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Find out more at www.uq.edu.au/study
MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

In a speech to the House of Commons in 1873, British statesman Benjamin Disraeli remarked: “A university should be a place of light, of liberty, and of learning.”

This goal is inscribed in the sandstone above the Great Court entrance to the Forgan Smith Building as a constant reminder of The University of Queensland’s fundamental values.

In aspiring to reach its goals, UQ places great value not only on the teaching, learning and research experience, but also on each individual in the UQ community.

We are a very multicultural community, with an increasing diversity in staff and students.

Eighteen percent of our students come from overseas from 130 different countries – mainly Singapore, the United States, Malaysia, China and Hong Kong. Around 74 percent of our staff were born outside Australia and they speak at least 41 languages other than English at home.

Diversity Week, held across UQ campuses during May 10-14, provided us all with the opportunity to reflect on the importance of equity, diversity and harmony.

It also gave us the opportunity to showcase the innovations under way on all our campuses to further enhance understanding, and acceptance, of diversity.

There are many wonderful stories of how individuals and groups at UQ encourage diversity, and these were acknowledged at the Diversity Week Awards Luncheon at Customs House on May 14.

Acceptance of diversity has always been a hallmark of great universities. It is becoming more and more important as globalisation shrinks the world and new technologies rapidly change our communications.

Diversity opens minds and doors.

Professor John Hay, AC

Cover photo: (from left) Bridge Members Justin Hardman, Maria Darjaz, Anna Homan and Bridge president Caroline Nordang
Hypersonics jets into 2005

The world’s fastest air-breathing engine will fly in Australia next year through a collaboration between UQ and US defence organisations.

Scramjet engines that could make possible two-hour flights from Sydney to London have been given a major boost through a new bilateral agreement. Australian and US defence interests have signed a $4.6 million deal to conduct a scramjet experiment at Mach 10, or about 11,000km an hour, at Woomera, South Australia, possibly in the second half of 2005.

Scramjets are air-breathing supersonic combustion ramjet engines that have the potential to revolutionise the launch of small space payloads, such as communications satellites, by substantially lowering costs. Project partners are the US Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and the Australian Hypersonics Initiative (AHI).

The AHI is represented by UQ; the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO); the University of New South Wales at the Australian Defence Force Academy; the Australian National University; and the governments of South Australia and Queensland.

Professor Allan Paull, of UQ’s Centre for Hypersonics, is the technical leader for the Australian Hypersonics Initiative. He said Australia had established an international standing in hypersonics research.

“Australia’s reputation has been built up over three decades of scramjet research,” Professor Paull said.

Dr Warren Harch, Chief of DSTO’s Weapons Systems Division, said future defence applications for hypersonic vehicles included long-range reconnaissance of potentially global proportions.

Civilian applications included low-cost satellite launching and high-speed aircraft.

“Hypersonic propulsion using supersonic combustion ramjet (scramjet) technology offers the possibility of high speeds and fuel efficiencies that many believe will put numerous defence and civilian aerospace applications within our reach during the next couple of decades,” Dr Harch said.

UQ’s Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor David Siddle, said UQ had been at the forefront of scramjet technology development.

“UQ reported for the first time in the open literature the development of a scramjet that achieved more thrust than drag in ground-testing in 1993,” he said.

“UQ also led the international HyShot program which demonstrated the world’s first supersonic combustion in an atmospheric flight test at Woomera on July 30, 2002, at speeds of more than Mach 8, or eight times the speed of sound.”

Professor Siddle said the new collaboration provided wonderful opportunities for scientific and engineering advances.

“The HyShot program was successful because it adopted new approaches to scramjet flight-testing,” he said.

“In particular, HyShot used a flight-path to undertake the experiment, with a two-stage rocket booster taking the scramjet payload to an altitude of 315km.”

Next year’s experiment will be similar to HyShot and UQ will again lead the flight program, supported by the AHI’s Canberra node.

Author to rally 1960s graduates

Acclaimed writer and UQ graduate Janette Turner Hospital has been chosen as the face of this year’s University of Queensland Chancellor’s Fund Appeal.

Dr Turner Hospital, who is Distinguished Professor of English at the University of South Carolina (USC), teaches a free undergraduate course in contemporary literature so popular that it attracts registrations from 600 members of the public.

When USC ran out of sufficient funds to offer the course, such was the enthusiasm of the students they banded together and raised US$20,000 in just a few weeks to keep it going.

Dr Turner Hospital said she hoped to tap into a similar spirit of giving to raise funds for UQ programs and infrastructure.

With the 2004 appeal focused on fellow graduates of the 1960s, she said she was convinced of the need for dynamic cross-fertilisation of ideas and interactions between community and University, “town” and “gown”.

“An important way of achieving this end is through donations to appeals such as this,” she said.

Dr Turner Hospital urged all graduates, especially those from the 1960s, to give generously to this year’s Appeal.

She said if graduates gave a minimum of $60 each, the target of $600,000 would be readily achieved.

“I look back with fond memories of my own time at University – the activities I was involved in, the friends I made and the intellectual stimulation of those heady days,” she said.

“But things have changed dramatically since the 1960s. Universities around the world have had to rely increasingly on donations in order to provide not just the educational extras, but in some cases, the basics.”

UQ Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Development), Professor Trevor Grigg, said he hoped 1960s graduates would dig deep for today’s pressured university sector.

“The 1960s was a time when university students everywhere heightened their senses of social responsibility, optimism and global understanding,” Professor Grigg said.

“Today, it’s a very different environment students find themselves in. A decade of government funding cutbacks and ‘making do’ is taking its toll and the gains of the past may evaporate if sufficient funds are not found.”

Information: Margaret Burke (telephone 07 3346 3902, email margaret.burke@uq.edu.au)
Solemn tribute to donors

Those who donated their bodies for medical research have been honoured by the University.

The University acknowledged one of the largest groups of anatomy donors ever at a special community event last month.

The annual Thanksgiving Service on May 6 at the UQ Centre expressed appreciation for the generosity of 72 donors who died in 2002.

UQ receives approximately 60 donors’ bodies each year from the greater Brisbane area.

This year’s multifaith service was led for the first time by a female chaplain, Theresa Stolz of the Lutheran Church.

Chair of UQ’s Thanksgiving Service Committee Leo Brown said donations were crucial to the success of educational programs for students.

“These gifts make a significant contribution in allowing students to learn about the complexities and the infinite variability of the human body,” he said.

While most bodies are used for teaching normal anatomy, some are used specifically for medical research.

Mr Brown said the inaugural Thanksgiving Service in 1992, which recognised all donations to the University since 1927, was the first of its kind in Australia and one of the first in the world.

“The service is well supported by students, staff, donors’ families and friends and members of the community,” Mr Brown said.

“The students look forward to the event as it gives them the opportunity to meet families and express their gratitude.”

A key symbol of the service was the Book of Remembrance that records the names of all donors since 1990.

The Alumni Association has donated more than $3000 to purchase a second book in which the names of deceased donors from 1927 to 1989 are being inscribed by Honorary Associate Professor Lesley Williams, AM.

