

COHESION

FACULTY OF COMPUTING, HEALTH AND SCIENCE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

JULY 2011



Inside this edition

2011 WA Citizen of the Year

National Pilot Malting Facility
Officially Opened

Prize Giving Ceremony

Executive Dean's Message



Dear Colleagues,

In this edition of CoHeSion I take the opportunity to stress the importance of Professional Accreditation for our courses where a relevant professional body exists. With the commencement of the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) as the new regulatory agency from January 30 2012 it is important to note that the professional bodies will continue to have a role to play, and in some cases a statutory function.

The Faculty of Computing, Health and Science has for many years taken the view that our various disciplines would work closely with the professional bodies along with our industry based Consultative Committees to ensure currency and relevancy of our courses to provide students with improved opportunity for employment in a particular industry.

For example courses in sports science, nutrition, library studies, physiotherapy, nursing, midwifery, information and communication technology, engineering, occupational therapy, psychology, paramedicine and the like are all

submitted to a professional accreditation process to ensure compliance with industry best practice and the maintenance of standards. The coverage is very broad where Engineers Australia accredits not only our Engineering degrees but also our Bachelor of Technology in Motorsports. The strong commitment to professional accreditation is just one way the Faculty can provide a framework for relevant course development for our students.

I am pleased to mention the appointment of Dr Stacey Waters as the new Head of the Child Health Promotion Research Centre (CHPRC) replacing the legendary Professor Donna Cross who will remain on as Professor providing senior leadership. Dr Laura Thomas was appointed to the role of Deputy Head of CHPRC. The new leadership team will continue the great work undertaken to date.

August is the official commencement of the School of Medical Sciences which will inherit staff, students and research activities for immediate operation.

Enrolments remain strong in the Faculty which continues to support teaching and research programs. New initiatives will feature in CoHeSion as the Faculty continues to grow in 2012.

Yours sincerely,
Professor Tony Watson
Executive Dean



CONTACT DETAILS

Editor Bryan Garnett-Law
Telephone: (61 8) 6304 3452
E-mail: b.garnett_law@ecu.edu.au

COHESION Magazine is a quarterly publication of the Faculty of Computing, Health and Science.

Previous editions of COHESION Magazine are available electronically at: www.ecu.edu.au/cohesion.

CRICOS IPC 00279B

A portrait of Professor Ralph Martins, a man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, a light blue shirt, and a patterned tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a laboratory or office.

Professor Ralph Martins 2011 WA Citizen of the Year

Congratulations to Professor Ralph Martins, Chair in Ageing and Alzheimer's disease at Edith Cowan University (ECU), who received the 2011 WA Citizen of the Year Professions Award at a ceremony at the Burswood Entertainment Complex on Saturday, 28 May 2011.

It is the second major award of its kind for Professor Martins, who was named as the 2010 WA Australian of the Year.

One of the world's leading researchers into Alzheimer's disease, Professor Martins is the Head of ECU's Centre of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease Research and Care.

He is also the Director of Research for the McCusker Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation established to enhance medical research into Alzheimer's disease in WA.

In accepting the award, Professor Martins thanked his supporters and colleagues.

"This award is all about people and in my case many wonderful West Australians, particularly Malcolm, Carolyn and Tonya McCusker, John Davies, Kevin Taddei, Giuseppe Verdile, Athena Paton and all members of my research team, Graham Nixon and the Board members of the McCusker Foundation, ECU Office of Research and Innovation Director Dr Marcia Taylor, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Computing Health and Science Professor Tony Watson, and

my sponsor Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor John Finlay-Jones, and the many staff at ECU who have collectively ensured that Alzheimer's research in WA is at the cutting edge internationally."

"I am also indebted to my wife Georgia who has sacrificed so much and supported me in every way possible to pursue my efforts to combat Alzheimer's disease."

ECU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Kerry Cox, congratulated Professor Martins on the award.

"On behalf of the ECU community I'm delighted to congratulate Professor Martins on his achievement in receiving the 2011 WA Citizen of the Year Professions Award. This prestigious award has been bestowed on a very worthy colleague."

"The award highlights the quality research that Professor Martins is undertaking to improve our understanding of what is a devastating disease. It is also fine recognition of the relevance of much of ECU's high quality research to the communities we were established to serve."

ECU Professor of Child and Adolescent Health, Donna Cross, and Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) Post Doctoral Research Fellow, Dr Cat Hope, were also finalists in the WA Citizen of the Year Awards.



WAITTA

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AWARDS





Prize Giving Ceremony

The Faculty of Computing, Health and Science held its annual Prize Giving Ceremony at the Joondalup Campus on Friday 25th February to recognise the Faculty's high achieving students. The ceremony was attended by students, family members, friends, staff and prize donors and was followed by a cocktail party in the foyer. The Faculty wishes to thank its prize donors, with many who have offered their ongoing support for many years.

Congratulations to all prize winners!





Faculty Research Medal

awarded to a graduating student for outstanding research achievement in a research higher degree program offered by the Faculty of Computing, Health & Science

Professor Paul Lavery
Associate Dean, Research and Higher Degrees, Faculty of Computing, Health and Science

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Dr. Sudarsan Krishnaswamy



Faculty Medal

awarded to a graduating student for outstanding achievement in an undergraduate program offered by the Faculty of Computing, Health & Science

Hui Cheng Choo



Australian Library and Information Association Prize for Graduate studies in Librarianship

awarded to the graduating student with the highest course weighted average mark in the Graduate Diploma of Science (Information Services) Information Science stream

Ms Carol Newton-Smith
Australian Library and Information Association

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Laura Ranieri



Australia & New Zealand Forensic Science Society Digital Forensics Prize

awarded to the graduating student with the highest course average in the Master of Digital Forensics

Dr Kari Pitts
Australia & New Zealand
Forensic Science Society (WA Branch)

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Kaori Mochizuki



Australian Society of Archivists Incorporated The Margaret Jennings Award

awarded to the graduating student with the highest Weighted Average Mark (WAM) in the Graduate Diploma of Science (Information Services) (Archives and Records)

Jane Ratcliff



The Australian Computer Society Prize

awarded to the graduating student with the highest Weighted Average Mark (WAM) in an ACS accredited undergraduate course

Professor Craig Valli
Head of School, School of Computer and Security Science

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Neil Osborne



Australian Library and Information Association Prize for Library Technology: Associate Degree of Science (Library Technology)

awarded to the graduating student with the highest course weighted average mark in the Associate Degree of Science (Library Technology)

Ms Carol Newton-Smith
Australian Library and Information Association

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Eloise Markey



Advanced Personnel Management Occupational Therapy Prize

awarded to the student with the highest mark in the third year unit, OCT3209: Occupational Rehabilitation, in the Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy) H96

