A world treasure on our doorstep

WHERE IDEAS COLLIDE
OPEN DAY
Parkville & Southbank campuses 16 August 2015
Immerse yourself in a different way of thinking with the Melbourne Curriculum. openday.unimelb.edu.au
Research centre to help teachers

In the wake of increased pressure on higher education institutions to show that their teacher education programs are working, the University of Melbourne’s Graduate School of Education (MGSE) is leading the charge, launching the International Teacher Education Effectiveness Research Hub. Annie Rahilly reports on the commitment by the MGSE to create confident teachers who are “classroom-ready”.

A consensus has emerged that quality of teaching is the most vital factor in a child’s education. An individual teacher can profoundly impact on the child and help unlock the future.

The International Teacher Education Effectiveness Research Hub, led by Associate Professor Janet Clinton, within the Melbourne Graduate School of Education’s Centre for Education Effectiveness Research Hub, will provide rigorous science and measurement to the improved training of our teachers.

To make teacher education more evidence-based, training institutions need to consider and debate what effective teacher education is. Associate Professor Clinton believes, now more than ever, education needs a central cohesive research centre on effective teacher education.

“This will allow us to increase the quality and readiness of graduate teachers, with a focus on selection processes and keeping an eye on the progress of the student teachers,” she says.

“We intend to reach a consensus, on how to improve excellent teaching. We want to collate evidence to improve teaching practice.”

One of the greatest challenges we face in teacher education is understanding the magnitude of impact we can expect and whether all graduates are indeed “classroom-ready”.

Until now, there have been very few institutions that specialise in researching the effectiveness of teacher education programs. This hub—built with its international collaborative focus—has the chance of being a game-changer in promoting and creating the research base in this critical area.

With several forums planned for later in the year and for 2016, the knowledge-sharing, collaborations and benchmarking of standards will influence the next generation of teachers.

The report card is looking good.

“High quality research and global knowledge will lift standards in the teaching profession. This will be critical for driving practice and policy change,” Associate Professor Clinton says.

MUP Publications

This month’s featured Melbourne University Publishing book is No Minister: So you want to be a Chief of Staff? By Allan Behm.

About No Minister: So you want to be a Chief of Staff?

No, Minister is not about the political record; it is about how the record is created and managed by largely unseen people in a volatile and almost always unpredictable environment.

Nothing prepares a person for the job of chief of staff to a Commonwealth Minister. There are no professional development courses, no specialist recruitment agencies and no training manuals.

It was into this vortex that Allen Behm became chief of staff to Greg Combet in 2009, the minister responsible for managing carbon pricing and the pink batts crisis.

A seasoned troubleshooter, Behm has an uncanny ability to anticipate and deflect political crises. By his measure success as a chief of staff is being an invisible force.

“Impressive insight from an experienced insider into the closed world of callow political advisers and their disastrous impact on the performance of many Ministers.”—TERRY MORAN

About the author

Allan Behm was Greg Combet’s chief of staff in the Defence Materiel, Climate Change and Industry portfolios. In 2001 he established Knowledge Pond, an international consultancy advising on political and sovereign risk, strategy and security. He continues to publish and comment on international security matters. Allan Behm is currently the CEO of PTSD-ANZ, a not-for-profit supporting people with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and their families.

Forming a partnership to fight domestic violence

An anti-violence alliance will encourage interdisciplinary research across the University and its partners to keep women and children safe, writes Lisa Mamone.

Researchers who have dedicated years to family violence prevention, service response and advocacy are pleased the issue has finally broken into the mainstream media and that community and government sectors are actively engaging to break the cycle.

It stems from the tireless campaigning of Rosie Batty, whose son Luke was murdered by his father in 2014, and the inquest into the death of Darcey Freeman, who was thrown from the West Gate Bridge by her father in 2009. July and August also saw hundreds of community projects that can make real differences in the lives of women and children.

By the time Batty became 2015 Australian of the Year, family violence was gaining traction in the public space. The World Health Organization announced family violence as a global public health epidemic; there was bipartisan support for the National Plan and Our Watch; VicHealth developed a national framework and national survey on attitudes, not to mention the countless community-led prevention and support projects.

Previously dismissed as tragic events committed by those with mental health problems, the voices of loved ones from family violence tragedies did not cease.

Even before the tragedy of Luke Batty hit our homes, family violence was gaining traction in the public space. The World Health Organization announced family violence as a global public health epidemic; there was bipartisan support for the National Plan and Our Watch; VicHealth developed a national framework and national survey on attitudes, not to mention the countless community-led prevention and support projects.

By the time Batty became 2015 Australian of the Year, family violence was too public to be silenced or ignored.

“People in the family violence sector have worked on this for decades when people did not want to know,” said Battys to a group of MPs and students at the Department of General Practice awards night. “But while I am the Australian of the Year, I’m going to make sure that everyone knows this is their business.”

Primary care researcher Professor Kelsey Hegarty and social worker Professor Cathy Humphreys, at the University of Melbourne, announced the Research Alliance to End Violence against Women and Children. The Alliance is designed to encourage interdisciplinary research across the University and its partners to keep women and children safe.

Professors Hegarty and Humphreys have collaborated on family violence for a number of years and understand how and where their expertise intersects and complements each other.

“This area has been very isolating,” says Professor Hegarty. “It’s hard to believe now. To cover a social issue in medicine initially was very isolating.

“I like to think of this as a ‘two of us’ story,” says Professor Humphreys. “We were both Brisbane girls who came to Melbourne and found each other both working on researching family violence and with a shared understanding and commitment to the area.

“It is complementary but not competitive. There is strength in working not just collaboratively but in a non-hierarchical way,” says Professor Hegarty. This is at the heart of what the Alliance means: bringing together all the current research to reduce violence against women and children, and getting the issue as a major focus for the University.

Professors Hegarty and Humphreys have worked on earlier inceptions of the Alliance. Family violence Actioning Interdisciplinary Research (FAIR) in 2011, built the foundations on which the Alliance now forms.

Professor Bernadette McSherry, Director of Melbourne Social Equity Institute, is proud to support the Alliance. “It provides a wonderful opportunity for researchers across the University to work on interdisciplinary, community-focused projects that can make real differences in the lives of women and children.

While the double-act of Professor Hegarty in primary care intervention research and Professor Humphreys in social work response is an obvious pairing, the Alliance embraces research across all disciplines to address this epidemic.

From challenging gender roles and effective-ness of first line response, to pathways to legal support and safe housing, the Research Alliance to End Violence against Women and Children will break down all silos of research clusters.

“We see ourselves as part of this social movement,” says Professor Humphreys. “How do we contribute to a social movement to keep women and children safe? You have to hold that as your raison d’être.”

Canadian family violence expert Angelique Jenney from the University of Toronto is presenting a lecture on ‘Understanding and responding to the impact of violence in families’ on 18 August at the University of Melbourne. Details on the lecture can be found at mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/events
Navigating your way to a great day

From the city
Take a tram in Swanston Street – north to Parkville, south to Southbank

Coming into Melbourne by train
Travel to North Melbourne, then take the free 401 express shuttle bus to Parkville

Moving between campuses
You can hop on one of the free shuttle buses that will be running all day to and from the Southbank and Parkville campuses – between the Community Life Precinct in Grattan Street and the Victorian College of the Arts and Melbourne Conservatorium of Music at Dodds Street Southbank

Driving in
Park your car all day, free, in University Square and Eastern Precinct car parks

First things first
Head to Admissions at the Gate 4 entrance on Swanston Street to discover how you can apply, what scholarships and students services are on offer

Plan up front, or plan as you go
You can log on to the Open Day website at openday.unimelb.edu.au and print out your itinerary. Or leave it till Open Day and pick up a program and map at any of the main entrances. It’s easy: both the Open Day website and the printed program everything on offer, faculty by faculty, in alphabetical order.

Feeling lost or looking for direction?
Look out for one of our many ‘Ask Me!’ guides who’ll point you in the right direction

Want to know what it’s like to live on campus?
Hop on board the free shuttle bus and take a tour of the residential colleges, leaving throughout the day from Southbank, and University Square on the Parkville campus

Highlights from the faculties ...