People wishing to bequeath their bodies can contact Mr Brown on 07 3365 2515 or anatsci@uq.edu.au
A new children’s television series will offer interactivity and English lessons.

by Miguel Holland

A Brisbane-produced children’s TV and multimedia series starring a talkative possum could soon be teaching English to children across Asia.

The series, called Chattertime, is being pitched as the 21st Century Sesame Street — sold with CDs, an interactive website, computer games, a karaoke video camera and mobile phone interactivity like reality TV shows.

Its creators, Dr Anne Purcell Kolatsis, a researcher with the UQ Business School, and co-producer Dina Browne, are producing a pilot after winning a $60,000 grant from the Federal Government’s industry arm, AusIndustry.

The show will use computer animation, music and dancers to help teach English as a second language to children aged under eight.

Chattertime will revolve around the exploits of a Brisbane family and a boy whose trusty hand-puppet possum comes to life as the digital character – Chatterbox.

“When other people aren’t around this hand puppet toy morphs into a photo-real, digital character whose mouth can mirror human-like speech production,” Dr Purcell Kolatsis said.

Each program would be sold as a 24-minute package or two, 12-minute episodes, with different themes, such as weather, emotions or body parts.

“As the show goes to air in any particular region the children will be able to call in via SMS and speak to live English speakers.

“There will be a question of the day, for example, and a child can phone in with an answer. And they would have to give their answer in English.”

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Speedsters sizzle in cloisters

Athletics stars of the future pounded the sandstone while current Australian sports personalities raised money for charity during UQ’s traditional Great Court Race in May.

Rising track star Werner Botha ran to an impressive win in The University of Queensland’s 20th annual Great Court Race held on Wednesday, May 26.

The 636 metre, one-lap dash around the University’s Great Court is based on the Cambridge University Race, as featured in the film Chariots of Fire.

Eighteen-year-old business management student Mr Botha will represent Australia in the Junior World Championships in July.

The Ipswich student comfortably held off junior rival Alistair Ross to win in 1.28.01.

Placed in the top 10 in Australia for 800 metres, Mr Botha now has his sights firmly set on the longstanding record of 1.26.40 set by Simon Still in 1988.

A strong finish made it back-to-back wins for science student Daina Surka who never looked threatened in the women’s final running an impressive 1.49.56.

Ms Surka came into the final as favourite and an extra injection of speed in the final straight was all she needed to pull free of pharmacy student Amber Peckston who went one up to claim silver after placing third in 2003.

The open women’s record is held by Sandra Dawson who covered the distance in 1.41.68 in 1993.

World record holder Geoff Trappett headlined a celebrity wheelchair race to support Australia’s Paralympic athletes.

The 100m wheelchair sprint champion was joined by fellow 2004 Paralympian Gemma Buchholz and Queensland Bulls players Chris Hartley and Lee Carseldine for a tongue-in-cheek relay race.

The third annual Great Court Handicapped Sprint Race, over 70 metres, saw UQ SPORT scholarship holder and javelin representative Joshua Robinson inch out star hurdler John Burstow in a photo finish.

Rebecca Negus ran down the field from behind to claim victory in the women’s sprint race.
Mental health myths

The first systematic review of new cases of schizophrenia destroys traditional theories about the disorder.

by Miguel Holland

Male migrants living in cities are most likely to develop schizophrenia – a disorder that does not affect equal numbers of men and women.

The mental illness is more variable than previously thought, according to a review into the incidence of schizophrenia, led by UQ’s Professor John McGrath.

It shows new cases of schizophrenia vary widely across the world – affecting at least 40 percent more men than women, 400 percent more migrants than native citizens and is more common in cities than urban/rural areas.

The review represents a summary of results of more than 160 scientific articles, reports and theses on schizophrenia from around the world, published since 1960.

Professor McGrath, from UQ’s Department of Psychiatry and the Director of Epidemiology at the Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research, and his team spent three years sifting through and translating the data.

He said the study was the first systematic review of new cases of schizophrenia and the results were “myth busters”.

“Schizophrenia does vary across sites, sex, migrant status and urbanicity,” Professor McGrath said.

“In the past, we have been lulled into thinking that schizophrenia does not vary. This was very misleading.”

He said some researchers had ignored the variation in the number of new cases believing the risk was the same in all places, within all groups.

He believed schizophrenia was more common in men than women possibly because boys’ brains were more vulnerable to disorders during development.

There is some evidence that oestrogen may also protect the brain.

Environmental factors such as infections, toxins, pollutants or lack of prenatal vitamin D, might help explain the higher cases of schizophrenia in migrants and cities.

The review is featured in the May 1 edition of New Scientist.

Olympic occasion

The University will celebrate its own contribution to the world’s showpiece sporting event with a gala dinner ahead of the 2004 Athens Olympics.

The UQ Olympians Dinner is set for Thursday, July 1 at the UQ Centre and will celebrate the achievements of past and present UQ Olympians.

UQ has a rich sporting history matched by a long list of Olympic athletes including gold medallists David Theile, Kieren Perkins, Susie O’Neill and Natalie Cook.

ABC radio Olympic commentator Gerry Collins will host the evening and welcome a number of the University’s Olympians including dual gold medallists Dr David Theile and Alex Baumann, now Director of the Queensland Academy of Sport.

The University’s first Olympian Nancy Welch (nee Lyons), a silver medallist at the 1948 London Olympics, softball coach Bob Crudgington, and Denise Boyd (nee Robertson) will give an insight into their Olympic memories.

Director of UQ’s Centre for Olympic Studies, Dr Ian Jobling, said the UQ Olympians Dinner would be a memorable event.

“UQ has more than 60 athletes who have gone on to represent their country at an Olympic level,” Dr Jobling said.

“This Dinner is about celebrating their achievements in the countdown to the Athens Games and supporting our own future Olympians.”

Loaves & Fishes Catering will treat guests to a superb meal with service including wine, ales and soft drinks.

The Dinner will coincide with the Olympic Sport and Education Forum presented by UQ’s Centre for Olympic Studies and the Queensland Olympic Council at the University on Friday, July 2.

Tickets to the UQ Olympians Dinner are $85 with tables of 10 available. Information: 07 3346 9691 or events@uqsport.uq.edu.au
Mr Hogarth is one of 25 Australian graduate winners who received their Fulbright at a University of Sydney ceremony on May 20.

The awards were founded after World War II to promote peace through international education.

Mr Hogarth is trying to extend the working temperature of hydrogen fuel cells to 160 degrees Celsius so they can power transport more efficiently. To raise the temperature tolerance, he has been mixing an acidic brew of salts inside the core of fuel cells, which helps protons move through the inner membrane.

“Research has looked at altering the materials for fuel cells for the past 10 years. But no one has yet been successful in making holistic improvements,” Mr Hogarth said.

This research is aimed at supporting next generation, environmentally friendly transport. Hydrogen fuel cells have been trialled in buses in Europe and Perth and are expected to replace batteries, generators and combustion engines. They are superior to conventional energy generation because they can store more power in a fixed volume and do not emit carbon or harmful pollution. Smaller and lighter than conventional batteries, they wouldn’t need recharging, just a top-up of hydrogen.

