

I S S U E 1 6

A U G U S T 2 0 0 4

# uniken

The sky's  
the limit:  
**UNSW** goes  
to Athens

The CEO connection  
Who will inherit  
the house?

All creatures  
great and small

**UNSW**

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[www.unsw.edu.au/news/pad/uniken.html](http://www.unsw.edu.au/news/pad/uniken.html)

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### Cover Image

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### Printed by

PLT Print Solutions

15 Epping Drive Frenchs Forest NSW 2086

ISSN 0312-7877

Australia Post print approved

PP224709/00021

Printed on 50 percent recycled paper

Deadline for September Uniken: 13 August.

UNSW, Sydney NSW 2052

CRICOS Provider No 00098G



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AUSTRALIA'S LEADING UNIVERSITIES

## Indigenous health

UNSW's Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law is one of the organisers of a forum titled *Indigenous Health and the Treaty Debate: Rights, Governance and Responsibility* next month. The purpose of the forum is to encourage debate about treaty approaches in health and other aspects of daily life in Indigenous communities. Speakers include Patrick Dodson, Professor Ian Anderson and Senator Aden Ridgeway. For further information call 9385 2257 or email [gtcentre@unsw.edu.au](mailto:gtcentre@unsw.edu.au).

## Playing The Blind

A play about fear, belief and community is the next major production from the School of Theatre, Film and Dance. *The Blind* by Nobel laureate Maurice Maeterlink will be performed by students of the school from 3 to 7 August in the 10 Myers Studio. Bookings on 9385 5684 or [s.goldfish@unsw.edu.au](mailto:s.goldfish@unsw.edu.au).

## International gong for petroleum student

First-year petroleum engineering student Michael Connolly has won this year's Gus Archie Memorial Scholarship. The Society of Petroleum Engineers gives the annual award to the two most outstanding first-year students worldwide enrolled in an undergraduate degree in petroleum engineering. The Archie Fund endows each scholarship recipient with \$5000 per year.

## Bipolar disorder: national survey

The first Australian national survey of the prevalence of bipolar disorder has revealed a significant level of disability and suicide attempts, and low rates of treatment. More than 10,000 people participated in the study led by Professor Philip Mitchell of the School of Psychiatry.

## 2000 words or less

Academic staff and postgraduate students are invited to enter the Dialogica Awards, which promote clear, coherent and concise language with a \$10,000 first prize. Entries should be 2000 words on any issue of interest to the writer and to the broader community and close on 6 September. Details at [www.campusreview.com.au](http://www.campusreview.com.au).

## Regional public health

Associate Professor Jan Ritchie of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine has been appointed Regional Director, South Western Pacific Region, of the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) for a three-year term. Professor Ritchie, who is immediate past President of the Australian Health Promotion Association, was appointed at the recent Regional Assembly, held in conjunction with the World Conference on Health Promotion and Education.

## Women on top

BYO lunch to the next presentation in the Gender Equity speaker series on 11 August, 12.30pm in the Arcade Room. Dr Colleen Chesterman will present her research on the impact of women in senior management in 19 Australian organisations including the public sector, universities and financial institutions.

## UNSW goes green

UNSW has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to expand sustainability programs in the Asia-Pacific region. UNEP hopes to draw on the expertise of Professor Deo Prasad and his team in the Centre for a Sustainable Built Environment to boost youth engagement on sustainability issues, design programs for school curricula and steer the region towards the development of sustainable cities.

## Brains for Breakfast

Year 7 students will conduct delicate neurosurgery on jelly brains under expert guidance during National Science Week, 14 to 22 August. The Museum of Human Disease in the School of Medical Sciences will be hosting various activities on 18 August with a grant from the Department of Education, Science and Training and the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources. Other activities include the launch of the museum's new exhibition *Getting on My Nerves* and an expert panel discussion entitled *Pick my Brains*. Further information on 9385 1522.



Professor John Ingleson



Professor Robert King



## NewSouth Global Professorships

**A** national and international search is underway for UNSW's first 'cross-faculty' Professors.

The Professorships are designed to attract outstanding researchers with the capacity to transcend traditional boundaries between disciplines. The aim is to attract new and dynamic research talent to UNSW, and build on the University's research capacity by promoting new and emerging areas of research.

Applications are being sought in the following collaborative research areas: brain sciences, criminology, economic and organisational implications of demographic change and ageing, health and human rights, health and the built environment, integrity and equity in the tax and welfare systems, multidisciplinary design, new media narrative and theory, and sustainable habitats. Up to five Professorships will initially be funded under the scheme.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) Professor Robert King said the research areas had been identified by the Deans, in a collaborative process, as offering opportunities to harness innovative multidisciplinary research within the UNSW environment. "These are emerging areas of 'new research', with the potential to deliver substantial benefits not only to UNSW but to the wider community," Professor King said.

The new Professorships have been made possible by a \$4 million donation to the University from NewSouth Global (NSG), UNSW's commercial education arm. Some \$2 million of the donation will be used to fund the Professorships, with the remainder funding 50 postgraduate scholarships and 12 postdoctoral fellows. The money has come from NSG's 2003 operational surplus.

Professor John Ingleson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International) and CEO of NewSouth Global, said he was delighted to see NSG's surplus used to further the University's research agenda.

"NSG has grown from a small organisation in 1999 with an operational surplus of \$600,000 to an international education, training and consultancy company with an annual turnover of \$65 million," he said.

"NSG and its staff have always seen providing high quality non-degree education for UNSW as their goal. It has now committed a total of \$12 million in donations to the University since 1999."

The NewSouth Global Professors will be appointed on a five-year fixed term contract. The successful applicants will be teaching and research Professors, but the criteria will place greater emphasis than usual on outstanding research performance and future research potential. Further information on the NewSouth Global Professorships is available at <http://www.hr.unsw.edu.au/nsg.htm> ■

## For the record

*Affordable housing is crucial. Without it, people are impoverished, families and communities eroded, jobs lost and the economy weakened.*

**Professor Julian Disney, Social Justice Project – Sydney Morning Herald**

*What Latham needs to do now is to be brave where it really matters, and to bring in policies that will challenge the creeping conservatism around women's status in this country.*

**Dr Sarah Maddison, School of Politics and International Relations – Courier Mail**

*Being single has never been the preferred option in our society – or in any for that matter. Being involved in a heterosexual couple makes you economically stronger, you get better tax breaks and it's a more socially acceptable state (in which) to live.*

**Dr Margaret Craig-Lees, School of Marketing – Sydney Morning Herald**

*In bipolar 2, the 'highs' are less obvious... so the average person in Australia with bipolar 2, if they get detected at all, waits 20 years between onset and diagnosis.*

