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USQ NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND • AUSTRALIA

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Sensing more than the eyes can see

IF A tastier pasta and egg noodle with optimum protein levels sounds appealing, you might be interested to know a study into the use of satellite and aerial imagery to map yield and protein of grain crops could help make your evening meal more enjoyable and nutritious.

A joint research partnership between USQ and the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries has been established to conduct the project - "Eye in the sky to revolutionise northern crop production" - which has funding support of more than \$400,000 from the Grains Research and Development Corporation.

Using spectral data from satellite images is not a new concept to farmers and their advisors in Australia, USA and Europe who use it to monitor crop vigour, forecast production, locate and identify foliar diseases, schedule irrigation and enhance fertiliser management.

But these forecasts provide no information about grain protein content, the primary discriminator for grain marketing and a major variable which decides how much money a crop will bring into farmers' pockets.

Coordinator of the Geospatial Information and Remote Sensing Group and Senior Lecturer from the Faculty of Engineering and Surveying, Dr Armando Apan is providing technical support to the project and joins Project Leader and Research Scientist with the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPIF), Dr Rob Kelly as one of the major drivers behind the project to investigate sustainable farming systems.

Dr Apan said the benefit of using remotely sensed images is that they enable maps to be used predictively rather than retrospectively.

"We are conducting fundamental and applied research to trial recent advances in spectral sensors and platforms for remote imagery that could capture spectral data which relates to final grain protein in cereals," Dr Apan said.

Dr Kelly said the impact of such information being made available to farmers

will allow them to make more educated farming decisions.

"Growers get paid premium for crops, such as wheat, with higher protein and they would like to know how much of their crop will fall into this premium category to be able to forward-sell their grain," Dr Kelly said.

"At present the optimum protein content for wheat is above 13 per cent protein and for barley it is between 9.5 and 11 per cent, which is a slim error margin," he said.

Remotely sensed imagery during crop growth will provide early detection of under-performance, potentially to allow for intervention or even encourage a farmer to

conduct separate harvests.

"Farmers could soon be able to accurately predict how to harvest their grain crops to guarantee a premium protein which will in turn mean a greater profit for growers and a better product for consumers," he said.

Other members of the research team from DPIF include USQ PhD student Troy Jensen, Project Supervisor Dr Wayne Strong, David Butler and Tasha Wells. University of Queensland's Dr Stuart Phinn is also a contributor.

The project is expected to be completed by June next year.

Susan McDonald



CLOSE EXAMINATION: Coordinator of the Geospatial Information and Remote Sensing Group and Senior Lecturer from the Faculty of Engineering and Surveying, Dr Armando Apan and Research Scientist with the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPIF), Dr Rob Kelly test the ASD hyperspectral sensor to determine the best spectral bands for remote sensing of grain protein content.

INSIDE...

Canadian Connection P3

Engineering Conference P5

Blackbox Shakespeare P8

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Networking to help Queensland graduates



THE collaborative relationship between employers and universities is becoming increasingly beneficial to enhancing graduates' career opportunities.

The first joint meeting of the Graduate Careers Council of Australia (GCCA), the Australian Association of Graduate Services (AAGE) and the National Association of the Graduate Careers Advisory (NAGCAS) was held in Brisbane recently and the outcome of this meeting highlights these benefits.

Customs House in Brisbane hosted the joint meeting which is one of a number being facilitated by the GCCA involving employers from a range of industries including finance, mining and education.

Queensland President of NAGCAS Peter McIlveen (right), who is also USQ's Careers Counsellor, said employers are seeking better ways to build and develop working relationships with university career services.

"Cooperative meetings like this enable career services and employers to better understand each others needs. Ultimately, career services want their graduates in good jobs, and employers want graduates best suited to their organisation. When we work together, we can achieve those goals," Mr McIlveen said.

Some of the key issues discussed were the importance of employer visits to campus, linking employers to academic departments, Careers Fairs, and internet job boards provided by university career services.

"There is already a genuine commitment to having more of these events in Queensland. This one provided a good warm-up for the national tripartite conference to be held next year in Sydney."

Also pictured are Geoff Marsh (Bond University), Deborah Barton (Anglo Coal) and Todd Stubbings (Anglo Coal).



CARNIVAL PARADE: USQ entered a float in this year's Carnival of Flowers Festival parade in Toowoomba and won second in the Corporate section out of close to 40 floats. The float was designed by Faculty of Arts Technical Officer, Andrew MacDonald, constructed by Building and Facilities and received finishing touches from the Marketing and Public Relations Department, all to the theme of 'Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow'. The yesteryear desks brought back memories of plaits in ink wells for many of the crowd and the float was well received by all, including Premier Peter Beattie who attended the parade.



