

# On Campus

The Murdoch University community newspaper

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Strategy talk: Vice Chancellor John Yovich helps launch the State Government's biotechnology strategy at Murdoch University. He is flanked by (from left) Dr Fiona Wood, Science and Innovation Minister Fran Logan and Premier Alan Carpenter. Photo Brian Richards

## Five stars for graduate satisfaction

Murdoch University has once again achieved the top rating for graduate satisfaction with the release of the 2007 Good Universities Guide.

Murdoch is the only university in Australia to achieve this honour for the eleventh time in 12 years.

The independent guide, which is produced annually, compares 39 universities and 45 private providers. The information used in the guide is collected from the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training as well as National Graduate Destination Surveys.

Murdoch also received five stars for research intensiveness and teaching quality. The university achieved an above average rating (four stars) for indigenous participation, international enrolments, non-government earnings and student to staff ratios.

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### Break news

If you would like to share the news from your area, contact the public relations office on extension 2486.

Your news and views will be considered for publication in *On Campus*.

# Uni leads WA into bio future

Murdoch University is in the box seat when it comes to the State Government's biotechnology strategy for Western Australia.

Premier Alan Carpenter and Science and Innovation Minister Fran Logan unveiled the strategy at the State Agricultural Biotechnology Centre, at Murdoch's South Street campus.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Yovich, said the government's biotechnology strategy was significant and showed commitment to the field.

"There is no question the scientific advances now being made in biotechnology present great opportunities for Western Australia

– both in terms of improving outcomes in key areas like health care and agriculture but also in driving WA's economy into the future," Professor Yovich said.

"The strategy clearly identifies the interrelationships between universities – which supply research, intelligence and students – and commercial imperatives that are all important to the state.

"Murdoch University is excited to be pivotal in this strategy, including the relocation of the Department of Agriculture to the South Street campus which, as the strategy document describes, will build on our existing strengths in agricultural and veterinary

biotechnology and the capacity of the WA State Agricultural Biotechnology Centre."

World leading research conducted at the SABC at Murdoch University has seen the development of new varieties of wheat and barley.

"Murdoch University is a major player in biotechnology research and we were delighted the Premier chose to make his announcement on the campus," Professor Yovich said.

"I would commend the Premier and the minister for showing foresight in seeking to invest in a strategy and infrastructure that can turn this potential into reality."

Mr Carpenter said the strategy

would build on the \$82 million investment already contributed to medical and agricultural research in WA in recent times.

The Premier said the government would support the commercialisation of new WA biotechnology research.

"Researchers should be recognised for their efforts in developing WA biotechnology companies to take their leading research to the world, supporting WA economic growth, jobs and prosperity," Mr Carpenter said.

ADRIAN KWINTOWSKI

# We've done it again



BY JOHN YOVICH  
Vice Chancellor

The Minister for Education, Science and Training, Julie Bishop, recently announced that the Dawkins Era was over. She sees that the reforms took a range of different educational institutions and forced them into being multi-disciplinary, comprehensive, research-led, universities.

It is the minister's view that Australia needs only a small number of comprehensive public universities (12 has been mooted). I believe Murdoch will be one of those institutions.

In last month's *On Campus* I suggested that Murdoch needs to look to carve a niche as a university with excellent teaching and research within an engaged framework. The question for us is whether this might be a realistic aim. For

an independent view on this we need look no further than the 2007 Good Universities Guide.

## Research excellence

Murdoch prides itself in the strength of its research efforts and the way in which we have built and continue to strengthen our research links with community, government, industry and business. Our research has national and international significance and this has driven success in attracting both Commonwealth and external funding. As a result Murdoch achieved a five-star rating for research intensiveness from the guide.

The measures used in this ranking take into account the number of research-active academic staff to give a more accurate measure of how intensive the research occurring at individual institutions is. The ranking then reflects each institution's per capita success in attracting linkage-projects and discovery-projects scheme funding from the Australian Research Council for the period 2005 to 2009; and their Commonwealth Institutional Grants Scheme allocation for 2004.

Our five-star rating puts us in the top eight universities nationally and reinforces our excellent research reputation.

## Outstanding, student-centred teaching and learning

The quality of the teaching and learning

experience at Murdoch is unquestionable, as reflected in the fact that for the eleventh time in the past 12 years Murdoch has achieved the top, five-star rating for graduate satisfaction from the Good Universities Guide.

Indeed, our graduates also rate us in the top 20 per cent of Australian universities in teaching quality and the acquisition of generic skills, leading to a five-star rating for the overall educational experience at Murdoch.