Mr David Mackiewicz
Advanced Personnel Management

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Sylvana Pasini



The Drug and Alcohol Office Prize in Addiction Studies

awarded to the eligible student graduating with the highest average mark from the six units specified: ADS1151, ADS1252, ADS2253, ADS2356, ADS3355 and ADS3457

Rachel Carew-Hopkins



Exercise and Sports Science Australia (ESSA) Prize

awarded to the student with the highest mark in unit SPS4115 Clinical Exercise Physiology Metabolic and Musculoskeletal

Mr. Brendan Joss
Exercise and Sports Science Australia (ESSA)

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Laura Coles



JB Flood Memorial Prize

awarded to the most outstanding student in the Bachelor of Health Science (Health Promotion)

Professor Rob Newton
Head of School, School of Exercise, Biomedical and Health Sciences

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Ruth Wallace



Australian Library and Information Association Prize for Library Technology: Bachelor of Science (Library Technology)

awarded to the graduating student with the highest course weighted average mark in the Bachelor of Science (Library Technology)

Ms Carol Newton-Smith
Australian Library and Information Association

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Suzanna Dimmer



Pearson Education Australia Award for Academic Excellence in First Year Human Biology

awarded to an E69 Human Biology student with the highest weighted average mark (WAM) in the units SCH1111; SCH1133; SCH1134; SCH1132 and SCH1143

Dr Chris Meredith
School of Exercise, Biomedical and Health Sciences

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Sarah Cavanagh



AC Mobility Prize

awarded to the eligible student with the highest mark in the occupational therapy unit OCT3203 Assistive Technology

Professor Rob Newton
Head of School, School of Exercise, Biomedical and Health Sciences

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Sylvana Pasini



Safety Alert Prize for Excellence in Professional Practice Studies

awarded to the student with the highest combined marks for the two relevant units OCT1104 Clinical Science 1 and OCT1208 Clinical Science 2

Ms Tanya Barrett
Safety Alert

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Tristan Smith



Sports Medicine Australia – (WA) Prize

awarded to the student graduating from the Bachelor of Science (Exercise & Sports Science) with the highest course weighted average

Ms Dana Pimley
Sports Medicine Australia

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Daniel D'Avoine



Australian Library and Information Association Prize for Teacher Librarianship

awarded to the graduating student with the highest course average mark in the Graduate Diploma of Science (Information Services) Teacher Librarianship stream

Ms Carol Newton-Smith
Australian Library and Information Association

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Christopher Warren



Safety Institute of Western Australia, Master of Occupational Health and Safety

awarded to the graduating student with the highest weighted average mark in the course work Masters of Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health (V74)

Mr Gavin Waugh
Safety Institute of Western Australia

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Tara Morris



Dr Heather MacGowan OAM Professional Practice Prize

awarded to the student with the highest mark in Sports Science Applications 2 (SPS2303) within the major professional practice portfolio assignment

Dr Sue Colyer
The MacGowan Family

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Levi Maconachie



Theory of Occupation Award

awarded to the student with the highest mark in the unit OCT1101 Theory of Occupation in the year in which it was studied

Ms Thu Snowden
Rural Health West

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Leisha Eyden



Accredited Occupational Therapist (AccOT) Award

awarded to the student with highest combined marks for the two relevant units OCT4212 Clinical Science 7 and OCT4211 Clinical Science 6 in course H96

Professor Rob Newton
Head of School, School of Exercise,
Biomedical and Health Sciences

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Kelly McAuliffe



Occupational Therapy Disability Award

awarded to the student with the highest mark in the unit OCT4109 Disability, in the year in which it was studied

Ms Susan Penden
Disability Services Commission

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Katelin Elliott



**Joondalup Health Campus
Rehabilitation Studies Award**

awarded to the student with the highest mark in the unit OCT3205 Neurological Rehabilitation in the year in which it was studied

Rachel McKay



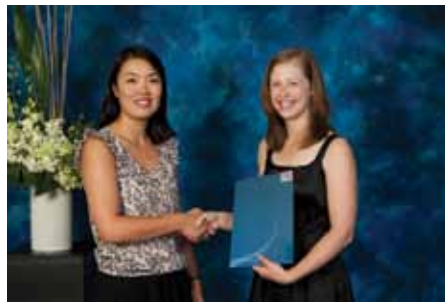
**Pearson Education Australia Award for Academic
Excellence in Second Year Human Biology**

awarded to the eligible student with the highest weighted average mark (WAM) in the units SCH2226; SCH2232; SCH2235; SCH2111; SCH2141 and SCH2142.

Dr Chris Meredith
School of Exercise, Biomedical and Health Sciences

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Mathew Collier



Aboriginal Communities Award

awarded to the student with the highest mark in the unit ACS4133 Aboriginal Communities in the year in which it was studied.

Ms Thu Snowden
Rural Health West

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Stacey Hutchinson



**Safety Institute of Western Australia, Graduate
Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety**

awarded to the graduating student with the highest weighted average mark in the Graduate Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health (S72).

Mr Gavin Waugh
Safety Institute of Western Australia

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Fiona MacLeod



**Occupational Therapists'
Registration Board of WA Prize**

awarded to the student who attains the highest Weighted Average Mark on completion of the Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy) (Honours) course requirements

Ms Thelma Burnett
Occupational Therapists' Registration Board of WA

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Adele Calley



**Pearson Education Australia Award for Academic
Excellence in Human Biology**

awarded to the student with the highest course weighted average mark (WAM) in the Bachelor of Science (Human Biology) E69

Dr Chris Meredith
School of Exercise, Biomedical and Health Sciences

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Jamie McDonald



Occupational Therapy Health Conditions Award

awarded to the student with the highest mark in the unit OCT2208 Health Conditions in the year in which it was studied

Ms Thu Snowden
Rural Health West

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Leanne Bell



OT AUSTRALIA WA Award for the Dux in the Occupational Therapy Pass Degree

awarded to the student who attains the highest Weighted Average Mark on completion of the Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy) course requirements

Ms Cathy Thomas
OT Australia – WA

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Stacey Hutchinson



Safety Alert WA Occupational Therapy Applied Kinesiology Award

awarded to the student with the highest mark in the unit OCT2203 Applied Kinesiology in the year in which it was studied

Mr Gavin Waugh
Safety Institute of Western Australia

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Ruth Johnson



Amanda Allnutt Memorial Prize (The)

awarded to the student who demonstrates excellence in practice identified by assessors and supervisors in all areas of practice in stage 5 clinical practicum

Professor Di Twigg
Head of School, School of Nursing, Midwifery and Postgraduate Medicine

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Stephanie Hawkes



Paediatric Occupational Therapy Award

awarded to the student with the highest mark in the unit OCT2202 Paediatrics and Youth in the year unit in which it was studied