**Professor Gordon Parker, School of Psychiatry – Australian Journal of Pharmacy**

*The great majority of the coast is underdeveloped but Narrabeen–Collaroy is developed and it's close to the beach. The next big storm means that houses falling into the ocean is a real possibility.*

**Dr Ian Turner, Water Research Laboratory – Sydney Morning Herald**

*If kids were to come out of our schools illiterate and innumerate, the community would be appalled. But they come out of our schools insouciant and no-one notices.*

**Associate Professor Philip Cam, School of Philosophy – The Australian**

*To suggest that music, theatre, dance, cinema, opera have no place in our daily lives, our consciousness, our culture, seems plainly wrong.*

**Dr John Golder, School of Theatre, Film and Dance – Australian Financial Review**

*Research shows that an unstructured interview is about as reliable as tossing a coin as a method for selecting the right employees.*

**Dr Jim Bright, School of Psychology – Sydney Morning Herald**

# Rights and responsibilities in a diverse society

By Geoffrey Brahm Levey

Marco Del Grande



Multiculturalism in action: Sydney's Hurstville

Multiculturalism has been official policy in Australia for more than a quarter of a century, yet it continues to generate public debate. In recent months, for example, we've had opposition leader Mark Latham voice his view that Australia should now "move on" from multiculturalism, an ABC Radio National program devoted to the same theme in the British context, and an SBS TV *Insight* program, provocatively titled *Killing Multiculturalism*. Given that multiculturalism touches on fundamental questions of how we should live

together as a political community – liberty, equality, justice, community and national identity – its enduring controversy is perhaps not surprising.

What is surprising, however, is the silence regarding Australia's 30-year experiment in multicultural politics in an academic field in which the study of multiculturalism has been centre stage for the past decade – political theory. Curiously, political theorists have devoted scant attention to Australia's national policy of multiculturalism, in stark contrast to

their recent attention on Indigenous rights. The scholarly literature on Australian multiculturalism has tended to come from cultural studies and the empirical social sciences.

To redress this lacuna, a workshop, *Australian Multiculturalism and Political Theory: Balancing Rights and Responsibilities in a Diverse Society*, was held at UNSW in July. It brought together some of Australia's leading political theorists and other scholars to examine Australian multicultural policy from the perspective of the concerns and arguments developed in multicultural political theory. The workshop was sponsored by the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, and the faculties of Law and Arts and Social Sciences.

One of the standard complaints against liberal theories of minority rights and cultural diversity is that they are based on conditions that may apply in the country of the theorist concerned and cannot easily be applied elsewhere. So it makes sense to consider the general questions treated by political theorists in the particular contexts in which we live. In this way, the Australian case might contribute to political thought on multiculturalism more generally.

**Dr Geoffrey Brahm Levey is senior lecturer in the School of Politics and International Relations and co-ordinator of the UNSW Program in Jewish Studies. ■**

## Meeting the triple bottom line

By Mary O'Malley

**UNSW has the chance to become a world leader on sustainability reporting, thanks to the work of fourth-year environmental engineering students.**

Under the direction of Associate Professor Sven Lundie, students from the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering have developed what is known as a Triple Bottom Line (TBL) assessment of the Kensington Campus.

A means of reviewing an organisation's

sustainability performance, it has been developed in line with the Global Reporting Initiative, a UN-backed program on sustainability reporting. The TBL concept widens the scope of traditional management and reporting to include the social, environmental and economic performance of an organisation.

Professor Lundie hopes the University will build on the students' document to create a means by which all schools and faculties can report. "If UNSW were to put out such a report, it would be at the forefront of tertiary institutions around the world," he said.

"The Global Initiative reports are generic so they can be applied to any business. Many industries are now developing sector supplements to make them more specific."

Professor Lundie said the Global Initiative is calling on universities worldwide to step forward and develop a template for higher education. "A working group with other universities would have to be formed to achieve this, but UNSW could drive this development."



# The CEO connection

By Louisa Wright



Professor Greg Whittred



Gail Kelly

The logistical challenge of connecting with 35,000 alumni – and making them want to reconnect with their faculty – has given rise to an innovation which has those alumni stampeding back to the Faculty of Commerce and Economics: the *Meet the CEO* series, kicked off by the flamboyant Sir Richard Branson.

Dean of Commerce and Economics Greg Whittred believes this degree of interest in meeting high profile, successful business leaders in an informal setting is likely to continue. "This is a major initiative of our Faculty Advisory Board and they are confident, after this successful first

year of the program, that they can continue the quality. These high profile people and their companies are well known, they are impressive public speakers who are able to engage with an audience, and the speakers so far have liked the relaxed, interview format. They tend to give insights into how they think of their business or strategy which may not otherwise come up in a more formal environment."

The larger-than-life Branson event was followed by Terry Davis, CEO of Coca-Cola Amatil, series convenor and a member of the faculty's Advisory Board, and by Michael Chaney, CEO of Wesfarmers (shortly to take up the position as chair of National Australia Bank). Both men were interviewed by Helen Trinca, editor of AFR's *BOSS* magazine, which is the media partner for the series.

Professor Whittred is a committed believer in the value of warm relations with alumni. "They are our strongest advocates and, ultimately, financial contributors. But it's a long process to win friends."

The series has allowed the faculty not only to re-engage the vast alumni base and to update the alumni contacts, but also to develop a relationship with Deloitte, whose sponsorship allows the series to be offered free of charge. In addition, the *Meet the CEO* series has drawn significant student interest, and Professor Whittred sees the program as demonstrating that the faculty is connected in the strongest possible way to the business community.

**The next speaker in the *Meet the CEO* series is Gail Kelly, managing director and CEO of St George Bank and the only female CEO of an Australian Top 50 company. She will speak on 24 August. More information is available at <http://www.fce.unsw.edu.au/> ■**



## Trading places

By Susi Hamilton

UNSW research indicates that the New York Stock Exchange could increase its traded value if it changed its market architecture, while the Australian Stock Exchange has one of the highest rating systems in the world.

Scientia Professor Peter Swan, from the Faculty of Commerce and Economics, has developed an efficiency index that will ultimately reduce trading costs for investors around the world. The index determines how each of the world's 38 stock markets is performing and which areas could be improved.

It incorporates the first results from the world's most comprehensive intraday database, which lists hundreds of millions of trades recorded between March 2000 and October 2001.

"We believe we have access to more data here than financial researchers anywhere else in the world," Professor Swan, an ARC Professorial Fellow, said. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to influence the design of every exchange in the world."

The research, *The Impact of Market Architectural and Institutional Features on World Equity Market Performance*, was presented to the Western Finance Association North American Conference in Vancouver in June.

It shows that different types of market architecture suit different exchanges. There are three types of market architecture – the electronic order book, which is fully automated and bases trades simply on price and time; the dealer-supported environment, where the broker liaises between a buyer and a seller; or a hybrid of the two.

