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MELBOURNE

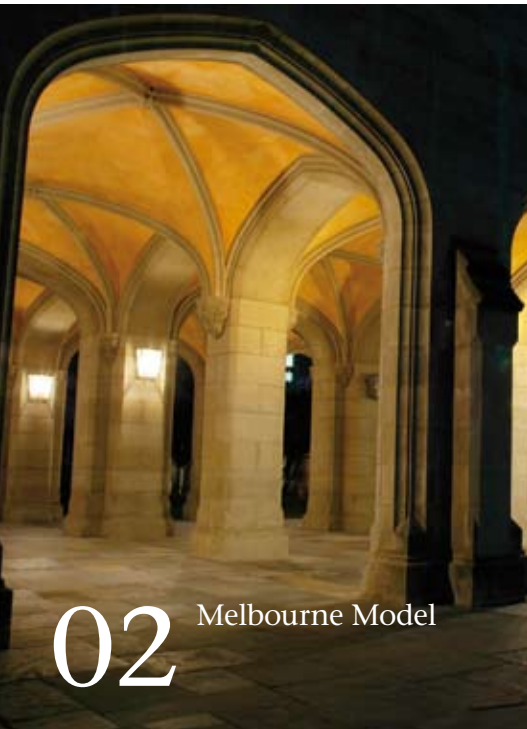
MELBOURNE

University Magazine

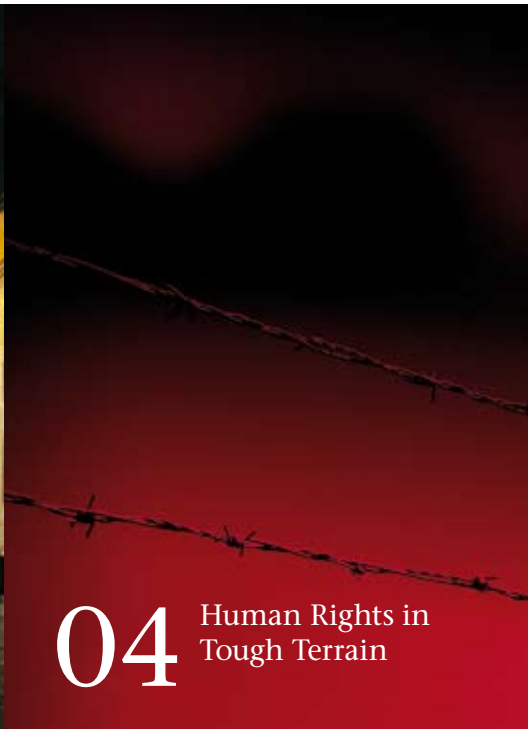
APRIL EDITION 2007

- THE STEM CELL DEBATE
- Parliament passes stem cell bill
- Jihad course books banned
- Australia, a multilingual society with monolingual mindset

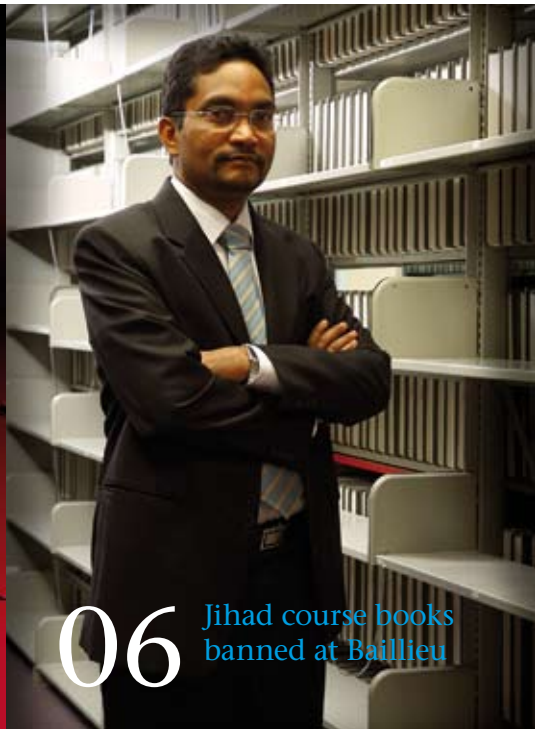
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April Edition

Melbourne University Magazine is a publication for alumni and friends of the University of Melbourne. All correspondence relating to the editorial content of the magazine should be addressed to:

The Editor: Silvia Dropulich
Cover Art: Chris Dyson

Melbourne University Magazine
Marketing and Communications
The University of Melbourne
Victoria 3010

Phone: +61 3 8344 7999
Fax: +61 3 8344 4921
Email: silviad@unimelb.edu.au

Editorial Board

Sean Cubitt – Director Media and Communications Program Faculty of Arts (Chair)

Silvia Dropulich – Writer & Editor, Marketing & Communications (Editor/Managing Editor)

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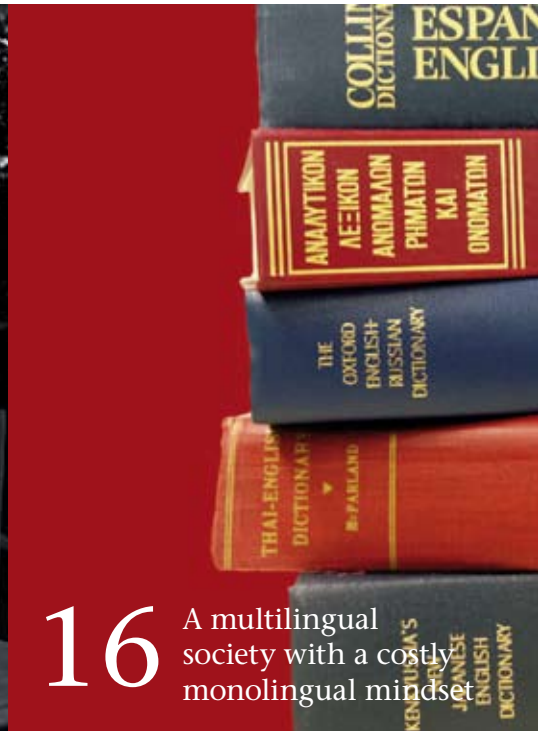
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A multilingual society with a costly monolingual mindset

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CLOISTERS.
photo: JOE VITTORIO

MELBOURNE MODEL

These are exciting times for the University. Melbourne has a clear and nation-leading educational vision, which integrates bold aspirations in teaching, research and knowledge transfer.

Remarkable Foundations

Melbourne alumni are on the move all around the world and their alma mater is moving with them. Our new curriculum builds on the 150-year tradition of excellence in teaching and research that informed your studies. We know that these remarkable foundations will support some of the most important and far-reaching developments in the University's history.

As a Melbourne graduate, your degree is highly regarded both nationally and internationally. Our graduates have high-profile roles across the globe and are admired as important contributors to their communities. The changes under the Melbourne Model will further improve the standing of your already impressive credentials, particularly through expansion of first-class postgraduate education, which we encourage you to investigate.

A Snapshot of the Future

The undergraduate education offered at Melbourne will be one of the finest in the world. Courses will offer both immersion in a discipline and require

students to grapple with different ways of understanding the world. University-wide subjects will create a number of common conversations across undergraduate degrees.

Many students will stay on for a graduate education, taught with the rigour and to an intensive timetable appropriate for educating the best and the brightest. Professional graduate schools will be established across the University. They will build impressive international reputations and draw students from Melbourne's own graduates, from other Australian universities, and from the region.

Melbourne will still be the strongest research university in Australia. Its capacity and outreach will be enhanced by two or three new institutes in emerging areas of cross-disciplinary Melbourne strengths, such as material sciences, sustainability, immunology, Middle Eastern studies and Asian interaction.

Melbourne will build a profile for knowledge transfer and wider public engagement by tackling national and regional issues, with business and

community support. Melbourne will be a valued leader and contributor to high-level thought and debate in the community, and will be more involved in the world of industry and business, as investment in commercialisation brings expanded opportunities for knowledge and technical transfer.

Philanthropy will play a larger role in University life, bringing more independence from government, more scholarships for students in need of financial assistance, more endowed positions for outstanding teachers and researchers, and more opportunity to fund capital works.

Launching the Melbourne Model – Dream Large

The University of Melbourne challenges alumni and prospective students to 'dream large' with groundbreaking educational reforms in research, teaching and learning and knowledge transfer. Central to the Dream Large campaign is a highly focused promotional campaign beginning in April and targeting television and cinema, print media, outdoor advertising and the world wide web.

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Human Rights in Tough Terrain

BY SILVIA DROPULICH

In a thought-provoking address on human rights, Amnesty International Executive Deputy Secretary General, Kate Gilmore, has asserted that Australia has become an ambassador for the violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Ms Gilmore, a Melbourne alumnus, was delivering the 2006 Chancellor's Human Rights Lecture at the University of Melbourne.

Fifty-eight years ago, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights expressed the international community's moral

outrage of 'never again', following the horrors of the Second World War, Ms Gilmore said.

"Its preamble states that in order for people to be protected from unbearable tyranny and oppression 'human rights should be protected by the rule of law'," she said.

"Some of the same countries that led efforts to frame this powerful statement of human dignity – Australia among them – have become ambassadors for its violation, breaking its provisions, undermining its protections or betraying it with sophistry."

Ms Gilmore cited the example of counter-terrorism laws introduced in Australia in recent years. The laws had created offences relating to terrorist activity without adequately defining many of the activities they are supposed to prohibit. She said the laws compromised long-standing protections in the Australian legal system, including the right to silence, the right to a public hearing and the right to choose a lawyer.

According to Ms Gilmore, the Australian government had also introduced preventative detention and control orders, and reserved the right for its security agency ASIO to veto a defence lawyer appointed by a person it had arrested.

"While no government today would dare deny the existence of human rights, not all of them are willing to observe human rights standards," Ms Gilmore said. "In far too many places, in far too many ways, human rights are

abused not promoted, are undermined not lead, are ignored and eroded.

"In our century, in every country in the world – from Australia to Zimbabwe – governments have sought to expand powers – lawfully and unlawfully – to limit freedom's space." Numbered among them were countries once counted as the firm friends of freedom. Western democracies had taken severe measures to undermine the freedoms that were the ecology in which a just and civil society could flourish. These measures had passed into public policy with little or no public debate or protest, because their impact was largely on people at the margins of society.

Ms Gilmore said Australians needed Australia to re-engage the discourse of human rights, and the world needed Australia to mount a clear and vigorous defence of universal rights.

She said universities existed to develop, preserve and impart knowledge and understanding. Universities should be exemplars of respect for universal rights, and concrete illustrations of what can be achieved through respect, knowledge, information and critical exchange. "Some who thought the 'war on terror' would be fought with drone aircraft and cluster bombs are belatedly coming to the view that it is in fact a battle of ideas," Ms Gilmore said. [See also book ban story on page 6]

The university's methods of teaching and debate should help equip students to understand the importance of debate and decision-making in a pluralistic

society. "In this regard Amnesty International congratulates the University of Melbourne for the work it is undertaking in regard of graduate attributes," Ms Gilmore said.

But, she added, intellectual freedom of this kind could be a dangerous business.

In Turkey, academics had been prosecuted for expressing critical opinions. And as part of China's efforts to control the Internet, major universities had been ordered to lock down bulletin boards, restricting discussion among students and prohibiting access to IP addresses off campus.



“As guilds of learning and exploration, universities must for all our sakes defend their rights to inquiry.”

“As guilds of learning and exploration, universities must for all our sakes defend their rights to inquiry,” Ms Gilmore said.

“In doing so they should see themselves as part of the human rights tradition of ‘reason and conscience’ as in Article 1 of the Universal Declaration. And this endeavour should be a ‘whole of curriculum approach’ – there being no field of intellectual endeavour whether practical or theoretical that does not either elucidate human rights or depend on at least their respect.”

Kate Gilmore is the Executive Deputy Secretary General of Amnesty International and is responsible for operational and strategic leadership of the international dimensions of Amnesty International’s work. Based in London she oversees the operations of more than 450 staff in offices all around the world.

Ms Gilmore’s
academic

background is in psychology, sociology and gender studies and she obtained her professional qualifications in Social Work at the University of Melbourne. She has published in the areas of violence against women, women’s health and cultural diversity.



A full transcript of the lecture is available at: www.unimelb.edu.au/speeches/humanrights.html or listen to the lecture at: <http://harangue.lecture.unimelb.edu.au/ilectures/ilectures.lasso?ut=930&id=30398>

MS KATE GILMORE, EXECUTIVE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL.
PHOTO SUPPLIED COURTESY OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. MAIN PHOTO BY: NEALE MAR



Jihad course books banned at Baillieu



PROFESSOR ABDULLAH SAEED AT THE BAILLEU LIBRARY.
PHOTO: FRED KROH

The banning of two books by Abdullah Azzam: *Join the Caravan* and *Defence of the Muslim Lands*

BY PROFESSOR ABDULLAH SAEED

SULTAN OF OMAN PROFESSOR OF ARAB AND ISLAMIC STUDIES & DIRECTOR, ASIA INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

الحرية

The effective banning of two books by the Classification Review Board marks a significant point in the history of censorship in Australia. It poses problems for academics generally, and specifically for those in Islamic studies. It undermines a university library's function of holding material for critical analysis, and challenges academic discourse. The books were refused classification by the Classification Review Board in 2006, which meant they were banned in Australia. The University of Melbourne had to remove the books from its library because not to do so could put staff and students at risk of prosecution under the legislation.