Mr Hogarth, who has a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering and a Bachelor of Commerce, said his Fulbright research would count towards his UQ PhD.

“It’s a fantastic opportunity and I’m very humbled and fortunate,” Mr Hogarth said.

“There’s some pretty awesome research being done over there.”

He will spend a year at New Jersey University and plans to visit other universities, attend scientific conferences and meet entrepreneurs to understand how to attract financial backing.

He was telephoned about his scholarship win while in Thailand.

The selection process had been rigorous as he submitted many application forms and was quizzed by a panel of 10 selectors.

He chose Princeton because of its world-class research in chemical engineering and nanotechnology (building microscopic objects) and unique machinery and equipment. He leaves for the US in July.

Professional scholarship
An academic from the School of Political Science and International Studies, has been awarded a scholarship to undertake a 3-6 month program of professional development in the US.

Dr Rod Lyon was presented with a Fulbright Professional Scholarship in Australian-United States Alliance Studies at a National Awards Dinner in Sydney on May 20.

The scholarship will allow Dr Lyon to spend time at George-town University’s Centre for Australian and New Zealand Studies where he will be researching US thinking about the relative positions of alliances and coalitions in future security strategy.

A Queensland great
Queensland Premier Peter Beattie has named Director of UQ’s Centre for Research in Vascular Biology, Professor Julie Campbell as one of five Queensland Greats for 2004.

Professor Campbell’s ground-breaking Grow Your Own Arteries project is researching how patients may be able to grow-their-own vascular grafts to replace or bypass diseased blood vessels.

The Queensland Greats Awards recognise significant contributions to the Queensland community and the development of the state.

The other 2004 recipients are Hugh Cornish, Dr Richard Lewandowski, William Robinson and Nick Xynias.
Endeavour latches on to literacy

A unique literacy program for young adults with intellectual disabilities is catching on.

Queensland disability services charity, the Endeavour Foundation, has been teaching 12 students the Literacy and Technology Hands on program known as LATCH-ON.

The teaching program, created by a team of UQ researchers, improves the reading, writing and speaking skills of young adults with intellectual disabilities by using popular culture such as magazines and websites.

Endeavour has signed a five-year-licensing agreement with UQ’s main commercialisation arm, UniQuest, to use LATCH-ON and plans to expand the program to some of its regional offices next year.

The Endeavour deal includes LATCH-ON’s four teaching and learning folders, teacher training, program support, monitoring, and an annual conference.

A Western Australian parent group, the Archdiocese of Lismore and a Canadian college are also interested in using LATCH-ON.

Program founder, Dr Anne Jobling, from UQ’s School of Education, said LATCH-ON was created to combat the literacy challenges faced by adolescents with intellectual disabilities.

It is the first project from the School of Education to be commercialised by UniQuest.

Testing times for disease

Researchers are fast-tracking the commercial development of an inexpensive screening test for Alzheimer’s disease.

A computer-based test for Alzheimer’s disease will undergo a major trial this year thanks to a grant from the Telstra Broadband Fund.

With the help of the grant researchers have been able to develop Cogni-screen, a simple, sensitive and inexpensive test that should be commercially available by 2006.

According to co-developer, UQ Key Centre for Human Factors and Applied Cognitive Psychology Director, Professor Michael Humphreys, the grant will allow his team to go beyond its initial plans.

“We are fast-tracking Cogni-screen to incorporate voice recognition technology, expand our general practitioner clinic trials, and screen for depression,” Professor Humphreys said.

The system allows patients to reply verbally to questions and images presented by the computer.

With Queensland GPs expressing interest in the program, Professor Humphreys is confident Cogni-screen will become an important tool for the early detection of Alzheimer’s.

“Early diagnosis of this disease is vital, particularly as new drugs coming onto the market seem to delay the disease if used in the early stages,” he said.

“But GPs recognise that they don’t have the tools to detect the early stages of the disease and they have reservations about existing tests.

“Cogni-screen is one of the few neuropsychological tests based on sound memory theory – it is an application of memory research that I’ve done over 40 years – and with it GPs will be able to detect the early stages of the rapid cognitive decline characterising Alzheimer’s.”

Cogni-screen should be commercially available in two years according to David Henderson, CEO of UniQuest, UQ’s main commercialisation company.

“We expect the system to be welcomed by the medical community as it will allow them to make quick and inexpensive diagnoses,” he said.

B in brief

Facing phobias

Researchers from UQ’s Behaviour Research and Therapy Centre are seeking people aged between 45 and 75 years with a phobic anxiety to participate in a program designed to help overcome their fears.

As participants will be exposed to their phobias throughout the 10-week program, people with a fear of flying, blood, needles or social phobias are not suited to the program.

Participants will be charged $5 per session.

Disability research

Volunteers aged between 10 and 25 years are being sought for UQ research looking at how young people cope with having a parent with a disability or illness.

Dr Ken Pakenham, Director of UQ’s Behaviour Research and Therapy Centre, said the issue of young people providing support and care to a parent with an illness or disability had not been examined in any detail.

Volunteers will be required to complete a questionnaire aimed at identifying issues affecting carers.

Arterial disease

Volunteers are being sought for a project looking at different treatments for people with Periperal Arterial Disease (PAD).

PAD occurs when there is a problem with blood flow in the arteries and is usually characterised by leg pain when walking.

Volunteers with PAD are needed to take part in a supervised program of exercise aimed at preventing the disease’s progression.

Reading volunteers

UQ’s Alternative Print Service needs volunteers to read course material onto audio-cassettes for students with visual disabilities.

The service, part of UQ’s Disability Program operated by Student Support Services, arranges the production of information into alternative formats for students with vision or print disabilities.

Volunteers are sent recorders, audio-cassettes and reading material.

In brief

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

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Information: 07 3365 2832 or c.murdoch@uq.edu.au
Student volunteers and a support group for breastfeeding mothers were the big winners during this year’s Diversity Week at UQ.

Student volunteer group The Bridge won UQ’s inaugural Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity $10,000 Group Award.

Irish Ambassador to Australia Declan Kelly presented the award to The Bridge’s founding President Caroline Nordang at a lunch at Customs House to mark the second annual Diversity Week.

More than 200 Bridge volunteers each semester give up their free time to help with community projects such as teaching English to migrants and assisting with the Riding for the Disabled program.

The Vice-Chancellor’s individual $5000 award winner was Dr Haida Luke who set up a support network for breastfeeding mothers.

Two Diversity Action Awards worth $2500 each were presented to the Faculty of Biological and Chemical Sciences (BACS), and Simon Scott from UQ Gatton’s Halls of Residence and Vijendra Kumar from the Faculty of Natural Resources Agriculture and Veterinary Science.

BACS coordinated an international and rural student peer-mentoring program. Mr Scott and Mr Kumar organised activities to improve the awareness of cultural and disability issues.

A certificate of appreciation was also presented to volunteer Elisabeth Edwards for almost two decades of teaching English to spouses of international academics.

Ambassador Kelly congratulated UQ for holding Diversity Week and recognising the various programs that welcome other cultures.