"We are close to a complete model of the world trading economy," Professor Swan said. "We are able to see the impact of things like national income, population, the number of stocks listed, the size of the stock and numerous architectural design features. We are able to simulate certain variables, such as changes to transparency, to come up with what we think is an optimal design."

The Australian Stock Exchange is interested in the research as an input into reforms it is proposing to implement. Professor Swan has also been asked to present the paper to The European Finance Association Conference in the Netherlands this month. The research is in conjunction with Joakim Westerholm at the University of Sydney and supported by the Australian Research Council. ■

# The sky's the limit

This month, a record four UNSW students will take time out from their studies to compete in the 2004 Athens Olympics Games. In a bid to achieve their sporting dream, they have spent the past months training daily while balancing their studies with the help of the Sports Association, academics and staff across the faculties. *Alex Clark* spoke to the four athletes and *Britta Campion* photographed them in training.

## ► Within arm's reach

Growing up in Vanuatu, Will Hamlyn-Harris had a love for throwing things. It's a love that has taken him all the way to Athens to compete for Australia in javelin, or 'spearhucking', as he calls it.

It was while playing cricket that he realised the potential of his throw. "I was always a bit scared of the ball so I never liked to bat that much," Will said. "Instead, I would always play outfield and every time I threw the ball it would make the stumps, no matter how far away I was."

The 26-year-old architecture student threw his personal best of 85.6 metres in February this year but is hoping to further that by several metres to bring him within reach of a medal in Athens. "The world record is 98 [metres], but no one has got close to that for years," Will said. "Ninety metres won the Sydney Olympics."

Will says he is addicted to the sport that has traditionally seen strong performances

from women rather than men in Australia. In fact, one of his greatest inspirations is female javelin thrower Louise Currey, whose husband Andrew has assisted in Will's training.

Balance is an important element in Will's life. "Balance is the key. When you are doing three things like study, work and training, it's very hard to improve in any one area," Will said. "When you are focusing on just two of those areas you are much more likely to improve." This month Will has the luxury of concentrating on just one area, the 'spear work' that offers him a glimpse of a medal.

*Will Hamlyn-Harris*

## THIS SPORTING LIFE

UNSW was the first Australian university to develop scholarships (in 1988) specifically designed for talented sports people to combine their academic and sporting lives.

Since then, the UNSW Sports Scholarship Scheme has assisted many UNSW students to become World Champions, Olympians, Commonwealth Games representatives

and Senior International athletes without sacrificing their academic objectives. The UNSW Sports Scholarship Honour Roll includes 46 Sports Scholars in 2004 and 163 athletes in earlier years.

The valuable assistance of the faculties and staff to scholars include flexibility for assignments and exams that conflict with competitions and travel; priority subject choices (in some cases); establishing

web-based courses so scholars can study outside face-to-face teaching, and flexibility for cross-institutional subject choices.

Additionally, UNSW UniGym offers the use of pool and fitness facilities to every sports scholar, allowing them to continue their training at the Kensington campus.

— *Jeff Hargrave, UNSW Sport Association*

## ► Row, row, row your boat...

A member of the Australian Olympic team in the Women's Eight in 2000, Victoria Roberts is no stranger to the Olympic Games. This time, however, she also has the honour of captaining the Australian women's rowing team in Athens.

The Arts student, elected captain in 2001, has since led her team to three gold medals at two World Championships, as well as winning the International Team of the Year in the SBS Sports Awards.

Victoria's story could have been very different had she pursued her talent on the netball court. Despite winning a gold medal at the World Youth Netball Cup in 2001 and being a member of the Australian Women's Open Netball Squad, the lure of Olympic gold was too strong and saw her make the transition from the court to the open water.

"I had an Olympic dream and having the Games in Sydney was a very big incentive to make the transition when I did," Victoria said. "Netball is only a Commonwealth sport, so even if I got to the

pinnacle of netball I wouldn't be able to go to an Olympic Games." She hasn't looked back. Being on the open water is another plus for rowing, she says. "As the sun's rising, I love being out on the water.

"Rowing at its best is very graceful. When you're able to move a boat at its best and the water is perfect, there is an incredible harmony between nature and yourself."

Finding time to balance her rowing and university commitments hasn't been easy but Victoria's leadership skills in rowing may have future benefits as she considers an honours year with a view to a career in foreign affairs.



## HEADS AND SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES...

Torn muscles would put most athletes on the bench but when there is a gold medal in sight the team's sports physician is working overtime to assist recovery.

Two UNSW Sports Medicine lecturers, Dr Scott Burnes and Dr Jeni Saunders, will be travelling to Athens this August to help

the 487 Australian competitors remain in peak physical condition.

Dr Burnes, a visiting fellow in the School of Physiology and Pharmacology, is the team doctor for the Opals – the Australian Women's Basketball Team.

"I'll be mostly dealing with ligament and tendon injuries but sometimes the athletes, who train heavily, will have chronic injuries that need to be properly

managed," Dr Burnes said.

Another visiting fellow, Dr Saunders, is part of a team of doctors based at the Olympic village clinic in Athens attending anything from wrestler's muscle tear to respiratory problems in a water polo player.

"We work 16 hours a day on average which is pretty full on," Dr Saunders said. "Our role is to try and keep the athletes centred, calm and focused on their job."



*Eszter Hortobagyi*



## ► More than horseplay

Eszter Hortobagyi will have to swim, run, ride a horse, shoot and fence for a place on the Olympic podium this August. As a pentathlete, one gets used to juggling different demands and this 30-year-old commerce student has many balls in the air. As well as studying full time at UNSW, she works two nights a week, looks after her five-year-old son and trains seven days a week.

While the pentathlon is not traditionally an Australian sport, Eszter's passion for the five events has crossed continents and decades.

"I represented Hungary for eight years but I stopped competing in 1995 when I realised the women's pentathlon would not be in the Atlanta Games," she said. The men's pentathlon has been part of the Games since 1912 but it was not until 2000 that the women's event was added to the program.

Eszter and her husband fell in love with Australia in 1997 and emigrated from Hungary. Eszter began training again but the birth of her son Adam meant she missed the qualifiers for the 2000 Sydney Games.

Her strength as a mother, student, worker and elite athlete is matched by her mental determination – a vital element in the pentathlon, according to Eszter.

"It's a very smart sport because it's not just physical. Apart from the running and swimming you really have to concentrate and outsmart your competitors," Eszter said. "You've got to be mentally strong to compete well in all five sports on one day."

