

Breastfeeding at work a balancing act with benefits

AROUND 50,000 information kits promoting the benefits of combining breastfeeding and work are now being sent to workplaces around Australia.

The kit, called *Balancing Breastfeeding and Work*, has been developed by Adelaide University's Department of Public Health. It was launched in Sydney last week as part of National Breastfeeding Awareness Week.

Breastfeeding within the first six months is vital to a new-born baby, but mothers are encouraged to keep breastfeeding for at least two years. Figures show that 27% of Australian women who give birth return to work within the first 12 months. Finding ways to combine breastfeeding and paid work can be a problem for these mothers.

The University's Public Health Department was awarded a \$350,000 contract from the Commonwealth Department of Health to develop and distribute the breastfeeding information kit.

Developed with input from employer groups, union groups, health care professionals and employees, the new kit informs employers and workplaces of:

- the benefits of supporting female employees who wish to continue breastfeeding their babies on

returning to paid work;

- the various workplace practices that support the continuation of breastfeeding among female employees.

The kit also informs women that:

- they can continue to breastfeed on returning to paid work from maternity leave;
- there are benefits to themselves and to their babies in continuing to breastfeed on return to paid work, especially in the first six months of their baby's life;
- there are steps they can take to maximise their success at combining breastfeeding and paid work.

Medium to large workplaces which employ women of child-bearing age, particularly women from low socio-economic and diverse cultural backgrounds, will receive the information kit. The details are also available on the internet at: <www.health.gov.au/pubhlth/strateg/brfeed/>.

Project manager Dr Ellen McIntyre said the idea behind the project was to help nursing mothers and workplaces strike a balance between the needs of the workplace and the needs of the mother and child.

"There are so many benefits to both mothers and employers through supporting breastfeeding that not to



Dr Ellen McIntyre with a copy of the kit.

facilitate the practice in workplaces around Australia would be a golden opportunity lost," Dr McIntyre said.

"The kit covers the key features about balancing breastfeeding and work. It describes the reasons why this is beneficial for employers (eg, it reduces the loss of skilled staff), for employees (eg, it is part of being a family friendly workplace) and for babies (eg, it provides the best start to life).

"With the right support from their employers and workplaces, mothers can maintain the all-important breastfeeding relationship with their baby."

—David Ellis



Photo by Russell Millard, courtesy of The Advertiser.

Council vote approves new Chancellor's committee

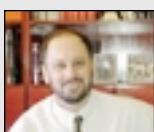
ADELAIDE University's Council has agreed to establish a new Chancellor's Committee to monitor and review the University's operations and management.

The controversial initiative was proposed by the Chancellor, Mr Robert Champion de Crespigny, at the University Council meeting on 31 July. The proposal was carried on a 13-7 vote.

The new committee will be required to meet at least six times a year and will be subject to an annual review by Council.

Membership will comprise the Chancellor, Deputy

INSIDE



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new professor

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Open Day 2000
Special Supplement



Nuclear waste
in SA

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INTERVIEW

ROBERT CHAMPION *de* CRESPIGNY

Mr Robert Champion de Crespigny has become the 13th Chancellor in Adelaide University's 126-year history.

Mr Champion de Crespigny is founder, Chairman and Chief Executive of Normandy Mining Ltd., Australia's largest gold and industrial minerals producer. He is also Chairman of the South Australian Museum, Chairman of the Australian Gold Council, a member of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation, a member of the Business Council of Australia and a Director of the Minerals Council of Australia, Executive Committee.

Adelaidean journalist John Drislane spoke with Mr Champion de Crespigny about his new role.

What connections did you have with Adelaide University before your appointment as Chancellor?

I've had a variety of links with the University over the years. When Normandy first came to Adelaide 12 years ago it contributed \$350,000 to the Hanson Centre for Cancer Research at the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science (IMVS).

There's also a family connection. My grandfather's brother, Sir Trent Champion de Crespigny, was one of the founders of the IMVS. He was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine from 1929 to 1947 and his name appears on the University's Honour Wall of World War One combatants.

