



Nicholson, the cartoonist for *The Australian*, pictured the Asian economic crisis in a perceptive cartoon in October 1997. The money markets, riding on a tiger hunt in a howdah on the back of an elephant, are shooting the Asian tigers. Australia, illustrated as a kangaroo, holds a sign with the words 'Not an Asian tiger'. We are regularly reminded that Australia weathered the Asian economic crisis without significant recession. Fortunately for Australia, so did an Asian tiger, Taiwan, a significant trading partner of ours. In 1998 the two-way trade between Australia and Taiwan was worth \$7.21 billion, and the Taiwan GDP has been growing at a rate over four percent for the past two years.

But it wasn't a tiger hunt that put Taiwan in the headlines recently—Taiwanese live with other threats: the danger from earthquakes and the threat of invasion. We have seen on television the devastation caused by the recent earthquake in central Taiwan and, during the September visit of Chinese President Jiang Zemin to Australia, we were reminded of the threat of invasion from China. For a nation which has much in common with Australia it is sobering to think that its political independence is under real threat.

Taiwan is an island state with a democratically elected government. It

has a small but prosperous population in comparison with neighbouring states. Its expanding, high-tech industry is the third biggest in the world, after the US and Japan. It has a developing biotechnology sector with links to Australian institutions. Taiwan is dependent on exports. It has high literacy levels, which reflect an excellent education system. The differences between our two countries are also marked. Taiwan has a small land mass with a population of 21.9 million. From Taipei the capital city in the north to Kaohsiung on the southern tip of the island, the coastal region is densely urbanised and industrialised, physically reminiscent of conurbations in Europe.

On a visit to Taiwan earlier this year I was generously hosted by former students and had opportunities to talk with colleagues in universities, education centres and schools. I was particularly impressed with the investment in public education. A colleague pointed out that Taiwan's response to the Asian economic crisis was to invest in education. I saw a new university under construction. I was shown over a new primary school with facilities surpassing any I have seen in Australia. I participated in teacher professional development programs, in which teachers received

useful resources and strategy training for teaching new curricula. The locally produced multi-media resources for teaching

English were practical, attractive and diverse. In addition to attending public schools many children go to cram schools for private, after hours tuition.

I was briefed on Taiwan's plan for the introduction of English teaching in elementary schools and was able to compare the languages planning strategy with that in Australia. Since the mid-eighties Australian education authorities have introduced policies for the expansion of the teaching of languages other than English in schools. The implementation of the policies has been undermined by the lack of highly proficient teachers in languages other than English. By comparison the Taiwan education authority has systematically planned for the expansion of the teaching of English first through the selection of teachers with high levels of English language proficiency and then through specifically tailored teacher training programs.

I had been invited to Taiwan as the international keynote speaker at the Sixteenth National Conference on English Teaching and Learning so language education was of particular

interest to me. The comprehensive conference program with research reports on issues of international concern in applied linguistics reflected the international orientation in education generally. Colleagues described the financial and career incentives for graduate students to study for higher degrees overseas. I met many people in universities and schools who had higher degrees from the USA. Three-quarters of the Cabinet members in the Taiwan parliament have PhDs. It became apparent that the established links with tertiary institutions in the USA attracted students there. In contrast very few people were aware of study opportunities in Australia.

As Australians prepare for a constitutional vote, the republic of T



Cerebral Palsy consensus overturns tradition

ADELAIDE RESEARCHERS have led an international task force to reach a consensus on the causes of Cerebral Palsy. And the conclusion overturns the traditional belief that the irreversible condition is caused by oxygen deprivation at birth.

The task force, chaired by Associate Professor Alastair MacLennan, in the University of Adelaide's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, has been published in the *British Medical Journal*.

Dr MacLennan believes the consensus statement, reached after two years of discussion involving specialists across the world, should open the way for new research into the early diagnosis and potential treatment of Cerebral Palsy.

He said the group's consensus was that Cerebral Palsy almost always

developed during pregnancy or after birth in some very premature infants. The group has also developed a template of objective scientific evidence required to identify those few cases of Cerebral Palsy that are associated with oxygen deprivation beginning in labour or at birth.