Ms Jen Ivey
Developmental Occupational Therapists (WA) Inc

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Leanne Bell



Dorothy Clarke Paediatric Nursing Fund Prize

awarded annually to the graduating student who has completed the most outstanding Honours or Masters Thesis in a field related to Paediatrics

Kate Leutert



Australian College of Midwives Western Australian Branch Award

awarded annually to the student enrolled in the Postgraduate Diploma of Midwifery who demonstrates excellence in women-centred practice as identified by assessors and supervisors in all areas of clinical practice, and is a student member of the Australian College of Midwives (ACM) and participates in ACM activities

Ms Tracy Martin
Australian College of Midwives - The WA Branch
presenting to prize winner for 2010
Jodie Atkinson



Australian Associate of Gerontology Prize

awarded to the student with the highest mark for unit NNI1102 - Health and Health Challenges for Older Adults

Dr Eyal Gringart
School of Psychology and Social Science
presenting to prize winner for 2010

Katrina Russell



Laerdal Award for Academic Excellence in Paramedical Science

awarded to the graduating student from Bachelor of Science (Paramedical Science) (G51/K89) with the highest Weighted Average Mark (WAM) in the calendar year

Professor Di Twigg
Head of School, School of Nursing, Midwifery and Postgraduate Medicine

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Kerry Hopkins



Bethesda Hospital Nursing Ethics Award

awarded to the student with the highest overall mark for the Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Science (Nursing) (M14/K45) unit NNI2202 Ethics and Law in Nursing

Anthea Armstrong



**King Edward Memorial Hospital
for Women Clinical Midwifery Prize
(In memory of Jean Beadle and Mary Carson)**

awarded to a student graduating from the Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery (V19) at ECU, who is employed by KEMH as a midwifery student for the duration of the course and who demonstrates excellence in the clinical practice units MIP5101 and MIP5201

Ms Margaret Davies
King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women
presenting to prize winner for 2010
Christopher Cooper



St John of God Hospital Subiaco Prize

awarded to the student who demonstrates excellence in practice identified by assessors and supervisors in all areas of practice in stage 3 clinical practicum of the Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Science (Nursing) (M14/K45)

Ms Chris Hanna
St John of God Hospital Subiaco
presenting to prize winner for 2010

Katherine Clarke



Maxine Serrell Prize for Clinical Practice (The)

awarded to the student who demonstrates excellence in practice identified by assessors and supervisors in all areas of practice in stage 4 clinical practicum

Professor Di Twigg
Head of School, School of Nursing, Midwifery and Postgraduate Medicine

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Phyllis McMorrow



Police & Nurses Mutual Banking Prize

awarded to a graduating student in the Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Science (Nursing) (pre-registration) (M14/K45) course with the highest Course Weighted Average Mark (WAM)

Ms Donna Webb
Police & Nurses Mutual Banking
presenting to prize winner for 2010

Tracey Tarver



The Nurses Memorial Trust Olive Anstey Award

awarded to the student with the highest final mark in the research unit NST3209 Evidence Based Practice in Healthcare, in the semester of study, in the Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Science (Nursing) (M14/K45) program

Ms Meredith Walker
Western Australian Nurses Memorial Charitable Trust

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Pamela Adlam



**Royal College of Nursing, Australia
High Achiever Award**

awarded to the student with the highest mark for unit NNI3204 - Professional Issues in Nursing

Ms Cheryl Poultney
Royal College of Nursing, Australia

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Josephine Brown



St John Ambulance Inc. The College of Pre Hospital Care Prize for Excellence in First Year Theoretical Study of Paramedical Science

awarded to the first year student with the highest weighted average mark in the units SCH1143 and SCH1105

Professor Ian Jacobs
St John Ambulance Inc.

presenting to Gabrielle Friday, accepting on behalf of prize winner for 2010

Cameron Friday



**St John of God Healthcare
Undergraduate Nursing Award (The)**

awarded to the student enrolled in the Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Science (Nursing) M14/K45 who has achieved the highest weighted course average on completion of Stage 6

Ms Robyn Sutherland
St John of God Healthcare

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Tracey Tarver



St John of God Hospital Subiaco Midwifery Prize

awarded to the student graduating in the Postgraduate Diploma in V19 in the year of the award with the highest aggregate mark for the units,

Midwifery Theory (MIT5101 & MIT5201) and Midwifery Practice (MIP5101 & MIP5201)

Ms Chris Hanna
St John of God Hospital Subiaco

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Georgina Kelly



The Nurses Memorial Trust Olive Anstey Award

awarded to the student with the highest final mark in the research unit NST3209 Evidence Based Practice in Healthcare, in the semester of study, in the Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Science (Nursing) (M14/K45) program

Ms Meredith Walker
Western Australian Nurses Memorial Charitable Trust

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Elena Wilson



St John Ambulance Inc. Western Australian Ambulance Service Award of Excellence in Academic and Applied Paramedical Practice

awarded to the Paramedical Science student with the highest weighted mark in the unit PST3103 in the Bachelor of Science (Paramedical Science) (G51/K89)

Professor Ian Jacobs
St John Ambulance Inc.

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Nathan Burns



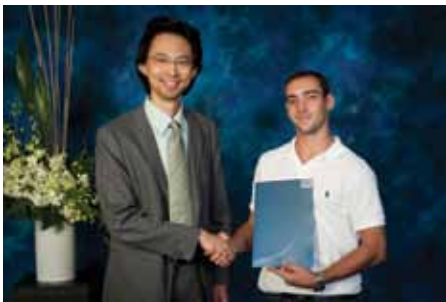
Engineers Australia Electrical College Ian Steele Medal

awarded to the eligible student with the highest mark in the unit ENS3220 Electrical Machines and Transformers

Mr Peter Mauger
Engineers Australia WA Division

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Benny Pang



The Institute of Electrical & Electronic Engineers Prize (The IEEE Prize)

awarded to the eligible student with the highest combined mark for the units ENS2258 Analog Electronics and ENS2256 Digital Electronics

Dr Douglas Chai
IEEE WA Section

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Mark Leppard



IET Prize

awarded to the eligible student who has achieved the highest overall mark for the ENS4253 Engineering Project unit

Professor Walter Green
The Institution of Engineering & Technology Australia

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Jed Fowler



Bio-Rad Prize for Molecular Biology

awarded to the student who achieved the highest combined score for the units SCB2222 Cellular & Molecular Biology and SCB3322 Applications in Molecular Biology

Associate Professor Mark Lund
Head of School, School of Natural Sciences

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Rylan Shearn



Timothy Lin Memorial Aviation Prize

awarded for the highest combined mark in the four (4) aviation units (SCA1125, SCA1113, SCA1208 and SCA1227) by an eligible student who has also completed GFPT Flight Test