Having a student-centred approach isn't just about teaching and learning, it is just as much about providing a supportive environment that enables all students to achieve their best.

Services that support students' academic and pastoral needs are critical to the student experience and have long been a part of Murdoch campus life. Areas such as assistance with study skills, support for students with disabilities and assistance with the transition to university culture exemplify this.

As a result, Murdoch also rates five stars for academic services, indicating that the designated academic services provided at all of our campuses are very comprehensive.

The quality and diversity of the contributions that individuals and teams make to the student learning environment – from enabling programs and generic skills development through to

postgraduate students support programs – were also recognised through the Award of Carrick Citations to six Murdoch staff (see page 7).

## Financial independence

Importantly, our ability to build on our teaching and research strengths and flourish as a stand-alone institution requires sound commercial acumen and a decreasing reliance on Commonwealth support.

Income generated outside standard government funding includes private research grants and contracts, investment activities, and fees paid by international and domestic students. This has grown as a proportion of our total income such that we received a four-star rating (second quintile) for non-government funding from the guide.

Murdoch has achieved these successes through the outstanding efforts of all our academic and general staff acting in concert. I thank and congratulate each of you for your dedication and hard work.

Murdoch University truly is a multi-disciplinary, comprehensive, research-led institution and can comfortably lay claim to a future in the Bishop Era as a comprehensive public university.

## On Campus

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## Migrant stories get airing

Murdoch's media students and ABC Radio are telling the world stories about Perth's migrants.

From British convicts transported in the 1800s to the asylum seekers of today, the third-year radio students have produced a series of stories about people who migrated to Perth and the reasons behind their decision to leave their homeland.

The series, called Flight 720, is airing on ABC's 720 Afternoons program on Wednesdays from 3.30pm.

They will also be placed on the station's website where listeners can read more about the countries and see pictures of the featured people and their country of origin.

Murdoch University Media Studies lecturer Mia Lindgren, a Swedish migrant to Australia, said she was excited about the series.

"It's good to show the industry the quality of what students produce. Ultimately, we want students to get a job in the industry. It's a great start," Mia said.

The stories were produced under the watchful eye of ABC producer Patti Brook.

"We thought the Flight 720 project would be a great way to give media students some experience with radio reporting and online producing and at the same time provide the ABC with some great content," Patti said.



Tuning in: Radio lecturer Mia Lindgren with student Dominique Pratt. Photo: Brian Richards.

"Using the third-year Murdoch University media students meant the stories would all be different in style and tone instead of just the one ABC reporter.

"It would be interesting to get these stories from a youthful point of view too."

Among the 22 countries featured are Switzerland, Israel, Iran, Zimbabwe and Brazil.

Student Dominique Pratt said

researching the story of a Russian family gave her a unique insight into what migrants went through to reach Australia.

"My family and friends were dumbfounded and just couldn't believe we were getting stories on the ABC," Dominique said.

"It is just such a good step into the industry for me."

JESSAMY PERRIAM



## Top fellow

Manager of Open Distance and eLearning, Dr Rob Phillips (above), has been awarded with a prestigious Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia fellowship.

Fellowships are awarded to recognise higher education teaching and the support of learning and teaching.

Executive member of HERDSA, Associate Professor Geoff Crisp, outlined the reasons for the award at the presentation ceremony.

"Rob supports academics in enhancing student learning, particularly through the use of educational technology," Geoff said.

"Rob plays a significant role as an educational designer of technology-supported learning environments and has written widely on the scholarship of learning and teaching."

For more information on applying for a HERDSA fellowship visit [www.herdsa.org.au/fellowship.php](http://www.herdsa.org.au/fellowship.php)

## New look for In Touch Magazine

The new-look In Touch magazine for Murdoch alumni has received good response from our global graduate community.

The publication has undergone a major facelift to better service our growing alumni family around the world.

It features a mix of user-friendly stories and insightful contributions from Murdoch teachers and researchers.

About 15,000 copies of the magazine have been sent out and some will be distributed at the upcoming graduation ceremonies.

The publication was produced by the Corporate Communications and Public Relations office on behalf of the Alumni, Careers and Employment Centre.



## Newman joins global planners

City planning expert, Professor Peter Newman, has joined the world's biggest planning and project management group as a land use and transport planning consultant.

The director of Murdoch's Institute for Sustainability and Technology Policy will work with Parsons Brinckerhoff on its "Sustainable Communities" initiative.

As part of the project, PB will work with major Australian clients to create innovative and more liveable communities through better land use practices and better integration

of community development and transportation.