* continued on page 12
Mothers and babies benefit from facilities

Necessity was the mother of invention, literally, for Dr Haida Luke and her breastfeeding networking group.

Last January, while inquiring about breastfeeding facilities for her second child at the UQ St Lucia campus, Dr Luke was told there was no information.

So the senior research fellow set out to improve conditions for mothers and became the voluntary coordinator of the Breastfeeding Networking Group, UQBfNG.

“Since I’ve started the UQBfNG I have been available by email as initial contact point for information relating to UQ for breastfeeding staff and students,” Dr Luke said.

She does not provide medical information but said breastfeeding benefited society because it helped families, reduced parental sick leave and improved the health of babies.

Her volunteer work earned her the $5000 Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity Individual award during Diversity Week.

She said the money would pay for UQ to apply for accreditation with the Australian Breastfeeding Association as a breastfeeding-friendly workplace.

Accreditation would involve a review of UQ’s facilities and policies such as family friendly policies, designated breastfeeding rooms and “Come Back Packs” for mothers and fathers.

“I’m delighted that the University is recognising a modern workplace and modern needs of families who are also key workers in the University,” she said.

“Supporting women in the workplace who are breastfeeding often enables them to return to work earlier.

“It’s in line with modern practices of taking care of valued employees,”

Dr Luke is now back at work part-time with the Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine nursing her third child.

Variety’s virtues valued

from page 11

“Hats off to the University for this program. It’s like a mini-United Nations,” Mr Kelly said.

He drew on his experiences with Northern Ireland’s Good Friday Agreement and the European Union (EU) to speak about diversity.

“Events in Europe and Northern Ireland during the last century exemplify the utter futility of intolerance and disharmony and how this situation can be totally transformed when these are replaced by embracing tolerance, understanding and diversity,” Mr Kelly said.

He said making peace through the Good Friday Agreement had been harder than war but people always shared common ideals.

“It may sound trite, there is much more that unites us all in this world than divides us, but the difficulty is at times is just trying to reach out there and find it,” he said.

“By breaking down the barriers between different groups we all begin to see that . . . we’re all looking for the same thing.

“If we’re parents, we want the best things for our children. If we’re studying we want to pass our exams.

“It doesn’t really matter where we come from, we just all want to get somewhere and it makes a heck of a lot more sense to do it together.”

He said the EU was the “greatest antidote to war” but being an EU member had not taken away Irish culture, sovereignty or sentiment.

“You’ll find that we are no less Irish than we were 30 years ago even though we have thoroughly embraced everything about Europe,” he said.

“By embracing diversity we have become better for it.

“It makes such eminent sense to embrace diversity. The tragedy is that we don’t do enough of it.”

The aim of Diversity Week, celebrated at all UQ campuses from May 10-14, was to raise awareness about diversity in the community and issues such as disability, sexuality, culture and language, religion, gender, family, and racism.

UQ took another step to weed out homophobic harassment on campus by launching the ALLY program during Diversity Week.

The safety and awareness program supports lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBT/I) staff and students by identifying “safe zones” around the University.

Staff who wish to be allies attend a short training seminar, are given information to support students and staff and display the ALLY rainbow triangle at their workplace to signify a safe zone.

The aim is to stop shame, fear and ignorance on UQ campuses.

UQ Union’s queer sexuality resources organiser Kris Coonan said while many high schools already had similar sexuality programs, UQ was only the second Australian university to adopt such a program.

Ms Coonan said some staff at the St Lucia and Ipswich campuses were interested in becoming allies but she could not say how many would attend until training next semester.

She said the ALLY program was UQ’s first step against homophobia and heterosexism but she wanted more staff educated about LGBT/I issues.

The ALLY program was launched by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Margaret Gardner and UQ Union President Margot Balch at a forum in the Social Sciences and Humanities Library Conference Room, St Lucia, on May 12.

UQ Union’s queer sexuality officers Alex Main and Kenny Lim and Ms Coonan shared their experiences at the forum.

Professor Gardner said the University had to enlighten, give voice to diversity and difference and build ethical and social understanding.

She said the Ally program was a step towards this end.

Hats off to the University for this mini-United Nations
A bridge not too far

A student volunteer group received the University's major Diversity Week award for their commitment to community activities.

When Caroline Nordang moved from Victoria to Queensland she found a lack of volunteer groups for young adults. So in 2001, with the help of some friends, the dual law and environmental degree student filled the void by creating The Bridge.

The aim was to build an apolitical, non-religious student volunteer group at the University that connected students with the community.

"I used to volunteer a lot in high school and came up to Queensland and found it difficult to get involved," Ms Nordang, The Bridge’s founding president said.

Bridge members have helped with the Riding for the Disabled program, been companions for the elderly in nursing homes, tutored refugees, given social support to teenagers with mental illnesses, and helped with Indigenous oral histories.

The extent of The Bridge’s community work was recognised during UQ’s Diversity Week celebrations when it won the Vice-Chancellor’s Equity and Diversity $10,000 Group Award.

"It’s wonderful that university students with so much to contribute to their community have been recognised and that UQ is prepared to support us," Ms Nordang said.

The money will buy transport to take Bridge volunteers to community projects, a volunteer management database, a digital camera for publicity, promotional brochures, and social events.

"Just getting students to places is a nightmare," Ms Nordang said.

Many community groups were not accessible to students because they wanted long-term commitments and were picked at seniors or retirees.

The Bridge’s strength lay in being able to assist with a diversity of projects.

Now in her final semester, Ms Nordang hopes to work for Friends of Nature in Western China next year organising environmental education and management.

The day before the Diversity Week award was announced, Ms Nordang won a Queensland Youth Volunteer Award – one of 15 award winners under 25 from around the state.

She said she believed she was nominated for her community work, largely through The Bridge, and planned to put the $2000 prize towards her trip to China.

The Bridge opens its UQ Ipswich base on August 4.

Students from Queensland University of Technology and Griffith University are also interested in joining The Bridge or building a similar volunteering group at their own campuses.

For more information visit http://www.uq.edu.au/bridge/whoarewe.htm or phone 07 3365 6466. UQ staff and volunteers from outside the University are welcome.

Cover story

Talk about an excellent community idea

It was over a coffee in 1986 that Elisabeth Edwards helped a handful of international women speak better English.

However, her passion for teaching and cultural exchanges spread, and now more than 80 spouses of international students a week are being taught conversational English from the University’s Women’s Club.

Mrs Edwards, a former librarian and the spouse of an academic, volunteered for 17 years for the program she founded.

Her classes, run with the help of volunteer tutors from the community, earned her a certificate of appreciation from the University during Diversity Week.

She still tutors occasionally after retiring last December.

"The aim is to improve everyday speech," Mrs Edwards said.

"The tutors get as much out of it as the students because we learn about the cultures of the countries represented."

Classes are held three mornings a week. Students from 40 countries have attended with most from Japan, China, Indonesia, South Korea and Iran.

In the early days, Mrs Edwards said there was confusion when she told her Japanese students to look for the big clock to find City Hall.

"Eventually a Japanese woman said: ‘Oh, you mean the building with the watch on the top,’” she said.