The two books, *Defence of the Muslim Lands* and *Join the Caravan* were written by the late Abdullah Azzam, a Palestinian with a doctorate in Islamic jurisprudence from Egypt's Azhar University. Azzam was a major player in and a key populariser of the idea of jihad in the late twentieth century. His particular interest was the occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union.

Written in the 1980s, the books examine jihad and exhort Muslims around the world to engage the Soviets in Afghanistan in a jihad. Azzam himself fought there from the early 1980s until his assassination in 1989. The message of the books is similar: Muslims must not sit idle while Muslim land anywhere is under occupation, but there are

differences in approach. *Join the Caravan* is an urgent exhortation to rise and join the jihad, while *Defence of the Muslim Lands* is a juristic exposition of the obligatory nature of jihad on Muslims. The latter in this sense is like a legal treatise, or, as Azzam calls it, a *fatwa* (Islamic legal opinion). Azzam also cites Muslim scholars who supported his fatwa, and claims broad agreement among them for his position. Notable in this context is when these books were written, they were not seen as controversial; on the contrary, Azzam and those who fought the Soviets were considered heroes and freedom fighters (called *mujahidin*) at the time in much of the Muslim world and in the West.

The notion of 'jihad' for Azzam is broad. It may include spending money for the sake of God in areas such as defending Muslim lands; but its most important meaning, according to Azzam, is the duty to engage in warfare against an infidel enemy and occupier, in this case the Soviets in Afghanistan. He

of the books appears to be based on the view that they have the potential to threaten a society, in this case, Australia, by broadly promoting and inciting crime or violence, specifically acts of terrorism and 'martyrdom'.

While we sympathise with the Australian government's concern about 'promoting terrorism' and the possible influence of such works on young Muslims in particular, it is hard to support banning such works within the academic context in which Australian universities operate. Academics should be free to access such material, to understand and critically analyse important issues such as terrorism and violence, and to bring their understanding into the public domain. Ultimately, the wider community loses by the banning these books.

More importantly, where do we draw the line between banning Azzam's books and some of the foundation texts of Islam, on the interpretation of which

"...it is hard to support banning such works within the academic context in which Australian universities operate."

argues that jihad is an essential part of Islam and a responsibility shared by all Muslims. Without jihad, Muslims, in his view, cannot establish a community free from oppression, injustice and occupation. Among the most radical in Azzam's interpretation of jihad was his view that jihad was an individual obligation on all Muslims around the world whenever any Muslim land is under occupation. It is not just those local Muslims under occupation directly affected, who are obliged to defend their land and engage in the jihad but Muslims around the world, regardless of where they happen to be located.

What is so threatening about these two books then? Although they were written for an audience of potential jihadis fighting against the Soviets in the 1980s, the books are now seen as advocating war against Westerners who are seen to be occupying Muslim lands as well as Muslims who are allied with those Westerners. The banning

Azzam relies in his understanding of jihad? Should parts of the Qur'an be banned because it has, as some believe, a number of texts that could be seen as promoting violence? Or should one argue for banning parts of the Bible which, some might say, also has a number of texts that appear to promote violence?

Finally, banning books has the potential to increase their popularity. Such books are easily accessible on the Internet. There is also much worse material on the Internet, from guides to making bombs, to how to terrorise entire societies, to videos aimed at recruiting for terrorist organisations. Perhaps it is such material that the government should be more concerned about. Banning the books does not prevent the material from falling into the 'wrong hands'; it only makes their critical study, by those who could play a part in overcoming any possible threats that they pose, potentially illegal.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE BELIEVES ACADEMIC FREEDOM IS ESSENTIAL TO THE PROPER CONDUCT OF TEACHING, RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP.

In September 2006, the University wrote to the Commonwealth Attorney-General Philip Ruddock seeking clarification on two books – *Defence of the Muslim Lands* and *Join the Caravan* by the late Abdallah Azzam – held in the University library which had been banned by the Classification Review Board. A third book – *The Lofty Mountain* – by the same author which contained similar material, also appeared to contravene the relevant legislation.

The University sought assurances from the Attorney-General that limited access for research and educational purposes to these materials was acceptable and would not place the University, its staff or students at risk of prosecution. It pointed out that the removal of this material from University libraries would limit the on going legitimate research and educational experience of staff and students at the University.

The Attorney-General acknowledged the seriousness of the matter but ultimately referred the University to his Victorian counterpart on the basis that the relevant legislative framework is a federal-state one.

At the time that this magazine was going to print, the Victorian Department of Justice was exploring options for legislative measures which would enable 'legitimate research' to be undertaken.



From the Vice-Chancellor

Melbourne's Growing Esteem strategy spells out the University's aspiration to be a public-spirited institution, highly regarded for making distinctive contributions to society in research and teaching and also, significantly, knowledge transfer.

This issue of the *Melbourne University Magazine* (MUM) captures some of the flavour of that knowledge transfer by introducing us to some members of the broad University community whose work incorporates various aspects of knowledge transfer.

Take for example Professor Loane Skene. A highly-respected expert in health and medical law, she regularly answers the call to serve on federal and state policy committees. Most recently she spent 18 months as Deputy Chair of the Federal Government's Lockhart Committee reviewing legislation on human cloning and research involving human embryos. Throughout 2006, she was the spokesperson for the Committee, vigorously engaging the broader community in sometimes controversial but extremely important debate on stem cell research. (See the special report on pages 10-15).

The University of Melbourne has been fine-tuning its 'graduate attributes' – those attributes all Melbourne graduates should have on graduation. Human rights activist Kate Gilmore is the epitome of the well-rounded University of Melbourne graduate. With professional qualifications in Social Work from Melbourne, she is now Deputy Director of Amnesty International London.

Ms Gilmore returned to her *alma mater* late last year to give the annual Chancellor's Human Rights Lecture and she did not hold back on what she thought were the role and responsibilities of universities in areas such as human rights.

Universities, she said – and all at the University of Melbourne would heartily agree – should be "exemplars of respect for universal rights, and concrete illustrations of what can be achieved through respect, knowledge, information and critical exchange".



Knowledge is the lifeblood of a university. Attempts to interfere with legitimate sources of knowledge are to be challenged. That's why the University wrote to the Commonwealth Attorney-General last year querying a ban on two books on jihad by Palestinian Islamist, the late Abdallah Azzam.

Having to remove these books from public access contravenes the fundamental principle of academia that students and academics must be able to access research materials; it limits the on-going legitimate research and educational experience of staff and students. And it will not stop jihadist terrorism but it will prevent students and researchers from trying to understand why the author is so at variance with the long history of jihad.

In this issue of *MUM*, Professor Abdullah Saeed, the University's Sultan of Oman Professor of Arab and Islamic Studies, explains the material explored in these books. A distinguished Islamic scholar, Professor Saeed will lead the new federally-supported Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies. The Centre has an important role to play in graduating students well-versed in both the Australian and Islamic contexts – bridging of the gap between the two worlds.

MUM's content can be challenging, informative and even entertaining. It is definitely recommended reading.

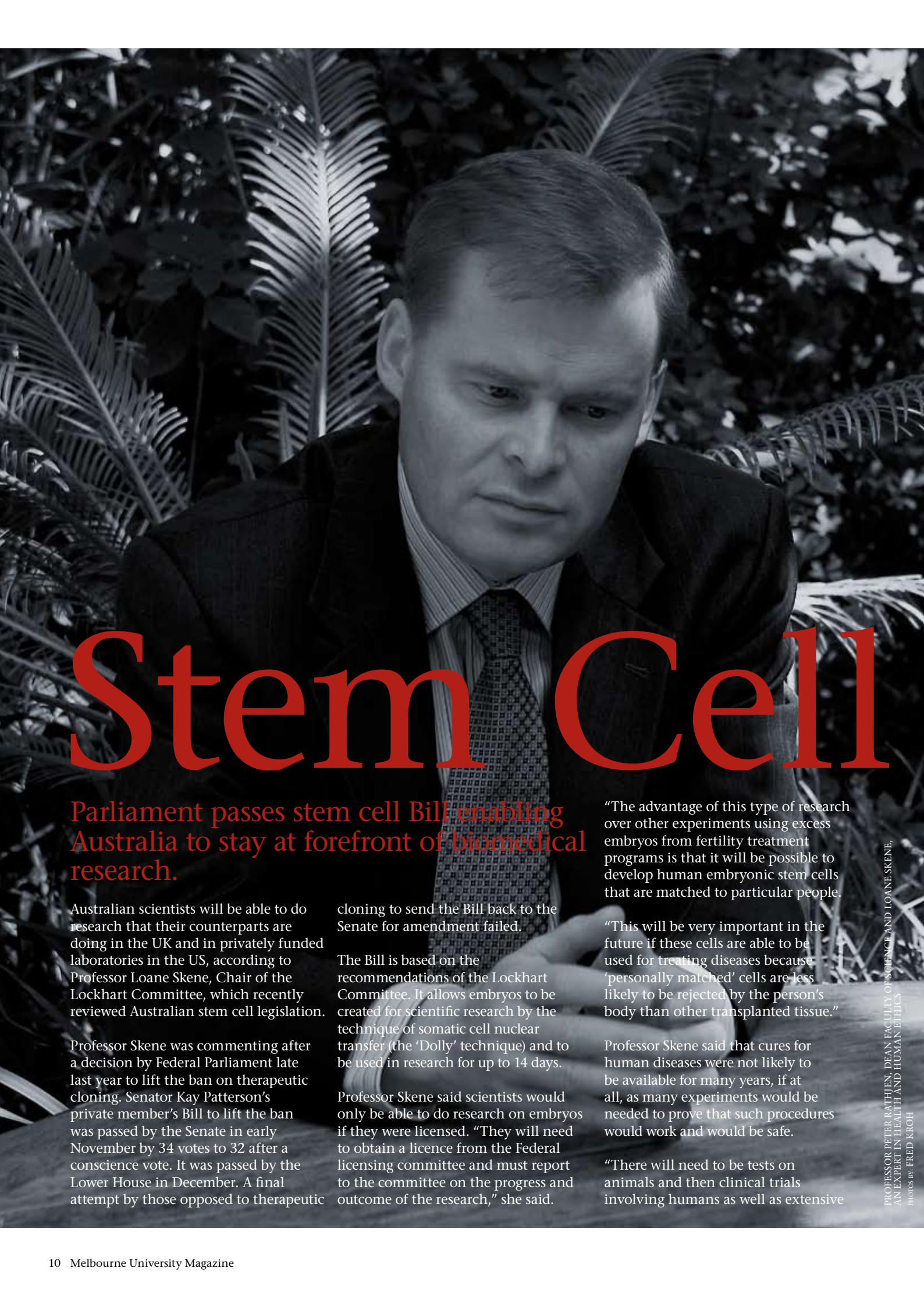
Glyn Davis
Vice-Chancellor

Leaving Rome

Red poppies. White roads.
Again and again we seem to return
to the real.
Through the windows
Of the train the landscape
Chatters in a transparent language.
See that sad green ribbon of water.
Once, it was as if a beautiful woman
rose
Up in violent red feathers and
promised us the pure
sustained failure of a marriage of
equals.
Debris in the weeds. Lengths of
unlaid track.
I sometimes believe you are happy.
That is my fat, terrestrial desire.
If I could, I would live brilliantly
and converse
With angels. The world pours by.
The train is full of passengers.
Hundreds of wings rush into the
dark.

Dr Dominique Hecq from the School of Creative Arts won the 2006 Martha Richardson Medal for Poetry.

She also won a Val Vallis Award for Poetry prior to this, which was made public at the Brisbane Poetry Festival 'Leaving Rome' was the winning piece.



Stem Cell

Parliament passes stem cell Bill enabling Australia to stay at forefront of biomedical research.

Australian scientists will be able to do research that their counterparts are doing in the UK and in privately funded laboratories in the US, according to Professor Loane Skene, Chair of the Lockhart Committee, which recently reviewed Australian stem cell legislation.

Professor Skene was commenting after a decision by Federal Parliament late last year to lift the ban on therapeutic cloning. Senator Kay Patterson's private member's Bill to lift the ban was passed by the Senate in early November by 34 votes to 32 after a conscience vote. It was passed by the Lower House in December. A final attempt by those opposed to therapeutic

cloning to send the Bill back to the Senate for amendment failed.

The Bill is based on the recommendations of the Lockhart Committee. It allows embryos to be created for scientific research by the technique of somatic cell nuclear transfer (the 'Dolly' technique) and to be used in research for up to 14 days.

Professor Skene said scientists would only be able to do research on embryos if they were licensed. "They will need to obtain a licence from the Federal licensing committee and must report to the committee on the progress and outcome of the research," she said.

"The advantage of this type of research over other experiments using excess embryos from fertility treatment programs is that it will be possible to develop human embryonic stem cells that are matched to particular people.

"This will be very important in the future if these cells are able to be used for treating diseases because 'personally matched' cells are less likely to be rejected by the person's body than other transplanted tissue."

Professor Skene said that cures for human diseases were not likely to be available for many years, if at all, as many experiments would be needed to prove that such procedures would work and would be safe.

"There will need to be tests on animals and then clinical trials involving humans as well as extensive

PROFESSOR PETER RATHJEN, DEAN FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND LOANE SKENE, AN EXPERT IN HEALTH AND HUMAN ETHICS
PHOTOS BY: FRED KIROH



Research

testing for quality assurance and safety." Professor Skene said.

"This is likely to take at least a decade and possibly much longer. However, even in the short term, research will reveal valuable information about the way that cells develop and function in an early human embryo and the function of particular drugs.