"(Professor Newman) will add immense value to the way we service clients and stimulate greater knowledge-sharing internally and externally," PB's Australian managing director Stuart Glenn said.

Professor Newman said his role would be challenging.

"I am looking forward to making this partnership work in Australia and the US as part of my 2006 Fulbright Scholarship," he said.

# Alternative fuel in algae

Algae could be the alternative fuel of the future, thanks to new Murdoch research.

Based upon pioneering work carried out by biological sciences Professor Michael Borowitzka, Murdoch Environment Director, Professor Steve Halls, said the green sludge on the river could be one of the best prospects for fuelling the cars and power stations of tomorrow.

"(Biofuels) will be one of the most important fuel commodities in the world in the 21st century. It's widely accepted that when oil prices are above US\$35 a barrel, biofuels are cheaper," Steve said.

International oil prices are hovering around US\$75 a barrel.

And while the focus of biofuel research so far has been on conventional crops – everything from sugar cane to canola – the interest in algae is rising rapidly.

A soybean crop can yield 40 cubic metres to 50m<sup>3</sup> of oil per square kilometre, while a good turgid brew of algae could yield up to 400 times more.

There are more than 400 species of algae suited to biofuel production.

Murdoch University is working closely with the Mandurah-based Peel Development Commission on biodiesel production from the region.

"What is contemplated is a battery of large vats or 'photo-bio reactors', into which the nutrient-rich runoff from surrounding farmland would be diverted," Steve said.

"Fuel oil would emerge as the end product.

"It would be a brilliant solution for the recurring algal blooms that threaten crab harvests and annoy the life out of tourists and residents alike."

A Perth-based commercial partner is considering committing to a feasibility study into the venture.

"Biofuels are the future, no doubt," Steve said.

"We're not talking about replacing hydrocarbon fuels overnight but rather gaining a foothold in Australia's total mix of fuel consumption.

"After that, and with the economics so favourable, who knows?"



Half empty: Professor Steve Halls is investigating ways to turn algae into biodiesel. Photo: Adrian Kwintowski



General manager of MurdochLink, Richard McCulloch. Photo: Brian Richards

## New GM for MurdochLink

Richard McCulloch has joined MurdochLink as the new general manager.

Richard has a background in both science and business. He has worked in the petroleum and mining industries as an environmental scientist and more recently as the research and development manager for the MG Kailis Group.

MurdochLink is the commercial consulting arm of the university. It provides business and government access to the university's intellectual and physical resources for the purpose of undertaking specific commercial projects.

Through MurdochLink the university is transferring its considerable knowledge for the benefit of the community and in the process being financially rewarded.

"These benefits not only flow

back to the university, but also to the individual staff members who are doing the consulting," Richard said.

"This is a great win-win model that provides incentives to staff, builds capacity and further increases the success and reputation of the university and its staff."

MurdochLink is focused on seeking commercial opportunities for the university and the benefits to staff undertaking the consulting are both financial and professional.

"We take the administrative burden off staff who are providing consulting services so they can focus on what they are expert at," Richard said.

The steady stream of income provided from consulting through MurdochLink can be used to support the university's core businesses of education and research.

## Jury intimidation is under the spotlight

One of the most sensitive issues confronting Western Australia's justice system is the subject of groundbreaking research at Murdoch University.

Newly appointed Associate Professor in Forensic Science, Judith Fordham, is researching claims that juries have been intimidated or threatened.

Murdoch has just received a grant of \$98,500 from the Law Society's Public Purposes Trust Fund to investigate the claims.

Attorney-General Jim McGinty has given Judith unprecedented access to Western Australian jurors so she can examine whether jurors have been subjected to intimidation in recent trials and, if so, what impact that has had on the verdict.

"We need to determine whether juries are being influenced by fear so we can ensure the safety and security of members of a jury, and protect the integrity of court verdicts," the Attorney-General said.

"This will be the first comprehensive study of its kind in Australia and will help maximise public confidence in the state's justice system."



Associate Professor in Forensic Science, Judith Fordham.

Recent acquittals involving bikies, organised crime figures and other high profile cases has led to suggestions of intimidation by the Police Commissioner, the shadow Attorney-General and members of the public.

"I will be looking at the after effects trials have on jurors, not just the question of intimidation," Judith said.

"If I find jurors have been intimidated I will be looking at how, from whom and the effect the intimidation had, in particular whether it has affected the verdict."

Judith's report will also outline other suggested solutions to reduce intimidation if it is found to be an issue.

In a move welcomed by jurors, they were recently given greater anonymity in the courts by being referred to as a number, rather than by their name.