EURO AFFILIATION: Professor Sybille Sachs from the University of Applied Sciences in Business and Administration Zurich and Mr Martin Steinbuechel from USQ's German Study Centre in Bretten were in Toowoomba recently to discuss additional collaboration between USQ and its European partners. Professor Sachs, who is also a professor for PhD programs at the University of Zurich, said the joint MBA program with USQ has been a success, and that part of her brief while in Toowoomba is to explore ways of developing it further. The course currently has a capacity for only 35 students. Mr Steinbuechel's visit was an opportunity to meet with senior executives and to discuss the possibility of a Doctor of Business Administration course administered through Bretten by USQ, the Zurich university and other universities in Germany.

Incentive to keep local youth in the Bay

SENIOR secondary and TAFE students studying tourism and hospitality in the Wide Bay region are eligible for a newly-created Hervey Bay City Council (HBCC) Tourism Scholarship granted as a bursary for a student to commence studies at the USQ Wide Bay next year.

The \$2500 Scholarship will be awarded to an outstanding student who has applied to continue studies of tourism and/or hospitality full-time on campus at USQ Wide Bay in 2005.

Wide Bay Provost Professor Susan Bambrick described the scholarship as a great way to emphasise the career opportunities for qualified people within the Hervey Bay region.

"Tourism is becoming an increasingly important industry for our region and to ensure continued development we need to encourage our young residents to be involved," Professor Bambrick said.

The scholarship will be paid in two instalments in the student's first year of study at Wide Bay.

Marketing Lecturer in the Department of Marketing and Tourism and selection committee member, Dr Kathy Hastings said the scholarship is offered to Australian residents whose permanent address is in the Wide Bay region.

"What the committee will be looking for is a student who has a passion for tourism in our region and who has foresight into the industry's future," Dr Hastings said.

Applications for the HBCC Tourism Scholarship must be received by 10 December 2004 and must be accompanied by a statement articulating an acceptable vision for tourism in the Wide Bay region together with the rationale for their study choice.

The selection committee will meet in February to recommend successful applicants to the Awards Committee.

For further information or an application form contact Andrew Cameron, Faculty of Business, Wide Bay on 4120 6179 or email cameron@usq.edu.au

Susan McDonald



PROFESSOR

Graham Baker

**PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR
(RESEARCH)**



BACK in the heady days of the 2002 Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) review, when some of us were immersed in the unbridled excitement that is a 700-page Quality document, we were asked - not required - by AUQA to prove there is a nexus between teaching and research.

I am not sure how any university fares on this question. It is one of those things that is embedded in the academic belief system, and yes I am a believer. The approach I took back then was to attempt the old trick of challenging the opposing view. Would universities be impoverished if the teaching and research were completely divorced? It is entirely right that some staff dedicate themselves solely to either teaching or research, but what would happen if whole faculties or universities focused on one to the exclusion of the other? Could we enrich, advance or evolve if university environments were segregated?

The Vice Chancellor has just set out a vision to be Australia's leading transnational educator. This has profound implications for the way we conduct learning and teaching at this institution, and should affect the way all units (not just academic) do business. It may be tempting for some to interpret this to mean that we should focus on teaching and ignore research as an honourable distraction best suited to those encased in Helidon sandstone. Not so.

While learning and teaching lie at the heart of USQ's identity, this vision does not in any sense preclude research. On the contrary, it

demands it! We could never claim to be the leading anything if we did not conduct research to enrich, advance and evolve. USQ supports a wide range of disciplines and they should be continuously enhanced by our research efforts. For those with a lingering sense that teaching, in an institutional sense, is all that matters, we should think more about the word *learning*, what that encompasses and who should do it.

Actually, it might be more helpful if we talked about learning and inquiry rather than teaching and research. And with that nifty piece of footwork, I have coupled the two portfolios of learning and teaching and research, something the VC has generously asked me to do over these few months while the Dean of Arts recovers from 6x103 accreditation submissions and nearly as many promotion applications.

But what is the future for research activity at USQ? This university, particularly given its size and origins, should be proud of the excellent research it conducts. There are high profile successes and significant individual achievements. I sense an incredible excitement with colleagues eager for opportunities to 'get going' and build on that success. In part to identify research strategies, we will hold a Research Planning Conference in November with the theme of "Growing Research at USQ". We will consider issues of thematic research concentrations as well as individual research aspirations. Given both our learning identity and regional charter, education and sustainability (in a broad context) seem obvious candidates to me for large thematic research institutes. We will also discuss strategies for improving research funding success, strategic staffing of key areas, business development and commercialization.

