

UNIVERSITY OF
WOLLONGONG



CONNECT: UOW

ISSUE 2 VOLUME 1
MARCH 2013

UNICITY

UOW'S \$2 BILLION
ECONOMIC
CONTRIBUTION
PAGES 2, 3 & 4

INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE



GLOBAL
CHALLENGES P.5



FACE TO
FACE P.6



UOWD'S NEW
PRESIDENT P.9



GSM'S RURAL
FOCUS P.12

\$2 BILLION CO

SUBLIME VISION SHINING BRIGHTLY

BY VICE-CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR PAUL WELLINGS CBE

Fifty years ago the Council of the City of Greater Wollongong published *Sublime Vision* - a coffee table book with a brief history of the city combined with an economic overview and features on the suburbs and selected major companies.

While the book is a product of its time, it successfully conveys a 1960s sense of optimism about the city and its innovative industrial base. This was a period with terrific economic momentum and a time when migrants from all over the world settled here because of the opportunities and lifestyle.

Post-secondary education features as a peripheral activity with passing references to the Technical College, the Teachers' College, and the university college of the University of New South Wales. The diversified industrial base was the main driver of the economy. This created wealth and employment opportunities irrespective of a worker's entry level skills. All this seemed enduring.

Now our regional economy has a very different shape. Our population has grown from about 142,000 in 1962 to over 292,000 by 2010. The services sector is more powerful than in the 1960s. Manufacturing has to focus on high value products. The retail experience has moved to suburban shopping centres from a concentration in the CBD as major centres of population have grown, and now new technology is re-shaping our purchasing behaviour. On top of all this about 17,000 of us travel to work in the City of Greater Sydney each day, and another 13,000 commute elsewhere.

One of the biggest transformations has been the evolution of the University of Wollongong, which grew out of that college of UNSW. It is unrecognisable compared to the institution which formally opened its Northfields Avenue campus in 1962.

A recently released study of the University's economic contribution illustrates the sheer scale of the impact of the higher education sector in Wollongong. The direct benefits of the University are estimated to exceed \$1 billion, the indirect benefits add an additional \$1 billion and the knowledge impacts are at least another \$1.3 billion.



These effects are felt elsewhere in NSW and nationally but the major consequences are here in the Illawarra.

All this suggests that the full value-added benefits to the region arising from the University's activities are approaching those of the steel industry at its peak.

In Wollongong, the University has created two iconic campuses with sophisticated infrastructure and amenities. In just the last 10 years, the proportion of the Illawarra community with a University degree has doubled. Over 100,000 students have graduated from the University. Many have been first in family to study for a degree. Others have come from all over the world to be educated here.

This year the Innovation Campus celebrates its

tenth anniversary. This location has generated industrial research links and partnerships which would not have occurred without such a high quality planned location, political commitment and local leadership. To have such a significant campus as part of a research-led university and in proximity to a major international airport has created one of Wollongong's long-term economic assets.

In recent years the University has won substantial additional capital funding in the face of steep national competition. Now we have major research centres which are global leaders in, for example, health, material sciences, sustainable construction, infrastructure development and early education. This year the University is launching a new and distinctive initiative that is focused on making a contribution towards solving key global challenges. Under the banner of "Transforming Lives and Regions", this initiative will focus initially on three themes: Manufacturing Innovation; Living Longer, Well; and Sustaining Coastal and Marine Zones.

These topics all require significant global investment and new types of partnerships. Novel research on these themes could all deliver significant dividends for the next generation of citizens in Wollongong and the Illawarra.

In 50 years Wollongong will still be here but we do need to take coherent action now if we are to underpin and enhance the liveability of the city and region beyond 2063. This challenges us to think about emergent businesses, new industries and new jobs, the skills and training of those entering the workforce, the quality of infrastructure across the region, the connections and mobility of citizens living in the super region of Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong and the sustainability of all we do.

In 1963 the Council of the City of Greater Wollongong had a sublime vision. In the period since then Australia has transformed, our economy is stronger, our jobs have changed and, for many, opportunities expanded. For Wollongong our ambition should be undimmed: A Sublime Vision still.

CONTRIBUTION

Wollongong has two billion reasons to say it is now a major university city with an economic future increasingly focused on the knowledge economy.

A University of Wollongong (UOW) study, the methodology of which was independently verified by Deloitte Access Economics, shows that UOW activities generate over \$2 billion in economic activity each year, with most occurring in Wollongong and the Illawarra region.

The study, **UOW: Leading Locally, Competing Globally**, by UOW's Centre for Small Business and Regional Research (CSBRR), examined UOW's role as an economic driving force leading Australia's ninth largest city to a diversified economic future from its previous reliance on steel manufacturing and coal mining.

The report shows that the University's activities generate almost 8000 jobs and \$607 million in household income, and contribute \$1.12 billion to Gross Domestic Product annually.

In the Illawarra, UOW-related expenditure generates 4908 jobs annually from operations, capital investment, including construction and maintenance, student expenditure including day-to-day living expenses for domestic and international students, and visitor expenditure from graduation ceremonies, conferences, tourism at UOW's Science Centre and special events.

Based on the \$298 million UOW received in Federal Government funding in 2011, the study also concludes that every \$1 in Federal Government investment in UOW, leveraged by revenues from other sources, results in \$7 in overall economic output annually.

UOW also contributes significantly to the nation's human capital development, with UOW graduates adding another \$1.34 billion to the national economy through increased wages and additional taxes.

UOW Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Wellings said the study provided compelling evidence of Wollongong's emergence as a university city.

"The steel industry underpinned the regional economy for most of the 20th century, but in the 21st century it is clear that the University of Wollongong also is a major driver of economic activity and employment opportunities in the region. The contribution of the University is still growing," Professor Wellings said.

"Interestingly, this University has its origins as a technical college established to service the steel industry. This relationship has blossomed into a world-class university essential to the longer term future of the regional economy."