Only jurors willing to participate in the study will be involved.

"I can assure jurors that their identity will never be disclosed and their responses will remain totally confidential," Judith said.

As part of her research Judith will also travel interstate to compare the experiences of other jurisdictions.

A report on the outcomes should be ready for the Attorney-General in late 2007.

HAYLEY MAYNE

# Submerged in a landscape without boundaries



BY MARK STEWART  
Art Curator

The University's Art Collection has recently purchased a superb new painting titled *Million Tear Chandelier* by notable Western Australian artist, Jo Darbyshire.

Darbyshire is a mid-career Western Australian painter whose work is represented in significant Western Australian art collections including the Art Gallery of Western Australia, Murdoch University, BankWest, Royal Perth Hospital, Department of Culture and the Arts, Edith Cowan University and the Cities of Stirling and Wanneroo. Her work has also been selected for inclusion in many curated and award group exhibitions, notably the Joondalup Art Award (2004 and 2005) and the BankWest

Contemporary Art Prize where she won the open prize in 2005.

*Million Tear Chandelier* is a further development of the artist's series of paintings titled *Ghost River Paintings* which were created in 2005. This body of work was developed with the assistance of research grants awarded to the artist from the Western Australian Ministry for Culture and the Arts and the Australia Council to develop a series of paintings inspired by the Swan River at night.

These paintings explore the mystery of an underwater world experienced at night. The viewer is reminded of the experience of trailing figures through phosphorescence in water, of being submerged with schools of fish or microscopic organisms and the duality of beautiful and terrifying sensations of seeing dark shapes while submerged underwater. This liminal place also includes floating memories of personal and public history. These paintings have been described as being "landscapes without boundaries" in which the viewer's sense of field and orientation is blurred; are you looking down through the water from above,

or submerged and looking up, surrounded by it?

Darbyshire adds that the Chandelier paintings series are about "loss and death, light and beauty. They exist in an underwater world of memory and history. Above all they are about paint; layers of transparent colour and the illusion of depth".

The Murdoch University Art Collection is proud to have holdings of two earlier paintings by Darbyshire. These are fine examples of the artist's well known figurative style of the 1990s. This new acquisition is a very welcome addition. It is an important example of the artist's recent painting and completes a gap in the Art Collection's representation of the artist's development over the past 15 years.

*Million Tear Chandelier* by Jo Darbyshire was recently premiered at Melbourne Art Fair, which is a biannual event showcasing contemporary art from over 80 leading commercial galleries from Australia and South-East Asia. The painting can now be viewed and enjoyed in the New Acquisitions display area in the Level 4 Foyer of the Chancellery Building.



Image: *Million Tear Chandelier*, 2006 by Jo Darbyshire  
oil on canvas, 152 x 152cm, accession number: 717, © Jo Darbyshire 2006  
Photograph by Eva Fernandez

# Your portal awaits you

Have you visited MyPortal yet?

Quite a few staff members here and Director of IT Services Chris Foley has received lots of positive feedback.

If you haven't already, take a few minutes to familiarise yourself with the site.

It's at <http://myportal.murdoch.edu.au/staff>

You will need to enter your Murdoch username and password.

MyPortal is tailored to you, it's packed with handy features to simplify your working day and with future improvements planned it will become even more useful.

Click on the site and within a few seconds you'll know today's current weather conditions and forecasts for the next few days.

Catch up with the latest staff news, check your emails and meetings for the day.

Fancy some general knowledge improvement? See the word of the day and improve your vocabulary.

Check out the latest ABC news headlines and keep up to date with current affairs.

Click on the administration tab to view your personal information, your leave balances and bookings, and the link to web self service. You can also check out the handy list of related links.

If you are involved in the areas of teaching and learning or research click on those tabs for information on units coordinated, WebCT, publication listings and grant information.



On-line: Murdoch staff have access to personalised web pages. Photo: Martin Muller

The services tab lists any IT service desk incidents you have logged and tells you if there are any network or service problems.

Scroll down to search the library catalogue and use the link to MyLibrary to see what you have on loan.

On each tab on MyPortal a handy search function appears on the top right hand side of your screen. This allows you to search the Murdoch website.

You can even customise MyPortal; you can hide each information section by clicking the white arrow in the black box on the top right hand side.

More improvements are planned and by the end of October you will notice an increase in the speed of the site and be able to further customise the look of MyPortal.

Staff are not the only ones to benefit – a portal is already planned for students in 2007.

Their portal will have personal information, news and event announcements, information on enrolled units, unit coordinators and iLectures.