"This may assist in improving the success rates of current fertility programs and also other types of medical treatment."

On the eve of the House of Representatives vote...

Just days before the Federal House of Representatives voted to lift the ban on therapeutic cloning, *Melbourne University Magazine* Editor, Silvia Dropulich, spoke to Professor Loane Skene, a lawyer and an expert in health and human ethics at the University of Melbourne and the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor Peter Rathjen, an expert on cell specialisation and differentiation, about the political and legislative mechanisms behind the stem cell research debate in Australia.

In June 2005, the former Minister for Ageing, Julie Bishop, appointed a committee (the Legislative Review Committee, also known as the Lockhart Committee) to conduct independent reviews of Australia's *Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002* and the *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002*.

Professor Loane Skene was Deputy Chair of the Lockhart Committee and became spokesperson for the Committee when Justice John Lockhart passed away. [See Fact Sheet #1 for the list of Committee Members and Fact Sheet #2 for the Committee's Terms of Reference.]

Therapeutic cloning, that is cloning of human cells for therapeutic purposes, involves somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT). This means that an embryo is created by removing the nucleus from a body cell and inserting it into an egg, instead of being created by a sperm fertilising the egg. SCNT enables scientists to develop cell lines for research into a range of illnesses such as Motor Neurone Disease, Parkinson's disease, Diabetes and Alzheimer's disease. This raises several issues, particularly whether it is acceptable to create embryos simply for the

FACT SHEET #1:

LOCKHART COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- The Hon John S Lockhart AO QC (NSW, Chair), former Federal Court judge
- Professor Loane Skene (Vic, Deputy Chair), lawyer, University of Melbourne
- Professor Peter Schofield (NSW), neuroscientist, Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute, Garvan Institute
- A/Professor Ian Kerridge (NSW), clinical ethicist, specialist haematologist, University of Sydney; Westmead Hospital
- Professor Barry Marshall (WA), Nobel Laureate, Research Professor of Microbiology, University of Western Australia, community advocate
- A/Professor Pamela McCombe (Qld), UQ, Consultant Neurologist, Visiting Medical Officer, Royal Brisbane Hospital

purpose of research. This was one of many difficult questions considered by the Lockhart Committee.

SD: Let's begin by discussing what you anticipate the outcome will be in the House of Representatives next week.

LS: I hope that the House of Representatives will pass the Bill, without any amendments. If there are amendments, the Bill will need to go back to the Senate. It's possible that since the vote was so close in the Senate the last time, there might be a different spread of voting next time, in which case the Bill would not be passed.

SD: At one stage much of the debate surrounding embryonic stem cell research seemed to be emotionally and theologically hijacked. How did that happen?

PR: I actually think the national debate has been really balanced and sensible. I was unhappy about a month ago when I felt that people who opposed the Bill were misrepresenting science and particularly misrepresenting the rate of scientific progress in the area of stem cell therapies.

It's very important that accurate science is used as the basis for decision-making. I think that it's perfectly reasonable that people went into the debate with their own moral stance, their own ethical stance and their own religious stance, and my own sense was that the democratic process in Australia works rather well.

The politicians made a serious effort to understand the science so that they could balance that against their own viewpoints.

It's not the fact that people are against stem cell research that is an issue, it's when they choose to misrepresent facts or particular knowledge in an attempt to strengthen their case that I think damage can be done.

SD: What sort of misguided arguments were people latching on to and what sort of information was being misrepresented?

PR: There were statements from a number of sources that there had been insufficient scientific progress since the last Bill was passed to make extension of this work worthwhile from a societal perspective.

I thought that the scientists behaved quite well during the debate in that they didn't come out emotionally or with passion in particular. They were dispassionate and there were a number of conversations within the scientific community where a decision was taken that scientists would try to educate the public.

I think by and large that's how the scientific community behaved. One of the interesting things from that was that people assumed that all scientists had a particular moral or religious standpoint – they in fact don't – they explain how things work rather than say 'therefore we should do x, or we should do y'.

LS: I think that we should emphasise that the majority of scientists were in favour of doing this sort of research, but there was a small group that spoke against it and because they said that they were making a scientific argument rather than a moral argument – and they're leading scientists – people felt that they had to take seriously what these few people were saying.

One of their arguments was that 'it will never work' and that 'it would not be possible' to take embryonic stem cells and put them into an adult patient to try and treat a condition – but the question is not whether it's going to work. The question is whether the scientists should be prohibited from doing this type of research to find out whether it will work.

PR: When you're at the cutting edge of progress it's common for society to point out that 'it cannot work'. It's one of the things about humans – until it's actually shown to work, there will always be doubters.

The gist of the stem cell debate is before we know that it works, should we prevent people from doing the experimentation that might show us subsequently that it can work? One of the great things about scientific research is that people have the opportunity to challenge dogma.

SD: Where does Australia fit in terms of its position on stem cell research and the legislative framework compared with scientists working in other parts of the world?



FACT SHEET #2:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Scope and operation of:
 - *Prohibition of Human Cloning Act 2002*
 - *Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002*
- Taking into account:
 - developments in ART technology, medical applications
 - community standards
 - National Stem Cell Bank
 - relevant corresponding State, Territory legislation and statutory bodies regulating ART ...
- Implications for Australian science, economic activity

FACT SHEET #3:

CONSULTATION

- Review website; issues paper
Over 1 000 written submissions – Private individuals; researchers, service providers/consumers, Federal/ State government agencies/parliamentarians, lawyers, academics, ethicists, religious groups
- Face to face meetings with stakeholders
- Public hearings in all capital cities; private meetings
- Site visits
- Media coverage
- Literature review

PR: We would sit in the middle ground between Europe, which I think broadly has a more permissive environment and America, although the problem with America is that while you can't do this type of research with Federal funds, the level of private and corporate support is so huge that it doesn't really matter.

It's clear to me that over the last five years or so, Australia has lost a competitive edge in these sorts of technologies. In early 2000, we had three stem cell companies that worked in Australia – all of them have moved offshore – we've also lost some of our best scientists in this area to America.

It's very interesting to note, there is reason to believe that the Pacific Rim countries (Singapore, China, Korea, Japan) are going to be really major players in all of this technology. There is a prevailing view that they have latched onto this – they didn't always do well with information technology or biotechnology – but they see this as the new frontier. They've certainly invested heavily in the area of stem cell research – and it's the first time I've seen them being as prominent as any other place in the world in the science and the commercialisation of the science.

SD: If there are any amendments to the Bill in the House of Representatives next week, what are they likely to be?

LS: One principal amendment has already been made in the Senate. One of the recommendations that the Lockhart Committee made is that it should be

possible to use animal eggs to produce human stem cells – you're allowed to do this in England – however, in Australia there was a lot of controversy about this with Tony Abbott [the Federal Health Minister] referring to human-animal hybrids. I have objected to this term because I think that you only get a human animal hybrid if you put that entity into a woman or an animal and try to develop it.

I think there are good reasons for using animal eggs to produce human stem cells for research – but that amendment was moved in the Senate and it was passed. There was another amendment that increased the penalties for offences – so both of those involved cutting back the recommendations, but not in a way that undermines the whole impact of the Lockhart Committee's recommendations.

SD: How did you find the politicians' interest and understanding of the issues surrounding stem cell research?

PR: I've talked to a lot of Federal and State politicians. Let me start by saying that this is a particularly difficult area because it's to do with progressing biology, and, actually the biological awareness of society is quite low, in part because it wasn't taught that much in schools until quite recently.

So we have a generation of decision makers who aren't particularly informed in this area. On top of that – even for a biological problem – this one is quite complex in terms of definitions and

knowledge. Given all of those things, I think the politicians tried extremely hard to do the best that they possible could – you can't expect everyone in society to be a biologist – what you hope is that if they've got to make important decisions that they will try very hard to work it all out.

In my experience, the debates were treated with respect, the scientists were treated with respect and people were trying from their own personal perspective to grapple with 'what is the right thing to do here'. There were some scientists who found the level of understanding from the politicians disappointing, but my view is that that reflects a misunderstanding of how much understanding you can expect from a non-specialist.

LS: The Lockhart Committee took the same view and recognised the difficulty of the issues for the politicians. It was for that reason that I wrote to all Federal Senators and Members offering to discuss the Committee's recommendations with them. I think what Peter and I are saying is that we've reached out of the university in a very dispassionate way. One of the points about this conscience vote in the Federal Parliament is that politicians have to be able to explain to their electorate why they voted as they did.

For further information, see:
www.lockhartreview.com.au or
<http://upclose.unimelb.edu.au/>

FACT SHEET #4:

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

FAQ 1: Can adult stem cells be 're-programmed' to behave as embryonic stem cells?

- Recent report from Japan: four proteins can re-program mouse 'skin' cells to form mouse embryonic stem cells
- Potential to apply this approach to human cells
- Unlawful in Australia if performed on human cells

FAQ 2: Don't embryos have a special moral status?

- This view is reflected in the law – scientists must obtain a licence to do any embryo research
- They have to justify use of human embryos, use minimum number, disposing of them with 'respect'
- Register of surplus embryos and national stem cell bank would reduce number used

FAQ 3: Can embryonic stem cells be obtained without harming embryos?

- Recent research: stem cells from one cell taken from eight cell embryo
- Unlawful in Australia
- May be unethical to remove cell for research and then implant seven-cell embryo for pregnancy as embryo may be impaired (different from removing cell for genetic diagnosis to benefit baby)

FAQ 4: Why can't scientists use only surplus ART embryos for research?

- Only 'healthy' embryos are frozen so scientists cannot study development of impaired embryos
- PGD embryos with mutations are discarded so cannot use stem cells from these embryos to study disease models
- Stem cells from ART embryos are not 'matched' to 'donors'

FAQ 5: Why don't scientists do research only on adult stem cells?

- It is true there are already treatments from adult stem cell research – e.g. bone marrow transplants to cure leukaemia
- But adult stem cells may have less potential than embryonic stem cells – harder to locate, smaller in number, DNA may be damaged with age
- Scientists say that both types of research should be done until we know the outcome

FAQ 6: Where will the eggs come from?

- Women in ART programs may donate eggs – NHMRC to develop guidelines to protect women from pressure
- Surgical tissue donation (e.g. ovary removed for tumour)
- Or animal eggs could be used to host a human nucleus (genetic material) – for research only

FAQ 7: What has changed since 2002?

- Significant developments* and potential
- Medical research has a long lead time – 10 to 12 years for a new drug but outstanding record of success
- Embryonic stem cell research is being done in many laboratories overseas, e.g. UK, privately funded US projects
- Community is better informed
- Community attitudes have changed ...

FAQ 8: Are scientists creating false hopes?

- Scientists make no promises – cautious in suggesting where research may lead
- But community education needed so that people understand the time frames of research

FAQ 9: Why should one person's moral views restrict the freedom of others?

- Many 'communities in Australia'
- High onus on those who object on moral or other grounds to show why the research should not be done, when potential benefit to others

*Miodrag Stojkovic et al, 'Derivation of a human blastocyst after heterologous nuclear transfer to donated oocytes', *Reproductive Biomedicine Online*, 2005 Aug; 11(2): 226-31; Nick Strelchenko et al, 'Reprogramming of human somatic cells by embryonic stem cell cytoplasm', *Reproductive Biomedicine Online*, 2006 Jan.

Australia: a multilingual society with a costly monolingual mindset

BY PROFESSOR MICHAEL CLYNE
SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS

Australia has very rich linguistic resources the hardship of which is inhibited by a dominant monolingual mindset.

The 2001 census, the latest to be processed, indicates that 27% of Melbourne's population speak a language other than English at home. This includes languages identified as being economically important to Australia, such as Mandarin, Korean, Spanish, and Arabic. As some of the older community languages from Europe decline as home languages, those from Asia (such as Mandarin, Hindi, Korean, Vietnamese) are greatly increasing in numbers of users in Australia.

In the school-age population, the predominant community languages are Vietnamese and Arabic. Such resources can be important catalysts for second-language learning in the wider community. Yet the new demography has hardly been taken into account in language offerings in schools.

Bilingualism is worth fostering and transmitting. For instance, children growing up bilingually develop different strategies of thinking to monolingual children, strategies which can be utilised to their advantage. Firstly, the international literature attributes to bilingual children a better understanding of the arbitrary nature of language and by extension, a better ability to differentiate between form and content. This is because they have more than one set of representational symbols for each concept.

Children being raised in more than one language also tend to develop more divergent thinking, that is, if they cannot solve a problem one way they try another way. This is a problem-solving technique they develop when they switch between their languages in order to find the most appropriate code to express what they need to say in the given setting. Moreover, recent studies demonstrate that bilingual children are able to perform the same neural activities more efficiently than monolingual children. This is because they are accustomed to using the resources of both languages.