Architecture Building & Planning/ Melbourne School of Design
Student studio exhibitions
Our student work speaks for itself. Check out the impressive Fabrication and 3D printing workshops and displays.
Ground Floor, Melbourne School of Design, Masson Road, Parkville campus

Faculty of Science
Environmental Science showcase
Ask our students and staff the big environmental questions: like how pollution impacts the aquatic environment, what the best strategies are for re-introducing extinct species, and how environmental science draws disciplines together to tackle the world’s pressing problems.
All day, Wilson Hall, Parkville campus

Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences
Animal exhibit
Meet academics and students and their pet dogs and, in the process, find out about our animal science subjects and courses.
Throughout the day, Wilson Hall Parkville campus, and Ground Floor, Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences, Royal Parade

Medicine Dentistry and Health Sciences
So you want to be a doctor?
Find out about a typical week, the joys and challenges, and vast array of career and future study options open to you in medicine.
2.30pm, Sunderland Theatre, Ground Floor, Medical Building, Parkville campus

Melbourne Graduate School of Education
Discover the Master of Teaching difference
Find out from a school principal, clinical specialist, teaching fellow, current student and an alumnus how the Master of Teaching’s clinical approach to teacher education is a significant shift away from traditional approaches and why our graduates are highly sought after.
12.30pm, Second Floor, MSGE Building, 234 Queensberry Street, Parkville campus

Melbourne Law School
Moot Court in action
Be in court as students from the Witness Examination Competition perform their practice.
10.00am, Fifth Floor, Law Building, 185 Pelham Street, Parkville campus

Melbourne School of Engineering
Mechanical Engineering Lab tours for flying enthusiasts
Take a guided tour of the mechanical engineering lab and find out how mechanical engineers make planes more fuel efficient and less noisy.
10.30am, 12.15pm, 1.30pm, 3.15pm leaving from the entrance, Old Engineering Building, Parkville campus

Melbourne University Sport
Elite Athlete Program
Elite Athlete and Artistic Performers Entry Scheme
Friday 20 November.
Stage 1 2016 scholarship applications close:
Friday 20 November 2015.
Stage 2 applications closed:
Friday 4 December 2015.

Meet Riley, Melbourne Law School’s superstar Dogtor and, between pats, learn about the Juris Doctor enrichment and support programs.
All day, Law Building, 185 Pelham Street, Parkville campus

Translate your brain waves into music at the Sound of Thinking booth
All day, Union Laver, Parkville campus

Check out the line-up of bands and performers that have come out of the University of Melbourne

... And there’s also plenty of

All day, South Lawn main stage Parkville campus, and Dodds Street main stage Southbank campus

Speak to students about what it’s really like to study at Australia’s best university and even grab a free snack while you chat!
Arts and Engineering BBQs on Parkville campus, student panels for Vet and Agricultural Sciences, Biomed, Economics, Environments, Music, Fine Arts on both the Parkville and Southbank campuses (check out the Open Day guide for times and venues)
AUGUST
awaits you at Open Day

Open Day is all about exploring the opportunities available at the University of Melbourne. It’s a perfect opportunity to learn more about our courses and the careers they can lead to.

O
pen Day is the University of Melbourne’s annual extravaganza; we throw open our doors to anyone interested in what life is like at Australia’s top university.

The Open Day carnival atmosphere at our Parkville and Southbank campuses is always entertaining and this year will be no exception, with live music, good food and exhibitions to enjoy - along with lots of detailed information on studying here.

Open Day is the perfect opportunity to learn more about the Melbourne Curriculum – which is different to the curriculum at other Australian universities. It gives you the chance to create your own study path, with the power to choose your own direction and explore new options along the way. This is important in a world where careers are changing fast and employers want independent thinking.

Our students start with an undergraduate degree, which gives them the chance to choose their major from day one or keep their options open and explore the possibilities along the way, with over 100 major fields of study to choose from.

After undergraduate studies, our students can go straight into the workforce or choose from over 270 graduate courses, setting them up to become leaders in their fields.

Bachelor of Environments graduate Ajay Rewal is now studying the Master of Construction Management, and was able to start preparing for a degree in construction at undergraduate level.

“The Bachelor of Environments helped prepare me for a career in the construction industry,” he says. “I’ve been taught how to think when working on a construction project, and the degree has allowed me to see the theory applied in ‘real life’ through our site visits and our major project. I’ve also learned how to work in teams, meet deadlines and to put nothing but my best efforts forward.”

For final year Juris Doctor student Claire Wong, her passion for social justice led her to study the law.

“I wanted to use my undergraduate specialisation in humanities to contribute to improving the lives of others,” she says.

Ms Wong says the highlight of her time at the Melbourne Law School has been being part of the community law centre, the Legal Aid (VLA).

“I was able to interact with clients and apply the information and skills that I had learned at Law School to actually make a positive difference in the lives of real people,” she says.

This real-world connection applies across the University, with Bachelor of Science graduate Nathann Phung, particularly enjoying the applied in ‘real life’ through our site visits and the degree has allowed me to see the theory applied in ‘real life’ through our site visits and our major project. I’ve also learned how to work in teams, meet deadlines and to put nothing but my best efforts forward.”

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fun to be had
Keep it in all the family with free face painting, mobile farm and the Farmers Market.

All day, Union Lawn on the Parkville campus

Experience what it’s like to be part of the University community at the Community Life Precinct – take part in the fun, grab some freebies and win a prize or two.

All day, University Square, Parkville campus

Find your perfect sport watching demos from some of University Sports’ 40 clubs, including Dancesport, Tai Chi and Wushu, and Kendo.

Monday
Advocacy – learning the art of communication and persuasion. Otherwise known as lessons in how to keep the jury awake!

Coffee with friends to chat as well as to try out methods of examination and methods of asking non-leading questions.

Public Interest Law Clinic class

Tuesday
Legal research – often this may be independent research

An afternoon working as a paralegal at a specialist criminal defence law firm. Here I work on analyzing briefs of evidence, reviewing CCTV footage and police interviews, assisting with client interviews.

Wednesday
Advocacy workshop – where you deliver a prepared section of a mock trial, followed by feedback from the MLS judge in residence

Legal Ethics class

Spend a relaxing evening watching a legal drama like Silk

Thursday
Spend the morning at the in-house clinic at the Victoria Legal Aid city office, seeing clients for the Infringements Court. This is followed by a quick lunch and then down to the Magistrate’s Court to act as part of the duty lawyer service, interviewing clients and then representing them in the Special Circumstances List.

Friday
A morning of study

Tango dancing class

Legal Ethics class in the afternoon

Dinner and a night out on the town with friends

All day, Community Life Precinct, University Square, Parkville campus

Tag it to be in it – Tag #uomopenday for your chance to win. And look out for your post on the giant screens!

All day, across Parkville and Southbank campuses

Check out the Open Day Insta Insta winning entries for the interstate student Instagram competition, including winning entries from Perth and Adelaide

Immerse yourself in a different way of thinking with the Melbourne Curriculum. Where Engineering Collides with Economics.

Open Day
Parkville & Southbank campuses
16 August 2015

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

VOICE 5
‘Safewards’ creates compassion for patients

A program aimed at improving the quality of care for mental health patients has been trialled in Victoria, writes Lisa Mamone.

**FEATURE**

Caring for people in mental health facilities is complex and sensitive. It is difficult and stressful for patients, their families and the nurses to address the specialist needs of those with severe problems.

International research has suggested the use of restrictive practices is not particularly helpful for the long-term recovery of a patient. These practices, considered last resorts in psychiatric wards, include extreme measures such as medication to sedate a patient, straps to physically constrain them, or isolation in locked spaces, are correlated with longer stays.

Professor Len Bowers, from London’s King’s College, developed and successfully trialled a model in the UK called Safewards, consisting of 10 interventions designed to improve the quality of care for patients by implementing small community-building changes to nursing practices and patient-to-patient interactions. This model provides the opportunity for wards to address some of the more challenging aspects of acute care facilities for patients and staff without the large bill of new tools and dramatic process change.

The Safewards model has been a great success with many of the changes easily implemented by staff after specific training sessions. The model included introducing inclusive activities like “discharge messages”, often via a tree (pictured right), where patients can leave positive messages to each other in a visually enriching display, a “know each other” folder designed to break down staff and patient silos, and “bad news mitigation” for staff to learn a variety of ways to plan the delivery of potentially bad news with a view to reducing the likelihood of conflict situations arising.

“Some aspects of the model have been criticised as corny,” says Dr Bridget Hamilton from the Centre of Psychiatric Nursing. “But there is real positivity and enthusiasm from our focus groups. Small changes such as using positive words during handover can change the whole shift for patients and nurses.”

A long-time collaborator, Hamilton invited Bowers to Melbourne, who persuaded the Department of Health and Human Services to trial the project in Victoria. The Department committed $3 million to fund the trial which saw almost one quarter of wards sign up. The University is monitoring the implementation of the model and will analyse and evaluate its impact.