Students can also check booklists, library loans, webmail, IT service desk information and access the Oracle website.

Last but not least, IT Services welcomes your feedback on both the staff and student MyPortal concept. Click on the home tab in MyPortal, scroll down and you'll find the feedback box on the right.

It's so simple – type your message in the box and then click on send feedback and your message will be on its way.

HAYLEY MAYNE

## Feedback to continue good record Law in capable hands

With the recent announcement that Murdoch has once again achieved five stars for student satisfaction, it is important that we continue to maintain our high standards.

Once again the Academic Council is keen to get your feedback as they review the School of Education and Foundation Units. The reviews will take place from September 26 to 28 and from October 31 to November 2.

Students and staff are encouraged to provide written submissions for the School of Education by September 25

and for Foundation Units by October 30.

The terms of reference for reviews are included in the university's Academic Organisational Unit Reviews Policy, which is accessible from <http://www.murdoch.edu.au/admin/policies/aou.html>

For further information please contact Dr Lucy Jarzabkowski, Manager of Academic Reviews, by phone on extension 7377, via email [l.jarzabkowski@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:l.jarzabkowski@murdoch.edu.au) or Ms Cheyrlie Doyle, Personal Assistant

to the President of Academic Council, on extension 6902 or by email [cdoyle@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:cdoyle@murdoch.edu.au).

Please forward written submissions to:  
Ms Cheyrlie Doyle  
Office of the President of Academic Council  
Room S&C1.48  
Murdoch University  
South Street  
Murdoch, WA, 6150

Murdoch law school students won the recently held Corrs Chambers Westgarth Dean's List Forum competition.

The forum comprised a simulated court hearing, and a small team of outstanding students was selected from the Murdoch, UWA and University of Notre Dame law schools to compete.

The topic, concerned with interlocutory injunctions, was released to the teams on the morning of the competition.

Murdoch's Sarah Mateljan, Greg Mackay, Jeff Geoghegan and Peter Clay, spent the day in the Corrs Chambers Westgarth offices researching the topic in preparation for the forum in the late afternoon. The team was mentored by Corrs partner Megan O'Rourke.

Sarah was nominated by the team to present Murdoch's case and Peter to present the rebuttal. In addition to the team's overall win, Peter won the award for the best speaker in the forum.

# Healing hands help community



A group of Murdoch chiropractic students who spent two weeks healing and helping people in India say the experience has taught them important life lessons.

The Murdoch students, who travelled to a disadvantaged community in Bengal, worked closely with dozens of adults and children, administering basic healthcare to people with no access to medical services.

Many said the third-world conditions have opened their eyes to the plight of the less fortunate, sparking a desire to continue with help in the future.

Funds raised by the students also allowed extended teaching in two local schools and there are plans to build a third school soon.

The group's efforts received international media coverage, raising awareness about the poor health care among some of the disadvantaged communities in India.



*Soothing hands: (Clockwise from above) Brett Dellar checks the back of a young boy; villagers display letters and drawings they received from primary school children in Perth; Melanie Sounness examines a child in the Bengal community.*



## Do you have a child (aged 7-12 years) who has been diagnosed with ADHD?

A new study in the School of Psychology aims to examine the effects of sugar intake on ADHD related behaviour.

Please contact Associate Professor David Leach or Ms Bhali Sahavi Kaur for details:

Telephone: 9360 2703  
Email: [D.Leach@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:D.Leach@murdoch.edu.au)

[www.murdoch.edu.au](http://www.murdoch.edu.au)



## Murdoch University's Veterinary General Practice Is Open!

This General Practice enjoys the benefits of accessing top class facilities at the Veterinary Hospital, with friendly qualified staff to meet all your pet's requirements.

Open Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm

Enter through the Emergency Centre entrance, off Murdoch Drive.

Call 9360 6454 to make an appointment.



# Making a difference



GERRY GEORGATOS

*Murdoch University Guild President*

Over the past few months the Guild has been concentrating its efforts on developing programs that add to students' education and make a difference to the wider community. We have branded these programs under the banner of Students Without Borders.

Students Without Borders will encompass all programs that provide students with pre-entry workplace skills and hands on experience.

The program takes advantage of our student community, which represents tremendous natural and social capital.

By September, Students Without Borders will have a permanent home in Bush Court near the Physical Sciences Building.

We encourage students to visit the office and register their interest in the current and developing programs.

There are a number of programs already up and running.

The guild continued on from the recycled computer program I began in November of 2004. Since it began, 3000 computers have been repaired and donated to students in need in the wider community, such as Armadale and Boddington indigenous communities, families of schools in impoverished areas, and to overseas students for instance in Tanzania, Ghana and Senegal.