Professor Wellings said that, apart from

REPORT SHOWS UOW DRIVING TRANSFORMATION



The economic contribution report's key authors Associate Professor Charles Harvie (left) and Brad Braithwaite (standing) with Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Wellings (second from left) and Executive Dean of Business Professor John Glynn.

measuring UOW's substantial current economic contribution, the report also highlighted the increasingly important role UOW will play in driving a longer term structural transformation in the economy of its home region.

"We have the expertise, capacity and global connections to help fundamentally transform this region. Our research is generating innovation and business growth opportunities, and our graduates are some of the most sought after in the marketplace," he said.

Professor Wellings points to three related factors that he believes can be leveraged to position Wollongong as a genuine participant in the global knowledge economy over the coming decades.

"Firstly, the University of Wollongong produces the second highest number of information technology graduates of any Australian university. We are developing a huge knowledge worker skills base at UOW, and we want as many of these graduates as possible to stay in Wollongong and continue enjoying the great lifestyle and beautiful natural environment, but to add a great job to that list of reasons to stay!" he said.

"Secondly, our Innovation Campus in North Wollongong represents some of the finest research and high tech infrastructure in the nation. We are attracting multi-national tenants from as far away as India," he said.

"Thirdly, add in the fact that Wollongong is one of the first major regions in Australia to benefit from the roll-out of the National Broadband Network,

and one can start to see a longer-term vision emerging for a very bright future in the global knowledge economy."

Professor Wellings said that the University is working very closely with other regional bodies to solidify the vision. "We have been partnering with Wollongong City Council, Regional Development Australia and the NSW Department of Trade and Investment on an action plan for developing a vision for a sustainable 'Innovation and Technology Ecosystem' in the Wollongong region that can be globally competitive," he said.

The centrepiece of the vision is a catalytic UOW-led project called iAccelerate, which aims to sow the seeds of a high-tech industry cluster within the region. UOW has established mentoring ties with the University of Waterloo in Canada, which has a remarkably similar history to Wollongong, to help shorten the initial learning curve.

"Waterloo has been extremely successful in developing a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation that has utterly transformed a once depressed industrial, working-class town into a vibrant city that is the information technology engine room of the Canadian economy. While Wollongong is some way off realising the lofty achievements of Waterloo, the similarities between the regions are remarkable and provide great inspiration for Wollongong as it looks to a new economic future," he said.

Continued on Page 4.

\$220 MILLION BUILDING BOOM



An architect's drawing of the \$33 million Science Teaching Facility to be built on UOW's Wollongong campus.

The University Council in February approved the release of \$220 million for capital expenditure projects over the next five years, including \$44 million for the Early Start project and a newly-announced \$33 million sciences laboratory facility.

The Science Teaching Facility will be built in airspace over the existing Ovals P7 Carpark, adjacent to the SMART Infrastructure Facility and linked to the Sciences Building. Construction is expected to start in November and be completed by December 2014. The project is being fully funded by the University.

The three-level 6100 square metres Science Teaching Facility will contain chemistry, biological sciences and earth and environmental teaching

laboratories which will be used for science, health and behavioural and engineering students.

The top floor will also contain research laboratories which will allow the University to increase its higher degree research student focus.

Late last year the University announced the \$44 million Early Start inter-disciplinary project to be based in the Faculty of Social Sciences at UOW. It is a strategic teaching, research and community engagement initiative which will deliver a new generation of graduates to work with young children aged from 0-12.

This facility comprises \$31 million in funding through the Federal Government's Education Investment Fund with the remainder made up of

a \$7 million private donation from Mr Christopher Abbott and his Abbott Foundation and \$6 million from the University itself. Early Start, to be built at the western end of the Wollongong campus, will include specialist teaching and research spaces, a Children's Discovery Centre and be the hub for Early Start Engagement Centres.

Early Start – due to open early in 2015 – will feature a three-level building with a gross floor area of 9300 square metres. The Children's Discovery Centre, expected to draw 120,000 children and their families from across Australia a year, will provide more than 2000 square metres of activity/exhibit space, outdoor exploration courtyards and discovery galleries supported by administrative and technical facilities. [BG](#)

\$2 BILLION CONTRIBUTION

Continued from Page 3.

As part of the innovation ecosystem initiative, UOW started an Entrepreneurship Club in 2011. The "e-Club" as it is known, regularly attracts up to 150 local entrepreneurs and university students, who hear from successful entrepreneurs brought in from around the world to speak about their experiences in bringing creative ideas and innovations to market.

UOW and Wollongong City Council have also joined forces to open a new facility in the Wollongong CBD called StartPad, which offers budding entrepreneurs a free structured creative environment. StartPad tenants with a winning idea and a solid business plan "graduate" to the iAccelerate business incubator at the University's Innovation Campus. [NH](#)

EXPENDITURE EFFECTS
\$2.06B

OPERATIONS
\$950M

CAPITAL INVESTMENT
\$140M

STUDENT SPENDING
\$941M

VISITOR SPENDING
\$30M



UNIVERSITIES CAN RISE TO GLOBAL CHALLENGE

BY DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH) PROFESSOR JUDY RAPER

Australian universities spend approximately \$7 billion per year on research. How often, however, do they invest in global programs that have the greatest impact on people's lives? The answer, unfortunately, is rarely due to the way research impact is currently assessed.

This issue is set to be addressed as the Federal Government is looking to create a different measure of research effectiveness in 2015 which will require universities to develop new ways of organising their resources.

Universities such as Wollongong and Melbourne are already addressing the wellbeing of our world through cross-disciplinary models designed to improve community-wide needs, such as UOW's "Transforming Lives and Regions" project, now improving innovative manufacturing and ageing and wellbeing in the Illawarra region.