Another connection I have is with the Graduate School of Management. I became a member of the School's Management Advisory Board in 1990 and was Chairman from May 1993 until

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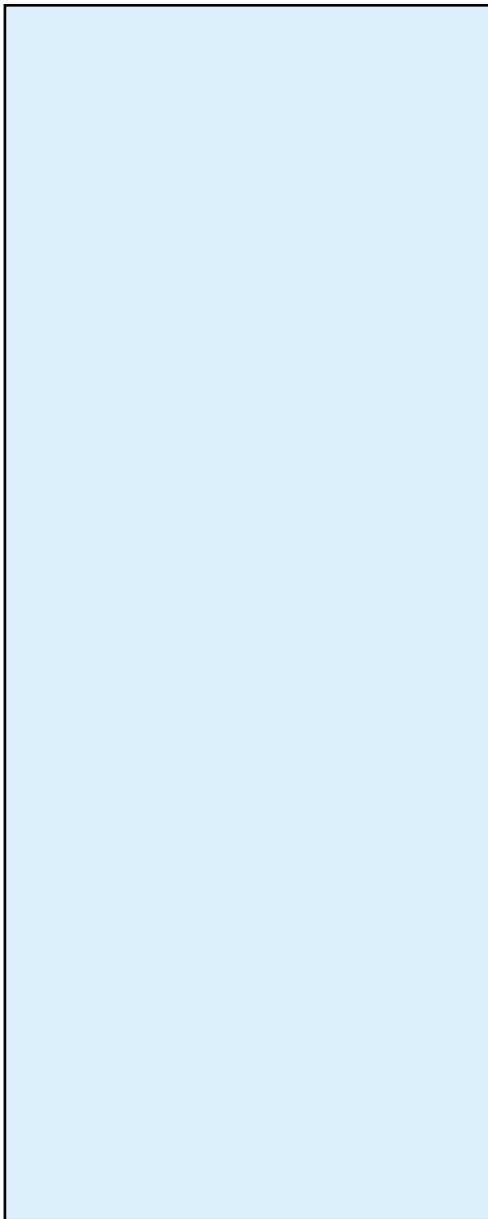
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Electoral 'Fairness' Profound: Research

From Page 1

"But the fairness clause only deals with one aspect of fairness, which is whether one major party is unfairly denied government," he said.

"It does not deal with fairness to minor parties. For example, the Democrats got more than 16% of the primary vote in 1997, but won no seats.

"Nor does the clause address the question of the under-representation of a losing party, which was quite gross in 1993 when the Labor Party received 39.1% of the two-party preferred vote, but won only 21.7% of the seats."

The fairness clause was introduced after Liberal Party expressed concerns the existing one vote-one value system had not been treating it fairly over a number of elections. This feeling was heightened by the 1989 election result, in which Liberal won 52% of the two-party preferred vote, but fell one seat short of forming government.

The one vote-one value system had in turn replaced the weighted-voting system or so-called "Playmander" (named after long-serving State Premier Sir Thomas Playford), which the Labor Party thought discriminated against it during the 1950s and 1960s by giving weighted votes to rural areas.

"One of the most important things to come out of the fairness clause is that the electoral commission cannot guarantee fairness, because it cannot be certain about patterns of swing at any particular election," Mr Evans said.

"It does mean that a disadvantaged party will be assisted at the next redistribution, but it does not mean that such a party will not be advantaged at a future election."

Mr Evans said the only way of redressing the problems inherent in all single-member elected systems (the system used in South Australia) is to change the structure of Parliament to proportional representation (as used in Tasmania)—but both major parties are vehemently opposed to doing this.

"Only proportional representation can go close to doing what the current fairness clause legislation sets out to do," he said.

"Proportional representation systems produce results with a closer relationship of votes and seats, but neither major party wants it in the Lower House, because they fear that minor parties would gain the balance of power, and would be able to conduct a Dutch auction with the major parties.

"All in all, the fairness clause has produced results which are as fair as could be given the constraints of the single-member system and South Australia's distinctive political geography.

"However, many issues remain unaddressed. The adoption of a proportional representation system would make for fairer results, but could lead to other, more damaging problems such as Government instability.

"There is no perfect electoral system in the world."

—Ben Osborne

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Mining awards highlight environment efforts

FOR the third time since the prestigious biennial Resources Industry Awards were established in 1996, the mining industry has put its environmental expertise on show.

