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June 2016

> from the University of South Australia



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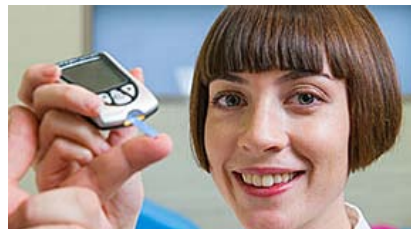
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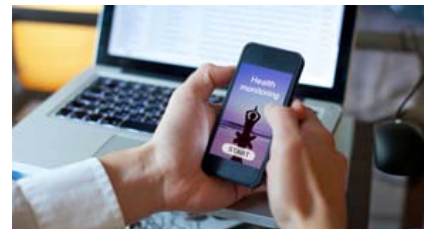
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A spotlight on volunteering in the *unijam* wrap up

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by Mary-Jane McArdle



INSIDE UNISA

It kicked off with more than 4,600 registrations and then 30 hours later, *unijam2016* had generated 18,217 visits from 55 countries and a total of 314,073 page views.

There were almost 12,000 comments and UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says this sequel to the inaugural 2013 *unijam* met and exceeded all expectations, not only for participation and the great breadth of ideas, but also for the goodwill and sincerity of everyone's contributions.

Popular topics included regional hubs, an innovation degree, student entrepreneurship and the campus connector bus service.

Prof Lloyd says one thing he has taken from his review of *unijam2016* content is that there are a lot of things the University is already doing that 'we don't seem to know we are doing, or that we have a low appreciation of'.

One example is volunteering, which came up in the first *unijam* and again fuelled discussions this time around, indicating there is room to improve awareness around the activities already on offer for both students and staff across the University, plus the potential to pursue new initiatives.



Pro Vice Chancellor: Student Engagement & Equity, Dr Laura-Anne Bull says it is clear there is a great deal of interest in opportunities to volunteer, that people are really seeing the value these activities provide and there is a real appetite for more.

“One of the things that *unijam2016* highlighted was that while some people are aware of the current opportunities, many are not, so we are certainly looking at ways we can better promote volunteering across the board,” Dr Bull says.

“Feedback indicates there is no one reason why students volunteer. There seems to be both a desire to give back to the community and also an aim to enhance their own personal skills and boost their employment opportunities.”

Dr Bull says one of the hot topics discussed included the way students who engage in volunteering are recognised.

“This is what employers are asking for and it is important for us as a university to consider how the co-curricular activities that enable graduates to stand out from the crowd are communicated,” she says.

“This discussion was quite timely given the launch of the [UniSA Plus pilot program](#) this year.

“UniSA Plus has been designed to recognise activities that students complete throughout their undergraduate program, with three strands – leadership and enterprise, social and global engagement, and self-development.

“We brought this on board because student and industry feedback showed there was a desire to acknowledge those students who have gone above and beyond during their studies.”



UniSA Plus has certain requirements including at least 120 hours of verified volunteering across a minimum of two categories and in turn provides students with a full record, allowing them to demonstrate these extra-curricular activities to potential employers.”

Dr Bull says that through its Student Engagement Unit, the University has more than 100 organisations where students can volunteer.

Also, as part of its 25th anniversary, UniSA recently launched a new project partnering with 25 community organisations and NGOs to offer student volunteering opportunities.

This [project](#) involves linking students with organisations that meet their interests, passions, needs, skill-sets, and/or experience in order to help students achieve their personal goals, whether that is employability, wellbeing or a desire to give back to community.

During the discussions around volunteering and community collaboration, Dr Bull was surprised to hear from one staff member who is independently engaging with not-for-profit organisations to organise volunteering for her team.

“I think there is certainly scope to find out more about this and any other similar initiatives,” Dr Bull says.

“I’m assuming these staff see this as a way of building their team culture and that is further evidence there is room to improve the way we communicate in this space.”

Early on in *unijam* the ‘most liked’ posts focused on a staff lounge for improved staff connection to extending

professional development opportunities to all women at UniSA, while ideas around infrastructure and community engagement included running Mawson Lakes campus on solar power, napping pods for staff, comedy shows by students for students, and food vans on campus.

Prof Lloyd says *unijam* has been a great platform to reflect on the progress the University has made at the halfway point in its *Crossing the Horizon* Strategic Action Plan.

"It's also a time to acknowledge that UniSA has the potential to keep innovating through the wealth of our shared knowledge and ideas to cross the horizon," Prof Lloyd says.

You may be wondering what next for the rest of the jam ideas?

"We are working, with IBM's support, to mine the 30-hour jam and extract key insights and common threads, which will of course take some time" Prof Lloyd says.

"These insights will inform our next steps and priorities as we work toward the full implementation of our action plan, *Crossing the Horizon* over the next two years.

"As we learned from the original unijam, our discussions now are important for building a shared understanding of our aspirations and how we will collectively achieve them."

Prof Lloyd says *unijam* proves that a good sequel can not only replicate the first jam experience, but also stimulates new discussions, as well as reflection, thought, questioning, collaboration and connection.

International alumni, local students and staff from across the University joined special guests and partners to share their thoughts.

VIPs included SA Premier Jay Weatherill; SA Opposition Leader Steven Marshall; Federal Minister for Education and Training, Senator Simon Birmingham; Federal Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Christopher Pyne; State Minister for Higher Education, Susan Close; Leader of Government Business in the Legislative Council, Kym Maher MLC; Minister for Investment and Trade and Minister for Defence Industries, Martin Hamilton-Smith and Chief Executive of Zoos SA, Elaine Bensted. Former VCs Peter Høj and Professor Denise Bradley were also welcomed back to the table.

Dr Kristin Alford, who's been appointed to lead UniSA's new Science, Creativity and Education Studio (SciCEd) stimulated discussions around STEM subject choices at schools along with John Hill, former SA Minister for Health and Ageing and Chair of SciCEd Program Steering Committee.

Key *unijam* stats

- 18,217 visits from 55 countries
- 314,073 page views
- More than 3,654 unique logins
- 11,832 comments

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UniSA business and student initiatives a highlight of Reconciliation Week

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by Katrina McLachlan & Michèle Nardelli



COMMUNITY

An expanded Indigenous student service, scholarships for CEOs and managing directors of Aboriginal businesses to attend UniSA's Centre for Business Growth and a new MBA scholarship for Aboriginal leaders are key initiatives announced during Reconciliation Week, reaffirming UniSA's aspiration to be the University of Choice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

UniSA's Indigenous Student Services team is now proudly known as Wurringka Student Services and a broader range of services and connections are being offered to promote a culture of leadership and community responsibility.

Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says reconciliation is at the heart of Australia's future and Wurringka is a perfect Kurna name for the team and the services they provide because it means 'together and in common with'.

"Our Indigenous Student Services Manager, Eugene Warrior, undertook a consultation process across the University and sought approval to use this Kurna name through the Kurna Warra Pintyanthi and its sister organisation Kurna Warra Karrpanthi," Prof Lloyd says.

"This name change is a mark of respect which honours the rich cultural history and traditions of the Kurna people, as well as an acknowledgment that four of UniSA's six campuses are on Kurna land.

"It also signifies a strong new direction for Indigenous Student Services within the supportive environment of UniSA's Student Engagement Unit.

"We now have a full complement of team members, including a number of new Aboriginal Student Engagement and Community Engagement staff who are all working hard to provide opportunities for staff, students and

members of the community to come together and achieve exceptional outcomes that will benefit all Australians.”

Wurringka Student Services Manager, Eugene Warrior, says the name change is just one of a number of initiatives to further support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at UniSA and provide them with a sense of belonging.

“Our team became part of the Student Engagement Unit late last year and since then we have been working hard: recruiting new staff members, familiarising new students into the University environment and providing supportive arrangements through our Study Centres and the Aboriginal Tutorial Program,” Warrior says.

“The University of South Australia has long been engaged in the education and employment of Indigenous Australians and this commitment is enshrined in the University’s Act of Establishment and is symbolised by the Statement of Reconciliation and by the Reconciliation Stones located on each campus.

“To create positive change we need more people talking about Indigenous issues and coming up with innovative ideas and actions that can make a difference. Wurringka Student Services will provide the perfect environment for this to flourish.”

Scholarships for Aboriginal business leaders

UniSA business development and personal MBA scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders announced during Reconciliation Week are both Australian firsts.

A scholarship scheme offered through UniSA’s Centre for Business Growth (CBG) aims to put up to 10 South Australian Aboriginal businesses on the path to growth and success while an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander MBA Scholarship being offered in partnership with UniSA’s Business School and industry will provide life-changing opportunities for individuals.

Prof Lloyd says the CBG scholarships will allow CEOs and managing directors of Aboriginal businesses to attend the unique Growth Assessment Clinic led by renowned executive education leader, Professor Jana Matthews.

“Our Business Growth Assessment Clinics are already proving highly effective in helping business leaders understand the critical factors that can take a business to the next level of growth,” Prof Lloyd says.