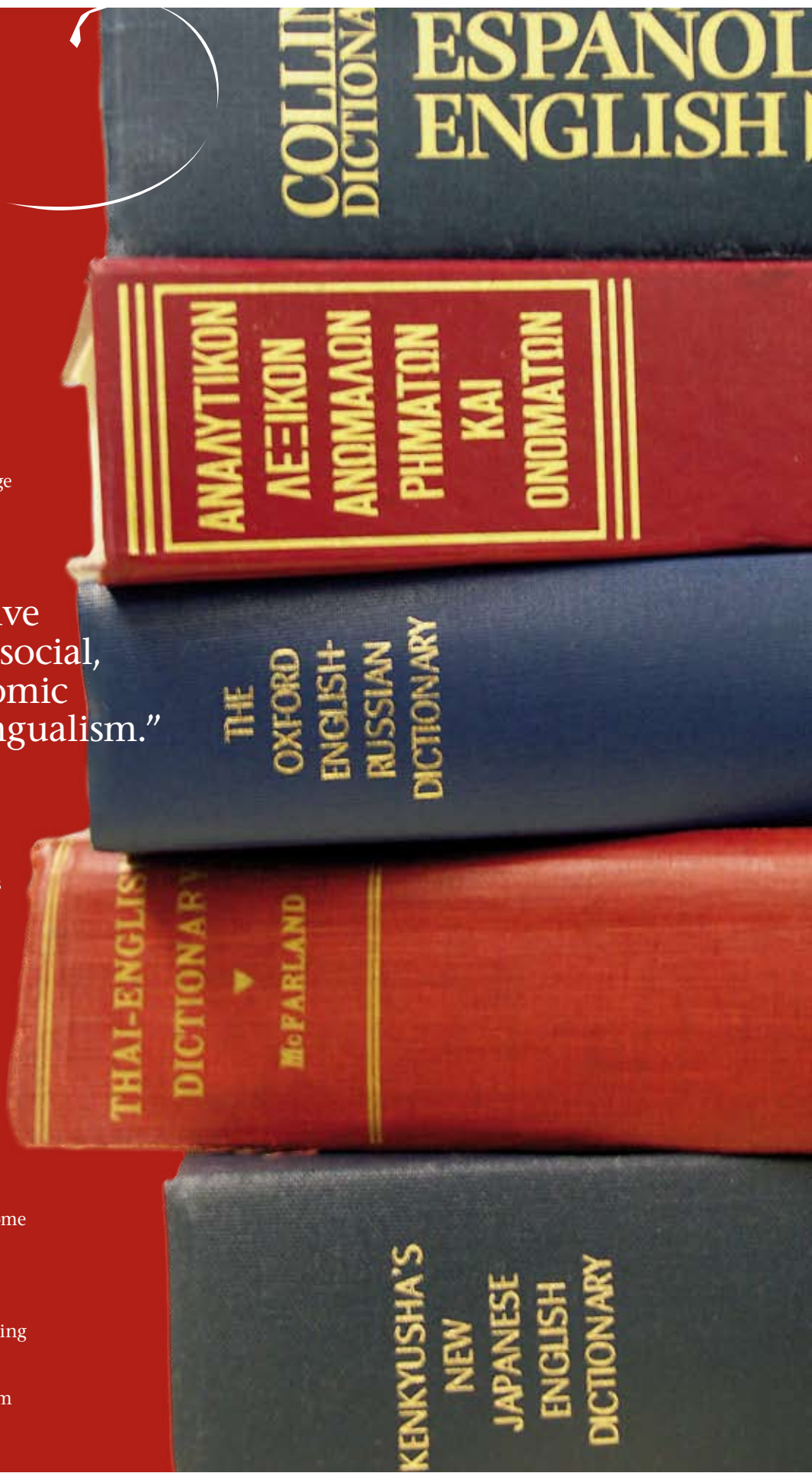
Apart from cognitive benefits, there are social, cultural and economic advantages of bilingualism. The development of a high level of proficiency in the community language as well as in English on the part of children of migrant background opens doors.

Language is a key to culture and bilingualism to an understanding of cultural relativity. Australia, having English as its national language, has the opportunity of building on its resources to develop skills in many second languages. Workshops conducted by the Research Unit for Multilingualism and Cross Cultural Communication of the University of Melbourne for parents raising their children in more than one language have been well attended by people from a range of language backgrounds. Typically they are couples of whom one partner is a bilingual, the other a monolingual English speaker. Yet this is having little or no influence on the business community – a study

published in 2000 showed Australian CEOs averaging proficiency in fewer languages than those of the 27 other countries surveyed, including the US, the UK and New Zealand.

Valuing, supporting, strengthening and sharing our multilingualism is limited by some popular fallacies based on an underlying monolingual mindset which assumes monolingualism to be the norm. This contrasts with the reality that there are far more bi- and multilinguals in the world than monolinguals. The fallacies include the 'crowded curriculum fallacy', which has no space at school for a second language or to permit an adequate time allocation for a second language. Languages are a key learning area but are treated as inferior to other key learning areas. Yet many other countries do not consider their curriculum too crowded to include two languages other than the first.

In Finland, whose school students consistently outperform Australians in international comparative assessments across the curriculum, all children take three languages throughout schooling, 44% a fourth language and 31% a fifth. In the Netherlands, 99% of Year 12 students are learning a second language, 41% a third and 21% a fourth. There is local evidence from a study conducted in the Research Unit for Multilingualism and Cross Cultural Communication that bilinguals approach the task of learning another language differently to monolinguals because they have a better understanding of how language works. Australia has only 13.4% of



school students continuing a language other than English to Year 12 (with a range from 5.8% in Queensland to 20.2% in Victoria).

“Apart from cognitive benefits, there are social, cultural and economic advantages to bilingualism.”

Closely related to this is the ‘monoliteracy fallacy’ – that literacy must be acquired through English only. This underlies the argument that learning a second language takes away time from literacy acquisition. It denies the overwhelming evidence of literacy transfer between languages (even those with different writing systems) and of literacy being enhanced by preoccupation with any language.

This is borne out by children in bilingual programs in Melbourne primary schools with fewer hours of English outperforming comparable children in English in Victorian statewide testing. Also, research by some Monash psycholinguists has shown that participation in even a limited Italian program by Prep and Year 1 children from monolingual English-speaking families increases their reading readiness in English.

It is monolingualism, not bilingualism that is too costly.



Carry Me Down

M.J. HYLAND

‘This is writing of the highest
order’ J.M. Coetzee

Carry Me Down brings M.J. Hyland up

BY SILVIA DROPULICH

Although only thirty-eight years old, M.J. Hyland has overtaken many more established and senior authors. Her second novel, *Carry Me Down*, was short-listed for the UK's pre-eminent literary award, the 2006 Man Booker Prize for fiction.

M.J. Hyland (Maria) is a University of Melbourne law and English graduate, a former lecturer and former legal compliance officer, also at the University of Melbourne.

Hermoine Lee, Chair of Judges for the Man Booker Prize, said that the judges were looking for a "distinctive original voice, an audacious imagination that takes readers to undiscovered countries of the mind, a strong power of story telling and a historical truthfulness".

I have read M.J. Hyland's first novel, *How the Light Gets In* [for which she won the *Sydney Morning Herald* Award for Best Young Australian novelist 2004] and *Carry Me Down*. I found both novels intense and compelling.

In a Melbourne-to-Rome email interview, I compared Hyland's writing style to J.D. Salinger's and I was interested in exploring her acute affinity with the archetypal outsider.

"I am flattered by comparisons with Salinger's style," Hyland said, "but I don't think the comparisons are warranted or deserved. I'd give my kidneys to write as well as Salinger has written."

Carry Me Down is about 11-year-old John Egan, who has an unusual talent – he knows when people are lying – and he fastidiously records these lies in *The Gol of Seil* [the log of lies, spelt backwards]. He hopes that his talent for detecting lies will bring him fame and guarantee his entry into the *Guinness Book of World Records*, but until then, he must deal with the destructive undercurrents of his loving but fragile family. However, John's obsession with uncovering the

truth soon becomes a violent and frightening fixation.

Hyland told me: "I didn't think about John Egan in terms of his alienation. Amongst other things, *Carry Me Down* was a fictional attempt to explore a certain kind of madness. I wanted to write a tragic novel and also to show, in dramatic terms, what might happen when a person insists on absolute truths of any kind: religious, moral, and so on... And, I wanted to tell a good story, with lies and lie detection at the narrative heart, and I wanted to tell a story about people cornered by their own beliefs.

"There are several characters in the book, John Egan included, who hold unexamined, irrational and potentially dangerous beliefs."

Hyland was born in London to Irish parents. She spent her early childhood in Dublin and, when she was 11, her family moved to Australia and settled in Melbourne. Her family was poor, her father drank heavily and, by the time they arrived in Australia, their lives were "a well-established mess", she wrote in the *London Review of Books*.

She has also written the following in *Meanjin*:

"Depression doesn't run in my family: it crawls on all fours from the bed to the bathroom at 4am... My father – who spends his life moving between prisons, psychiatric wards and homes for alcoholic men – has been depressed for a very long time."

But Hyland is adamant that she is 'sick of autobiography'. "I write about things that interest, but I don't, in fiction, write about myself, not directly, not in any true autobiographical sense. I write, instead, about things that preoccupy and fascinate me and I am arrogant enough to think that the things that interest me might interest other people. And so, while not directly

autobiographical, my obsessions, preoccupations, fears and fantasies are rampant and never far from the surface in my fiction."

"But the characters in both *How the Light Gets In* and *Carry Me Down* are neither me nor anybody I have known. I don't and won't use my family or my friends for fictional stuffing."

Hyland believes that studying law was good for her brain, and that anything good for her brain is also good for her work. "I have no interest in returning to work as a lawyer – I hated being a lawyer," she said. "Not because there is anything particularly unpleasant or objectionable about the work, but mostly because I was lousy at it. I didn't care for it; I wanted always to write – it's not possible to be a good lawyer with half a mind; the other half of one's mind confused, stupid and distracted."

Hyland says she sometimes suffers from depression, but that the blues she meets now are not nearly as bad as they once were. Depression has never stood in her way when it comes to writing fiction. "Most of the time I am not depressed," she said. "I write every day, in a sane, disciplined, healthy and clear way. I write six hours per day, six days a week and usually without psychiatric incident. In any case, experience has shown me that depression always thickens, holds fastest, when I don't write – depression loves a person who stews in his own juices."

Hyland now lives in Rome (soon to return to the United Kingdom) and she is writing the final draft of her third novel, the chief protagonist of which is a 24-year-old mechanic whom she has just finished "plunging into very hot water."

"But," she said, "that's all I can say for now."

Plastic note inventor wins Victoria Prize

BY REBECCA SCOTT



POLYMER PIONEER: PROFESSOR DAVID SOLOMON RECEIVES A VICTORIA PRIZE LAPEL BADGE FROM VICTORIAN TREASURER AND MINISTER FOR INNOVATION JOHN BRUMBY AT A MEDIA CONFERENCE PRIOR TO THE VICTORIA PRIZE PRESENTATION.

including his invention of the first commercially viable process to give precise control over molecular structure. His patent was in the top 10 most cited patent each year from 1999 to 2004 in chemistry.

He has set up and led three major polymer research laboratories in Victoria: the Dulux Polymer Laboratories, the CSIRO Molecular Science Group (where he developed the plastic banknote technology) and the Polymer Science Group at the University of Melbourne (where he has been based for the past 15 years).

Professor Solomon is one of an elite group of Australian scientists admitted to the Royal Society, London, whose 1300 members include Isaac Newton, Albert Einstein and Stephen Hawking. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and a Fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute.

Three of six \$18 000 Victoria Fellowships announced by Minister for Innovation John Brumby at the Victoria Prize ceremony were awarded to University of Melbourne academics. They are:

Dr Bryan Fry (Australian Venom Research Unit) for finding medical cures from Australia's snakes and poisonous creatures.

Mr Mohammad Tabbara (Electrical and Electronic Engineering) for using next generational technology to produce safer and cleaner cars.

Mr Hadi Lioe (Chemistry) for using mass spectrometry to help improve the detection of new diseases, biological warfare agents and toxic agents. Mr Lioe also received the 2006 AFAS FEAST-France Fellowship.

Eminent scientist and inventor of the plastic bank note, Professor David Solomon, Honorary Professorial Fellow in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Melbourne, has been awarded the 2006 Victoria Prize.

The Prize was presented to Professor Solomon by Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, Justice Marilyn Warren, at Government House.

The University of Melbourne was also recognised for supporting Professor Solomon's work, receiving the \$100 000 Anne and Eric Smorgon Memorial Award from the Jack and Robert Smorgon Families Foundation, which complements the Victoria Prize.

The annual \$50 000 Victoria Prize is awarded by the Victorian Government to a leading scientist or engineer whose discovery or innovation is advancing knowledge and has the clear potential to be commercialised.

In 1966 when Australia converted from imperial to decimal currency, and after a spate of forgeries, Professor Solomon was invited by the Reserve Bank to be

a member of a scientific think tank to develop currency that could not be forged.

The issue of the 1988 Bicentennial \$10 note was the culmination of 21 years of his research.

Professor Solomon's plastic banknote technology has seen Victoria become the world leader in security printing. The technology is now available in more than 20 countries worldwide.

Accepting the Victoria Prize, Professor Solomon said, "I am very proud to receive this award and to see how this technology has developed into a booming export industry for Australia."

Professor Solomon is currently leading a team to determine how polymers can aid water management.

"If a layer of polymer can be placed over water it can stop crucial water being evaporated. It will be very rewarding to be able to use this technology in the area of water conservation," he said.

Professor Solomon is renowned for pioneering work on polymer chemistry,

Alumni News

Victorian Australians of the Year

Friend of the University Dame Elisabeth Murdoch and alumnus Duncan McLean were among the inspiring Victorians to be recognised in the Australian of the Year Awards for 2007.