He said the consensus was also designed to end inappropriate and damaging litigation, which had led to a prohibitive increase in medical indemnity insurance and may have contributed to the closure of some maternity hospitals.

The task force invited opinion from experts in Cerebral Palsy causation from around the world and its final statement has been endorsed by a large number of International Colleges and Scientific Societies.

Cerebral Palsy affects 650 new babies in Australia each year at a rate which

has not changed significantly over the past 40 years, despite massive improvements in birthing conditions and procedures.

Dr MacLennan said the brain damage which caused Cerebral Palsy most often occurred "silently" during pregnancy due to several causes, including a compression of the umbilical cord, intrauterine infection and congenital clotting disorders in the fetus.

"When both infection and clotting disorders are present, the unborn baby is especially at risk of abnormal clotting occurring in the arteries to its brain, and a type of 'fetal stroke' may develop," he said.

"Thus established and currently irreversible brain damage may not be recognised until monitoring in labour, or until after birth when the baby is unwell.

"Previously these signs of fetal distress in labour were assumed to have begun then, and attempts to deliver the baby in time, or in good condition, were unsuccessful, sometimes leading to inappropriate recrimination and expensive civil litigation."

He said litigation had had a major detrimental effect on modern obstetric practice and services in Australia, however it had also inhibited research during pregnancy—the time at which most cases of Cerebral Palsy are now recognised to begin.

"We can now move to the antenatal detection of the causes of Cerebral Palsy and their eventual prevention," he said.

The Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand funded the international task force.

—David Washington

Reversing the 'brain drain'

POSTDOCTORAL researcher Dr Dan Pe

Award-winner warns of parasite complacency

From Page 1

Dr Andrews said he was humbled by the award of the Bancroft-Mackerras medal, which is named in honour of four eminent Australian parasitologists.

"It's a very big honour, particularly in the context of the outstanding people who've been awarded this medal previously.

"The main reason my research program here in Adelaide has been so successful is not due to one person, it's because it's underpinned by my personnel and a professional team-based philosophy. It is indeed an honour and pleasure to share this medal with the rest of the team," he said.

"We need to keep that team-based philosophy and expand on it, making sure that we have the networks and the expertise to deal with

parasitic health threats proactively, not just when they arise."

Dr Andrews had a very sobering message for those who might not be convinced that parasitology is a worthy cause.

"Everyone knows about sudden infant death syndrome because, even though it is relatively rare, it is a cause of death for Australian kids. But parasites, in all their different species, kill orders of magnitude more children daily in developing countries. Surely there's a message here.

"Not only can Australia protect itself against the threat this poses, but the high quality scientific work conducted in this country can also help developing countries, thereby protecting us all."

—David Ellis

Parasites: what they are, what they can do

Gut infections including **amoebic dysentery** are the most important killers of children in developing countries (also includes bacterial and viral infections).

Plasmodium falciparum: a protozoan parasite which causes **malaria**. Mortality per annum of 2-3 million, most of whom are children under the age of five (two million in Africa alone). Malaria is endemic in over 100 countries with about 120 million new cases each year.

Trypanosomes: protozoan parasite which causes **sleeping sickness** in Africa, with about 200,000 new cases each year, and **Chagas disease** in Central and South America, 18 million infected with about 45,000 deaths annually.

Toxoplasma: protozoan parasite, very high prevalence. In a pregnancy, 50% transplacental transfer is possible if the woman has a primary infection. Can lead to severe damage to the unborn/new born child. **Abortion** is common as are **severe deformities** and **hydrocephalus**.

Helminths: worms, tapeworms, round worms, flat worms. Usually the pathology is not severe but helminth infection is very common.

Schistosomiasis: worms. In 76 countries, with 200 million infected humans.

Ascariasis: worms. Estimated to infect about 22% of the human population.

Family reunion becomes reality

TEN YEARS of frustration ended for Adelaide University staff member Ben Yengi when he welcomed seven of his family to South Australia last month.