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EXPERT PANEL NUCLEAR WASTE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

From Page 5

Dr Laurence:

While we have a responsibility to our own citizens to handle our radioactive waste sensibly and safely, the argument that as an exporter of uranium Australia has a responsibility to store wastes from that material ignores the responsibilities of the purchasers.

Professor Prescott:

Since at least 1993 The National Radioactive Waste Repository Study has been seeking suitable locations for a repository for low-level waste. Many possible sites were considered, and now a final assessment of several sites in South Australia is about to be made.

From a risk point of view, the site is remote so that few people need ever be near it. It also has the possibility for being more secure than the places where the materials are stored at present. The geology of the area should ensure that the radioactive substances stay where they are put. In the case of these sites, shielding by burial would be possible although I understand that this is not proposed at this time. In my view, the sites pro-posed are suitable and will constitute no risk to the people of Australia.

The same principles apply to the location of medium and high-level waste but it is my understanding that no decision has been made and that no decision need be made until 2005.

Dr Laurence:

The site requirements to minimise the harm to the public and the environment (geology, access, geomorphology etc) made sites in SA likely choices. The risk posed to South Australians by the store is extremely low and much less than the risk from the many smaller stores in suburban areas.

Risks can be assessed in areas such as:

1. radiation dose at the store—the exposure of site workers can be estimated and is certain to be very much less than the current annual dose limit of 20 milliSievert per year, and can be easily monitored and controlled.
2. leakage of material from the store into the environment—transport of material through the soil is

limited by siting the store in a low rainfall area. Transport to the water table is limited by the site characteristics. In many parts of SA natural radioactive materials have not entered underground water systems in significant quantities. Local floods are a much larger hazard to materials currently stored in urban areas around Adelaide.

3. transport of waste to the site...

How should radioactive wastes be transported?

Dr Patterson:

In accordance with the strict conditions laid down by the Australian code of practice for safe transport of radioactive materials. There are restrictions placed on transport through populated areas.

Dr Laurence:

The national and international regulations for the transport of radioactive materials provide no significant exposure to populations through which the waste is transported; much more hazardous material is transported by road every day, such as LPG, chlorine, ammonia and so on.

Final comments

Dr Patterson:

The real agenda is to stop the replacement research reactor and deny Australian science, hospitals and industry access to a state-of-the-art facility and medical/industrial isotopes.

Dr Laurence:

These wastes exist now. The medium-level waste from the Australian Research Reactor at Lucas Heights will need to be stored when the reactor is decommissioned, regardless of whether a replacement reactor is built.

One claim made by opponents of the store is that a store will ruin South Australia's "clean, green, food and wine" image. Ironically the most rapidly growing use of radiation in SA is the use of neutron moisture meters to monitor soil moisture in vineyards. This is to produce better wines and make the most economical use of irrigation water. The neutron sources need to be stored in a low or medium-level waste repository when their working life is over.

Host families find cultural rewards

THINK student accommodation at Adelaide University and the renowned colleges such as Aquinas, Lincoln, St Mark's and St Ann's spring to mind.

One location that probably won't feature prominently on too many people's lists for accommodation is the Esselbach household at Banksia Park.

While not on the same scale as the big colleges, families like the Esselbachs are providing a vital accommodation service for many overseas students at the University.

