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New centre's research to aid community

An innovative program that offers drink driving offenders a chance to swap fines for an intensive 12-week course is just one of the research projects underway at a new centre based at QUT's Carseldine campus.

The Centre for Community and Cross-Cultural Studies was officially opened by Brisbane City Lord Mayor Jim Soorley on March 7.

It aims to stimulate links between the School of Humanities and the School of Social Science through research, service to the community and postgraduate training.

One example is a community-intervention program in the Rockhampton region where second-time

drink-driving offenders are offered a 12-week course in lieu of a fine.

More than 800 offenders have completed the program, the results of which are being closely evaluated.

The program will be extended to the Maryborough and Wide Bay region in the next three months and trialled in north Brisbane later this year.

Program co-ordinator Professor Mary Sheehan said it was up to magistrates to decide whether they would offer the program to offenders they considered suitable.

"About one third of offenders are referred by the magistrate and complete the program," she said.

"And early evaluation figures show significant improvements in re-

offending rates, particularly for first offenders."

Faculty of Arts' Dean and centre director Professor Roger Scott said the new Centre for Community and Cross-Cultural Studies was an exciting project for QUT.

"This will be an important centre which will bring together activity in the two schools of Humanities and Social Science," he said. "It will house major research projects which have a strong community flavour — particularly those relating to road safety, drug abuse and occupational health and safety."

Professor Scott said the centre would focus on academic and community-based research in the fields of Australian community studies, Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander studies, Asian, Pacific, European and North American studies.

It would draw together staff with expertise in history, anthropology, sociology, psychology, literature, geography and political science and work to increase public awareness of community problems and means of tackling them through workshops, manuals and videos.

At the opening ceremony, Cr Soorley was presented with the centre's first publication: a self-help manual written by Humanities senior lecturer, Dr Kayleen Hazlehurst. The manual is based on more than 10 years of study and addresses the problems of alcohol addiction, family violence and community breakdown which are

destroying the lives of many indigenous people.

Called *A Healing Place: Indigenous Visions for Personal Empowerment and Community Recovery*, the manual has practical techniques which indigenous communities can use. Its first edition, published by Central Queensland University Press, has already sold out.

Dr Hazlehurst has worked with indigenous peoples in Australia, New Zealand and North America.

"There is what I call a quiet revolution that is occurring in Australia where indigenous people are slowly starting to realise their need for community recovery as well as their capacity to actually run programs themselves," she said.

Chemistry students work in UK

POSITIONS VACANT: Undergraduate Chemistry students to work overseas or within Australia for multinational companies on full salary for one year.

That offer is part of the Co-operative Education Scheme operating at QUT which integrates a student's studies with an extended period of paid industrial experience.

About eight to 10 positions for chemists were available this year in local, interstate and overseas companies.

The Co-operative Education Scheme Co-ordinator for Chemistry, Dr Steven Bottle, said participants in the scheme would do two years at QUT, majoring in chemistry, then take one year off to enter the program on full salary with a company and then return to complete their third year of study.

These students, Dr Bottle said, then would have what he termed "a leap frog opportunity and a competitive edge over other graduates".

And the good news for other disciplines is that the scheme will not be restricted to Chemistry students — any student in a three-year Science course or a five-year combined Science/Law course can apply.

Dr Bottle said there would be no limit to the number of students who could apply, but that they had to be aware that it would be very competitive and that there were certain entry requirements in grade-point-average terms.

He said moves were also underway to expand overseas employment-education positions for students.

"We have had a long-term relationship with one company in England, Courtaulds Coatings' subsidiary International Paints, which has taken one QUT student a year for the past five years," Dr Bottle said.

"I am endeavouring at the moment to get another company in Scotland to participate in the scheme, but this is still in the negotiation phase."

Dr Bottle said Faculty of Science Chemistry majors Leonie Dixon,



Co-operative Education Scheme Co-ordinator for Chemistry, Dr Steven Bottle . . . leap-frog opportunity and competitive edge over other graduates

David Weddell and Aaron Wigand had already had the opportunity to work in the UK for 12 months with Courtaulds Coatings, a step which gave them valuable work experience as well as technical skills.

"Working overseas for a multi-national company sounds like a dream come true to most undergraduates, but these students did it all as part of their enrolled studies at QUT and were paid a full salary for their efforts," Dr Bottle said.

"Leonie recently returned from the UK after working there last year and is completing her undergraduate degree.

"David, who was with Courtaulds in 1994, is currently undertaking an

Honours in Polymer Chemistry and Aaron, who visited in 1992, is completing his PhD in atmospheric environmental monitoring.

"Tracy Travis is our latest Chemistry student to travel to England and she began her program in January this year."

Dr Bottle said it was not widely realised by students or the general population that there was a strong demand for chemists to work in challenging and rewarding positions in industry and government locally, nationally and even internationally.

He said job opportunities for QUT Chemistry students were actually quite high, despite recent newspaper reports to

the contrary which implied that a majority of science graduates did not get jobs.

The report was incorrect, he said, as it depended significantly upon what particular course was undertaken in Science and from which university the degree was obtained. According to Dr Bottle, the vast majority of Chemistry students from QUT were employed within a few months of graduating.

"I think, of 30 recent Chemistry graduates, 28 we know of are employed," Dr Bottle said.

"The demand for chemists is such that they enjoy some of the highest employment prospects of all science graduates — especially for those who

have graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science (Applied Chemistry).

"However, it remains true to say that the best jobs go to the best people and that these are often the ones with relevant experience in the area.

"QUT students who have taken part in the Co-operative Education program then find themselves in an enviable situation compared to other graduates who can't find a job without experience, yet can't get experience without a job," he said.

The Information Technology Faculty also has a co-operative education program

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Vice-Chancellor’s comment

Change heralds new era for unis

During the past 13 years of State and Federal Labor Government and Queensland Liberal/National governments, there has been a revolution in Australian higher education.

Governments of all political persuasions have accepted the important role that universities play in Australian life.

Through policy development and resource investment, governments have steered universities in the direction of greater social, cultural and economic contributions to the community we serve.

We have seen significant growth, expansion of research, a move towards a user-pays system, quality assurance, internationalisation, funding on

performance, amalgamations and the end to the distinction between colleges and universities.

I believe that the Australian university system is now significantly stronger and a force on the world higher education stage.

QUT has seized the opportunities presented in these times of change and has emerged as one of Australia's premier universities.

For example, more than \$50 million enters the Queensland economy each year as a result of QUT’s international student program.

During what have been difficult economic times, I have been impressed by the support and encouragement given to QUT by politicians of all persuasions and higher education administrators at state and federal levels.

The recent federal and state elections evidently bring a new era for Australian higher education. However, I am convinced that we will continue to receive political and higher education bureaucratic support.

Policy issues may change, but universities will continue to play a central role in Australian society.

Professor Dennis Gibson



Study examines impact of messages on children

Children can suffer more from what we don’t say to them than what we do according to a new study soon to be published by QUT’s School of Learning and Development Senior Lecturer Dr Paul Burnett.

The study’s findings are contained in an article entitled *Children’s Self-Talk and Significant Others’ Positive and Negative Statements* which looks at the relationships between parents’ statements and their children’s self-esteem.

Dr Burnett’s study also investigated the impact of how children talk to and about themselves.

He said the most surprising aspect to emerge from his research was that, while children’s positive self-talk encouraged positive self-esteem, their negative self-talk was not related to their self-esteem.

“The other surprising element was that kids have a pretty good defence mechanism against the negative talk of others,” he said.

“They might dismiss negative talk for example, by saying ‘Dad’s in a bad mood’ or by showing other ways

of successfully integrating negative information.”

Dr Burnett surveyed 675 students from grades three to seven from schools across Australia in his study.

The children were specifically asked to report the last (positive or negative) thing they had said to themselves as part of the research.

Dr Burnett said the study aimed to develop valid methods for measuring children’s positive and negative self-talk and to also assess their perceptions of positive and negative statements from significant others in their lives.

He found that girls generated more positive self-talk than boys but this took a sharp decline in Grades 6-7.

“I also found that girls were more sensitive to their teachers’ positive messages than boys,” he said.

Dr Burnett said his study also showed girls aimed to please their teachers and receive more positive encouragement than boys.

The year-long project was made possible by a \$20,000 QUT research encouragement award.

Shiftwork authority outlines questionnaire concerns

Organisational psychologist and international authority on shiftwork Dr Zander Wedderburn will make his third visit to QUT later this month to conduct a research seminar on the problems of working with self-report style questionnaire.

Dr Wedderburn, who is head of the Heriot-Watt University Business Organisation in Edinburgh, Scotland, will be visiting the university from March 25 to 29.

Editor of the *Bulletin of European Studies of Time*, Dr Wedderburn has an impressive background, having commenced his academic career with studies in psychology and philosophy at Oxford.

He worked as a practitioner before carrying out research on management and industrial relations in the steel industry.

Dr Wedderburn’s main teaching has been in work and organisational

psychology. He also has an international reputation for research on shiftwork and was, until recently, secretary of the scientific committee on shiftwork for the International Commission on Occupational Health.

He will be conducting the seminar — *Evaluation in a transparent glass house: Methodological problems in evaluating changes from self-report questionnaires* — for the Australian Centre in Strategic Management and the Faculty of Business Research Advisory Service.

His seminar will be presented in Room B405 (B Block) on Gardens Point Campus at 3pm on Friday, March 29. For anyone wishing to meet Dr Wedderburn before or after the seminar (e.g., to discuss research interests or possible teaching links), please contact Jan Nixon at the ASCM on (07) 3864-2943.

Study shows drug use not a cut and dried issue for elite athletes

The results of a year-long study of top-level athletes have challenged the rationale behind banning drugs such as anabolic steroids in sport.

QUT graduate Sean Wilson studied an elite squad of five track-and-field athletes in the context of the banning of drugs in international sport for his Master of Health.

The work showed there were major discrepancies between what athletes were thinking and what Government and sporting bodies were doing, he said.

Mr Wilson presented a paper: *An Elite Athletic Squad’s Perceptions Regarding Doping* to an Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation international conference in Melbourne in January.

“It was really a study about what the athletes were saying and comparing and contrasting that to what was coming through in the literature,” he said.

“There are three main reasons why our society prohibits certain substances: fairness, health and a concept of dehumanisation.

“The International Olympic Committee (IOC) doesn’t recognise fairness as a plausible argument and neither did the Senate inquiry into drugs in sport in 1989.

“The Senate Inquiry pointed out that, if you get an Olympic athlete from a very rich country competing against an athlete from a very poor one, the athlete from the richer country is going to have access to the best coaches, the best equipment, the best medical advice, the best physiotherapists, the best nutrition — the list is endless.

“So, to identify drug use and to neglect those other areas that clearly make sporting competition unfair, is hypocritical,” Mr Wilson said.

“Ironically, the athletes I studied kept coming back to fairness as being an important aspect of competing —

even though it is glossed over by the bodies meant to be supervising the interests of the athletes.”

Mr Wilson said health was used as the primary rationale behind why substances such as anabolic steroids should be prohibited.

“One of the athletes disagreed very strongly with this — he said that he did not think the health of athletes competing at an Olympic level was a concern to them — it was about making money,” Mr Wilson said.

“There are researchers who say that, if we were truly concerned about athletes and their health, sports with a prevalence of injuries and death would be prohibited tomorrow.

“There is a valid point to be made that when athletes are competing at very high levels that it is not healthy for their bodies.

“When you have marathon runners excreting blood in their urine because of the sheer volume of physical work they have to do, and gymnasts who have the same bone density as a 90-year-old woman, you have to seriously question what is healthy and what is not.

“As a society we tend to condone boxers getting killed in the ring or becoming brain damaged; jockeys falling off their horses and being seriously injured; people dropping dead in Sydney-to-Surf races; people dying in motorcycle races, and being paralysed by spinal injuries in rugby league.”

Mr Wilson said some experts maintained that the health risks of testosterone and anabolic steroid use, taken intermittently, in low-to-moderate doses, were fairly transient.

“The thing I suppose that people forget is that these drugs were initially created for some legitimate health problems in hospitals and that all drugs — whatever they are — have a safety margin. Of course, once you go past that safety margin, you start having health problems,” he said.

“One of the biggest surprises for me, which I think also surprised people at the conference, was that the elite athletes in some ways actually condoned the use of drugs in sport. They could see the reason behind the use — but that wasn’t to say that they were necessarily using them themselves.

“The athletes also said that the media had an important role to play in the pressure on athletes today: it was always wanting better performances, and the winner was always the one that was given all the glory.

“And when competing is an athlete’s job, when it starts to become their livelihood, the pressure is just enormous and these athletes could appreciate that.”

Mr Wilson said the use of drugs in sport was often perceived to dehumanise the particular athletes taking them, because the side effects of many drugs detracted from what society considered “human”.

“It’s well documented that anabolic steroids taken in large amounts have side effects: physiological changes and psychological changes such as deepening of the voice, masculinisation and viralising effects, and some would suggest that these changes are dehumanising,” he said.