“We’ve proven that CEOs can learn to grow their companies and with our aspiration to become the University of Choice for Aboriginal people, this is the kind of scholarship support we need to offer.

“In addition, the UniSA Business School MBA initiative presents exceptional opportunities for individual Aboriginal Australians to develop careers as leaders and senior managers in business, government and industry.

“This scholarship opportunity has been designed in close collaboration with industry to cover all tuition fees but also, to ensure employers commit to providing flexibility in working arrangements to support a study commitment and to include a career mentor and supportive career pathway options for the successful scholarship recipients.

“This gives Aboriginal people who have already shown potential, the opportunity and support to gain the skills to lead in business and also to bring some of their best ideas and plans to the table.”

Pro Vice Chancellor UniSA Business School, Professor Marie Wilson, says the new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander MBA Scholarship is an active move to address leadership inequality and to strengthen UniSA’s role as Australia’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander University of Choice.

“As one of Australia’s leading Business Schools this innovative offering is part of our ongoing commitment to fostering excellence, diversity and equity,” Prof Wilson says.

“It follows the launch of our Women in MBA scholarships program in 2015 and will continue to advance leadership diversity in business and industry in SA and beyond.

“If we are to deliver better opportunities and outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their communities, we need to nurture their leaders.

“The scholarship will also ensure that we benefit from the skills and knowledge that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can bring to management and business.

“The strongest cultures are those that embrace diversity and we believe more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices in the management sector will be of benefit, not only to Indigenous communities, but also to the wider community.”

More information about the scholarship is available [online](#).

UniSA held a number of events across campuses during National Reconciliation Week from May 27 to June 3. See pictures [here](#).

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University of
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New weight-loss hope

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by Katrina McLachlan



HEALTH

Ground-breaking UniSA research into an alternative weight loss method for people who find daily dieting difficult to maintain is offering new hope as a treatment option for sufferers of type 2 diabetes.

Fasting diets, including the 5:2 diet, have had a great deal of media attention but there is very little scientific research to support such approaches.

World-first research at UniSA into intermittent fasting is showing positive signs of providing the evidence that medical specialists and dietitians need to really help people with diabetes lose weight and reduce their blood glucose levels.

UniSA Associate Professor Jennifer Keogh, Professor Peter Clifton and PhD candidate Sharayah Carter (pictured right) are conducting this research in conjunction with the Sansom Institute for Health Research.



PhD candidate Sharayah Carter.

Sharayah, who is a practicing dietitian, says she constantly sees people who are looking for an alternative weight loss strategy because sticking with a regimented daily diet is hard and often not practical, and therefore not achievable.

“Daily dieting is difficult to maintain but it is often the standard advice provided to people wanting to reduce their weight and the other negative health outcomes that come with poorly controlled type 2 diabetes,” Sharayah says.

Diabetes is an epidemic of the 21st century and the biggest challenge confronting Australia’s health system with around 1.7 million Australians currently living with the disease.

All types of diabetes are increasing in prevalence but type 2 diabetes (T2DM), which accounts for 85 per cent of all cases, is increasing at the fastest rate and there are large numbers of people with silent, undiagnosed T2DM which may be damaging their bodies.

Weight loss is a common recommendation for treatment of T2DM and pre-diabetes but anyone who has ever tried knows how challenging sticking to a daily restricted calorie diet can be.

The UniSA trial is the first of its kind and is testing the effects of a two-day intermittent energy restriction (IER) diet with five days of habitual eating compared to a daily restricted diet on blood glucose control and weight loss in people with T2DM.

“I approached Prof Clifton and Assoc Prof Keogh at UniSA about a pilot trial because I knew they were doing work on intermittent fasting but that they hadn’t yet done any research with people who have T2DM,” Sharayah says.

“IER is an alternative weight loss method we hope will prove very useful for people who find daily dieting difficult to maintain, but until now there hasn’t been any science to guide dietitians or medical specialists in using it as a treatment option for people with diabetes.

“IER uses short periods of severe energy restriction – 500 calories for women and 600 calories for men – followed by periods of habitual eating to achieve similar health improvements as daily dieting, but unlike some IER diets, does not require non-fasting days to involve restricted dieting.

“The results of our pilot trial demonstrated that two-day IER offers significant and comparable improvements in blood glucose control and weight reduction when compared to daily dieting and that IER therefore provides a suitable alternative treatment strategy for people who just can’t follow a daily diet.

“In simple terms, what we have shown is that for people with diabetes the same results can be achieved by fasting for two days and eating sensibly for five days, as can be achieved by sticking to a diet every single day.”

Results from the three-month pilot trial completed by 35 people with T2DM have shown both IER and a daily restriction diet achieved an average 0.6 per cent drop in haemoglobin A1C (HbA1c) and a 6.5 per cent, or six to seven kilogram, drop in body weight.

Some trial participants undertook IER and some a standard calorie restriction diet of 1200 calories a day for women and 1,500 calories for men and all participants were asked to moderately increase their level of exercise by taking an extra 2,000 steps per day.

“We will be publishing our results soon but because of the success we have had, we extended the trial and have nearly gathered 12 months of data but would like to hear from people with T2DM who are interested in learning more about this trail as we extend it further,” Sharayah says.

“The 0.6 per cent drop in HbA1c in both groups was a significant drop in this timeframe and all participants who were on medication reduced their dosages, which is important for both the individual and the health budget.

“All 35 of our participants are continuing the trial and we have another 18 enrolled but I am hoping to recruit more so our final number will be around 100 participants.

“If our approach establishes an alternative that allows people to strictly control their intake for two days a week and then do what they like, within reason, on the other five days and achieve exactly the same result as someone who follows a daily diet, dietitians and GPs will have a new treatment option.”

The two-day IER trial is continuing over the next 12 months and Sharayah is currently looking for adult participants with T2DM who would like to lose weight and improve their blood glucose levels.

Please contact her at sharayah.carter@mymail.unisa.edu.au or at the Sansom Institute for Health Research on 08 8302 1365 or sansom.researchvolunteers@unisa.edu.au for further information.

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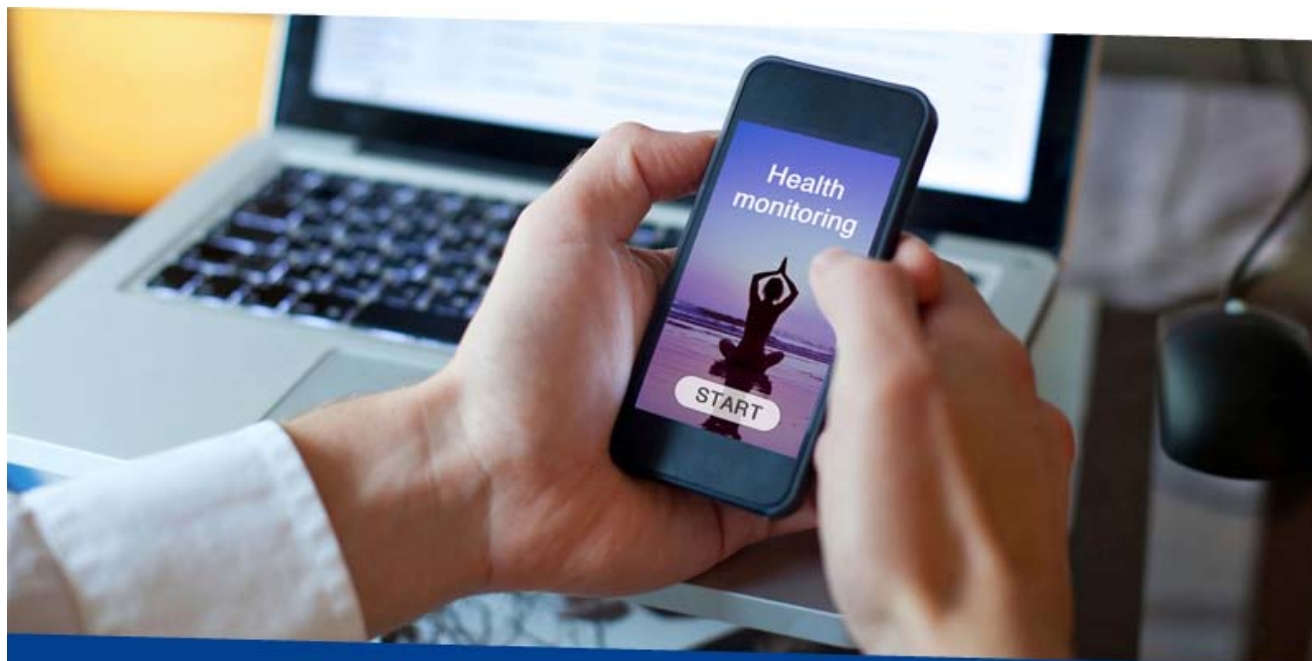


University of
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How to pick the good from the bad health apps

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by Carol Maher, Senior Research Fellow in Physical Activity, Sedentary Behaviour and Sleep, UniSA



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

With an estimated 100,000 health and fitness apps available on the two leading smartphone platforms, iOS and Android, it seems there is an app for everything – from tracking your bowel movements, to practising your pimple-popping technique.