But whatever the outcomes, our aim is to build our profile as a leading, comprehensive, global educator. Research is undoubtedly a vital dimension of the learning ethos, whether in support of innovation or the how, when, what and why we learn. In fact, maybe *learning* is the only word we need to describe the entire gamut of academic pursuit. If so, the nexus is inherent and separation impossible.

USQ builds Canadian connection

USQ has entered into an exchange agreement with a Canadian university that will provide staff from the two institutions' Education faculties with the opportunity to engage in a range of exchange activities.

The University of Calgary (UofC) became USQ's newest international partner when its Associate Dean of Education, Professor Charlie Webber, witnessed the signing of the agreement by Professor Jim Taylor, USQ's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & Global Learning).

Professor Webber was in Toowoomba studying USQ's distance education system and

the Faculty of Education's Innovative Designs for Enhanced Improvements in Schools (IDEAS) project, as well as participating in faculty research forums. Part of his brief while in Toowoomba was also to explore the possibility of co-operative research opportunities for his colleagues in Canada, and to look at opportunities for collaborative research at a distance.

He said the main aim of the agreement was to encourage academic staff to co-operate in areas of teaching and research.

"This faculty exchange will diversify

teaching expertise as well as encourage collaborative research between the two institutions. USQ has great expertise in distance education while we have recently moved into this area and would like to tap into this knowledge," Professor Webber said.

"Our partnership has been built on historical alliances between Australia and Canada in trade, tourism, education and also on our shared Commonwealth heritage. This is therefore a natural partnership."

Associate Dean (Human Resources and International Development) in the Faculty of Education, Peter Cronk said the agreement was an exciting venture that has potential benefits for both universities.

"We do, for example, have access to Asia - through our partnerships and geographical location - which might be different from UofC's access to this region.

"For us, the major benefits are that as a university with a traditional focus on teaching, we are able to tap into UofC's strong research abilities. UofC also has a very different approach to undergraduate teaching where there is more of a concentration on field-based learning," he said.

Mr Cronk, who is a graduate of UofC, believes the two universities share a similar vision for the future.

"Even though Calgary is a distinctly larger university than USQ, education providers now operate in globally competitive market place. I think there will be increasing alliances of this nature between universities throughout the world," he said.

Tawanda Mundangeppufu



FINAL TOUCHES: Faculty of Education Associate Dean Peter Cronk, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Global Learning) Professor Jim Taylor and University of Calgary Associate Dean of Education Professor Charlie Webber discuss the partnership at a recent meeting.

Speakers call for religious tolerance

A PEACEFUL existence for the world's citizens cannot merely be an absence of war.

This is a view expressed by Professor Toh Swee-Hin, winner of the 2000 UNESCO Prize for Peace Education and Director of Griffith University's Multi Faith Centre. Professor Toh was one of the guest speakers at a recent series of public lectures on religious tolerance and anti-racism held at USQ's Toowoomba campus and hosted by the Equal Opportunity office.

The other speaker was Mr Uri Thernal, a renowned multiculturalism advocate and former Executive Director of Multi-cultural Affairs Queensland.

"Parents who watch their children die from hunger or from lack of health care feel the same pain as those who lose their children to a bullet," said Professor Toh.

He also said religious and racial intolerance were the cause of many of the world's conflicts and

that Australia, along with the rest of the world, needs to adopt multiculturalism in a truer sense.

"When we see people from different faiths in conflict with one another, we are to be careful not to imply that people from different cultures cannot live in harmony. Many of the conflicts are often borne out of political, economic and social causes," he said.

"In the current context, we have what is often known as a 'clash of civilisations', and if we continue down that path we run the risk of fulfilling that prophecy."

Mr Thernal's assessment of the world's religious conflicts was that "there may not be only one true way," highlighting that all religions ultimately have similar goals.

"The problem arises when each religion claims its way to be the only way."

Mr Thernal said there existed a healthy type of debate and conflict, but that such conflict sometimes became destructive.



PEACE FOCUS: Holocaust survivor Mr Uri Thernal (foreground) and peace educator Professor Toh Swee-Hin believe there is a need for greater understanding between faiths.

"Just as there are differences in religion and culture we must tacitly agree to live in harmony," he said.

"The pre-condition for that to succeed, however, is that we gain a knowledge and understanding of our own religions and that we gain a similar understanding, if possible, of other religions and cultures."

The two-day lecture and seminar series was part of the "Living in Harmony" program sponsored by the Commonwealth Government and aimed at improving religious and racial tolerance and strengthening community harmony.