Sudanese-born Mr Yengi, Community Relations Officer at the Thebarton Campus, had fought since 1989 to bring his relatives to Adelaide from a refugee camp in Uganda.

Year after year, bureaucratic obstacles blocked his efforts.

But a refusal to concede defeat—coupled with the support of the University community, among others—enabled Mr Yengi to achieve his goal.

“If I had to name one success in my

Advertisement

With our help, hosting a conference is made easier.

Hosting a conference in Adelaide can promote your research capabilities and expertise to industry, government and the community. At the same time, staging a conference can build your professional profile in national and international circles.

The Adelaide Convention & Tourism Authority provides *free assistance to attract and stage conferences*. ACTA services include:

- Preparation of proposals to attract regional, national and international conferences to South Australia
- Conference facilities, queries and catering advice
- Videos, posters and brochures of publicity, delegate satchels and conference promotion
- Conference budgeting, organisation and planning advice

To find out more, contact ACTA's University Project on 8212 4794 or uni@acta.com.au

Adelaide Convention and Tourism Authority
Level 3, 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000
Phone +61 8 8212 4794 Facsimile +61 8 8231 9224
<http://www.visitadelaide.on.net>



THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE



ACTA2118UA

Walk around the Waite Conservation Reserve

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Sciences and Mathematical Sciences Chapter and the Waite Conservation Reserve are pleased to invite University Alumni and Staff, their families and friends and interested members of the public to an exciting and informative event.

The event is not only a guided tour of one of the University's most valuable assets, it's a chance to learn about an area dedicated to the protection of nature and the furtherance of scientific knowledge. And there is a barbecue afterwards!

The walk around the Waite Conservation Reserve in the company of scientists will explain the flora, fauna and geology of the reserve, and the current research being carried out within the reserve. At the top of the reserve, a geomorphologist will talk about features and land use of the Adelaide Plain, which will be in full view.

This magnificent hills face area has been used for intermittent grazing for most of this century, and the project work to rehabilitate the native flora and fauna of the reserve will be fully explained. The reserve is home to several hundred species of plants as well as kangaroos, koalas and echidnas. The reserve also has the distinction of being the best surviving example of Grey Box woodland.

The walk is on Sunday 31 October and will commence at 10.00am from the bottom of the Reserve trail (UBD Map 131 G15). The barbecue will be at 1.30pm after the walk. Cost \$4 adults and \$2 children. BYO drinks, including water to carry on the walk and please wear suitable footwear. Parts of the walk are over very steep terrain.

The event is supported by the Investigator Science and Technology Centre and ANZAAS. Bookings are essential with the Alumni Office, 8303 5800.

Sciences & Mathematical Sciences Chapter talk

The Sciences and Mathematical Sciences Chapter presents a talk by Gail Higginbottom on Archeoastronomy on Wednesday 17 November at 7.30pm in the Mawson Lecture Theatre. Ms Higginbottom recently returned from overseas after researching the astronomical significance of European paleolithic sites.

Books in My Life

THE NEXT speaker in the Friends of the State Library's Wednesdays at One series is Elizabeth Ho, formerly Associate Director of the State Library and currently on leave from the Library to develop the Hawke Centre at the University of South Australia.

Elizabeth Ho is an Honours History graduate of Adelaide University. Her career includes the unusual distinction of having acted while a child with Zoe Caldwell in the University of Adelaide Theatre Guild world premiere of Patrick White's *Season at Sarsaparilla* in the early sixties. A lover of food writing, Elizabeth Ho has co-authored *My Food* with master chef Cheong Liew OAM.

Wednesday 3 November, 1pm, Institute Building, North Terrace. \$5 (Concession/Friends \$3).

OMISSION

The article on world under-23 rowing champion Amber Halliday (*Adelaidean*, 20 September, p.5) omitted to mention that she is the holder of a Bob Heddle Scholarship from the University of Adelaide Sports Association. The Association awards four Bob Heddle Scholarships and one Don Stranks Scholarship (each worth \$1,000) every year.

Classical Reading

A RARE opportunity to hear the Gilbert Murray translation of Euripedes' *Iphigenia in Taurus* presents itself on Thursday 28 October at 7.30 pm.