“It’s also dehumanising when you get communist countries using athletes as symbols of their doctrine: trying to show that their ideology is good because they have Olympic medal winners, when more and more of them are testing positive for things that are prohibited.”

Mr Wilson spent more than a year studying all aspects of the athletic squad’s sporting life.

A former track-and-field athlete, he observed the athletes and their coaches during training sessions, conducted individual interviews and held a group forum on topics drawn from an intensive six-month literature review.

High school students track satellites from ITE building

QUT recently played host to more than two dozen Year Eight students from the Mabel Park State High School, Slacks Creek, who toured the Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering.

The visit formed part of QUT’s Network of Exchange — Universities and Schools

(NEXUS) project which aims to encourage students from five targeted State high schools to consider tertiary education as a viable future option.

NEXUS co-ordinator Pathma Moodley said lecturers from the School of Electrical and Electronic Systems Engineering conducted a

three-hour workshop with the students.

She said students enjoyed activities ranging from image digitising, voice separation, observing and operating a robot to satellite tracking from the roof of the ITE Building on the Gardens Point campus.

From the Inside

by David Hawke

Language option attracts 800-plus

Incorporating European and Asian languages into professional degree courses is helping to give QUT graduates the edge in the tough 1990s job market.

More than 800 language students across the three campuses are studying Japanese, Indonesian, German or French as a core element of their Business, Education and Science degrees and most are using the latest technology to do so.

Of 820 language students, 445 are enrolled in the Arts Faculty, around 300 in an International Business degree course, 60 in an Education (Primary) degree course and 15 in an Applied Science degree course which included languages for the first time in 1996.

These figures look set to rise significantly in 1997 as more QUT courses include language options and more students become aware of the advantage of being proficient in a second language.

The increasing number of students from across all schools is a major success story for the QUT language program which was established within the School of Humanities only four years ago.

High-tech language laboratories, a number of large research and development grants, and a rapidly-growing international student exchange program have ensured QUT's fresh approach to language study already has a world-class reputation.

Language program co-ordinator Dr Beatrice Atherton said QUT had recently signed student-exchange agreements with internationally recognised tertiary institutions in several countries.

This year about 35 students will go to universities or business schools in Austria, Germany, France, Indonesia and Japan for one semester or a full year.

Dr Atherton said employment prospects for the first QUT graduates coming through those business, science and education degree courses open to languages were extremely healthy.

"Last year the first students graduated with an International Business degree and in some areas found that their language proficiency gave them an edge," she said.

"They went on to get jobs in small and large Australian firms with international contact with clients or suppliers that needed somebody who

could speak a second language and had business skills as well."

Dr Atherton said QUT was set apart from other universities by its extensive implementation of video-based listening and comprehension software, designed by QUT language lecturers and the Computer Based Education (CBE) unit, which were made at QUT and incorporated into units across the four languages.

This leading-edge technology will see more than 25,000 student hours delivered to 500 students in four languages in the multi-media language laboratories in 1996.

Software material for certain units is to be put on CD-ROM and may be

made available to teachers throughout Australia in 1996.

Dr Atherton said the advantage of mainstreaming languages into degree courses was that graduates emerged job-ready for employment with banks, business, schools or laboratories.

"We have recognised that students going into these professions have different needs from Arts students and we are trying to make their courses as relevant as possible," she said.

"The idea is that, by the time they have finished their degree, they are not just able to function in their profession, but their linguistic skills are fully relevant to the field in which they are working."

Head of School of Humanities Professor Cameron Hazlehurst said QUT had one of the best interactive multi-media packages available in Australia and overseas.

"This was an effort on QUT's part to take advantage of the enthusiasm and expertise of a team of lecturers who were ready to break free from some of the traditional language teaching approaches," he said.

A QUT bursary fund has been established to encourage undergraduate and postgraduate students to travel overseas to study at a foreign university for credit points at QUT.

QUT has applied successfully for UMAP (University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific) funding over the past three years to develop exchange programs with Japan and Indonesia.

In 1995-1996, nine students of Japanese gained scholarships from the Japanese Government to support them while studying in Japan.

Visual Arts graduates win support from Queensland Art Gallery



Sandra Selig ... heading for a three month residency at the Queensland Art Gallery

Visual Arts Honours graduate Sandra Selig (pictured) will be taking up a three-month residency at the Queensland Art Gallery, having recently been awarded the Gallery's 1995 Melville Haysom Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship is awarded annually to an artist or artists, aged 25 or younger and winners are given financial support during their three-month residency.

Meanwhile, fellow QUT Visual Arts graduate Kathleen Horton describes having a successful

career in arts as "a bit like a lottery", where triumph and failure can often be determined by a combination of luck and talent.

Already the 30-year-old's obvious talent has been recognised by the Queensland Art Gallery which recently awarded her its 1995 Hobday and Hingston Bursary.

(This bursary is awarded annually to the most promising undergraduate from a Queensland tertiary visual arts course.)

Kathleen achieved the highest grade point average of 1995

Bachelor of Visual Arts graduating students and has commenced her honours program this year.

She began her art career at 27, after working as a costume-maker in Australia and overseas.

"I was always an art lover, especially overseas where I spent much of my 20s," she said. "When I came back to Australia I decided it was time to concentrate on art full-time."

Specialising in line drawings, Kathleen said she planned to use the \$1,000 bursary to create new works.

Film icons help graduate promote Queensland holidays to US tourists

Selling the Queensland dream isn't just about *Muriel's Wedding* or desert queens in high heels, but both have played memorable roles for Queensland Tourist and Travel Corporation's new Regional Director Jonathon Day as he fans a thriving tourism market.

Mr Day, a QUT Business graduate now living in Los Angeles, said movies and entertainment figures were still pivotal to Australia's profile, particularly in the United States.

"Queensland rode on the back of *Crocodile Dundee* and Americans know about INXS. They're very welcoming to our cultural exports," he said.

Mr Day's brief is to target a huge tourism market including the Americas and Canada, which means encouraging a population base of 275 million people to visit Queensland.

More than half of these potential visitors already choose Queensland as their favoured Australian destination.

"When American tourists arrive in Australia, they are looking for something unique, but also something that's not too different from their homes in the US," he said.

"They're well-educated, well-travelled and excited about our fauna and the prospect of meeting the locals."

He said US tourists also valued our clean cities, familiar lifestyle and high levels of service.

The older American traveller can fly to Queensland and spend a week for between \$US1,500-\$US2,000.

Mr Day hasn't lived in Queensland since graduating from QUT six years ago, but his association with the QTTC has a solid history attached to it.

He started out as a cadet travel consultant at one of the Queensland Government Travel centres and quickly progressed through the ranks to Regional Manager of the Americas.

"I did spend a short time with the New Zealand Tourist Bureau's Los Angeles Office, but I was lured back to the QTTC," he admitted.

He now lives and works at Century City, Los Angeles, the commercial heart of law, business and entertainment, describing LA as an "acquired taste".

"Five of us work in the office here, targeting new markets and working to put deals together," he said.

Mr Day said he dealt with the airlines, hotel chains and big "people movers" in his marketing role.

"We are selling Queensland to those companies which bring American tourists to Australia, whether they want luxury resorts or backpacker accommodation," he said.

"US tourists crave a definitive Australia made up of beaches, rainforests and reefs and they like the way Australians welcome them."

He said his team's business focus was set on Queensland tourism's fastest-growing area, conventions and incentives.

"I'm working with the Queensland tourism industry to make sure it is taking the best advantage of the US market."

Desert to become golf course

Designing a golf course in a district that's better known for its dry desert is certainly going to be a challenge — but for landscape architecture lecturer Glenn Thomas, it will be a memorable one.

Mr Thomas will visit Birdsville next month to begin initial discussions with the local community and the Diamantina Shire Council.

This follows the Diamantina Shire Council's application to the State Government's Community Assistance Unit (CAU) for help to establish a golf course

Initially the CAU had asked QUT about the possibility of mounting a student project to provide the necessary support.

However, Mr Thomas said, a student project was not practicable, but the support needed could be provided as a community service/research project by the School of Planning, Landscape Architecture and Surveying.

"Our objective will be to provide professional design and technical advice to assist the Council and the community to construct the golf course and at the same time recognise the social, economic and environmental resources and constraints involved," he said.

"It is a unique opportunity for research into the establishment of ecologically sustainable recreation landscapes in semi-arid environments."

"The challenge will be to achieve a golf course that responds to its setting in a uniquely Australian landscape."

Mr Thomas said that, during his visit to Birdsville next month, he would inspect the proposed site and its environs, prepare a project brief and program for implementation, and obtain adequate physical and environmental data to enable planning and design of the course to proceed.

He said this would be followed by preparation of various course layout options and the development of a master plan.

Portrait shortlisted

The portrait of QUT Chancellor Dr Cherrill Hirst painted by South Australian artist Robert Hannaford (see IQ Feb 13 issue) was shortlisted among 30 paintings for the Archibald Prize. The prize was won by another artist, Wendy Sharpe.

Chemist off for short stint in Switzerland



Senior lecturer Dr Mike Chambers . . . invited to teach at prestigious Swiss institute

International recognition has come the way of Dr Mike Chambers, a QUT senior lecturer in the School of Chemistry.

Dr Chambers leaves this month for Switzerland to take up an appointment as professeur invité at the prestigious Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne.

At the Federal Institute of Technology (also known locally as the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne), Dr Chambers will be responsible for the teaching and project work in a final-year Diplôme subject (equivalent to an honours subject).

The final-year subject is Développement de Procédés (Process Development) in the Institut de Génie Chimique.

Dr Chambers said the main purpose of his work would be to provide instruction and training in the analyses of industrial chemistry and biotechnology processes, in order to establish optimum productivity and profitability conditions.

It would involve use of sophisticated computer-aided processes, technical and economic analysis and simulation.

He said it was expected that the project work would be performed in association with the Swiss chemicals and pharmaceutical industry and the research group at the Institut.

Dr Chambers said his success to date could well be due to a dose of serendipity and a strong commitment to teaching.

He said it was also largely due to QUT through its enlightened professional development policy which, in recent times, supported his work experiences overseas and QUT’s Teaching and Learning Grants scheme which provided additional computing funds.

He said QUT’s School of Chemistry had also provided support.

“Needless to say, our QUT Bachelor of Applied Science (Applied Chemistry) students are not being neglected,” Dr Chambers said. “In their final year they receive an introduction to such methodologies in chemical technology subjects and this helps make our graduates even more attractive to industry.”

Dr Chambers’ appointment in Switzerland is for four months and he will return to QUT in July.

QUT documentary team helps PNG reflect

QUT may pursue a higher profile in documentary film production following a recent success overseas.

A collaborative team of staff from various QUT areas produced a 40-minute television documentary which recorded the impressions of Papua New Guineans two decades after independence.

The documentary, *Ting Ting Gut* — which translates as “Think Carefully” or “Take Note” — was made primarily for Papua New Guinean audiences.

But the idea for the documentary had been in the mind of film-maker — and QUT International and Continuing Education Office Manager — David Stent for some time.

Mr Stent teamed up with School of Media and Journalism lecturer, Ian Stocks, ETV’s Jason Whiting and QUT graduate Mike Evert to produce the documentary.

“QUT has the capability to produce other documentaries in Australia or internationally and contribute to its own understanding of other cultures,” Mr Stent said.

He said the documentary, which was filmed in September at Kokoda in Oro

Province, Papua New Guinea, showed an optimistic but disappointed people.

Many had lost faith in their leaders, but held out some hope that recent government reforms would deliver useful change, he said.

What the film demonstrated was that PNG had taken great strides in the development of its human resources since independence while physical resources had deteriorated in rural areas.

“It may inspire Papua New Guineans to be confident in their ability to pull through this difficult stage in their economic and political development,” Mr Stent said.

“Also, Australians may see a different side of Papua New Guinea to that depicted by the more sensational documentaries restricted to a Port Moresby experience.”

Ting Ting Gut was first screened on EMTV Papua New Guinea (the only PNG television channel) on January 6 and 7 this year.

After the screening, one reviewer wrote: “This program was an inspiration to women and young Papua New Guineans and showed PNG in a totally

fair and unbiased perspective, renewing our hope for a better, brighter future.”

Mr Stent said the documentary had been sent to around 60 institutions in PNG as a VHS cassette.

“In years to come, as Papua New Guineans look back on their rural society in the mid 1990s, it will provide useful reference material for students and researchers,” Mr Stent said.

“It also records the views and aspirations of PNG leaders as they approach the implementation of reforms to local level and provincial government.”

Mr Stent said SBS, the ABC and the Australian Government were approached a number of times for financial support for the project.

However, no interest was shown nor funding made available from these sources.

QUT took up the opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to a continuation of its long-standing contribution to the education of Papua New Guineans.

The university provided PDP leave for Mr Stent and a small community



Part-time film-maker David Stent ... chronicalling PNG's progress

service grant. QUT’s ETV, Audio Visual Services and the School of Media and Journalism provided specialist equipment and services.