Dame Elisabeth Murdoch is the Victorian Senior Australian of the Year, an award that recognises a lifetime of dedication to philanthropy. Dame Elisabeth's support of the University of Melbourne has had a significant impact on its expansion as a leading centre of knowledge, through funding for academic chairs, research, teaching resources and student awards over many years. Her contribution to the art history and curatorship program, the first and most distinguished of its kind in Australia, is celebrated by the naming of the Elisabeth Murdoch Building on the Parkville campus.

Duncan McLean is the Victorian Young Australian of the Year. He graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) in 2003, showing his entrepreneurial skills while still a student by starting his own swimwear company. Duncan is also a co-founder of the One Funky World Foundation, which gives Australian school students the opportunity to experience all aspects of fundraising and aid work. Currently, its major project is to provide much-needed wheelchairs to people with disabilities in Tonga.



DAME ELISABETH MURDOCH AND DUNCAN MCLEAN WITH THEIR AWARDS
(THE HERALD AND WEEKLY TIMES PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION)

Alumnus celebrated at Malaysia dinner

The University of Melbourne Alumni Association, Malaysia Branch gathered on 23 March to celebrate the newly published biography of distinguished alumnus and former Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tun Dr Ismail Abdul Rahman (MBBS 1945, LLD (Honorary) 1973).

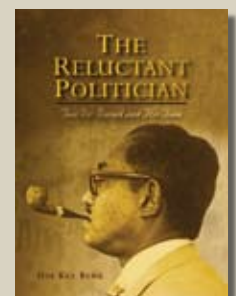
The book *The Reluctant Politician: Tun Dr Ismail and His Time*, by prominent scholar and commentator Dr Ooi Kee Beng, is published by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

In attendance were Tun Dr Ismail's son, Tawfik Ismail, other distinguished guests and senior University representatives.

Born in 1915, Tun Dr Ismail was a Queen's College resident and the University's first Malay graduate, gaining his medical degree in 1945.

As Malaysia's first ambassador to the United States, and later Home Affairs Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, he dedicated himself to preserving democracy and promoting racial tolerance in the newly independent nation. Tun Dr Ismail died in office in 1973.

The descendants of Tun Dr Ismail have continued his connection to the University, with two of his grandsons now students in residence at Queen's and University Colleges.



THE RELUCTANT POLITICIAN:
TUN DR ISMAIL AND HIS TIME
BY OOI KEE BENG (IMAGE
COURTESY OF INSTITUTE OF
SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES)

Alumni News



01

PHOTO: ADVANCEMENT OFFICE

Graduate's art a new source of inspiration for students

A graduating PhD student has contributed four paintings to the walls of the School of Social Work, marking the completion of 15 years of research that crosses the boundaries between social work, medicine and the visual arts.

Cynthia Holland has completed a longitudinal study of the psychosocial and emotional effects of gynaecological cancer on women and families. The study, undertaken in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, included the creation of 300 paintings with patients and their children as a non-verbal means of collecting data.

"I hope the paintings will encourage Social Work students to think beyond verbal forms of communication," Holland said.

Her interest in art began when, at the age of 23, she experienced loss of vision due to diabetes. Art was part of her recovery program and later became an aid to her in helping others reconcile the emotional and physical aspects of disease.

Holland qualified in social work at the University of Melbourne in 1978, completed a Master of Social Work at the University in 1989, and is a senior clinician in the oncology department of the Royal Women's Hospital. She holds the Education Chair for Oncology Social Work Australia.

Her commitment to learning will continue after her latest graduation – she is also a qualified barrister and is studying towards a Master of Laws.

1. CYNTHIA HOLLAND WITH HER PAINTING, *MY KITE WON'T FLY OR WILL IT?*



02

PHOTO: RICHARD TAN

Malaysian and Singapore Associations forge new links

In January, eight members of the University of Melbourne Alumni Association (Singapore) travelled to Kuala Lumpur to meet with members of the Malaysian Chapter and renew links between the two associations.

Ms Penny Chong and Dr Vidyadaran Menon from the Executive Committee of the Malaysian Alumni Association joined Mr Richard Tan and others from the Singapore group for dinner, where many issues of mutual interest were discussed and plans were laid for future joint activities.

Both groups believe that the strong bonds made between the chapters by this trip will herald many more friendly exchanges in the future. The chapters are grateful to Ms Rachel Teo (Singapore Chapter) and Mr Bert Tan (Malaysian Chapter) who facilitated and made the evening possible.

2. MR RICHARD TAN (VICE-PRESIDENT, UMAA SINGAPORE) AND MS PENNY CHONG (SECRETARY, UMAA MALAYSIA) DISCUSS PLANS FOR FUTURE COLLABORATION

Alumni Events

The schedule of alumni events for 2007 is ever growing, with new additions being confirmed weekly.

Alumni are invited to check our new Events Calendar at <http://www.unimelb.edu.au/alumni/events/> for the latest updates.

Giving to the University



01

PHOTO: MICHAEL SILVER

The Chancellor's Circle

The Chancellor's Circle is the name given to our community of generous benefactors who demonstrate leadership and commitment to the University of Melbourne through annual gifts of \$1000 per year or greater.

The premiere Chancellor's Circle event was held on 29 August 2006 at the University of Melbourne Law School. More than 110 Chancellor's Circle members, University staff and students heard from Chancellor Mr Ian Renard, Vice-Chancellor Professor Glyn Davis and second-year Engineering/Science student Ali Alamein. Ali told the moving story of his arrival in Melbourne from war-torn Iraq with little English, and how a Melbourne Scholarship transformed his life. Ali was one of six Australian students selected on academic merit and leadership to be a Goldman Sachs Global Leader in 2006. Guests were also entertained by a performance by student flautist Christine Morris.

A 2007 Chancellor's Circle event was held on Thursday 29 March at the Sidney Myer Asia Centre and another is scheduled for Thursday 23 August at the Bio21 Institute. Giving Forms are available at: <http://www.unimelb.edu.au/alumni/giving/makegift.html>

1. ALI ALAMEIN WITH MAX GRIFFITHS AND MARILYN MURNANE AT THE RECEPTION



02

PHOTO: LUCY MOORE

Students and staff give back to their community

For the first time in the University of Melbourne's history, a Staff Appeal and Student Appeal were launched in 2006 in the spirit of promoting philanthropy and community support within our organisation.

The Student Appeal aims to educate students about the importance of philanthropy and to encourage them, through small donations, to leave a legacy for current and future students. The campaign for 2006 was led by a committee of undergraduate students from a range of faculties, supported by additional volunteers.

The Student Appeal surpassed its fundraising goal for the year and will support two new scholarships in 2007 for the Student Exchange and Study Abroad programs. These scholarships will enable Benjamin Forbes, a Science student and Hendra Ikhwan, an Engineering student, to spend part of 2007 at the University of California, Berkeley.

The Staff Appeal is a workplace giving program that allows staff to contribute through salary packaging and payroll deductions to a range of University programs and external charities, selected by a staff-wide survey. Within the University, donations go towards scholarships and financial aid, research, libraries and cultural collections. External organisations that can benefit are Médecins Sans Frontières, Oxfam Australia and the Australian Red Cross.

2. STUDENT APPEAL VOLUNTEERS ZHUYUN YU, JANE LI AND NADHIRA RAZACK

Giving to the University



Heritage Society honours benefactors of the future

1. DR DES BRIGHT, MISS KATHLEEN RANKIN, MS YUTHA BARTLEY AND DR RUTH BRIGHT
2. PROFESSOR WARREN BEBBINGTON, MR ADRIAN NEWTON, MS CATHY ALIZZI AND PROFESSOR JANET MCCALMAN
3. MS SUZANNE MCGRAW, MS CECILE HUCKFIELD AND DR ALEXANDRA CAMERON
4. MS ANN RUSDEN, MR PATRICK SINGLETON, MS MARY LUGTON AND PROFESSOR GLYN DAVIS

ABOVE PHOTOS: MICHAEL SILVER

On 25 October 2006, the University of Melbourne Heritage Society was launched to recognise and honour our alumni and friends who have generously made provision for the University of Melbourne in their Will. More than 60 bequestors and guests gathered for a luncheon hosted by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Glyn Davis AC and senior university leaders. Professor Janet McCalman's address on "History for Difficult Times" stimulated lively conversation and debate. Heritage Society members will receive news on areas of interest and invitations to events at the University.

If you have left a bequest to the University of Melbourne and would like to become a member of the Heritage Society, or would like further information on leaving a bequest to the University, please contact either Susan Girling-Butcher or Suzanne McGraw, Planned Giving Officers, (03) 8344 1056 or (03) 8344 1754 respectively, for a confidential discussion.

**Never let anyone
forget where you
came from.**



By joining the online community for alumni, you can not only keep in contact with old friends but connect with other alumni from around the world. You can also register your '@alumni.unimelb' email address which will ensure you are always connected to what's happening in your alumni community.

Stay connected at www.unimelb.edu.au/alumni.

dream large



The University of Melbourne Alumni



Introducing the Melbourne Model



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

dreamlarge.edu.au



The MELBOURNE MODEL

The Melbourne Model introduces undergraduate programs characterised by both depth and breadth, followed by a graduate professional degree, a research higher degree or entry directly into employment. It is a distinctively Australian response to a well-established international trend in higher education.

THE MELBOURNE MODEL – AN EDUCATION WITHOUT BORDERS

The Melbourne Model represents a major advance in the provision within Australia of an internationally recognised and globally competitive university education. It is part of a worldwide shift towards broader undergraduate programs, followed by professional training at graduate level, further study through research Masters and doctoral programs or entry directly into employment.

The Melbourne Model is a distinctively Australian approach to higher education, one that is aligned with the best of European and Asian practice, and North American traditions.

From 2008, the University will offer six Melbourne Model undergraduate degrees in Arts, Biomedicine, Commerce, Environments, Music and Science.

All Melbourne Model undergraduate degrees will continue to expose students to the riches of their core discipline, while enabling them to undertake at least one quarter of their studies in other disciplines. Students will also have the option of gaining an additional diploma (for example, in languages, mathematics or music (practical))

concurrently with their Bachelors degree.

Underpinning this 'depth and breadth' of knowledge will be increased emphasis on research projects and a focus on developing vital transferable skills. Each degree will also provide students with opportunities to interact with wider communities, particularly in relation to social and global issues, and broaden experience through international study.

The Melbourne Model introduces the graduate school experience to Australia, providing the best and the brightest with a more focussed, intense and professionally relevant degree.

THE MELBOURNE GRADUATE

The Melbourne Model is designed to equip the University's graduates to become:

- academically excellent;
- knowledgeable across disciplines;
- leaders in communities;
- attuned to cultural diversity; and
- active global citizens.

The University wants its graduates to gain a deep understanding of the importance of rational debate and decision-making

in a pluralistic society. Its aim is to equip students with the knowledge, skills and networks to become active global citizens, and leaders in both their communities and professions.

CROSS DISCIPLINARY AND CUTTING EDGE

Curriculum design within the Melbourne Model emphasises transferable and interdisciplinary skills, including critical thinking, cultural awareness, teamwork, communication and leadership.

Newly designed subjects drawing on the University's comprehensive research base cross disciplinary boundaries. For example, a new subject sequence 'Climate Change' provides students with a fundamental understanding of the scientific, environmental, economic, social, political and legal issues encompassed within one of the major contemporary challenges facing humankind. It will draw on disciplines from at least six faculties and will be offered to first-, second- and third-year students.

Another new subject, 'From Plato to Einstein', will take students on an enthralling journey through the history of ideas about the physical world and the cosmos. Bringing together interdisciplinary content



from science, philosophy and history, the subject will begin with the birth of Greek natural philosophy in the 6th century BC and conclude with the dramatic shift in our understanding of space, time and matter in the 20th century.

CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITIES, ON AND OFF CAMPUS

Central to the distinctive 'Melbourne Experience' is connecting students with each other, the University community and the wider world. The new degrees will create more opportunities for students to make friends and develop networks by studying the same subjects as part of the same cohort. Initiatives will include case- and problem- based learning, group syndicate work and peer mentoring programs.

Just as importantly, every student in the new undergraduate degree program will have opportunities to connect with organisations outside the University, through internships with business and community groups and applied research projects.

Enhancing the Melbourne Experience is the University's central campus – an urban oasis set amid century old trees and heritage buildings. Against this unique backdrop, students will be able to choose from a range of off-campus activities (some with course credits) to build a coherent set of broader experiences that complement their academic achievements.

CREATING GLOBAL CITIZENS

Under the Melbourne Model students will be encouraged to engage with important global issues, to study overseas as part of their undergraduate course, to participate in international humanitarian and environmental projects, and to learn cross-cultural communication skills. A more flexible program structure will allow students to study a language and complete a Diploma of Modern Languages concurrently with a Bachelors degree.

INTENSE AND REWARDING PROFESSIONAL GRADUATE EDUCATION

The Melbourne Model introduces the benefits of the graduate school experience to Australia.

From 2008, the University will offer the first of its new professional graduate degrees, with Law, Architecture, Teaching and Nursing among the first programs to be offered at graduate level. The number of new professional graduate degrees will increase in coming years to include Medicine, Optometry, Dentistry, Physiotherapy and Engineering among others.

Under the Melbourne Model, students preparing to enter a profession will initially complete a Bachelors degree – at Melbourne or elsewhere – then a professional graduate degree. The previous undergraduate 'double degree' concept is replaced by an academically and professionally enriched 'Bachelors plus Masters' sequence. High-achieving Year 12 students who continue to excel as undergraduates will be offered, subject to meeting the pre-requisites, a guaranteed pathway into their professional graduate course of choice.

Intellectually rigorous graduate programs provide a more mature and sophisticated understanding of specific disciplines and give students a richer graduate-level learning experience.