## ► Throwing her weight around

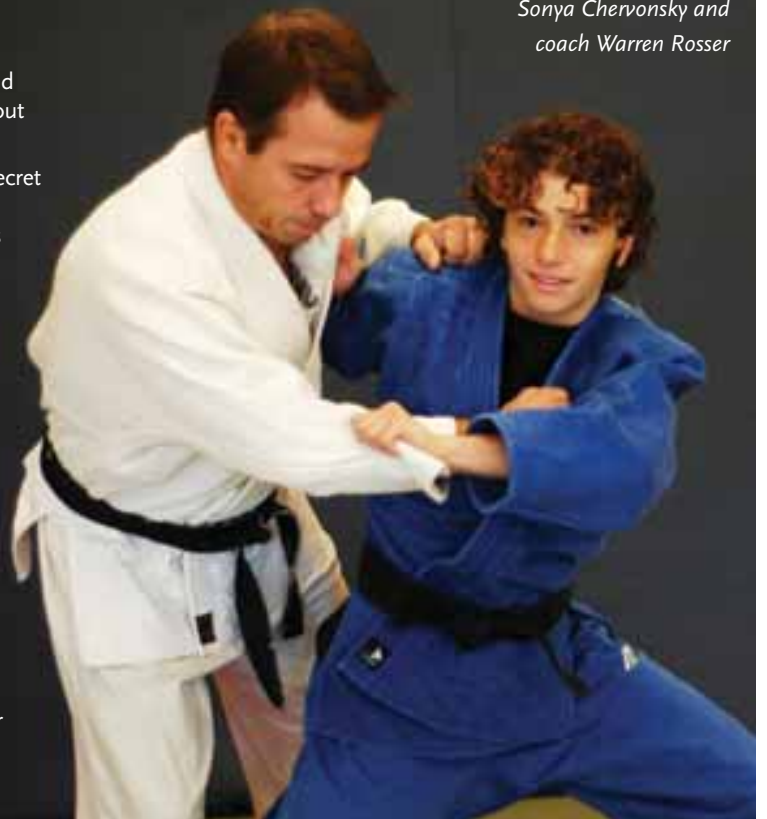
Try throwing petite 21-year-old Sonya Chervonsky flat on her back and she'll put you in an armlock or strangle you to the point of passing out – but only in the Judo ring.

These moves, which seem inconceivable for one so slight, are the secret to this COFA student's success in securing an Olympic berth in the under-48 kilo division. "I like fighting, I grew up in Russia until I was eight," said Sonya, who is studying digital media. "So I might have been influenced by the fighting culture there."

Sonya, the sole entrant from the Oceania region, believes she'll be competitive up against Japanese Ryoko Tamura, the six times world champion who took gold in Sydney, but she sees Athens as the start of her professional career. "This is just the beginning for me. I've got Beijing to look forward to and wherever else after that," Sonya said. "I'm only 21 so I've got another good ten years – if I can stay in one piece."

Sonya took up the sport five years ago and her coaches, Warren Rosser and John Buckley, have helped her develop a throw in every direction – but it's the submission moves she really enjoys. "They are a fast and effective way to secure a win," Sonya said. "If you knock your opponent down on their face, pull the collar of their jacket across their neck and then use your hip to put pressure on their head, they soon realise they are unable to get out and either tap to acknowledge submission or pass out." ■

*Sonya Chervonsky and coach Warren Rosser*





Richard Williams



Vicki Stokes  
weighing a  
bush rat

By Susi Hamilton

## Rats in the ranks

It's the stuff of phobias: going out in the dark, among a colony of rats. Vicki Stokes, a PhD student in the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, has been doing just that around Jervis Bay for the last year. She is looking at the impact of the introduced black rat on small native mammals, particularly on the bush rat.

"In other parts of the world, the black rat has been shown to have an impact on other species, particularly birds, by eating eggs and chicks," Ms Stokes said. "But no-one has looked at it yet in Australia."

Ms Stokes is trying to establish whether the black rats are displacing bush rats from areas they would otherwise occupy, and whether native rat numbers are affected by the introduced species.

"If the black rat does have an impact, we want to make sure that we understand that and can manage them, so we can maintain our native biodiversity," Ms Stokes said. "The bush rats are important ecologically. They are important dispersers of seeds, fruits and fungi, which they eat."

As part of this research, she has trapped both the native and black rat populations to look at their numbers and breeding patterns. She has also used radio tracking devices to follow animals' movements and measure their use of habitats.

"I have just started removing the black rats and after just three weeks, the numbers of bush rats started to increase," Ms Stokes said. "Animals from surrounding areas seem to have come into those areas where black rats have been removed."

She has also found that the black rats carry a lungworm parasite. There is no evidence at this stage that the lungworm species will infect the bush rats, but it can infect humans through an intermediate host, snails, which young children may pick up and put in their mouths – and it can be fatal. "If we didn't have the rats, we wouldn't have the lungworm," she said.

Ms Stokes said her research could have implications for other coastal areas around Australia where black rats are found. The research, supported and jointly supervised by the CSIRO, will be completed at the end of 2005. ■

Geoffrey Bloom



Courtesy of the Law Society Journal

## All creatures great and small: Australia's first animal law course

By Denise Knight

Can you leave your estate to your pet? On what basis can an occupant in a strata development be denied the companionship of a cat or dog?

These are just some of the questions covered in Australia's first course in animal law, to be run next year as part of the University's Masters of Laws program.

The lawyer who will teach the course, Geoffrey Bloom, says the modern animal movement has also spawned a new legal discipline, animal law. "In the US, where the area is at its most developed, about 30 law schools including Harvard and Berkeley run such a course."

Bloom is upfront about his support of animal rights. "About ten years ago I read Peter Singer's *Animal Liberation*, which is widely hailed as the bible of the animal movement. Singer's thoughts on human

treatment of animals posed questions of justice that had never occurred to me.

"However, the course is not a convert's course and it is a highly contentious area. As I've prepared for the course my views have changed... they have become more complicated."

Regulating the use of animals in agriculture is the main area covered by animal law, Bloom said. Then there's wildlife, endangered species, companion animals, animal cruelty, use of animals in research and experimentation and in entertainment and exhibits such as zoos, circuses and hunting.

Bloom, who works for the Department of Health, has done casual teaching at Law School before. "I taught law and medicine and loved it. I've been delighted by the School's positive response to my proposal to teach the course." ■

# Who will inherit the house?

By Alex Clark

Unprecedented levels of expected inheritance from an ageing Australian population may increasingly be the cause of family feuds, according to Diana Olsberg, director of the UNSW Research Centre on Ageing & Retirement, who is researching the housing intentions of older Australians.

Midway through the two-year project, Olsberg is examining whether the rise in property prices – combined with a high level of home ownership among older people and a lack of communication between the generations – is changing the intentions of older people with regard to inheritance and consequently the potential for conflict between siblings.