Australia's share of global research outputs is over three percent and growing. The release of the Excellence of Research in Australia (ERA) outcomes late last year focused attention on the improvement of Australian research since the last assessment in 2010. At the same time there has also been much talk about the importance of "impact" and how we might measure it.

The Group of Eight (G08) and Australian Technology Network (ATN) universities released the results of their impact assessment trial in which they nominated research outputs with tangible benefits. Not surprisingly, the case studies show that Australian research can have a significant impact. What these assessments do not capture is the increasing international recognition of the importance of large-scale multidisciplinary research programs to solve the world's "grand challenges" in areas that will benefit future generations.

The way we live and interact with each other is changing at a rapid pace. Technology, for example, is now embedded in all we do from holding business meetings online to ordering groceries on our smart phones. People are enjoying easier access to their friends and family via social media

and advances in medical research have enabled us to enjoy longer, healthier lives than ever before.

Such changes to our world hold exciting possibilities and a hopeful forecast for the future. However, as our way of life alters so too do the potential issues to be faced and problems which need to be solved. The world, for example, is beginning to steer towards low carbon economies, people are living longer and our coastal environment is under increasing threat.

How will economic changes impact on manufacturing-based regions? What transformations will we need to make to ensure a longer life is also a better life for our ageing population? Is it possible to start from scratch when it comes to designing a more sustainable coastal environment?

Some universities around the world are beginning to organise their research efforts in ways designed to harness the expertise of world-class researchers to solve complex, real-world problems. The Grand Challenges Program at Princeton University, launched in 2007, is tackling three key areas of energy and climate change, eliminating poverty in Africa and global health and infectious disease. Warwick and University College London have distinctive initiatives under way in the UK.

Here in Australia we are following their lead with the Universities of Melbourne and Wollongong announcing Grand Challenge and Global Challenge programs respectively, with Wollongong's program organised under the unifying theme of "Transforming Lives and Regions".

An example from the private sector is the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which supports research in global health, development and policy. The Foundation has provided total grants of \$25 billion for projects such as the development of new vaccines, new crops and farming practices in the Third World. All these grants are awarded to teams of researchers collaborating across disciplines.

Bringing researchers from a variety of disciplines together with business, government and community partners to work on the biggest challenges facing Australia and the rest of the

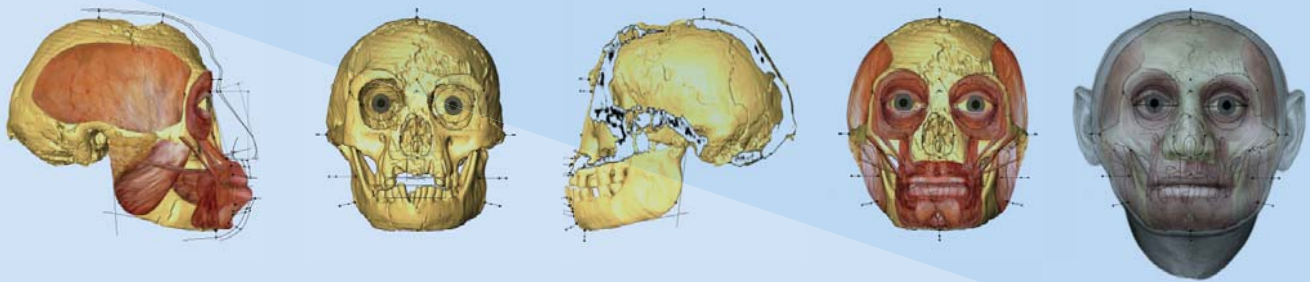
"Bringing researchers from a variety of disciplines together with business, government and community partners to work on the biggest challenges facing Australia and the rest of the world ..."

world, can capitalise on the basic research currently being undertaken by university teams and their partners. Collaborations should be aimed at encouraging and developing creative and community-engaged research that will help to drive social, economic and cultural changes, not just locally, but across the globe.

These Global Challenge programs have some common characteristics. They combine the excellence of investigator-driven, disciplinary research on which much of ERA is focussed, with the importance and benefits of contributing to real-world problems. That is what impact is all about. Not only will research outcomes be improved, but the fundamental objective is to benefit the public. After all, isn't that why universities exist?

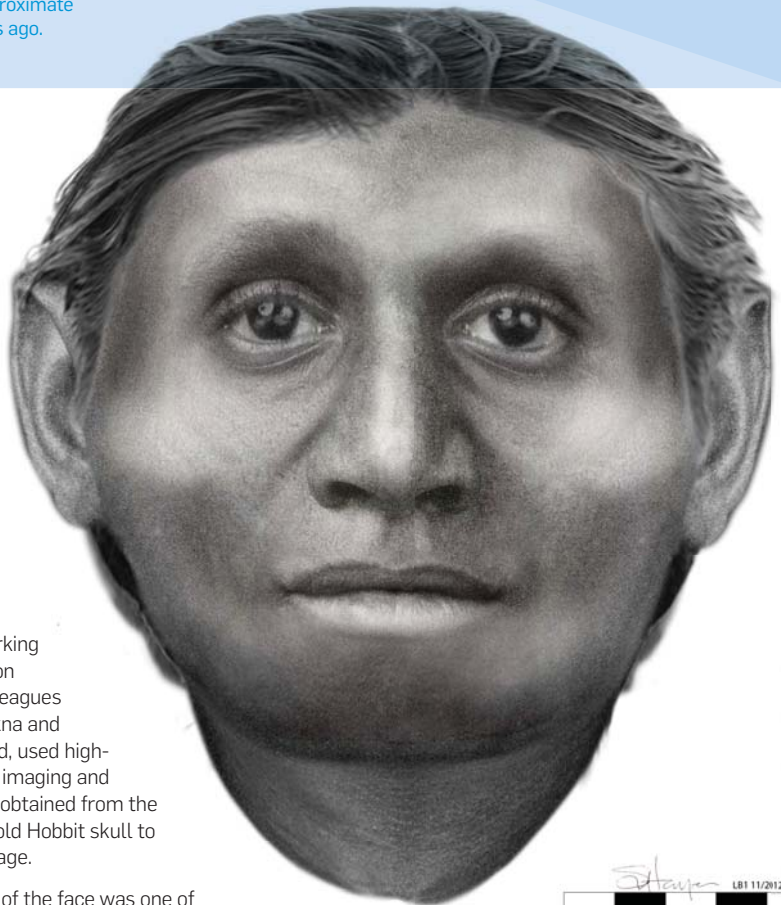
For university research to make a real impact and benefit future generations, opportunities must be created to cross research boundaries through multidisciplinary collaboration and ideas need to be shared through local, national and international research partnerships. Governments and funding agencies must find ways to properly assess their quality and tie more funding to community or industry outcomes so that future generations can reap the benefits.