Maths models decipher body’s processes

Mathematics could provide accurate answers to medical mysteries that have baffled doctors and biologists for centuries, according to School of Mathematics Professor Sean McElwain.

Professor McElwain said the interaction of maths and biology was one of the most exciting areas of modern applied mathematics.



Professor Sean McElwain ... solving a few medical mysteries

“No one is surprised when a mathematician talks about relativity or quantum mechanics, but people are incredulous when you say you work on the applications of mathematics to biology,” he said.

“Today, mathematics is helping to answer important questions like: ‘What is the feedback mechanism that ensures that a wound to the skin heals to the right level?’ and ‘Why does a cancer grow so fast?’, ‘Why do white blood cells pack into joints affected by rheumatoid arthritis?’ and ‘How does an embryo implant in the uterus?’.

“Mathematics provides a quantitative framework to discuss, in detail, the interaction between all the component parts of these complex systems as well as to test our various interventions.

“QUT mathematicians are working on these problems at the moment.”

At the end of February, Professor McElwain presented a paper to a national symposium *Mathematical Sciences: Adding to Australia*, at the University of New South Wales.

His paper revealed the invisible hand of mathematics in the understanding of how kidneys function, human visual-processing and wound healing.

“Our kidneys filter about 180 litres of blood a day and we piddle about two litres per day, which leaves about 178 litres to be re-absorbed,” Professor McElwain said.

“Scientists are still puzzled as to how this happens. Renal physiology books say it is osmosis, but when we develop a mathematical model, it does not compute.

“Mathematical modelling has made it clear that new mechanisms are needed, and this is being investigated by kidney physiologists.”

Professor McElwain said mathematical models could also be used to investigate situations not easily open to experiment — such as how the external visual field is mapped to the primary visual cortex in the brain.

“The question we need to answer is how much of the visual cortex is associated with a certain part of the visual field,” Professor McElwain said.

“We cannot do invasive experiments on the human brain. However, what we can do here at QUT is to create a three-dimensional reconstruction of the brain using magnetic resonance imaging.

“We’re measuring electrical impulses on the scalp and using a mathematical model to locate which

part of the brain is active when a light is presented in the visual field.”

Professor McElwain said mathematics was also valuable in testing ideas. An area of particular interest was wound healing, which involved many interactions.

“Wound healing is a complex, carefully-orchestrated process,” Professor McElwain said.

“Modelling suggests that adding oxygen in small amounts may help wounds to heal. Wounds which heal faster have a higher vascular density.”

Professor McElwain said mathematics was a concise but powerful language that allowed “hidden” similarities between different systems to be discovered.

“Mathematics helps to clarify the underlying mechanisms because the process of modelling makes us concentrate on separating the essential from the inessential,” he said.

“I try to keep the models simple, but I have to admit that I am rather pleased that the fields of biology and medicine are so complex. They provide an infinite number of opportunities for the mathematical modeller.”

Geography lifts profile Biostatistician off to Glasgow

The future directions for geography at QUT will be shaped to a considerable degree by the multi-campus structure of the institution, according to two of the university’s geography academics.

Dr Brian Hudson and Dr Iraphne Childs said that, while QUT had no geography department, geography would continue to have a firm base within several schools and research centres where there were appropriate groupings of geographers and planners.

Dr Hudson is a senior lecturer in the School of Planning, Landscape Architecture and Surveying, while Dr Childs lectures in the School of Humanities.

Geographical teaching and research are undertaken at all three QUT campuses as parts of various courses and geographers are active in a variety of roles within the university.

Both agreed that geography, as a discipline, existed in a fragmented form, scattered about the university in separate organisational and physical units.

Dr Hudson and Dr Childs said it was hoped that, with increased communication and interaction among staff on the various campuses, a geographical forum for exchange of information and ideas within QUT would emerge.

The haunting pipes of Scotland are calling QUT researcher Mitchum Bock (pictured) who has won the inaugural Scots Australian Council/National Australia bank scholarship.

The \$100,000 prize over three years will allow Mr Bock, 23, to undertake PhD studies at Glasgow

University which will centre on biostatistics, with an emphasis on environmental applications.

Mr Bock has been a senior research assistant in the QUT-based Queensland Health Care Research Group, a specialist medical statistics facility located in the School of Mathematics.

Funded by the Scots Australian Council, National Australia Bank and the Glasgow-based Clydesdale Bank, the scholarship aims to strengthen cultural and social links between Australia and Scotland by selecting outstanding Australian postgraduate students to study in Scotland.

Ron wins Hastings Deering scholarship

Final year Mechanical Engineering student Ron French has won the 1996 Hastings Deering (Australia) Ltd Scholarship.

Mr French was recently presented with his \$11,250 scholarship certificate by Hastings Deering’s General Manager Support Services, Don Michelmores, at a special ceremony at Gardens Point Campus.

The ceremony was also attended by QUT Chancellor Cherrell Hirst as well as Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering’s Professor Walter Wong and Professor Nick Hastings and his wife, Joanne.

Mr French is expected to complete his undergraduate degree this year in the School of Mechanical, Manufacturing and Medical Engineering.



Ron French receives a certificate from Hastings Deering's Don Michelmores

Survey unveils concerns of ‘invisible’ part-time staff

Many part-time staff feel “invisible” and lack the support and recognition that would make them feel a valued part of QUT’s teaching culture, a research project has found.

QUT has 1,800 part-time teaching staff who bring real-world perspectives to their lectures. These staff were surveyed in 1995 about their experience of part-time teaching at this university.

Around 800 questionnaires were collected and 29 part-time staff from 23 schools later shared their experiences in focus groups. A further eight were interviewed individually in the research project *Part-time teachers: improving the effectiveness of teaching and learning through participatory action research*, or PETPAR.

PETPAR spokesperson Clare Christensen said that, from the data collected, it was clear most part-time teaching staff were enthusiastic and dedicated to their teaching.

“Many see their QUT teaching as an opportunity to put something back into their profession and expressed a desire to share the benefits of their professional experience with young people beginning their careers,” she said.

“But, while many part-time staff enjoy their teaching and feel confident in their teaching skills, others said they would appreciate opportunities to improve or update these (skills). A considerable number had no previous experience of teaching and felt the need for training and support.”

She said the part-time staff who responded to the survey and those interviewed were almost unanimous in their praise of the support provided by library staff, but there was general dissatisfaction with other facilities and resources provided for part-time staff.

Difficulties with receiving pay were also very common and many staff felt that pay was not commensurate with the amount of work done, especially in relation to marking, she said.

In some cases, part-timers were writing courses or subject outlines without proper

recognition and remuneration, a questionable practice, she added.

One part-time staff member wrote: “I don’t have much contact, I feel very isolated. I don’t feel very much a part of the faculty. I’m just an outsider who comes in and helps out, sort of fills a gap.”

Others expressed a feeling of powerlessness and an inability to change things. Some were afraid to complain about anything for fear of not being employed in the future.

Ms Christensen said QUT had begun to respond to part-timers’ needs with several school-based initiatives in professional development and other areas.

One initiative funded by the Committee for Quality Assurance in Higher Education and organised by the Academic Staff Development Unit has offered practical advice on several teaching issues, including presentation skills, assessment and teaching for cultural diversity.

Demand for these workshops exceeded supply, with 400 part-time staff applying for 90 places.

The PETPAR Project is conducting a one-day workshop/conference session for part-time teaching staff on two alternative dates: Wed, March 27, 2-8pm and Sat, March 30, 10-4pm. These sessions will provide a chance for part-time staff to meet and provide support for those who would like to form action groups or networks to initiate change in a variety of aspects of part-time teaching at QUT. Participants will hear a report of the PETPAR Project’s findings so far and some responses to those findings by QUT administrators. A representative of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) will also address the sessions, detailing progress in a national industrial case currently being presented on behalf of casual academic staff. The free sessions will be held at Lennons Hotel and lunch/dinner and afternoon tea will be provided, but early registration will be necessary as places are limited. To register, contact Clare Christensen on (07) 3864-5557.

Have prayer book, will travel

No air-conditioning, no fax machine and there’s not even a computer in the office, but one familiar QUT face is notching up three years criss-crossing all campuses.

He is the Reverend Alan Sandaver, the university’s only full-time chaplain.

Rev. Sandaver’s chaplaincy is a joint undertaking by six churches — Anglican, Catholic, Churches of Christ, Lutheran, Salvation Army and the Uniting Church — and supported by a QUT grant. (Representatives of other religions occasionally visit or hold special services on campus as well.)

Rev. Sandaver said his presence on campus was not solely for students.

He said he believed some university staff sometimes were under more pressure than students.

“Often people are juggling jobs and home commitments,” Rev. Sandaver said.

“In the workplace there are very real pressures for performance and competition — accompanied by declining resources — which accumulate stress and listening is a safety valve.

“One of the things that sadden me is that often you find out there has been a death or some other crisis in a department and you only hear about it second- or third-hand.

“I think in some of these situations we could be of real value.”

Rev. Sandaver said the main service QUT’s Chaplaincy Centre provided was that it was on-site and available to those in need.

He said the centre was multi-faith, with worship facilities for various denominations.

These included Muslim, Jewish and Latter Day Saints and a number of student Christian associations.

An Anglican Priest, Rev. Sandaver said it was a little



Reverend Alan Sandaver ... listening a safety valve for pressures

daunting covering the students and staff on all three campuses.

“In large institutions, it’s pretty hard to get your message across, even those who have all the computer resources find it hard to get their message to the right people,” Rev. Sandaver said.

“While we are only on a very small budget, but we hope to improve the situation.”

Rev. Sandaver prefers personal contact and wants to be known as the “Chaplain who listens”.

“We live in a very busy world and get caught up in our own concerns and pressures,” Rev Sandaver said.

“Sometimes, people just want to sit down with someone who offers a

warm friendly face without any agendas and who is really prepared to listen.

“They want someone outside their familiar circle to talk about something that may be close and very personal. To listen to someone intently is a real gift.”

He said problems on campus were no different to those of the everyday outside world, the only difference was the very real pressures of an expanding higher education sector.

Rev. Sandaver can be contacted on 3864 2700 and, as he covers the three campuses, his office has an answering machine which also lists a mobile phone number if required.

QUT scientist calls for earlier disease warnings

If Australia is to be well-armed in the battle against communicable diseases, this country needs speedy notification of outbreaks in neighbouring nations, a QUT scientist believes.

School of Life Science senior lecturer Dr John Aaskov said the level of data exchange between Australia and countries like Thailand, Indonesia and India was inadequate.

Citing a significant but unreported outbreak of dengue fever in Irian Jaya, Dr Aaskov said he was concerned about the risk Australians faced both at home and abroad.

Dr Aaskov is campaigning to have information on such outbreaks shared worldwide, especially in view of increased movements between nations by tourists and businesspeople.

He has initially proposed a Memorandum of Understanding on sharing information on disease data with these countries.

Director of the World Health Organisation Arbovirus Reference Centre, which is based at QUT, Dr Aaskov’s work focuses on arbovirus diseases such as dengue fever and Japanese encephalitis.

Arboviruses can cause disease in humans and animals and are carried by arthropods like mosquitos, ticks and biting midges.

“These diseases can move very quickly — it’s in our interests to know what’s been happening in the region,” Dr Aaskov said.

“Some of the diseases I am concerned about also occur in animals. There’s a virus called Rift Valley fever that occurs in a number of countries, including India, affecting humans and animals.”

He said that, if the disease surfaced in Australia, it would pose a threat to humans and to the veterinary industry.

“It there are outbreaks of Rift Valley fever somewhere, Australian authorities would like to know very quickly.”

He said that, outside of Australia, there were 100 million dengue virus infections in the tropics each year and about 10,000 deaths.

Following a second or third infection, the severe haemorrhagic form of the disease might occur, he said, and this had a 20 to 30 per cent fatality rate if untreated.

With hospital treatment, the fatality rate was between 1 and 5 per cent.

Japanese encephalitis was primarily a problem in South-East Asia, where there were about 50,000 cases a year. About 30 per cent of those who contract the disease would die, he said.

The first cases of Japanese encephalitis in Australia appeared in the Torres Strait Islands last year, resulting in two deaths.

Dr Aaskov has just returned from a two-month tour of health departments and provincial laboratories in India, Thailand and Indonesia.

“One of the things I found in Indonesia was that there was a significant outbreak of dengue fever in Irian Jaya between September 1993 and February 1994,” he said.

“There were 200 confirmed cases, five deaths and three different dengue serotypes were isolated.

“In Australia, we knew nothing at all about that. And it occurred 80 km from the Papua New Guinea border.

“Such outbreaks pose a significant threat to Australian health due to movement of Australians and New Guineans through this area.”

If Australian medical, government and quarantine authorities were alerted to the presences of diseases such as dengue and Japanese encephalitis in the region, they could ensure patients were diagnosed accurately, hospitalised quickly and



Dr John Aaskov ... wants to make diagnostic kits available

mosquito control programs initiated to ensure the diseases did not spread, he said.