Murdoch IT students volunteered their time to the project and will receive a development mention on their academic transcripts, and two have won social justice and community development awards.

One of our strongest programs has been a peer tutoring program. We have scored from within the student community some 100 student 'tutors', students who have minimally a distinction in a completed unit, and who tutor struggling students.

Last year I placed some 400 students through this program. We achieved these numbers in first semester of this year.

We have education students involved in literacy programs and maths tutoring.

We have environment and sustainability students involved in tree-planting projects. We have

IT students involved in computer literacy, advancement and troubleshooting workshops.

My hope is that these types of projects will be strongly coordinated and further developed within Students Without Borders.

There are many existing programs within and outside Australia where, if our students know about them, they can benefit from the experience, and so can the communities they will assist.

I run Guild Forums from the Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre every Wednesday 12:30pm to 1:30pm with guest speakers talking about Fair Trade, Artificial Intelligence and NGOs. Engineers Without Borders has also given talks.

If we tap into our student community we can assist in diminishing student poverty, increase the quality of education, academic performance, increase retention rates, and by so doing increase the quality and scope of education of the participant and the recipient.

With the support of all schools within our university, Students Without Borders can develop into something that I believe will add to the Murdoch educational experience, and in turn help send out people into our world who believe they can make a difference.



*Hoops of fun: Murdoch team member and American exchange student Zac Taylor goes for gold against the Curtin team. Photo: Brian Richards*

## Uni teams go head to head

Western Australian universities came together in August to compete in the annual intervarsity basketball competition at the Murdoch Sport and Recreation Centre.

Curtin, Edith Cowan, Murdoch and Notre Dame universities held trials to find their best players for their teams.

Although Murdoch put up a strong fight, winning all the pool matches and making it to the final, we lost the title to Edith Cowan University.

## Tea break with cultural twist



*Write stuff: Calligrapher Shiko Kataoka with Japanese student Mary Gentleman. Photo: Brian Richards.*

Japanese culture took centre stage at the Nexus Theatre when a group of calligraphy and tea ceremony experts shared their secrets with Murdoch staff and students.

Five calligraphers and 13 tea-ceremony practitioners from the city of Takarazuka in the Hyogo Prefecture – Japan's Sister State of Western Australia – offered a hands-on experience of Japanese culture.

The presentation was part of nationwide celebrations marking the 2006 Australia-Japan Year of Exchange, in conjunction with the City of Melville and Applecross Senior High School.

The visitors demonstrated the elegant art of tea-making and calligraphy before letting the audience try their hand at the ancient rituals.

The visit was hosted by the Asian Studies (Japanese) division.



*From left: Freya McTaggart and Jessica Seebauer with surfer Ricky Bennet.*

## Mixing with best on surfing safari

Murdoch chiropractic students spent several days looking after the sore bodies of professional surfers during a recent Pro World Surfing competition in South Africa.

A group of 18 students from fifth, fourth and third years volunteered at the international event caring for the athletes.

The Mr Price Pro competition – formerly the Gunston 500 – has been running since 1969 attracting the world's best surfers every year.

The students were exposed to many injuries associated with world-class surfing and challenged by the urgency of an international competition.

## Are You Water Wise?

### Fact #1: Brain tissue is 85% water.

Knowing this fact, why would you fuel your brain on anything less than pure Australian springwater?

Introducing Murdoch Guild Springwater. Sourced from Australian springs and filtered to 0.1 micro absolute, it's pure and cheaper than other brands on campus! So to improve mental alertness, physical stamina and appearance (without calories) go to your nearest Guild outlet and ask for Guild Water, the smarter choice.

**\$1.80 for 600ml**

**\$2.50 for 1.5L**

### Available at:

Sir Walters, Little Walters, Guild Shop, Sports and Recreation Centre and the Tavern



# Getting connected off campus



BY CHRIS FOLEY  
IT Services Director

Did you know that staff can access computer and network resources away from campus while working

at home or travelling? A new guide "Connecting to University Systems from Home and while Travelling" is now available on the web at <http://www.its.murdoch.edu.au/services/network/offcampus.html>.

So what information is available in the guide?

Information is split into two sections; How to Connect – The Technology and What you can use – The Systems.

The first outlines how to access resource through dial-up, broadband and beyond.

The second details how you access resources like email and your files

that are stored in your user areas or departmental areas as well as systems such as Callista, Finance 1 and FMMS.

Students can also access a wide range of on-line resources including MyDisk from home (only via dialup at this stage).