If this is achieved, Australian universities can truly play a significant role in changing our world for the better.



Facial anthropologist Dr Susan Hayes has applied forensic and archaeological science to the skull of *Homo floresiensis* to approximate how the small hominin may have looked around 18,000+ years ago.

FACE TO FACE WITH THE HOBBIT



UOW facial anthropologist Dr Susan Hayes has used archaeological and forensic facial approximation techniques to show how the mysterious *Homo floresiensis* (popularly known as the "Hobbit") might have once looked.

Using evidence-based methods she has previously applied to forensic cases, Dr Hayes, a Research Fellow at UOW's Centre for Archaeological Science (CAS), crafted virtual muscle, fat and skin around a model of the Hobbit's skull to flesh out her face.

Dr Hayes, working in collaboration with CAS colleagues Thomas Sutikna and Mike Morwood, used high-resolution 3D imaging and CT scan data obtained from the 18,000-year-old Hobbit skull to create the image.

The unveiling of the face was one of the features of the Australian Archaeological Association Conference hosted by CAS in Wollongong last December. The conference attracted more than 400 delegates from Australia and overseas.

"She's not what you'd call pretty, but she is definitely distinctive," Dr Hayes said. "She doesn't have a chin, and there isn't much of a forehead, so she's not what you'd call hyper-feminine."

Dr Hayes described the facial approximation as an extraordinary challenge working on an archaic hominin.

"She took me a bit longer than I'd anticipated and caused more than a few headaches along the way, but I'm pleased with both the methodological development and the final results," she said

Homo floresiensis was discovered by Indonesian and Australian archaeologists, including UOW archaeological scientists, on the Indonesian island of Flores in 2003. The discovery of this previously unknown species of small hominin was hailed as one of the most significant recent discoveries in

human evolution when it was announced in 2004.

It is now a feature of a new permanent display in the Sciences Building at UOW (see separate story on opposite page).

Dr Hayes has a background in forensic as well as archaeological science and in late 2011 worked at the request of Sydney Homicide on the remains of a young woman found in Belanglo State Forest in the NSW Southern Highlands.

As a precursor to the AAA conference in December, Dr Hayes conducted fun and interactive 3D and 2D workshops in evidence-based facial approximation – which involves creating the likely facial appearance of a deceased person based on known relations between the skull and its soft tissues.

"In the media it's often called 'facial reconstruction', but because I'm evidence-based and work in archaeological science, we prefer the term 'facial approximation'," Dr Hayes said. [NH](#)



Facial anthropologist Dr Susan Hayes.



Pictured at the opening of the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences display (from left): Professor Bert Roberts, ARKENAS Deputy Director E. Wahyu Saptomo, Professor Mike Morwood and ARKENAS Director Dr Bambang Sulistyanto.

DISPLAY CELEBRATES EXCITING SCIENCE

Indonesian National Centre for Archaeology (ARKENAS) Director Dr Bambang Sulistyanto and Deputy Director E. Wahyu Saptomo were special guests at University of Wollongong in February for the launch of an archaeological exhibition featuring *Homo floresiensis* (the "Hobbit").

The permanent display, which features the research and teaching areas of the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, is in the ground floor foyer of the Sciences Building (41), next to the Howard Warner Collection of rare minerals.

The display includes a full-scale skeletal replica of the "Hobbit", as well as stone artefacts and a facial approximation revealing what she would have looked like.

UOW researchers Professor Mike Morwood and Professor Bert Roberts were key members of ARKENAS-led team that in 2003 discovered *Homo floresiensis* – a previously unknown species of tiny humans on the Indonesian island of Flores that had co-existed with modern humans until relatively recently.

Professor Morwood and Professor R.P Soejono from ARKENAS led the excavation team digging in limestone caves in Flores, where team member Mr Saptomo exhumed the skeleton of the one-metre tall female that helped change scientific thinking about the development of the human "family tree". The team subsequently found skeletal remains of another 13 individuals.

Professor Roberts, an internationally renowned geochronologist, led the team of dating experts who used the latest luminescence technology to show that the skeleton was around 18,000 years old.

UOW Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Wellings welcomed Dr Sulistyanto and Mr Saptomo, and acknowledged the international collaboration between Australian and Indonesian scientists at UOW and ARKENAS that had led to "one of the outstanding discoveries in palaeoanthropology in the past half century".

"We are celebrating the opening of this new permanent display which provides tangible evidence that science is very exciting," Professor Wellings said. "We greatly value international research partnerships, particularly in tackling the big questions of science ... and this is an outstanding example."

Professor Roberts said UOW's collaboration with ARKENAS, which had begun in 2001, was continuing in Flores and in other parts of Indonesia including Sulawesi. "It is a collaboration on all levels, not just a matter of ARKENAS issuing us with permits to work in Indonesia," Professor Roberts said. "ARKENAS archaeologists work side by side with us as diggers in the field and in many other ways."

