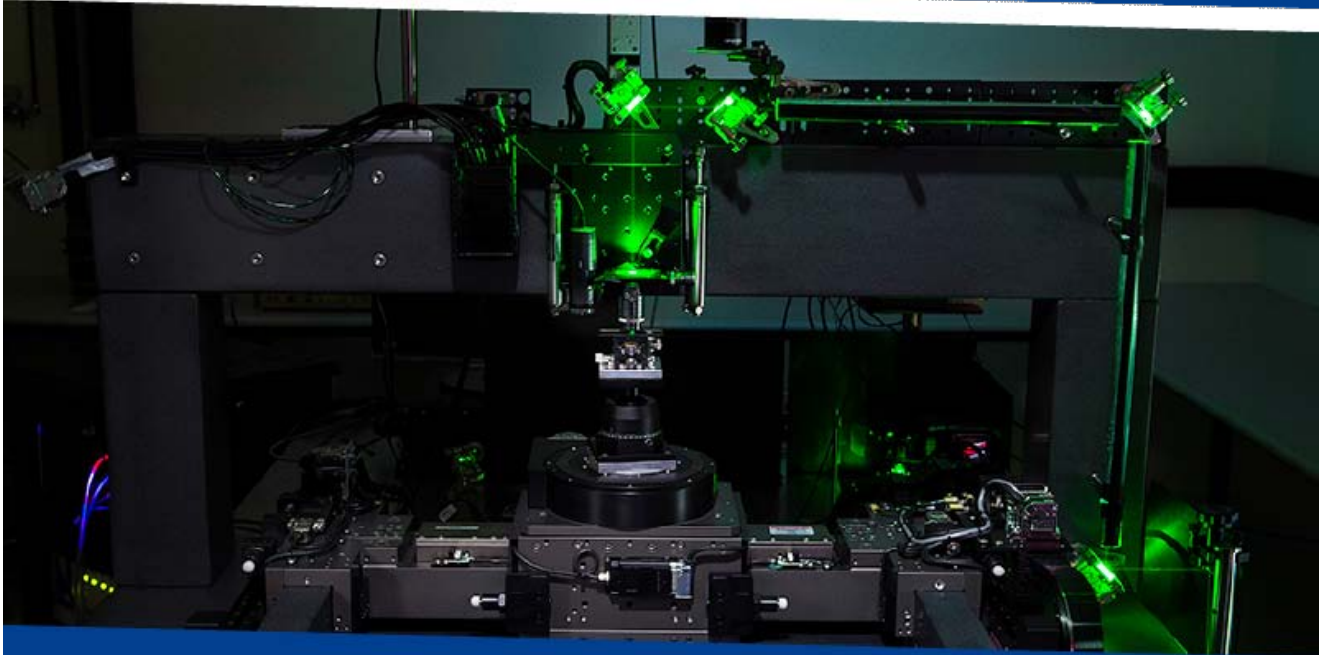


# news

May 2016

> from the University of South Australia



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## Solving real world problems through \$3.7 million ARC boost

Innovative research projects tackling real world problems across industries including manufacturing, construction, health and water management have been championed in the latest round of Australian Research Council (ARC) funding, with UniSA receiving at least \$3.7 million. [more](#)



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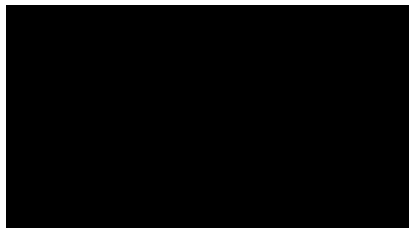
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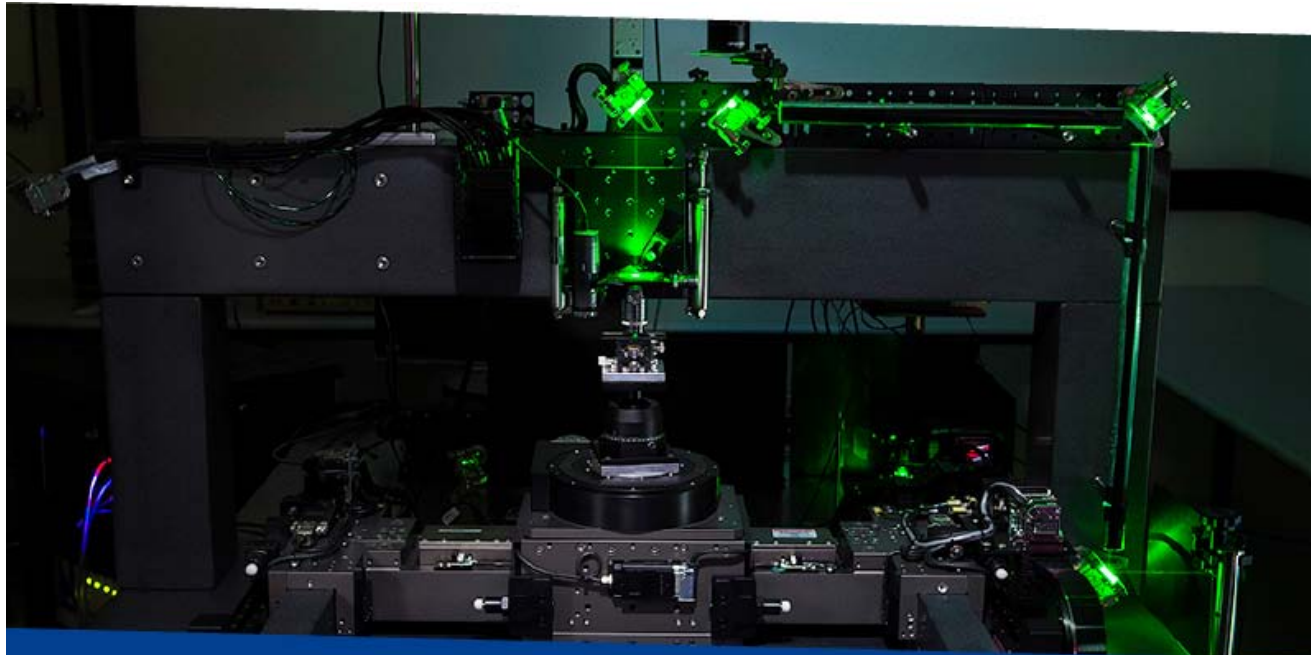
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## Solving real world problems through \$3.7 million ARC boost

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by Will Venn



### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A photonic machining system developed at UniSA for ultra-fast laser processing of materials. This advanced manufacturing capability allows light guiding channels to be directly written into 'lab on chip' devices to achieve ultra-sensitive chemical and biological sensing.

Innovative research projects tackling real world problems across industries including manufacturing, construction, health and water management have been championed in the latest round of Australian Research Council (ARC) funding, with UniSA receiving at least \$3.7 million.

Researchers from the divisions of Information Technology, Engineering and the Environment (ITEE), Health Sciences (HSC), and the recently established Future Industries Institute (FII) will receive grants for their projects, totalling more than \$1.7m.

A further \$2m is also being awarded to UniSA researchers selected to establish a research hub in partnership with the University of Technology Sydney (UTS).

This new *ARC Research Hub for Integrated Device for End-user Analysis at Low-levels* is one of five Industrial Transformation Research Hubs which the Federal Minister for Education, Simon Birmingham, describes as "next generation research incubators".

Working in this hub, UniSA's Professor Emily Hilder; Professor David Lancaster; Dr Beatriz Prieto-Simon; and Dr Craig Priest will collaborate with UTS researchers, aiming to create diagnostic and drug testing technologies that will make Australian biotechnology, diagnostics, veterinary, agribusiness and manufacturing firms globally competitive.

Director of the Future Industries Institute Emily Hilder, described the ARC funding as a "beautiful opportunity" for the hub to start a five-year program





Director of the Future Industries Institute Emily Hilder.

of research aimed at bringing new diagnostic technologies to a range of industries.

“We are really excited to have received this funding and the work of the research hub really speaks to what the Future Industries Institute is about; identifying practical challenges and working in partnership with industry to solve them,” Prof Hilder says.

“The hub includes a range of researchers at different stages in their careers, working across a range of disciplines. The genesis of our work was sitting down with industry contacts and gaining a perspective of what problems they face, what grand challenges are there that we can work collaboratively on, to address.”