"Apparently in Japanese everyday language, the same word is used for watch and clock. So when I was saying clock, she didn’t understand at all!"

The 60-year-old from Kenmore has also used music scales to help Chinese students pronounce “L” and “R”.

If you would like to be a tutor with the Alumni Centre, contact class co-ordinator Marion Bennett on 07 3892 3668.
Presentations from three students from very different cultural backgrounds highlighted the support available to help those new to University life find their feet.

The community event at UQ Gatton was held as part of Diversity Week celebrations.

Malinda Bryce from western Queensland spoke about the issues facing those from remote areas, while Glenda Plog used her experience as Students’ Association Director of Welfare to highlight issues facing students with disabilities.

International student Omar Al-Jabri drew on his experiences as a student from a non-English-speaking culture.

“Good education comes from choosing the right institute – a place that offers you a good future and a place where you will be happy to study. I can say this (UQ Gatton) is the right choice,” Mr Al-Jabri, originally from Oman, said.

A further highlight of the Diversity Week program was the opening of UQ Gatton’s new Family Room by Campus Manager Janelle Zahmel.

The infant-care facility complements the Nyamul childcare centre and makes UQ Gatton a truly family-friendly institution.

Chair of the Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science Equity and Diversity Committee, Dr Gordon Dryden, said the Faculty was dedicated to providing a fair and friendly environment.

“Thirty percent of our postgraduate students are from overseas, 44 percent of our undergraduates come from areas outside South East Queensland, approximately 40 percent of our entire student base study externally and four percent have disabilities so we are a truly diverse community,” Dr Dryden said.

Ipswich snapper snaps up award

Using photography to convey the message of “all-together-different” was a highlight of the week at UQ Ipswich.

The Ipswich campus celebrated Diversity Week with a photographic competition, cultural displays, a free lunch and a forum on government and communities.

Business communication student Shu Ting Yang won the UQ Ipswich Student Photographic Competition with her entry Celebrating Difference and Remembering Our Similarities.

Her photo of four hands in different shapes and colours won her a $500 digital camera.

Students were encouraged to illustrate what diversity meant to them through photographs.

A range of cultural artefacts and equity and diversity posters were displayed at the library entrance.

Students entered a display competition and filled out feedback forms about diversity on campus, which went to the UQ Ipswich Equity and Diversity Committee.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Development) Professor Trevor Grigg awarded the photographic winners during a UQ Union-hosted free lunch.

The first forum in the Letting off Steam series was also held at UQ Ipswich’s community engagement building, the UQ Boilerhouse Community Service and Research Centre.

Guest speaker, Department of Communities and Disability Services Director-General Linda Apelt, addressed why successive State Governments had embraced a Department of Communities.

UQ Boilerhouse Director Bruce Muirhead said about 100 academics, politicians, bureaucrats and business people attended.

He said the Boilerhouse connected the University with the Ipswich campus communities and the forum was the first of regular three-monthly sessions by public intellectuals and community leaders.

Great food, great music and most importantly, great company marked this year’s family friendly celebrations.
A UQ student is using US satellite technology in a bid to wipe out imported fire ants.

School of Life Sciences PhD student Robert George is aiding the fight against fire ants by developing a predictive model that can identify likely locations for the ecological pests.

With the support of the Queensland Government’s Fire Ant Control Centre (FACC), the technology has been designed to use satellite imagery from Landsat-7 to pinpoint areas favoured by the ants.

“The satellite gathers a wealth of geographic information using a wide range of the electromagnetic spectrum,” Mr George said.

“By tailoring the technology to look at particular spectral patterns we’ve been able to establish where fire ants are most likely to be found.”

Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries Minister Henry Palaszczuk said the FACC estimated the technology could result in savings of up to $4 million per annum in surveillance costs.

“Using satellite imagery, this research has been able to identify land types not suitable to fire ants in what we call the Fire Ant Habitat Identification System,” Mr Palaszczuk said.

“Under this system there is now 13,000 hectares of land that is no longer of interest to the FACC; 13,000 hectares is half the current surveillance area so it is a significant area.”

Mr George said fire ants were a serious pest that should be eradicated.

“They are a very large ecological problem originating from South America and can cause a range of problems such as destroying native fauna,” he said.

Mr George, who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts/Science in 2000 and a Bachelor of Science with first class honours in 2001, said the technology had attracted interest from both Australian and New Zealand researchers.

The research is being conducted with the Department of Primary Industries and is part of Mr George’s PhD study supervised by UQ’s Associate Professor Hamish McCallum and Professor Myron Zalucki.
A new online resource developed at UQ is set to help people restart their lives after having an accident resulting in serious injury.

In a Queensland first, the Disability Lifestyles information and communication website brings a different focus to issues of major interest to people with disabilities. It aims to bridge rehabilitation and active participation in the community for people who have had severe injuries, such as spinal injury or acquired brain injury.

The website is a community project of UQ’s Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine (CONROD) and was officially launched on May 27 at the Brisbane Convention Centre.

CONROD’s Chair, Adjunct Professor Graham Hughes, said the website would be an important resource for the many Queenslanders whose lives had been changed by severe injury.

“They have experienced a new reality in their daily lives and we hope this website will support them by providing new options and links with others in the community facing similar challenges,” he said.

The website offers ideas on seven key lifestyle areas, including local learning, working and recreational opportunities.

The site also offers an interactive discussion area where people can ask questions and exchange useful information about activities or facilities. A Personal Stories section shares the challenges experienced by disabled people as they re-engage with the community.

CONROD developed the website through UQ’s Corporate Web Services, in close consultation with the disability community. Extensive user research was conducted on the website’s feasibility.

The project was co-ordinated by GSA Information Consultants which specialises in IT for people with disabilities. The content was written by a person with a disability with input from Queensland Advocacy Inc. (QAI).

QAI Executive Officer, Kevin Cocks said the website was a much needed resource for the disability community.

“The website consolidates a myriad of complex information into a comprehensive snapshot, presented from a grassroots perspective,” he said.

While the website was developed for the use of people with disabilities, CONROD research has shown it will also be a valuable resource for family, friends, carers and rehabilitation professionals.

www.disabilitylifestyles.org.au
A new exhibition goes behind the doors of the Blair Pavilion to provide an insight into its intriguing history.

University Art Museum Exhibitions Officer Peter Liddy’s latest series of photographs paint a haunting picture of a former mental institution.

His photographic exhibition Silence: Imprisoned Reality will be on display at Grahame Galleries and Editions in the Brisbane suburb of Milton from June 26 to July 24, 2004. The photographs show the empty rooms and corridors of UQ Ipswich’s heritage-listed Blair Pavilion, which has been unoccupied since 1987.

Blair Pavilion was built in 1908 as a ward of the Sandy Gallop Asylum for the criminally insane.

In 1968 it became the Challinor Centre for the care of the intellectually disabled.

The centre ceased operating in 1998.

Brisbane curator and writer Michele Helmrich said Mr Liddy’s photographs provided a memorial to the heritage-listed building and to those patients committed there.

“As we follow his lens through Blair Pavilion we find some traces of occupation, but what we see more readily is the accumulated grime of neglect,” she said.