Dr Ganesh Kothapalli
School of Engineering

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Alan Keane



Institution of Engineers, Australia John Renner - Edith Cowan University Medal

awarded to the eligible graduate who has consistently demonstrated the highest level of leadership as evidenced by involvement with ECU's engineering student bodies throughout the course of their studies, as determined by the awarding committee

Mr Peter Mauger
Institution of Engineers Australia

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Paul Rainsford



Australian Federation of Air Pilots Award

awarded to the graduate who has consistently demonstrated the highest level of community engagement related to aviation (demonstrated through a submission) and academic performance throughout the course of their studies, as determined by the awarding committee

Mr Barry Hallett
Australian Federation of Air Pilots

presenting to Andy Shearman, accepting on behalf of prize winner for 2010

Kim Shearman



The Oceanica Consulting Prize for Excellence in Marine Science

awarded to the eligible student graduating within the given calendar year who has the highest Weighted Average Mark for their course of study in the: B.Sc. (Marine & Freshwater Biology) course G87

Dr Karen Hillman
Oceanica Consulting Pty Ltd

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Rylan Shearn



Engineers Australia ITEE College Medal

awarded to the eligible graduating student with the highest course weighted average mark (WAM) from any of the four year Bachelor of Engineering degrees or associated double degrees in the year of the award

Mr Peter Mauger
Engineers Australia WA Division

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Steven Silva



Australian Psychological Society Prize

awarded to the graduating student from an Honours in Psychology with the highest honours thesis mark

Ms Daphne Touchell
The Australian Psychological Society Ltd

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Nicolas Connault



The Delta Psychology Prize

awarded each year to the student in the 1st year of the Clinical Psychology courses (MPsych, MPsych/PhD) that exhibits the best practical clinical skills

Mr John Forbes
Delta Psychology

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Jennifer King



"Hypatia" Womens Studies Prize

awarded to the student who obtained the highest final mark in the unit CSV3207 Sex, Bodies, Narratives and Self

Rebecca Roberts



The Lynne and Richard Cohen Undergraduate Psychology Prize

awarded to the eligible graduating student with the highest weighted average mark in Psychology units within either Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), Bachelor of Science (Psychology) or Bachelor of Psychological Science

Dr Richard Cohen
School of Psychology and Social Science

presenting to prize winner for 2010

Aleeza Morris



Photographs of our prize winners are reproduced with permission from Rod McLeod at Lumiere Photographics.

Faculty of Computing, Health and Science

Dean's List 2010

Junsheng Low	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology)
Xueling Mak	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology)
Katherine Gallagher	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) Honours
Aleeza Morris	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology and Addiction Studies)
Michelle Spratling	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology, Criminology and Justice)
Meredith Bolland	Bachelor of Science (Psychology) Honours
Avril Fairclough	Bachelor of Science (Psychology) Honours
Yong Leong	Bachelor of Engineering (Electronic Systems)
Vanessa Stylianou	Bachelor of Environmental Science
Song Sia	Bachelor of Information Technology
Vivienne Conway	Bachelor of Information Technology Honours
Neil Osborne	Bachelor of Computer Science
Eugene Heng	Bachelor of Science (Exercise and Sports Science)
Hongda Siew	Bachelor of Science (Exercise and Sports Science)
Pui Choo	Bachelor of Science (Exercise and Sports Science)
Timothy Ball	Bachelor of Science (Human Biology)
Michael Barker	Bachelor of Science (Sports Science) Honours
Philip Gale	Bachelor of Science (Paramedical Science)
Kerry Hopkins	Bachelor of Science (Paramedical Science)
Esther Armstrong	Bachelor of Science (Paramedical Science)
Tania Holly	Bachelor of Science (Paramedical Science)



ECU students support the Children's Dietary Exposure to Metals study

Health Science students from ECU have the opportunity to further their studies through gaining practical workplace experience by participating in a health promotion practicum. Dr. Anna Callan and Associate Professor Andrea Hinwood from the School of Natural Sciences and Associate Professor Amanda Devine from the School of Exercise, Biomedical and Health Sciences have joined forces on the Children's Dietary Exposure to Metals study to collaborate their knowledge in their specialized field of study. Nutrition student, Liz Botha recently completed a practicum placement on the Children's Dietary Exposure to Metals Study.

This study aims to investigate human exposure to metals, in particular the levels of metals present in children's diets and the contribution that dietary exposure makes to a child's total exposure to metals. The relationship between these dietary metal concentrations and human exposure is of particular interest in children 5-6 years of age. Human exposure occurs through the presence of metals in drinking water, soils, dust and food. Certain environmental factors such as occupation, area of residence and cigarette smoking can increase exposure to metals.

Students can widen their knowledge and skills by learning basic principles of a research study. These include learning about the significance of ethics approval for all studies along with privacy and confidentiality matters of all participants and data obtained; recruitment of participants – which is often the hardest, most tedious process in a research study; sampling and data collection.

A total of 22 participants were recruited to take part in this study. Each participant received a sample pack consisting of a protocol sampling instruction sheet, consent form, invitation letter, Food Frequency Questionnaire, 24 Hour Diet Diary, environmental questionnaire, drink bottles, urine container, clear plastic food sample bags, electronic measuring scale and a food portion size booklet. Participants were asked to record and collect samples of all foods their child ate on a particular day. A sample of participant's drinking water was also collected as well as a urine sample. Data from the Food Frequency Questionnaires and 24 Hour Diet Diaries were analysed using FoodWorks, Access and SPSS, giving students the opportunity to become familiar with the use of these software packages.

Students undertaking a Health Promotion practicum have a great opportunity to gain experience in research and expand their skills and knowledge in their area of interest. For further information on the Health Promotion practicum program contact Jill Darby, Coordinator - Health Promotion Practicums in the School of Exercise, Biomedical and Health Sciences at j.darby@ecu.edu.au.

Photo: Courtesy of the Community Newspaper Group

ECU partners with the Australian Maritime College on a collaborative degree

ECU is pleased to announce a collaborative agreement with Australia's national centre for maritime training, education and research, the Australian Maritime College (AMC), aimed at meeting the specialist skills demands of the maritime engineering industry.

The partnership will see ECU students spend two years studying engineering at their home campus in Perth, Western Australia, before undertaking a further two years' study at AMC in Launceston, Tasmania, specialising in Ocean Engineering, Naval Architecture or Marine and Offshore Systems.

AMC's National Centre for Maritime Engineering and Hydrodynamics Director, Neil Bose, said the innovative "two plus two" degree would strengthen ties with key industry and education stakeholders.

"Perth is the centre of the oil and gas industry in Australia as well as being a major player in the shipbuilding sector. However, there are currently no WA universities that offer maritime engineering degrees," Professor Bose said.