Professor Wellings said the new display demonstrated three things: the excitement of cutting edge science, the complexity of running major (scientific) investigations, and the intellectual rigour of the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

Dean of Science Professor Will Price acknowledged the work that the School's staff, led by Curator Penny Williamson, had put into the display which he described as "an extremely valuable collection that will stand the University in good stead for many years to come". [NH](#)

BUSINESS SCHOOL'S RANKINGS BOOST

The University of Wollongong's Sydney Business School is celebrating the release of two new international rankings that confirm its position among Australia's leading business schools.

The London-based International Graduate Forum (IGF) has ranked the Sydney Business School's Master of Business Administration degree number one in Australia in its new rankings published in CEO magazine.

And the new international QS ranking system for business schools, called QS Business School Stars, has given the Sydney Business School a four-star ranking.

Sydney Business School Business Manager Sue Mathews said the awards were a pleasing confirmation of the Sydney Business School's international standard.

"As well as these latest rankings, we have again been ranked in the top 200 business schools in the world, coming in at number 13 in the Emerging Global: Asia Pacific category," Ms Mathews said.

"We have also been ranked at 43 in the world for Corporate Social Responsibility and 48 in the world for international management and 50th in the world for marketing in the 2012-13 QS Global 200 Business Schools report."

The QS Business School Star ranking system is designed to allow prospective students to compare business schools across seven criteria, which are ranked from zero to five: teaching and student quality; employability; research; internationalisation and diversity; facilities; engagement; and the MBA course. The Sydney Business School scored the maximum five stars for two categories, facilities and internationalisation and diversity.

The IGF ranking is a new global ranking of MBAs for prospective students, based on a number of criteria that students look for such as class sizes and teaching quality. [NH](#)

TEAM UOW CARRIES AUST FLAME

Students from UOW and TAFE Illawarra Institute are hoping the Illawarra Flame, a net-zero energy, solar-powered house designed by the group, will burn off the competition at the Solar Decathlon China event in August.

The students, known as Team UOW Australia, are the first Australians ever to be selected for the Solar Decathlon, the world's most prestigious interdisciplinary student-led green building research and innovation competition.

The Decathlon, held in Datong, China, challenges teams to design, build and operate an advanced and appealing solar-powered house that is not only energy efficient but also cost effective to build.

Team UOW's entry is unique. Rather than designing and building a new home, the students are the first team to demonstrate the retrofitting of an existing home. Project Manager Lloyd Niccol said that Illawarra Flame provides an example of how the Australian housing sector can address issues of environmental degradation and growing electricity costs through the application of innovative technologies and creative thinking.

"Since only 1-2 per cent of Australia's housing stock is replaced each year, improving the performance of our existing buildings provides the greatest potential for immediate environmental improvement," he said.

The retrofitting concept will see the team demonstrate the transformation of an old Aussie 'fibro' house to a sustainable, net-zero energy home for the future.

"We are looking into how we can adapt our houses with new and existing technologies, such as photovoltaic thermal systems and water filtration systems, to provide the housing sector with examples of how we can future-fit our houses for a more environmentally conscious future," Mr Niccol said.

GLOBAL SOLAR CHALLENGE



An artist's impression of the Illawarra Flame house for the 2013 Solar Decathlon event in China.



Pictured with the Team UOW Australia members for the 2013 Solar decathlon event in China are (from, from left) Sustainable Buildings Research Centre head Professor Paul Cooper, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Judy Raper and Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Wellings.

Eleven members of Team UOW recently attended the China International Solar Energy Summit and the SD China 2013 Design Development and Review Workshop in Datong.

Mr Niccol said it was exciting to see where the team's house will be built and that the site where the decathlon will take place is bigger than the Beijing Olympic Park.

"The design review workshops were valuable as we can now refine our plans and begin construction soon," he said.

Team UOW has begun construction of the Illawarra Flame at the TAFE Illawarra campus. It will be on public display at the Innovation Campus for a week from 22 April.

The house will then be packed up and shipped to Datong in June. The students will then reassemble the house over a 10-day period, ready to compete against leading university teams from around the world in front of many thousands of visitors.

The Solar Decathlon China 2013 will be hosted by the Chinese National Energy Administration and the US Department of Energy. The competition is organised by Peking University and supported by private companies.

To track Team UOW's progress and for further information visit the Illawarra Flame at the team's website illawarraflame.com.au **JB**



GRANGE JOINS ANU

Vice-Principal (Administration) Chris Grange is leaving the University of Wollongong in April to take up the position of Executive Director (Administration and Planning) at the Australian National University in Canberra.

Mr Grange has held the position of

Vice-Principal (Administration) for the past eight years after previous appointments in both Financial Services and Human Resources spanning a total of 25 years.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Wellings paid tribute to Mr Grange's contribution to UOW over a quarter of a century. "During his career at UOW, Chris has been one of the driving forces in establishing our global reputation and has championed many major projects," Professor Wellings said.

"In addition, he has been responsible for many of our standards, especially around the University's governance and management structure."

Mr Grange played a leading role in the development of the Innovation Campus and the SMART Infrastructure Facility, among many major projects at UOW.

Mr Grange's predecessor David Rome has agreed to fill the position in an interim capacity while an international search for a permanent replacement is undertaken. **NH**

POSTCARD FROM DUBAI

The University of Wollongong in Dubai (UOWD) has been operating since 1993 and is now one of the most prestigious educational institutions in the United Arab Emirates. UOWD currently has an enrolment of approximately 3650 students undertaking undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Business, Finance, Computer Science, Engineering, International Studies and Media & Communications at its campus in Dubai's Knowledge Village.



SPEDDING TAKES OVER AS PRESIDENT

Professor Trevor Spedding took over as President of the University of Wollongong in Dubai (UOWD) on 10 March.

Professor Spedding joined UOWD from the University of Wollongong in Australia (UOW), where he was Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, the largest academic division of the University.