The hub’s mission is to create user-friendly diagnostic and drug testing technologies that could be applied in a variety of ways and in fields including health (particularly disease diagnosis, illicit drug testing), environmental monitoring (e.g. water testing) and food safety.

“The ARC funding is a significant amount, which, added to industry investment will make a big difference. It’s a tough game, but’s great to get on the right foot with this and a five-year period gives us a length of time to establish something that can make a big difference and ultimately transform and grow industry.”

UniSA is also involved in another of the five hubs, with Associate Professor Jun Ma as a participant in the ARC Research Hub for Graphene Enabled Industry Transformation.

Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says the ARC funding allocation will drive forward innovative projects by UniSA research teams, whose collaboration with industry and business would create society-wide benefits.

“In such a competitive research environment, it’s encouraging to note that funding is being awarded to researchers whose proposals typify and showcase what we, an enterprising young university, do best: that is creating knowledge that adds value, enhances industrial practice, builds on industry partnerships, and ultimately stands to benefit the global community,” Prof Lloyd says.

Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and Innovation, Professor Tanya Monro, describes the ARC linkage projects as a showcase of innovation.

“Research that demonstrates clear pathways and intent, responding to and meeting the needs of industry, is that which has the most impact in our society and makes the most difference,” Prof Monro says.

“The awarding of ARC funding to these researchers is a reflection of their innovative talents and underlines once more just how vital collaboration is between industry and research to achieve impact.”

UniSA projects receiving ARC funding include:

**Professor Julie Mills (ITEE) and her team** will be granted \$350,000 for a project aimed at using crumb rubber from used tyres to replace natural sand aggregate in concrete used in housing construction. This project intends to provide the tyre industry with a viable market for end of life tyres, and the premix concrete industry with a “green” product for the residential construction market.

**Associate Professor David Beattie’s (FII) team** will be utilising their ARC Linkage grant of \$220,105 for a project aimed at controlling fat crystal wettability, to create tailored dairy products with desirable stability, shelf-life and texture. Expected outcomes are new dairy products with optimum stability and texture.

**Associate Professor Jun Ma (ITEE)** and his team will be awarded \$229,000 for his project aimed at developing technology that has the potential to prevent the breakage of conveyor belts that are essential to the mining, processing and transportation of loose bulk materials, improving the design and manufacturing of flexible sensors. The project, which will involve an Australian manufacturing partner, aims to develop composites specifically suited for the fabrication of rolling-resistance sensors that detect early-stage malfunctioning idler rolls.

**Associate Professor John Hayball’s (HSC) team** will be awarded \$362,000 for a project which aims to develop a multicomponent vaccine system to deliver equal effectiveness against several disease targets in a

single administration. New and innovative vaccine design strategies incorporating economical commercial production processes are urgently needed for new and existing human and animal health applications. A vaccine capable of targeting multiple diseases by a single injection is an obvious way to expedite future vaccine development and deployment.

**Dr Justin Payne's (ITEE) team** will receive \$225,000 funding for a project which aims to improve exploration models for the spectrum of deposits at Olympic Dam. The project aims to constrain the source of metal and fluids in the Gawler Craton deposits, determine crustal fertility for deposit formation and develop metal specific 'prospectivity maps' to improve exploration efficiency.

**Dr Beatriz Prieto-Simon's interdisciplinary project (FI)**, has been awarded \$321,000 to develop arrays of electrochemical biosensors based on nanostructured silicon for real-time monitoring of water filtration membrane integrity. It is expected to create outcomes including improvement of water treatment processes, removal of viruses and reduction of the risks and uncertainties of water recycling.

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## UniSA to become an Australasian hub for Islamic studies

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by Will Venn



HUMANITIES

Professor Mohamad Abdalla will lead the new Centre for Islamic Thought and Education (CITE)

South Australia is set to become one of the largest research concentrations in Islamic studies with the announcement today of a new Centre for Islamic Thought and Education (CITE), to be based at the University of South Australia.

The new Centre will be led by one of Australia's most respected Muslim academic scholars, public intellectual and religious leaders, Professor Mohamad Abdalla, and will bring together researchers specialising in Islamic psychology, ethics and business, leadership and management, finance and education.

Announcing the new Centre, UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says its goal is to promote and encourage understanding of evidence-based knowledge of Islam and the issues facing Muslims in Australia and globally, through education and engagement with the wider Australian community.

"The Centre will be a knowledge hub for community empowerment through research, education and engagement, a hub that is open to collaborate with international partners, government departments and non-government bodies here in Australia and around the world," Prof Lloyd says.

"The opportunities for the new Centre to raise awareness and drive engagement with the wider community are boundless."

Prof Abdalla will join UniSA's Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences, coming from Griffith University where he is Professor of Islamic Studies at the School of Humanities, Languages and Social Science and where he established and led Griffith's first Islamic Research Unit (GIRU) in 2006, also establishing Islamic studies as a discipline at the university.

In 2008 he won, with colleagues from the University of Melbourne and the University of Western Sydney, Federal Government backing for an \$8 million National Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies (NCEIS), spearheading the development of an undergraduate major in Islamic studies that has been adopted by other universities. He is currently Director of the Queensland node of the NCEIS.

Prof Abdalla is an expert in Islamic civilisation and its interconnectedness with the Western civilisation, Islam in Australia, Islamic thought and Islamic ethics. He has published widely in Islamic studies with reputable publishers; co-edited a book on Islam in the Australian News Media; and has a forthcoming book titled *Interconnectedness of Civilisations: Islam and the West* (University of Melbourne Press).

Since the tragic events of 11 September 2001, and subsequent local and global events, Professor Abdalla has worked tirelessly to establish open and respectful dialogue between people of diverse faith traditions and persuasions, and is well respected and regarded among many communities in Australia and abroad.

“In an increasingly globalised world the varied problems facing Muslim societies present new and complex challenges, which need to be addressed from a strength-based approach,” Prof Abdalla says.

“One of the founding values of the Centre will be the clear focus on genuine and meaningful engagement, which will provide for valuable two-way conversations and insights between the Muslim and broader community.

“The vision of the Centre for Islamic Thought and Education (CITE), therefore, is a revival in Islamic thought and scholarship that facilitates interconnectedness and empowerment for local, regional and global communities.

“The Centre will build on the great work already being undertaken in South Australia both at the academic and community level and work with UniSA’s School of Education to design strength-based programs and projects informed by Islamic thought as well as the Australian context for communities, schools and non-government organisations.”

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## Mount Gambier's hi-tech facilities officially open for business

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by Katrina McLachlan and Mary-Jane McArdle



COMMUNITY

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd speaks at the opening of the new Mount Gambier Learning Centre.

UniSA's new state-of-the art Learning Centre was officially opened in Mount Gambier last month, showcasing some of the most sophisticated facilities for teaching and learning in regional Australia.

More than 200 guests attended the official opening on April 19, including committed local supporters of UniSA, Bob and Gayle Cowan, who were honoured through the naming of the main auditorium in recognition of their philanthropic contributions to regional education.

The centre includes new collaborative learning spaces and modern teaching facilities all linked through a central piazza where students can relax and interact.

One of the key features is the hi-tech health education facilities; supporting more local nurses to study and stay in the South East of SA and Victoria's Western Districts.

Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says the purpose-built experiential *Horizon Hospital and Health Service* is an outstanding aspect of the facility.

"It's a suite built to replicate an actual functioning hospital and health service staffed by practicing clinicians where students are rostered onto 'shifts' and allocated to care for virtual patients," Prof Lloyd says.

Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd and Associate Professor Judy Nagy with long time UniSA supporters Bob



Long time UniSA supporters Bob and Gayle Cowan with Vice Chancellor and President David Lloyd.

and Gayle Cowan.

UniSA's Head of School of Nursing and Midwifery, Professor Carol Grech, says students are now able to access real-life simulation resources of the same quality as their metropolitan counterparts.

"Through the use of advanced digital technologies in our simulated Horizon Hospital and Health Service facility our students engage in real-life experiences every time they walk in the door," Prof Grech says.

"The School of Nursing and Midwifery has created a web-based online learning resource, a kind of simulated city called the City of Horizon. It replicates a typical Australian regional centre with a population of about 30,000 residents.

"Images, audio and video resources depict a group of city residents who share their life histories and health conditions with our students who then get to know these residents as individuals as they would in real world practice situations."