The trial period ended in June this year, but many of the wards involved are committed to ensuring Safewards becomes embedded in their service delivery and the University has been able to provide its continuing support and monitoring.

“Even the people who’ve been most resistant to the interventions, are not resistant to the whole philosophy and the whole ethos,” says a nurse from a Safewards trial.

The attraction of the Safewards model is the community and consumer-driven project where wards are driving the care and practices they believe will work best for them and their patients.

Through Safewards, the patients and staff created a real sense of belonging and form a small community in their environment. This community setting can positively impact their overall experience, reduce extreme measures of containment and result in a happier work place for all involved as well as their families.

“A couple of patients in particular had a tendency to self-isolate but could be drawn out into the wider population through things like the mutual help meetings,” says another health practitioner.

The evaluation team is cross-disciplinary, led by the Centre of Psychiatric Nursing in collaboration with the Centre of Mental Health in the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health with mental health and epidemiology experts contributing.

The team is still collecting the data but reports from the wards suggests that the Safewards model makes patients feel part of a community, enriches their stays and allows them to have a better relationship with their carers and other patients.

All research participants were de-identified in quotes.

[cpn.unimelb.edu.au](http://cpn.unimelb.edu.au)

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**Rrap remakes the world**

Artist Julie Rrap uses her own body in various ways in this innovative exhibition, says Victoria Lynn.

**PREVIEW**

Julie Rrap is a leading and influential Australian artist who has been exhibiting since the late 1970s.

Exploring aspects of the human form, her photographs and installations are created with a beguiling wit and a determination to animate and unravel the long history of sleeping figures in marble sculpture. More specifically, this is a collaboration with artists which beckons the imagination in art is fuelled by dreams and the question of artistic process: the ways in which imagination in art is fuelled by dreams and the ways in which dreams are fulfilled by art.

In a second space a new group of sculptures, photographs and videos explore images of the artist’s own body – fragmented, digitised and animated with the playfulness of science fiction.

A large photograph depicts the artist’s pursed red lips releasing thousands of images of her own body. A video shows the artist struggling with a piece of fabric, emblazoned with two images of herself leaping into the void and dressed as Marilyn Monroe. Thousands of these same minute figures appear in a video swarm, ricocheting in waves of blue and red, becoming part of an alternative system of intelligence. Here the real body creates a fictional world. Gazing down from above are the artist’s God-like eyes, projected on a huge scale, and artificially manipulated to change like an eclipse from a smoky yellow to a blind black.

Julie Rrap, *Re-making the world: Artists’ dreaming (video still) 2015*, 20-channel HD video installation. Courtesy the artist and Arc One Gallery, Melbourne, and Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney

Julie Rrap, *Remaking the world #1 2015*, digital print, 150 x 450 cm. Courtesy the artist and Arc One Gallery, Melbourne, and Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney

Art is a world-making activity, and Julie Rrap shows us the ways the world turns, from the prosaic and collaborative, to the states of dream, transgression and imagination.

Exhibition is at Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne, until 15 November. More details at [www.artsmuseum.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.artsmuseum.unimelb.edu.au).


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**A program aimed at improving the quality of care for mental health patients has been trialled in Victoria, writes Lisa Mamone.**
Gimmick or game-changer?

They have become part of our daily lives, but to most of us they are a jumble of dots. Andi Horvath unlocks the code.

**QR codes are a square cluster of black and white square mini dots; they have become our boarding passes and you see them on packaging and promotions.**

And here’s a good trivia night question: What does QR stand for? Come on, I need a quick response.

But what are they and are they on the way out – or on the way in? Let’s dissect one with Professor Justin Zobel, Head of the Department of Computing & Information Systems.

“QR codes are essentially barcodes that can be read in two directions, up-and-down and left-to-right at the same time. They are even referred to as 2D barcodes.”

If you look at one closely you’ll see the top two corners and the bottom left-hand corner have identical mini squares; these tell the scanner, which can process it in any direction, the orientation of how it should be read.

“The basic zebra crossing-like 1D barcode is used to manage inventory such as groceries and postal services. These codes are a series of numbers (up to about 20 characters), whereas QR codes raise the barcode to a new level. They can store over 100 times more information – about 4000 characters or 7000 numbers. This allows them to provide links to websites, email addresses, and details about a product.”

“We can understand how they work by dissecting a simple 1D barcode, a cluster of fat and thin lines representing a number in a straight-forward code.

A 1D cluster of numbers represents the company or manufacturer’s ID, the next cluster represents the product code, the last number is a ‘check digit’ that is used to check whether the code has been read correctly. They are only valid within the context of the company’s use.

“The code is a simple piece of computing math, by adding together the value of the digits in odd positions, multiplying by 3, then adding the value of the digits in even positions, then finally adding a ‘check digit’ that rounds up to a multiple of 10.”

QR codes can be scanned in any direction with a smartphone, but an app is needed to read them. Uptake in the mainstream has been slow. Perhaps if smartphones had a default-scanning app they may have had faster uptake.

Marketers are still experimenting with how to use them effectively. Some restaurants have replaced their takeaway menu with a QR code in their window, for example, and some primary schools use them to answer quiz questions, for things like labels on skeleton parts. The list is endless. Countries like Japan and Uruguay have companies who arrange to have them on tombstones!

So is a QR code here to stay? Professor Zobel says: “They are a great way to get digital information from the physical world. The market will determine whether they are a gimmick or a game-changer, but they are a simple, powerful tool for an incredibly wide range of tasks.”

**Should foreign countries intervene in civil wars?**

At a time when civil wars rage around the world and the right of foreign countries to intervene remains controversial, Australian-based research is set to break new ground. Gabrielle Murphy reports.

**AUS**: the nightly television news makes clear, the world is experiencing a period of revolutionary upheaval. Entrenched regimes have been toppled throughout North Africa and the Middle East. Refugees from civil wars in Syria and Iraq are seeking shelter in neighbouring countries. Russia is flexing its muscles in Ukraine and beyond. The emergence of ISIS seems set to redraw existing borders.

These dramatic events have also challenged the foundations of the traditional international legal order governing foreign intervention in civil wars. The awarding of a prestigious Australian Research Council Laureate Fellowship to Professor Anne Orford offers a response to that challenge.

Professor Orford, the Michael D Kirby Professor of International Law at Melbourne Law School, has been awarded the 2015 Kathleen Fitzpatrick Australian Laureate Fellowship. She will use the $A2.5 million research grant to explore the complex legal issues surrounding intervention by external actors in civil wars.

“As current debates about the legality of interventions in Iraq, Syria, and Ukraine make clear, the question of whether and under what conditions outside actors can intervene in civil wars is an urgent one,” says Professor Orford.

“This project will develop the new legal concepts and frameworks that are needed to respond to the fundamental challenges posed by growing foreign involvement in civil wars.”

Professor Orford argues that since the early 1990s, the meaning and scope of the non-intervention principle has been unsettled by the emergence of norms and practices designed to protect civilians and fight terrorism, and by increasing economic and political integration.

“There has been enormous pressure to rethink the basis on which external actors can intervene in support of rebels or other parties to a civil war,” she says.

“That pressure has come from militarily powerful states like Russia, the UK, and the US, but also from aid organisations seeking access to war zones on humanitarian grounds, refugee advocates seeking to support internally displaced people, and even multinational corporations seeking to protect their investments and their employees.”

“Often international lawyers are asked to offer legal responses in a very rushed and ad hoc fashion as a new crisis erupts. The funding of this major five-year project will provide me and my team with the much-needed time and resources to evaluate whether and if so, how, the law needs to change.”

As a researcher and writer on humanitarian intervention and the transformation of international security for over 20 years, and one whose work has had a major influence internationally, Professor Orford is ideally placed to carry out this project. She has held distinguished visiting positions at leading universities worldwide, given plenary addresses at the most significant conferences in her field, and been invited by governments and international organisations to present her research all over the world.

“It’s a great privilege and a huge responsibility to have been provided with this opportunity,” says Professor Orford.

“Development of a legal framework that can better address this new situation is vital.”

**ITALY**: The stakes are high for those who live in countries engulfed by war, for refugees seeking protection, and for countries like Australia deciding whether they can and should provide humanitarian or military assistance.”

As the holder of the Kathleen Fitzpatrick Fellowship, Professor Orford is provided with additional funding to undertake an ambasadorsial role to promote women in research, alongside her own research program. She will use the funding to establish a program of workshops, master classes and visiting fellowships for outstanding female early career researchers in international law and related fields.