Having been with UOW since 2005, Professor Spedding has worked alongside UOWD colleagues for many years, and brings considerable international experience in education, through his work in universities across the United Kingdom, Singapore and Australia.

UOWD welcomed its new President at the beginning of a momentous year for the University, as 2013 marks the 20th anniversary of the institution's establishment in Dubai. During the past 20 years, UOWD has enjoyed significant growth, now offering 25 accredited degree programs, hosting 3500 students and supporting a network of 6000 alumni across the Middle East and beyond.

"I am delighted to be joining UOWD at such an exciting time for the institution. I have been working with the University for a number of years and have always been impressed by the dynamic outlook and professional approach of everyone involved with UOWD," Professor Spedding said.

"It is an exciting opportunity for me to work in a truly diverse, multicultural environment, with an organisation that offers huge potential for growth. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to lead the University into its next phase and look forward to working with all UOWD staff and stakeholders to further extend our contribution to the region's growing knowledge economy."

Professor Spedding is a highly respected academic with strong business credentials, a track record in leadership and a commitment to the university student experience. Prior to joining UOW, he spent a decade at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in Singapore, during which time the University developed

from a fledgling institute of the National University of Singapore to an independent world class institution, ranked in the top 50 universities in the world.

In 2000 he was appointed the inaugural Medway Chair of Manufacturing Systems at the University of Greenwich in the UK. During his time at Greenwich he developed initiatives that resulted in the growth of masters and PhD students, short courses and workshops, and generated significant funding from the UK Government and the European Union.



● Professor Trevor Spedding.

In 2005 Professor Spedding was appointed Head of the School of Management and Marketing and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Commerce at UOW. He was subsequently appointed Dean of the Faculty in 2010. During this period the Faculty saw significant growth in student numbers and achieved a ranking in the top band for teaching and research activities.

As a management specialist, particularly in the engineering and manufacturing sectors, Professor Spedding has also worked as a consultant, conducting short courses for leading companies in the United Kingdom, Europe, the United States and South East Asia. His research interests include systems simulation, operations management, quality management and corporate social responsibility.

MARKING 20TH ANNIVERSARY

University of Wollongong in Dubai (UOWD) is heralding the start of its 20th anniversary celebrations through a new website and expansion of its library.

The revamped website has been launched after a six-month review and planning exercise.

"The new website is much more user-friendly and is better aligned to that of the University of Wollongong In Australia," said UOWD Marketing and Student Recruitment Director Peter Hawke. "It ties in well with our 20th anniversary celebrations and we've already had overwhelmingly positive feedback from users."

UOWD's library, already one of the largest among private universities in the United Arab Emirates, has been expanded by 33 percent.

A key addition is extra space and special rooms for postgraduate students in the Doctor of Business Administration and Doctor of Philosophy programs.

KOREAN DELEGATION

A high-level delegation from the Korean Prime Minister's Office recently visited UOWD to study the University's academic and financial model in connection with the implementation of Korea's Global Education City which is being built on the island of Jeju.

The four-member delegation met senior UOWD executives, including the then President Professor Ghassan Aouad, who outlined how the University had succeeded in becoming one of the most prestigious institutions of higher learning in the Gulf region.

"The University of Wollongong in Dubai was the first foreign university to be established in the UAE, as part of the government's vision to turn the country into an education and knowledge hub," Professor Ghassan told the Korean delegation. "The University has succeeded in establishing a fine balance between maintaining the quality standards set by the parent university and tailoring the programs to the local needs and environment."

The visit was facilitated by the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Dubai.

JOHN STEINKE

As a city of immigrants, Wollongong has many adopted sons and daughters who have contributed to the city and the Illawarra region.

However, few have made a more significant contribution than John Steinke, who died on 27 December 2012, aged 81.

John came to Wollongong in early 1964 from the United States to start the Commerce course at the Wollongong University College. He was an economist - the first academic from a non-engineering or science background recruited for what had up until then been essentially a training college for steel industry technical staff.

As an academic, John played a key role in the University of Wollongong's transformation from an outpost of the University of NSW offering technical courses, to a proudly autonomous institution with a comprehensive range of faculties and courses.

Indeed, he was key member of a small group in the 1960s who led the fight for autonomy, against entrenched opposition from UNSW and many Wollongong staff.

As an economist with a background in regional development, John also spent more than 40 years serving on a variety of regional development boards. He was the founding chairman of the Illawarra Regional Information Service (IRIS), a position he was to hold for 15 years. While he "retired" from IRIS in 2006 he continued to attend IRIS board meetings, offering his wise counsel and experience.

One of his first research projects in Wollongong – a report on female unemployment in the region in the mid-1960s – exposed a massive problem and led directly to the NSW Government establishing a development fund that made loans available to



John Steinke, pictured at UOW in 2011
(Photo courtesy of Kirk Gilmour/
Illawarra Mercury)

companies that would agree to employ mostly women. At least 15 firms were established, mainly in the footwear and clothing industries, and more than 1500 women gained employment in that era.

Generations of Wollongong families from the 1960s through to recent years when the last of those factories closed, owed their prosperity to that initiative.

John loved serving the community, and even flirted with the idea of a political career. When Whitlam Government Minister Rex Connor died in 1977, John contested Labor Party pre-selection for Connor's federal seat of Cunningham.

Stewart West prevailed, but John, while disappointed, had few regrets. Instead, he devoted himself to helping the University achieve the potential he knew it had, and helping generations of students realise their personal potential.

He also provided authoritative economic analysis that helped the region benefit from major government grants, such as the Steel Industry Assistance Fund after the massive downturn and job losses in the region's steel industry in the early 1980s.

When UOW re-organised its academic management in 1986, John was appointed the inaugural Dean of Commerce.