The new Melbourne Model undergraduate degrees are designed as excellent preparation for professional graduate degrees – but they will also be first-rate pathways to employment, broader coursework Masters degrees or research higher degrees.

A DISTINCTIVE MELBOURNE PHD

Internationally the trend is towards doctoral education being less narrowly focussed, allowing graduates to succeed in a more interdisciplinary research environment and to pursue a more diverse range of careers. A distinctly Australian approach to this trend, the landmark Melbourne

Advanced Studies Award (MASA), provides PhD students with the chance to develop intellectual leadership, an interdisciplinary perspective and the skills to connect with the broader community.

To help make their research accessible to a broad, international audience, the University's postgraduate students have access to the highly specialised Writing Centre for Scholars and Researchers. The Centre is headed by Simon Clews, a former Director and CEO of The Age Melbourne Writers' Festival, and is part of a world class centre for research students.

OPENING DOORS TO FULFILLING CAREERS

University of Melbourne students are already Australia's most employable graduates.¹ The introduction of the Melbourne Model aims to strengthen this position even further. The reforms accompanying the Melbourne Model have been warmly welcomed by employers, who are seeking well-rounded graduates with strong transferable skills and the ability to work in an increasingly complex world.

By being aligned with leading educational structures around the world, Melbourne Model degrees will smooth the way for graduates to undertake further study at top universities overseas and have their qualifications recognised by international employers.

EXCELLENCE AND EQUITY

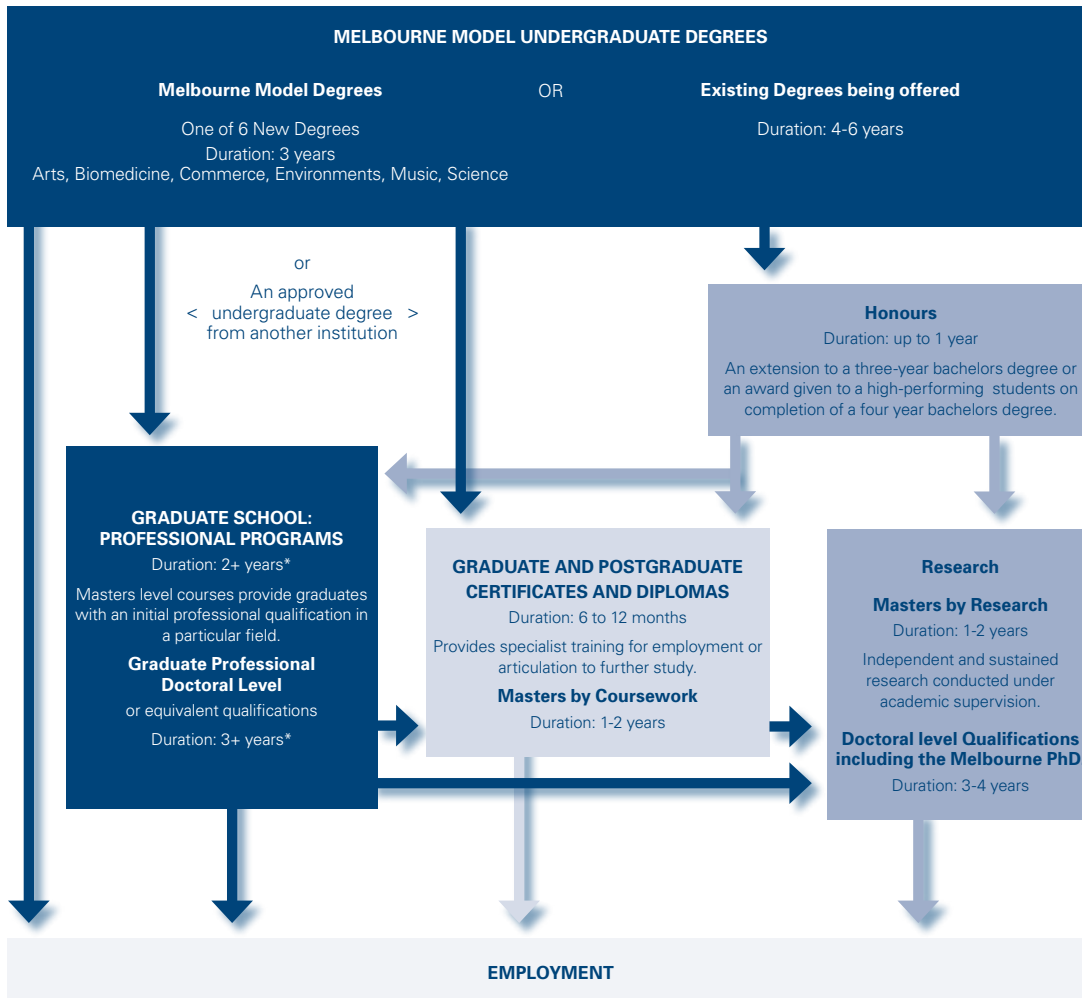
Like all great universities, the University of Melbourne aims to attract the best students, regardless of their financial circumstances. This approach is in keeping with the words of former Victorian Director of Education, Frank Tate, who said in 1905, 'brains not money should be the passport to the higher realms of knowledge'.

We want to continue to welcome the best and brightest students to the University of Melbourne. The University welcomes advice that the Commonwealth Minister for Education has given in-principle approval for a substantial number of government

¹The University of Melbourne topped the 13 Australian universities listed in the Times World's Top 200 Universities 2006 for the employability of its graduates.



MELBOURNE MODEL STUDY OPTIONS FROM 2008



*Selection based on performance in undergraduate degree. Additional selection criteria may also apply (for example, aptitude test, interview, folio, etc). For more information visit <http://melbournemodel.unimelb.edu.au>

supported places (i.e. 'HECS places') in the new graduate professional degrees. This means that a minimum of 50% of the places available for Australian students in each of the new professional graduate degrees will be HECS places. In some cases this might be as high as 80%. The University has guaranteed that one in five Australian HECS entrants in the new

professional graduate degrees will be from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The Melbourne Model offers significant access advantages to prospective students as it provides two University entry points: undergraduate and graduate. Students from the University of Melbourne or from other universities may apply for admission to the new professional graduate degrees.

THE EVOLUTION STARTS HERE

For updates on the Melbourne Model and course entry see: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au

The information in this publication was correct at the time of printing. The University reserves the right to make changes as appropriate. As details may change students are encouraged to visit the University's web site to obtain the latest information. Admission to the University of Melbourne is subject to entry requirements.

Authorised by: Vice-Principal and Academic Registrar
CRICOS:00116K



University News

Three-state university consortium wins bid for \$8m National Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies

A three-state university consortium, led by the University of Melbourne, has won Federal funding of \$8 million for a new National Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies.

Melbourne is working in partnership with Griffith University in Queensland and the University of Western Sydney in New South Wales to provide a world-class centre of educational excellence in Islamic Studies.

The consortium's successful bid follows the Education Minister, Julie Bishop's call last year for an expression of interest for a National Centre of Excellence for Islamic Studies.

The Centre will be headed by Professor Abdullah Saeed, the Sultan of Oman Professor of Arab and Islamic Studies and Head of the Asia Institute at Melbourne and Director of the University's Centre for the Study of Contemporary Islam, jointly hosted by the Arts and Law faculties.

Dr Mohamad Abdalla, Founding Director of the Griffith University Islamic Research Unit (GIRU), will be director of the Centre's Queensland branch. GIRU is located within the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance, one of Griffith University's leading research centres, and is part of the Institute for Ethics, Governance and Law, a joint initiative between Griffith University and the United Nations University.

Professor Saeed says the Centre's strength lies in being able to bring together established expertise in teaching, research and knowledge transfer in broad aspects of Islamic studies to further knowledge and understanding of Islam in its historical and modern complexities. "It will also function as an important think tank in relation to Islamic issues particularly in the Australian context," he said.

In addition, Dr Abdalla says, the Centre will be instrumental in graduating

students who are well-versed in both the Australian and Islamic contexts – a necessary requirement for bridging of the gap between the two worlds.



PROFESSOR ABDULLAH SAEED, CURRENT DIRECTOR OF THE ASIA INSTITUTE, AND WILL HEAD THE NEW ISLAMIC STUDIES CENTRE TO BE ESTABLISHED NEXT YEAR. PHOTO: FRED KROH

UWS Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Rob Coombes, believes the Centre "represents a wonderful opportunity to increase our understanding of Islam, contribute to public debate, and deliver world-class, multi-disciplinary teaching and research at a regional, national and international level".

The University of Melbourne has taught Arabic and Islamic Studies for over four decades, while the Griffith Islamic Research Unit, established with substantial funding from the Queensland Islamic Community, has quickly developed a strong relationship and reputation with State and Federal government agencies and the Islamic community.

The University of Western Sydney has a substantial program of studies in Arabic at undergraduate and postgraduate level and research expertise in Arabic language, interpreting and translation, sociological and cultural studies. Its Muslim Harmony Relationship Group builds greater understanding and cooperation between Muslim and non-Muslim people in western Sydney.

The Centre will offer a major in Islamic Studies within the Bachelor of Arts program to new and existing students of consortium universities and, where possible, to students enrolled in other Australian universities

and to individuals in community access programs. It will also promote postgraduate study in Islamic Studies.

Professor Saeed said development of these programs on a national basis would assist the consortium universities to develop national responses to needs in research, teaching and community engagement in Islamic Studies. The new Centre will be advised on Muslim community needs by an appointed national advisory board.

End solitary for mental patients say experts

Solitary confinement and seclusion of mental health patients should end, according to mental health nurses, psychiatrists and legal experts speaking at a recent University of Melbourne symposium.

Symposium organiser and director of the University's Centre for Psychiatric Nursing Research and Practice (CPNRP) Associate Professor Brenda Happell, said seclusion, the practice of confining a patient in a locked room, was still a common practice in Australian mental health services.

"Mental health services overseas have had remarkable success in reducing the use of seclusion and we may be able to learn from these achievements," Associate Professor Happell said.

"Although legislation requires that seclusion is only used when a patient is dangerous to themselves or others and when no less restrictive options are available, the practice causes severe trauma to patients and the staff involved."

She said the study of seclusion and measures to reduce its use would be part of an ongoing program of research at the CPNRP.

Australian history of psychoanalysis wins Ernest Scott Prize

A University of Melbourne academic's exploration of the introduction and progress of psychoanalysis in Australia has been awarded the 2006 Ernest Scott

Prize for publications that contribute to the history of Australia or New Zealand.

The winning book is *Freud in the Antipodes: A Cultural History of Psychoanalysis in Australia* (University of New South Wales Press, 2005) by Professor Joy Damousi, Deputy Head of History and Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) at Melbourne.



POWER AND CONVICTION: PROFESSOR JOY DAMOUSI AND *FREUD IN THE ANTIPODES: A CULTURAL HISTORY OF PSYCHOANALYSIS IN AUSTRALIA*. PHOTO: PAUL RICHIARDI

Professor Damousi says her aim was to document the role and influence of psychoanalysis in shaping Australian medicine and culture from its origins in Europe.

She looks at how psychoanalysis was transmitted to Australia and reworked to meet local requirements, knowledge, prejudices and expectations.

The Ernest Scott History Prize judging panel describes Professor Damousi's work as an ambitious book, written with power and conviction – a case study "not only of the influence of psychoanalysis on Australian medical practice, but of the processes of cultural transmission, of Australia's continuing intellectual relationship to Europe, and of how Australian modernity came about.

Ultimately, it changes our understanding of Australian cultural history."

The Prize is awarded annually by the University of Melbourne to the most distinguished contribution to the history of Australia or New Zealand published in the previous year. It commemorates both the memory of the late Emeritus Professor Ernest Scott, who was a Professor of History in the University, and his interest in the development of Australian historical studies.

Town and Gown in celebration of knowledge transfer

Knowledge transfer in various forms was celebrated at the 2006 Town and Gown Dinner at the National Gallery of Victoria.



PROFESSOR VIJOLETA BRAACH-MAKSVYTIS, THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE'S DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT), PROPOSED THE TOAST TO 'THE TOWN'.



MR MICHAEL TRUILL, CEO OF SOCIAL VENTURES AUSTRALIA, PROPOSED THE TOAST TO 'THE GOWN'. ABOVE PHOTOS: JOE VITTORIO

The Town and Gown Dinner was attended by almost 400 academic, business, political and community leaders.

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Knowledge transfer activities illustrating the University engagement with industry and the community were showcased around the venue in video presentations on a continuous loop.

CEO of Social Ventures Australia Mr Michael Traill offered the toast to 'the Gown', and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Innovation and Development) Professor Vijoleta Braach-Maksvytis, the toast to 'the Town'.

Helen Garner wins the most valuable literature prize in Australia

The Melbourne Prize for Literature 2006 was awarded to Helen Garner, a Melbourne alumna who is published by Picador, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to Australian literature and to cultural and intellectual life.

The Melbourne Prize Trust, in conjunction with the Committee for Melbourne, late last year recognised Garner's achievements at an awards ceremony and exhibition-opening at BMW Edge in Federation Square, Melbourne.

At \$60000, the Melbourne Prize for Literature 2006 is the most valuable prize of its kind in Australia, organizers said. Garner will receive \$30000 in cash, provided by the City of Melbourne to undertake an international travel scholarship, and \$30000 in cash provided by Tattersall's and the Melbourne Prize Trust. An Italian language and cultural course is also offered by the Italian Institute of Culture.