“Each disease is slightly different and, if we know what’s going on in the neighbouring countries, we can be

... there is a clear need for commercial supply of arbovirus diagnostic reagents so that dengue fever and Japanese encephalitis can be diagnosed quickly and accurately in South-East Asian countries

prepared to take action at a public health level,” Dr Aaskov said

“It’s not only the outbreaks — the other reason that you want this data is so that you can map increases in particular diseases so that public

health authorities know when to intervene.”

Dr Aaskov said there were a number of important issues that had to be considered when it came to disease notification.

“One is that some of our neighbouring countries simply don’t have the information to share because they don’t have the diagnostic networks to confirm what’s going on,” he said.

There had even been anecdotal reports of cases of Japanese encephalitis in Bali over recent years, but confirming such cases had proved difficult, he said.

“I also think there’s also a little bit of apprehension in some places about sharing information because of the publicity that comes with it.

“National prestige is at stake and countries are a bit reluctant to open themselves up to the criticism that they are not managing their communicable diseases properly.”

Dr Aaskov estimated around 50 people a year came back to Australia with dengue fever acquired outside the country.

“The only thing that stops us having more problems than we do is that we don’t have enough people living in the tropics ... yet,” he said.

“So once places like Townsville and Cairns have populations of a million people, we may well see dengue every year.”

The first record of a person dying from dengue haemorrhagic fever was in 1896 in Charters Towers. Outbreaks of dengue occurred in Australia in 1942, 1953, 1981, 1992 and 1993.

Dr Aaskov said he believed major outbreaks of diseases in India, Indonesia and Thailand were detected “reasonably quickly” and reported to the respective national ministries of health.

“However, in India, in the absence of a major outbreak, it may be a year or more before you’ve got a true picture of what’s happening,” he said.

He said another matter for concern was the small percentage of clinical reports which were actually confirmed by laboratory diagnosis. This deficiency clouded the accuracy of data that was available, he said.

Dr Aaskov said the amount of testing being done was often determined by financial constraints. His report to the World Health Organisation and the Commonwealth Health Department noted that there were anecdotal accounts of large numbers of cases of dengue fever in India, yet few official reports of dengue haemorrhagic fever or dengue shock syndrome.

Dr Aaskov said this might indicate cases were simply not being diagnosed.

“There are very few reports of dengue (fever) in Sumatra, while Malaysia — with similar development, geography and climate — has up to 5,000 patients each year,” he said. “This also indicates that large numbers of cases may not be diagnosed (in Sumatra).”

Dr Aaskov said there was a clear need for commercial supply of arbovirus diagnostic reagents so that dengue fever and Japanese encephalitis could be diagnosed quickly and accurately in South-East Asian countries.

“I guess what we would like to see would be diagnostic kits commercially available at a price that’s affordable, and they would have to be robust enough to work in provincial health areas,” he said.

Dr Aaskov has recommended to the Federal Government that AusAid and AusTrade consider assisting in the provision of diagnostic tests in these countries.

He has further recommended that Australia explore opportunities for training future medical laboratory scientists at Australian tertiary institutions.

Focus on skills and technology attracts new media students

The Queensland University of Technology is breaking new ground in innovative media studies as the 1996 academic year gets underway.

One of the country’s more popular destinations for tertiary media students, QUT’s School of Media and Journalism has a new head, Professor Stuart Cunningham, who has taken the helm at a time of considerable transformation and expansion.

This transformation has been underpinned by the highly successful move in mid-1995 from QUT’s Faculty of Business to its Faculty of Arts.

The change has seen the development of a new major in Media Studies.

“We’ve got 75 students when we thought we’d get 40. There was obviously a pent-up demand for this course,” he said.

Over the past few years, QUT has continued to fulfil an escalating demand for quality education in its journalism and media courses.

Pressure to get into QUT’s School of Media and Journalism is intense – for example, only one in 10 first preferences eventually make it into the Film and Television course.

QUT is now offering 10-unit majors in journalism and film & television production, accomodating a strong involvement in technology- and skills-based areas.

A new, first-year journalism subject is setting new international standards under the guidance of Associate Professor Leonard Granato.

Dr Granato said the new unit, Journalism Information Systems, was at the cutting edge of the industry, teaching computer-assisted reporting skills.

“We teach the students to use spreadsheets, databases, how to find information on the net using email and this is done at the same time as they’re doing basic newswriting,” he said.

This approach to information-gathering for journalists was developed by Dr. Granato following a visit to universities in the United States where similar courses were only available as an elective and only to final-year students.

Professor Cunningham said not only was there a strong demand to get into QUT media courses, but also employers were seeking out QUT graduates because of their high levels of practical skills. (QUT’s slogan - *A university for the real world* - has an established and respected track record with industry, government and community sectors.)

“We’ve got a long track record with high-profile graduates scoring positions in well-known places or becoming well-known figures,” he said.



Professor Stuart Cunningham . . . pent-up demand for new Media Studies major

“There is Ellen Fanning from the ABC radio news program *PM*, and Samantha Butler, a QUT graduate was plucked from almost immediate graduation to front the national ABC youth current affairs program *Attitude*.”

Ten Network’s newsreader Tracey Spicer, Nine Network’s Tracey Curro (60 minutes reporter) and Network 7’s

Carolyn Tucker (Brisbane anchor for *Today Tonight*) are also past graduates of the School of Media and Journalism.

In fact, throughout Australia, QUT media graduates have made a strong impression, with regional media being a particularly successful initial destination.

QUT film and television production graduates also are placed in advertising agencies, documentary teams and independent film houses in South-East Queensland, while two students this year started at the Australian Film, Television and Radio School.

Professor Cunningham said “full-service courses” offered at QUT made a real difference to job opportunities.

“Employability is enhanced and the students have a greater degree of understanding and comprehension of the industry. They can adopt in industry more readily than other graduates,” he explained.

Outside the classrooms and studios, QUT staff are becoming known nationally, too, as they publish seminal texts in various media disciplines.

Indeed research is both encouraged and supported well on the QUT campus, with a Centre for Media Policy and Practice having been established. (Its inaugural director was Professor Cunningham.)

Additionally, QUT is playing a significant role in the new Australian Key Centre for Cultural and Media Policy, a Commonwealth-funded centre of excellence based at Griffith University and jointly managed by the University of Queensland and QUT.

Professor Cunningham said the new centre was set to make significant progress in innovative advanced education, the development of regional and curriculum links with Asia, and major programs of research over the next five years.

“There are so few humanities-based key centres, of which we’re one, and this is a sign of the high regard our research record and advanced teaching record is held in at the national level,” he said.

Prolific engineering author wins prestigious professional accolade



Dr David Thambiratnam . . . now a fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers

QUT Associate Professor Dr David Thambiratnam has been elevated to “Fellow” within the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

Founded in 1852, the American Society of Civil Engineers is the oldest engineering society in the United States and has more than 110,000 members worldwide.

The “Fellow” designation is considered one of the highest professional recognitions civil engineers can receive from their peers and is second only to the “Honorary Member” designation.

To be eligible for elevation to the grade of “Fellow” an ASCE member must be a legally registered engineer or land surveyor.

He/she must have had responsibility over 10 years, as a member, for important work in engineering or surveying and be qualified to direct, plan or design engineering works.

An ASCE member may also be elevated if he/she has been in charge

of important industrial, construction, educational, editorial, research or engineering society activity.

ASCE President James Poirot said the work of Dr Thambiratnam and other ASCE members “realises a major civil engineering goal: to serve as guardians of the public good”.

Dr Thambiratnam has had a total of 23 years of engineering experience in Sri Lanka, Canada, Singapore and Australia.

He has had seven years of industrial experience in analysis, design and construction of multi-storey buildings and bridges.

In addition, he has spent 16 years in teaching, research and consulting in structural analysis, dynamics and vibration of structures and finite element modelling.

Dr Thambiratnam has more than 125 publications to his credit and was last year elected a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Australia.

All campuses to celebrate cultural diversity

All three QUT campuses will celebrate Diversity Week in early April with visual arts and crafts demonstrations, cultural performances, music and international food and drinks available for all to enjoy.

QUT Student Guild’s Myrene Gatbonton said the celebrations would be in the first week of April, with main events between 11am and 3pm at Carseldine on Monday, April 1, Kelvin Grove on Tuesday, April 2 and Gardens Point on Thursday, April 4.

“The aim is to promote and increase our society’s recognition, acceptance and mutual respect of the indigenous, ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious backgrounds around us,” she said.

Human Movement project picks up good vibrations

The right vibrations may benefit car accident victims, injured athletes and diabetics if new research from the School of Human Movement Studies proves successful.

Project leader and Human Movements lecturer Dr Graham Kerr said the research would centre on proprioceptive sensory information which he described as “the body’s most important perception”.

Dr Kerr said this information was produced by sensory receptors in muscles joints and skin.

“People who lose this perception when their sensory nerves die off have great difficulty walking, they don’t know where their feet are and they suffer limb disco-ordination,” he said.

Dr Kerr said the research would further understanding of how the brain co-ordinated and controlled movement.

As part of his latest project, Dr Kerr is constructing specialised equipment to assist with his study into brain behaviour.

“The vibrational system will stimulate tendons and sensory receptors in muscles in the subject’s arm, while the brain’s reaction to the stimuli is monitored,” Dr Kerr said.

He said the machinery would take control of the arm’s movement, while the brain’s reaction to the stimuli was monitored.

Dr Kerr began the project two years ago in the United States and is collaborating with researchers from QUT’s School of Mathematics — Professor Sean McElwain and student Monica Hurdal — who are studying the relationship between visual and brain stimuli.

“In the maths research, brain functions are mapped using EEG methods and my research will use similar methods to focus on proprioceptive information,” Dr Kerr said. “For now, the project is being funded by the School of Human Movement Studies.”

Dr Kerr said he planned to apply for external research funding after his nine months of pilot work was completed.

Hong Kong careers courses prove popular



Learning and Development lecturer Tony Burton . . . opportunity knocks

QUT’s Education Faculty is breaking new ground, offering specifically designed guidance and counselling courses in Hong Kong.

In a university first, Learning and Development lecturer Tony Burton was recently asked to develop a distinctive range of study options for Hong Kong educators and counsellors.

These included programs that could be credited towards the Master of Education.

Mr Burton said he had a number of counselling students who wanted to complete their Education degrees at home in Hong Kong, particularly if there were only one or two units outstanding in their degrees.

“There was a fair bit of interest in counselling skills, so we designed a course in conjunction with the Dean of Education Alan Cumming, and QUT’s Hong Kong representative,” he said.

The project was undertaken in conjunction with the YMCA. (A huge private enterprise company in Hong Kong, the YMCA boasts hotels, many schools and employs substantial numbers of social workers and counsellors.)

The seminar program was provided at two levels. One offered a certificate of attendance when the workshops were successfully completed.

Also, for the first time, the Hong Kong-based course may be credited towards a QUT masters program if students apply after successful completion of the assessment.

The course was attended by 25 students and, Mr Burton said, the opportunities for QUT were blossoming.

“This started with demand from students over there and it’s providing

a forum for the university in Hong Kong that is putting QUT’s name up in lights,” Mr Burton said.

Additionally, Mr Burton hosted an intensive, one-day course for 160 Hong Kong career masters who play key roles in vocational guidance in schools.

He introduced a number of vocational tools, including some computer programs — with a focus on career assessment.

“Career masters have very limited formal qualifications experience, so the association is providing a very good opportunity for QUT to provide this expertise,” he said.

The Faculty of Education is also considering introducing a graduate certificate program in the area as market need grows.

During Mr Burton’s two-week visit to Hong Kong he also addressed the issues of dealing with difficult students, particularly in Hong Kong’s pre-vocational schools.

“Many of the students see themselves going to a lesser academic school and, as a result, their behaviour is often associated with poor self image,” he explained.

Teachers, principals and senior educational staff attended a three-day program with Mr Burton focusing on teaching for improvement and change.

“Here again there is a wealth of opportunities for QUT, to get down to teacher level and start teaching valuable techniques,” he said.

QUT’s expanding Hong Kong initiatives have been welcomed, with Mr Burton invited back to train school inspectors and guidance masters over the coming year.

Student volunteers shake a leg for science

Research into calf muscles by QUT masters student Nick Brown is helping health scientists better understand the complexities of the human nervous system.

Mr Brown’s 18-month research project has focused on strategies the nervous system employs to control muscle contractions in the lower leg.

Mr Brown graduated from QUT in podiatry in 1989 and has done his Master of Health Science under the supervision of Dr Graham Kerr.

For his research muscle activity data was collected from 8000 separate calf muscle contractions from 16 student volunteers.

“We were trying to find out if there was a way in which that muscle consistently contracted and if there was something consistent in what it did,” Mr Brown said.

“The philosophy behind that is: if there are characteristics in the way it contracts then it might tell us something about how the nervous system, the brain and the peripheral nervous system controls movement.”