Emeritus Vice-Chancellor Professor Gerard Sutton said Mr Steinke had played a key role in the amalgamation of UOW and the Wollongong Institute of Education (teachers college) in 1982, and also helped recruit UOW's first international students in the late 1980s. He also served on landscaping committees that were responsible for establishing the native bushland environment on the campus.

When I began researching and writing *REGIONAL ICON, GLOBAL ACHIEVER*, a book on UOW's history to mark its 60th anniversary in 2011, John Steinke was the first person I called on for an insight into the forces and personalities that had shaped the University.

I knew he had an encyclopaedic memory, but was astonished not only at how much he remembered, but the minute detail. He could even tell me the names of the four students in his first Commerce class in 1964.

Consequently, he was able to flesh out many of the pivotal moments in UOW's past, greatly enriching the book with anecdotes and details.

UOW honoured John by making him a Fellow of the University in 1994 in recognition of 30 years of devoted service. He is survived by Nicole, Aden and Eve and two grandchildren. [NH](#)

DR BERT FLUGELMAN

Internationally renowned artist and former UOW lecturer Dr Herbert (Bert) Flugelman died on 26 February, aged 90.

Dr Flugelman has long been considered one of Australia's finest sculptors, with many major works on display in public places around Australia including the Sydney CBD, Adelaide's Rundle Street Mall and in the sculpture garden at the National Gallery in Canberra.

His celebrated Winged Figure – Lawrence Hargrave Memorial at the base of Mt Keira celebrates the history of flight in the Illawarra while his Spiral and Wave sculpture is located outside the Wollongong City Gallery in Burelli St, Wollongong.



Dr Bert Flugelman,
pictured in 2008.

Dr Flugelman's acclaimed stainless steel Wave – Gateway to Mt Keira sculpture is just one of the distinctive symbols of his work on the UOW grounds, while his 1985 Archibald Prize-winning portrait painted by his friend and colleague Guy Warren hangs in the UOW Library.

Dr Flugelman joined UOW in 1984 as Senior Lecturer with the then School of Creative Arts.

In 1991 Dr Flugelman was made a Professorial

Fellow of the University in recognition of his outstanding contribution, and was admitted to the Degree of Doctor of Creative Arts (Honoris Causa) in 1995.

In 2008 Emeritus Professor Peter Pinson, who completed his PhD in Creative Arts at UOW in 1988, published a book on Dr Flugelman's career, *Flugelman: On further reflection* (Watermark Press). Professor Pinson described Dr Flugelman as "Australia's best senior generation contemporary sculptor" who had been "a dynamic figure in the Australian sculpture scene since the 1960s."

His legacy lives on at UOW, where three of his former students, Derek Kreckler, Jacky Redgate and Penny Harris are now senior visual arts lecturers.

Executive Dean of the Faculty of Law, Humanities and the Arts Professor Amanda Lawson told the *Illawarra Mercury*: "It really is a great loss, but a great opportunity to reflect on what he did bring to us. We were very happy to have seen him (Dr Flugelman) on the campus several times in the last year. He always had that twinkle in his eye (and) was just such a wonderfully kind, humorous and intelligent person".

PROFESSOR JOHN HOGG OAM

Emeritus Professor John Hogg had mixed emotions when he watched the first cohort of medical students graduate in 2010 from the course he helped establish. As Foundation Dean of UOW's Graduate School of Medicine (GSM), he understandably felt great pride in watching those graduates receive their degrees and head out into the world to begin their medical careers.

He later recounted that he also had felt profoundly grateful that the University had enlisted his help to start the medical school.

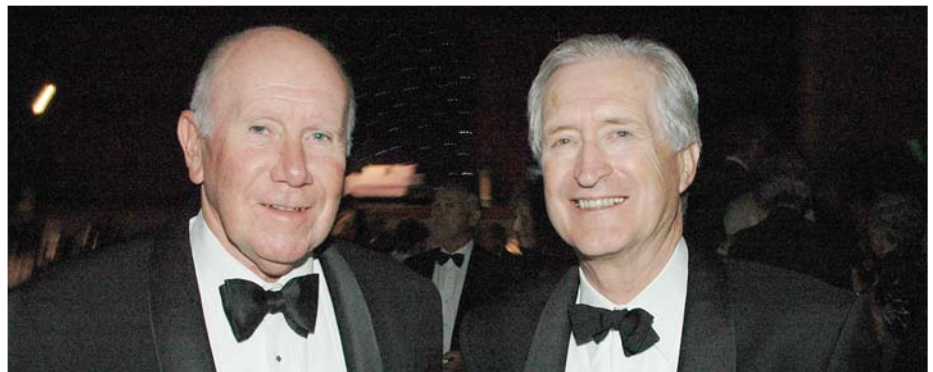
Many at the University thought it should have been the other way around. After all, the University, and the medical students, owed John Hogg a huge debt of gratitude because without him the school may never have gone from vision to reality.

Yet Professor Hogg saw it very differently. When I interviewed him for the UOW's 60th anniversary history book, he said that first graduation ceremony in 2010 was a wonderful affirmation of his decision to leave his surgical career in favour of the GSM.

"What an opportunity I was given! How many doctors are lucky enough to be given the chance to help start a medical school from scratch," he said. "I felt an enormous sense of pride and achievement seeing those first students graduating. Some of them were sons and daughters of Wollongong medicos ... my friends and colleagues."

Professor Hogg, a renowned vascular and general surgeon before he joined UOW, died on 1 March after a short illness.

The University Council at its February meeting had agreed to confer an Honorary Doctorate on Professor Hogg to acknowledge his contribution, and this will now be presented posthumously.



Emeritus Professor John Hogg (right) with his close friend and medical colleague, UOW Deputy Chancellor Dr Stephen Andersen, pictured at a tribute dinner for Professor Hogg when he retired from the University in 2008.

Professor Hogg had joined UOW in 2004 as Foundation Dean of the GSM, working closely with Professors Don Iverson and Lori Lockyer to develop the school's innovative curriculum and unique community-based model.