Prof Grech says being able to stay local is an enabler for students to gain nursing and midwifery qualifications and then take up positions in local hospitals and health services.

Third year nursing student Rachel Stephens lives in Casterton, Victoria, about 45 minutes from Mount Gambier and is very grateful for the opportunity to study close to home and with some degree of flexibility.

Rachel started first year of her studies in Adelaide but transferred to Mount Gambier after struggling to live and study so far away from home.

"Being able to study in Mount Gambier makes things so much easier for me and to be able to study in such a wonderful facility is quite overwhelming," Rachel says.

"I've had sessions in the simulated *Horizon Hospital and Health Service* and they were great because it is like a real ward.

"It's wonderful how much has been invested into our practical experience.

"Being a regional centre, we're lucky with the facilities we have and I would love to stay around the area and nurse, so am working towards securing a graduate position as close to home as possible."

Find information about programs available to study at Mount Gambier [here](#).

Watch the launch [video](#).

See photos from the [launch](#).

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# news

May 2016

&gt; from the University of South Australia

## Get ready to join the jam

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by Mary-Jane McArdle



In case you have somehow missed this news, it's just over a week until UniSA turns its full attention to a 30 hour online conversation in the 2016 *unijam* on May 19-20.

UniSA students, staff and alumni are invited to register and share their views. The University has also invited special VIP guests from the community, our research partnerships and education experts to help shape the enterprise.

For anyone looking to register, you can follow the prompts [here](#) and be ready to join the discussions between 10:00am on Thursday 19 May and 4:00pm on Friday 20 May.

Back in 2013, UniSA's inaugural unijam was a world first for any university and Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says he has received lots of questions about why it's happening again.

"Things are moving at a frantic pace – we're not only trying to keep up, but to keep ahead," Prof Lloyd says.

"Sometimes, you have to pause and look around to make sure that you're heading in the right direction.

"Three years on and mid-way through delivery of our *Crossing the Horizon* action plan, many of the students and staff who participated have moved on and the world has changed, which is why we are going to jam again.

"In this, our 25th year, it's an ideal time to reflect, regroup and get ready for the next stage of our journey."

Prof Lloyd says the University has received an overwhelming response from VIPs including current and former politicians, international leaders in their fields and expert commentators including:

- Senator The Hon Simon Birmingham - Federal Minister for Higher Education
- The Hon Christopher Pyne MP - Federal Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science



- The Hon Jay Weatherill - SA Premier
- Maggie Beer - South Australian icon, cook, food author, restaurateur and food manufacturer
- Rosie Batty - Former Australian of the Year, domestic violence campaigner, Founder of the Luke Batty Foundation
- Anthony Finkelstein - UK Chief Scientist
- Phil Baty - Editor, *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings
- The Hon Mike Rann - former South Australian Premier and current Australian Ambassador to Italy
- Nick Wilson - Managing Director, Hewlett-Packard Enterprises, South Pacific
- The Hon Kyam Maher MLC - State Minister for Employment; Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation; Manufacturing and Innovation; Science and Information Economy; and Automotive Transformation
- The Hon Susan Close MP - State Minister for Higher Education and Skills; Education and Child Development
- Marlee Silva, Co-CEO of AIME Mentoring

**Issues up for discussion include:**

- How we can help our graduates to be best placed to get a job in the new economy;
- How we'll develop an Education Precinct at our Magill campus – consolidating all of our educational offerings on one site;
- How we can deliver our digital learning strategy and online education;
- Our new Research and Innovation Strategic Plan, our research themes, plus how we can build research that is better linked with industry;
- Our student experience – how we create environments that allow our students to make the most of their university experiences; and
- How we can work more efficiently and effectively as an organisation – including the implementation of our Enterprise Support Plans.

Many ideas raised in the 2013 *unijam* were implemented and again this forum will provide a powerful channel for people to share their suggestions, to participate in (or simply observe) meaningful conversations and to make a difference to UniSA's future.

**Some of the ideas implemented from the 2013 *unijam* include:**

- Our Great Hall, which is currently being built;
- The UniSA shuttle-bus (Campus Connector between Mawson Lakes and Magill);
- The University community gardens project;
- A smoke-free university;
- The UniSA App for students;
- Moving to full video recording of lectures; and
- A range of branded clothing that's extremely popular with students and staff.

To keep updated on all things *unijam* and to find out more about how this online conversation will work, visit the [unijam website](#).

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University of  
South Australia

## New cancer research lab at UniSA

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### HEALTH

Launching the new joint laboratory (from left) Professor Angel Lopez CCB Co-Director, Minister Kyam Maher, Professor Wanjin Hong Executive Director of IMCB, Professor Sharad Kumar CCB Co-Director and Professor Vinay Tergaonkar.

UniSA's involvement in a new joint laboratory will see a team of researchers in South Australia work on the science that will lead to a better understanding of cancer and improved treatments.

UniSA and SA Pathology's Centre for Cancer Biology (CCB) is partnering with Singapore's Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology (IMCB) within the Agency for Science Technology and Research (A\*STAR), thanks to \$1 million in support from the Department of State Development through its South Australian Research Fellowship Program.

Under the Fellowship, international expert in the relationship between chronic inflammation and the development of cancers – Professor Vinay Tergaonkar – will lead the new laboratory. He will lead cutting-edge research into inflammation in a variety of cancers and the development of new drug treatments to block inflammation selectively, rather than generically.

Vice Chancellor, Professor David Lloyd says the partnership is a perfect example of how international collaborations can benefit South Australia and sow the seeds for future industries.

"This is a significant investment by the University and the State Government but one that will continue to reap great rewards by building the State's potential for national and international leadership in aspects of cancer research," Prof Lloyd says.

"Prof Tergaonkar's appointment with UniSA has already underpinned a successful infrastructure grant of \$2 million from the Australian Cancer Research Foundation and attracted support from the Cancer Council SA and other funding bodies."

Prof Lloyd says the collaboration provides access to scientific expertise, equipment, and the sharing of data, and will support continuing research exchange opportunities between SA and Singapore, nurturing higher degree research students to undertake research into cancer therapies.

Prof Tergaonkar said the new laboratory is a real indicator of CCB's and South Australia's world class program and its growing reputation internationally to create partnerships, like they have with IMBC and A\*STAR.

"The number of research partners and quality of the relationships that exist at CCB is delivering results that provide breakthroughs in the discovery of causes of cancer and how to prevent and treat the disease in people," Prof Tergaonkar says.

"Institutions coming together like we are here in Adelaide, demonstrates the trust that exists between the CCB and Singapore, and sends a message to prospective partners about getting involved in South Australia to be part of the work being done."

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# news

May 2016

&gt; from the University of South Australia

## From the Chancellery

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INSIDE UNISA

I usually like coincidence and I have often thought that things don't just happen by chance.

Coincidence can remind us of connections we might not have made or valued, and it can lead us to new thinking and associations.

And so on the eve of the federal budget, when I had the pleasure of opening our stunning new Mount Gambier Learning Centre, I did reflect for a moment on some significant coincidences.

This centre – with its \$7 million high speed fibre connections, the envy of many regional centres – was 11 years in the making and funded by more than \$12m from the Federal Government, UniSA, the local council and some private contributions.

It is a centre that opens the door to accessible education for students in the Limestone Coast region and, coincidentally, was opened almost 25 years to the day that the University of South Australia unveiled itself to the South Australian community.

It meant a great deal to me and to all those involved, that 25 years on, UniSA was being very true to its founding mission of being a different type of higher education institution with a wider social purpose than the more traditional institutions of times past.

And this was a project that came from the community, was built by the community and will serve the community.

One particular notable symbol of this community spirit was acknowledged by our decision to name the major lecture theatre after Bob and Gayle Cowan who have been generous education philanthropists for over 20 years. I left it to the 11th hour to tell them as I knew they were so modest there was a risk they'd say no!

But that brings me to the latest federal budget or at least one aspect of it.

While the overall outcome, which is a step in the right direction, is that we have an options paper to consider and a round of no doubt robust consultation before a wider round of decisions are made, we need to note at least

one decision right now that will have real impacts.

It has been announced that the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships program (HEPPP) will be cut by 20 per cent over the forward estimates.

This program is specifically designed to help students from lower socio-economic groups into tertiary education.