Using a sophisticated isokinetic dynamometer machine in QUT’s School of Human Movement Studies motor control laboratory, Mr Brown measured with pinpoint accuracy the activity of the medial and lateral gastrocnemius muscles and the lower soleus muscle of the human calf.

Health scientists are divided as to whether the medial and lateral gastrocnemius work in tandem or separately.

Mr Brown took one set of measurements of static contractions with no limb or muscle movement. The second set of measurements was of passive movement, where the machine moved the subject’s limb during a contraction.

“We found that the lateral gastrocnemius has quite a distinct function on its own,” Mr Brown said. “We found that it did its own thing quite consistently for every subject and virtually for every trial.

“What these findings on the lateral gastrocnemius indicated to us was that the nervous system has an ability to pick out a muscle and use that selectively.

“Which means that, while we know the nervous system is very sophisticated, in this case it was very much more sophisticated than we expected.”

Mr Brown said research into body movement and the nervous system had enormous applications in injury rehabilitation, people with disabilities, people with cerebral palsy and diabetes.

“If we can find out the nervous system has control strategies for muscle contraction then that is relevant to the rehabilitation strategies of particular muscles - we can’t try to ask a muscle to do something it is unable to do,” Mr Brown said.

Mr Brown said understanding how the nervous system controlled movement also had applications in the development of better artificial limbs, an area under focus in QUT’s motor control laboratory in the School of Human Movement Studies.



Masters student Nick Brown with a student volunteer helping to pinpoint the complexities of lower leg muscles

Research society recognises student work

When final-year QUT marketing students Jonathan Snape and Judith Newton tackled their advanced marketing research technique project, they doubled their efforts and came out winners.

The pair won a State-wide student research competition sponsored by the Market Research Society of Australia, including \$600 in prize money.

Launched by the society last year to strengthen ties between business and

tertiary students studying marketing and research, the competition was judged by a team of three industry professionals.

“We’re happy we won, it’s something to show the industry we have experience,” Mr Snape said.

The students’ project aimed to increase the subscriber base of three State orchestras and Arts Queensland provided \$1,000 for research costs. Their win was a double bonus, as the project also scored top marks.

Ms Newton and Mr Snape have since successfully completed their Bachelor of Business degrees, majoring in marketing.

Mr Snape is working part-time with MIM Petroleum while he completes his Master of Business at QUT while Ms Newton is working with the Queensland Government as a graduate trainee — research and policy officer.

Workshop’s aim to improve cultural equity in education

QUT’s commitment to cultural diversity has been underscored by an ambitious training workshop designed to improve educational workplace equity.

Academic Staff Development Unit lecturer Patricia Kelly described the *Leadership for Diversity* workshop as an opportunity to implement effective cultural awareness strategies in higher education.

“The aim of the workshop was to produce leaders with new skills who could move away from blame and practise effective progressive cultural strategies.”

Sponsored by Staff Development Units at QUT and the University of Southern Queensland, the workshop was held February 23-24 and attracted 30 participants from various Faculties as well as from National and State government departments.

Two trainers from the REACH Centre in the United States, Colleen Almojuela and Gary Howard, highlighted a broad range of diversity issues including cultural awareness, training and skills.

“For all of us (the most difficult area) was the dual challenge of

personal change and institutional change and the burnout and stress of always trying to be at the cutting edge of trying to change what someone is thinking or doing,” Ms Kelly said.

Part of the workshop involved identifying and addressing the cultural baggage that people carry, she said.

“We looked at the real issues of prejudice, real issues of racism and real issues of power,” she said.

Ms Kelly said it was important to train trainers and to see diversity as opportunity rather than as a problem.

“Most people have the goodwill to improve but they don’t have the strategies for change.”

Up to a quarter of QUT’s students come from non-English speaking backgrounds and the number of staff from culturally diverse backgrounds was also growing, Ms Kelly said.

“Think of diversity as a banquet at which you are free to choose or not choose from all the various goodies, but where you can take the best from each one — it is not always easy and some people are resistant to choosing.”

Distance learning on show

With distance learning no longer simply a televised lecture and a parcel in the post, educators and students alike may be interested in a special presentation on the latest technology in the field.

The incorporation of two-way television, the Internet and World Wide Web as well as multiple-user environments will be discussed by Andrew Boulus of Sun

Microsystems on Thursday, April 4, at 10am and Noon in the Educational Media Facility, Room V126 in V Block at Gardens Point.

Mr Boulus will also replay and discuss *The View From Afar*, a videoconference which examines distance learning issues.

Information on education and business videoconferencing is also available at <http://www.sun.com/sunergy/>

Secretaries celebrate

Secretarial and administrative staff from all three campuses will be getting together at various functions to celebrate National Secretaries’ Day on Friday, March 29.

A group of about 20 QUT secretaries and their bosses will attend a special Institute of Professional Secretaries of Australia function at the Hilton.

Another one of the events will be a special three-course luncheon at the Skyline Restaurant at the College of Tourism and Hospitality (COTAH) in South Brisbane.

The QUT Secretarial Network has been active for the past four years and lists more than 200 members drawn from all three campuses.

QUT duo plan new theatre company

Actor, director and teacher Anthony Simcoe and fellow QUT-graduate Alison Ryall are to launch an exciting new theatre company in Sydney that will give QUT drama students their first break into the tough theatre industry.

Mr Simcoe and Ms Ryall, a promising young choreographer with the QUT Dance Department in 1995, have already planned 1997’s season and hope it will set the Sydney theatre world on fire.

Ms Ryall completed her Bachelor of Arts (Dance) last year, and is doing intensive postgraduate studies in choreography at the Victorian College of Arts in Melbourne.

Together the Queensland duo plan to showcase a company which will bring a new “physicality” to some of western civilisation’s classic works of theatre.

A key aspect of the project would be the involvement of future dance and drama graduates and staff from the QUT Academy of the Arts, they said.

Drama lecturer Mark Radvan has also been invited to be guest director for the first production.

Both Mr Simcoe, a QUT and NIDA graduate, and Ms Ryall hope that the helping hand they intend to offer will be the first step on the ladder to success for some of Australia’s best young dancers and actors.

For Mr Simcoe, who is 26, it will be just one of the links he has forged with QUT. He returned in 1995 to shoulder a hefty load of tutorials while studying for his Masters of Fine Arts (Drama).

“I’m really looking forward to hopefully being in a position where we can professionally showcase the talents QUT graduates —



Alison Ryall . . . bridging the gap between acting and dance

especially the students I’ve taught myself and (with whom I) have built up a shared vocabulary and a good working relationship,” he said.

“It’s hard to make that break into acting and I’m hoping the link between our company and QUT will be a very strong and important one for both of us.”

Mr Simcoe’s masters work had a very successful and public finale when he directed Moliere’s *A Doctor In Spite of Himself* which ran for two weeks at the QUT Woodward Theatre in February.

Heralded as a resounding success, the production featured 10 theatre professionals and incorporated many of his strongly-held ideals about what theatre must strive to offer audiences in the 1990s.

Passionate about Moliere, Mr Simcoe also incorporated a three-month trip to Paris to work with the Comedie Francaise — which is Moliere’s own 330-year-old theatre company — as a guest assistant director.

“Coming into contact with the (Comedie Francaise) company — and realising that they are not contemporising his work in a way that’s going to bring in new audiences — just re-invigorated for me the work that I need to do to bring my passion for these texts to a large audience,” he said.

The next 18 months will see the pair seeking sponsorship for the formation of their company. They hope to open with a season of three plays in 1997.

“This company is addressing the fact that the great texts are not explored in a very physical manner, in the sense that most actors you see on stage only use one eighth of their body,” Mr Simcoe explained.

Ms Ryall said she and Mr Simcoe aimed to create an opportunity for other directors and other choreographers to work within the company structure.

“We are hoping to get a vocabulary that both actors and dancers can share,” she said. “One of the reasons I am looking forward to working with Anthony is that we will both input ideas into the body of work that makes each production.”

While Ms Ryall continues her studies, Mr Simcoe is working in Sydney where he has been asked to direct a play with the Threshold Theatre in July as well as Tennessee William’s *This Property is Condemned*, to be produced by Moushe Phillips at the Bondi Pavilion in December.

More balance needed in students’ lives – research

Many QUT students and staff were stressed by the struggle to juggle study with other facets of their life, studies by the Faculty of Health have shown.

QUT’s School of Human Movement Studies lecturer Bob Boyd said the university had a responsibility to recognise all aspects of students’ lives were of equal importance and to ensure they finished their studies prepared for healthy living in the real world.

“I discovered that, when under pressure to complete academic deadlines, the first thing that students give up is sleep and lunch. And then it’s breakfast and, because many of them continue to have part-time jobs, they begin to skip lectures,” Mr Boyd said.

“A lot of this was because of poor time-management and a lot because of pressure from a university culture that simply doesn’t allow students to fit everything in.”

Mr Boyd said irregular sleep patterns in students could quickly lead to “bad habits” such as popping pills or relying on alcohol or smoking to cope with life.

“What these students are doing is falling back on society’s time-honoured methods of coping with a busy and stressful life,” he said.

“In the School of Human Movement Studies we are trying to teach students a balanced lifestyle is important and to teach them skills such as time-management and decision-making to cope with the demands of study and other aspects of their life.”

Mr Boyd said that, in the most frequently-used model of wellness — proposed by Bill Hettler of the National Wellness Association at the University of Wisconsin in the United States — there were six facets to be considered: physical, spiritual (meaning of life), emotional, social, intellectual and occupational.

“The main thing is the balance. They’re all interrelated, but once you

get something out of balance, then you’ve got problems. You’re not well. If you concentrate on one area, then all the rest suffer.

“Over four years at university, there is a risk of providing a student with the skills to go out and be a good manager,” he said, “but have them develop such an imbalanced lifestyle and exhibiting behaviours such as smoking, drinking, or taking drugs to cope with what’s been thrown at them.

In 1995, Mr Boyd and fellow School of Human Movement Studies lecturer Dr Tom Cuddihy surveyed students enrolled in HMB171 Fitness Health and Wellness during the first and last week of the unit.

The unit aims to increase students’ awareness of the importance of wellness, clarify their health values, improve self-concept, teach skills which enable them to cope with academic life and develop appropriate healthy lifetime behaviours.

The notion of student wellness at QUT has also been examined by Health Science masters student David O’Riordan in a paper called *Student Attitudes to Wellness*, based on a questionnaire delivered across a number of Faculty of Health schools.

“David’s recommendations are that our students needed to have more done for them within the university, particularly in the social, spiritual and emotional areas with regard to their wellness balance . . . that we aren’t providing for their health needs in those areas,” Mr Boyd said.

“I believe our biggest problem at QUT is that there is no co-ordinated health promotion effort. Health Counselling, Health Services, the Student Union Guild and individual schools all do something, but it is *ad hoc*.

“We need to have a director of workplace health promotion to co-ordinate efforts and make all programs more effective and efficient and thereby improve student and staff health.”

Mr Boyd last month delivered the results of the studies to the five-day conference of The Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ACHPER) in Melbourne where he initiated a small informal network of people with similar concerns and problems at other Australian universities.

... irregular sleep patterns in students could quickly lead to ‘bad habits’ such as popping pills or relying on alcohol or smoking to cope with life

“Or (there’s the risk of) having the physical activity decrease because they haven’t time to be active.

“So that, in 20 years’ time, they are going to be a health write-off.

“We need to teach students about life, about themselves and about how to deal with life to enable them to actually use what they gain from university.

“It’s also teaching skills for behaviour change. It’s alright saying to someone ‘you need to change your behaviour to stop smoking, or to learn time-management to reduce your stress’, but if a person hasn’t got the skills to do that, then they’re never going to do it.

“So teaching the skills for change is just as important to a person.”

Mr Boyd’s masters degree in 1991 focused on a semester-long health status survey of first-year physical education and education students from Kelvin Grove and Carseldine campuses.

Surveyor Kristin awarded \$10,000 PhD scholarship



Kristin Stock . . . Institution of Surveying Australia scholarship winner

QUT surveying student Kristin Stock has been awarded a prestigious Institution of Surveying Australia (ISA) scholarship to undertake PhD research into geographic information systems.

Ms Stock was presented with the \$10,000 award at a ceremony in December. She will also receive support from QUT’s School of Planning, Landscape Architecture and Surveying.

An ISA spokesperson said the scholarship was awarded annually to enable a promising graduate to pursue postgraduate research of particular benefit to surveyors in the practice of their profession.

Ms Stock said her research would focus on geographic information systems.

“My research will help develop a cadastral geographic information system, a tool which will greatly enhance the operations of surveyors in both the field and office,” she said.

“I plan to develop a system which will allow access to far more information and be extremely flexible in its mode of use.”

Geographic information systems allow the storage, manipulation, analysis and output of spatially related information and are adapted to particular areas of use, such as surveying.

Ms Stock — originally from New Zealand where she completed her Bachelor of Science — also holds a Graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning, a Graduate Diploma in Surveying Practice from QUT and is currently completing a Graduate Diploma in Computing by distance education.