"There has been a huge increase in the potential wealth transfer," Olsberg said. "People are living longer, sometimes accumulating, sometimes drawing down their resources and therefore inheritance is being compromised or delayed. As a result, the likelihood of intergenerational conflict over the distribution of family resources, particularly property, has significantly increased."

Having completed an international literature review, Olsberg has now begun the second stage of the project, a national survey to establish older people's intentions concerning the disposal or transfer of housing assets. Olsberg hopes her research may contribute to a reversal of any trend toward family disputes.

"Research so far has shown a clear lack of communication regarding these often sensitive issues," Olsberg said. "Older people need to know what other families are doing in similar situations. I also hope there will be important policy outcomes from the research for decision-makers in this area."

Recent debate surrounding Australia's ageing population has led to concerns over the current levels of government provision of age pension and about the increasing requirement for a user-pays policy environment for health and aged care.

"For many older Australians, the only possibility of adequately self-funding their retirement needs will be either through financial support from family members, or through equity in their family home," Olsberg said. "Never before has the destiny of the family home been of such crucial importance for the economic, social and political future of Australia."

The family home remains the main investment for most Australians, with more than 80 percent of people over age 65 owning their own homes in 2001. It also remains the 'great Australian dream' – but at what expense to family relationships?

The project, *Ageing-in-place? Intergenerational and intrafamilial housing transfers and shifts in later life*, is funded by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI), and Olsberg's initial Positioning Paper has been published on the AHURI website at <http://www.ahuri.edu.au/global/docs/doc579.pdf>. ■

# In the

Elliat Rich, Bachelor of Design, COFA



The Lichen is a sheltering system, designed to support and encourage the development of a nomadic culture within the urban environment. The canvas structure can be adapted to suit a number of uses including a swag, tarp or coat.

Karen Grotzinger



# design hot seat

By Denise Knight



Trent Jansen sits on his winning design, Sign

Inspired by a childhood fascination with LEGO, COFA student Trent Jansen has won the Object (Australian Centre for Craft and Design) Award for Design for Manufacture for his recycled street sign furniture.

"Like the new improved milk crate," is one judge's description of Jansen's winning work. The award was presented at *new design 2004*, Object's annual national graduate show promoting the work of Australia's emerging designers in this dynamic field.

"Sign was born out of a desire to make sustainable design a competitor in the world of 'high design'," Jansen, 22, said. "I feel that too many designers are caught up in the use of high-tech modern materials with a slick design aesthetic, which the environment is paying an irreversible price for.

"The prototypes were hand-made using discarded street signs giving this valuable yet toxic resource a second life while providing a beautifully familiar aesthetic; and in this new context a sense of value, attachment and engagement for the user." He's now hoping to get them manufactured.

As part of the Bachelor of Design program, Jansen recently completed an internship at Dutch designer Marcel Wanders' new company, moooi. "I'd like to continue making objects which reuse or reference aged objects, making them timeless."

Three other UNSW students joined Jansen in this year's group of 15 finalists. They are fellow COFA students Lauren Babula and Elliot Rich (both design), and Diana Do (furniture) from the Faculty of the Built Environment.



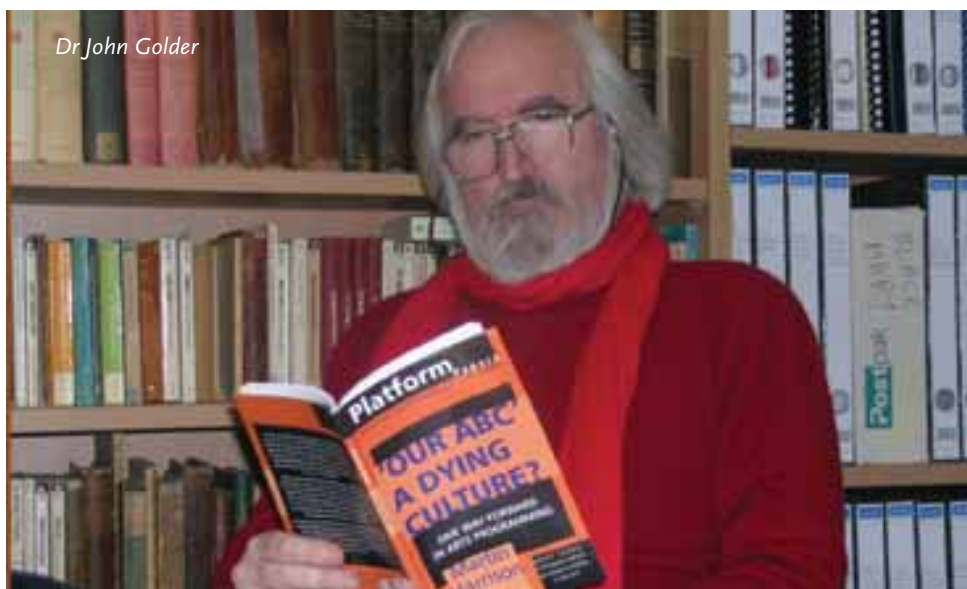
Diana Do, Bachelor of Industrial Design, FBE

Yucee was originally designed with an apartment living room space in mind. Through its simple shape and urethane connectors, the coffee table is able to transform into a day bed, cushioned seat and a low Japanese-style dining table.

Titled To Live is to Leave Traces, this body of work, including this chandelier, examines the Victorian era's penchant for surface detail and reapplies traces of this decoration to contemporary materials and forms.

Dr John Golder

Sarah Wilson



## The new arts quarterly ‘hand grenade’

By Sarah Wilson

John Golder is pulling the pin on the performing arts in a new series of essays entitled *Platform Papers*.

“There is a lack of serious debate on the arts,” Dr Golder, senior lecturer in the School of Theatre, Film and Dance and editor of the essays, said. “I want to stir the pot, raise the dust and put arts higher up the agenda.”

“Too often newspapers deal with the performing arts at the level of anecdote. I believe there is a hunger for the longer essay, somewhere between the newspaper feature and the monograph.”

It appears that Dr Golder is not alone. The debut issue of *Platform Papers* was so popular that its first print run of a thousand copies sold out within 24 hours. A reprint has been ordered. Published by Currency

House, *Platform Papers* is partly funded by UNSW. “[Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)] Professor John Ingleson has been a keen advocate and has provided very generous support for these essays,” Dr Golder said.

The first essay, by Martin Harrison, poet, academic and founding producer of ABC Radio Art, is titled ‘*Our ABC a dying culture?*’ It argues that the ABC is failing spectacularly to fulfil its charter obligations to the Australian performing arts. The next essay will be in the bookshops on 1 October. Written by violinist and music publisher Christopher Latham, it is entitled *Survival of the Fittest: The Artist versus the Corporate World*. It argues that the arts are dominated by giant corporations.