Professor Gilbert Murray, great classical scholar, was Regius Professor of Greek at Oxford from 1908-1936. A distinguished interpreter of Greek ideas, his translation of the *Iphigenia* combines high drama, lyrical verse and poetic grandeur. Professor Murray described the play as "delightful, subtle, everchanging" and of the recognition scene, he wrote that it became to Aristotle a model of what such a scene should be. It is a romantic play yet there broods over it constantly the cruel shadow of separation and exile.

You are invited to join the English Association as their guests in the Ira Raymond Room of the Barr Smith Library for this rehearsed reading given by a cast of distinguished actors.

Barr Smith Library

Artificial legs 'Surreal' journey inspires new work to counter landmines

From Page 1

Production of the legs involved months of hard work by the University's Anatomical Sciences staff, in particular Mr Wesley Fisk, Mr Chris Leigh, Mr Stelios Michas and Mr John Cecchin. Skilled in the mann A

HURLING through the night at over 150km an hour on the Express Passenger Train between Sydney and Melbourne, with sleep disturbed by stops and starts and the noise of passengers embarking and disembarking didn't make for a very comfortable journey for composer Natalie Williams. But it was one of her most inspiring. From this journey has come her most recent work 'XPT', commissioned by Symphony Australia.

"I made this overnight journey on the XPT near Christmas a couple of years ago when the train was crowded with passengers. The combination of drifting in and out of sleep, the sensation of the train stopping and starting and the intermittent noise gave the journey a very surrealistic feeling.

"My work 'XPT' doesn't represent the train, but mirrors the environment of the journey. While the piece is rhythmically driven, relying heavily on a 3+3+2 quaver pattern, I have aimed to reflect the energy, power and exuberance associated with XPT rather than the motion of the train itself. In this respect, I have designed the work as an overture or fanfare-type piece, suitable for the beginning of a concert program."

Natalie Williams is undertaking a Master of Music degree at the Elder Conservatorium School of Performing Arts with Peter Brideoake and Graeme Koehne, who she says are 'great inspirations'.

She received her commission from Symphony Australia as part of the 1999 New Voices Commission. The resulting 10-minute composition for full orchestra will be performed by the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra on 29 October and added to the Symphony Australia's bank of Australian works.

While 'XPT' is Ms Williams' first commission she has composed many works, including three film scores. Her compositions have been performed in the Elder Hall and the Space Theatre, recorded by the Australian Chamber



Natalie Williams. Photo courtesy of the Helpmann Academy.

Orchestra and featured in the Sydney Festival.

Her latest film score is for a children's film soon to be shown on SBS Television. A viola player, she is also a performer with the Adelaide and Elder Baroque Ensembles and a private violin and theory teacher.

—Sheila Bryce
Helpmann Academy

THE DISTINGUISHED medical scientist Professor John Morley sounded a note of caution about hormone replacement therapy when he delivered the 1999 Howard Florey Lecture at Adelaide University recently.

Professor Morley, one of the world's leading gerontologists, is Dammert Professor of Gerontology and Director of the Division of Geriatric Medicine at St Louis University Medical School in St Louis, USA.

He has been responsible for fundamental contributions to research, teaching and patient care relating to the practice of geriatrics, and is actively involved in a variety of collaborative research projects with members of the Department of Medicine at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

His visit to South Australia was sponsored by the Florey Research Fund of the University of Adelaide Medical Foundation.

In his lecture, entitled "The Hormonal

Fountain of Youth", Professor Morley said that in the modern age of enlightenment, the search was for agents that could regenerate ageing organs and allow the aged to remain functional.

He referred to the existence of a number of useful hormonal replacements that appeared to rejuvenate the elderly.

But he used the Greek myth of Icarus and Daedalus to illustrate the need for caution.

Professor Morley suggested that while modern medicine should reach for the sun to find cures for the ailments of ageing it should be cautious and not embrace new treatments before their efficacy had been proven.

He also believed that inadequate attention was being paid to the well-established principles of geriatrics and that geriatrics needed to take a more prominent role in the teaching of medical students.