However, a number of apps are starting to raise the ire of government regulators. Brain-training juggernaut Lumosity was recently fined US\$2 million (A\$2.7 million) for making unfounded claims that its app could improve work performance and delay the onset of Alzheimer's.

"Ultimeyes", a vision-training app touted to "turn back the clock on your vision" and reduce the need for glasses and contact lenses, was fined US\$150,000 for misrepresenting scientific research and ordered to stop making deceptive marketing claims.

"MelApp" claimed to be able to assess melanoma on the basis of a photograph of the mole and some other inputted information, analysed using "patent protected, highly sophisticated mathematical algorithms and image pattern recognition technology". The US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) found its claims lacked scientific evidence, leading to a hefty fine and strict instructions regarding future marketing.

To date, authorities have primarily pursued rogue health apps from a consumer rights perspective, on the basis of misleading advertising – that is, the apps claiming to do something when, in fact, they may be ineffective – rather than from a medical-safety perspective.

In the US, the Food and Drug Authority (FDA) is traditionally responsible for approving medical devices. However, apps that essentially allow a smartphone to become a medical device present a grey area.

The FDA has issued guidelines, but compliance is primarily voluntary. Only a minuscule percentage of apps available in the Apple and Google Play stores have FDA approval.

Most apps that present themselves as substitute medical devices offer fine-print disclaimers, such as “not FDA cleared” and “for entertainment purposes”. This information is buried in the expandable description of the app on the app store, which most users will never read.

An interesting case in point is the hugely popular “*Instant Blood Pressure*” app, which has sold an estimated 148,000 copies. This app and others like it claim to read blood pressure – “no cuff required” (instead, the app supposedly uses the phone’s microphone pressed against the chest and a finger over the camera).

Independent testing published in March’s *JAMA Internal Medicine* found the app failed to identify high blood pressure in around 80 per cent of true cases. The following questions and answers may be useful.

This is disturbing, considering such apps are likely to appeal to people with high blood pressure. It is conceivable that users could delay seeking medical attention on the basis of false normal-range readings, with potentially dire consequences.

So in this ever-expanding and largely unregulated app landscape, how can you go about distinguishing the good health apps from the bad?

1. Does the app use the phone’s built-in hardware to perform medical diagnoses?

Medical diagnostic equipment is highly specialised and specific, stringently tested and usually interpreted by skilled professionals. It’s therefore highly dubious that a smartphone app can match these diagnostic capabilities, based on the in-built microphone and camera, and interpretation by a commercial algorithm (which is typically unpublished and unproven).

2. Does the app use the phone’s in-built hardware to treat a medical condition?

While apps exist that claim to treat conditions such as pain, acne and seasonal affective disorder using smartphones’ vibrations and/or screen light (yes, really, and they’ve had thousands of paying downloads), such outputs lack scientific evidence and are extremely unlikely to be of therapeutic quality or intensity.

3. Is the app from a reputable source?

Affiliation with a reputable peak body, university or government department suggests the app is likely to be trustworthy. Beware, though, sneaky developers have been caught out inaccurately associating their app with leading universities (when, in fact, they simply studied there years earlier). Also, endorsement from obscure bodies shouldn’t convey confidence.

4. Does the app use self-help methods?

Self-monitoring, goal-setting and feedback are well-established techniques for boosting motivation and facilitating behaviour change. Such techniques are commonly offered in health apps and are likely to be useful for both people working on health goals that they wouldn’t normally see a doctor for (such as increasing fitness) and people self-managing a health condition in consultation with their doctor.

5. Does the app have bad reviews?

If reviews are bad, the app probably doesn’t work well, so give it a miss. However, good reviews aren’t necessarily a sign that an app is fundamentally trustworthy.

6. Might you put off seeing a doctor based on advice from the app?

Simply, don’t. While many apps contain sound medical information, they are no substitute for a consultation with a doctor. If you have a health concern, you should see a GP.

The landscape of smartphone health apps is quickly evolving, and regulators are struggling to keep pace. There are many outstanding apps to help people improve their health.

My advice? Have fun experimenting with health and fitness apps – just be sure to bring along a healthy dose of common sense and scepticism.

And remember, an app does not put a doctor and specialist medical lab in your pocket.

This article was originally published in [The Conversation](#).

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June 2016

> from the University of South Australia

From the Chancellery

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INSIDE UNISA

Unijam has been at the top of our minds lately. We've talked a lot about how it gave us a chance to check on our progress towards fulfilling our *Crossing the Horizon* goals. But it was more than that. Unijam gave us a chance to communicate, to exchange ideas and to make suggestions, specifically about how this University can sustain its level of energy and the growth that comes from being successful.

We had 18,217 visits and almost 12,000 comments from students, staff, alumni and friends from all over the world. While some were content to log in and watch what other people had to say, others peppered the site with their thoughts about the things that were important to them. Hot topics turned to what it takes to develop public intellectuals, how to improve staff and student connections, the best ways to transition to university and how we can develop closer links between our researchers and end users.

And our students have come up with some gems including greening our City East campus, powering Mawson Lakes with solar energy, more campus connectors and online study options.

Among the thousands of comments posted online, this one was typical: Thanks for the opportunity to have my say.

My question is this: Why wait for *unijam* to have your say? From the moment you become part of this university your opinion is important to us; your ideas are valuable and your feedback is welcomed.

This is an organisation that's filled with smart, articulate people and UniSA is, after all, your university. There are channels you can use to make your voice heard. I blog on a semi-regular basis and you are invited to [comment](#).

There is a [Suggestion Box](#) that's open for your ideas and comments. Out of that has come quiet rooms in the library and useful suggestions like the PC finder app but it's gone quiet lately. Use it to share your great ideas.

And of course, I'm around campus all the time. I'm going to schedule new Town Hall meetings to tell you about

the ideas from the most recent *unijam* so make sure you come along and say what's on your mind.

Communication was a key subject in *unijam* ... how great it was to communicate with each other, and how we should keep up the connections.

You can start right now. You're part of a wide network of staff, students and alumni all of whom have a vested interest in making this university an even greater place to work and study. It's not up to someone else to start the conversation. It's up to you.

Professor David Lloyd
Vice Chancellor and President
Chair of the Australian Technology Network of Universities

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Achievements and Announcements

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Artist book wins prestigious prize

UniSA's Samstag Museum of Art was awarded a prestigious Museums of Australasia Prize for the best book published in 2015 by a museum, science centre and art gallery from Australia and New Zealand.

The prize recognises the book – *Geoff Wilson: Interrogated Landscape* – which celebrates the lifetime achievement of an exceptional artist whose extensive career has, until recently, remained outside the public gaze.

Erica Green, Director of the Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art said the prize was important peer recognition for the Museum, the artist and its authors.



"Our entry was up against books published by state and national institutions, and to be awarded this prize at this time is noteworthy, as it also recognises the important cultural contribution made by small to medium organisations such as the Samstag Museum of Art," Green said.

"We're also delighted the subject of the book, Geoff Wilson, and authors Barry Pearce and John Neylon are all alumni of the University of South Australia.

"Their shared contribution to the Samstag Museum's program particularly this year, as we celebrate the University's and the Samstag Scholarships Program 25th anniversary, makes this award in 2016 so very special.

"Despite the notoriety this prize will offer, I'm sure Geoff Wilson will remain the same genuinely modest person who has chosen to give generously to many people and organisations over seven decades while he has lived and worked here in Adelaide as painter, teacher and mentor.

[Geoff Wilson: Interrogated Landscape](#) features more than 70 works, including paintings, works on paper and sketchbooks. It captures Geoff Wilson's movement from watercolours in the 1940s into his semi-abstract period in the 1960s and then his masterful modernist compositions up to 2013.

Green said the book pays legacy to a significant Australian artist and his inspired subject – the South Australian landscape.

See [YouTube clip](#) about Geoff Wilson's work.

National recognition for UniSA sonographer

Associate Professor Kerry Thoires has scooped two top honours at the Australasian Sonographers Association's (ASA) annual awards presentation in Melbourne last month.

The peak body and leading voice for sonographers, the ASA's prestigious awards offer a unique opportunity to recognise and celebrate the industry's most outstanding sonographers and their exceptional contribution to the profession.

Assoc Prof Thoirs received the highest award for Sonographer of the Year – The Pru Pratten Memorial Award, as well as Researcher of the Year.

On receiving the awards, Assoc Prof Thoirs said to gain this recognition from her peers was the pinnacle of her professional career.

"It is also very poignant for me, as it evokes memories of Pru Pratten, whom the Sonographer of the Year award distinguishes," Assoc Prof Thoirs said. "Prue was a South Australian sonographer, whose impact on Australian sonographers and their practice should always be remembered."