Professor Orford is the third University of Melbourne woman researcher to have been recognised by these awards. Professor Leann Tilley was awarded the 2015 Georgina Sweet Australian Fellowship to measure, model and manipulate complex cellular systems of the malaria parasite to develop new ways of combating the disease in both livestock and humans.

And Melbourne historian, Joy Damousi, became the University of Melbourne’s first woman – and the Faculty of Arts’ first ever – Australian Laureate Fellow when she was given the award in 2014.

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The exquisite Rothschild Prayer Book, one of a handful of peerless illuminated manuscripts produced at the end of the 15th and the early 16th centuries, will be the centrepiece of an exhibition featuring the collection of media owner Kerry Stokes, which opens at the Ian Potter Museum of Art in August.

In private hands for much of its 500 years, confiscated from the Rothschild family by the Nazis in 1938, and selling for a world record price in 1999 following its tardy restitution by the Austro-German, it is a book of breath-taking beauty and exceptional skill.

The Rothschild Prayer Book was produced by pre-eminent artists in the Ghent-Bruges school, whose manuscripts were sought and treasured throughout Europe, and created in the final flowering of illuminated manuscripts, after the beginning of print and just before the Reformation brought an end to the production of lavish prayer books.

“The manuscript is an example of this school of painting at its peak,” says Margaret Manion, co-author of the exhibition catalogue, “with miniatures by the most sought-after illuminators of the day, such as Gerard Horenbout, Simon Bening and his father, Alexander Bening.”

“There are also images by artists who were trained as panel painters, as for example the depiction of the exquisite Madonna and Child above a crescent moon, by the Bruges panel painter Gerard David.”

Perhaps because the book may have remained closed for much of its 500-year life, its 252 pages are pristine, its pigments deep and bright, its golds glittering on the page. Each devotion opens with a large illuminated initial decorated with staves of acanthus. Twelve full-page calendar folios feature the names of feasts, the relevant zodiac signs and scenes of people going about appropriate occupations for each month. Sixty-seven full-page miniatures and five smaller miniatures are replete with the imagery of saints, landscapes and secular scenes. These are surrounded by intricate, three-dimensional borders with illusorific features such as sprays of flowers that appear to be strewn across the page, jewels and enamels, gleaming peacock feathers, and even flies that appear to be sitting on the page.

Made for devotional purposes, the book was also clearly designed to delight the viewer.

Kate Challis, whose PhD focused on early 16th century illuminated manuscripts, in particular deluxe southern Netherlandish books, first saw the Prayer Book in Vienna’s National Library before it was returned to the Rothschilds: “It was magnificent, magical,” says Challis. “Unlike art in paintings, where you see them from afar as you approach them, a book is closed. Once I opened it, it was revealed in its majesty, and also in its intimacy, in its size and proximity.

“Today we’re bombarded with imagery, but in those days people would not have seen many images at all except the occasional altarpiece.

Challis compares the Prayer Book to today’s smartphone, in terms of how it might be carried around and of how it might absorb the viewer. However a prayer book of this quality would have been a luxury, most probably owned by royalty or people of influence. It would have been a source of great pride to its owners.

“It was also a form of entertain-ment. Artists were really showing off their skills,” she says.

Kelly Gellatly, director of the Ian Potter Museum of Art, also makes a point of the way the prayer book was used: “For me, part of the appeal of the book itself, beyond its breathtaking beauty, is its human scale – the fact that it is an object that was made to be used, and to be held. As a Book of Hours, one can equally imagine that its remarkable survival is due in part to exactly this aspect of its nature – that it was a personal and highly treasured object and importantly, that it was portable – able to travel easily with its owner in times of change, upheaval and crisis,” she says.

Much is made of the book’s somewhat mysterious provenance. The original owner is still unknown and its history remains obscure for the late 1800s.

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Much is made of the book’s somewhat mysterious provenance. The original owner is still unknown and its history remains obscure for the late 1800s. Theories have imagined the book in the hands of queens in Navarre and Germany, and in the libraries of prominent royal dynasties. But it is called the Rothschild Prayer Book because this is the only part of its provenance story that is certain.

The exhibition An Illumination: the Rothschild Prayer Book & other works from the Kerry Stokes Collection c.1280-1685 will feature the Rothschild Prayer Book in combi- nation with other illuminated manuscripts, early decorated printed works known as incu Nabula, paintings, sculptures and stained glass sequences. It will also include the only Pieter Breughel the Younger painting known to be in Australia (Calvary, 1615), allowing, as Gellatly says, “rare insight into the use and significance of these objects at the time they were made.”

“The University of Melbourne is honoured to be part of a celebration of what is one of the finest private collections of Medieval and Renaissance art,” says Vice-Chancellor Glyn Davis.

For those with passion for art, history, politics, religion or literature the exhibition is a rare opportunity, while the accompanying lecture series will bring to life many of the extraordinary items on display.”

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Front Cover: St Helena. Suffrage, The Rothschild Prayer Book, folios 233v-234r.


Right The Rothschild Prayer Book (Book of Hours, Use of Rome) in Latin. Ghent and Bruges, c. 1505-1510. Parchment, 228 x 165mm; i + 252 + ii folios. Script: Gothic Rotunda in black ink. Text space: 115 x 71 mm. Kerry Stokes Collection, LIB.2014.017.

Above right The Rothschild Prayer Book, folios 136v-137r. (detail)
Did you know?

The Rothschild Prayer Book is a book of hours, a book of daily devotions, prayers and psalms popular in the Middle Ages.

It was produced between 1505-10 by a number of artists from the Ghent-Bruges school of Flemish illumination.

There are 252 folios at 228 × 160 mm, roughly the size of a trade paperback, and made from vellum, a parchment made from animal skin.

It is lavishly decorated with 67 large miniatures, 12 rich full-page borders and 5 small miniatures with elaborate borders, it was a luxury item.

The original owner is unknown and the book’s provenance is obscured until the Rothschild Family purchased it in the 19th century.

Since its sale in 1999 it has held the record price at auction for an illuminated manuscript.

It is the only one in a group of 30 important Flemish illuminated manuscripts to be held in a private collection.

Timeline

1505-10 The Rothschild Prayer Book is produced in the Ghent-Bruges area of the Netherlands. It is probably bought on the market and not commissioned, the original owner is not known.

1872 The Prayer Book appears in a catalogue of the collection of Anselm von Rothschild.

1938 It is confiscated by the Nazis from his descendant Alphonse von Rothschild in the annexation of Austria.

1942 With Hitler’s permission the book is placed in Austrian National Library in Vienna.

After the end of WW2 The Austrian Government uses legislation to pressure the Rothschilds into “donating” a large number of works to Austrian museums, including the Prayer Book.

1999 Bowling to international pressure, the Austrian government returns the book and other works of art to the Rothschilds.

July 8, 1999 The Rothschilds sell the Prayer Book through Christie’s London for a world record price.

January 29, 2014 The Prayer Book is sold again, at Christie’s New York. The bidder is anonymous.

September 2014 It is revealed that Kerry Stokes, Australian businessman and owner of the Seven Network, had purchased it. The Prayer Book forms part of the Stokes collection in Perth.

The University of Melbourne is proud to present a series of lectures from August until November to accompany the exhibition An illumination: the Rothschild Prayer Book & other works from the Kerry Stokes Collection c.1280-1685

Internationally renowned experts and leading academics will provide important contexts for the exhibition, bringing Medieval and Renaissance culture and art to life. From considerations of the Rothschild Prayer Book, to the famous Book of Hours of Queen Jeanne of Navarre, to luxury textiles from the guilds of Europe, to female book collectors in the Renaissance, to the late Medieval Nuremberg carnival, to Breughel: the Younger’s Crucifixion.

For a full list of the lectures, venues, times and bookings, please visit www.unimelb.edu.au/illumination

Melbourne, Carlton: 28 August - 15 November
Indigenous songstress takes her voice to the international stage

This month Indigenous soprano and classical voice graduate, Shauntai Batzke, will take leave from her duties as Wilin Centre receptionist at the Victorian College of the Arts to sing in New York. Gabrielle Murphy reports.

S hантаи Batzke, inspirational gospel and opera singer and songwriter, is a Wiradjuri woman who grew up in Sydney. When she’s not on stage singing in her beautiful, rich soprano, Ms Batzke keeps the wolves from the door working as an administrative assistant at the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development at the Victorian College of the Arts at the University of Melbourne’s Southbank campus. Ms Batzke moved from Sydney to Melbourne to pursue a career in opera.