ACCOMMODATION

HOUSE SITTER: Non smoking, working, single woman available. Excellent Uni refs, will care for pets, garden, very reliable. Ph (08) 8562 8167.

NORTH ADELAIDE: 1 of 2 fully renovated apartments/townhouses in heritage listed. 2 storey stone terrace home, lge rms, high ceilings, 2 br, Victorian bathroom, 2 balconies, heating/cooling. \$270 pw (neg). Ph Sarah Evans 8267 5333 or 8342 6840 (ah).

SEMAPHORE: 3 br house avail for sublet while owner overseas, Jan 25 - Dec 2000. Must be cat-friendly. Ph Julia

Erhart 8201 2249.

SURBITON, SURREY UK: Fully furn house avail for 1 year. 3 br, garage, garden, walking distance to station, 15 mins ride to Waterloo. Close to river and shops/amenities. Ph 0011 44 181 390 0121.

TRANMERE: Female required to share house with female students. 10 mins bus to city, close to shops, fully furn br. \$45 pw. Ph Nina 8294 0875.

WANTED: Professional with family urgently requires furn house sitting/rental accomm for 6 weeks from 1 Nov. References avail. Ph Duncan 0418 591 533.

ADELAIDEAN CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE

AIRFARE: Return fare to Melbourne for one male passenger. Ticket valid until 30 October but can be changed at Travel Agent. \$150. Ph Michelle 8303 7224.

COMPUTER: iMac G3 233 MHz 32/4G.24xCD, Int 56K Modem, keyboard & mouse, OS 8.6. Includes Apple Works, Faxstf, Kai's Photo-soap SE, MDK, etc. Ph 8394 2458 or email <macadelaide@hotmail.com>.

COMPUTER: UNIX Sun

Spark 10 workstation, complete with colour monitor and keyboard. \$100 ono. Ph Hilde 8303 3222 or email: <hcrook@ctin.adelaide.edu.au>.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS: Single bed with mattress, wooden base; Architect's chair; SABCO carpet sweeper; SABCO carpet shampooer; 5 piece sofa set; Dining set; 2 TV chairs. Ph 8332 5208 or 8303 5084..

IOMEGA ZIP: 100 MB USB Drive. Best offer. Ph Malcolm 8394 2458 or email:

<macadelaide@hotmail.com>.

KAWASAKI: KR 250 motorcycle, black with powder coated wheels, rebuilt motor, new paint wk. THO 739. \$1,600. Ph 8395 5791.

MACINTOSH POWER-BOOK: 5300 CS/100 laptop, 500 MB HD, 16 MB RAM, 28.8 Kps modem card, manuals, software, carry case. \$1,200 ono. Ph Gerry 8303 5771 or email: <gerald.mullins@adelaide.edu.au>.

MACINTOSH OS: 8.5 CD. Best offer. Ph Malcolm 8394 2458 or email: <macadelaide@hotmail.com>.

MITSUBISHI MAGNA: 1990, white, station wagon, 5

speed, air cond, power steer, T-bar, radio/cassette, 6 mths reg, excellent cond. WIF 945. \$5,700 ono. Ph 8338 4152.

TRAILER SAILER: GEM 5.5, 1 season old, excellent cond, everything brand new. Set up for short-handed racing and cruising. Racing rig, lifelines, safety equipment, bunk cushions, wiring and navigational lights, Yamaha 5HP O/B, low profile trailer. \$16,000. Ph 8376 7327.

DEPARTMENTAL

MAC COMPUTERS: 1 x Centris 650; 1 x Quadra 605; 1 x LCIII. All parts included. Price range \$225-\$350. Ph Lynne 8303 5771.



Bulletin Board

12noon Plant Science Seminar:
Towards cloning barley Yd2, a naturally
occurring plant virus resistance gene by
Brendon King; Cell membrane integrity of
Faba bean at high temperatures: R

Student Evaluation of Teaching

The Advisory Centre for University Education (ACUE) provides a service to all University teaching staff who wish to evaluate their teaching. This service is known as Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET). Staffing wishing to use SET for the first time should contact the Evaluation Service Office, ext 33496/ 33023, for a copy of the package. The SET package contains a User Manual, appropriate evaluation request forms, and some information concerning

Coloured campus maps

Campus maps are due for their annual update.