ASA President Tony Forshaw said Assoc Prof Thoirs was a very worthy recipient of these awards.

"Her professionalism and dedication is inspirational. I congratulate Kerry on this success and acknowledge her wonderful contribution to the profession of medical sonography."

Sonographer of the Year (The Pru Pratten Memorial Award) is awarded to an outstanding sonographer who, by their personal efforts and desire for excellence, has advanced the profession of sonography.

Researcher of the Year recognises a sonographer who has contributed significantly to research by adding to new knowledge and/or innovation or clinical care improvements within sonography.

Assoc Prof Thoirs' role as Associate Head of School (Academic) in the School of Health Sciences at UniSA involves oversight of the academic quality of undergraduate and postgraduate allied health and medical radiation programs. She also teaches in the postgraduate medical sonography program.

Her research is centred around supervision of student projects and investigating best practice in teaching and learning, particularly in medical sonography. This stems from a passion to increase awareness of research and evidence-based practice in sonographers and sonography education.

Assoc Prof Thoirs has authored more than 30 publications in national and international peer reviewed journals, and makes regular contributions to the ASA's international conferences and Sonography journal. She is also a member of the International Centre of Allied Health Evidence research group at UniSA.

Celebrating the life of Emeritus Professor Freda Briggs AO

Family, friends, colleagues and members of the public are invited to attend a celebration of the life and achievements of the late Emeritus Professor Freda Briggs AO on Thursday, June 16.

The Premier of South Australia is hosting the memorial at 2:30pm at The University of Adelaide, Bonython Hall, off North Terrace.

To assist with seating and catering arrangements please register your attendance via this [website](#) or telephone the Department of the Premier and Cabinet on (08) 8429 5135 by Thursday, June 9.

Light refreshments will be served in the hall after the service.

The University of South Australia has established the Emeritus Professor Freda Briggs AO Memorial Fund to honour Prof Briggs and to continue her legacy by supporting higher degree scholarships for child protection in law, education or social work.

For more information about the Fund or to donate, please visit the [website](#).

National mental health appointment

Professor Nicholas Procter has been appointed to the Advisory Group on Suicide Prevention for the National Mental Health Commission.

UniSA Chair in Mental Health Nursing, Prof Procter has been a leader in the field for many years focusing on the



UniSA Sonographer Associate Professor Kerry Thoirs at the Australasian Sonographers Association's (ASA) awards of excellence.



development of improved service design and delivery, and public policy in mental health across a range of settings.

He was a pioneer in researching the mental health impacts for refugees and migrants in the 1990s and has played a key role on government advisory groups looking at the mental health of refugees and detainees.

He has also led the development of new practice models for mental health services in regional communities.

Among many publications, in 2014 Prof Procter launched *Mental Health: A Person Centred Approach* (Cambridge University Press, 2014), which was the first mental health nursing title to be published by Cambridge University Press in 500 years. The book champions the importance of the lived experience of people with mental health problems and their families and friends in developing improved nursing practice.

The Advisory Group for Suicide Prevention is being established to provide advice, expertise and strategic support on suicide prevention in Australia by identifying priorities and promoting action.

A key focus for the group will be to ensure that policies and practices are developed so that people who have self-harmed or attempted suicide receive appropriate follow-up and support. Efforts to reduce suicide among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will also be a key focus.

25 trees for 25 years at Whyalla

Students at UniSA's Whyalla campus have commemorated the University's 25th birthday by planting 25 trees along a path linking the campus with the student accommodation village.

Bachelor of Education student Kemal Brkic initiated the planting and secured funding from the University's student association – USASA.

Kemal, who is the USASA rep for the Whyalla campus, says the most rewarding part of the project will be in years to come to see the trees mature and change the landscape of the back of the campus for future generations.

"Being a keen gardener and looking at the land between the student accommodation and the University, which has been untouched in the 25-year history of the campus, I felt it was time to take pride in our University and give it some love," Kemal says.

About a dozen students and Whyalla City Council volunteers joined forces on May 11 to plant the Urbanite trees or *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* 'Urbdell'.

These trees were recommended by the Council as suitable for the climate and are expected to grow to 11 metres high and 8m wide.

The Council also donated and installed the irrigation line, ensuring the trees get a great start and Kemal says turning on the irrigation was a rewarding milestone.

"I hope this is the first of many initiatives that will kickstart some development for the vast barren land belonging to the University," Kemal says.

"The land holds so much potential and to see it being used for the University and community would be fantastic."

Erica Green announced curator for 2018 Adelaide Biennial

UniSA's Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art Director Erica Green has been appointed curator of the 2018 *Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art*.

The 2016 *Adelaide Biennial of Australian Art: Magic Object* finished last month, with a record attendance of more than 220,000 people visiting the exhibition during its 79 day season, double the 2014 event.

Art Gallery of South Australia Director Nick Mitzevich says Green's appointment for the next event builds on the partnership established with the Samstag Museum and other Adelaide cultural institutions for this year's Adelaide Biennial.

Green says it's a huge honour to be appointed curator of the Biennial.

"The Biennial is very special; it enables the participating artists to create ambitious and experimental projects that they might otherwise not attempt," Green says.



Student Experience Ambassador Michelle Fay with Whyalla's USASA rep Kemal Brkic and his daughter Eden taking part in the 25th birthday tree planting at Whyalla.

“At the same time, audiences have an opportunity, every two years, to see the very best of current work by some of Australia’s leading visual artists.

“Australia’s visual arts are alive with innovation and experiment. In many ways, the visual arts lead cultural practices, and their remarkable diversity and sophistication make for a marvellous curatorial challenge to find the right mix for an exhibition of this kind.

“The Biennial – first presented in 1990 – is not only the most enduring regular exhibition of Australian contemporary art, but the most distinguished, nationally.”

Award winning streak for innovative nurse call button

An innovative nurse’s call button, created by a team of UniSA Industrial Design staff and graduates, in partnership with Hills Health Solutions, has continued its award-winning form, achieving a prestigious Good Design Award.

Managed by Good Design Australia, Australia’s annual Good Design Awards program recognises and rewards excellence in design, innovation and creativity at a national and international level.

Success in this competition continues an award winning streak which began when the product won the Gold Design Award, the President’s Award and the Premier’s Award in the Design Institute Australia (DIA) Laminex 2015 Design Awards.

It’s a streak that is set to continue, as the product has also been named a Red Dot Design award winner with the design team due to pick up an award in the Medicine and Life Science category of what is regarded as the most respected design competition in the world – with more than 17,000 entries, across 31 categories and 57 countries.

The Nurse Call Pendant, developed by a team including UniSA’s Dr Peter Schumacher, Dr Sandy Walker and graduates Daniel Weiss and Robert White, was designed for easy use by people with arthritis and limited dexterity.

Dr Schumacher says the pendant, which consists of an air-bulb operated air switch, providing a soft and easy way to activate the device, showcases UniSA’s design skills.

“Winning these highly respected national and international awards, the Red Dot Design award, The Good Design Award and the DIA Awards demonstrates the quality of the Bachelor of Design (Product Design) and the Masters of Design (Industrial Design) programs, staff and graduates,” says Dr Schumacher.

“These achievements show we are operating at the highest standards of national and international design practice and it builds on the award winning momentum the design is already being recognised for.”

The product is now being manufactured by Hills and is available on the market.

“South Australia has a large ageing population, and we see this as an enormous opportunity for Adelaide to lead the world in innovation for ageing communities,” Dr Schumacher says.

“Projects like this one generate jobs and there is so much potential in aged and health care to find solutions and improvements that have really broad and important applications to improve the lives of older people. This is just one success – but there is so much more potential.”

“This device is sure to have applications in other areas outside of aged care where people with poor dexterity need to activate devices of any type” says Dr Schumacher.

The award-winning device will be displayed in the Red Dot Design Museums, the Online Presentation and in the Red Dot Design Yearbook. Winners will be honoured at the Red Dot Gala to be held in Essen, Germany on 4 July.

Assoc Professor Raymond Choo “humbled” as Cybersecurity Educator of the year

The 2016 Cybersecurity Excellence Awards have named Kim-Kwang Raymond Choo as Cybersecurity Educator of the Year-APAC, in the annual competition that honours individuals and companies demonstrating excellence, innovation and leadership in cybersecurity.



The Associate Professor of Cybersecurity and Forensics at UniSA is a global leader in the subject which has seen him speak at events including the World Internet Conference and the IEEE International Conference on Data Science and Data intensive Systems, as well as author a range of publications, with his research cited in government reports. He is also a Visiting Expert at INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation, Singapore.



Since joining academia in 2011, Assoc Prof Choo has helped educate the next generation of cyber warriors within a “research rich and intellectually stimulating environment”, and he describes receiving the educator accolade as “humbling”.

“I am still learning to be a good educator,” Assoc Prof Choo says.

“The fundamental strength of my teaching is that it is research informed. I integrate scholarship, research and professional learning activities and I take a hands-on approach in mentoring students to prepare them for life in a fast-paced research environment.