"AMC and its world-class hydrodynamic facilities are well placed to provide the education and training that graduates need to meet industry demands. We believe this partnership

will be of great benefit to Edith Cowan University and AMC, as well as the companies that manage the vast offshore oil, gas and iron ore developments in Western Australia and further afield."

ECU's Head of the School of Engineering, Professor Daryoush Habibi, said there was a strong commitment to the successful delivery of these joint programs at both institutions.

"We continue to receive a lot of positive feedback and supportive remarks for this collaborative arrangement from many oil and gas industry stakeholders in WA," Professor Habibi said.

"The partnership between AMC and ECU will offer a unique pathway to those WA residents who have an interest in studying maritime engineering, as it will reduce the time that they need to spend away from home to complete a maritime engineering course."

The collaborative agreement was signed by both parties in December 2010 with the first intake of students expected to commence their studies at ECU in 2012, and arriving at AMC to undertake their third and fourth years in 2014.

Dr Prue Cormie receives government grant

Dr Prue Cormie, ECU Health and Wellness Institute has been awarded a \$10,000 NIRIS Award. The Department of Health recognised her contribution to research as an outstanding new investigator.

Prue is an exercise scientist whose research centres on the application of exercise as medicine for the management of chronic disease, in particular cancer. The aim of Prue's research is to expand knowledge, inform and perform best practice, translate to the community and to shape public policy for meaningful improvements in health through the use of exercise as medicine. Physical activity is a major determinant in maintaining health, to the extent that mortality risk is significantly reduced in people who exercise regularly. In fact, a number of prominent scientists have noted that if exercise could be encapsulated in a pill, it would be among the most powerful medications ever developed. Exercise is even more important for cancer patients who suffer serious, long-term health problems caused by the disease and its treatment. Exercise leads to improved disease, physical and psychosocial outcomes for cancer survivors. However, the type and dosage of exercise determines the nature and magnitude of the adaptations that will occur – so one size doesn't fit all when it comes to an effective exercise program. Therefore, the goal of Prue's research is to develop disease specific and stage of disease specific exercise prescriptions to optimally integrate with pharmaceutical treatments for best patient outcomes.





Health students rise to the challenge

Health students gathered at ECU's Interprofessional Ambulatory Care (IpAC) Unit in mid-April for the inaugural Health Simulation Challenge, which provided a unique insight into interprofessional care.

Hosted by the IpAC Unit, in collaboration with Joondalup Health Campus and using professional actors, the challenge saw more than 30 students participate in an interactive, simulated learning exercise. The simulation required participants to assess a mock health team's interaction and responses to a crisis, which was broadcast live from ECU's simulation suite, and then apply their learning to improve the patient's outcome.

Using the students' recommendations, the actors re-played the scenario, allowing students to see the visual impact of their analysis and input, resulting in improved teamwork, leadership and interprofessional collaboration.

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Health Advancement), Professor Cobie Rudd, said applying simulated learning as a teaching and learning tool to improve how health professionals can better work together is critical to delivering high-quality care.

"This event was a wonderful opportunity for students and it's exciting to see the application of simulated learning used to support and enhance health education," she said.

"Simulation is a powerful way to convey key messages and engage students and the positive feedback from students is great testimony to that."

Second year nursing student Leisl Hassell enjoyed the simulated learning experience.

"Watching the scenario play out was an ingenious learning experience," Leisl said.

"I believe this is a learning tool that all health students should experience to gain a better understanding of the clinical environments we are aiming to work within."

This is the first of four simulated learning challenges; with the next three scheduled for 10 June, 19 August and 21 October.

The IpAC initiative is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the Increased Clinical Training Capacity (ICTC) Program.

For more information and to register your interest email ipac@ecu.edu.au or phone 6304 3641.



Introducing Associate Professor Kate Andre

Kate commenced as Associate Professor of Nursing Education within the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Postgraduate Medicine in January of this year.

Kate has come to us from the University of South Australia and has had extensive experience in curricula development, online course design and course administration/coordination. Her research interests primarily lie in the area of clinical education and clinical performance assessment, as attested by her PhD in the assessment of clinical competence of undergraduate nurses. In addition to her more recent experience as a project leader for several curriculum design innovations and course coordination at the University of South Australia, Kate was also part of a consultancy team that evaluated nursing practice, education and regulation in the United Arab Emirate of Dubai in 2005.

Kate has a specific interest in the use of portfolios for professional education and regulation and assisted the Nurses and Midwives Board of South Australia in developing and implementing portfolio assessment as part

of Nurse Practitioner accreditation in South Australia. As a consequence of her work in this area, Kate was invited by Elsevier Churchill Livingstone to co-author the text 'Professional Portfolios – evidence of competency for nurses and midwives'. This highly successful text has been used extensively in undergraduate nursing and midwifery programs throughout Australia, with the second edition having been released in May 2011. Further to this, Kate has been a member of university committees and projects about the applied use of e-Portfolios, portfolio learning and portfolios for regulation.

A large aspect of Kate's role at ECU will be the redevelopment of nursing and midwifery curricula that meet the new national professional accreditation requirements. In addition to this Kate will be contributing to a range of Curriculum 2012 initiatives and is a representative on the e-Portfolio and Internationalising the Curriculum committees.



National Pilot Malting Facility Officially Opened

On Thursday May 12, the School of Natural Sciences' new national pilot malting plant was officially opened by Agriculture and Food Minister, Hon. Terry Redman. This facility – one of only five worldwide – will support industry and strengthen the competitiveness of Australian malting barleys in international markets.

The state-of-the-art operation, co-located at the School's Malting and Brewing Research Education Facility in Building 9, is the only one of its type in the southern hemisphere. The plant is designed to reproduce conditions in large commercial malting plants on batch sizes of between 25 and 100kg. This will provide researchers, barley breeders, and maltsters with the tools to do small scale trials rather than the 50 to 300 tonne batch size currently required for large commercial trials.

The project, valued at half a million dollars, is a joint initiative between the Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia and ECU, and will be managed within the School of Natural Sciences brewing science teaching programs.

"We see this as an extremely important piece of infrastructure that will not only support teaching and research activities but also provide us with the opportunity to engage directly with the Australian malting barley industry," said Brewing Lecturer from the School of Natural Sciences, Mr Hugh Dunn.