More information is available on the web at <http://www.murdoch.edu.au/studentit/>

Connecting to Murdoch via the internet or telephone will incur charges.

You are encouraged to talk to IT Services before using any of these services.



Darren Munday presents Jan Ryan with the cheque. Photo: Brian Richards

## Important dates for your diary

### SIR WALTER MURDOCH LECTURE

Wednesday 20 September, 6:30pm  
Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre

In this year's lecture, Nobel Prize winner Professor Peter Doherty will discuss whether there is still a role for public intellectuals to provide critical commentary and broad, open debate in a democracy. A public intellectual is someone who seeks to influence and intrigue by discussion and persuasion rather than by the exercise of power. In a time when journalists provide most public dialogue, the idea of a detached independent individual is one that gets lost in contemporary society.

RSVP is essential. Register your interest by emailing [rsvp@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:rsvp@murdoch.edu.au)

### MID YEAR GRADUATION CEREMONY

Tuesday 19 September, 7:00pm  
(Please note new start time)  
Perth Concert Hall

Division of Arts, Division of Health Sciences, Division of Science and Engineering

### INTERNATIONAL GRADUATION CEREMONY – SINGAPORE

Thursday 5 October, 8:00pm  
Stamford Ballroom, Raffles City Convention Centre

Division of Arts, Division of Health Sciences, Division of Science and Engineering.

Should you wish to attend and/or process at either of these ceremonies, please complete and submit the Degree Ceremony Attendance and Procession form which can be found at:

<http://www.ccpr.murdoch.edu.au/forms/>

The form must be submitted by close of business Friday 8 September 2006.

Should you require further information about these and other events, please contact the Events Team in the Office of Corporate Communication and Public Relations on 9360 6760 or 9 360 7228

## Free lunch for UN

Director of Central Student Administration, Darren Munday, recently presented Jan Ryan from the United Nations with a \$1000 cheque from Murdoch University.

The money was raised for United Nation's young refugee health, education and sports programs, as part of the World Refugee Day lunch held on campus earlier this year.

With help from the Hare

Krishnas, independent grocers, butchers and bakeries around Perth, the office of Equity, Access and Diversity coordinated the inaugural lunch for students, staff and the community.

The Murdoch community raised \$500 by enjoying lunch in exchange for a gold coin donation. The Vice Chancellor's office matched the donation.

## Pre-law in due course

A new pre-law night course has been launched by the School of Law, giving people with no academic background a chance to study at university.

Lecturer Steve Shaw said the three-month course would start on September 6. Those who complete it at the distinction level will get an automatic entry to Murdoch's prestigious law program next year.

"I think there are hundreds of people who are smart but have never had the opportunity to study at university," Steve said.

"We're looking for high quality applicants who will use this opportunity to prove their suitability to study law.

"The School of Law believes that creating alternative pathways to the LLB degree program may be of great benefit to the university, the school and the wider community.

"The pre-law entry course will allow a wide range of community members the chance to be assessed as potential LLB entrants."

The course will run on Wednesday nights, at a cost of \$1400, which includes some resources.

For details call Steve 9360 6242 or email [s.shaw@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:s.shaw@murdoch.edu.au).

## Carrick honours

Six Murdoch staff received the Australian Government Carrick Citations.

The citations, awarded for the first time this year, recognise and reward the diverse contributions individuals and teams make to the quality of student learning and are valued at \$10,000. Some 210 awards are made nationally.

The successful Murdoch

nominees include Geraldine Box, Associate Professor Lorraine Marshall, Dr Julia Hobson, Dr Jennifer Mills, Dr Angus Morrison-Saunders and Dr Christine Creagh.

Vice Chancellor John Yovich congratulated the Carrick Citation recipients and thanked them for their outstanding contribution to the university.

## Council elected

Five staff members have been elected to the academic council.

Judith MacCallum, Parisa Bahri, Stuart Bradley, Cassandra James and Robert Bennett have been elected for a three-year term, expiring in July 2009. Polling closed on August 2 with 195 votes returned.

## Students recognised

Outstanding academic achievements by students enrolled in the Extractive Metallurgy program were recently recognised by Rio Tinto.

The mining giant is sponsoring an annual scholarship for the best second year student enrolled in the Extractive Metallurgy program valued at \$8000 per year for the duration of their degree.

This year's scholarship was presented to Rachel Waters, with Shane Williams, Stephen Taylor, Nick Jacomb and Mark Sherwood-Kok receiving awards for their continuing academic excellence.