“This includes working with them to identify novel topics of research, understand how to rigorously evaluate the research methodologies and data, prepare manuscripts for publication, and practice presentation of published results.

“I also involve undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students in research projects and work with them to publish academic papers.”

With cybersecurity and digital forensics becoming a topic of ever growing importance, Assoc Prof Choo says that risk assessment is a key part of research in this area.

“Technologically advanced countries such as Australia are likely to remain the ‘target of choice’ for financially-, politically-, and criminally-motivated cybercriminals, and it is inevitable that we will see an increase in the variety and volume of cybercriminal activities targeting individuals, businesses and governments.”

“In order to make informed decisions about cybersecurity, we need to understand the current threat landscape and to look ahead to future offending in the online environment,” Assoc Prof Choo says.

“We do this by continuing to conduct more strategic research to identify and assess cybercrime and cybersecurity risks as they affect our country and society in a regional context and provide an assessment of the criminal, political, regulatory and business environments which give rise to cybercrime and cyberthreats, and how these are likely to change in the short to medium term.

“This would enable governments and businesses to develop responses to neutralise cybercrime and cyberthreats before they arise.

In May 2016, Assoc Prof Choo was elected to the grade of Fellow of the Australian Computer Society for his distinguished contribution to Information and Communications Technology.

Scholarships awarded to bright PhD candidates

Seven of the best PhD students from across UniSA were rewarded for their research efforts last month, each receiving a \$10,000 Vice Chancellor and President Scholarship.

Selected from the 147 students who began a PhD in 2016, the winners were described by Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd as great examples of what makes UniSA a success and allows him to tell the University’s story so proudly.

“Talent, commitment, dedication and determination are just some of the words I could attribute to the scholarship winners,” Prof Lloyd said.

“All of our PhD students are finding their way in their chosen field and doing fine work that contributes to our University’s reputation for innovative, real-world and connected research.



scholarship award ceremony, (from left) Rebecca Callahan, Melissa Bennett, Ellen Scott, Gipsy Hosking, Professor David Lloyd, Seung Ho (John) Lee, Amy Wilson and Stephanie Mills.

“These scholarships acknowledge their efforts and support their research futures.”

2016 Vice Chancellor and President Scholarship Recipients:

- Rebecca Callahan and Gipsy Hosking from the School of Psychology, Social Work and Social Policy
- Ellen Scott, School of Communication, International Studies and Languages
- Stephanie Mills, School of Information Technology and Mathematical Studies
- Seung Ho Lee, School of Engineering
- Amy Wilson, School of Marketing
- Melissa Bennett, Centre for Cancer Biology

PhD student Melissa Bennett, who is investigating drug resistance in multiple myeloma, currently an incurable blood cancer, was thrilled to win the scholarship that will help her attend international conferences over the next two years.

“I think any kind of scholarship that gives PhD students the opportunity to enhance their experience in ways they or the lab may not have otherwise been able to afford is an excellent way to encourage students,” Melissa says.

“Knowing that I could now attend one of the largest conferences in the world for people working in blood cancer, held by the American Society of Haematology, in the next year or two definitely helps to keep me motivated and it’s also a reward for my hard work.”

PhD student Gipsy Hosking, whose research on invisible chronic illness was sparked from her own experience of appearing young and healthy yet feeling ill, says the award has renewed her motivation to produce a high quality thesis.

“I felt honoured and I’m grateful to have my hard work recognised,” Gipsy says.

“As illness is a social phenomenon as much as it is a biomedical one, it will be invaluable for me to travel overseas, which I can now do with the scholarship funding.

“I’d like to experience how invisible chronic illness is constructed and conceptualised in different countries and look forward to working with overseas academic experts in these areas to further develop the research I’ve started at UniSA.”

Along with offering students an opportunity to learn more in their field of research, these scholarships also provide recipients with the chance to meet academics and senior university stakeholders.

And the scholarship award event inspired Gipsy to set up an online group to encourage interaction between PhD students.

“Three of us who are based at the Magill campus, have since started a Facebook group for all new PhD students at Magill campus to help keep in touch,” Gipsy said. [add in link to group]

See the [website](#) for more information about starting a research degree.

World’s richest landscape art prize winner announced

The world’s richest landscape art prize, The Fleurieu Art Prize has been awarded this month to Tony Albert for his work, *'The Hand You're Dealt'*.

The prestigious landscape prize, valued at \$65,000 was announced, alongside the collection of 57 finalist works, at the 2016 Fleurieu Art Prize Exhibition launch, at UniSA’s Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art.

More than 750 entries were received for this year’s Fleurieu Art prize and the 58 shortlisted works are on display at the Samstag Museum of Art from June 3 – July 29. This year marks the Prize’s relocation from the Fleurieu Peninsula to be presented in the city for the first time.

Returning international judge, Nigel Hurst, Director of London’s Saatchi Gallery, led this year’s judging panel.

“The Fleurieu Art Prize is testament to the growing importance of the Prize, with so many significant artists entering this year,” Hurst says.

“We chose Tony Albert’s work for its deft and playful, yet considered interpretation of his homeland. His use of



Tony Albert with his work, *The Hand You're Dealt*.

something so every day as playing cards to create this exquisite, visually arresting and pertinent work exemplifies the skill and talent of this deserving Fleurieu Art Prize winner.”

Erica Green, Director of the Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art described Tony Albert as a most worthy winner.

“We’re especially pleased to award this prize to an indigenous artist during National Reconciliation Week 2016,” Green says.

Tony Albert’s winning work *'The Hand You’re Dealt'* is a wall piece comprised of a suite of vintage playing cards, whose placement weaves references to Western popular culture and Australian Aboriginal culture.

These intricate pieces which comprise the overall installation are superbly crafted by Albert through cutting, collage and construction techniques, work to displace traditional Australian Aboriginal aesthetics and accepted national stereotypes. This seamless blend of the kitsch and classic speaks in a contemporary voice about the Australian landscape.

The judging panel included Nigel Hurst, Erica Green, and Suhanya Raffel, Deputy Director and Director of Collections, Art gallery of New South Wales.

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University of
South Australia

Honorary award and a special conversation with comedian Barry Humphries

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by Will Venn & Michèle Nardelli.



COMMUNITY

UniSA Chancellor Jim McDowell with Barry Humphries AO, CBE and UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd.

In character, as Dame Edna Everage, international comedy icon Barry Humphries AO, CBE, would cajole and poke fun at the celebrity elite who would line up, time after time, to appear on Edna's chat shows during prime time in the 1980s and 1990s; her guests, willing victims, all being reduced to mirth, like the audience around them.

Flashes of that comic genius were on display again, when, this time as interviewee, Barry Humphries took to the Allan Scott Auditorium for a special "In Conversation" event with UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd, ahead of being awarded an Honorary Doctorate from UniSA in May.

With the barest of prompts Humphries was off, recalling his childhood and education in suburban Melbourne, and the pivotal moment, when, as a young actor, he switched from Shakespeare to the subversive, upon realising his stage talents lay less with the classics and more with the burgeoning satirical scene of the 1960s.



UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd with Barry Humphries AO, CBE.

This was the era of "Oz" magazine and the decade in which Humphries honed his skills, working with the likes of anti-establishment luminaries such as Peter Cook, Dudley Moore, Spike Milligan and theatrical genius, Lionel Bart.

The Vice Chancellor deployed Michael Parkinson-levels of skill to keep the conversation from meandering too far off track, yet subtle digs at the lighting, the audience and even the Gladioli framing the stage proved that, even at

82, Humphries had lost little of the observational, acerbic magic that made him, Dame Edna and another of his comic creations: Sir Les Patterson, global household names.

Professor David Lloyd says Humphries has been one of Australia's greatest global arts ambassadors over his long, diverse and brilliant career.

"There are not many artists or performers who manage to continue to contribute to the arts in such broad scope and at such a level of excellence for so many decades – Barry Humphries is that rare talent," Prof Lloyd says.

"Through his wonderful satirical characters – the globetrotting housewife, Dame Edna Everage and the infamous cultural attaché, Sir Les Patterson, among others – he introduced the world to Australian life, its warmth, its unique personality and its evolution over the decades.

"Despite having built a body of work to be enormously proud of, Barry Humphries never stops looking for new challenges, such as his recent role as Artistic Director of the 2015 Adelaide Cabaret Festival."

"His talent, creativity, invention and intellect have delivered incisive critiques of Australian culture, but at the same time helped to shape that culture for future generations."

Barry Humphries received his honorary doctorate with customary style and wit; his questioning of whether the traditional gowning robes could ever be worn in a more domestic setting – a substitute bathrobe perhaps (?), prompting laughter all around.

"I have received a number of accolades in my life – a punishment for living a long time – but this one from South Australia is important to me," Humphries says.

"I am deeply honoured to accept an Honorary Doctorate from the University of South Australia.

"I might even call myself a doctor should some young person require my services."