To subscribe to *Platform Papers*, see the Currency House website at [www.currencyhouse.org.au](http://www.currencyhouse.org.au). ■

## Campus camera

Potential UNSW undergraduates enjoy their lunch in the sun outside the library during GERRIC’s Poppyseeds program.

Sarah Wilson



## OBITUARY

### GARTH DEWSNAP



1918–2004  
UNSW  
pioneer

Garth Claus Dewsnap was dux of Melbourne Boys High in 1935, won an exhibition to Melbourne University,

and graduated with first class honours in electrical engineering in 1939. He was awarded a Masters Degree at UNSW in 1950.

He worked in the CSIRO Radiophysics Division in Sydney between 1941 and 1947, mainly on the development of radar. In March 1947 he became a lecturer at Sydney Technical College, the precursor to the University of New South Wales. Garth was made senior lecturer in the School of Electrical Engineering in 1952 and Associate Professor in 1960. He was an active member of the Institution of Engineers Australia all his working life and a Fellow of the Institute Electrical Engineers London from 1964.

As a pioneer at UNSW, Garth was one of its first academic staff members. He was a founder of the Staff Club, one of its first directors and the first licensee.

Sport was important in his life, particularly cricket, which remained a lifelong interest for him. He was the inaugural president of the Baseball Club at UNSW. Garth sailed on Port Phillip Bay as a young man and in later years sailed a Heron on the Parramatta River.

Garth was caring, generous and a non-judgemental listener to any colleague who approached him. He hated cant and hypocrisy and was always courteous and tolerant and imparted his values to his family. He is survived by wife Judith and children Roslyn, Susan and Megan, and his seven grandchildren Jenny, Amy, Lewis, Lillian, Tom, Bridget and Monica.

**Graham Parry**  
*Facilities Planning and Development*





By Sarah Wilson

## Getting into the spirit of wellbeing

Mind, body and spirit – that's the Holy Trinity when it comes to wellbeing, according to Arthur Mezups, director of the newly launched UNSW Lifestyle Centre located within the Unigym complex at the Kensington campus.

Focusing on prevention rather than treatment, the Lifestyle Centre provides holistic health management for staff, students and the general public under one roof. "We have babies aged eight months in our learn-to-swim classes and retirees in their eighties participating in our low-impact seniors aerobics classes," Arthur said.

The first of its kind in Australia, the UNSW Lifestyle Centre provides many services not normally associated with gyms. "Being attached to the University opens so many avenues for the Centre," Arthur said. "I'd love to see the involvement of people from all areas within the University. I want to see a sense of community. I want the campus GPs to refer patients to us, and I want our researchers to conduct studies through the Centre. I want to get the best out of every sector of the University."

The initial launch of the Centre took place in June with the introduction of two new programs – weight management and rehabilitation.

The weight management program incorporates nutrition, exercise and counselling packages tailor-made for the individual. The rehabilitation program provides clients with support services focusing on speedy recovery and long-term health maintenance. The Centre will be rolling out three new programs in the coming months targeting personal coaching, naturopathy and acupuncture, and yoga and meditation. From 2005, the Centre will offer cardiac rehabilitation programs.

Arthur gives credit to Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Resources and Infrastructure, Dr Alec Cameron, for making the Lifestyle Centre a reality. "The idea for the Centre came about six years ago when I visited the United States and saw similar centres in action. When Alec came to the University last year, he kickstarted the program almost immediately."

The Lifestyle Centre opens from 6am to 8pm seven days a week, offers a physiotherapy and sports injury clinic and provides occasional care child-minding facilities for up to three hours.

For further information on the Centre, contact Jane Glover on 9385 4405 or email [lifestylecentre@unsw.edu.au](mailto:lifestylecentre@unsw.edu.au).

By Alex Clark

## Say goodbye to your problems

Creating problems and solving others has been the love of a lifetime for internationally renowned mathematician Emeritus Professor George Szekeres, now 93. But his departure last month from the School of Mathematics capped a remarkable career that spanned continents and decades.

"I love maths," George said. "But you either feel it or you don't. Some people think maths is a dead bore but it's a very interesting occupation, I can assure you, from about 80 years of experience."

Born in Budapest, George's first mathematical work was inspired by collaborations with other brilliant young Hungarian fellow undergraduates who would also become internationally renowned mathematicians. After working as an analytical chemist for six years in Budapest, he and his wife fled the Nazis and became part of the 15,000-strong Jewish refugee community in Shanghai.

After arriving in Australia in 1948, George has had a full-time career as a professional mathematician, joining UNSW in 1963 to establish the Department of Pure Mathematics.

Over the past 40 years he has broken new ground in an exceptional range of mathematical fields. He is famous for developing a key mathematical tool for the description of black holes in cosmology and for his work in combinatorics, discovering the foundations of what is now known as Ramsey Theory. He has been honoured with the most prestigious positions and awards in the field, including the Thomas Rankin Lyle Medal from the Australian Academy of Science in 1968, and was responsible for bringing Paul Erdos, the most widely known mathematician of the 20th century, to Australia.

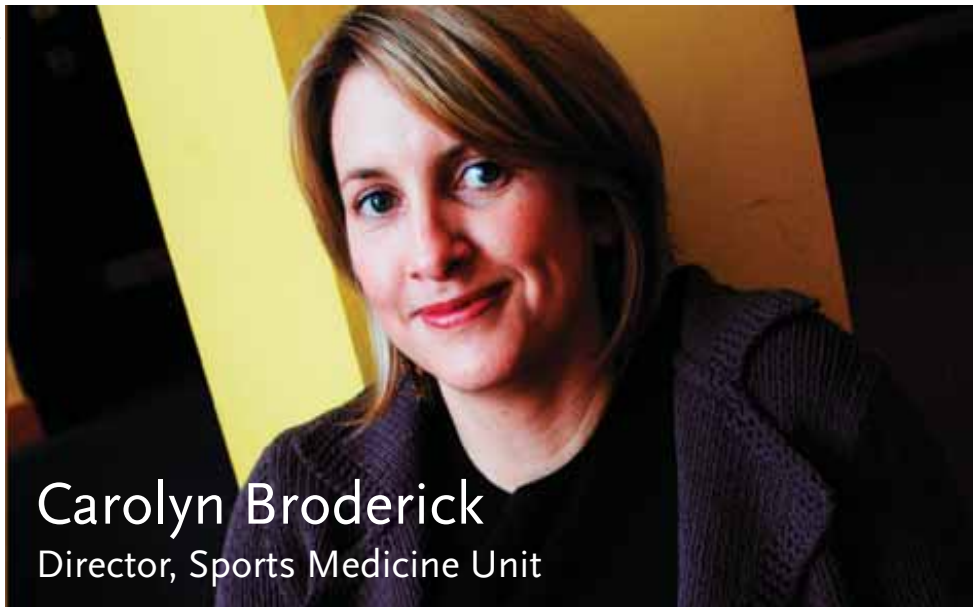
"I love teaching," George said. "I loved teaching classes of ten or twelve because you could really get in personal touch with the students, and that



is lost in most large classes." He has provided countless problems for the secondary schools mathematics competitions and held a number of key roles with the Australian International Mathematical Olympiad team.