“It was in 2009 that I had met Deborah Cheetham,” says Ms Batzke. “She was auditioning people to do the Spring intensive program down here at VCA, and the rest is history.”

Ms Batzke is only too aware that as the first Indigenous graduate majoring in classical voice at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, she is, like her mentor Deborah Cheetham, a trailblazer in Indigenous opera.

And she echoes Head of Curriculum and Programs and singer, songwriter, author, poet and film maker Richard Frankland when she says “At the Wilin Centre we believe that when you have art you have voice and when you have voice you have freedom and with freedom comes responsibility.”

“It’s a real desire of mine to see more Indigenous students come to Melbourne University. I don’t want to be the only one who has graduated from the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music in classical voice,” she says.

In August Ms Batzke heads to New York to undertake a summer school at the Belle Arti Center for the Arts as part of the ‘Canto de las Americas – A Workshop for Aspiring Artists in the Vocal Arts’ Program.

“I’ll have the opportunity to work with singers from the Metropolitan Opera and learn from esteemed coaches alike. It’s a dream come true and an opportunity of a lifetime.”

Ms Batzke has already enjoyed some memorable highlights in her short career.

She was invited to perform at the inauguration for Victoria’s 29th Governor, the Honourable Linda Dessau, singing O Mio Babbino Caro to close the event.

She has been the recipient of the Harold Blair Opera Scholarship for two consecutive years following in the footsteps of Yorta Yorta Bass Baritone, Tina Orus, who was the inaugural recipient of this prestigious scholarship for 2012 and 2013.

Alongside Shauntai’s opera career, she continues to take her administrative role at the Wilin Centre seriously.

“Wilin means fire and that warmth and that energy that comes from the fire,” says Ms Batzke. “I feel that it’s my responsibility, being at the front desk, and being the first point of contact, to create that atmosphere for any visitor who comes through.”

The Disability Human Rights Clinic forms part of Melbourne Law School’s Disability Research Initiative. She has a long history in disability work, having previously worked as a sociologist, support provider and human rights advocate in Europe, the United States and Australia.

There is a deeply personal reason behind Dr Arstein-Kerslake’s passionate advocacy of disability support services.

“My sister has a developmental disability and that personal experience was a motivating force for working on the rights of people with disabilities,” she says.

Dr Arstein-Kerslake views this as a critical time for disability advocacy, as community activism leads to increased awareness and rights protection of those living with mental, physical and developmental disabilities.

“Attitudes are changing towards people with disabilities, with a greater focus on human rights,” she says.

Australia perhaps hasn’t done as solid a disability activist community as that in other nations (particularly the United Kingdom), but public perceptions have definitely changed thanks to the work of pioneer advocates like the late Stella Young.

Recent revelations of abuse within Victoria’s largest non-governmental disability service, Yooralla, also brought disability care standards into the spotlight.

“People need connectedness and empowerment if they are to voice their concerns,” Dr Arstein-Kerslake says.

“Fostering those voices will hopefully lead to improved health and legal outcomes.”

Dr Arstein-Kerslake believes Australian academics and activists need to collaborate more to effect positive change. She sees gaps in the field of disability human rights, which the Melbourne Law School is well placed to fill.

“Lots of non-government organisations advocate for disability support services and rights, but often don’t have the means to do in-depth legal analysis,” she says.

“What we are striving to achieve is a position where we can provide detailed reporting that applies the law to disability rights violations.”

The Disability Human Rights Clinic forms part of the Public Interest Law Initiative, supported by the Melbourne Law School Foundation. The initiative will be formally launched at the School on Thursday 13 August, coinciding with Public Interest Law Week.


www.campaign.unimelb.edu.au

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Shauntai Batzke performs late last year at Wilin College. Picture: Jorge Delahoy. Below left: Shauntai supports her art by performing the role of administrative assistant welcoming visitors to the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural Development at the VCA. Picture: Paul Burston

Empowering those with disabilities

The Melbourne Law School has launched a new subject aimed at disability discrimination. By Chris Weaver.

L aw is increasingly a major public concern. A new clinical subject within the Melbourne Law School now aims to remove some of the prejudices affecting people with disabilities.

The Disability Human Rights Clinic is the first subject of its kind in Australia. Melbourne Juris Doctor students and researchers – many of whom have disabilities – are reporting on the rights violations of people with disabilities.

It is an important opportunity for future lawyers to get a solid foundation in social justice issues, with students working with several community organisations to analyse and report violations experienced by people with disabilities. This clinical work will develop law students’ skills in persuasive writing, organisational collaboration and advocacy.

Juris Doctor students Sarah Mercer and Henry Macphillamy are part of the Initial Disability Human Rights Clinic intake. Personal experiences underpin their interest in the course.

“A member of my family lives with mental illness, so disability issues – particularly around hearing impairments,” he says. “I know that the skills I learn in this subject would apply to each and every day that I practise law.”

Mr Macphillamy also finds the practical application and work with community groups particularly appealing.

The Disability Human Rights Clinic has a unique place in my interests, as I have visual and unique place in my interests, as I have visual and developmental disabilities,” she says.

The Disability Human Rights Clinic is the Clinic’s co-ordinator. She will combine this role with her position as Academic Convenor of the Hallmark Disability Research Initiative. She has a long history in disability work, having previously worked as a sociologist, support provider and human rights advocate in Europe, the United States and Australia.
A new snakebite antivenom could bring hope to thousands of victims. By Christina Tait.

A bout 3600 people are bitten by venomous snakes in Papua New Guinea every year. For the 60 per cent bitten by potentially lethal snakes, antivenom is far from guaranteed.

These are some of the highest snakebite rates in the world, and in some regions snakebite deaths outnumber malaria and tuberculosis fatalities by 3:1.

Most vulnerable are those in remote and isolated areas where vehicles are few and far between and the closest health centre can be a 15km walk away.

Many of the health centres in these remote areas don’t have electricity and the necessary refrigeration to stock antivenoms. For those that can, supplies are limited by cost and logistics.

Estimates suggest that PNG has some of the highest snakebite mortality rates in the world, as high as 1000 a year, and in some regions snakebite deaths outnumber malaria and tuberculosis fatalities by up to 3:1.

Since he first encountered this problem in PNG years ago, Dr David Williams has been a man on a mission to produce an affordable single-dose antivenom.

“In one of my early visits to PNG, four people died in one week at the village I was staying in, and witnessing how nothing could be done made me want to stick my neck out and do something,” he says.

The snake responsible for over 80 per cent of snakebite deaths in PNG is the Papuan taipan which is often shrouded in superstition by locals who believe that snakebite is a tool wielded by a vengeful sorcerer.

“It has the longest fangs, the most toxic venom and one of the largest venom yields of any snake in the Asia Pacific region,” says Dr Williams. Children playing and women gathering firewood are often victims.

“Within as little as 2-3 hours of being bitten, the victim can experience uncontrolled bleeding, paralysis and not be able to breathe or swallow. Without a ventilator to keep them breathing, they will die. Giving them antivenom before these effects occur can save many lives,” he says.

“When I first proposed developing a new taipan antivenom, many people told me that it was too costly and technically difficult in the PNG setting,” he says.

However, fast forward to today and Dr Williams’ mission is almost accomplished.

A new antivenom could be registered for general use within 12-18 months if trials in Port Moresby’s General Hospital are conclusive.

“This new antivenom will cost about US$150 per vial, compared with the existing antivenom which costs up to US$2000 per vial, and we are confident it can be stored without refrigeration in remote and isolated villages,” Dr Williams says.

“Making antivenom available more widely will reduce follow-on hospitalisation so that 95 per cent of snake bite patients can go home within 24 hours after their treatment,” he says.

“My vision is that within the next 5-10 years, we can help our PNG partners to produce their own antivenoms. This will provide employment for their upcoming scientists and enable them to solve their own public health issues,” says Dr Williams.

“It is a project that is outside the traditional research role and grant funding, however we are hopeful that we will be supported to continue,” he says.

Dr Williams is well-regarded internationally for his powerful advocacy for the plight of snakebite victims in the developing world.

“Snakebite is unfortunately a ‘neglected tropical disease’ that doesn’t get much attention because it is not infectious, and is largely ignored in tropical disease initiatives,” he says.

“Our work in PNG has been a good test case. We have taken one of the most lethal snakes in the world in a challenging setting and developed an affordable and sustainable solution which can be translated into other developing countries and save many lives,” says Dr Williams. Dr Williams currently heads Australian Venom Research at the Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics at the University of Melbourne and the Charles Campbell Toxinology Centre at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby. He also manages the Snakebite Clinic in the Emergency Department at the Port Moresby General Hospital.