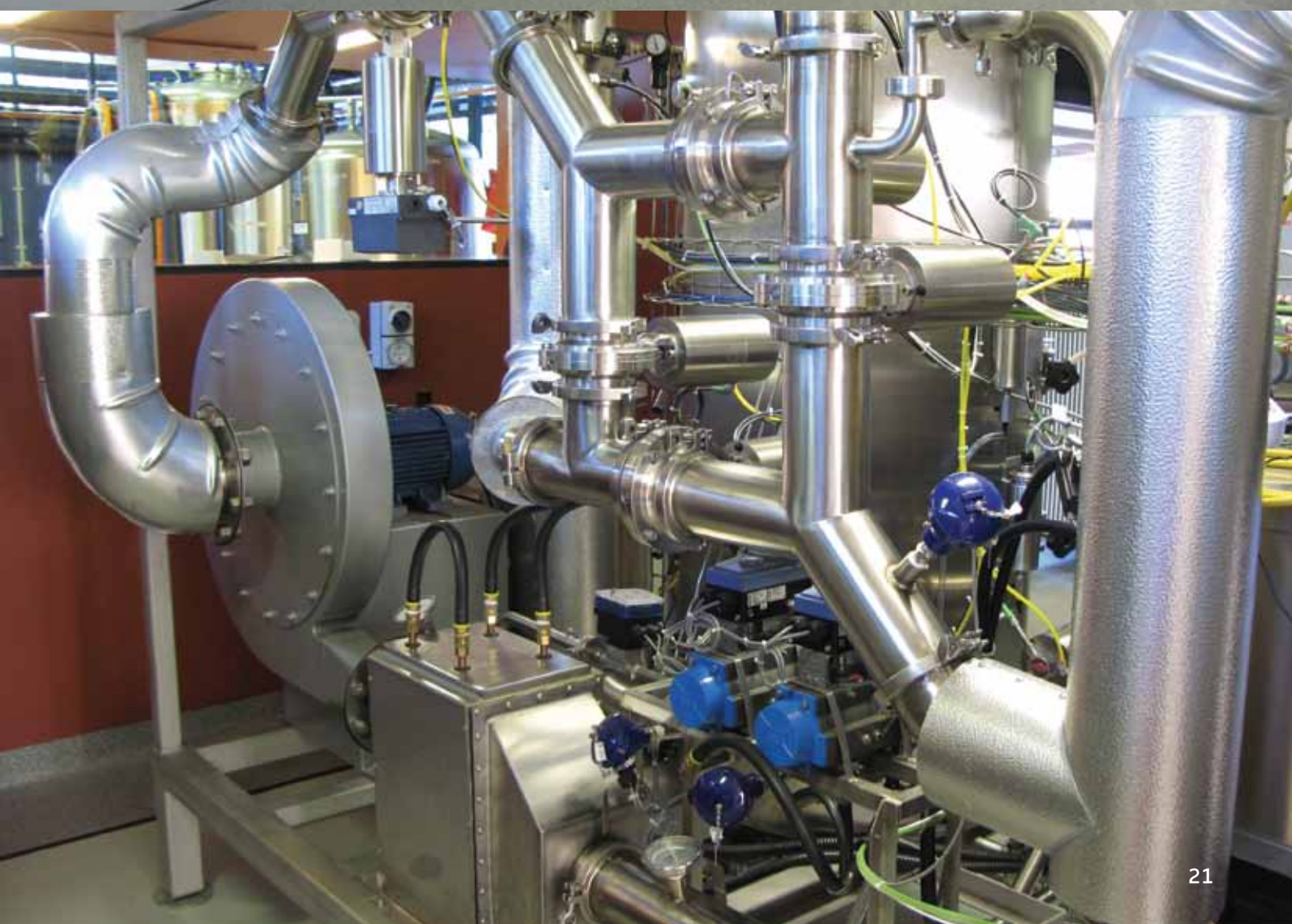
"This project represents a considerable investment in time and money by both Edith Cowan University and our project partners, the Department of Agriculture and Food WA so it is great to see it finally come to fruition with the official opening today."

ECU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Kerry Cox, believes the new facility puts ECU at the forefront of brewing research and education in Australia.

"The National Pilot Malting Facility is a wonderful educational and industry resource, which will not only provide students with state-of-the-art learning opportunities, but also will put Western Australia at the cutting edge of research and development, ensuring Australia remains internationally competitive with its malting barley."

"ECU is proud to join with our government partners as we strive to lead the way in this international industry," said Professor Cox.

The opening was attended by representatives of Australia's barley producers, breeders, maltsters and brewers, who enthusiastically inspected the new equipment while sampling some of the excellent beers brewed onsite.





ECU launches new collaboration with Rio Tinto Dampier Salt

ECU launched a new research collaboration agreement with Dampier Salt Ltd (DSL), part of the Rio Tinto group today, which will pave the way for a unique series of research opportunities in Australia's north west.

Initial projects administered under this research collaboration agreement will see ECU receive nearly \$900,000 in funding over four and a half years to better understand the ecology and biodiversity of salt lakes and migratory bird habitats near DSL's operations in north west Western Australia.

It is expected two new PhD, two Masters by Research and two Honours students will be funded by these research programs, with two major research projects already commenced as part of the collaboration agreement.

The first research project entitled, The Biodiversity of Lake MacLeod will span the next three and a half years and will see researchers and postgraduate students from ECU's School of Natural Sciences examining the biological differences that occur across gradients of salinity and depth in salt lakes and how these differences change according to periodic flood events.

The second research project entitled, "The feeding ecology and habitat use of migratory and other shorebirds" will focus on habitat selection, feeding behaviour and foraging resources present at salt sites and how these are influenced by, or related to Dampier Salt operations.

"We are absolutely thrilled to be part of this agreement, which provides ECU researchers with the opportunity to be involved in a unique series of research opportunities across Australia's north west," said Associate Professor from the Faculty of Computing, Health and Science, Pierre Horwitz.

The collaboration agreement will also ensure students have access to DSL's accommodation and laboratory facilities in the north west, research and sampling equipment, funds for analysis of samples, student bursaries and scholarship top-ups for research postgraduate students, and salaries for technical staff.

Managing Director of Dampier Salt, Mrs Denise Goldsworthy is excited about the future collaboration.

"Respect for the environment is central to Rio Tinto's approach to sustainable development and at Dampier Salt, we understand that we operate a unique business in a unique environment and it's up to us to understand our environment," said Ms Goldsworthy.

"Dampier Salt is very proud to be in partnership with ECU for these two projects and we look forward to working together as we develop mutually beneficial research."

ECU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Kerry Cox agrees.

"This agreement is a wonderful opportunity for ECU to embark on influential research projects and we look forward to working with Rio Tinto as we further develop and expand on this research in the coming years."

The collaboration was officially launched by WA Chief Scientist, Professor Lyn Beazley, and was hosted by ECU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Kerry Cox. Attendees from Rio Tinto included Managing Director of Dampier Salt and recipient of the 2010 Telstra Business Women of the year award, Denise Goldsworthy.