His unstoppable passion for mathematics is grounded in a belief that it is a profession of the utmost importance. "I challenge anyone to name a more important occupation than mathematics," George said. "The great advantage of mathematical activity is that the problems you meet are endless. One problem generates another, it is the nature of mathematical activity and is what makes it so interesting."

Britta Campion



**Carolyn Broderick**  
Director, Sports Medicine Unit

I came to UNSW in 1983 to study medicine. During my elective term in fifth year, I provided medical coverage for the Hawaiian Ironman Triathlon, an intensely gruelling race run in extreme heat on the black lava fields of the big island of Hawaii. The effects of this endurance activity on the body fascinated me. The second-placed competitor had a seizure immediately after crossing the finish line, and about 200 of the 1500 competitors were treated for symptoms ranging from blisters to coma. I was keen to learn more about exercise physiology and sports medicine.

After completing my intern and residency years at Royal North Shore Hospital and three years at Lewisham Sports Medicine Clinic, I entered the Sports Physician Training Scheme. I first lectured in the Sports Medicine Programs at UNSW in 1993, and in 1994 we had our first intake of doctors in the coursework Masters in Sports Medicine. I now work as a senior lecturer in the Sports Medicine Programs and as a part-time Staff Specialist in Paediatric Sports Medicine at the Children's Hospital at Westmead.

**What do you like most about your job?**

The people! The contact with staff from different disciplines in medicine is very stimulating. I also enjoy the contact with our students who are doctors from all around the world facing very different challenges.

**Pet hate?**

Sydney traffic.

**What are you reading/listening to at the moment?**

I'm currently reading Tetsuya's cookbook that was given to me as a present. The trouble is that to prepare a single dish from the book requires a whole day off work. I'm listening to Norah Jones and Alex Lloyd (when I have the CD remote) and *The Lion King* and Britney Spears (when I don't).

**Best advice you've ever received?**

Take a year off medicine and develop the right side of your brain – advice from my mother who lived in fear of the 'boring female doctor'. I took a year off between third and fourth year medicine, did a cooking course in Europe and worked as a cook for a year, which was a great experience. It also taught me that being an intern in an Emergency Department is nowhere near as stressful as being a cook.

**Who or what inspires you?**

Children with chronic disease (and their parents) who get on with life and never feel sorry for themselves.

**What have been the fun experiences of your career?**

Being a team physician for the Australian Olympic Team; working as a cook for Mick Jagger in the UK in the 80s.

**You're hosting a dinner party and can invite three people (living or dead). Who is on your guest list?**

Edmund Hilary for his wonderful stories and motivation; Winston Churchill to experience life before anti-smoking campaigns and low fat meals; Mark Latham to arrange taxis after dinner.

**Favourite expression?**

Dare to be different.

**What are you good at?**

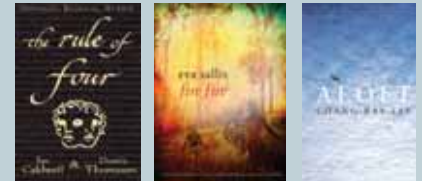
Matchmaking, although I've had a few disasters lately.

**What can't you do?**

Get the children to school on time.

## THE STACK

### Top ten books



#### Fiction:

- 1** The Rule of Four  
– Caldwell & Thomason (\$26.95)
- 2** Fire Fire  
– Eva Sallis (\$22.45)
- 3** The Kite Runner  
– Khaled Hosseini (\$19.75)
- 4** Snow  
– Orphan Pamuk (\$26.95)
- 5** Aloft  
– Chang-Rae Lee (\$26.95)



#### Non-Fiction:

- 1** The Decline of the Tea Lady  
– Jenny Stewart (\$22.45)
- 2** Gulag: a History  
– Anne Applebaum (\$24.25)
- 3** The Wreck of Western Culture  
– John Carroll (\$31.50)
- 4** Six Degrees  
– Duncan Watts (\$22.45)
- 5** Einstein's Clocks, Poincare's Maps  
– Peter Galison (\$25.15)

Compiled by Robert O'Hearn from  
the UNSW Bookshop, 9385 6622,  
[www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au](http://www.bookshop.unsw.edu.au)

**GOT A BOOK COMING OUT IN PRINT SOON?**  
Email [uniken@unsw.edu.au](mailto:uniken@unsw.edu.au) with the details.



# COUNCIL REPORT

By Dr John Yu, AC, Chancellor

## Council Meeting 21 June 2004

Council decisions on the North Mall Development Zone and the student contribution charges for Commonwealth supported (HECS) rates at UNSW were reported last month.

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY

Council approved the revised UNSW Intellectual Property Policy and noted that further revisions may be necessary following the development and approval of a UNSW policy on commercialisation of intellectual property.

### DISCONTINUATION OF MAJORS AND DEGREE PROGRAMS

Council approved that the authority to approve the discontinuation of majors within degree programs be delegated to Academic Board (rather than to Faculty Standing Committees), with the requirement that discontinuations be noted by Council. The delegation of authority to approve the discontinuation of a degree program was also revised and retained by Council (rather than by Faculty Standing Committees).

### DELEGATIONS

Several revisions were made to the academic delegations and interim arrangements for implementing the financial delegations were approved. An updated Register of Delegations can be accessed via the Secretariat website at [http://www.secretariat.unsw.edu.au/council/unsw\\_register\\_of\\_delegations.pdf](http://www.secretariat.unsw.edu.au/council/unsw_register_of_delegations.pdf).

### FEES FOR LOCAL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Council noted updated information on the implementation of the University's LFEE policy and the commitment of the Vice-Chancellor to bring a report to Council at a future date containing recommendations in relation to student equity and access.

### VOTE OF THANKS TO OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Chancellor thanked outgoing Council members Professor Jeremy Davis, Associate Professor John Carmody, Associate Professor Rae Frances, Mrs Beverley Crane, Mr David Hughes and Ms Linda Scott for their contribution to the work of Council during their respective terms of office.