UniSA has received around \$6m from HEPPP, which supports a number of our activities, including programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and the provision of equity based scholarships.

Importantly, it also supports a range of programs for a variety of students in regions just like Mount Gambier.

Quite simply it is a pity that at precisely the time when we are showing significant progress in building higher education in communities, and skilling and equipping our minds for the future, programs like this are cut short.

We know education fosters innovation and excellence; it builds capacity, but that also needs time and consistency.

UniSA will remain committed to the regions – we're not for turning – but this does point to an ongoing need for us to continue to make the case to governments and the community about what can be achieved when we continue to invest.

And the release of the higher education options paper also just happens to be a nice coincidental backdrop to *unijam* on the 19-20th May. Yes *unijam* is back!

I'm sure you have seen and heard about it, but if not I urge you to register. Halfway through our Crossing the Horizon action plan is a good time to take stock, reflect on progress and reset for the future.

We have much to be proud of with the Health Innovation Building and Great Hall rising out of the ground, while our research outcomes and the success of our graduates powers on.

But let's get online, have a conversation, and who knows what coincidences we might find.

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

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### UK Chief Scientific Adviser appointed Adjunct Research Professor at UniSA

UniSA has welcomed the Chief Scientific Adviser for National Security to Her Majesty's Government, United Kingdom, Professor Anthony Finkelstein (pictured right), to a special Adjunct Research Professor role at the Future Industries Institute (FII).

Instrumental in forging a landmark research partnership between FII and University College London (UCL) in his former role as Dean of Engineering Sciences and Professor of Software Systems at UCL, Prof Finkelstein will continue to promote high-level scientific engagement between the two universities.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says the appointment underlines the strength of the relationship with UCL and the enormous potential to foster more globally-engaged research at UniSA.

"Becoming a university that is globally visible and connected is a key priority for any university that is serious about developing the innovation required to build industries of the future," Prof Lloyd says.

"This is especially important for Australia and South Australia as we take on an innovation agenda to secure opportunities to develop the future industries that will provide employment and economic growth, and help to meet goals around sustainability and environmental security.

"Prof Finkelstein's experience as a scientific leader and his continuing role as a UCL Chair in Software Systems Engineering and a research leader at its Alan Turing Institute, the UK national institute for the data sciences, will support further scientific engagement and joint research and teaching opportunities."

### Prestigious Hawker Scholarship awarded to UniSA student

UniSA student Shamsiya Mohammadi has taken out one of Australia's most prestigious scholarships, winning a 2016 CAS Hawker Scholarship, presented in Canberra earlier this month by former Governor-General, Major General, The Hon Michael Jeffery.

Originally from Afghanistan, Shamsiya is in her second year of a Journalism and Arts (International Relations) degree having completed her secondary education at Roma Mitchell Secondary College in Adelaide, where she achieved Dux of Campus and an ATAR of 99.75.

Shamsiya says she is humbled by the acknowledgement the scholarship



UniSA student Shamsiya Mohammadi is presented with her 2016 CAS Hawker



places on her from such a well-respected organisation.

Scholarship by Major General The Hon Michael Jeffery AC, AO, CVO, MC (Retd).

"I'm honoured to be a recipient of this scholarship and excited for the opportunities it offers me to further my education, as well as my personal and professional life in Australia," Shamsiya says.

"This scholarship is an inspiration for me to continue advocating for the things I believe and, like the legendary Charles Hawker, work towards the greater good in everything I do.

"My family fled Afghanistan when I was two and we found refuge in Pakistan before my father risked his life journeying by boat to Australia in 2000. As a family we were reunited with my father in 2006 in Denmark. I was nine when I arrived in the Riverland and spoke no English.

"For everything my family and I have achieved here, I'm incredibly thankful for my parents' bravery and the life it's afforded us in our adopted home.

"My ambition is to complete my studies and move toward a career as a Foreign Correspondent in Afghanistan. I want to be a voice for the voiceless."

Shamsiya has also held positions as an executive member of The Association of Australian Tertiary Students from Afghanistan (AATSA) and Welcome to Australia. Both organisations seek to build a bridge between the Australian community and refugees arriving in Australia.

In 2015, Shamsiya was the Youth Ambassador at the Australian Refugee Association (ARA) helping other refugees to settle in Australia and is also a member of UniSA's Powerhouse Radio Show to further her ambition of becoming a journalist.

Pro Vice Chancellor for Student Engagement and Equity, Dr Laura-Anne Bull paid tribute to Shamsiya's academic prowess, as well her social conscience and advocacy for the rights of women and refugees.

"This is a young woman who is a real role model, both academically and personally. I'm confident she'll achieve whatever it is she sets her mind to," Dr Bull says.

The Charles Hawker Scholarship was established by Lilius Needham in memory of her brother who was one of Australia's most respected pastoral pioneers. Valued at up to \$50,000 over three years, it is one of the most generous privately funded residential scholarships available to Australian undergraduate and postgraduate students.

### **UniSA honours influential social theorist Professor Lord Anthony Giddens**

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd recently travelled to London to award an Honorary Doctorate to Prof Lord Anthony Giddens in recognition of his international contribution to social theory and his guidance and support for UniSA's Hawke Research Institute.

Announcing the award, Prof Lloyd says Lord Giddens is one of the most cited and influential social scientists in the world, credited with developing the first major sociological theory of globalisation.

"Unlike many discipline-bound experts, Lord Giddens is renowned for his interdisciplinary approach, applying his knowledge and commentary to developments in sociology, anthropology, archaeology, psychology, philosophy, history, linguistics, economics, social work and most recently, political science," Prof Lloyd says.

"His breadth of range has been especially helpful to the leadership of the Hawke Research Institute which also has a wide remit in the social sciences."

Author of some 40 books, published in more than 40 languages, Lord Giddens' theory of structuration has profoundly shaped the social sciences – especially in the English-speaking world.

Lord Giddens taught at Cambridge University for more than 25 years, where he was Professor of Sociology. From 1997 to 2003 he was Director of the London School of Economics.

So valued is his contribution that today he is a Life Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the London School of Economics.

He was given a life peerage in 2004, as Baron Giddens of Southgate in the London Borough of Enfield and sits



in the House of Lords for the Labour Party.

He has been honoured by universities around the world and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Science and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Lord Giddens has also had a profound impact on politics with political leaders from Asia, Latin America and Australia, as well as from the US and Europe seeking his advice.

As former advisor to Tony Blair, he had a major impact upon the evolution of New Labour in the UK. He also took part in the original Blair-Clinton dialogues from 1997 onwards.

### **Inaugural Sir Terry Pratchett Scholarship**

Arts honours graduate from the University of Melbourne, James de Jesus Correia, has been announced as the first recipient of the Sir Terry Pratchett Scholarship established at UniSA in 2015.

A social science student with a passion for literature and international studies, Correia is keen to build on themes from the 22nd book in Pratchett's Discworld series *The Last Continent*, published in 1998.

Brim full of parodies of Australian people and cultural icons both recent and historical, the book also deals with notions of time and space.

"I am interested in the exploration of how these notions of bending time and space relate to Australian identity and our response to asylum seekers," Correia says.

As one of the most pressing concerns of recent times with, according to UNHCR data more than 60 million people forcibly displaced worldwide, the research will bring together cultural and literary studies with social theory to examine the issues.

"What is fantastic about this scholarship opportunity is that I will be able to challenge my interpretations across two academic environments and in two different countries," Correia says.

The \$100,000 scholarship will support Correia to undertake a Masters by research at UniSA's Hawke Research Institute and at Trinity College Dublin Long Room Hub.

Announcing the recipient following a special memorial event in London to honour Sir Terry Pratchett, UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd said he was delighted to see the first scholarship awarded.

"A year on from his death, it is satisfying to be able to award the scholarship to such a worthy candidate and someone who is taking on a deep examination of some of the core themes in Australian society," Prof Lloyd said.

### **Winning SA innovators set sights on world market**

UniSA Venture Catalyst grant recipients Simon and Joshua Schmidt have won an international award for their revolutionary new bottle closure, in further validation their product has the potential to transform the wine industry.

The brothers startup company Vinnovate beat more than 100 entrants in the Brancott Estate Winexplorer Innovation Challenge, which searched for innovations set to impact the global wine industry, by changing the way consumers experience wine.

