to our sense of humanity rather this is an anti-war film which appeals through a biting, ironic detachment.

Thursday 3 April, 7 pm. Free.

Further information or a calendar available from David Coady on 6226 2272 or Joel Stafford on 6226 7872.

School of Plant Science

Anne Chuter, Stephen Kern, David McElwee, Alice Palmer, Damien Rathbone and James Worth

Introductory Honours seminars

Friday 4 April, 4 pm

Theatre 2, Life Sciences Building, Hobart campus.

Brett Ferguson

Nodulation – you know you love it

Friday 11 April, 4 pm

Theatre 2, Life Sciences Building, Hobart campus.
Further information available on 6226 2603.

CLASSIFIEDS

Wanted to rent: Visiting academic seeks 1-2 bdrm fully furnished apartment /unit/house near Sandy Bay Campus for period June-November 2003. Ph: 6226 2266 or email: Suellen.Lampkin@utas.edu.au

For rent: Sandy Bay, unit to rent, 2-bedroom, fully furnished, OSP, walking distance to Uni and shops. \$220 per week, plus bond. Ph: 6223 3119 after 5 pm.

For sale: Double bed, Freedom Somerset brand, frame in very good condition, mattress fair, \$400 ono.
email: Samantha.Hardy@utas.edu.au

Wanted to rent: Visiting academic from Germany requires single rental accommodation from May-July inclusive. Contact Peter Jarvis, Physics Ph: 6226 2425 or 6226 2401, or email: Peter.Jarvis@utas.edu.au

For sale: Piano - small, upright, iron frame. Very good cabinet – keys need some work, tuning etc. Wooden stool included in price. \$500 or near offer. Ph: 6228 9185

House to let: Tarooma, 3/4 bdrms, 1st July-1st October 2003, rent negotiable.
Ph: 6227 8922 or email: Michael.Hitchman@utas.edu.au

For rent: Mount Nelson, 1-bedroom unit with large living area and garage, walking distance to Uni and shops, \$115 per week, plus bond. Available from 22 April. Ph: 6224 4426

NOTICEBOARD

Women's Equity Focus Group

Female University staff are invited to meet with
Professor Daryl Le Grew, Vice-Chancellor

Gaining the Equity EDGE

Launceston, Thursday 3 April

Hobart, Friday 11 April

12.30–2 pm, including light lunch

RSVPs are essential, phone 3537.

Public Lecture

Dr Gail Lugten, School of Law, University of Tasmania

Southern Ocean Sustainability... a fishy tale

Dr Lugten will speak about the problems of overfishing; illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing; inadequate monitoring control and surveillance of fishing vessels, and environmental degradation of fish habitats.

Friday 4 April, 7.30pm

University of Tasmania, North-West Centre, 16-20 Mooreville Road, Burnie.

RSVP by 1 April on 6430 4999.

Performances and Exhibitions

Centr Stage

Centr Stage will present *Conviction*, written by the award winning local playwright Stella Kent and directed by Peter Hammond. In 1837 Sir John Franklin, Arctic explorer and a man who could not bear to witness the punishment of his own men, arrives as Governor of the penal colony, Van Diemen's Land. *Conviction* is the story of those unfortunate years. It is an exploration of what happens when people pursue their convictions.

2–4 April, 7 pm. 5 April, 2 pm and 7 pm.

The Annexe Theatre, Academy of the Arts, Inveresk, Launceston.

For bookings phone 6323 3666.

Further information is available from L'Hibou Hornung on 0438 562 923.

Conservatorium Concerts Calendar

Lunchtime Concert Series

Honours musicians Zoe Wallace and Emily McMillan perform works for cello and violin including Beethoven and Britten.

Tuesday 1 April, 1.10 pm

Stanley Burbury Theatre. Free.

Opera

Australian Premiere

Philip Glass' HYDROGEN JUKEBOX

This incredible combination of two of America's cultural icons Allen Ginsberg and Philip Glass is a must see for lovers of music, theatre, poetry or film.

Robert Jarman presents a multimedia extravaganza as he brings alive the sometimes confronting, sometimes jubilant subject matter of Ginsberg's poetry and driving sounds of Glass' minimalist composition. Don't miss this stunning piece of music theatre, never before performed in Australia.

15, 21, 24, 25 & 26 April, 8 pm

Hobart College Theatre. All tickets \$25, available at Centertainment 6234 5998.

University Forum

As part of the *Ten Days on the Island* Festival, and as a fund raiser for the John Elliott Classics Museum, the Australian group *Melismos* will perform a concert of ancient Greek songs and instrumental music from surviving fragments using replica instruments crafted by Sydney violin maker, Harry Vatiliotis. The instruments will be on display in the John Elliott Classics Museum at the University of Tasmania prior to the concert.

Saturday 5 April, 8 pm

Stanley Burbury Theatre, Hobart campus. Tickets \$17.50 and \$13.

Bookings through tickets.com

Further information is available from Greg Parkinson on 6324 3033.

Red Dirt & August Fog

University of Tasmania's School of Visual & Performing Arts students create works inspired by the poem *Tamar Valley* by Tim Thorne.

On display until 17 April, Monday to Friday 9 am – 5 pm.

Academy Gallery, Inveresk, Launceston. Free entry.

Further information is available on 6324 4450.

2003 International Digital Art Award

Over 150 digital photographs by 50 international multimedia visual arts practitioners. Lecture by Stephen Danzig, Director of the International Digital Art Award.

On display until 17 April, Monday to Friday 9 am–5 pm.

Academy Gallery, Inveresk, Launceston. Free entry.

Further information is available on 6324 4450.

Australia through Israeli Eyes –

A Photography Exhibition by Alon Lev

This exhibition is a series of colour photographs taken during a bicycle trip across Australia from June 1998 to March 1999. Lev travelled from Broome to Sydney, passing through the Kimberley Range, Darwin, Alice Springs, Uluru, the Great Ocean Road, Melbourne, Tasmania and just about every place in between.

On display until 17 April, Monday to Friday 9 am – 5 pm.

Academy Gallery, Inveresk, Launceston.

Further information is available on 6324 4450.

Painting Tasmanian Landscape

The success and popularity of artists working within the landscape painting genre in Tasmania together with the State's reputation as a beautiful, unique – albeit threatened – natural environment constitute the main reasons to present

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UniTas is the fortnightly newsletter of the University of Tasmania.

Reader contributions are welcome, however the publishers reserve the right to edit copy or hold-over material for future issues. It is under no obligation to publish contributed copy. Letters to the Editor on issues of general University interest are invited. They should be brief and must be signed.

The opinions expressed in UniTas are not necessarily those of the University.

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