Visit: Al Jazeera 101 East, Papua New Guinea’s Snake Man to view recent documentary


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A moving picture of Australia

The HILDA survey has been informing us about our society since 2001, says Laura Soderlind.

There is another story behind the headlines declaring married couples are less happy, behind coverage of small towns life being preferable to city living, and reports that women do the lion's share of household chores.

Behind these stats is an alternative story of long questionnaires, ballpoint pens, adding figures in one's head, and offering tea to a stranger in your kitchen.

Since 2001, a small army of interviewers go house to house, visiting the same 17,000 people each year, asking for personal information and ratings on a scale of zero to ten.

How many cigarettes do you smoke? How much do you spend at the supermarket? How much did you earn last year pre-tax? How satisfied are you with your current domestic partner? Trends and stories emerge out of the thick mass of the data.

1. Living with a partner increases men's health, but not women's.
2. Those who live in wealthier areas report higher levels of life satisfaction.
3. Having a child significantly reduces likelihood of women re-entering the workforce but has no impact on men's employment.
4. Changing employer is the best way to improve earnings growth.
5. The gender pay gap is increasing for part-time workers.
6. Men and women in de facto relationships are, on average, more satisfied with their partners.
7. Kids make us less happy in relationships.
8. On average, men are more satisfied with their partners than women.
9. Children who moved out of the parental home at 21-24 years had an optimal outcome in terms of income and wealth in later adulthood. The situation is significantly worse for those who moved out before the age of 18 and to a lesser extent 18-20 or over 25.
10. Gay and bisexual men feel less safe than heterosexual men.

The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey is hosted and undertaken by the University of Melbourne. Initiated and funded by the Australian Government, it is Australia's only nationally representative longitudinal study and the largest of its kind in the nation.

Author of the latest HILDA report, Associate Professor Roger Wilkins, from the University’s Melbourne Institute, says that the HILDA survey is the only study that can tell us about how individual's lives are changing over time.

“This provides a moving picture of Australian society,” says Associate Professor Wilkins. And, by and large, he considers this national portrait to be looking pretty healthy.

“HILDA paints a picture of a fairly well functioning society, where people are able to achieve many of their life goals, whether it be in the workplace or in their family lives,” says Associate Professor Wilkins.

When considering things like incomes and employment, as well as satisfaction with safety and one's neighbourhood, Australia is faring well.

“But you also find evidence of a relatively small part of the population who are experiencing persistent disadvantage.”

As the survey has been gathering data on Australian living rooms and bank accounts since 2001, analysts can identify concrete changes in Australian society.

Households are tending to get smaller. Children are tending to stay at home longer, delaying moving out of the nest until they are in their mid-20s.

“We are seeing an improvement in the time men spend on housework and childcare, which has been rising in the past few years,” he says.

“But this is at a glacial rate. There is still a great deal of inequity in the household between men and women.”

The calculations are done. If this rate of change remains consistent it would take over a century before men do the same amount of housework as women.

HILDA is designed to live forever says Associate Professor Wilkins.

“The longer it runs the more valuable it becomes as we can examine the full life course people take. And not only that, but it allows us to consider intergenerational issues and how disadvantage works from one generation to the next.

Ten things you didn’t know about Australians that HILDA can tell you

1. Living with a partner increases men's health, but not women's.
2. Those who live in wealthier areas report higher levels of life satisfaction.
3. Having a child significantly reduces likelihood of women re-entering the workforce but has no impact on men's employment.
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“Serious play” has an established history and explores play as a source of discovery and innovation.

The exhibition, Light Speculation, communes the wonderment of light as a phenomenon and explores play as a source of discovery and innovation.

I hope the visitor to Light Speculation is challenged to think, play and discover.

Control the spread of viruses through a light-based game created by Quantum Victoria, consider colour perception through an experiment by Dr Simon Cropper from The Vision Lab at the University of Melbourne and consume light word play by poet Kay Rozycki.

Encounter a video of collapsing soap bubbles. They seem real, but are produced by supercomputer simulation, initial work from collaboration between mathematicians from University of California Berkeley and VCA artist Gary Anderson.

Shine black light torches at Anna Madeleine's Sphere 1, 2015, Glow in the dark stickers on acrylic, 50cm x 50cm.

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Shine black light torches at Anna Madeleine's Sphere 1, 2015, Glow in the dark stickers on acrylic, 50cm x 50cm.
Louise Pirini – first recipient of new Master’s degree

A fascination with social sciences turned into a career in public administration for this graduate, writes Molly Thrasher.

**ADVANCEMENT**

Meet the First Graduate of the Melbourne School of Government’s Master of Public Administration.

Louise Pirini grew up in Wellington, New Zealand. Even then, she was fascinated with people and societies and the ways they interact.

She began her education by studying geography and sociology at the University of Waikato in New Zealand, embracing her interest in the social sciences in classes on migration, development studies, and cultural geography.

“At uni I just wanted to do subjects that I really enjoyed. I wasn’t thinking about what would lead to a job because I knew if I enjoyed them and did well, work would come out of that,” she says.

After a few years of work experience in New Zealand, Louise moved to London where she worked at the Westminster City Council. It was just after the Global Financial Crisis, and Louise’s role was commissioning local service providers to help get local people into work.

“The close relationships we built with them really helped us understand the successes they had or the challenges they faced, and so we could improve the delivery model.”

Louise is the first graduate of the Melbourne School of Government’s Master of Public Administration. She moved to Melbourne in January 2014 and after attending a “Meet an Academic” event at the University, she decided that the School’s Masters of Public Administration was the next step in her career.

She was particularly interested in the unique cross-faculty approach in the program and the flexibility to tailor it to her interests.

“The program seemed a great mix of different subjects like governing, law, public finances and it’s targeted at people who have been working like myself.”

Being new to Melbourne, Louise was helped by the program to meet a network of similar people and feel more settled in her new home. While maintaining the elusive work-life balance was a challenge at times, she was immersed in the subject matter, delving deep into subjects she didn’t even know she had an interest in.

“I learned different frameworks to help me think about and understand our world.”

Now that Louise has graduated she looks forward to applying her learnings at the City of Port Phillip, where she is an Organisational Performance Adviser. The same interest in the social sciences informs how she approaches her job: “It’s my strength – how do people or organisations set their goals, achieve their goals, and deliver services and outcomes. It’s what drives the direction of the public service.”

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Eye care services being provided at Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-operative

**Grampians lead way in Indigenous eye health**

Community-led projects are helping narrow the gap, says Lisa Mamone.

**VISION**

Vision loss accounts for 11 per cent of the Indigenous health gap, but community-led projects such as those in Victoria’s Grampians region show that narrowing the gap is achievable.

In one year, 75 per cent of Indigenous patients with diabetes had their recommended annual retinal screening in the Grampians through the existing service systems, compared with a national baseline of only 20 per cent.

Successes in the Grampians illustrate the importance of strong community-led care and state government leadership in the region. Employing a locally-based project officer was an important factor, and the project was supported by the tools and recommendations developed by the Indigenous Eye Health (IEH) group at the University of Melbourne, led by Laureate Professor Hugh R Taylor AC.

Key partners and community stakeholders came together to look at the region and identified the gaps and barriers to care. Eye services have increased, pathways to care are defined, and funding for equipment and a directory of services and providers were introduced to health care and community workers.

Mitchell Anjou, senior research fellow at IEH, described how progress in the Grampians is the result of a series of elements. The project has engaged community leaders, local and state government and service providers to assess the current level of service for the region, and determine the unmet eye care needs of the Indigenous community.

“There is a multi-faceted story to tell,” says Anjou. “Layered advocacy and a shared common goal are necessary parts of the success. You can’t achieve change locally without engagement and collaboration with community, and this needs to be supported at the state level and, of course nationally.”

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Most vision loss can be corrected overnight, for example the impact of cataract surgery is fast and life-changing

Professor Taylor

Several years ago Premier Daniel Andrews, then Victorian Health Minister, funded important initiatives including the subsidised spectacle scheme, a statewide co-ordinator for eye health based in the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, and an Aboriginal patient pathway support worker at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital. These programs continue to have bipartisan support, with eye health included in the state Koalik Bailt Aboriginal health plan.