Tawanda Mundangepfupfu

Engineering educators enhance learning

MORE than 120 delegates converged on Toowoomba for the 15th Annual Conference of the Australasian Association for Engineering Education (AaeE) and the 10th Women in Engineering Forum. While most of the delegates were from Australia and New Zealand, others came from South East Asia, India and Denmark.

Hosted by USQ's Faculty of Engineering and Surveying (FoES) on campus recently, the main topics covered by the conference were the impact of changes in government

policy, changes in educational technologies, the increasing diversity in the student cohort and changing pedagogies. The conference program included more than 60 technical papers and 12 workshops, as well as a range of social functions.

Chair of the Conference Organising Committee, and FoES Associate Dean for Academic, Associate Professor David Dowling said the conference addressed the issues which confronted those who are engaged in

engineering education.

"The conference theme, creating flexible learning environments, was developed over the three days, with different aspects being covered each day, commencing with a keynote address," Associate Professor David Dowling said.

The three keynote speakers were: Executive Director of Schools for the Toowoomba District, Ms Catherine O'Sullivan; Associate Vice President for Outreach and Executive Director of the World Campus at Pennsylvania State University, Professor Gary Miller; and Vice-Chancellor at Charles Darwin University, Professor Helen Garnett.

A Collaboration Day followed the conference, with meetings designed to promote the establishment of collaborative research projects, to enhance learning outcomes and the more efficient use of resources.

One major outcome from the day was a teaching and learning discussion forum that will be developed on the AaeE website (<http://www.aae.com.au>) to provide a platform to further the issues discussed during the meetings and other matters of importance in engineering education. There was also discussion on the possibility of development of state and/or regional AaeE groups to enable such matters to be addressed at a local level as



EXECUTIVE Director of Schools for the Toowoomba District, Ms Catherine O'Sullivan was the first keynote speaker at the AaeE Conference.

well as a national level.

Other key issues discussed during the Collaboration Day meetings were: community engagement; continued development of problem based learning and other active learning approaches to make the study of engineering more attractive to young people, including young women; a balance of technical skills and skills needed to succeed in the professional environment; sustainability as a professional focus area; and lifelong learning.

Fiona Taylor



ASSOCIATE Vice President for Outreach and Executive Director of the World Campus at the Pennsylvania State University, Professor Gary Miller (left) and Vice-Chancellor at the Charles Darwin University, Professor Helen Garnett were both keynote speakers at the AaeE Conference and are pictured with Chair of the Conference Organising Committee and Associate Dean for Academic for the Faculty of Engineering and Surveying, Associate Professor David Dowling

Film festival showcases shooting talent

USQ final year Acting student Dan Eady (pictured right) was awarded Best Actor for his performance in "Dogs Breakfast", a short film which qualified in the top 10 films of the inaugural Shoot Out Toowoomba 24 Hour Filmmaking Festival held earlier this month.

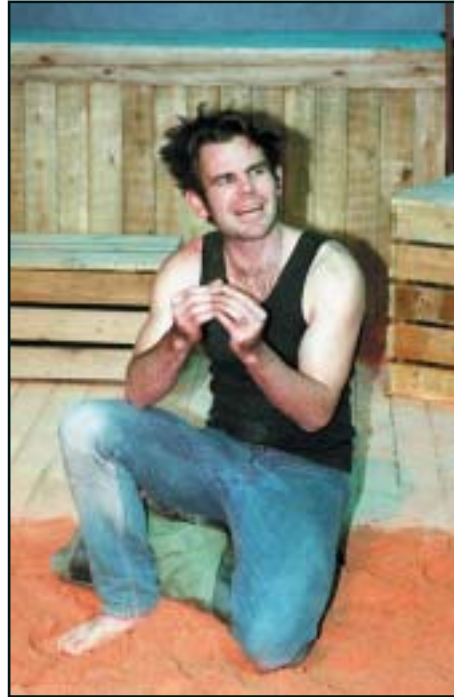
The festival has been running for several years in Newcastle with great success and this year, with the support of the Queensland Government and several sponsors, Shoot Out activity took over Toowoomba and attracted 57 entrants from across the state and northern New South Wales.

A film-making team from Gympie performed the most consistently taking out Best Art Direction, Best Script, Best Cinematography and In Camera Editing and Best Film for their entry, "Looking Good".

USQ Lecturer in Communication and Media Studies Andrew Mason who is Publicist for the host venue and major supporter the Empire Theatre, said the event is a unique opportunity for inexperienced and veteran filmmakers.