The photographs, Bath, is unrelenting in its bleak realism with layered dirt on the terrazzo and tiled bathroom and the bath in its centre.

Room with a view shows a room with a wall-sized colourful alpine mural reflecting the institution’s incongruous attempts at creating a more domestic atmosphere in the late 1960s.

Exit shows light falling on a door panel with a pattern of indentations, suggesting the scars of an agitated assault.

Light suggests freedom in these black and white photographs, while the grid of segmented windows, in Emptiness, is a constant reminder of a life of restraint.

A sense of public history, of architecture in decline and an absence of people was also evident in Mr Liddy’s recent photographic series of Brisbane’s decommissioned Tennyson Power Station and the North Ipswich Railway Workshops.
**Exhibition Centre**
Brisbane Convention and Entomology

May Berenbaum (University of Illinois, United States); Professor Fotis Kafatos (European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Germany); Professor Scott O’Neill (UQ).

Information: www.ice2004.org

**FEMINISM**

Australian and International Feminisms, where we’ve been and where we’re going: December 12-14, Boston University Sydney Campus, Chippendale

Papers are invited for this conference celebrating 30 years of *HECATE Interdisciplinary Journal of Women’s Liberation*. Closing date for submission of abstracts is August 30. Abstracts should be up to 800 words long and accompanied by a 250-word CV. Proposed themes include but are not restricted to: women in sport; women and the law; women, power and politics; women and Indigeneity; and women and sexuality. Speakers will include: Professor Claire Moses (Department of Women’s Studies, University of Maryland, United States).

Information and submissions: Dr Sharon Clarke, 02 9514 9828, sclarke@linet.net.au or Marilla North, 02 4784 3442, marillannorth@optusnet.com.au

**MINING**

Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre (JKMRC) International Student Conference 2004: September 6-7, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

The event aims to develop the conference experience of current or recently graduated advanced-level research scholars who intend to pursue careers in the fields of mining, mineral-processing or mining technology services. For the first time in its 12-year history this annual conference will be open to postgraduate and advanced level mining and minerals engineering research students from around the world.

Information: http://www.jkconference2004.com or 07 3985 5888

**WOMEN’S HEALTH**

Symposium 2004: topical and controversial issues in women’s health: September 4, The Wesley Auditorium, Chasely St, Auchenflower

This one-day symposium presented by the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital Research Foundation and Betty Byrne Henderson Women’s Health Research Centre will look at a diverse range of women’s health issues ranging from menopause management to ageing of the cardiovascular system. Speakers will include: Dr Ramesh Manocha (Natural Therapies Unit, Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney); Dr J Nicklin (Gynaecologist Oncologist, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital); and Dr Nancy Pachana (UQ).

Information: 07 3365 5204 or BBHC@ccs.uq.edu.au
Cricketers batting for education

A team of cricketers and academics has returned from a 14-day tour of the subcontinent where they have been building educational links with India and Sri Lanka.

They were led by former Australian cricket captain Allan Border who played with the Queensland Universities’ Cricket Team, made up of top players from many of the state’s universities, including UQ.

Off-the-field, academics including UQ’s Associate Professor Brian Lovel and Associate Professor Ross Barnard presented seminars to prospective students about courses available in Queensland.

UQ was represented by four players including Queensland Bulls batter/keeper and business/journalism student Chris Hartley and UQ SPORT administrator and all-rounder Lachlan Stevens.

Valleys batsman and UQ commerce student Kiel Harvey and solicitor and former UQ student and Australia A pace bowler Greg Rowell also played.

Griffith University’s sports initiatives officer Michael Jeh said the tour was a great advertisement for those who have combined cricket with study and succeeded both on and off the field.

“On the sub-continent, cricket speaks more eloquently than any other language so we decided to try to reach our audience through this shared love of the game,” Mr Jeh said.

The Queensland Department of Education organised the tour with support from Queensland universities and corporate sponsors.

The university cricketers also raised $3000 for Opportunity International to help disadvantaged families in South India create sustainable livelihoods.

Padding up to pain

Efforts to counter the back pain experienced by many cricketers have started with the help of Australia’s elite young players.

Australia’s best young cricketers are relearning how to flex their stomach and back muscles to prevent joint and muscle injury.

Scans of Cricket Australia’s Centre of Excellence squad revealed players who use their stability muscles incorrectly have wasted back muscles and switch all their abdominal muscles on or off at once.

UQ senior physiotherapy lecturer Dr Julie Hides spent three days with the cricketers at the Wesley Hospital and the University scanning their backs, stomachs, muscle movements and testing their strength.

Dr Hides said some players had lost their deep muscle use because their brains had forgotten how to coordinate the body’s natural corset after injury.

They are now being taught how to use those muscles again in an intensive 14-week training program that involves exercising with Swiss balls, mats and leg loading.

“It’s really brain work. The bowlers have had to go back to basic levels and relearn a pattern that will protect their back when sitting and standing,” Dr Hides said.

Nine players in the 24-man squad, said they had some form of back pain before their scans.

Dr Hides and her team from the Division of Physiotherapy and the School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering will scan the cricketers again in July.

She said most people could understand couch potatoes with back problems but would not suspect top athletes.

“They’re our best physical specimens and yet nine of them have motor control problems beneath the surface,” she said.

“Ideally we would like to develop preventative programs for these athletes, rather than trying to treat the problem after it has occurred.”

Centre of Excellence performance coordinator Shaun McMahon, a former UQ student, said the aim of the partnership was to test the centre’s training program and chart a history of back pain suffered by players.

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Cross-institutional collaboration is the way ahead for research commercialisation, according to Australia's Chief Scientist Dr Robin Batterham.

Dr Batterham was addressing a forum entitled Funding for Research and Commercialisation of Intellectual Property (IP) in Universities at UQ on April 27.

The forum concluded the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of prestigious international higher education consortium, Universitas 21 (U21).

U21 is a network of leading, research-intensive universities.

Established in 1997, its member universities enrol about 500,000 students, employ around 40,000 academics and researchers and have more than two million alumni.

Thirty-five delegates representing 17 universities from nine countries gathered at UQ for the AGM from April 26–27.

The host of the AGM was UQ Vice-Chancellor Professor John Hay, AC, also the Chair of U21.

Professor Hay said the AGM and forum were opportunities for the U21 leadership to “advance the organisation’s goal of developing collaboration and co-operation between member universities, and to create global entrepreneurial opportunities”.

Dr Batterham said cross-institutional research and commercialisation collaborations had to be more meaningful than just sharing the same pool of funds. “We need far more leading researchers visiting our institutions for conferences and lectures,” he said.

Dr Batterham said the “three-step” view of research commercialisation was outdated.

“In my view, a healthy model of collaboration is where research laboratories are jointly funded and staffed by an outside company or companies,” he said.

He said another key factor was getting the right people at the right stage of the commercialisation process. “The same people can’t be star performers at every step,” he said.