Honorary Doctorate for Emeritus Professor John Renner

Emeritus Professor John Renner was advised in late 2010 that he would be awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the Bansomdejchaopraya Rajabhat University (BSRU), an institution with whom he has had a longstanding relationship. Below John recounts his graduation day experiences, and the relationship that he has helped to foster between BSRU and ECU. Emeritus Professor Renner recounts the event:

Graduation Day was 12 May. Two days earlier we had rehearsals, photographs, receptions and speeches. I was informed that there would be about 5,000 graduands from undergrad to PhD. Timing and protocol were practised to ensure that the awards could be presented in the available time, meaning that about 30 conferrals would take place every minute. Fortunately, I was the first to present to the Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn so there were few time constraints.

On the day, the graduands began to assemble at around 7am in a very large graduation hall. By 10am when I arrived, more rehearsals were under way controlled now by a professional group of six who apparently took responsibility for all Rajabhat graduations. Their standards of organisation and timing were impressively high and I gathered that any serious flaw during the ceremony proper would reflect on them. A long red carpet was in place covered by a sheet of clear plastic. Once uncovered, it could only be touched by the royal party. The stage had been attractively prepared with floral tributes.

At 11.30am the royal guard in dress uniform took their positions. I rehearsed my routines three times (in front of an audience of thousands): when to pause, when to bow and how to step back from the Prince.

Pleasantly surprised, I was called away to a VIP room for lunch with the BSRU Council.

Back in the hall with the graduands, we received our final timing and protocol instructions and awaited the arrival of the official party. The clear plastic had been removed from the red carpet, there had been a change of the royal guard and five monks arrived to be seated on stage. At 1.30pm we all stood and the Prince walked on the red carpet from the back of the hall and onto the stage. Seated next to me, Ajarn Sutipporn was ever-helpful. Only she understood the complexities of the Thai language; only she knew when and how I should respond.

Dr Pornchai, Chair of the BSRU Council gave a short introductory address and asked me in Thai to stand. As he introduced me and summarised my award I walked to three points marked on stage and finally stepped forward to receive the Honorary Doctorate from the Crown Prince, who smiled in recognition.

So in brief, it was a memorable day for me personally and for ECU, for it recognised the considerable work over the past 15 years by ECU staff. It also recognised the achievements of BSRU and ECU particularly in staff training and research. A highlight for me during and after the ceremony was the opportunity I had to meet many of the BSRU staff who had gained a doctorate from ECU or more recently from BSRU with strong support from ECU staff. During the ceremony and beyond, I was reminded just how substantial ECU's role had been; how much we had learnt from each other.



ECU joins forces to launch new child protection website

ECU's School of Psychology and Social Science joined the Western Australian Police and the Department of Child Protection to launch the new website, Children WA, in the lead up to the inaugural conference, Children; A Resource Most Precious, to be held at ECU at the end of this year.

This innovative new website is a first for Western Australia, and will act as an online forum to promote child protection and minimise harm to children across the WA community.

The website not only provides information about the conference, but will continue past the conference as an ongoing support tool for people across all jurisdictions who are working towards minimising harm to children within their communities.

"According to the National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, child abuse and neglect is Australia's most significant social problem, with more than 30,000 people in 2009 proven to have been abused and neglected," said Senior Lecturer from the School of Psychology and Social Science, Dr Vicki Banham.

"This website a great tool in promoting this local conference, which will actively and openly discuss child abuse and neglect, and develop strategies to address these issues within a Western Australian context."

"We look forward to working with the WA Police and Department of Child Protection in the coming months to highlight this important social issue and work across all jurisdictions, as we lead up to the Conference and beyond," said Dr Banham.

The website was launched by the Commissioner of the Western Australian Police, Dr Karl O'Callaghan; with Director General of the Department of Child Protection, Mr Terry Murphy; ECU Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Advancement), Professor John Findlay-Jones; Head of the School of Psychology and Social Science, Professor Craig Spielman and representatives from a range of government and non government services in attendance.

For more information on the conference and to view the website, visit www.childrenwa.org.au.



ECU's Human Performance Centre tests the State's top young AFL footballers

ECU's Human Performance Centre, in conjunction with the Western Australian Football Commission's State Academy, kicked off 2011 quite literally by putting almost 400 WAFL Colts players, selected from all nine WA clubs, through a series of physiological tests.

Through our sports science students and academic staff, the Centre organised and ran a variety of tests to assess muscular power, speed, agility and aerobic capacity.

This variety of tests included:

- Standing vertical jump
- Running vertical jump off both left and right foot
- 5, 10 and 20 metre sprints
- AFL specific agility test
- 20 metre shuttle run ('beep' test).

Each test was set up and run strictly to the 2010 AFL National Draft Combine protocols. Unique additions to two of these tests were trialled, with a football carry and bounce being introduced to the 20 metre sprint test, and a football carry to the agility test. Interestingly, approximately one third of the players recorded faster times in the agility test whilst carrying the football than when running without it.

The testing was conducted over a scorching Perth weekend at our ECU Mount Lawley Campus Sports Centre. It enabled sports science students from second year through to postgraduate studies to gain valuable, hands on experience, putting theory into practice as they worked with young, elite athletes and large groups, to collect rigorous and reliable results.

Standout performances saw a state record broken in the running vertical jump off the right foot with a leap of 106 centimetres. Another state record was equalled with a score of level 15-7 in the 20 metre shuttle run.

Thanks must go to all coaches from each of the WAFL clubs; Craig Starcevich and Sam Robertson from the WA Football Commission and all of the staff and volunteers from Edith Cowan University's Human Performance Centre who collectively made these tests such a success. And, of course, congratulations go to all the players who worked so hard over that very hot and humid weekend.

ECU collaboration provides unique insight into ANZAC day

The School of Computer and Security Science has released a 3D computer game and website, which aims to provide young Australians with a unique insight into the ANZAC Day mission of Australian submarine AE2.

The game puts the player in the role of commanding the AE2, which became the first Allied submarine to successfully penetrate Turkish defences in 'The Narrows' – the narrowest part of the Dardanelles Strait that separates the Gallipoli Peninsula from mainland Turkey. The mission is the same as that undertaken by Lieutenant Commander Stoker and the crew of the AE2 almost 100 years ago.

"Players must use all of their skills and take into account a number of different factors, including the location of Turkish fortifications, mines and currents, the speed and endurance of the submarine and the terrain of the Straits," said Senior Lecturer from ECU's School of Computer and Security Science, Dr Martin Masek.

The program was developed as an educational tool, and is particularly aimed at Generations X and Y who have grown up with computer games.

"The culture of internet use of Generations X and Y is heavily influenced by mobile phones and computer games," said fellow researcher from the School of Computer and Security Science, Dr Mark Brogan.