Mark Sherwood-Kok was the recipient of the inaugural 2006 Rio Tinto Scholarship.

## Film tells Swan River tale

The story of the Swan River people is the topic of a new film released by Murdoch's Kulbari Productions.

Noongar of the Beiliar – or the Swan River – tells a fascinating tale about the Noongar owners of the river

lands in the past, present and future.

The film was recently released through the Kulbari Aboriginal Centre at Murdoch with the assistance of the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council.

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# Our staff tuned in

Murdoch University is the first university in the country to enter into a partnership that will give engineering staff a chance to develop competencies recognised worldwide.

Executive Dean of Science and Engineering Professor Yianni Attikiouzel AM has signed a professional development agreement on behalf of Murdoch with Engineers Australia.

"Through the professional development program, academic engineering staff will be given the opportunity to undertake a series of courses and obtain chartered status which is recognised worldwide," Professor Attikiouzel said.

"This program will ensure that Murdoch University continues to be leading developments in the engineering field as it has for over a decade."

Engineering at Murdoch recently entered a new and exciting era with the offering of a suite of degrees at the South Street campus.

To support the engineering courses on the South Street campus, continuous innovation in terms of new hardware facilities will be made available to prepare students for industry.

"New state-of-the-art facilities are being established to welcome and challenge the most talented students," Professor Attikiouzel said.

"In addition we have the most advanced engineering laboratory in the country, which still remains unmatched."

In 2007 a new environmental engineering degree will increase the choices available to new students.

Murdoch offers students flexible programs including double degrees in engineering and science, engineering and commerce and engineering and law.

For a number of years all of Murdoch University's engineering graduates have obtained employment upon completion of their course.



One family: Murdoch University's (from left) Central Student Administration director Darren Munday, equity and diversity officer Supratik Mukherji, equity project officer Linda Morton and Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) Jan Thomas add their dates to the international calendar. Photo: Brian Richards.



From left: Emerita Professor Jen McComb, Dr Peter Doherty and Dr Yvonne Fong.

## Everybody loves Peter

Dr Peter Doherty claims that everyone loves you once you win a Nobel Prize. Judging from the response to his lecture at Murdoch in August, this certainly seems to be the case.

More than 300 biomedical and veterinary staff and students filled the Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre to listen to his presentation "Challenged by immunity".

"Dr Doherty, originally a veterinarian, gave an account of his career including the biomedical research work that won him a Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 1996.

The prize came more than 10 years after the ground-breaking research was carried out with his former colleague, Dr Rolf Zinkernagel.

The research fundamentally changed medical science's understanding of the immune response. They discovered that white blood cells must recognise both an invading virus and certain "self" molecules in order to kill the virus-infected cells.

The research relied on the use of

mice subjects causing Dr Doherty to refer to himself as an MD – Mouse Doctor.

Students were treated to a lively presentation giving them an insight to the immune system. By far the favourite part for students was watching a video of "the hit man of the cell world", a Killer T cell, destroying a cancer cell.

Peter emphasised that young students really need to look carefully at the data in order to make evidence-based claims in experimental research.

"You need to be prepared to look outside the box", Dr Doherty said.

He gave an example about how his discoveries in 1973-74 were used by other researchers for further advancements in medicine.

"(For example) the papilloma virus vaccine developed by Professor Ian Frazer is showing great promise in treating cervical carcinoma (cancer) in women," Dr Doherty said.

Dr Doherty will be this year's speaker at the Sir Walter Murdoch Lecture on September 20 at the Kim Beazley Lecture Theatre.

## What rocks your world?

Murdoch staff and students are helping produce next year's university calendar.

Equity, Access and Diversity office is compiling a list of culturally significant dates, special and significant activities and celebrations for the 2007 Murdoch University

Student and Staff International Calendar.

Religious, cultural, national and professional events will be included in the project.

"Take this opportunity to add your celebration, remembrance, cultural activity, sporting, religious or national event, or other day of

significance, to the charts displayed at our three campuses," Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic) Jan Thomas said.

For details contact equity and diversity officer Supratik Mukherji on 9360 6060 or s.mukherji@murdoch.edu.au.

## National championships in mooting

Murdoch recently competed in the National Championships in Mooting, Negotiation, Client Interview, Witness Examination and Paper Presentation at the Australian Law Students' Association Conference in Melbourne.

Matt Berry, Peter Clay and Johanna Weaver reached the

semi-finals where they were narrowly defeated by eventual champions Auckland.

Nathan Colangelo and Paul Lampropoulos reached the quarter finals in Negotiation and Brett Turton and Martin Danger in Client Interview.

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