Vinnovate's winning concept is an innovative screwcap closure with a small, push-activated compartment within the cap that releases a solution allowing consumers to tailor wines to their own tastes, on-demand.

The development of the innovative cap was boosted after Vinnovate founders Simon and Joshua Schmidt won a UniSA Venture Catalyst grant last year.

"Being able to customise beverages is the next big consumer trend and we believe our innovation can positively impact how people enjoy and consume wine," Joshua Schmidt says.

"Our new closure adds a functional element to wine packaging – it means the consumer can tailor their wine to their own personal tastes, whether that's to reduce the effects of preservatives in wine or to subtly enhance the flavour.



UniSA Venture Catalyst grant recipients Simon and Joshua Schmidt have won an international innovation award for their revolutionary new bottle closure.

“We believe consumers should have a choice and that’s something that makes our product unique.”

The Winexplorer Challenge includes a \$35,000 cash prize and the opportunity for the Schmidt brothers to work with Pernod Ricard to take the product to market.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says Joshua and Simon are genuine innovative thinkers.

“This is fantastic news for them and for South Australia because it showcases the State as a hub of innovation,” Prof Lloyd says.

“It also means that the UniSA program to support students with high potential new ideas, inventions or business applications, is paying dividends. There’s not much that is more exciting than backing a winner.”

See the [Venture Catalyst website](#) for more information about this UniSA and State Government initiative.

## 25,000th download for UniSA App

As we count down to the 2016 *unijam*, we celebrate the milestone of one of the outcomes from the inaugural event in 2013 with the 25,000th download of the UniSA Student App.

The Student App was developed after the 2013 *unijam* by UniSA students for students, providing one-stop-shop access to a range of study services and resources including study timetables, assessment and course information, campus events and study room bookings.

It has been a breakout success and in April, PhD student Nishtha Gaur was the 25,000th person to download the app. In true 25th birthday spirit, the University gave Nishtha a birthday gift to celebrate.

She says she has found that the app has been an easy way for her to access emails and stay up to date with what’s happening on campus.

“I also use the app to have a look at my research information, scholarship details, library loans and study period,” Nishtha says.

“The events calendar feature is the best, in my opinion, as it keeps me up to date with what’s happening.”

To download the UniSA Student App search ‘University of South Australia’ on the Apple Store, Google Play or Windows Store.

More information about *unijam* on 19 – 20 May can be found [here](#).

## Whyalla’s mega body spreads healthy messages

UniSA’s Department of Rural Health in Whyalla is using a giant inflatable body, known as the mega body, to promote good health in regional South Australia.

The mega body is the size of a large kid’s bouncy castle – big enough for people to walk through and explore different parts of the body.

Mellissa Kruger from the Department of Rural Health says it will be a fantastic tool in teaching children and young people how their bodies work.

“Once you have an understanding of some of the amazing ways in which the body functions to keep you healthy, you develop an appreciation for it and are more likely to want to look after it,” Kruger says.

“So by teaching children at a young age about looking after their bodies we hope it may help to contribute to the reduction of the risk of long-term conditions such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, some cancers and musculoskeletal conditions.

“This can be seen as an even more important issue in rural and remote areas of South Australia where access to health services can be limited.

“We are really excited to bring the mega body to regional communities. We hope to engage young people from the country in learning more about the



human body and health; while also giving those regional students who are considering a career in a health profession, an opportunity to find out more about their options.”

The mega body will be used for both community events and school visits; and the Department of Rural Health team are planning a roadshow with it later this year.

If anyone from within regional South Australia is interested in using the mega body or outside organisations in the region would like it featured at a health and wellbeing event, contact [Mellissa Kruger](#).

### **Emerald award for Dr Valerie O’Keeffe**

UniSA researcher Dr Valerie O’Keeffe has been recognised for her thesis about occupational health and safety for nurses, in the international Emerald Awards.

Dr O’Keeffe, who works in the Asia Pacific Centre for Work Health and Safety in the School of Psychology at Magill, is thrilled with the recognition for her work.

“It was a great surprise and honour to be awarded an international award from Emerald Publishing in the Healthcare Management category,” Dr O’Keeffe says.

“It is a great privilege to be recognised for work I feel very passionate about – nurse safety, well-being and quality care.”

Her thesis was titled *‘Nurses’ sensemaking: the social context of occupational health and safety decision making’* and Dr O’Keeffe says the findings highlighted how nurses involved in patient encounters balanced their own safety with achieving quality patient care and high productivity.

“Nurses experience high rates of work-related injury and illness, and often prioritise patient needs above their own,” she says.

“This research examined how nurses integrated safety for themselves and care for their patients in their decision making.”

Dr O’Keeffe’s research challenges current approaches to occupational health and safety risk management, and healthcare management more generally, by proposing a new concept: the flexible boundary of risk assessment.

“The flexible boundary describes the fluid processes by which workers seek to optimise safety and production,” Dr O’Keeffe says.

“This concept contributes new knowledge to our understanding of this most fundamental aspect of safe practice by recasting existing understandings of worker risk assessment and decision making.

“Health and safety risk management is applied with a focus on technical risks like manual handling and objective dimensions, such as how much weight is safe to handle.

“This research emphasises the important contribution of social and cultural factors and the dynamic nature by which risks evolve.”

### **UniSA dominates design institute awards**

The Design Institute of Australia (DIA) has announced its 2016 SA/NT Graduate of the Year Awards (GOTYA) with a clean sweep of UniSA recipients.

Graduates, students, DIA members, design professionals, educators and industry representatives attended the awards ceremony in Adelaide in late April where UniSA’s Industrial Design graduate Xing Zhou was announced as the overall state winner.

The judges said Xing’s submission “demonstrated her ability to bring inspiration from personal experiences into her design” and “it is exciting to watch such a talent begin her professional journey and to continue to produce amazing work.”

Each of the SA/NT GOTYA category winners are now in the running for the national awards to be presented later this year.

#### **The 2016 SA/NT GOTYA category winners were:**

- Industrial Design – Xing Zhou, UniSA



DIA GOTYA SA/NT award winners (back L-R) Luca Dichiera, Claudia Fernandez-Villasante, Henry Stentiford, Laura Searson and (front) Xing Zhou.



- Graphic Design (equal winners) – Henry Stentiford, UniSA and Claudia Fernandez-Villasante, UniSA

#### **Category commendations were awarded to:**

- Interior Design – Laura Searson, UniSA
- Industrial Design – Luca Dichiera, UniSA

Each year the Design Institute of Australia provides the highest-level final year undergraduate design students, or recent graduates, the opportunity to be recognised and celebrated through its prestigious portfolio-based awards program.

Educators in each state are invited to nominate their top design students to their state level GOTYA program, with each student submitting three different studio projects prior to attending an interview with judges.

#### **UniSA students to be heard at Global Voices delegation**

Two UniSA students have been selected to attend the Global Voices delegations in France and China.

Marked as future leaders of Australia, international relations student Vivian Rivera, and engineering student Jerome De Vera, will engage in discussions on public policy and international affairs while receiving exclusive access and exposure to high level foreign policy negotiations and networking opportunities.

Vivian will attend the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation Develop (OECD) Forum in Paris from 29 May – 3 June, where she will join former and current heads of state and government, top CEO's and leaders of key non-government organisations.

"This year's theme is 'Productive Economies, Inclusive Societies' which I am particularly passionate about," Vivian says.

"It's a great opportunity to interact with like-minded people, learn from different perspectives and backgrounds, and create a meaningful dialogue about how to transform our societies in a positive, effective and sustainable way.

"It is a remarkable opportunity to learn and further develop skills to become an agent of social change.

"By attending such an important event where I can network with leaders, government representatives and members of academia, I am hoping to advance my career, broaden my horizons, and learn more about what it takes to become the type of leader our society needs."

Jerome De Vera will attend the Y20 Summit in Shanghai from 31 July – 6 August where delegates will discuss and participate in programs related to global growth, development and structural reform.

Jerome applied for the Global Voices Y20 Delegation to gain an overseas experience while representing the voice of youth.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to research and communicate about my passion for sustainable energy, which is related to my current studies," Jerome says.

"I want to improve awareness around the importance of solving climate change through energy transitions, especially in Australia.