"To enter many film festivals contestants need to have a good budget and expensive equipment. The Shoot Out model is much more accessible. You only need a basic video camera and a couple of mates," he said.

The general rules of the competition are that the film can be no more than seven minutes in length and filmed in 24 hours or less, they must include five items from the 15 outlined in the launch brief, the film-makers can only use in-camera editing and it can be shot in any format,



but must be handed in on VHS.

The entries went through several judging processes and culminated in a top 10 selection which was judged by several industry professionals including Head of the Department of Mass Communications, Aidan Burke.

Organisers have heralded the festival a success and Toowoomba can expect to be a host city for at least the next two years.

Susan McDonald

In Brief

MECHATRONICS WISDOM will be passed on through a textbook entitled, *Essentials of Mechatronics*, written by USQ's Professor of Mechatronic Engineering, Professor John Billingsley. Professor Billingsley signed a contract with publisher John Wiley and Sons Inc this month and the textbook is available September next year.

PIANO STUDENTS from the Music Department fared well at the 2004 Charles and Motee Rogers Memorial Piano Competition last month. Second year Bachelor of Music student, Ruth Huong, was awarded first prize whilst Tiffany Donges (first year) and Lisa Hatai (second year) were highly commended. The competition is run by the Toowoomba branch of the Music Teachers' Association of Queensland.

BACHELOR OF ARTS (CREATIVE) GRADUATE (1994), Dr Rebecca Scollen, recently received a \$400,000 grant to research declining audiences in regional and country theatres. Dr Scollen is an Australian Postdoctoral Fellow at QUT's Creative Industries Research and Applications Centre, and the study's principal researcher. The study is funded by the Australian Research Council, Arts Queensland, Arts Northern Territory, QUT, and the Northern Australian Regional Performing Arts Centres Association.

LECTURER IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, Mark Phythian has been busy in his spare time playing the lead role in the play 'Hanging Heroes', written by Ros Billingsley and performed at the Kingaroy Shire Regional Arts Development Fund Drama Festival last month. In the play, which was one of nine in the festival, Mark played Brad, a troubled young man who is asked to supervise an art exhibition while the artist is away.

Psych researchers study Need for Speed

IT IS an argument that has probably been going since the invention of the wheel - men notoriously blaming women for being bad drivers, while women consider their male counterparts to be more reckless on the road. A study by researchers in the Faculty of Sciences might finally put an end to the question.

Honours psychology student Nathan Borgelt has conducted research on skilled motor learning using a car-driving simulation, the findings of which will be included in his final thesis at the end of the year. While the object of the study was not to settle the gender debate, it does provide some interesting answers.

"The purpose of the study was to investigate the activity of the brain during motor learning," he said.

"We chose a driving simulation because it is a relatively complex skill that can be simulated rather easily. Car driving is also very important to everyday life for a lot of people."

Nathan's research, which was conducted using the videogame *Need For Speed* and the Psychology Department's electro-encephalogram (EEG) machine, has been ongoing since July 2003. It was essentially designed to find out if it is possible to predict motor skill from brain electrical activity, particularly the loss of low energy 'alpha' activity.

Alpha activity describes the tiny amounts of electricity that are measured at a millionth of a volt through wires attached to the subject's scalp. These fluctuate at progressively higher rates - the typical rate being about 10 times a second.

His supervisor on the research, Dr Malcolm Mills, says the results could have significant practical uses.

"Such research could be used in a road safety application by assessing a driver's skill level and also through monitoring when loss of attention occurs in drivers," he said.



TEST DUMMY: Psychology lecturer Dr Malcolm Mills plays the role of guinea pig while Honours student Nathan Borgelt demonstrates the workings of the electro-encephalogram machine.

Dr Mills said gender was indeed an important predictor of performance, with 11 male and 18 female students aged over 17 volunteering to participate. However, it was the males who performed faster, even when factoring previous experience.

"Literally, men and women think differently. Early observations are that perhaps women, using the area of consciousness, drive more immediately than men who use the frontal planning area. However, these are only speculations at this stage," he said. Careful not to offend, Dr Mills has left the question of who makes for better drivers hanging.

"Men drive faster - we did not count crashes, but as this simulation occurs at speed, perhaps women are safer," he said.

Tawanda Mundangepfufu

What's On

Every Wednesday

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS: 13 October - A recital by noted cellist Belinda Mainwaring, program to be announced, Arts Theatre; **20 October** - USQ Brass Ensemble, directed by John Redfean, and a performance (accompanied by piano) of Saint-Seán's Piano Concerto No.2 by pianist Rachel Sun, Arts Theatre; **27 October** - A recital of songs and arias presented by many of the student singers from the USQ Music Department, Concert Hall; **28 October** - A program presented by a saxophone quartet under the direction of third year student Gavin McKenzie, Concert Hall.