She cut her professional teeth with Queensland Nickel at the Greenvale nickel mine before joining Ross Somerfeld Surveys in Bundaberg. She is currently employed as a research assistant with QUT’s School of Planning, Landscape Architecture and Surveying.

War memories sharpen focus on Vietnamese welfare

She watched her brother’s friends head off to Vietnam and knew schoolmates who didn’t come back.

These were the experiences which helped shape the outlook of QUT Social Science psychologist Dr Kathryn Gow while still a schoolgirl and, later, as an academic.

So the fact Dr Gow is encouraging progress and saving lives in Vietnam in her latest research project is no real surprise.

Her project aims to foster reconciliation between Australia and Vietnam.

Accompanied by fellow researcher and Ipswich-based registered nurse Barbara Crawford, Dr Gow journeyed into some of the most poverty-stricken areas of Vietnam.

As a result, Dr Gow submitted outlines to the Vietnamese Government for 14 health-care and education-based schemes after a month-long tour of the districts of Ba Ria and Long Dat.

“We travelled a long way to reach a group (of people) which had disabilities — there were dirt floors,

a bed with no mattress and we bought wheelchairs and bikechairs to help them get to school,” she said.

“Even simple health instruction like washing your hands after going to the toilet or using a mosquito net is saving the lives of children who could die from malaria or dysentery.”

Dr Gow already had a strong association with Vietnam veterans and Vietnam’s issues, having been involved closely in counselling work with Vietnam veterans at Brisbane’s Greenslopes Repatriation Hospital.

“There are 130 dedicated people in the Australian Vietnam veterans’ reconstruction group helping to rebuild schools, orphanages and clinics. It was time for us to give back,” she said.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan and, while remembered as a heroic location for Australian troops, it is now the poorest part of the Long Dat district.

Dr Gow also gathered information on training needs, economic development issues and

reforestation programs in the surrounding villages and hamlets.

“The hills are still bare from agent orange defoliant and some children are still being born with deformities from the chemicals.”

Dr Gow, who has travelled to more than 30 countries, describes her Vietnamese sojourn as the most challenging of all.

“It was difficult because of the importance and the detailed nature of the research I had undertaken to complete,” she said.

“When the interpreters could not speak English, the only form of communication was to write out all our questions and then read their answers.”

Dr Gow said Vietnamese people were enthusiastic about learning English and many attended classes three times a week while she was there.

She was also invited to teach tutorials to Vietnamese teachers sitting for their English Certificate exams.

An in the busy Vietnamese marketplaces, she said, enthusiastic shop owners also practised their English on visiting Australians.



(Left to right): Social Science psychologist Dr Kathryn Gow working with Vietnamese teachers Mai Chuong and Tran Cong Nang as they prepare for their exams to become licensed teachers of English

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Southern corridor ‘still needs prompt attention’

Addressing problems caused by rapidly rising road use and congestion in the suburban corridor to the south of Brisbane should be a high priority, according to a QUT postgraduate urban and regional planning student.

Peter O’Loughlin, a final-year Graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning student, has been focusing on the issue of freeway development in South-East Queensland and assessing community attitudes to freeway construction and various alternative transport options.

“It will be a major issue in South-East Queensland with the present rate of growth,” he said.

“How we move people around will have a major impact on the quality of life that we will experience 10 or 20 years down the track.”

Mr O’Loughlin said that, while successful campaigns against freeway proposals brought considerable relief to those who were potentially affected, it had to be remembered the population growth and increasing congestion which initiated the proposals were expected to continue.

“Traditionally, governments have tended to base transport planning decisions on the steadily increasing rate of private vehicle ownership.

“This largely equates to the provision of more and more road space which, in turn, leads to increased development and still more traffic.”

Mr O’Loughlin said trend planning methods accepted the increasing dominance of private cars and offered unsustainable “band aid” solutions which satisfied short-term demand for road space rather than seeking alternatives which reduced car usage.



Urban and Regional Planning student Peter O’Loughlin mapped attitudes to South Coast Motorway

He said this approach dictated that the number of major road projects imposed on communities would continue to increase.

“That scenario for the future is fairly frightening,” Mr O’Loughlin said.

“There are, however, some indications that alternatives are being considered in South-East Queensland.”

He said recent State Government initiatives included the development of an Integrated Regional Transport Plan.

“A discussion paper which outlines the plan’s objectives, considers a range of transport alternatives and strategies to address the spiralling growth in

private car ownership,” Mr O’Loughlin said.

“The success of such alternatives will necessitate major improvements in public transport integration and the co-ordination of services between different transport modes.

“It will also require strategic and managerial co-ordination between different levels of government.

“There is reason for hope that more long-term, sustainable transport solutions are going to be forthcoming,” Mr O’Loughlin said.

Following last year’s State elections — and prior to the axing of plans for

the proposed South Coast Motorway (formally the Eastern Tollway) — Mr O’Loughlin undertook a survey of 160 residents and Local Government representatives.

Mr O’Loughlin said the aim of the survey was to focus on the issue of freeway development in South-East Queensland and also to assess community attitudes to freeway construction and alternative transport options.

Interestingly, he said, the majority of respondents believed the proposed South Coast Motorway would proceed regardless of community pressure.

“I thought that was surprising, that there was no level of optimism and that the community still felt inevitably it would happen regardless,” he said.

“I would have thought people, after the election, to have recognised some level of hope that the tollway would be stopped.”

In retrospect, the South Coast Motorway has been recognised as a major contributing factor for the former Goss government’s poor showing in last year’s State elections.

The ALP failed to hold four seats in the area affected by the tollway proposal.

Success in those four seats would have meant the subsequent Mundingburra by-election result would not have precipitated the mid-term change of Government.

Mr O’Loughlin said survey responses from the Local Government sub-group focused on more measurable transport objectives of efficiency and access.

In contrast, he noted, community groups and the general community indicated a preference for ecologically based objectives and social priorities — such as minimising disruption within the community.

This was reflected in a high preference for the widening of the existing Pacific Highway, he said.

On the other hand, strong support was evident across all respondents for bus and high-occupancy vehicle lane alternatives.

Overall, the survey revealed a high level of awareness across all groups of the many alternatives to freeways.

Mr O’Loughlin said he hoped to continue investigating the topic.

Geology draws scholars from a variety of nations

The School of Geology at QUT is fast becoming an international centre for the training of oil industry professionals.

The appointment last year of Adjunct Professor George Allen, former head of the TOTAL Oil Company’s Sedimentology Laboratory in Paris, has allowed the school to develop links with major oil producing nations.

South-East Asian and South American links are being pursued as well as with petroleum companies within Australia.

The links being developed by Dr Allen — in conjunction with Dr Simon Lang, a lecturer in sedimentology at the school — comprise postgraduate training for professional petroleum geologists and industry-funded research projects.

Dr Allen said QUT was providing training and expertise in sedimentology and sequence stratigraphy, one of the most important areas to the oil industry.

“These two domains are crucial to developing new oil fields and enhancing production from old fields,” Dr Allen said, “and this is where QUT has developed its strengths.”

Five students, all practising petroleum geologists from Venezuelan and Indonesian oil companies, have already commenced masters or PhD courses in geology.

“In the past year we have developed active links with Venezuela, which is

one of the major oil producing countries in the world,” Dr Allen said.

“A large number of professional oil industry Venezuelans are seeking higher-degree training.

“Traditionally these people headed north to the United States and what we are doing is trying to tap into that market and have them look west to Australia.

“So far, it has been quite successful, with three Venezuelan geologists already here and we are expecting several more next year.”

Dr Allen said South-East Asia also held enormous potential for the advanced training of its professional geologists.

“We have two students from Indonesia with a third expected in the near future and there is also Burma, Vietnam and Thailand all of which have budding oil industries,” Dr Allen said.

The school’s research work was also being strengthened by a number of grants received from the Australian Research Council and foreign oil companies, he said.

Dr Allen said he believed there would be a reasonably good demand for petroleum geologists in certain specific fields and for people with a very high degree of technical expertise.

He said QUT was well placed to play an active role in this particular domain.

Programs aim to shatter glass ceiling

Two programs aimed at grooming women for the top jobs were launched at a forum at QUT’s Gardens Point campus earlier this month.

The Successful Women’s Advancement Program (SWAP) and the Quality Women in Leadership (QWIL) Program were intended to progress women’s advancement into senior management levels in higher education.

Applications for places in both programs came from a wide range of faculties and divisions throughout the university.

Women in Leadership Program co-ordinator Kate Joyner said the aim of the programs was to encourage women with leadership talent and aspirations to develop their skills and knowledge in key areas of the university’s operation.

Ms Joyner said the programs also provided skills in overcoming the organisational barriers to progression which women faced in large organisations.

The two programs were aimed at both academic and administrative staff.

She said women were under-represented at the senior management levels within QUT.

The university had no female deans and, of 36 heads of school, only six were female.

Of a total of 118 senior staff (academic and administrative), only 18 per cent were female. However, women were well represented at the lower levels of the university.

The QWIL program is individually tailored to accommodate the goals of each participant.

It is also designed to provide knowledge and experience of key central areas of university decision making, management and administration.

This program is open to women at senior lecturer level or above, or at Higher Education Worker Level 9 or above.

SWAP participants will receive training in group facilitation and techniques to assist them to further develop their leadership skills.

It is open to women at lecturer level or above, or at Higher Education Worker level 8 or above.

Guest speaker at the forum was the Federal Director of ABC TV Human Resources, Ms Jacquie Hutchinson.

With an extensive expertise and experience in the areas of strategic change and women in leadership, Ms Hutchinson spoke on the topic, “*Women and Career Advancement: Recognising the Opportunities, Managing the Risks*”.

Prior to joining the ABC, Ms Hutchinson held the positions of Head of Organisational Development and Associate Director Human Resources, at the Edith Cowan University in Western Australia.

(Back, left to right): Dr George Allen, Saul Moros, Dr Simon Lang and Hasan Sidi. (Front, left to right): Celia Bejarano, Alfredo Chirinos and Oki Musakti.



Swedes show interest in teaching technologies

QUT expertise in teaching methods may be adopted by Swedish universities following the recent visit by a Swedish academic.

Halmstad University Dean of Humanites Dr Ursula Wallin spent a day at QUT investigating the use of information technology and multimedia services.

Dr Wallin is part of a committee conducting an international search to encourage the most effective use of modern computer technology in tertiary language education.

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Back row (left to right): Ir Myra Gunawan, Dr John Minnery, Professor Christopher Silver and (front row, left to right) Professor Wiranto Arismunandar, Professor John Corderoy and Dr Ir Tresna Dermawan Kunaefi before a meeting between QUT and ITB in Indonesia.

Consortia supports tourism conference

A consortium of universities, led by QUT, has been given \$18,000 towards a conference on the planning of sustainable tourism in Indonesia.

Leading Indonesian and Australian academics, including a speaker from QUT, will attend the conference at the Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) in June of this year.

QUT senior lecturer in planning Dr John Minnery said the two countries would share information on developing healthy tourist industries while protecting natural resources.

Dr Minnery is organising the conference with academics from the ITB Centre for Research on Tourism, the University of Queensland and Griffith University.

“A lot of countries have difficulties in balancing the use of natural resources and the requirements of tourism and national development,” Dr Minnery said.

“Australia has experience in those areas and can help Indonesia achieve that sort of balance.

“In the same way, Indonesia has taken some steps to balance tourism and natural resources and can help Australia too.”

Dr Minnery said conference organisers were hoping to secure a speaker from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

“That is a wonderful example of Australian Federal, State and Local governments co-operating to help protect a fantastic natural resource, yet combining it with a thriving tourism industry,” he said.

Dr Minnery said the conference would help strengthen the relationship between QUT and ITB, which has already been formalised through a memorandum of understanding.

Preliminary discussion on the conference formed part of the agenda of a visit to ITB by QUT Research and Advancement Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor John Corderoy in January.

Dr Minnery said academics hoped to publish conference papers and workshop details as well as establish guidelines and policies on planning sustainable tourism.

The \$18,000 in financial support came from the Commonwealth Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through its Australia-Asia Institutional Links Program.

Indonesian linguist shares teaching methods

QUT’s internationalisation program has received a boost with the arrival of a guest lecturer from the University of Malaya.

Professor Hyacinth Gaudart, whose professional career in language spans 20 years, was invited to teach at QUT by Language and Literacy Education senior lecturer Dr Ed Burke.

Professor Gaudart has outlined 15 different methods for teaching English to students at QUT who intend teaching English to speakers of other languages both in Australia and abroad.

“Learning styles vary differently and so do teaching styles,” she explained.

“One example involves what is known as ‘total physical response’ and involves a lot of movement in the class.”

She said this method worked well with some cultures but not in others where learners lacked security and confidence in moving about while they learned.

“It requires a lot of repetition in the learning process but many cultures don’t like the drills involved.”

In contrast, Professor Gaudart said, there was the “audio-lingual method” which is based in behaviourist theories of learning.

She emphasised that not every learning method suited everyone.