"I wish to inform world decision makers to embrace this transformation and highlight the benefits it can have in respective nations, through my participation in the delegation, my media engagement and maybe even having the opportunity to talk to them personally."

Global Voices is supported in its mission by Patron, the Governor-General of the Commonwealth Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd).

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## UniSA China partnership boosts mining

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

A research partnership between UniSA and China's Central South University (CSU) has the potential to revolutionise process control in mineral processing, and ensure the Australian and Chinese mining sectors remain operable and profitable.

The project is one of six Australia-China Science and Research Fund (ACSRF) innovation partnerships worth a total of \$116 million.

UniSA Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd says a healthy and profitable mining sector equipped with the tools to enable continued extraction of core resources is essential for the economies of both Australia and China.

"The aim of the joint research centre is to develop powerful sensing platforms for mineral processing, by bringing together experts in mineral processing chemistry, analytical chemistry, and spectroscopy and photonics," Prof Lloyd says.

Deputy Vice Chancellor: Research, Professor Tanya Monro says the joint centre is significant recognition for a group of UniSA researchers ready to partner with key stakeholders to tackle the challenges faced by the Australian and Chinese mining sectors.

"The common objective of pursuing research that has relevance to industry and society sets this partnership on the path to success, with the possibility of generating significant commercially applicable intellectual property," Prof Monro says.

"The outcomes of this research will be developed into practical technology by industry partner Magotteaux Australia, a world leader in applying sensing platforms for monitoring the chemistry of mineral processing."

UniSA Associate Professor David Beattie says contributing to solving the problems faced by the mining industry is central to the mission of UniSA and CSU.

"With the challenges of decreasing ore grades and restrictions on fresh water use, the effectiveness and

profitability of mineral processing are being pushed to the limit,” Assoc Prof Beattie says.

“If miners are to continue to extract minerals effectively and profitably, they need better information to control the separation processes, and effectively deploy the necessary chemicals.

“The ability to process ore with water of lower quality, which will allow for effective and useful recycling of process water, will be of significant value to miners in both countries, and will improve the public perception of the industry sector.

“The other key outcome will be human capital – the training and mentoring of many PhD students and postdoctoral researchers that will make them uniquely valuable to mining and mining services companies.

“These graduates and scientists will then contribute to the growth and sustainability of an industry that will need to undergo a revolution to survive in a global/geopolitical context of change.”

Assoc Prof Beattie leads the UniSA team, which includes core experts in mineral processing from the Future Industries Institute - Dr Marta Krasowska, Professor William Skinner and Dr Craig Priest. It also boasts an internationally recognised research team in optics and photonics from the UniSA School of Engineering, spear-headed by Professor David Lancaster and Associate Professor Shahraam Afshar Vahid with support from Prof Monro.

The partnership between UniSA and CSU also brings together researchers with complementary skills and experience from the University of Tasmania.

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## Augmented reality on professional and players' wish list

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by Hannah Saldaris



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

PhD candidate Markus Broecker builds new possibilities when virtual and real worlds collide.

The virtual and augmented reality race is on. If you're a gamer, headsets are the next hot ticket item. If you're a professional in construction or architecture your work life is about to move to 3D with designs leaping off the written plan onto real land plots that your client can walk through.

Program Director of UniSA's undergraduate degree in construction management, Dr Rameez Rameezdeen has embraced virtual and augmented reality and is keen to prepare students for a digitally enhanced career, training them to use the latest augmented reality technology.

"I can see the construction profession is moving towards the use of augmented reality and we've changed our programs to reflect the importance of this new technology," Dr Rameezdeen said

It's all about giving our students experience before they've started in a construction career," Dr Rameezdeen said.

"Site visits are an important part of developing students' real-world knowledge but often these places are a bustling hive of activity, so access is limited.

"With our new \$179,000 3D upgrade, funded by the School of Natural and Built Environments and the Information Strategy and Technology Unit at UniSA, students have unlimited access to virtual construction sites. The facility gives them the freedom to learn at their own pace, and at a time that works for them."

Co-Director of UniSA's Wearable Computer Lab, Professor Bruce Thomas agrees that augmented reality will have a greater presence in our professional and personal lives.

"Augmented reality has a number of benefits. For the building industry, you can walk through an environment



and estimate any costs as a result of plan changes,” Prof Thomas said.

“It also gives building occupants a geometric sense of physical features and where they should go, solving any foreseen issues on the spot.

“The technology is at a point where it would be very achievable to cycle through 3D house designs while on location at your vacant block of land.

“Imagine cycling through house designs: you could immediately identify issues, see the view from windows and decide on your favourite design all in situ.

“All it would take to progress this technology is the right investor.

“With mobile and instantaneous experiences such as these, this technology will be in demand from clients. This has already started to take effect in the gaming industry.

“We are on the brink of a surge in head mounted displays, with big players investing heavily in this technology; they’ll not let it fail. It will be a must-have on this year’s Christmas list.”

After working with virtual technology for 18 years at the Wearable Computer Lab, Prof Thomas is excited about it finally becoming a reality for gamers and industry applications.

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## Food event provides ingredient for cultural ties

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by Angie Young



COMMUNITY

Marketing student and SPICED Volunteer, Hoang Nguyen (middle) enjoys cooking at one of the recent events.

A series of free cooking demonstrations focusing on a different region of the world every three to four weeks has become one of the most popular events on the student calendar.

SPICED events have been attended by up to 500 people and have cultivated a shared understanding of what makes the UniSA community unique.

UniSA Business School Student Engagement Officer Olexij Straschko says SPICED has connected students and cultures, while inspiring healthy eating.

“We were motivated by the need to encourage healthy eating and the impact that nutritional value can have on student energy levels and alertness,” Straschko says.

“Often we’d see student shopping trolleys filled with two minute noodles – students don’t always have a very healthy diet, nor the skills to cook for themselves in a healthy manner, so this is where SPICED came in.

“At the SPICED events, students get to learn new skills, enjoy cultural dancing and interact over free food, which connects them.”

Since its inception in late 2014, SPICED has built communities within and between cultures, served as a meeting place outside of the classroom, and cultivated a shared understanding of what makes the UniSA lifestyle unique.

Marketing student and SPICED Volunteer, Hoang Nguyen, has reaped the benefits as an international student.

“I’ve learnt how to work in an English-speaking environment, manage an event, enhance my networking and make new friends,” says Hoang.

“I feel like the University has created a great sense of community for us – making it an enjoyable place to be.

Given most international students don't have families here, SPICED helps create one."

Invitations are also extended to student clubs to help plan events, empowering them to work with local businesses in their network and coordinate cultural activities.

President of the UniSA Afghan Students Association, Rahima Wahidi was involved in the recent Central Asian themed event, which was even attended by students from other universities.

"We had a great turnout and it was a night full of fun with traditional Afghan food, music and dance – the feedback was very positive, students enjoyed the night and wished there were more university events like it," says Rahima.

"SPICED is a great event and shows Australia's diversity and multiculturalism - it creates a sense of belonging which is key to a successful university life."

Master of International Business Program Director Dr Mei Lim says staff can also benefit from the cultural experience and this same sense of belonging can contribute to healthy retention rates.

"From my experiences as an international student, I'm well aware of the importance of the sense of belonging that comes from having one's culture valued and acquiring respect for other cultures," Dr Lim says.

"I always look for opportunities to influence the overall academic, social and cultural experiences of our students.

"SPICED offers chances for staff to spend time with students – they get to learn more about them outside class time.

"Respect and support for development of students as individuals is a vital ingredient of excellent teaching.

"In addition to creating supportive classroom environments, events such as SPICED support student development and help maintain retention rates."

SPICED is a free event held at the UniSA City West Student Lounge. It runs across selected Tuesdays, from 5-8pm. Find out more on the [SPICED Facebook page](#).



Master of International Business Program Director Dr Mei Lim provided a cake for a recent SPICED event.

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## Keep calm and carry on flying; human emotions in aviation

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by Will Venn



### RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

Just how significant human error is in contributing to aviation accidents can be gleaned from a simple statistic: in 80 per cent of all accidents the captain was at the controls.

It's a statistic highlighted by Dr Douglas Drury, Discipline Leader, Aviation, at UniSA's School of Engineering as part of his presentation at the Royal Aeronautical Society (Adelaide branch), titled *Human Factors in Aviation*.