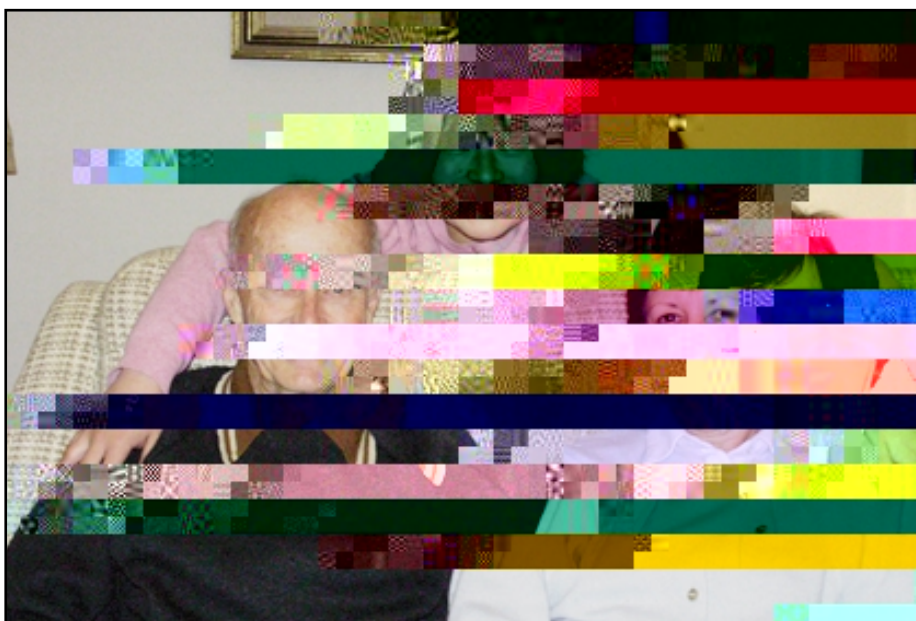
They look after an increasing number of students undertaking short courses through the University's Centre for Professional and Continuing Education (PCE).

Rod and Eryl Esselbach have been a host family for PCE since 1991, and say they love the experience of having people from another culture in their household.

They are currently looking after 22-year-old Japanese education student Reiko Hata, who hails from Kobe.

"It's a very rewarding experience, there's no doubt about that," Rod said. "I guess we find it very enriching to have a person from another culture stay with us."

"All the students that we've had since we've started have been very nice, and we still keep in touch with a lot of them," Eryl said. "It benefits us not only because of the contact with the students themselves, but also



Reiko Hata (centre) with host family Rod and Eryl Esselbach. Photo: Ben Osborne.

because we often meet with other host families from around Adelaide."

Reiko is studying how Japanese is taught in an English-speaking education system, and hopes to incorporate her findings as part of a possible career in teaching either Japanese or English in Japanese schools.

She said her studying has been made easier by the fact that she is well looked after.

"I have really enjoyed my time in Australia so

far, and having such a nice host family has been a big help," she said.

The Centre for Professional and Continuing Education is looking for more local families to become host families, with stays by overseas students beginning at just one month.

If you think you can help, or would like to find out more, contact PCE on 8303 4777.

—Ben Osborne

THE international trade in illegal pharmacologically active chemicals is thought to be second in value only to the international trade in armaments.

The increasing availability of these various substances is posing a problem for law enforcement bodies world-wide. Difficulties in collecting sufficient credible samples in the various environments where the substances are commonly found, the drawbacks in the preparation of evidence which can be confidently presented in a court of law, and some of the scientific background to the development of methods of identification to obtain a conviction

are some of the areas to be discussed at the third talk in Evening Series 2000 organised by the Science and Mathematical Sciences Chapter of the Alumni Association.

The talk, entitled "The Detection and Identification of Illegal Pharmacologically Active Substances", will be given by alumnus Noel Sims from the State Forensic Science Laboratories.

This highly informative talk will address questions such as: Is the portrayal of the problem by the media real, or a beat-up? Can ground coffee beans help in the smuggling of narcotics? How "clean" will the Sydney Olympic Games really be?

The talk will take place on Wednesday, 30 August at 7.30pm in

the Rennie Lecture Theatre (Johnson

Adelaide University Alumni Association

Free Registration Form

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10.00am Politics Postgraduate Seminar: The Politics of Reconciliation by Stephen Jenkins; South Australian Aboriginal Protection Board, 1940-1962: the construction of assimilation policy by Margaret Macilwain. Room 420, Napier.

12noon Plant Science Seminar: Nutritional value of organically vs conventionally grown wheat by Mrs Julie Kitchen (PhD student). PS Seminar Room, Waite Campus.

1.00pm Clinical & Experimental Pharmacology Seminar: Chemical spills in South Australia - why worry? by Dr John Edwards (Environmental Health, Flinders Uni). Seminar Room, Level 6, Medical School, North Wing.

1.10pm Law Seminar: Why do we have no common law right of privacy? by Greg Taylor. Room 216, Ligertwood Bldg.