“Eye care is important as most vision loss can be corrected overnight,” says Professor Taylor. “For example the impact of cataract surgery is fast and life-changing. To go from being blind to seeing the next day is incredible. Rates of cataract surgery are seven times less for Indigenous Australians and this is something we need to turn around. The annual eye examination for Indigenous people with diabetes is essential to prevent them from losing their sight.”

Diabetic retinopathy is one of four conditions along with refractive error (the need for glasses), cataract and trachoma that together cause 94 per cent of the vision loss for Indigenous Australians. Up to 98 per cent of the blindness from diabetes is preventable with early detection and timely treatment.

The Indigenous Eye Health group at the University developed the Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision, an evidence-based plan that is transforming Indigenous eye care across Australia. The Roadmap addresses each of the four conditions and provides a template for integrating primary care with specialist services. Real change to close the gap in eye health is possible. Effective and efficient pathways mean waiting times can be shortened and cost-effective services implemented and these results support improved engagement from both patients and health workers. The Grampians region has set itself up as an example of a successful model in community engagement and patient uptake of eye care services.
Natural and unnatural: A history of humans’ complex relationship with the animal world

Environmental historian Professor Harriet Ritvo recounts the often ambiguous relationships between the human and animal worlds through history, and explores our need to both tame and take inspiration from the wild. Presented by Dr Andi Horvath.

Dundee is Dean of the Lee Kong Chian School of Business at Singapore Management University. He was at the University of Melbourne as a guest of the Centre for Workplace Innovation.

Office for the Future: A conversation with Robert Cotton and Chris Berry

Professor Chris Berry (Kings’s College, London) and Dr Robert Cotton (University of Melbourne) discuss the future of work after a pandemic.

Innovation with purpose: Organisations creating and delivering social value

Innovation and entrepreneurship researcher Professor Gerry George looks at how organisations are able to leverage constraints to bring creative approaches to lifting and developing social well-being. Presented by Elisabeth Lopez.

The Performing Arts & War

The Performing Arts & War by Professor Barry Conyngham, Professor Mary Luckhurst, Barry Conyngham, Professor Mary Luckhurst, Professor Jane Davidson (University of Melbourne) and Dr Michael Cathcart (ABC Radio National). ANZAC Centenary Lecture

Bookings: artsandwar.eventbrite.com.au

Enquiries: joleary@unimelb.edu.au, 8344 3740

TUESDAY 29 AUGUST

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST

In Conversation: The Rothschild Prayer

Professor Jane Davidson (University of Melbourne), Barry Conyngham, Professor Mary Luckhurst, Professor Jane Davidson (University of Melbourne) and Dr Michael Cathcart (ABC Radio National). ANZAC Centenary Lecture

Bookings: artsandwar.eventbrite.com.au

Enquiries: joleary@unimelb.edu.au, 8344 3740

THEATRE A, ELISABETH MURDOCH BUILDING, PARKVILLE

MONDAY 27 AUGUST

Paradoxes of language learning in multilingual society by Professor Ryuko Kubota (University of British Columbia). Arts lecture

Bookings: alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/katykatella

Enquiries: msp@unimelb.edu.au, 8344 4530

PARCHMENT: FROM MEDIEVAL GOATS TO MODERN ARTISTS

MONDAY 22 AUGUST

The Death Penalty and the Road Ahead: A Case Study of Indonesia by Professor Tuding Mulya Lubis (University of Indonesia). Law lecture

Bookings: law.unimelb.edu.au/events-and-events

Enquiries: law-cilis@unimelb.edu.au, 8344 6847

THE DAVID P DERHAM THEATRE, MELBOURNE LAW SCHOOL, 111 BARRY STREET CARLTON

WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST

Can Renewable Energy Meet ‘Baseeload Power’? by Dr Roger Dargaville (University of Melbourne), Dr Andrew Blakers (Australian National University), Ms Nicola Falcon (Australian Energy Market Operator). Melbourne Energy Institute lecture

Bookings: ge.unimelb.edu.au/events

Enquiries: laura.porter@unimelb.edu.au, 8344 3519

CARRILLO GANTNER THEATRE, SIDNEY MYER ASIA CENTRE

TUESDAY 18 AUGUST

An update on Korea’s evolving economy by Professor Harold King (Aju University), Professor Heejin Lee (Yonsei University). Asialink lecture

Bookings: alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/calendar

Enquiries: j.dang@asialink.unimelb.edu.au, 9035 9990

YASUKO HIRAOKA MYER ROOM, SIDNEY MYER AUDITORIUM, GROUND FLOOR, MELBOURNE BRAIN CENTRE, KENNETH MYER BUILDING

FLANNERY ON HOPE

WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST 7PM

Atmosphere of Hope by Tim Flannery (author, Australian of the Year). Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute lecture

Bookings: atmosphereofhope.eventbrite.com.au

Enquiries: mssi-enquiries@unimelb.edu.au, 9035 3203

BASEMENT THEATRE 117, MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

TUESDAY 25 AUGUST

THE PERFORMING ARTS & THE ECONOMICS OF WAR

Professor Toudung Shobhaa De, and Ms Samhita Arni (author). Australia India Institute lecture

Bookings: aii.unimelb.edu.au/events/conversation-shobhaa-de

Enquiries: aii-rsvp@unimelb.edu.au, 9035 7538

THEATRE B117, MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

SINo-KOREAn FILm CONNECTIONS: A HistORy IN FRAGMENTS

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST

In Conversation: Shobhaa De, and Ms Samhita Arni (author). Australia India Institute lecture

Bookings: aii.unimelb.edu.au/events/conversation-shobhaa-de

Enquiries: aii-rsvp@unimelb.edu.au, 9035 7538

THEATRE B117, MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

Wednesday 26 August

Sino-Korean Film Connections: A History in Fragments by Professor Chris Berry (Kings’s College, London) Arts lecture

Bookings: alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/timberby

Enquiries: mps@unimelb.edu.au, 8344 2856

YASUKO HIRAOKA MYER ROOM, SIDNEY MYER ASIA CENTRE

TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

Bringing Australia’s Broadband Network into the 21st Century by Professor Emeritus Rod Tucker (University of Melbourne). Engineering lecture

Bookings: aus-broadband.eventbrite.com.au

Enquiries: events@eng.unimelb.edu.au, 9035 4065

WOODWARD CONFERENCE CENTRE, MELBOURNE LAW BUILDING, 195 PELHAM STREET, CARLTON

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

Paradoxes of language learning in multilingual society by Professor Ryuko Kubota (University of British Columbia). Arts lecture

Bookings: alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/katykatella

Enquiries: msp@unimelb.edu.au, 8344 4530

PUBLIC LECTURE THEATRE, OLD ARTS BUILDING

TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

Down the Rabbit Hole: An intimate look at Rothschild Prayer Book within a new era of art production and society by Dr Kate Challis (Designer). University Library lecture

Bookings: alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/katykatella

Enquiries: cjohnste@unimelb.edu.au, 8344 3973

TUE THEATRE A, ELISABETH MURDOCH BUILDING, PARKVILLE

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

Parchment: from Medieval goats to Tasmanian marsupials

by Ms Libby Melzer (University of Melbourne) and Dr Michael Cathcart (ABC Radio National). ANZAC Centenary Lecture

Bookings: alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/katykatella

Enquiries: msp@unimelb.edu.au, 8344 4530

MULTIFUNCTION ROOM, THE IAN POTTER MUSEUM OF ART

The University has used its best endeavours to ensure that material contained in this listing was correct at the time of release. We recommend users of this listing check the information provided with the relevant faculty or department.
Future doctors get new perspective

A medical student conference heard from American author Dan Savage, the first international speaker that has addressed the assembly. Asiel Adan Sanchez reports.

Over the past few years, the role of doctors as social advocates has become increasingly apparent. From the health of refugees and asylum seekers to mental health and bullying in the workplace and the opening of new medical schools, doctors have had to advocate for their patients, their rights and Australia’s healthcare system. A well-rounded doctor is one who takes clinical medicine as their starting point to advocate for broader health.

Earlier this year, medical students from the University of Melbourne ran the fifth MD Student Conference. With support and guidance from the Melbourne Medical School, students from all year levels worked together to craft an innovative, diverse and unique academic program. The final product was an expansive 116 sessions over four days, with more than 200 speakers for an audience of 1365 of our future doctors.

For the first time, the conference hosted an international guest, author Dan Savage. Known in America as a social commentator and activist on LGBTQI rights, Savage spoke to the MD Student Conference about lesbian, gay and transgender rights and the important role health professionals have in providing a non-judgmental approach to their patients.