The event, which took place at the end of April, was well attended, and according to Dr Drury provided a useful insight into an area of aviation that gets less attention than the more technical focus of similar presentations related to flight.

With more than 30 years' experience flying military, commercial, private charter and emergency medical operations, it's also a subject that Dr Drury knows inside out.

In 1990 he was a reserve pilot on a flight where he was advised that the captain could "get funny" flying through clouds.

The story of that flight, written as the preface to Dr Drury's thesis: *Critical Flight into Emotional Terrain* reads like a synopsis of a disaster movie, while underlining the importance of emotional regulation in the skies.

When the captain of that flight suddenly froze at the controls of an aircraft as it descended through cloud to land, a rollercoaster journey began in the skies, leaving passengers terrified and leading Dr Drury to record a "final message" to his wife on the aircraft's cockpit voice recorder because he thought they wouldn't make it. Fortunately his response to that situation helped avert catastrophe.

Pilot failure, not instrument failure, was the cause of what Dr Drury describes as the "flight from hell", prompting him, decades later, to research the role of emotions on the flight deck, a thesis aimed at developing greater



industry awareness of the issues and promoting more research into the development of emotion-regulating skills for crew members.

At UniSA, Dr Drury is responsible for the development of pilots and aviation professionals, and he believes aviation human factors training has come a long way.

“It used to be ‘this is my flight deck. Flaps up, gear up, shut up,’” Dr Drury says.

“The training now focuses on promoting good situational awareness of the team and openly challenging irregularities.

“We are also seeing more interest in understanding events like the Germanwings airline crash. The first officer (Andreas Lubitz) had a documented history that was never properly vetted before he was cleared to fly.

“Another recent example was an Italian pilot who had sent his wife a text message telling her that he was going to crash an airplane with 200 passengers on board if she left him. The pilot was detained by police before he arrived at the gate.

“Emotional instability is not a topic that is freely discussed in aviation. To quote Tom Hanks in *A League of Their Own*, ‘there’s no crying in baseball’.”

Dr Drury says it is human nature to defer to a higher authority under duress and that while flight captains are burdened by the task of solving and possibly salvaging an emergency situation, their training doesn’t focus on understanding the cognitive processes of attention and decision making under stress.

It’s a subject that also relates to other professions where stressful decisions need to be made, which may have significant impact or repercussion.

“Our police officers are put into situations that require decisions to be made during highly emotive moments,” Dr Drury says.

“Our military forces are placed in situations of prolonged stress that require multiple decisions to be made on the spot.

“Our first responders are exposed to situations that require full focus during extreme stress. More work needs to be done to develop greater emotional awareness within ourselves and those we are working with in high-risk environments.”

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## Zero-energy buildings proven to bring billion dollar benefits to SA

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by Hannah Saldaris



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Lochiel Park is arguably Australia's most environmentally sustainable residential estate.

Research Fellow from UniSA's Research Node for Low Carbon Living, Dr Stephen Berry and his colleagues have set themselves a challenge to change policy and the way we build in Australia.

Dr Berry asks "if we have the ability to construct, live and work in green, zero-energy environments then why shouldn't we?"

"With our living laboratory at the Lochiel Park Green Village in Adelaide, our research has proven that marrying low carbon housing design and innovative technology leads to more energy efficient, thermally comfortable and environmentally friendly homes," Dr Berry says.

Organisations or companies interested in working with this research node are invited to attend the 'Industry Friends of Low Carbon Living' event on Tuesday 17 May at City West campus (see below for more details).

With the label 'environmentally sustainable' there is often a perception that building is going to be more expensive but Dr Berry and his team have found this is not the case.

"Adopting a zero carbon housing standard locally was demonstrated to be overwhelmingly positive," Dr Berry says.

"Potentially, the South Australian community would receive benefits in the order of \$1.31 billion if a carbon zero policy was implemented state-wide for 10 years.

"That means for every \$1 invested in low carbon homes, the community would receive \$2.42 in economic gain.



Research Fellow from UniSA's Research Node for Low Carbon Living Dr Stephen Berry during a presentation at Lochiel Park.

“Home owners could also expect net benefits of around \$25,000 across the life of their home through greater energy efficiency and on-site generation, along with other benefits such as better health and well-being.

“These results could be applicable nationally and show that it is time for building standards to be raised from the current six star minimum rating to one that would achieve a much deeper cut in residential carbon emissions.”

The Node for Low Carbon Living officially supports the strategy adopted by Adelaide City Council to be a carbon neutral city by 2020.

“South Australia and the nation took the first baby steps to embrace sustainable low carbon building when the initial building energy standard was set in 2003 at four stars which progressed to six stars in 2010, but technologies evolve and we must push to higher standards,” Dr Berry says.

“Our research confirms zero carbon housing is both achievable and financially rewarding for householders and the wider community.

“It’s time for the Australian community to demand more sustainable housing.”

Under the leadership of Professor Wasim Saman, the Research Node for Low Carbon Living officially supports the policy adopted by the State Government and the Adelaide City Council to be a carbon neutral city by 2020.

UniSA’s world leading research centred at its living laboratories is providing the foundation evidence on which to create the first carbon neutral city.

More of UniSA’s world leading research from Lochiel Park is available [here](#).

Organisations or companies interested in working with the Research Node for Low Carbon Living are invited to attend the “Industry Friends of Low Carbon Living” event on Tuesday 17 May from 4 – 6pm at the Bradley Forum (Level 5, Hawke Building, City West campus). RSVP to [Hannah.Thwaites@unisa.edu.au](mailto:Hannah.Thwaites@unisa.edu.au). Further information is also available from [Stephen.Berry@unisa.edu.au](mailto:Stephen.Berry@unisa.edu.au).

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## Bullying in schools: how well is it being addressed?

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by Mary-Jane McArdle



HUMANITIES

A new report from UniSA reveals that while school bullying has reduced somewhat in recent years and schools are responding positively to the problem, it remains a serious issue with more work needed at a school level.

The report, funded by the Federal Government, is the first of its kind in Australia to draw upon the experiences and perceptions of a range of stakeholders associated with Australian schools including teachers, parents and students.

Report authors UniSA Adjunct Professor Ken Rigby and Dr Kaye Johnson reveal that the evidence suggests the good work being done by schools in trying to prevent bullying through classroom work is generally well recognised by students and parents.



UniSA Adjunct Professor Ken Rigby.

"There is however much more that needs to be done," Prof Rigby says.

"There remains a lack of awareness from students and parents around school anti-bullying policies, and many students who need help are reluctant to go to teachers or counsellors.

"In our research, about 15 per cent of students between Years 5 and 10 reported they were currently being bullied at school.

"And the harm done by bullying according to both students and parents is disturbing."

According to bullied students:

- 51 per cent reported being upset by it;



- 14 per cent had stayed away from school at least once because of bullying; and
- 36 per cent reported that bullying had made it hard for them to do their school work well.

Each of the 25 schools consulted had a written anti-bullying policy but around 50 per cent of students and 30 per cent of parents were unaware their school had such a policy, which Prof Rigby says indicates the policies need to be discussed to ensure they are understood.

“Actual interventions in bullying cases also need to be improved,” Prof Rigby says.

“Students reported that they were most likely to go to other students for help, followed by their parents, and they were least likely to go to a teacher or counsellor.

“The success rate of stopping the bullying for students who sought help from teachers or school counsellors was 36 per cent for primary school students and 22 per cent for secondary students.

“In some cases students reported that teacher interventions made matters worse.

“Many students need to be convinced that seeking help from the school if they are bullied will be helpful.”

Evaluations received by parents of bullied children on how cases are treated by schools tended to be very negative.

“They (parents) were especially concerned about schools not acting promptly, not recognising the serious effects of covert bullying, not informing them of what they were doing about it and generally achieving less satisfactory outcomes for their children,” Prof Rigby says.

“Teachers were in general strongly motivated (according to students) to try to stop the bullying.

“However, the teachers felt they had not been trained adequately in dealing with bullying in their pre-service education.

“Many were trying hard to overcome this disadvantage by in-service training by staff members.”

Knowledge of bullying among staff, based on research findings, was quite limited, with many teachers holding contradictory beliefs.

“Teachers reported that instruction and training in methods of dealing with cases of bullying was especially needed,” Prof Rigby says.

“Some well validated methods such as the Support Group Method and the Method of Shared Concern were largely unknown.