Watch the full video [here](#)

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Schools' tough approach to bad behaviour isn't working – and may escalate problems

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by Dr Anna Sullivan, Senior Lecturer: Managing Learning Environments/Middle Schooling, UniSA



RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

It's often thought a tough approach to behaviour is the way forward for schools. But research shows that punitive responses, such as writing names on the board, taking away a student's lunch time, or handing out detention, are actually ineffective in the long term and can exacerbate student disengagement and alienation.

Harsh actions might initially bring about some student compliance, but over time they build resentment, and relationships then breakdown.

So why do schools in Australia continue with this approach? What does research say about how to improve behaviour in schools? And are other countries getting it right?

How Australian schools discipline kids

A common technique used to manage behaviour in Australian schools is to remove students from their learning.

Often schools use exclusion practices that increase in severity. These approaches typically begin with a warning, which is followed by isolating children from their peers, at first inside the classroom and then outside the room. This can escalate to a school leader intervening, and then to suspension and exclusion.

Use of this type of system is extremely prevalent. Around 85 per cent of teachers in a recent survey indicated that they had used a "step system" involving an escalation of actions during the past week of teaching.

But there's little evidence to support such exclusionary approaches. If used regularly, removing students from



UniSA Senior Lecturer in Education Dr Anna Sullivan.

their learning as a behaviour management practice violates a child's right to an education.

While we don't want to violate other students' right to an education, there are other ways of responding and managing behaviour that balance the rights of the individual and the group.

Another longstanding practice used in schools is the "ripple effect", where teachers reprimand students in front of others, or keep public records of students who are non-compliant to influence behaviour.

Charts, lists, posters and electronic records are commonplace in classrooms.

Teachers use such public practices to coerce other students to behave by humiliating, shaming or chastening badly behaved students.

The problem with these techniques is that, over the longer term, such controlling behaviour management practices exacerbate rather than ameliorate the problems faced by our most vulnerable children and youth in contemporary schools.

Approaches being used overseas

We have learned a great deal from the United States. In 2001, new federal legislation led all US states to develop zero-tolerance policies for schools.

Schools implemented strict practices, such as detentions, suspensions and exclusions, in an attempt to control student behaviour. They even introduced police to monitor infringements on school grounds.

However, substantial evidence now shows that these zero-tolerance policies and practices, especially the use of suspensions and exclusions, have had devastating effects on marginalised groups, which include minorities (especially black and Latino children), male students with disabilities and low achievers.

Students who are disadvantaged in more than one way are at higher risk of being suspended from school.

For example, in Chicago, 75 per cent of black middle school males with disabilities were suspended from school. This is a major problem because these students are more likely to drop out of school and, more importantly, end up in the juvenile justice system.

It has had such a devastating effect, that the US Department of Education is now calling on states and schools across the country to rethink their approaches to school discipline.

In England, there have been continuous calls for teachers not to "be afraid to get tough on bad behaviour and use these punishments".

The current education secretary, Nicky Morgan, recently appointed an ex-teacher and "behaviour tsar", Tom Bennett, to help teachers better deal with problem student behaviour. She also introduced tougher discipline policies. However, some reports indicate that student behaviour has continued to get worse in English schools.

These two examples illustrate the ways in which governments tend to offer quick-fix solutions to complex problems.

In addressing problem behaviour and providing safe schools for students, governments seem to seek political gain by making policy decisions based on ideology. The problem is that this doesn't work.

Some teachers tend to shame or humiliate naughty students to coerce other students to behave. But research shows this method is ineffective.

What is wrong with the current situation?

Many students do not feel cared for at school and some teachers can be disrespectful towards them. For example, some teachers yell at students, do not listen to them and make incorrect assumptions.

This can lead to students exhibiting problematic behaviour, such as struggling for recognition.

While teachers might care about students, they do not always demonstrate that they care for students.

Students' perceptions of this lack of care begin within the first few years of school and develop into mutually negative relationships, which are difficult to reconcile.

As relationships fail, students become more alienated and disengaged, and passively withdraw from school life or retaliate in antisocial ways.

These students, particularly boys, are effectively excluded from mainstream schooling.

Teachers typically use punitive responses to manage students who exhibit reactive, aggressive behaviours, which are controlling and authoritarian in their nature.

Too many young people are alienated and disengaged from schooling, particularly boys and students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Schools contribute to this alienation and disengagement, yet individual students or their families are blamed for the problem.

While some students struggle to behave appropriately, schools who see this as an educational issue provide more opportunities for these children to learn appropriate ways of behaving.

Some common behaviour management practices used in schools violate the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child - students have a right to an education and a right to be treated with dignity.

There is another way

Adopting an educational rather than a managerial approach to behaviour is the key.

Schools should focus on relational aspects so students feel cared for, respected and valued.

They can do this by attending to the little things like engaging in informal chats and inquiring about family members. But they also need to do more complex work such as creating classroom environments that are supportive, connected and intellectually demanding and that recognise individual differences.

Schools need to avoid practices that mistreat, exclude and denigrate students and are based on intimidation, anxiety, threats and retribution.

Teachers need to cater for all students, not just the average students, by setting work that students can actually do within reasonable timeframes. Teachers need to provide ongoing support to students so they understand the work they are doing. Sometimes this requires patience and persistence as some students take time to learn and understand work.

Teachers shouldn't treat all students equally in relation to behaviour, just as they wouldn't with other learning matters. All students are different. What is important, though, is that students are treated fairly. For example, teachers need to avoid having favourites.

Despite all of this, some students will still exhibit aggressive and disruptive behaviours. This might require a brief exclusion from class, but it should be used minimally and as a last resort after more educative strategies have been used.

Schools and classrooms are complex and demanding contexts, which require sophisticated and sensitive policies and practices.

We know that schools that do behaviour well are committed to creating calm and respectful learning environments. They promote student engagement and consistently respect the rights of students.

Australia needs policies that provide complex solutions informed by educational research rather than ideology.

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University of
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25th birthday gift to 25 high achievers

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by Michèle Nardelli & Mary-Jane McArdle



INSIDE UNISA

UniSA's 25th Anniversary Academic Merit Scholarship presentation at City West campus on May 24.

Some of the State's highest achieving Year 12 students celebrated a special evening when UniSA presented its 25th Anniversary Academic Merit Scholarships last month.

The scholarships, totalling \$160,000, have been awarded to students who achieved some of the highest ATARs in South Australia in 2015.

Having started their degrees at UniSA this year, 24 students from across South Australia are reaping the benefits of a \$5,000 one-off grant to support their education and living expenses while they are studying.

A 25th Anniversary Outstanding Achievement Scholarship with a value of up to \$40,000, was also awarded to Hope Stahl, a graduate of Modbury High School who achieved an ATAR of 99.95.

Hope says the scholarship has helped with her transition to university and reduced financial stress.

"I chose to study pharmacy this year because I really enjoyed chemistry, and the Open Day pharmacy event at UniSA piqued my interest as to how pharmaceuticals can aid patients and assist hospital practices," Hope says.

"I am very grateful to UniSA for providing these generous scholarships to students.

"The scholarship encouraged me to pursue the degree I am passionate about, and one I can use to benefit others."

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says it has been wonderful to



Professor David Lloyd with scholarship recipient Hope Stahl.

be able to award the scholarships to some of the brightest students in South Australia on the University's 25th anniversary.

"It's really a variation on a theme, we are giving the birthday presents, and we hope the support really helps these young women and men to get a great start at university and in the varied careers they are embarking upon," Prof Lloyd says.

"We have aspiring physiotherapists, engineers, pharmacists and architects in the group and we are delighted to support their efforts.

"All of the students had to achieve an ATAR of 99 or above to receive these scholarships, so they certainly are dedicated, focused and committed.

"What also sets these students apart is a real desire to make a difference in the world – each and every one of them has thought about how they will use their qualifications to help society – that in itself is inspiring."

Bachelor of Physiotherapy student Rebecca Munday says she is very grateful to have received a 25th Anniversary Excellence Scholarship.

"The financial support provided by the scholarship has given me the freedom to focus on my studies and gain the most from my time at university," Rebecca says.

"It has also offered me encouragement and motivation to continue to strive for excellence and I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to the University of South Australia for providing me with this opportunity."

Tam-An Nguyen, who is studying a Bachelor of Civil and Structural Engineering, says the scholarship has not only helped financially but has also boosted her confidence and opened new opportunities.

"What I found really inspired me to come to UniSA was the emphasis on understanding and gaining experience in the industry along with the unique teaching style."

Double scholarship success for Danielle

One of the 25th Anniversary Excellence Scholarship recipients Danielle Talbot has also received the prestigious Ehrenberg Scholarship which is awarded annually by the Ehrenberg-Bass Institute for Marketing Science to a promising first-year marketing student at the UniSA Business School.

Danielle will receive a year's worth of paid fees and is also eligible to apply for a paid, part-time position as a Research Assistant at the Ehrenberg-Bass Institute.

Danielle, who is studying a Bachelor of Marketing and Communication, has always been captivated by the world of business and says she appreciates how the scholarship support has assisted with her transition to university life.