At the time he was clinical director of surgery at Wollongong, Shellharbour and Bulli hospitals and chair of the Medical Staff Council of the Northern Illawarra Hospitals Group.

In a tribute to his friend and former colleague Professor Iverson, UOW's Pro Vice-Chancellor (Health), said: "The Medical School wouldn't have happened without John Hogg. He gave up his career as a successful surgeon to join us and help push for a medical school."

"John gave us credibility with the local medical fraternity. We were asking a lot of him – a successful practising surgeon – to virtually give up his career. But he agreed, and he instantly gave the project credibility," Professor Iverson said.

"John delivered the support of the region's medical specialists, and he and (Illawarra Division of General Practice CEO) Dr Andrew Dalley delivered the general practice doctors. And John drove around

the state telling doctors about our vision for training rural doctors, and recruiting them to our clinical training program. John gave up his career as a surgeon, but he created a wonderful legacy because without him we would never have been in a position to even seek Australian Medical Council accreditation and so the medical school wouldn't exist."

Professor Hogg and wife Linda, a physiotherapist, were in Bali at the time of the 2002 terrorist bombings and chose to abandon their holiday and reported to the local hospital to help treat the horrific injuries of the blast victims. For their work in Bali both were awarded Order of Australia Medals, while Professor Hogg was also named Wollongong Citizen of the Year in January 2003.

Professor Hogg is survived by Linda, children Genevieve, Sophie, James and Katie and his grandchildren. [NH](#)

A memorial service for Professor Hogg will be held in the University Hall on Saturday, 6 April at 2pm. Please email vc_rsvp@uow.edu.au if you would like to attend.

UOW Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Wellings said: "Bert's work has influenced generations of artists. He was not only an artist of the highest calibre but also a highly regarded teacher who was unstinting with his practical help, guidance and inspiration to students. The University is truly indebted to the legacy of this great artist. Our thoughts are with his family, friends and colleagues at this time."

Emeritus Professor Diana Wood Conroy spoke on behalf of UOW at Dr Flugelman's funeral, where Federal School Education, Early Childhood and Youth Minister Peter Garrett gave the eulogy.

Dr Flugelman is survived by his wife Rosemary, his children Kim, Kerry, Kay and Eli, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. [NH](#)



Dr Bert Flugelman, with his Wave – Gateway to Mt Keira sculpture in 1986. It has become a campus landmark.

GSM'S RURAL INTAKE CLOSE TO 70 PERCENT

More rural students study medicine at the University of Wollongong than any other medical school in the state, with the 2013 intake boasting almost 70 per cent of country students in its cohort.

Graduate School of Medicine (GSM) Dean Professor Alison Jones said the figure was testimony to the School's growing reputation as a leader in medical education and for its rural training program.

"Across Australia the average rural enrolment for medical schools is around 25 per cent," Professor Jones said.

"We deliver a program that is recognised for its educational excellence as well as its strong focus on immersing our students in medical practice within regional and rural communities.

"This year almost 1300 applicants were vying for 86 places in our program and I think this reflects the impact we are having on the national medical education landscape."

Professor Jones said the academic performance of applicants applying to study medicine at UOW was also

increasing, with this year's applicant base having a distinction average in their undergraduate degrees and scoring in the top 10 per cent of the Graduate Australian Medical Schools Admissions Test (GAMSAT).

"The students selected to study at the University of Wollongong this year are the cream of a very good crop," Professor Jones said.

"Our students come from a range of backgrounds and have a vast number of life experiences. We are the only medical school in Australia whose admissions process looks equally at outstanding academic achievement, along with a proven commitment to rural and regional communities and active community engagement.

"What we are looking for are students who not only have outstanding academic skills but the personal qualities to become an excellent doctor."

Professor Jones said the success of the program was also meeting the GSM's goal of addressing the shortage of healthcare professionals in rural Australia. [AE](#)



Dean of Medicine
Professor Alison Jones

ACADEMY FOR CLINICIANS

More than 65 doctors, nurses and academics from across NSW attended the February launch of the University of Wollongong's Academy of Clinicians.

The Academy, an initiative of UOW's Graduate School of Medicine, will offer professional and personal development opportunities for clinicians working across all healthcare settings, from primary and community care to tertiary specialists.

GSM Dean Professor Alison Jones said the Academy would fill a critical gap in the educational offerings available to the state's regional and rural health professionals.

"The emphasis here is on

equipping our clinicians for the future by providing quality clinical education, professional development opportunities and an understanding of academic medicine through teaching and research," Professor Jones said.

The Academy of Clinicians was developed by the GSM with input of partners including the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District, Illawarra Medicare Local and local private hospitals.

Training will be delivered through online offerings, short courses available in the mornings, afternoons and evenings with occasional whole-day sessions. Sessions will be delivered by senior lecturers from across all UOW faculties as well as respected leaders within the broader health sector. [AE](#)

CHANDLER APPOINTED PV-C



Professor Paul Chandler

The University Council has approved the establishment of a new part-time senior executive role – Pro Vice-Chancellor (Inclusion and Outreach).

Former Dean of Education Professor Paul Chandler has been appointed to the new position, alongside his responsibilities as Executive Director of the Early Start Program.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Wellings said social inclusion and community outreach activities were firmly in the University's sights and highlighted in UOW's new Strategic Plan. "The new Pro Vice-Chancellor

will play a key role in embedding the University's social inclusion framework and advancing social and cultural change in education in our region," Professor Wellings said.

The PV-C will provide organisation-wide oversight of the University's strategies and programs to widen access and participation. The role will also monitor the performance of students from lower socio-economic and disadvantaged backgrounds and ensure that appropriate services and resources are in place to support their academic success. [NH](#)

CONNECT: UOW

is produced by the Media Unit.

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CRICOS Provider No: 00102E
ISSN 0312-2018