"Serious games such as AE2 Commander are a way of connecting younger Australians with important national collections at the National Archives and Australian War Memorial that define us as a nation."



The technology uses data gathered from the US Geological Survey to create a realistic and detailed reconstruction of the Dardanelles and surrounding areas, giving participants the chance to relive the mission as the sailors did in 1915.

The game and website were realised with funding from the Ian Maclean Award granted by the National Archives of Australia.

Acting Director-General, National Archives of Australia, Dr Stephen Ellis, said the Archives' grant program aims to promote archival research in Australia and encourage scholarly use of the Archives' collection.

"It is most pleasing to see records held by the National Archives of Australia used in such an innovative way. I congratulate Dr Masek and his team for developing this game which will educate and connect young people to our past through the technology of today," said Dr Ellis.

The AE2 game and website are hosted by Western Australia's scientific supercomputing centre, iVec.

For more information, and to view the website, visit ae2.ivec.org.

International Women's Day Hall of Fame

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, on Tuesday the 8th March the West Australian newspaper published the inaugural list of 100 women inducted in the WA Women's Hall of Fame. Several staff from the Faculty of Computing, Health and Science were amongst those inducted, including:

- Dr Lekkie Hopkins – co-ordinator of the women's studies program in the School of Psychology and Social Science since 1990. Lekke has a long-term interest in the history of social protest and, with Lynne Roarty, wrote *Among the Chosen*, the biography of former senator Pat Giles. She has collaborated on research projects investigating services to people who experience interpersonal violence in WA, and workplace responses to domestic and family violence;

- Dr Anne Aly – former Senior Lecturer with the School of Computer and Security Science, Anne is a leader in the field of counter-terrorism and international security; and
- Dr Abigail Bray – research fellow from the School of Psychology and Social Science, Abigail was recognised for her work in the field of child sexual abuse.

In addition to staff within the faculty who were recognised, the university's namesake, the late Edith Cowan, was also inducted into the WA Women's Hall of Fame in recognition of her own achievements as the first woman elected to an Australian Parliament, and being instrumental in passing the Women's Legal Status Bill that opened legal and other professions to women in Western Australia. Also inducted was former ECU staff member and Olympic athlete Shirley Strickland de la Hunty.



Suena Timewell celebrates 30 years at ECU

Suena Timewell recently celebrated 30 years continuous service with Edith Cowan University and its predecessor institutions. Sue (in white pants) attended a celebratory lunch to mark the event with colleagues from the School of Psychology and Social Science. Sue was first employed by the Claremont Teachers College in 1981, remaining on the Claremont Campus when WACAE was created in 1982.

Then in 1991 Sue moved to the Joondalup campus, working in the Faculty of Health and Human Services, and was part of the Psychology department when the School of Psychology was formed in 1997. Any question about the history of the school and university can usually be answered by Sue as she has seen it all. Congratulations Sue – we look forward to the next 30 years.

Counselling and Psychotherapy One of the best in Australia

ECU's Masters of Social Science (Counselling and Psychotherapy) recently applied for accreditation with the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA). Not only was our course accredited, but the panel commented that it was "one of the best courses in Australia". The Masters of Counselling and Psychotherapy has a long history of excellence. Now in its 23rd intake, this course was the first counselling and psychotherapy postgraduate course in the state of Western Australia. Over many years this course was also conducted in Singapore, accredited by the Singapore Association of Counsellors (SAC) where it was also deemed to be of the premier local options available to students.

ECU's Masters of Social Science (Counselling and Psychotherapy) is designed to equip students to function as professional counsellors and psychotherapists in the field. This is a three year part-time, clinically oriented degree. In the third year students do a field placement consisting of one day a week as an intern in a placement agency. By the end of the training students emerge with a high level of competency in individual, couple and family and to a lesser extent group psychotherapy. Our course is psychodynamic in its orientation – giving emphasis to psychoanalytic and systems approaches of practice. Academic staff occupy



in leadership positions in State and National professional associations in counselling and psychotherapy - organisations like the Psychotherapy and Counselling Association of Western Australia (PACAWA), the Australian Association of Infant Mental Health (AAIMH) and the Association for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists in Western Australia (APPWA). Extending our outreach, we are pleased to be offering partnership with the Australian Psychoanalytical Association (APAS) a Psychoanalytic Symposium Series. Where these are aimed for mental health professionals (counsellors, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers), university staff, students and the wider community are welcome to attend.



International Student Informing ECU Curriculum 2012

International students contribute more than \$15 billion per annum to the Australian economy. Alongside this economic discourse, many have argued that international students bring cultural mixture and diversity in universities, can act as cultural carriers, resources and links between cultures, and are a key part of the CHS Faculty's teaching and learning framework.

Sophia Harryba is one of ECU's successful international students. Sophia's work has championed the need to align services with the needs of international students and the applications of her work, how universities can support their international students as well as the staff members who work with these students and their domestic counterparts as well.

Sophia commenced her studies at ECU in 2005. In 2008 Sophia completed her Honours project extending the work of supervisor Dr Andrew Guilfoyle, in the School of Psychology and Social Science who was funded by PIBT to identify key dimensions for the transition of international students into University under categories of intra- personal, inter person, intergroup and societal affect. Sophia applied this work to themes affecting the transition of a particular cohort - her own - Seychelles students.

Her published data showed that Seychellois students experienced:

- extreme loneliness;
- isolation;
- a sense of belonging to the university;
- few Australian friends;
- a lack of confidence in interacting with domestic student; and
- a lack of confidence extended to accessing services provided by university.

As international education is an area that Sophia is passionate about, she decided to extend her Honours research into a PhD study, supervised by both Dr. Andrew Guilfoyle and

Dr. Shirlee-Ann Knight for which she won a full international student scholarship. What puzzled her was that although international students experienced a number of difficulties when transitioning to university, many did not use services offered by universities which could help them. Her PhD therefore focused on the gap between service provision and utilization. Sophia decided that all parties must be included in this research and so has interviewed staff members and domestic students to understand the challenges they face when working with and alongside international students. Her research also included international students themselves to understand the challenges these students face when accessing services.

Her data has identified themes around Integration such as:

- Loneliness;
- Intercultural interaction;
- Sense of belonging;
- Discrimination; and
- Perceived language and cultural barriers.

A recent paper at the Teaching and Learning conference, titled : "Staff perspectives on the role of English proficiency in providing support services" was extremely well received by an audience of teaching and learning representations from across Western Australian Universities. Her research design has now been applied by the ECU Curriculum 2012 framework group and they are following in her footsteps by surveying staff and international and domestic students to understand how to better equip staff members who work with international students.

Sophia was employed as a Research Assistant and drawing from her PhD work has developed an extensive literature review/database and conceptual framework which will now inform the new 2012 framework for teaching and learning within the university.