### MEETING DATES

Council meetings will be held on the following dates in 2004: 2pm on Monday 26 July, 30 August, 11 October and 11am on 22 November (strategic planning focus). A reserve date of 13 December is being held. Council meetings are open to all members of the University – that is, staff, students, graduates and emeriti. If you wish to attend a Council meeting, go to the Inquiry Counter of the Chancellery before the meeting where you will be issued with a pass and some notes for observers. Observers have no speaking rights and must leave the Chamber when confidential items are being discussed.

### COUNCIL MINUTES

Council minutes and other information about Council are available to all members of the University by accessing the Secretariat website ([www.secretariat.unsw.edu.au](http://www.secretariat.unsw.edu.au)) then following the links to Council. For further information on matters relating to Council or its Standing Committees, please contact Victoria Eyles, [v.eyles@unsw.edu.au](mailto:v.eyles@unsw.edu.au), 9385 3068 or Janet McGaw, [j.mcgaw@unsw.edu.au](mailto:j.mcgaw@unsw.edu.au), 9385 3072.

*The Chancellor is Chair of Council.*



ACADEMIC  
BOARD

## First meeting of Ninth Academic Board

### Academic Board meeting of 6 July 2004

At our July meeting, we welcomed those elected to the Ninth Academic Board, and we farewelled Elspeth McLachlan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), and myself.

I thanked the Executive Assistants who had worked with me in my office, and I thanked especially Victoria Eyles, Lynda Ho and Rhona Fraser, who had assisted me and the Board as Executive Officers. I noted how over the last five years, in addition to chairing around 60 Board meetings, I had chaired or attended countless committees, forums, meetings, working parties, task forces, retreats, receptions, functions, lunches, dinners and other wonderfully labelled happenings, served on around 150 senior selection committees, and considered the promotion applications of around 750 academic staff here and elsewhere. And together the Board and I had got some important work done as well.

The July meeting of the Board usually deals with a number of program introductions, revisions and discontinuations. We recommended that Council approve: the introduction of a Master of Social Development, Graduate Diploma in Social Development and Graduate Certificate in Social Development (and the discontinuation of the Master of International Social Development); the introduction of a Bachelor of International Studies (and the discontinuation of the Bachelor of International Studies in Asian Studies, Bachelor of International Studies in European Studies, Bachelor of International Studies in Globalization, and Bachelor of International Studies in Languages); the introduction of a Bachelor of International Studies Bachelor of Laws (and the discontinuation of the programs listed in the previous parentheses with the Bachelor of Laws); the introduction of the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science Bachelor of Arts; and the introduction of the Bachelor of Arts (Media and Communications) Bachelor of Laws; and the discontinuation of the Bachelor of Engineering in Aerospace Engineering Master of Commerce, Bachelor of Engineering in Mechatronic Engineering Master of Commerce, Bachelor of Engineering in Naval Architecture Master of Commerce, Bachelor of Engineering in Software Engineering Master of Commerce, Bachelor of Engineering in Surveying and Spatial Information Systems Master of Commerce.

We noted the annual reports on each committee's progress and outcomes from the presiding members of the following standing committees: Committee on Education (Carmen Moran), Undergraduate Studies Committee (David Morgan), Postgraduate Coursework Committee (Helen Swarbrick), Committee on Research (Tony Dooley) and Academic Services Committee (Brynn Hibbert).

I congratulate Tony Dooley on his election as president, and Carmen Moran and Chris Daly on their election as the two deputy presidents of the ninth Academic Board. I wish them well.

If there are issues that you would like Academic Board or its Committees to consider, or if you would like to attend a meeting, then please let Tony Dooley know via [a.dooley@unsw.edu.au](mailto:a.dooley@unsw.edu.au) or 9385 2393.

*Kevin McConkey was president of Academic Board from August 1999 to July 2004.*

By Kevin McConkey

# Five years minus one day

I was President of Academic Board from 2 August 1999 to 31 July 2004 and Pro-Chancellor from 23 February to 31 July 2004. I am grateful to have worked with many members of Academic Board and Council as well as with many other staff and students. I was fortunate to work with two Chancellors (Sir Anthony Mason, John Yu) and three Vice-Chancellors (John Niland, Rory Hume, Mark Wainwright), as well as with three Deputy Chancellors, two Pro-Chancellors, six Deputy Vice-Chancellors, seven Pro-Vice-Chancellors, one Registrar, 28 Deans (give or take) and five Deputy Presidents of the Board.

Academic Board (like UNSW) has covered much ground in the last five years, and has sometimes covered the same ground many times. In full swing, Academic Board is a wonderful experience and many discussions (including those on the Faculty of Science and on the establishment of UNSW Asia in Singapore) have seen the representative, collective intellect at its best. Academic Board discussions can be difficult for those who have a low tolerance of disagreement or a high desire for control and command.

The capacity to look confident when you have no idea what is happening is an essential skill for the President of Academic Board. Throughout my stewardship, I hope Academic Board was central in providing advice to Council and the Vice-Chancellor, proactive and effective in contributing to University direction and policy, and independent and balanced in its deliberations.

Academic Board must continue to contribute with the autonomy that is essential to the academic and social enterprise of UNSW. The exercise of this autonomy can

**Academic Board must continue to contribute with the autonomy that is essential to the academic and social enterprise of UNSW**

cause discomfort to some; one quickly learns that the independence of the President is sometimes its own reward. Of course, along with autonomy and independence, there is the privilege of showing responsibility to the University as a whole. This involves finding the right balance of academic freedom and duty in what one does, and of working to meet our own needs, the needs of the University and the needs of society.

The renewal and redirection of our University must progress with focused desire and formed action. As I wrote in the *Report of the Ways and Means Task*

*Force* in July 2000: "as a University we need to be creative and enterprising; we need to come together with trust on the changes we must go through; and, we need to do so now." This is not easy to put into practice and there have been times when our University seems to have been as much in darkness as in daylight. I was always conscious of how difficult that has been for many.

It is now time to fly at the edge of dawn. It is there that we will find the excitement of leadership, the freshness of discovery, and the satisfaction of lasting impression. To find that place we need to get right the balance of individual initiative and creativity and of institutional accountability and loyalty; these dimensions do not need to be in conflict. We will get the balance right through clear principles, transparent processes, tolerance for ambiguity, commitment to collegiality and a capacity to look beyond the immediate.

In the close and in the distant future there will be issues of great challenge. I am hopeful that the wise resolution of these will come from Council, Academic Board, and senior management working together with goodwill to ensure the right mix of consultation, consensus building, and decision-making across students, staff and the wider community.

Since its creation in 1988 Academic Board has had five Presidents (Derek Anderson, Jane Morrison, Jeremy Davis, Robert King, Kevin McConkey), each of which has brought a distinctive style and influence to this position of delicate power. I wish my successor, Tony Dooley, well. I thank friends and colleagues for their support. I will not forget the privilege of serving this University as President of Academic Board for five years minus one day. ■