28 October

4TH DIGGARS ANNUAL FORUM: A day of presentation, vendor display, and networking with the spatial information professionals (geographic information systems, remote sensing, global positioning systems, etc.). Held at USQ, the forum is organised by USQ, Toowoomba City Council, and the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, QLD

7 November

TOWOOWOMBA HOSPITAL OPEN DAY: 11am - 2pm. Come and enjoy a free sausage sizzle, bush band, jumping castle, healthy food bar, historical hospital tours, displays on various health services, sample bags to take home and a special appearance by QLD Fire Service's "Blazer Bear". The QLD Fire Service, QLD Ambulance Service, State Emergency Service and the QLD Police Service will all bring their special vehicles along to display and there will be free parking in the multi-storey carpark for the day. Any enquiries phone 4616 6166 or 4616 6095.

19 - 20 November

ROMA CUP FESTIVAL 2004: Pack your swags and head 360kms west of Toowoomba for the Roma Cup 2004. Friday is the Pre-Cup Party, followed by the running of the Roma Cup on Saturday. The festival will also feature Queensland's most rockin' all girl band Chick Flick. For further details Ph: Taree Birse 0418 192 640.

9 - 15 January 2005

EXPERIENCE THE ARTS: A Summer Arts Residency at McGregor School, Toowoomba, for a full week of art-making in association with Flying Arts Inc. Ideal for upper secondary students and/or those making the transition to tertiary studies, Experience The Arts is an intensive week of visual arts workshops with practising contemporary artists. Students will have the opportunity to both experiment with new mediums and also to resolve works within their chosen discipline. Workshops include half-day sessions in sculptural 3D, photography, drawing and textiles leading to a choice of intensive study over four days in digital media or video, public art or installation and experimental approaches to 2D works. Places are limited. Financial assistance is available, including two full bursaries from Australia Post. For more details contact Flying Arts on (07) 3853 3271, fax (07) 3853 3277, email info@flyingsarts.org or visit www.flyingsarts.org.au

Uni Trader

ASSORTED ITEMS: BED: Double Ensemble, moving, must sell \$50; BEDSIDE TABLES with matching bookcase and corner unit, \$50; SOFA: 2 seater, blue, modern design, good condition \$50. VCR: Sony, as new, \$50; WASHING MACHINE: Fisher and Paykel, good condition, 5L \$200. Ph: Kylie 0412 197 530.

BABY BJORN: Black, latest model, Paid \$140 sell \$80. Exc cond. Ph: 4636 6126 or 0403336273.

CAR CD PLAYER: JVC. As New. \$150 ono. Ph: x2456 or 46346453 a/h.

FABRIC PELMETS: 6 x tailored fabric pelmets to suit 180cm wide windows/sliding doors, complete with brackets. Fabric is in tones of dusky pinks, greens & blues. \$250 ono for the lot (replacement value over \$1,000.00). Ph: 4698 7940 a/h.

FORD FAIRMONT: 1979 XD sedan. 4.1 litre, automatic, tow bar, power steering, tinted windows, cd player, only done 157,000 km, excellent condition. NEG. Ph: Steven x2103 or 46 341 880 a/h or 0407 111 336.

GIVE AWAY: One Speckled Sussex rooster (18 months old), one Buff Pekin Bantam rooster (5 months old) and one Buff Pekin Bantam/Silky Bantam cross rooster (5 months old). Ph: x2270 or 46968307 a/h.

HOLDEN ASTRA: 2001 CD. 38,700km, a/c, 5 speed manual, electric windows/mirrors, twin airbags, VGC. \$18,500 ono. Ph: 0418 718 005.

HOLDEN BARINA: GSI (sports) 1996 model. 5-speed manual hatch. Zender body-kit, driving lights, alloy wheels, big-bore muffler, power steering, custom "GSI" sheepskin seat-covers, Sony stereo with Focal splits, 3-ways in rear and 12" woofer, personalised "GSI 96" plates available, receipts for recent work, 153,000 Ks, safety cert (unreg). \$8900 ono. Ph: 46382919.

LASER: 1998 KJ LXi sedan. White. 96,000km Air-con, auto, window tint, front seat covers, mats, central locking, new tow bar, power steering, bonnet & headlight protectors, good tyres, reg 03/05. Excellent condition. \$10,995. Ph: 0407 756 133.

TOYOTA SECA: 1990 132,000km's, 5 spd manual. Paint work slightly faded but engine and interior in exc cond - car is extremely reliable. \$3500. Ph: 0403 294 814.