Research strength in numbers

21st Century Views of the Cosmos

ALLISON-LEVICK MEMORIAL AAO PUBLIC LECTURE
A giant new telescope for the 21st Century – the scientific opportunities and technical challenges of a 30-metre telescope
Speaker: Professor Richard Ellis (Director, Caltech Optical Observatories)
Location: Steele Lecture Theatre (Building 3, Room 206)
UQ St Lucia
Time: Sunday, July 4, 6–7pm

HARLEY WOOD PUBLIC LECTURE
Surveying the Universe – Galaxy maps reveal the structure and contents of the Universe
Speaker: Dr Matthew Colless (Director, Anglo-Australian Observatory)
Location: Abel Smith Lecture Theatre (Building 23)
UQ St Lucia
Time: Monday, July 5, 7.30–8.30pm

Feminist activist and author Merle Thornton returned to “enemy” territory in April this year when her latest book After Moonlight was launched at Toowong’s Regatta Hotel.

Merle, mother to famous actor Sigrid who launched the book, made headlines in 1965 when she chained herself to a bar-rail at the hotel to protest against the exclusion of women from public bars. She later formed the Equal Opportunities for Women Association and led a successful campaign to eliminate the “marriage bar”, excluding married women from Australian public service careers.

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In 1973, Merle introduced the teaching of Women’s Studies in Australia to UQ.

She has numerous academic publications to her name and was special guest of the Queensland Government and speaker at the 70th celebration of International Women’s Day in 1999.

Twenty-six years a Brisbane resident, Merle now lives in Victoria, but still finds time to stay each year at the family farm in Brookfield on Brisbane’s outskirts.

After Moonlight follows the turbulent life of 37-year-old “Claire” who pursues bizarre contact with a former lover, tries out an unlikely new one, makes a “chosen family” out of housemates with problems of their own, and battles the instabilities of part-time work as an academic and filmmaker.

“The themes in this novel will be relevant to anyone who’s survived the demise of a relationship, particularly women,” Merle said.

“There are few women for whom Claire’s challenges will be unfamiliar.”

Relationship riddles

Merle Thornton: After Moonlight

Merle and husband Neale were both UQ academics in the 1960s and 1970s, living in London for two years during this time where they completed PhDs.

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SOME OF THE STORIES THAT PUT UQ STAFF IN THE MEDIA IN MAY

COMPUTER CRIME
The Gold Coast Bulletin reported on the 2004 Australian Computer Crime and Security Survey, produced by the Australian Computer Emergency Response Team (AusCERT) based at UQ. The survey revealed that despite increased efforts, industry was not coping with the security threat posed by cyber criminals.

CONSUMER ISSUES
City News reported on a UQ study that found the majority of consumers did not understand important features of simple credit contracts. The research was conducted jointly by Paul O’Shea, lecturer in the TC Beirne School of Law, and the University’s Key Centre for Human Factors and Applied Cognitive Psychology.

EDUCATION
The Courier-Mail reported that UQ was one of eight leading research universities establishing an Australia Centre in Germany to forge links with European universities.

HEALTH
The Queensland Times and The Courier-Mail quoted Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) researcher Dr Geoff Mitchell from the School of Population Health in relation to reports that footballer Willie Mason has the condition.

PARENTING
Director of UQ’s Parenting and Family Support Centre Professor Matt Sanders was interviewed by ABC Radio National about conflict between parents and teenagers.

TOURISM
The Illawarra Mercury and Central Coast Herald published School of Tourism and Leisure Management Deputy Head Associate Professor Steven Craig-Smith’s views on the new ads designed to promote tourism in Australia. Dr Craig-Smith said the old image needed updating and the new ads were very clever.

VETERINARY SCIENCE
The Canberra Times and the Sunday Mail were among media reporting on UQ vets who recently implanted the first microchip heart monitor into an Australian dog.

TSXPO 2004
Anyone interested in enrolling at University will have the chance to meet with expert UQ advisors who will provide the latest information on tertiary studies and career pathways at TSXPO 2004.

Red Cross volunteers
Red Cross is recruiting student volunteers for its recently opened shops at Burleigh Waters, Fortitude Valley and Alderley.

Classic donation
UQ’s Classics and Ancient History Society have raised $1000 for the Antiquities Museum.

JKMRC awarded grant
UQ’s Julius Krutttschnitt Mineral Research Centre (JKMRC) has received a $150,000 research grant from the Environmental Protection Agency’s Queensland Sustainable Energy Innovation Fund.

Red Cross is also looking for students to volunteer their time to work in the Brisbane City Night Cafe servicing homeless youth.

Information: 1300 554 419

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Concerts, special lectures, seminars and UQ events of general interest are published in this section. Entries, including date, time, contact name and telephone number, should be sent to c.saxby@uq.edu.au

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SEMINARS

Wednesday, June 16
Queensland Brain Institute, Neuroscience seminar series 2004, Is axon targeting in the olfactory system more complex than we thought? Dr James St John (noon, Seminar Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

Friday, June 18
Institute for Molecular Bioscience, seminar series 2004, From in vitro analyses of phagosomal actin to rational therapies against pathogenic mycobacteria, Dr Gareth Griffiths, European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Germany (noon, Auditorium, level 3, Queensland Bioscience Precinct).

Saturday, June 19
The University Art Museum, Clothing the self – analysing the ways in which the artists in the To Look Within: Self Portraits in Australia exhibition have represented themselves through dress, Associate Professor Margaret Maynard Cpm, The James and Mary Emelia Mayne Centre. Details: 07 3365 3046 or www.maynecentre.uq.edu.au

Wednesday, June 23
Queensland Brain Institute, Neuroscience seminar series 2004, Molecular and behavioural prerequisites for central nerve regeneration, Professor Lyn Beazley, University of Western Australia (noon, Seminar Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

Wednesday, June 23
Queensland Brain Institute, Neuroscience seminar series 2004, Cytokines and the beginnings of development and differentiation in mammals, Associate Professor Peter Kaye (noon, Seminar Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

Friday, June 25
School of Biomedical Sciences, Special seminar, Dissections before, during and after plastination, Robbie Boyes, (11am, Seminar Room 305, Skerman Bldg). Details: 07 3365 4125.

School of Biomedical Sciences, The role of Cadherin 23 in hair cell mechanotransduction in the inner ear, Dr Anna Reynolds, The Scripps Research Institute, California (1pm, Seminar Room 305, Skerman Bldg). Details: 07 3365 4125.

Sunday, July 4
Department of Physics, Allison-Levick Memorial AAD Lecture, A giant new telescope for the 21st Century, Professor Richard Ellis, Director, Caltech Optical Observatories (6pm, Abel Smith Lecture Theatre). Details: 07 3365 3433.

Monday, July 5
Department of Physics, Harley Wood Public Lecture, Galaxy maps reveal the structure and contents of the Universe, Professor Matthew Colless, Director, Anglo-Australian Observatory (7:30pm, Steel Lecture Theatre). Details: 07 3365 3433.

Wednesday, July 7
Australasian Centre on Ageing, Breakfast Colloquia Series 2004, Building community: valuing the role of older people, Dr Jeni Warburton (7am, Royal on the Park, Brisbane CBD, bookings essential). Details: 07 3346 9084.