Melbourne Prize Trust Executive Director and Founder, Simon Warrender, declared the inaugural Melbourne Prize for Literature 2006 a resounding success, with a high number of entries across both Prize categories and a successful exhibition of finalists' works at Federation Square.

The Awarding Committee and Advisory Group on the winner of the Melbourne Prize for Literature 2006 described Garner as a Victorian writer whose

accomplished and versatile body of work had established her as one of Australia's greatest contemporary writers and prose stylists. Garner's work was striking and tackled universal truths with a distinctive local voice. Throughout her career, Garner had illuminated aspects of Australian life that were both confronting and inspiring and had made an outstanding contribution to Australian literature and to cultural and intellectual life.

Wandering with Spinoza

The Centre for Ideas at the Victorian College of the Arts presented a highly successful interdisciplinary conference on the work, thought and influence of Spinoza late last year which brought together philosophers, theorists and visual and performing artists to celebrate this influential philosopher.

In July 1656, Baruch Spinoza was expelled from the Jewish community of Amsterdam for his 'evil opinions and acts' and his 'abominable heresies'. But what had he done or said that was so bad, and did it have anything to do with the ideas that were later to make him one of the greatest philosophers in history? Twenty-three-year-old Baruch (or Bento or Benedictus Spinoza as he was known) was not yet what he was later to become: one of the most significant and, in his own time, one of the most notorious philosophers ever.

The unique array of personalities who addressed the Wandering with Spinoza conference included Alain Badiou, the most influential living French philosopher and the enfant terrible of installation art, Thomas Hirschhorn, whose work *The Spinoza Monument* was exhibited in Amsterdam's red light district.

Woodward Medals go to an economist and a cosmologist

An internationally renowned economist and a scientist whose research has shed new light on the early history of the universe have won the University of Melbourne's 2006 Woodward Medals.

The medals, which honour outstanding research in the three years prior to

presentation, have been awarded to Professor Joshua Gans, of the University's Melbourne Business School, and Dr Stuart Wytthe (School of Physics).

Dr Wytthe's pioneering research provided new insights into the formation of the first galaxies 13 billion years ago.

His research will be put to the test by a new low-frequency telescope which will be built in outback Western Australia next year.



DR STUART WYTHE AND PROFESSOR RACHEL WEBSTER. PHOTO: LES O'ROURKE

Dr Wytthe has built an impressive body of research in recent years – most notably for his work on dwarf galaxies with his collaborator Professor Abraham Loeb (Harvard University).

"It has long been theorised that small dwarf galaxies formed during this period self-destructed because of the intense heat of their own stars," he said.

"It is thought dwarf galaxies heated the surrounding hydrogen gas and bathed the universe in ultra-violet radiation – meaning that only larger galaxies with a much stronger gravitational pull survived.

“My research using existing observations of the light emitted from quasars and the fluctuations in it, showed the early universe was very sparsely populated with these large galaxies, which were still about 100 times smaller than those of today.”

Dr Wyithe’s work has been published extensively in international journals including *Nature*, the *Astrophysics Journal* and the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astrophysics Society*.

Professor Gans said it was through teaching MBA students that he came up with a research idea that would earn him international recognition. He regularly talked with his students about the concept of the market of ownership and its effect on innovation and efficiency.

In particular, these discussions challenged the prevailing view that markets were most efficient when those who developed a product took their own ideas to market, rather than selling them to someone else. Professor Gans’ research and writing encompasses three major areas: innovation, industrial organisation and regulatory policy.

He also developed a tool which is now used by competition regulators such as the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to determine whether firms proposing mergers will have too much market power.

Dodson honoured with honorary Doctor of Laws

The nation’s leading exponent of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, Pat Dodson, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree during a conferring of degrees ceremony at the University of Melbourne on Saturday 2 December.

Patrick Dodson has had an extraordinary career, and the citation for his degree said that he had taught the Australian community that “reconciliation is not an elusive ideal, but a practical, achievable reality for the future of our continent and all its peoples”.

Pat Dodson has been a Director of the Central Land Council, a key player in land rights negotiations with the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments, a Commissioner on the 1989 Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and the first Chairperson of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation.

World first guidelines to help health professionals respond to patients who say they want to die

The world’s first guidelines to help health professionals respond to terminally ill patients who say they want to die have been developed by Australian researchers.

A team of palliative care experts, led by University of Melbourne researcher Peter Hudson, addresses the delicate situation of how health professionals should respond when a terminally ill patient expresses a desire to die.

The guidelines are published in the latest edition of the international journal *Palliative Medicine*.

They set out to help nurses, doctors and other professionals working with the terminally ill to better support the social, spiritual and psychological needs of their patients.

Associate Professor Hudson, from the Centre for Palliative Care at St Vincent’s Hospital, said the guidelines were not intended to address the issue of assisted suicide, or to take a moral stance on euthanasia.

“Research shows as little as one per cent of patients may directly ask a health professional to hasten their death,” Associate Professor Hudson said.

“But it is quite common for patients with advanced incurable diseases to express a wish to die – and research shows us that health professionals confronted with these statements do not know what to say and often say nothing.

“This is because they are often struggling to determine whether the patient is actually making a request for hastened death, whether it is a sign of

psychological distress or whether they are merely making a passing comment that is not meant to be heard as a death wish.

“The guidelines aim to address this dilemma by recommending strategies to help health workers respond professionally and compassionately.”

Associate Professor Hudson said the guidelines were developed over three years by an expert team of palliative care clinicians and academics in Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia.

Four Melbourne scholars elected Fellows of AAH

University of Melbourne scholars in film theory, Spanish music, Baroque art and architecture, and medieval studies, are among 20 new Fellows elected recently to the Australian Academy of the Humanities (AAH).

Melbourne’s four new Fellows are Professor Barbara Creed (Cinema), Professor John Griffiths (Music), Associate Professor David Marshall (Art History), and Professor Stephanie Trigg (English).

Barbara Creed is Professor of Film Studies in the University’s School of Art History, Cinema and Classical Archaeology (SAHCCA). She is a leading international film theorist and scholar whose work has significantly contributed to the establishment of film as an important discipline in the academy. Professor Creed’s contributions have been in film theory and psychoanalytic approaches to cinema and feminist film theory.

John Griffiths is Professor of Music in the University’s Faculty of Music. He is an outstanding scholar in Spanish music and lexicology and Spanish cultural life and organology (the study of musical instruments). Professor Griffiths is a noted performer on medieval and renaissance lutes, vihuela, baroque guitar, theorbo, chitarrone and a variety of guitars.

David Marshall is Associate Professor in Art History in SAHCCA. He is

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internationally acknowledged as a scholar in the field of Baroque art and architecture in the 18th century.

Stephanie Trigg is Professor of English Literature in the University's Department of English and Visiting Hurst Professor in the Department of English at Washington University, St Louis. She has an international reputation in Medieval English literature and Medievalism and the reception of the medieval after the Middle Ages.

See www.humanities.org.au for further information.

Surgeon, 80, graduates with MD from the University of Melbourne

An 80-year-old surgeon late last year became the oldest person on record to graduate from the University of Melbourne with a Doctor of Medicine (MD).



DR ROBERT MARSHALL (CENTRE) WITH HIS TWO BROTHERS, DONALD (LEFT) AND VERNON, WHO ARE BOTH SURGEONS AND UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE GRADUATES. PHOTO: MARK WILSON

Robert Marshall, who first graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine from the University of Melbourne in 1948 and obtained a Master in Surgery degree in 1955, received his MD – a postgraduate doctoral degree for medical professionals – in December, which makes him one of only a handful of surgeons in Australia with the words MD after his name.

He works as a consultant surgeon (he retired from operating at 70) and teaches postgraduate anatomy at the University of Melbourne.

During his busy career as a surgeon, Mr Marshall said he had never considered studying for an MD.

However, after fulfilling a lifelong ambition to write a book about functional anatomy, *Living Anatomy. Structure as the Mirror of Function*, a colleague suggested the text was of such a high standard that it should be submitted as an MD thesis.

He submitted the thesis in 2006, winning high praise from international examiners in the United States.

In addition to writing the substantial text, Mr Marshall also hand-drew dozens of detailed diagrams of human and animal anatomy.

“I have always been fascinated with anatomy. This book is intended to make the subject easier to understand and easier to remember,” he said.

Mr Marshall's supervisor, Professor of Surgery Andrew Kaye, said the thesis was an exceptional work which made an important contribution to the understanding of anatomy.

“At 80, Robert Marshall has achieved more than many people do in their 20s, 30s or 40s – and demonstrates that there is no retirement age for the creative mind,” he said.

In addition to his work commitments, Mr Marshall is a keen skier, is passionate about mountaineering and completes *The Times* crossword every day.

Melbourne claims four new 'young tall poppies'

University of Melbourne researchers in chemistry, physics, ethics and neurobiology won four of nine Victorian Young Tall Poppies awards announced recently by State Minister for Innovation John Brumby at the University's Bio21 Institute.

Melbourne's 2006 'tall poppies' are Dr Rachel Caruso (School of Chemistry), Dr Rony Duncan (Murdoch Children's Research Institute), Dr Andrew Hill

(Bio21 Institute), and Dr Shane Huntington (School of Physics).

The awards go to young researchers for outstanding achievements in science, and in communicating their work to the community.



COMMUNICATIVE: FROM LEFT DR RACHEL CARUSO, DR RONY DUNCAN, DR ANDREW HILL AND DR SHANE HUNTINGTON. PHOTO: MICHAEL SILVER

They are part of the 'Tall Poppies' campaign run by the Australian Institute of Policy and Science to convey Australia's intellectual achievements to the public, and encourage young Australians to follow a career in science.

University of Melbourne Dean of Science Professor Peter Rathjen, Ambassador for the 'Tall Poppies' campaign in Victoria and South Australia and Victorian Chair of Selection Committee, said the awards recognised exceptional young scientists with a passion for their work and for communicating it to society.

Dr Caruso was recognised for her work on developing novel materials for energy storage and for remediation of radioactive waste. A University of Melbourne PhD graduate, she worked in research in Europe before returning to Australia as a Centenary Fellow at the University.

She is now an ARC fellow at Melbourne. Dr Caruso is active in science communication with high school students.

Dr Duncan was awarded for her work on the ethical implications of science, especially in adolescent

health. She holds a Melbourne Science degree and a Melbourne PhD on the implications of predictive genetic testing in young people.

Dr Duncan had a research position at Imperial College London before returning to Melbourne to continue her work at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute. She has a passion for public engagement in science including public speaking, opinion pieces in the media and a regular slot on 3RR's medical chat show Radiotherapy.

Dr Hill was recognised for his work on neurodegenerative conditions known as prion diseases, including bovine spongiform encephalitis (BSE or mad cow disease) and its human form Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD). During his PhD in the UK he helped to identify the link between exposure to BSE and a new prion disease in humans, vCJD.

Dr Hill came to Australia as a Wellcome Prize Travelling Research Fellow when he expanded his research into Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. A senior lecturer in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, he enjoys communicating his research to students, the wider scientific community and the general public.

Dr Huntington was recognised for his work on telecommunications security. He is CEO of Quantum Communications Victoria, within the School of Physics, a new \$9.3 million government-funded program which aims to make Australia a leader in telecommunications security.

Dr Huntington is Founder and Managing Director of the Innovation Group Pty Ltd, a Victorian company set up to assist with commercialisation of Victorian research and technology. He also broadcasts on 3RRR's science radio program, having interviewed more than 500 scientists for the show and explained hundreds of scientific concepts to a general audience.

Melbourne leads with \$81 million in new medical and health research funding

The University of Melbourne has won a massive \$81 million in new funding for medical and health research from 2007 – leading all Australian universities and research institutes.

Melbourne's new National Health and Medical Research funding is well ahead of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute (\$52 million), University of Sydney (\$45 million), Monash University (\$42 million) and the University of Queensland (\$40 million).

This funding will support 109 research grants at the University of Melbourne into a broad range of health conditions, for example, diabetes, breast cancer, immunology, Alzheimer's disease, stroke, vaccines, and premature babies.

The University of Melbourne's \$81 million is over 15 per cent of the total \$529 million NHMRC funding pool for 2007, awarded to 52 medical research institutions across Australia.

The new NHMRC funding was announced by the Health Minister Tony Abbott in October.

Two Melbourne immunology research teams have been awarded a total of almost \$26 million –

- Professor James McCluskey's team will receive \$14.8 million to investigate the immune system and how the body reacts to infection. The study also aims to determine what happens when the immune system fails, leading to diseases such as diabetes and coeliac disease, and
- Professor Joe Trapani's team, \$10.8 million to investigate the role of the immune system in the control of the onset and progression of cancer.

Professor James Best has been awarded \$2 million to establish the Centre for Clinical Science in Diabetes, as part of the NHMRC Centres of Clinical Research Excellence program.

Bio21 Institute attracts Australia's biggest biopharmaceutical company, CSL Limited

The University of Melbourne and the Victorian Government have announced an exciting partnership between the University's Bio21 Molecular Science and Biotechnology Institute and Australia's biggest biopharmaceutical company, CSL Limited.

CSL is relocating up to 50 scientists to the University's \$120 million Bio21 Institute, in Parkville, Melbourne.

University of Melbourne Vice-Chancellor, Professor Glyn Davis, said the University was delighted to have CSL as a part of its Bio21 Institute, creating exciting opportunities for substantial research collaboration.