TREE PRUNING AND REMOVALS: Let the professionals get your garden shipshape for summer. Call Jamie Nairn Total Tree Services on 0419 788 873 or 4637 2072.

VERTICAL BLINDS: Grey, Good Condition, 4 of 240x210; 3 of 90x210; 3 of 180x210; 240x120; 180x100; 180x120. The lot: \$450ono or separately \$40each. Ph: 4613 0209.

WANTED - ROLLER SKATES: Ladies size 9-10. Needed for Repertory Theatre musical. Will borrow, hire or purchase. Ph: x2575 or 4632 1291.

Newsmakers

WENDY LORENZ, Head of the Department of Music, was interviewed on ABC Classic FM and named in the ABC's *Limelight* magazine regarding her role as co-adjudicator for the Australian National Piano award.

PROFESSOR RONEL ERWEE, Director of the Australian Graduate School of Business, was quoted in *The Courier Mail* about the school's

online courses.

DR JEFF PATRICK, Lecturer in Psychology, was interviewed on ABC Radio nationwide and 4GR, and quoted in the *Daily Liberal* newspaper on his research into country teenagers not being ready to leave home and go to boarding school.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ALAN SMITH, Director of the Distance and e-learning Centre, was interviewed by *The Australian* on USQ's growth in international markets, in particularly South-East Asia.

DR RAY MARSHALL, Senior Lecturer in Chemistry, was interviewed on ABC Southern Queensland regarding his autism research.

PROFESSOR BILL LOVEGROVE, USQ Vice Chancellor and President, was interviewed by ABC *Stateline* regarding USQ's partnerships with universities, licensed colleges and commercial backers.

DR HEATHER MAGUIRE, Wide Bay Coordinator for the Faculty of Business, interviewed on 4BU and ABC Wide Bay about the newly developed Wide Bay Tourism scholarship.

PROFESSOR SUSAN BAMBRICK, Provost for the Wide Bay campus, commented on her planned retirement for the end of this year in the *Fraser Coast Chronicle*.

DR BRAD CARTER, Lecturer in Physics was interviewed by the *Toowoomba Mail* on his inclusion in the Queensland Art Museum's new Science Centre showcase of 12 heroes.

ODETTE BEST, Lecturer in Nursing, was interviewed by the *Toowoomba Mail* about her play, True, which showed at the Energex Brisbane Festival.

DAVID TURNBULL, Researcher for USQ's Centre for Astronomy, Solar Radiation and Climatology, discussed why sun shades are ineffective on ABC Southern Queensland, North Queensland and Tropical North Queensland.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DAVID DOWLING, Faculty of Engineering and Surveying Associate Dean for Academic, was quoted in *The Chronicle* about the AaeE Conference.

DR JEFF SABBURG, Lecturer in Physics, was interviewed on ABC Southern Queensland regarding the newly established Graduate Certificate in Physics.

PROFESSOR JOHN GRANT-THOMSON, who holds an honorary position with the Faculty of Engineering and Surveying, discussed the invention, the Mansell Neocot, in *The Chronicle*. He played a large part in the creation of the invention, which transports neonatal babies in a portable humidicrib, and is suitable for ambulances and fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

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QUE-Fest continues to grow

SIX months of writing, workshopping and rehearsing original contemporary youth theatre will come to fruition for a group of Toowoomba high school students at this year's QUE-Fest showing to the public at the Empire Theatre on 15 and 16 October at 7pm.

Now in its fourth year, QUE-Fest has become an even bigger event under the coordination of QUE Theatre Inc - a regional partnership between Queensland Theatre Company, Empire Theatre and the USQ Theatre Department.

QUE-Fest will showcase the work of creative youth via three original performances, a film on the process of QUE-Fest as well as a series of short scenes from QUE Theatre program, QUE Act (a

screen acting workshop).

Workshops were held throughout the year as a precursor to the QUE-Fest performance. Under the guidance of USQ Theatre Studies students and Artist-in-Residence Chris Pye, students explored a variety of different aspects of theatre such as writing, play-building, voice and movement, improvisation and clowning. The aim was to provide participants with the necessary skills to develop their own piece of theatre.

For bookings contact the Empire Theatre on 1300 655 299. For more information on QUE Theatre and its programs for 2005 contact Kathryn Silcox on 4698 9905 or 0407 761 125.

Masculinity, boys and visual culture

WHAT impact does the way males are portrayed in video games, films, and the like have on the formation of masculinities? What impact do these masculinities then have on boys and the shaping of their identities and ability to learn?