"What inspired me to attend UniSA was its reputation as the best Business School for career outcomes and the opportunities it provides to students within each discipline," she says.



“The Ehrenberg-Bass Institute was another significant factor that influenced my decision and after having looked at all the options, UniSA was by far the best choice for me.”

Professor David Lloyd with scholarship recipient Danielle Talbot.

Director of the Ehrenberg-Bass Institute, Professor Byron Sharp, says this scholarship is designed to acknowledge high achieving marketing students and provide them with exciting opportunities.

“The scholarship provides support for recipients’ studies and engages them in the world-class research taking place at the Institute,” Professor Sharp says.

“The interview panel was impressed by the quality of applicants this year and Danielle demonstrated outstanding academic, work and volunteer history. She confirmed a keen interest in exploring the world of science and marketing.”

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Unfair if rare, should the PBS change the way it lists cancer drugs?

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by Professor Ian Olver, Director, Sansom Institute for Health Research; Chair of Translational Cancer Research, University of South Australia



HEALTH

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) spends more than A\$9 billion a year subsidising a wide range of drugs to ensure affordability for all Australians. But when it comes to rare cancers – such as bone and soft tissue tumours called sarcomas – the scheme falls short.

This happens for a number of reasons. The main one is that rarity means less value for money. But should our new understanding of how cancers develop and can be treated mean we should change the way the scheme registers cancer drugs?

Diagnosing cancers

Cancers used to be diagnosed by determining the organ, such as breast or lung, from which they came. Drugs were, and still are, registered by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) to use against these cancers if they are effective in clinical trials with acceptable side effects.

Because there are more patients for common cancer trials, and a larger market if the drugs are effective, more drugs to treat these are being tested and therefore registered. Rare cancers are those with an incidence of less than six cases for every 100,000 people. Their rarity means it's not possible to do the gold standard large randomised controlled trials to determine efficacy.

The TGA refers to drugs used to treat rare diseases as orphan drugs and offers reduced application fees to register these. Despite this, there are still many small bowel cancers or neuroendocrine cancers for which potentially effective drugs are not registered.



Director of UniSA's Sansom Institute for Health Research
Professor Ian Olver.

Only once the TGA registers a drug for a particular cancer can an application be made for it to be subsidised on the PBS. Drugs are therefore more likely to be subsidised for common cancers, as the PBS evaluates whether the drug's effectiveness warrants the price sought by the pharmaceutical developer.

But recently there has been a shift in how cancer researchers and doctors classify and treat cancers that could potentially influence the way drugs become registered.

From location to tumour type

Previously, chemotherapy drugs killed all dividing cells and relied on normal cells to repair themselves while the cancer cells died. Therapies are now being developed to specifically target the genetic makeup in each tumour - a wave of medicine referred to as "personalised".

Other therapies – known as immunotherapies – target proteins that prevent the body's immune cells from killing the cancer. The target proteins are found by looking at which genes in a particular cancer are altered (or mutated) to make the cells replicate and grow into unhealthy tumours.

So cancer treatment is becoming more dependent on the tumour's genetic makeup rather than the organ of origin. Cancers at different locations, such as breast and prostate cancer, may have identical targets that can respond to the same therapies. And cancers from the same organ can have different patterns of gene mutations, which means only those with the target may respond to specific drugs.

For example, drugs called PARP inhibitors have been successful in breast cancers that carry the BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutations. These are now being trialled in ovarian cancers with the same gene mutations.

Targeted therapies can be used to treat a rare cancer that shares the same mutations as a common cancer. The immunotherapy drug nivolumab, for instance, is successful in treating melanoma and lung cancer. And, as reported in ABC's *Australian Story* program last month, it is being tried as a treatment for 36-year-old Danielle Tindle's rare neuroendocrine tumour, which shares some characteristics with melanoma and lung cancers.

The issue is that targeted therapies are often coming onto the market at more than \$100,000 for several months of treatment. And while nivolumab is subsidised to treat melanoma, a patient like Danielle has to pay full price, which is reportedly \$5000 a shot.

Can we change the system?

To overcome this disparity, a specific fund could be established for rare cancers so they would not have to compete with more common cancers. Fees for TGA and PBS submissions would be set to encourage pharmaceutical companies to apply to register and list drugs for rare cancers.

Of course, the equity of that solution would depend on the size of the fund relative to need and whether the fund's money was new or simply reduced the subsidy pool for more common cancers.

Another option is for the TGA to start registering targeted therapies on the basis of the target's presence in the cancer, irrespective of the cancer's organ of origin. The issue with this approach is that the evidence for efficacy would only be available from trials of more common cancers.

Also, although a targeted therapy isn't effective in cancer that doesn't have the target, the presence of the target doesn't guarantee its effectiveness. This is because the tumour's altered gene may not be responsible for driving the cancer's growth, or may represent only one of the targets that need to be hit to stop it developing.

So limited trials that show efficacy of targeted therapies for rare cancers could lead to subsidising potentially ineffective drugs. A possible solution would be a risk-sharing model where, for example, a pharmaceutical company could fund initial courses of rare cancer drugs until there was enough evidence of efficacy, at which point the government subsidy would become available.

Such schemes have been used in France, Italy, Sweden, the United Kingdom and parts of the United States.

The challenge is to achieve a balance between allocating funding for the greatest good for the largest number of people, while also ensuring patients with rare cancers aren't unfairly disadvantaged.

This article was originally published in [The Conversation](#).

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University of
South Australia

Radio program gives voice to women fighting against odds

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by Katrina McLachlan



Linda and Julia during recording of the Seeds of Affinity program.

A unique and personal radio series designed to educate the community and raise awareness about the challenges faced by women when they are first released from prison was recently launched on Semaphore Community Radio WOWFM.

'*What I Know Now*' is a series of short programs produced by UniSA Journalism Lecturer and community radio specialist Dr Heather Anderson, in partnership with an Adelaide-based support group for women of lived prison experience '*Seeds of Affinity Pathways for Women*'.

Each of the four programs have a different theme, run for up to seven minutes and have been created as part of a research project supported by Development of Industry Partnerships funding from UniSA's Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences.

"The radio series targets women who have just been released from prison, or who are about to make this transition, and shares with them the information the Seeds of Affinity participants wished they had known when they were released," Dr Anderson says.

"We hope to also highlight to the broader community that women getting out of prison have served their time and that with help and support they can successfully re-enter the workforce and be valued members of society.

"Hearing the participants' personal stories powerfully spoken on radio gives us an intimate insight into how these women have fought against the odds to start a new life for themselves and their families."

The radio series was developed through a set of workshops led by Dr

Anderson, who's PhD had previously examined how community radio works with prisoners around the world, and by Dr Charlotte Bedford, Visiting Researcher at the Department of Media, University of Adelaide.

With Australian Bureau of Statistics figures showing that the number of women in Australian prisons increased by 11 per cent in the 12 months to June 2015 and that at least 40 per cent of women jailed had recorded a prior adult imprisonment under sentence, a key driver of this project was researching how radio can help prisoners avoid recidivism, both during incarceration and post-release.

"Radio is a powerful medium for story-telling," Dr Anderson says.

"It overcomes problems with literacy but also humanises the issues being discussed – which is important for women who have been stigmatised by a past prison sentence.

"We approached Seeds of Affinity with a basic concept to use radio to produce messages, and the series developed from there because the Seeds' women really wanted to help others who were going through what they had already survived."

Seeds of Affinity participants developed skills in preparing and conducting interviews, recording voice-overs, scripting radio packages and explored a variety of story-telling techniques over an eight-week period to produce the radio series.

Having personally experienced people's prejudices, Seeds of Affinity founding member and 'What I Know Now' participant, Linda Fisk, jumped at the opportunity to learn new skills and share her knowledge.

"I know from a personal stand-point that when you're released from prison, to actually believe that you're worth anything, to believe that you can contribute anything to mainstream society, is very, very difficult," Linda says.

"We hope these radio programs will inform the general public about the main issues faced by women when they first re-enter the community after a prison sentence while also raising awareness about the services Seeds of Affinity offers so that fewer women have to experience the trauma and stress of returning to prison."

The series will also be showcased nationally on community radio and by podcast on the [Seeds of Affinity website](#).



Seeds of Affinity participants in the recording studio

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Hong Kong students soak up culture in Adelaide

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by Mary-Jane McArdle



COMMUNITY

Students studying UniSA programs in Hong Kong touring the Adelaide Central Markets with Alison Hill and Judith Lukas from UniSA's School of Pharmacy and Medical Sciences.

A group of 11 students who are studying UniSA programs in Hong Kong with partner Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) visited Adelaide last month to experience Australian culture in what is hoped to become an annual event.

Highlights of the week-long study tour included the quintessential Aussie wildlife experience where students interacted with kangaroos and koalas, which one tourism student said were considered the 'most significant symbols of Australia'; experiencing the atmosphere of a Port Adelaide AFL match at Adelaide Oval; and the valuable opportunity for students to practice their English speaking skills.