CSL Chief Scientist and R&D Director, Dr Andrew Cuthbertson, said the world-leading company was attracted to the Institute by the quality of its multidisciplinary research environment, its multiple-award winning building and state-of-the-art platform technologies.

"The move to Bio21 reflects a significant expansion in our research capacity, and will enable some of our top scientists to access a spectacular array of modern equipment in a stimulating work environment," he said.

Bio21 Institute Director, Professor Dick Wettenhall, said that in attracting CSL, the Institute was making a strong statement that it was serious about getting involved in industry.

"The CSL move reinforces the primary aim of the Bio21 Institute to improve human health and the environment through innovation in biotechnology, driven by research and dynamic interactions with industry," he said.

"This will be the beginning of the innovation pipeline between our scientists and CSL R&D. This means better and faster translation of our research into industry outcomes."

The Bio21 Institute boasts specialist expertise in the research areas of

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focus for CSL collaboration, including general vaccines, new diagnostics for early detection of Alzheimer's and Mad Cow-causing prion diseases, and research involving proteins with potential as therapeutics for treatment of cardiovascular disease and cancer.

New roles for Max Gillies and Brenton Broadstock at University of Melbourne

Actor and satirist Max Gillies and composer Brenton Broadstock have joined the University of Melbourne as Vice-Chancellor's Fellows.

Vice-Chancellor's Fellowships provide 'in residence' status in the University for distinguished public intellectuals, allowing them to engage in the public life of the University by providing a scholarly environment for research, writing, teaching and related activities in an area of new intellectual interest.

Max Gillies has played a central role in the development of contemporary theatre in Australia, both as the first Chair of the Australian Performing Group and as an actor in performances staged around Australia. He is well-known for his political satires on stage and television.

As Vice-Chancellor's Fellow Mr Gillies' primary focus will be developing a major new piece of Australian theatre dealing with large and historical political themes since World War II. He will also assist with the development of theatre skills and practice on campus.

Brenton Broadstock has been a significant figure in Australian music for many years. Head of Composition at the University Faculty of Music and recipient of numerous prizes for composition in Australia and internationally, his music has been performed by all of the major orchestras in Australia as well as many overseas.

Professor Broadstock will undertake several major projects as Vice-Chancellor's Fellow, including composition of a large-scale orchestral work celebrating the City of Melbourne and the University and work on an

opera to be entitled *Fahrenheit 451*, based on Ray Bradbury's book of the same name dealing with repression of knowledge and the restriction of political and social freedom.

Committee of Convocation Elections 2007

This year there will be elections for members of the Committee of Convocation and for the President of Convocation. All University of Melbourne graduates are eligible to nominate and vote in the election for President. Graduates in each particular faculty grouping are eligible to nominate and vote in the elections for their representatives. Details of the precise number of vacancies in each faculty grouping will be advertised in daily newspapers circulated in Melbourne in the second half of the year. At that stage details will also be available on the University's Committee of Convocation website (www.unimelb.edu.au/unisec/convocation/) and circulated in the *Melbourne University Magazine* scheduled for August 2007.

This year graduates will also be invited to up-date their address details. A request for this up-date will appear in daily newspapers circulated in Melbourne shortly.

Alumnus returns as Dean of Veterinary Science

Professor Ken Hinchcliff, a University of Melbourne alumnus, will be returning to Melbourne in July 2007 as the new Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science.

Currently the Head of Equine Medicine and Surgery at Ohio State University, Professor Hinchcliff is internationally recognised as a scholar of veterinary internal medicine and exercise physiology.

He graduated from the University of Melbourne in 1980 with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science, obtaining a Master of Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1987 and a PhD from Ohio State University in 1990.

"The curriculum at Melbourne focused on training students as veterinary scientists. It emphasised a sound understanding of the biology of disease, and developed my critical thinking and analytical skills. It provided me with a rock solid basis for my subsequent training in veterinary medicine and research," says Professor Hinchcliff.



PROFESSOR KEN HINCHCLIFF.
PHOTO: JERRY HARVEY/OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

From a personal perspective, he says, mixing with students from diverse backgrounds and forming lifelong friendships was a highlight of his time at the University and in Trinity College.

Professor Hinchcliff brings with him a wealth of experience that includes teaching undergraduate and graduate students, conducting research into exercise-related conditions in horses, dogs, and humans, and providing high-level medical care to sick and injured foals and horses.

For the past 13 years, he has been involved with the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, an epic journey of 1850 kilometres through Alaska. He is part of the specialist team of veterinarians who research and monitor the sled dogs' health and wellbeing.

His leisure interests include running, gardening, watching sport, reading and wilderness camping.

Honours

The University of Melbourne is proud to announce the following list of alumni, staff and honorary appointees who were awarded honours in 2007.

AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS 2007

AO: Officer of the Order of Australia

Professor John M. HUTSON, AO (MD 1986, DSc 2006) For service to medicine, particularly in the field of paediatric surgery as a clinician, teacher and researcher, and to the community through the Scouting movement

The Rev Fr Peter J. NORDEN, AO (GDip SocSt 1976, BA 1986) For service to community development through social research and programs aimed at assisting marginalised young people and offenders, to the mental health sector, and to the Catholic Church in Australia

The Hon Tony STALEY, AO (LLB 1964) For service to politics as a parliamentarian and contributor to the development of the Liberal Party of Australia, to the telecommunications industry, and to the arts

The Hon Justice Frank H. VINCENT, AO (LLB 1959) For service to the judiciary and the law as a contributor to the reform of penal and parole systems, the rehabilitation of offenders, and Indigenous Australians involved with the criminal justice system; and to education as Chancellor of Victoria University, including efforts to increase educational opportunities for disadvantaged youth

Member of the Order of Australia (AM)

Dr Howard BRADBURY, AM (BSc 1948, MSc 1950, DSc 1968) For service to science as a plant biochemist, particularly through research and the development of a test kit to measure levels of cyanide in cassava and other food crops

Associate Professor Di BRETHERTON, AM (GDip Mvmt & Dance 1982, former staff) For service to psychology as an academic, particularly through the advancement of scholarship in the areas of peace, mediation and conflict resolution, and to the community as an advocate for the prevention of violence

Dr Mary A. BROOKSBANK, AM (MBBS 1968) For service to medicine in the field of palliative care as a clinician, researcher and educator, and through contributions to professional organisations

Mrs Susan L. CAMPBELL, AM (LLB 1966) For service to the law, particularly through the development of clinical legal education in Australia and community legal services in Victoria

Professor Hilary C. CHARLESWORTH, AM (BA (Hons) 1980, LLB (Hons) 1980) For service to international and human rights law through professional and supporting roles in academia, legal organisations, government bodies and non-government organisations in Australia and internationally, and through the encouragement of human rights dialogue, particularly in the area of women's rights

Professor Emeritus Bill W. CHARTERS, AM (ME 1970, DE 2001, staff) For service to engineering through the research and development of renewable energy technology, to international relations, to tertiary education, and to the Australian Co-operative Research Centre program

Professor Murray D. ESLER, AM (MBBS 1967, BMedSc 1967) For service to medical science through research in the area of human cardiovascular neuroscience, and to the development of health policy and treatment therapies

Associate Professor Tony GOULD, AM (BMus 1974, former staff (VCA)) For service to the arts as a music educator, particularly through the Victorian College of the Arts, to the promotion of jazz and improvised music, and as a pianist and composer

Dr Ian R. JOHNSTON, AM (BA (Hons) 1966, PhD 1973) For service to the transport industry, particularly the promotion of road safety through the Monash University Accident Research Centre, to maritime safety, and to a range of professional industry organisations

Mrs Valerie J. LANG, AM (BAgrSc 1969) For service to women living in rural and regional communities, particularly by improving social and economic conditions through the Foundation for Australian Agricultural Women, and to the environment, health and education

Sister Toni M. MATHA, AM (GDip SocSt 1975, BSW 1980) For service to the community, particularly the provision and development of services through the St Vincent de Paul Society, to people suffering from mental illness and drug and alcohol addiction, and to education

Professor Bruce S. SINGH, AM (staff) For service to psychiatry through medical education and training, contributions to mental health research and reform, and the development of clinical services

Ms Meredith SUSSEX, AM (BA (Hons) 1973) For service to sports administration through contributions to the planning and coordination of the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games, and to the education and training sector

Mr Peter R. WATTS, AM (BArch 1974) For leadership in the conservation and preservation of cultural heritage in Australia, particularly through the Historic Houses Trust of New South Wales and the Australian Garden History Society, and to the arts

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)

Dr Walter J. BACKHOUSE, OAM (BA 1949, LLB 1951) For service to the community of Geelong through a range of arts, educational and aged care organisations, and to the law

Mr Edmund E. BEILHARZ, OAM (BMus 1963) For service to education and to the community of the Bendigo region through promoting, establishing and encouraging musical appreciation and performance

Dr Charles W. BUTCHER, OAM (MBBS 1969) For service to rural and remote medicine in the Northern Territory, and to the community

Mr John E. DATE, OAM (LLB 1957) For service to the community through providing assistance and support for the programs of a range of Catholic religious orders

Mr Ian C. EVERIST, OAM (BE (Civil) 1951) For service to engineering, particularly in the area of water and sewerage management, and to the community

Mr Samuel H. GINSBERG, OAM (GDip MtlHlthSc (ClinHyp) 2001) For service to the community through the provision of humanitarian assistance and voluntary psychological services for people affected by natural disasters and war

Mr Alan W. HAMPSON, OAM (BSc 1961, MSc 1970) For service to medical science through research into the influenza virus and vaccinations, and to public health

Mrs Alena KARAZIJA, OAM (GDipEd) For service to the Lithuanian community of Melbourne through cultural and school groups

Mr William H. MCGREGOR, OAM (LLB 1960) For service to tertiary education, and to the community of Ballarat through a range of tourism, health, legal and arts organisations

Dr Warner MOONEY, OAM (MBBS 1962) For service to medicine in the field of otolaryngology, particularly paediatric otolaryngology, as a surgeon and hospital administrator

Mr Leslie J. PERRY, OAM (Posthumous) (GDip TRP 1968) For service to the community of Mirboo through environmental and financial organisations, and to long distance running

Dr John REDDISH, OAM (MBBS 1956) For service to the community through Rotary International, particularly in the development and provision of humanitarian aid programs

Dr David C. RIVETT, OAM (MBBS 1972) For service to medicine through professional organisations in the area of rural and remote medicine, and as a general practitioner in the Batemans Bay area

Mr P. Jason RONALD, OAM (staff (Student Union)) For service to the community through a range of social welfare, cultural, political and agricultural organisations

Mr James I. SAUNDERS, OAM (former staff (VCAH)) For service to the dairy industry, particularly through industry reform, and to agricultural education

Mr Norman SNEATH, OAM (BCom 1958) For service to structural engineering, particularly through education and the development and integration of computer programs in design processes

Mr Brendan J. WATSON, OAM (BEd (Visual Arts) 1996) For service to the Scouting movement, particularly as International Commissioner for Scouts Australia

Associate Professor Kevin G. WHITHEAR, OAM (staff) For service to veterinary science and education, particularly through research, development and production of vaccines to control major diseases in poultry

Public Service Medal (PSM)

Mr Neville J. BRYAN, PSM (BA (Hons) 1986) For outstanding public service in the monitoring and review of the Australian intelligence community

Mr Mark DUCKWORTH, PSM (BA (Hons) 1984, MA 1984, LLB 1987) For outstanding public service to the development of the national counter-terrorism policy and response arrangements

Miss Margaret R. GODING, PSM (BA (Hons) 1971) For outstanding public service in the provision of public mental health to the Victoria community

Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM)

Mr Euan A. FERGUSON, AFSM (BForSc (Hons) 1981) For drive, initiative and leadership qualities which have led to an ongoing commitment to a safety culture across the South Australian Country Fire Service

Commendation for Distinguished Service

Air Commodore Mark A. SKIDMORE, (BSc 1980) For distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations as the Director of the Coalition Combined Air Operations Centre in the Middle East Area of Operations during Operations CATALYST and SLIPPER

Addendum to the Australia Day Honours 2006

Mr Robert (Bob) NEWMAN, OAM (BSc 1958) For service to forestry through professional and administrative roles in industry organisations and to the community including Rugby Union for more than 50 years

See the world not as it is, but as it could be.

The University of Melbourne is a very 'glass half-full' kind of place.

We believe that through inspiration and education, we can change the world for the better. Which is exactly what our students and researchers are doing, in fields as diverse as you could possibly imagine.

Researchers at the University of Melbourne are investigating techniques to improve the power quality of wind turbine generators. Weak sections of our electricity grids are predominantly found in rural areas, and are characterized by their distance from the main source, and their low power-carrying capability. Research into this area is particularly important for Australia, considering that many of our best wind farm sites are in remote, coastal or offshore locations.



Australian farmers will soon be able to measure soil moisture in paddocks from data collected by a space satellite under a University of Melbourne, NASA and European Space Agency (ESA) experiment. Via the internet, farmers will be able to download key information about current and future soil moisture in their paddocks, which has been generated from a combination of model predictions and satellite observations.

100 years of scientific research and exploration in the Antarctic is threatening one of the world's last, great, untouched wilderness regions. It's been estimated that tip sites, fuel spills and abandoned stations have resulted in the accumulation of up to 10 million cubic metres of rubbish, along with a similar volume of hydrocarbon contaminated sediments. Facing a myriad of scientific and engineering challenges, University of Melbourne staff and postgraduate students are helping to protect fragile ecosystems, both on the land and in surrounding bays and seas.