International art education expert and Professor of Art Education at Northern Illinois University, Professor Kerry Freedman addressed these issues at student and public lectures held at the University's Toowoomba campus, this month.

Part of the Faculty of Education's visiting

scholar scheme, Professor Freedman presented the lecture entitled, '*Boy, Oh Boy: Fun and frustration in the analysis of masculine imagery*'. She said the growing use and influence of the broad range of visual arts had made art central to the education of children in any progressive nation.

"Research has long demonstrated that making and viewing the arts, and any visual culture, can influence identity formation. As a result, questions concerning relationships between masculinity and the visual arts must be asked when discussing education," she said.

"Curriculum has often focused on form and technical skill, as opposed to content."

"Although each child or teen constructs their own knowledge, they often adopt visual stereotypes and visual culture (both fine art and popular culture) illustrates the range of masculinities that exist.

"In a good art education program, boys' artwork can reflect their identities, or their struggle to form identities, and illustrate boys' capabilities for critiques of visual culture."

Fiona Taylor



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Think big, think bold, think Black Box

A MASH of Shakespeare scenes performed by characters with big personalities, who adorn the Black Box stage, is what makes up the latest production to engage the University's second-year actors.

Black Box Shakespeare is a jigsaw puzzle of Shakespeare's best known plays including *King Lear*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Tempest* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, linked by interludes from a band of crazy thespians.

Associate Lecturer in Voice and Director Bernadette Pryde said that one of the aims of the production is to communicate Shakespeare's language in a way that is easy to understand and interpret.

"This generation is familiar with the small mumbled performances popular in film and television so it is a real contrast to play Shakespeare. The actors require a deeper understanding of metaphorical language."

"It is not unusual for a voice specialist to direct a Shakespeare production because the language of his plays is a major component," she said.

Bernadette said some interesting techniques she picked up from Cicely Berry, voice coach with the Royal Shakespeare Company, have been useful in encouraging the acting students to explore the meaning of the text.

"We've done some really energetic physical exercises using balls, opera and movement. The cast of 15 actors have also explored soliloquies that won't be featured in the production in an attempt to speak as if they were one voice".

Black Box Shakespeare is showing in the USQ Concert Hall from 20-23 October at 7:30pm with matinees on 20 and 21 October at 11am.



DIRECTING DUO: Acting student Hannah Levien (foreground right) is playing the role of a director within the production of *Black Box Shakespeare* and has been getting tips from 'real' Director Bernadette Pryde (foreground left).

To take this unusual journey from tragedy to comedy with a sprinkling of romance in between phone the USQ Performance Centre Box Office on 4631 1111.

Susan McDonald



CELEBRATE the sparkle and vitality of Spring at the Toowoomba Concert Orchestra's final concert of the 2004 season.

The blooms of the orchestra will burst open with the spine-tingling combination of brass and percussion in *Fanfare for the Common Man* by Aaron Copland.

Then a mix of languid, swirling instrumental colours

will follow, in Delius' well known orchestral tone poem, *On Hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring* and Schumann's virtuosic Piano Concerto in A minor featuring Australian pianist and USQ graduate, Renate Turrini.

After interval vibrant timbres and jazz inspired rhythms will abound when Toowoomba

musician Ashlyn Keck takes centre stage as soloist in the seldom heard *Concerto for Viola and Chamber Orchestra* by Malcolm Arnold.

Schumann's *Symphony No 1 in B flat major* - a four movement work possessing a freshness and inexhaustible rhythmic energy, aptly entitled "Spring" will bring the concert to an exciting close.

••• EXHIBITION • *Vectors II* till 27 October • USQ Arts Gallery 9am-5pm Mon-Fri •••

BLACK BOX SHAKESPEARE

All of Shakespeare's heroes and villains exposed in a night of scenes from the master story-teller.

20-23 October
7.30pm USQ Arts Theatre
Matinees 11am Wed 20 & Thu 21 Oct
Tickets One Price \$10

Totally Organic

International organist, **Phillip Gearing**, presents a recital to uplift and inspire.

Bach	Prelude and Fugue in D
Hindemith	Sonate I (1937)
Williamson	Aria and Toccata from Symphony for Organ
Mendelssohn	Sonata IV in B-flat

Wednesday 27 October
5.30-6.30pm St Luke's Church
\$12.50 Adult / \$10 Conc / \$5 Child

Theatre Showcase 2004

A selection of contemporary scenes from live theatre and a spicy menu of specially written short films.

Come and join us in celebrating our most recent crop of Actors and Stage Managers.

28 & 29 October
7.30pm USQ Arts Theatre
\$19 Adult / \$15 Conc