UniSA's Head of Offshore Campus Collaborations Mary McEwin says it's the first time a study tour has been offered for UniSA students studying in Hong Kong with the School of Continuing Education (SCE), HKBU.



Students enjoy a taste of AFL at Adelaide Oval.

And following its success, McEwin says it's hoped this can become an annual event, giving the offshore cohort of students the chance to visit UniSA campuses in Adelaide and feel part of the local student community.

"The students were eager not only to visit Adelaide and UniSA metro campuses, but to experience UniSA campus life and facilities, while practicing their English," McEwin says.

Eight of the students travelled on UniSA/SCE Scholarships that were awarded in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the UniSA/SCEHKBU partnership celebrated in 2014.

Also, two students were travelling on the *Reaching Out Award* which is granted by the Hong Kong Education

Bureau to meritorious students to enable participation in learning, internships or international events.

McEwin says students represented a range of programs including the Bachelor of Business (Tourism and Event Management), Bachelor of Psychological Science, Bachelor of Nutrition and Food Sciences and Bachelor of Communication and Media.

“Given the vast difference in program disciplines, we tried to create a tour program which touched on aspects of all programs, whilst echoing the tour theme of Australian culture and beyond,” McEwin says.

“Students were hosted by a different school each day from the Business School, nutrition, psychology and communication areas.

“The final outcome required students to present on their experiences in Adelaide and how they linked back to their program of study.”

Activities included wine tasting in the Adelaide Hills and accompanying three local international students from the Hong Kong Student Club in the UniSA Business School to an AFL match at Adelaide Oval.

Students also explored the Adelaide Central Markets with staff from UniSA’s Division of Health Sciences to buy ingredients for a pizza and pavlova making demonstration at City East campus.

Interactive on-campus activities included visiting the Magill campus for a tour of the psychology facilities where the group took part in a neuroscience activity before filming clips about their trip in the television studio.



Wine tasting in the Adelaide Hills.

One of the participants Marco Chui, who is studying psychology, said it was the people of Adelaide that he loved the most.

“Compared with Hong Kong people, they are very kind and nice, and they are willing to help people,” he said.

Sammy Wong, who is studying tourism and event management, said the trip was interesting and featured a lot of sightseeing.

“We went to the wildlife park and it’s cool that you can interact with animals,” she said. “I think generally the people are quite friendly and helpful.”

Leung Ho Sum, who is studying a Bachelor of Communication and Media, said she embraced the opportunity to visit Adelaide because after her graduation when she tells people she is a graduate of UniSA, she expected she would be asked questions like ‘what is it like in South Australia’.

“By then I would have my personal experiences to share, and have more people to appreciate the unique Australian culture that nowhere else has,” Leung said.

“I have always wanted to visit English-speaking countries, in that I get to test my English levels and improve by speaking to the locals.”

UniSA has had a long standing partnership with the School of Continuing Education, Hong Kong Baptist University, and there are currently more than 6000 full-time students and about 7000 part-time students enrolled in programs of different disciplines at various levels from certificates, diplomas, higher/professional diplomas, as well as associate degree, undergraduate and higher degrees.

More information about the UniSA/HKBU partnership can be found [here](#).

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**University of
South Australia**

New Books

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Challenging Dominant Views on Student Behaviour at School – Answering Back

A new book reveals Australian schools need to think very differently about the way they manage student discipline in the classroom, with traditional, punitive practices proving ineffective in the long run and often escalating problems with student disengagement and alienation.

Challenging Dominant Views on Student Behaviour at School – Answering Back focuses on Australian research and is co-edited by Dr Anna Sullivan, Professor Bruce Johnson and Bill Lucas from UniSA's School of Education.

The book is an outcome of the Behaviour at School Study, including a 2014 summit on Behaviour in Australian Schools.

Answering Back recommends schools and teachers take an educational rather than managerial or behavioural approach to working with students.

It advocates that everyday practices should see staff engage in friendly greetings, informal chats, civil exchanges of information and celebrations with students.

Teachers should help students with work and keep helping until they get it. They should also employ teaching methods that focus on engagement, by designing relevant, meaningful and appropriate academic tasks.

Dr Sullivan says schools and classrooms are complex and demanding, and they require sophisticated and sensitive policies and practices to give everyone involved the best chance to flourish.

"The solutions we're calling for are not simple, we know that, but Australian schools need policies informed by educational research, not outdated traditions," she says.

"The book brings together genuine research into what is really behind the behaviour issues encountered in schools – it unpacks the human dynamics at play.

"We understand it challenges the dominant view – but it 'answers back' with research and evidence and it provides a better way of building respectful school communities where learning is paramount."

The research and the publication have been supported through the Australian Research Council Linkage Scheme. More information about the book can be found [here](#).

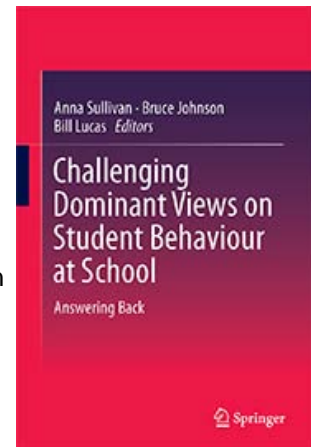
The impact of global disasters today

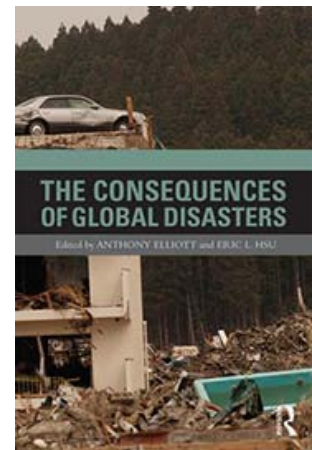
The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster of 2011, the Great Sichuan earthquake of 2008, floods, fires on a huge scale and the global financial crisis – natural and man-made - all are disasters and all have consequences.

In a new book *The Consequences of Global Disasters*, edited by Professor Anthony Elliott and Dr Eric L Hsu from UniSA's Hawke Research Institute, social researchers from around the world look at how and why 21st century disasters have an amplified scope and impact in a world that is not only more mobile and globalised, but also more immediately connected by modern communications.

Focusing in a large part on the consequences of the Fukushima nuclear disaster, eminent academic researchers from Japan and elsewhere examine how the event has drastically transformed social relationships in Japan and beyond.

The three-part volume includes a look at how disaster research has moved focus from





the obvious management and resourcing issues to include an examination of the longer-term social impacts such as suicide, anxiety and depression through to literature and visual communications. It also includes chapters concerning resilience and national identity, disaster reporting and the impact of disasters on national identity.

The book is available through [Routledge](#).

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In Pictures

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Melbourne and Sydney alumni events

More than 200 people attended alumni events in Melbourne and Sydney on May 11 and 12, to celebrate the University's 25th birthday.



Pictured left to right: Dr Yvonne Zeegers, Dr Arek Dadej, Mrs Raylene Jones, Ms Kirsty Rogerson, Ms Pauline Middleton, Ms Deb Cocks, Professor Allan Evans, Associate Professor Bernie Hughes and Professor Jennifer McKay



VC takes pie in the face for childhood cancer

UniSA's Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd 'got pied' to raise money for the Childhood Cancer Association and in the process raised \$2,000 for the organisation. See the [video here](#) and find out more about the [ultimate pie challenge](#) where you can help raise funds for children living with cancer and their families.



MPs tour Mount Gambier facilities

Member for Barker, Tony Pasin and Federal Minister for Education and Training, Simon Birmingham (pictured below with UniSA staff) took a tour of UniSA's Mount Gambier Campus last month. Minister Birmingham was in the region for a Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) summit, attended by 750 teachers from across the region. UniSA hosted five sessions of the STEM summit, which were in session during the politicians' visit. The tour took in various learning spaces including the birthing suite and College staff demonstrated 3D printing technologies.



Coming together to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

An expanded Indigenous student service offering, scholarships for CEOs and managing directors of Aboriginal businesses to attend UniSA's [Centre for Business Growth](#) and a new MBA scholarship for Aboriginal leaders are key initiatives announced during Reconciliation Week, reaffirming UniSA's aspiration to be the University of Choice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



(L-R) Mr Rodney O'Brien, Chairperson, Kaurna Warra Pityanthi, Mr Eugene Warrior, Manager: Indigenous Student Services, Student Engagement Unit and Dr Lewis Yerloburka O'Brien, Kaurna Elder and Adjunct Research Fellow, Education, Arts and Social Sciences Divisional Office.



(L-R) Ms Laura-Anne Bull, Pro Vice Chancellor: Student Engagement and Equity Portfolio, Dr Lewis Yerloburka O'Brien, Kurna Elder and Adjunct Research Fellow, Education, Arts and Social Sciences Divisional Office and Mr Rodney O'Brien, Chairperson, Kurna Warra Pityanthi.

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