Brought up in an English-speaking home in Kuala Lumpur, Professor Gaudart has taught universities in the United States and England.

This “teacher’s teacher” expressed her sympathy for students struggling with new languages.

Of the five languages in her own repertoire, she is fully fluent in just two.

“I speak English and Malay well, the Chinese dialect of Hokkien and Creole Portugese poorly and I can read German,” she confessed.

She said the classes at QUT were much larger and far less “multi-cultural” than at the University of Malaya.

At QUT, Professor Gaudart is teaching 40 students who are completing graduate certificates or masters of education in (TESOL) teaching English to speakers of other languages.

Professor Gaudart has already recommended the QUT Master of Education program to some of her Kuala Lumpur-based students who she will see when she returns home in early April.

Strong industry links see ACSM funding extended

The QUT-based Australian Centre in Strategic Management (ACSM) is in strong shape following a review by the Australian Research Council (ARC) that extended the centre’s funding until the end of 1997.

The review panel was chaired by ARC Institutional Grants Committee member and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney Professor Lawrence Cram.

In its report on ACSM, the panel said it was “impressed with the extent of [the centre’s] academic research and publication”.

Centre Director Professor Greg Bamber said the panel had also expressed an interest in the centre’s international research links with such universities as Warwick, Toronto, Tokyo, Hong Kong and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

“The report mentioned with approval that ACSM had organised a seminar on international human resource and industrial relations issues for Telstra executives jointly with Cornell University (USA),” he said.

“The panel also discussed with ACSM details of its other industry collaborations including those with Toyota and Queensland Rail and its

commercialisation services such as employee surveys and benchmarking.”

He said the report noted that “commercial research had been carried out for government departments and various hospitals and that the centre was well regarded by them”.

The panel was also impressed by the institutional support afforded the centre by QUT in terms of funding provision, facilities and infrastructure including high-priority access to special library and information technology needs.

During their visit, the panel members were treated to a lunch hosted by the State Government at which they met ACSM’s stakeholders from around QUT and the wider community.

Over lunch, the panel heard addresses from QUT Chancellor Dr Cherrell Hirst and QUT Council member and then Director-General of the former Department of Business, Industry and Regional Development, Ron Boyle. (Mr Boyle has since become the chief executive officer of the new Office of Business and Industry within the Department of Tourism, Small Business and Industry).

ACSM was established at QUT as an ARC Key Centre of Teaching and Research in 1989.



(Left to right): Review panel chair Professor Lawrence Cram joins Ron Boyle, Dr Cherrell Hirst and ACSM Centre Director Greg Bamber during the ARC’s visit

QUT rates well in graduate review

In the latest Graduation Institutional Report, QUT became the only Australian university to make the Top Five in two key categories.

Released in November 1995 by the Graduate Careers Council of Australia, QUT excelled in the full-time employment category and full-time study plus full-time work for the under-25 age bracket with bachelors/honours degrees.

Careers and Employment Services counsellor Alan Richardson said these indicators provided a clear picture of

the level of success for QUT graduates finding employment.

“This is the first time that national data on graduate employment has been provided for all Australian universities,” he said.

“The figures show that a few months after completing study, QUT graduates under 25 years of age are finding employment at the rate of 59.2 per cent and are continuing further education at the rate of 20.5 per cent. This is against a national average for university graduates of 46.4 per cent

for graduate employment and 27.8 per cent for further study.”

Mr Richardson said the report provided valuable information to prospective students on the current levels of employment for various fields of study at each Australian tertiary institution.

“Universities like QUT can provide further details regarding occupation areas, employers and salary levels of recent graduates from various courses,” he said.

Mr Richardson said 60.4 per cent of 1994 graduates responded to the QUT survey for the institutional report.

Youth support project stays in the groove

The Groove Movers, part of QUT’s innovative Youth Support Arts project, will build on their 1995 achievements with several public performances of original dance pieces planned for this year.

Since 1994, the Drama project has seen collaboration with the Queensland Police Service in Ipswich to offer adolescents in the area assistance with development in certain social and emotional skills.

The project’s coordinator, Clare Apelt, a QUT Drama graduate, said the project had provided a bridge for

the Ipswich Police Citizens Youth Club to link its traditional mode of service to young people to a more relevant model providing creative and youth-directed activities.

Based at the Ipswich Police Citizens Youth Club, The Groove Movers, among other activities, are exploring hip hop and break dancing.

The group’s last performance in December centred on issues for young people going through adolescence, including sexuality, school, parental relationships getting in trouble with teachers, police and friendships.

Clare said performances provided the young people with a chance to freely and safely explore the process of taking an artistic vision from conception to production.

This encouraged the development of positive self esteem, good self confidence, confident thinkers, artistic talent and judgment, she said.

“The process of building personal strength, body strength and confidence through creative processes produces young people who feel strong and safer within themselves and the community,” Clare explained.

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COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE NEWS

A summary of activities undertaken by the Vice-Chancellor, Council and the following committees at the following meetings:

- University Academic Board (UAB) on December 15, 1995 and February 9, 1996;
- Outstanding Contribution Award for General Staff Committee on January 29, 1996;
- Vice-Chancellor’s Advisory Committee (VCAC) on February 1 and 15, 1996; Art Collection Committee on February 9, 1996; and
- Staff Committee on February 19, 1996

MANAGEMENT

QUT Strategic Plan

At a February 12 workshop, the Council and senior managers reviewed the University’s strategic plan. The workshop presented an opportunity for senior staff to meet and work with Council members, providing valuable input into the review. The need to reduce and simplify the plan was identified, particularly in terms of the large number of objectives, strategies and targets. Priorities identified for the next few years will be: students as the University’s clients; improving research outcomes and internationalisation.

Gardens Point Strategy

The Gardens Point strategy, developed in 1985 by QUT and the Brisbane City Council, has been shortlisted for the Australian Award for Urban Design. The strategy has formed the basis of all subsequent development on Gardens Point and has resulted in the restoration of the City Gardens, the Riverside Amphitheatre and Boardwalk, the Gardens Point Ferry and growth on the campus through the freeway wall of buildings pedestrian-bridged to upper levels. The Australian Award for Urban Design recognises solutions to difficult urban design challenges like Gardens Point where many tenants have pursued their own goals without holistic planning. The award winner is expected to be announced in the next few weeks.

Quality Funds

Following a request from the Department of Employment, Education and Training for a report on expenditure of funds granted in the first and second quality rounds, Vice-Chancellor’s Advisory Committee discussed the expenditure of these funds by faculties and divisions, as well as a strategyfor allocating funds from the third round. The strategy for allocating third-round funds focuses on increasing participation in competitive grant schemes, improving research infrastructure and improving the training of supervisors of postgraduate research students.

Art Collection

The Art Collection Committee resolved to establish a graduate student archive as part of the study collection of the University art collection. Individual works from the archive may be selected at a later date by the committee for inclusion in the main University collection. The committee ratified the purchase of 12 works for the collection and the loan of four ceramic pieces to the Queensland Art Gallery for a survey exhibition of Gwyn Hanssen Pigott’s work.

Award of Doctor of the University for 1996
Council approved a recommendation from the Honorary Doctorates Committee that the degree of Doctor of the University (DUniv) be conferred upon:

- Mr Ian Cameron, for distinguished service to the community and to QUT;
- Ms Lois O’Donoghue, for distinguished service to the community; and
- Mr Lloyd Zampatti, for distinguished service to the community and to QUT.

It was also agreed that, subject to availability, it would be appropriate for the awards to be conferred at graduation ceremonies for the Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering, Faculty of Health and Faculty of Business respectively.

Convocation Standing Committee

Council approved amendments for the role and objectives of Convocation, including amendments to the terms of reference of Convocation Standing Committee. The revisions give additional emphasis to Convocation’s role in establishing and maintaining links with alumni and encouraging persons interested in the development of QUT to participate in the University’s activities. The revisions will

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require A/6.2 of the MOPP to be amended which will be circulated in a future MOPP update. Council also noted the Alumni/ Convocation Strategic Plan.

Council Membership

Council considered nominations for two additional members of Council who are not enrolled students or full-time staff at QUT. It was resolved to invite the following nominees to accept Council membership:

- Dr Ian Randolph Dover** BSc(Hons), MEng, PhD. is the Executive Director, Alitek Pty Ltd (consulting company funded to transfer appropriate management processes, technologies and business skills to technology intensive enterprises) and has more than 20 years experience in engineering (material engineering) and consultancy; and
- Mr Robert Alan Grice** HonD.Phil. is a partner in KPMG Chartered Accountants with more than 35 years in the accountancy profession, including partner of KPMG and its antecedent firms for 23 years.

1995 Annual Reports — Qld Museum, QUT Liaison Committee

Council noted the 1995 Annual Report from the Queensland Museum and QUT Liaison Committee.

FINANCE AND FABRIC

Physical Facilities

The following construction is underway at Gardens Point:

- A and J block renovations;
- O block podium;
- Workshop relocation;
- Mail room and bulk store relocation; and
- Level 1, M block.

Tenders have closed for renovation work on levels 2 and 7 of the Gardens Point library and at 126 Margaret Street. John Simpson Associates have completed a conceptual study for work on the conservatorium and community building precinct at Gardens Point. The Gardens Point Master Plan has been completed and detailed documentation for section B1 (main drive) is underway. Stage 3 (O block to P block) of the landscaping at KelvinGrove is nearing completion. Stage 4 (Community Building to A and D blocks) is in the documentation phase. Computing laboratories in D block, Kelvin Grove are under construction. The Vice-Chancellor took executive action to award the tender for the refurbishment of the canteen and theatre at Carseldine to G & J Box Pty Ltd. This project has now been completed. Work on level 3, L block at Carseldine is under construction. Conservation architects Allom Lovell Marquis-Kyle has completed its Stage 2 report on Old Government House which will give an indication of the cost of completing conservation work.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH

QUT Collaborative Centre

On recommendation from Research Management Committee, University Academic Board resolved to grant QUT collaborative research centre status to the Communication Centre in the Faculty of Business for a period of three years.

Name change for Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

On the recommendation of the Faculty of Built Environment and Engineering Academic Board, the University Academic Board approved a proposal to rename the School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering the School of Mechanical, Manufacturing and Medical Engineering.

Course Development

At its December 15 meeting, the University Academic Board approved the following changes to course titles offered in the School of Media and Journalism. The title changes resulted from the move of the School from the Faculty of Business to the Faculty of Arts:

- Bachelor of Business and Bachelor of Business (Honours) with majors in film and television production or journalism to Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Arts (Honours) with majors in film and television production or journalism or media studies;
- Graduate Diploma in Communication with majors in film and television production or journalism to Graduate Diploma in Arts with majors in film and television production or journalism or media studies;
- Graduate Certificate in Management (Writing, Editing and Publishing) to Graduate Certificate in Arts (Creative Writing); and
- Master of Business in journalism to Master of Arts (Research) with majors in creative writing, film and television production, media studies, or journalism.

The University Academic Board resolved to accredit the Graduate Certificate in Nursing for the period January 1, 1996 to December 31, 2000.

Doctor of Philosophy Awards

The University Academic Board awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy to Sandra Victoria Dunn, Susan Jayne Fuller, Mirko Karan, Yim Lin Tammy Kwan, Simon Andrew Little, Janette Elizabeth Lovie-Kitchin, Gregory Walter Price, Lawrence Henry Sim, Clare Rosemary Wall and Helen Margaret Williams.

Research Masters Awards

University Academic Board approved the award of the following research master degrees:

- Master of Arts to Sher Jaclyn Inglis and Brian Neil Drury;
- Master of Applied Science to Nancy Macario, Lauren Nielsen, Daniel John Willett and Angie Markovic; and
- Master of Engineering to Julius Sigut, Andrew John Fisher and David Clark.

Membership Provisions - University Academic Board and Research Management Committee

Council approved revisions to the University Academic Board and Research Management Committee as set out below:

- In addition to some minor editorial changes, University Academic Board’s membership provisions be amended such that the *ex officio* category *Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic)* be replaced with a new category *Director, Academic Policies and Programs ex officio*; and
- The membership provisions of Research Management Committee to be amended to include a category *The Chairperson of University Academic Board or nominee*.

University of the Third Age Students at QUT

The Vice-Chancellor’s Advisory Committee discussed a proposal that QUT allow the University of the Third Age to offer QUT award units as part of its program. The committee agreed the Faculty of Arts should trial the offering of selected units to U3A students at Carseldine.

Block Exemptions for Hong Kong Higher Diplomas

The Vice-Chancellor’s Advisory Committee supported a proposal that faculties grant advanced standing to graduates of sub-degree courses from Hong Kong polytechnics and asked the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Advancement) to confirm the amount of credit for QUT courses that would be granted.

Policy for Offering Courses Offshore

The Vice-Chancellor’s Advisory Committee supported a draft policy for gaining approval to offer QUT-accredited courses offshore. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) will present an amended draft of the policy to the University Academic Board.