The conference gives medical students the chance to hear about themes relating to health and social issues that are not always central tenets of medical training, but which nonetheless every doctor should be exposed to.

Speakers included social commentators and advocates, alongside giants of medical research such as immunologist Sir Gustav Nossal and virologist Professor Ian Gust.

The conference covered issues important to emerging doctors such as transgender health, domestic violence, gender equity, innovative e-medicine and how to lead a balanced life beyond medicine, highlighting the breadth of a medical career and the necessity for a continually evolving medical education.

At the core of the conference vision is innovative medical education. In an Australian first, medical students are given almost complete control and invaluable resources to shape part of their own medical training.

This gives medical education a fresh perspective, one that is attuned to the current societal milieu and speaks to the relevant issues which would never make it past the hurdles of any current curriculum.

The innovation of the MD student conference relies on a very simple principle: give medical students the autonomy to shape their own education. The result is a kaleidoscope of ideas which expose the complexity of the medical profession and enrich our future medical practice.

Asiel Adan Sanchez is a third year medical student at The University of Melbourne. He was an academic day convenor for The MD Student Conference, President of MDQueer LGBTQI Health Collective and LGBTQI Health Officer for the Australian Medical Students’ Association.

CONCERTMASTER SHOWCASES SPRING MUSIC FESTIVALS

Two chamber music festivals will include leading Australian players and distinguished principals from top US orchestras, writes Alix Bromley.

The Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (MCM) will host leading Australian and international artists at two large music festivals in the University of Melbourne’s Melba Hall this spring.

Frank Huang, the newly appointed concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic, will headline the Mimir Chamber Music Festival, from 31 August to 7 September, alongside principal musicians from the Houston Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient Alessio Bax and the LA-based Calla Quartet.

The MCM Cello Festival, over three days from 27 to 29 September, will feature renowned cellists Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi (Japan), Inbal Megiddo (New Zealand), Ray Wang (Hong Kong), and Howard Penny and Alvin Wong from Melbourne.

“The template for Mimir is one of chamber music immersion with a clear educational impetus,” says Dr Thompson, Head of Strings at the MCM, who founded the event in Texas in 1998. The event has been held in Melbourne since 2013.

“It is an intense period of performances, rehearsals and master classes that brings together professional musicians, students and audiences who share a love of chamber music.”

MCM string quartets will be presented in public masterclasses, demonstrations and rehearsals where they will receive intensive daily instruction from Mimir artists. The evening concerts will feature the international musicians demonstrating their craft.

Dr Alvin Wong, lecturer in cello at the MCM and artistic director of the Melbourne Cello Festival, recently moved to Melbourne from the US after receiving his doctorate from Yale University. He says the aim of the Cello Festival is to bring together cellists from Australia and the world to celebrate the power of the cello.

The opening concert features canonic cello works from the 20th Century, followed by a Beethoven marathon the next evening. The Festival concludes with the much-anticipated “Cello Xtravaganza” finale, featuring an orchestra of 100 Cellos and the world premiere of Gathering, a new work commissioned for the Festival for 24 cellos by Professor Barry Coningham.

Mimir Chamber Music Festival, 31 August-6 September, Melba Hall.
Melbourne Cello Festival, 27-29 September, Melba Hall.

http://www.mcm.unimelb.edu.au/
THEATRE

- Flight: A Festival of New Writing
  31 Jul-23 Aug
  FLIGHT is a festival of five new plays by some of Australia’s most innovative emerging playwrights, all graduates from the VCA’s Masters of Writing for Performance, led by dramaturg and writer Raimondo Cortese. Presented by Theatre Works in partnership with the VCA and in association with Footscray Community Arts Centre. Where: Theatre Works and Footscray Community Arts Centre. Admission: Full $30 / Concession $20 more ticket offers and bookings at theatreworks.org.au

EXHIBITIONS

Margaret Lawrence Gallery
40 Dodds St, Southbank
Opening hours: Tues – Sat, 12pm – 5pm
Free admission
Enquiries: 03 9035 9400 or ml-gallery@unimelb.edu.au

- Keith and Elisabeth Murdoch Travelling Fellowship
  7-15 Aug
- Majlis Travelling Scholarship
  21-29 Aug
- Proud
  4-6 Sept
- The Material Turn
  11 Sept–3 Oct

CONCERTS

- Student Gallery
  Tues – Fri, 10am – 4.30pm
  New weekly installations of student works throughout the semester
  Where: Gate 4, Dodds St, Southbank. Admission: Free
- Weekly Art Forum Series
  Thursdays, 12:30 – 1:30pm
  Featuring a guest speaker each Thursday throughout the semester, bring your lunch and join the Q & A session afterwards.
  Where: Art Auditorium, Gate 4, Dodds St, Southbank. Admission: Free.

- Monday Lunch Concerts at Melba Hall
  Free concerts on Mondays from 1.10pm to 2pm at Melba Hall, Royal Parade, Parkville.
  Monday, 3 Aug: Three Global Perspectives, Australian Context. Joel Brennan trumpet, Don Irmel trombone and Ken Murray guitar
  Monday, 10 Aug: Caroline Almonte piano Monday, 17 Aug: Tuba Quartet. Tim Buzbee, Alex Hurst, Matthew van Emmerik, & Michael Wells
  Quartet: Michaela Wellem viola, Amelia Dietrich viola, Aiden Kane viola, Karissa Zadinsky cello
  Monday, 7 Sep: Mimir Festival – The Calla Quartet. Michaela Wellem viola, Amelia Dietrich viola, Aiden Kane viola, Karissa Zadinsky cello, Alessio Bax piano
  Monday, 14 Sep: Janet Hilton, clarinet

- MCM Wind Symphony: Geelong Grammar School Band Festival Finale Concert
  Sunday 9 Aug, 2pm
  MCM Wind Symphony (Ken Cameron, Music Director) perform at Geelong Grammar School’s Band Festival with some of the region’s finest wind ensembles: Geelong Concert Band, Christian College Wind Symphony, and Launceston College Symphonic Winds.
  Where: David Darling Playhouse, Geelong Grammar School. Admission: $10 adult, school aged children free (tickets available on the day)
- Grateful: a celebration of the songs of John Bucchino
  Friday 14 Aug, 8pm
  Celebrating the 15th anniversary of John Bucchino’s much-loved songbook Grateful, students of he talents of current BFA (Music Theatre) students performing a set-list comprising John’s personal favourites from Grateful, It’s Only Life and A Catedral Affair, and with musical direction and accompaniment by the artist himself
  Where: Grant Street Theatre, Grant Street, Southbank. Admission: $20 Full / $15 Concession
- Alumni Series: Crepuscule
  Friday 14 Aug, 8pm
  Alumni Simon Charles and his collaborators take us on a fascinating micro-tonal journey in his work Crepuscule, introducing Australian audiences to a work for piano and field recordings by American composer Michael Pisaro. Supported by the Australian Government, Australia Council for the Arts
  Where: Melba Hall, Royal Parade, Parkville. Admission: Free, no bookings required
- New Music De-Mystified: Soundinitiative
  Tuesday, 25 Aug, 7pm
  Saxophonist Josh Hyde returns to the NMS with his Paris-based ensemble, to discuss and demonstrate their work and passion for new music, in an intimate setting on the Melba Hall stage.
  Where: Melba Hall, Royal Parade, Parkville. Admission: Free
- MIMIR Chamber Music Festival
  31 Aug-7 September
  This year the Mimir Chamber Music Festival, in collaboration with the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, celebrates its 18th season, bringing together an array of leading musicians from North America and Melbourne in concert.
  For festival and booking information: mcm.unimelb.edu.au/mimirfestival
- Melodramatic Guitar
  Monday, 17 Aug, 7.30pm
  Maurice Carosso guitar, Sapidah Khan narrator
  This recital explores different possibilities of monodrama/melodrama and the guitar, referring to the presence of spoken words and theatrical actions within a work of music.
  Where: Melba Hall, Royal Parade, Parkville. Admission: Free, no bookings required
- Jazz Guitar and Beyond
  Thursday 27 Aug, 7.30pm
  Geoff Hughes guitar, Tom Lee bass, Ronny Ferella drums
  Leading jazz guitarist Geoff Hughes leads this trio in a special performance of original tunes and jazz standards.
  Where: Melba Hall, Royal Parade, Parkville. Admission: Free, no bookings required

EXCHANGE

Business & Economics

In-depth analysis of leading business and economics research and practice

Exchange Magazine will be launched by the Faculty of Business and Economics on 12 August

fbe.unimelb.edu.au/exchange