Please check your department's listing on the relevant North Terrace, Waite, Roseworthy or Thebarton Campus maps.

Provide a photocopy of the appropriate portion of the map and index, clearly highlighting the proposed corrections and alterations.

Please forward this information to Brenton Kalz, Property Services Branch.

The deadline for correction submissions is Friday 12 November

Research Grants & Fellowships

The following is a list of schemes currently available for application. A more detailed electronic version of this listing (Update: Research), with guidelines and applications for some of the major schemes, is available at: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/>>. For hard copy applications and guide-lines for schemes listed, contact the Research Branch, ext 35137; or email <renae.minerds@adelaide.edu.au>.

Sponsored Programs Information Network (SPIN): SPIN Australia - A data-base containing current and comprehensive information on over 2,600 government and private funding opportunities. SPIN web site is accessible via the Research Branch web site.

Brain Foundation NSW - 1999
Parkinson's Research Grants: Internal closing date: 22 October 1999.

CSIRO Division of Human Nutrition / University of Adelaide - Collaborative Grants Program 2000: Extended closing date: 22 October 1999

Dairy Research & Development Corporation - General Training and Development: Internal closing dates: 22 October 1999 & 20 March 2000

Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) - Training Awards: Internal closing date: 22 October 1999. Web site: <<http://www.grdc.com.au>>

Ian Potter Foundation - The Sunderland Award: Internal closing date: 22 October 1999

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, USA / National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, USA - Research Grants 'The Role of

Environment in Parkinson's Disease': Letter of Intent: 22 October 1999. Full Application: 20 December 1999. Web site: <<http://www.grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-ES-00-002.html>>.

The Royal Society of Victoria - Medal for Scientific Research 1999: Internal closing date: 22 October 1999

Women's and Children's Hospital - MS McLeod Research Fund Travelling Fellowship: Internal closing date: 22 October 1999

BHP - Community Trust and Community Support Programs: Internal closing date: 25 October 1999. Web site: <<http://www.bhp.com.au/>>.

Sir Mark Mitchell Research Foundation - Research Projects 2000: Internal closing date: 25 October 1999.

Aust Academy of Science - Scientific Visits to USA, Canada & Mexico 2000-2001: Internal closing date: 25 October 1999. Web site: <<http://www.science.org.au/internat/exchange/usavis.htm>>.

Gastroenterological Society of Australia - Grants-in-Aid for Overseas Study / Travel Awards: Internal closing date: 29 October 1999

Rolex Awards for Enterprise - 2000
Rolex Awards: Applications close with Rolex on 31 October 1999.

Scholarships

Unless otherwise stated, information and applications are available from the Student Centre, Level 4, Wills Building, call ext 35208/3044/35697/35271. Lodge all applications with the Student Centre unless otherwise stated.

Australian Bicentennial Scholarships and Fellowship Scheme: Tenable in Britain for 3-12 months, in any discipline which it can be demonstrated that such a visit offers special scholarly or practical advantages. Closing: 29 October (UK)

Australian Biological Resources Study - Postgraduate Research Scholarship: Offered to fund taxonomic research. Closing: 25 October (Student Centre)

Australian Postgraduate Awards/University of Adelaide Scholarships 2000: Open to Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia for these scholarships tenable at the University of Adelaide in 2000, leading to a PhD or Masters by research. Closing: 31 October (Student Centre)

Commonwealth Scholarship & Fellowship Plan - UK Awards 2000: Open to Australian students wishing to undertake postgraduate study in the UK commencing in the 2000 academic year. Closing: 22 October (Student Centre)

Dairy R&D Corp Postgraduate Scholarships 2000: Applications available for Postgraduate Awards for research degrees leading to a PhD in a wide range of disciplines, including dairy manufacturing, farm research, industry analysis and agricultural extension. Closing: 25 October (Student Centre)

Diana MO TD(situ))Tj/F2e