STAFF

Chair of Staff Committee

Staff Committee elected Mr Lionel Ledlie as its chairperson for a term ending November 1998.

General Staff Job Evaluation — Levels 1-9

The Staff Committee endorsed revised policy and procedures for the evaluation and re-evaluation of new and existing general staff positions (levels 1 - 9) to replace the temporary arrangements which have been in place since August 1994. The policy and procedures have now been forwarded to the Vice-Chancellor.

Enterprise Bargaining Update

The Human Resources Director advised the Staff Committee the enterprise bargaining agreement for academic staff was certified on February 14 and will be operative from that date. The agreement for general staff required minor amendments and was confirmed on February 20, 1996.

General Staff Award

The Outstanding Contribution Award for General Staff Committee met on January 29 to discuss policy and procedure and to give preliminary consideration to nominations submitted in 1995 under the first round of the awards. The committee will have two more meetings before making its recommendations.

Senior Staff Recruitment

- Mr Ken Baumber, Vice-Principal (Administration), University of Wollongong has accepted the position of Registrar. (See story opposite.)
- Shortlisting for the Dean of Information Technology was held on February 23. Interviews are scheduled for May 17, 1996.
- Applications for Dean of Built Environment and Engineering closed on March 15, 1996. Shortlisting is scheduled for April 4, 1996 and interviews for May 21, 1996.

- The Dean of Science position was advertised on March 2, 1996, with a closing date of April 4, 1996.
- Dr Boris Kabanoff has accepted the position of Professor and Head, School of Management.
- Professor William Renforth has accepted the position of Professor and Head, School of Marketing and International Business.
- Shortlisting for the Professor and Head, Graduate School of Business took place on February 9, 1996. Interviews was scheduled for March 25, 1996.
- Interviews for the Professor and Head, School of Communication were held on February 27, 1996.
- Shortlisting for the National Australia Bank Professor of Finance is scheduled for March 15, 1996.
- Associate Professor Omran Bukhres has accepted the position of Professor of Information Systems.
- The selection panel for the Professor of Landscape Architecture has commenced.
- Mr Jeff Jones has accepted the position of Associate Professor in Communication Design.
- The selection process for the Associate Professor in Music has commenced.
- Interviews for the Associate Professor in Medical Biotechnology were scheduled for March 12, 1996.
- Applications closed on March 1, 1996, for the Associate Professor and Director of the MBA Program, the Associate Professor in International Business, and the Associate Professor in Marketing.

The following senior staff have had their appointments renewed:

- Mr Colin Melvin, Manager, Office of Commercial Services;
- Mr David Stent, Manager, Office of International and Continuing Education;
- Professor Gillian Boulton-Lewis, Head, School of Learning and Development;
- Associate Professor Bill Corcoran, Head, School of Language and Literacy Education; and
- Associate Professor Tom Cooper, Head, School of Mathematics, Science and Technology Education.

Director of Planning and Budget

The Vice-Chancellor took executive action to approve 39 days special leave for the Director of Planning and Budget, Mr Doug Brown. Professor David Gardiner will carry the dual roles of Dean of Law and Director, Planning and Budget.

Adjunct Professors

The Vice-Chancellor took executive action to appoint the following adjunct professors:

- Dr Michael Hahn from the University of Stuttgart in the Space Centre for Satellite Navigation, School of Electrical and Electronic Systems Engineering from January 1, 1996 to December 31, 1997;
- Mr Chris Degenhardt from EDAW Inc, California in the School ofPlanning, Landscape Architecture and Surveying from March 11 to April 4, 1996;
- Professor A. Dan Tarlock from Chicago-Kent College of Law in the Faculty of Law from July 8 to August 11, 1996;
- Dr A.A. Tarr from the Queensland Law Society in the Faculty of Law from February 14 to December 24, 1996;
- Mr Paul Brown, freelance consultant, in the Academy of the Arts from January 8 to June 21, 1996; and
- Professor Ian Riley from the University of Queensland in the School of Public Health from January 1 to December 31, 1996.

Report on 1995 Academic Staff Promotion Rounds

The Vice-Chancellor’s Advisory Committee discussed a report on the 1995 academic staff promotion rounds. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor will undertake staff modelling prior to the 1996 budget round in order to reveal the effect of promotions on the University’s staffing profile.

D G Greenwood

Acting Registrar

QUT appoints registrar



New QUT Registrar, Ken Baumber

Mr Ken Baumber has been appointed Registrar of Queensland University of Technology.

At present the Vice-Principal (Administration) at the University of Wollongong, a position he has held for 10 years, Mr Baumber will take up his QUT post mid-year.

Like the Registrar position at QUT, Mr Baumber heads the central administration at Wollongong, is a member of the university’s senior executive and is secretary to Council.

A science graduate from St Andrew’s University, Scotland, Mr Baumber, 52, began his career with the Australian Bureau of Statistics before moving into Commonwealth higher education policy and administration.

Mr Baumber spent eight years, until 1985, with the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission as Director — Universities Branch, Assistant Commissioner — Universities, then Assistant Commissioner — Capital Programs.

He is chair of the UniOn group of universities developing a suite of Oracle-based administrative computer applications for the sector.

QUT Vice-Chancellor Professor Dennis Gibson said he was delighted Mr Baumber had accepted the position.

“It is a big job and we were looking for someone with the right depth of experience,” Professor Gibson said.

Team aims to solve magpie mating mysteries

Everything’s not just black and white in the magpie world and a university research project is being extended to delve further into different kinds of magpies.

One of two research project leaders, Dr Peter Mather — a senior lecturer in QUT’s School of Life Science — will take the investigation to Western Australia for the first time later this year.

Dr Mather has collaborated with Associate Professor Jane Hughes of Griffith University for a number of years and they have been interested in trying to ascertain why different kinds of magpies occur throughout Australia.

As part of their work the pair has banded magpie populations in Brisbane and Seymour in Victoria.

In eastern Australia, there are white-back and black-back magpies with black-backs in northern Australia and white-backs in the south.

“In Queensland and northern and central New South Wales, black-back magpies are most common where the land is most open,” Dr Mather said.

“In southern New South Wales with the more heavily forested areas where magpies occur, white-back individuals begin to appear but, in southern Victoria, all magpies are white-backed.”

“In Western Australia, rather than all males and all females being black-back or white-back, it is different again, where there are white-back males with black-back females.”

Dr Mather said the male back colour in eastern Australia, whether it was black or white, could be affected by two factors.

“We believe females may prefer white-back males as mates because the male is more obvious and more attractive, but white-back males may



School of Life Science's Dr Peter Mather . . . concentrating on tracking down the genetic mystery behind magpie feather colour schemes

attract more predators to their territories,” Dr Mather said.

“Our assumption is, therefore, that in heavily wooded areas females favour white-back males but in cleared areas black-back males do better in terms of the number of young that survive because of fewer predators.”

Dr Mather said they were interested in setting up another

banded population of magpies in Perth.

“We are going to spend four and a half months in Western Australia from the beginning of the magpie-breeding season through to the hatching of the young,” Dr Mather said.

He said the birds would be captured and banded, with blood samples taken to describe patterns of genetic variation.

Australian magpies were all the same species, he said, but different colour varieties could be favoured in different places.

The only major difference was the bird’s back colour and that was likely to be a product of one or two genes affecting the bird’s characteristics.

“We believe it is more likely to be explained by ecological characteristics such as female choice and the effect

of predators on offspring,” Dr Mather said.

“Western Australia is interesting because obviously it is something different and our current theories won’t necessarily explain why you have white-back males and black-back females. We don’t have a simple explanation for what’s going on over there. Until we’re able to band and obtain genetic data on an individual we won’t know the answer.”

First Oz film of season — free

Roadshow — in conjunction with the QUT Student Guild Sport and Recreation Department — will screen a pre-release Australian movie called *Cosi* this month.

An exciting warm, generous and funny film, *Cosi* will set the tone for Australian films entering the marketplace in 1996.

This wonderfully moving story and features exceptional performances by well-known talents Ben Mendelsohn, Barry Otto, Toni Collette and Rachel Griffiths.

***Cosi* will, in fact, premiere at 7pm on Friday, March 22, at the Gardens Point Kindler Theatre, the first time a movie will be screened on QUT campus before it is released to cinemas across Australia. Entrance to the screening will be free.**

Faculty swimmers to resurrect carnival

Keen swimmers from QUT’s eight faculties will be vying to make a splash in the resurrected QUT Cup Interfaculty Swimming Carnival later this month.

Students and staff are encouraged to enter the new-look carnival to be held on Friday, March 29, at the Gardens Point Sports Centre from 2pm to 4pm.

For those not so keen on competing there will also be fun-filled novelty events for which even the worst swimmers can nominate.

Competitive events include 200m, 100m, 50m and 25m freestyle, 25m backstroke, 100m individual medley, 25m breaststroke, 4x50m freestyle relay and more.

Selectors will be on hand to chose the cream of swimming talent to represent QUT in the Australian Universities Sports Federation (AUSF) Games from September 30 to October 4 in Canberra.

Organisers are also looking for volunteers to help make the swimming carnival a success with time-keeping, marshalling and judging.

The prestigious QUT Cup is awarded to the most active and skilful faculty in a year-long series of sport and recreation events, of which the swimming carnival is one.

Participation and achievement of students according to their faculty is

monitored through a simple points system and points are awarded to each competitor registered and for the top placing in each event.

The winning faculty and individuals in the QUT Cup are recognised at the annual QUT Sports Award Night.

A mixture of competitive, recreational and social activities gives every student a chance to participate in events organised by the QUT Student Guild this year.

All faculties will be competing in the QUT Cup Interfaculty Swimming Carnival.

To enter the swimming carnival, entrants are asked to complete nomination forms available from the Gardens Point Sports and Fitness Centres, Kelvin Grove Fitness Centre and the Carseldine “Your Union Help Desk”.

Nominations close Friday, March 22.

Moët & Chandon winner to study in France

Brisbane artist and QUT graduate and tutor Judith Kentish has been named the 10th Fellow of the Moët & Chandon Australian Art Foundation.

The prestigious fellowship, which is accompanied by a \$50,000 cheque, will allow Ms Kentish to spend a year painting in a studio located on the grounds

of Dom Perignon’s abbey at Hautvillers in the Champagne district of France.

Ms Kentish was awarded the fellowship on the strength of *Breath Carapace*, her entry in the Moët touring exhibition.

The work is constructed around a two-metre, 64-page computer-mediated photocopy.

Ms Kentish, who graduated from QUT with a Bachelor of Arts — Visual Arts with honours in 1992, leaves for France in June.

Visual Arts students head John Armstrong said Judith’s particular strength was her dedication and her ability to merge significant theoretical concerns with aesthetically compelling images.



Inside QUT

Queensland University of Technology Newspaper

Publication details

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This newspaper is also circulated to business, industry, government and the media.

If you know of a story which should be told in *Inside QUT* contact one of the journalists in the Public Affairs Department:

Trina McLellan (ed)	3864 2361
Andrea Hammond	3864 1150
Tony Wilson	3864 2130
Noel Gentner (p/t)	3864 1841
Fax	3210 0474
E-mail	t.mclellan@qut.edu.au

Letters to the Editor are also welcome via mail or email (maximum of 250 words).

Media may reproduce stories from *Inside QUT*.

Each story has been checked with the source prior to publication.

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The opinions expressed in *Inside QUT* do not necessarily represent those of the university.

What’s on at the Academy

Visual arts

Feb 29-Jun5	The Development Space	Metro Arts	11am-5pm
Mar 11-22	Graduate Archive Exhibition	Palace Gallery	8.30am-4pm
May 24-Jun 10	Postgraduate Exhibition	Metro Arts	11am-5pm
June 3-14	Mid-Year Graduation Exhibition	Palace Gallery	8.30am-4.00pm

Music

Mar 20	Ensemble Pacifica	M Block Studio	1pm
Mar 27	Lay Clerks of St John's Cathedral	M Block Studio	1pm
April 3	Andrea Morris (music theatre)	M Block Studio	1pm
April 17	Panos Couros - Andrew Brown (sonic landscapes)	M Block Studio	1pm
April 24	Colin Noble (piano)	M Block Studio	1pm
May 1	Festival Quartet	M BLock Studio	1pm
May 1	Jazz and Pop Ensemble	Travelodge	9pm
May 19	QUT Voices	QCC Auditorium	2pm
May 26	Qut Wind Symphony QCC	Auditorium	3pm
July 12-14	Electroaccoustic Live	M Block Studio	8pm

Drama

May 3-11	subUrbia	Woodward Theatre	8pm
May 8-11	Caucasian Chalk Circle	La Salle-SIA	
	Black Box Theatre, Singapore	8pm	
May 22-25	As You Like It	Woodward Theatre	8pm
Jun 6-26	Dance Tour	Kaosuing, Taiwan	
Jun 29-July 3	Dance Collection	Woodward Theatre	7.30pm

Dance

July 3	Dance Collections	Woodward Theatre	7.30pm
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, TELEPHONE (07) 3864-3800