Queensland Brain Institute, Neuroscience seminar series 2004, The nature, causes and consequences of addiction, Professor John Saunders (noon, Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

Wednesday, July 14
Queensland Brain Institute, Neuroscience seminar series 2004, Attentional learning in Pavlovian fear conditioning: the possible role of dopamine in the accumbens nucleus, Professor Fred Westbrook, University of New South Wales (noon, Seminar Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

Wednesday, July 21
Queensland Brain Institute, Neuroscience seminar series 2004, Molecular and behavioural prerequisites for central nerve regeneration, Professor Lyn Beazley, University of Western Australia (noon, Seminar Room 305, Skerman Bldg).

WORKSHOPS

AskIT, The Cybrary is offering free training in StarOffice, a suite of software that performs office-type functions including word processing (Writer), spreadsheet (Calc) and presentations (Impress). Class schedules are available at: http://askit.uq.edu.au/ittraining/calendar_staroff.html

TO RENT/HOUSE SIT

Balmoral: 2bd, 2bthrm, f/ha rm hse, cat, from July for 9 months, $350/ wk. Melody: 07 3899 0950.

Taringa: 2bd, 2bthrm, f/uri on unit, close to transport, from July 16, $270/ wk. Dennis: 07 3365 3512.


St Lucia: 2bd unit with study/3rd bd, f/uri on, $360/ wk. Graham: ghm@maths.uq.edu.au

Paddington: person/couple needed to house sit from July-Nov, 2 cats. David: chofadji@hotmail.com

Woollongabba: 3bd, f/uri on hse, July-June, $300/ wk. Deborah: deborahr.brown@uq.edu.au

Paddington: secure 3-4bd, f/uri on hse, from July-Jan, $450/wk. Jan: jannalmas@aol.com

Taringa: 4bd, 3bthrm, study, pool, close to UQ, from Aug-Jan. Jann: 07 3365 2871 or j.haxter@uq.edu.au

Kenmore: 4-5bd, 3bth, close to schools, shops and UQ bus route, f/uri on, $300/ wk. Dennis: d.poppis@uq.edu.au

Point Lookout, North Stradbroke Island: 3bd, walk to beach and shops, incl extras, no pets. Malcolm: 07 3365 5764.

WANTED TO RENT/HOUSE SIT

Postgrad student needs hse sit, or affordable accom for her and 9-month-old, July onwards (flexible). Susan: 07 3849 5464.

Visiting academic needs partly f/uri on 1-2bd unit, close to St Lucia, up to $220, from July 1. Masai: cemazar@iecgeb.org

Academic needs f/uri on accomm for 2 people from July-Dec. Judith: 03 5762 4362.

Academic needs unfurnished hse, 3-4bd, close to UQ, must allow 2 cats and small dog, from July. Tim: tim.parkin@canterbury.ac.nz

Visiting academic needs accomm close to UQ St Lucia, family of 5, for 3 months from July 19. House swap in Dublin a possibility. Eugene: eugene.obrien@ucd.ie

Academic needs unfurnished accomm for family of 5 for 6 months from June 26. Mike: 02 9514 8780.

Visiting academic needs accomm for family of 4 near UQ Sept-Dec. Rochelle: r.chain@rcn.com

Visiting academic needs f/uri on accom near UQ for 6 months from July. Graham: g.schaffer@minmet.uq.edu.au

HOUSE EXCHANGE

Seeking 2bd accom close to UQ St Lucia, July 15-Sept 15. Will swap apartment in Paris. Roland: didier.bigo@conflicts.org or bleeker@uq.edu.au

SCHOOL AND CENTRE REVIEWS, SEMESTER 2, 2004

Listed below are details for the school review being undertaken by the Academic Board Office in semester 2, 2004:

School

Review date

Law

6-20 August

Submissions due

5 July

Submissions are invited from all interested persons. Terms of Reference for the Review can be obtained from the Academic Board Office by telephone extension 51321.

Please note that submissions must be received by the due date.

PRIZES


The Ethel Osborn Scholarship 2004: for students who are graduates or third/fourth year students and are not more than 28-years-old. Worth: $4000 approx. Closing: June 25. Information: 07 3365 4949.

CLASSIFIEDS

* Classifieds are free, but are available only to staff, students and visiting academics.

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540       Semester 2 ends: November 20
Early 20th Century filmmaker and photographer Frank Hurley was one of Australia’s first multimedia figures, according to UQ Professor Robert Dixon.

Mr Hurley, best known as the photographer for both the Mawson and Shackleton expeditions to Antarctica, was an early pioneer of photography and filmmaking in Australia.

Professor Dixon, from the UQ School of English, Media Studies and Art History, said Mr Hurley was one of the first people to understand how to maximise impact through various media.

“He had an extraordinary career that involved photography, early cinematography, documentary filmmaking and the periodical magazines of the early century,” he said.

“He found ways to publish his photographs and films, and to distribute his films throughout the burgeoning world entertainment system.

“So to use a modern term, he is an early multimedia figure.”

With ARC professorial fellowship funding, Professor Dixon will use Hurley as an exemplary case study of interdisciplinary research within humanities.

The study will look beyond the boundaries of biography and popular history, to explore how modernity in the early 20th Century, as exemplified by the print culture, mass media and urban commercial entertainment of the period, shaped Mr Hurley’s remarkable career.

Professor Dixon said Mr Hurley’s career resonated through recent interdisciplinary work in the humanities, covering fields such as literary studies, cultural studies, photographic history, early cinematic history and theories of post-colonialism and imperialism.

Professor Dixon also noted that Mr Hurley’s international profile could be compared to today’s “cosmopolitan Australian”.

“As early as 1910 what he achieved was to literally occupy the world stage as a distinguishable Australian person,” he said.

“He was what is now called a new cosmopolitan, and was similar to people such as Nicole Kidman and Russell Crowe,” he said.

To help complete his research, Professor Dixon has been working with the National Library in Canberra and the Mitchell Library in Sydney to transcribe Mr Hurley’s extensive diaries into an electronic file.

“They (the libraries) are really excited about this because it is almost the first time in Australian library work where the materials of a single person, currently dispersed in different collections, can be brought together literally through the Internet,” he said.

“I like to think this is something that Frank Hurley would really appreciate as an early master of the mass media.

“He would be really excited by the possibilities of the Internet.”

Professor Dixon is planning to release an illustrated edition of Mr Hurley’s diaries in 2006 and a book tentatively entitled Frank Hurley and Colonial Modernity in 2007.

He will also conduct a free public lecture in conjunction with the Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies on Mr Hurley entitled Multimedia circus: the spectacular career of Frank Hurley at the University Art Museum in The James and Mary Emelia Mayne Centre in August.

Model for modern media

Understanding the effectiveness of delivering information through a variety of publishing media made Frank Hurley an iconic figure in Australian history.

by David Ashkanasy

The Endurance crushed to death by the icepacks of the Weddell Sea (watched by the dogs, Shackleton expedition, November 1, 1915). IMAGE: courtesy National Library of Australia

The morning after the first battle of Passchendaele (Passendale) showing Australian Infantry wounded around a blockhouse near the site of Iommelbeke Railway Station, October 12, 1917. IMAGE: courtesy National Library of Australia