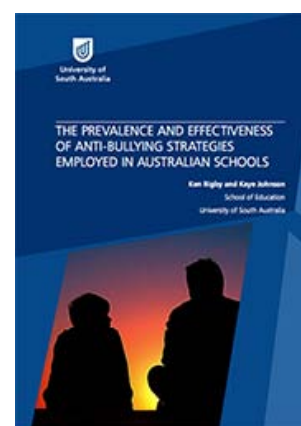
“Schools have in recent years been able to access more relevant sources to address bullying but need more direction in deciding how it can be employed.

“What comes out of this report is that it’s important for people to think about what schools are doing, whether it is working and what needs to be improved.”

Data was collected in 2015 in six States/Territories from 1688 students, 25 schools, 167 parents and 451 teachers.

The report was undertaken through a grant provided by the Australian Department of Education and Training under the aegis of the School of Education at UniSA. Report authors Prof Ken Rigby and Dr Kaye Johnson had assistance provided by co-researcher Greg Cox and by PhD student Alex Stretton.

The full report is available [online](#).



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### ***Mental Health Across the Lifespan***

UniSA Professor of Midwifery, Mary Steen is co-editor of a new book about mental health – *Mental Health Across the Lifespan*.

“Mental health is an integral part of health and during our lives every one of us is susceptible to mental health problems,” Professor Steen says.

“It is estimated that one in four people will suffer from some form of mental illness during their lifetime and therefore it needs to be considered as important as physical health problems.”

The book provides knowledge and understanding of how mental health affects human beings from conception through to end-of-life.

It covers an exploration of historical, social and cultural aspects. The book discusses mental health care and promotion, throughout the lifespan.

Chapters include: during pregnancy and early parenthood, childhood, adolescence and young adulthood, adulthood for both men and women, and in older people. The chapters can be read and reviewed in isolation, or used as an entire text.

Case studies and reflective exercises are included to help the reader gain knowledge and an understanding of how mental health problems can affect a person during their life.

Prof Steen says the book provides a solid introduction to mental health for students and that it will also act as a useful reference book for health professionals, support workers and anyone who has an interest in mental health.

Prof Steen co-edited the book with Michael Thomas who is now the Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Organisational Leadership at the University of Central Lancashire in the UK.

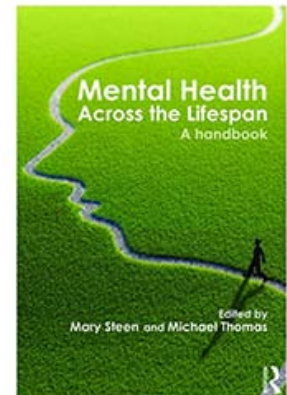
Several other UniSA staff were involved in writing for the book including Professor Nicholas Procter, Chair of Mental Health Nursing; Monika Ferguson, Research Associate; Elizabeth Newnham, Lecturer in Midwifery; Amy Baker, Lecturer; and Kirsty Baker, Lecturer in Mental Health Nursing.

### ***The Convict's Daughter: The Scandal that Shocked a Colony***

It's been described as a tale of “passion, scandal and big ideas”, a book that “fearlessly carves a fresh path between history and fiction” and an act of “respectful restoration” in which history and fiction intertwine to give fresh insight into Australia's forgotten decade – the 1840s.

Whatever the genre, award-winning historian Kiera Lindsey's debut book *The Convict's Daughter: The Scandal that Shocked a Colony* takes real life events out of the author's ancestral past and paints them with an emotional intensity and historical vivacity to bring mid-19th century Sydney to life.

Dr Lindsey, who lectures in Australian history at UniSA, has written a historical biography of an Australian woman who eloped with the wayward son of the Attorney-General in Sydney in 1848, only to end up in the witness box of Sydney's Supreme Court, being forced by her father to give evidence against the man she hoped to marry.



Author Kiera Lindsey with ABC Adelaide's Sonya Feldhoff.

The fact that the woman was Dr Lindsey's great, great, great aunt Mary Ann Gill, and that she only learnt about this chapter of her family's past when her mother showed her a faded newspaper clipping relating the courtroom scene, adds a "Who Do You Think You Are" element to the story.

Dr Lindsey was interviewed about her book by ABC's Sonya Feldhoff earlier this month at an event presented by The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre and the Hawke Research Institute, which was part of the InConversation Series and supported by South Australia's History Festival, About Time.

Dr Lindsey says she wrote *The Convict's Daughter* to share her enthusiasm for this neglected period of history, and, using the analogy of ABC's *Restoration Man*, explains how she drew extensively from historical sources to develop the story.

Where historical documentation of this period is lacking, Dr Lindsey used speculation and "informed imagination" to portray the historical contexts and emotional complexities of this very human saga.

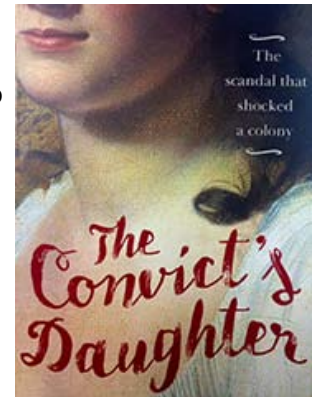
Dr Lindsey says the book is a counter to the fact that women are so frequently "overlooked and underreported" in history.

"There are so many fascinating women in Australia's past and their stories are likely to be lost forever if we only rely upon historical documents," Dr Lindsey says.

"These stories are our stories and they deserve to be shared but we need to be 'creative' if we are going to bring them to life."

"*The Convict's Daughter* uses creative historical techniques to recount the scandalous antics of a defiant colonial lass whose story also offers a new way of tracing Australia's own transformation in the nineteenth century."

*The Convict's Daughter* is now available in major bookstores and can also be purchased online at Booktopia and Amazon and Allen & Unwin.



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## In Pictures

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### Official opening of the Mount Gambier Learning Centre

More than 200 guests attended the official opening of the new learning centre at Mount Gambier on April 19. Visitors were able to tour the centre, which features some of the most sophisticated facilities for teaching and learning in regional Australia.



UniSA's Lyn Rabbetts and Tara McCracken with Adjunct Associate Professor Lydia Dennett, Chief Nurse and Midwifery Officer for SA Health.





UniSA Director of Human Resources Ruth Blenkiron (centre) with UniSA Council Members Jim Hazel and Terry Evans.



UniSA's Chelsea Cutting, Elisa Lawrie, Academic Director and Deputy Head of UniSA College, Associate Professor Sharron King and Head of UniSA College Stephen Dowdy.

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## Celebrating Europe Day

Europe Day is an annual celebration symbolising the peace and unity of Europe and the Hawke EU Centre for Mobilities, Migrations and Cultural Transformation celebrated the day (May 9) this year with a special lunch and Student Awards Ceremony at City West campus.

Guest speakers included the Director of Alliance Francaise D'Adelaide Jean-Christophe Trentinella, and

Honorary Consul to Slovenia in Adelaide Adrian Vatovec.

Associate Director of Research & Programs at the Hawke EU Centre Professor Susan Luckman outlined how the Centre connects UniSA students with Europe.

“Some of the key remits of the EU Centre are to provide opportunities for research students and staff to learn more about the EU through study, research or exchange,” Professor Luckman says.

“We have a number of offerings that allow staff and students to travel and connect with EU counterparts. We also have programs like the Hawke EU Centre internship program that finds each year, a talented undergraduate journalism student to join us in the Centre to gain hands on experience of working in this environment.”



Pictured left to right: Susan Luckman: Assoc Director: Research & Programs, Hawke EU Centre; Jean-Christophe Trentinella, Director of Alliance Francaise D'Adelaide; Lisa Ranson, student & inaugural EU Centre ambassador; Heidi Hetz, student; Luke Hynes, student; Adrian Vatovec, Honorary Consul to Slovenia in Adelaide; and Professor Anthony Elliott: Executive Director of the Hawke EU Centre.

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## Scholarships awarded to talented PhD students

Vice Chancellor Professor David Lloyd has this month awarded seven talented PhD students the Vice Chancellor and President's scholarship.





Congratulations to Ellen Scott, Stephanie Mills, Rebecca Callahan, Melissa Bennett, Seung Ho Lee, Gipsy Hosking and Amy Wilson, pictured here with Prof Lloyd.

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