1.10pm Student Workshop: Learn deep relaxation by Mark O'Donoghue. Counselling Centre, Ground Floor, Horace Lamb Building.

2.00pm English Staff/Postgraduate Seminar: Masculinity, Rape and Racism in 'Dead End Drive-in' by Rebecca Johnke (English). Room 618, Napier.

3.30pm ACUE Seminar: Genre Analysis: A Tool for Life Long Language Learning by Ms Ursula McGowan (Coordinator/Senior Lecturer, ACUE). Seminar Room 2, Level 2, Schulz Bldg.

1.10pm Student Workshop: Balancing family and relationship commitments with study by Mark O'Donoghue. Counselling Centre, Ground Floor, Horace Lamb Building.

3.00pm Architecture Public Lecture: Indonesian Architecture and Urbanism by Gunawan Tjahjono (Head, Architecture, University of Indonesia). The Forum, Architecture Building.

3.15pm Anthropology Seminar: Here/There: the Diaspora and Imagined Reality by Erez Cohen (Anthropology). Room 722, 7th Floor, Napier Building.

4.15pm History Staff/Postgraduate Seminar: Alcohol and sex in traditional Europe by Professor A Lynn Martin (History). Common Room 420, 4th Floor, Napier Building.

7.30pm Theatre Guild: Sex, power, politics - Shakespeare's Measure for Measure directed by Michael Baldwin. Tickets \$15/\$10 at BASS, Theatre Guild or at the door. Little Theatre, Union Cloisters.

10.10am Electrical & Electronic Engineering Seminar: Self Organising Systems by Richard Bowyer (Defence Science & Technology Organisation). Room EM212, New Engineering & Mathematics Building.

12noon HCCR Special Seminar: The regulation of JAK/STAT signalling and the function(s) of Drosophila SOCS by Dr B Callus (Dana-Farber Institute, Boston, USA). Robson Lecture Theatre, Eleanor Harrald Bldg, RAH.

1.10pm Horticulture, Viticulture & Oenology Seminar: Distance to specification: How well does your product meet customer specifications? by Mr David Rutley (Animal Science/ Animal Genetic Technologies). Plant Research Centre Auditorium, Waite .

1.10pm Geology & Geophysics Seminar: The rifts that led to the Rodinian divorce by Dr Wolfgang Preiss (Principal Geologist, SA Department of Mines and Energy PIRSA). Mawson Lecture Theatre, Mawson Laboratories.

1.10pm Genetics PhD Update: Quenten Schwarz (third year). Seminar Room, Ground Floor, Fisher Building.

4.00pm Physiology Seminar: Cell Stress Response Pathways: Regulation of bHLH/PAS transcription factors by hypoxia and environmental pollutants by Dr M Whitelaw (Molecular Biosciences). Seminar Rm N416-417, Med School Nth.

7.30pm Theatre Guild: Sex, power, politics - Shakespeare's Measure for Measure directed by Michael Baldwin. Tickets \$15/\$10 at BASS, Theatre Guild or at the door. Little Theatre, Union Cloisters.

12noon HCCR Seminar: Integrins, ras and papilloma virus: How viruses hijack cells by Dr N McMillan (University of Queensland). Robson Lecture Theatre, Eleanor Harrald Bldg, RAH.

12.05pm Psychology Seminar: Needs assessment in people with disabilities by Dr N Kirby (Psychology). Room 527, Hughes Building.

1.00pm Environmental Biology Seminar: Humble seaweeds, their plight against anthropogenic vandalism in a harsh and uncaring world by David Turner. Benham Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, Benham Building.

4.30pm School Governance Seminar: Recent Developments in Victoria by Don TyE 224 Twiar ysit

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COUNCIL

IN BRIEF

A meeting of the Adelaide University Council was held on Monday 31 July.

1. Chancellor's introduction

This meeting was the first for the new Chancellor, Mr Robert Champion de Crespigny. He thanked Council for the great privilege extended to him in appointing him as Chancellor and said how much he was looking forward to working with Council for the betterment of the University. During his report, which will become a regular item on the Council agenda, the Chancellor spoke of:

- his recent meetings with all Council members. He said he would always be available for discussion with Council members about Council business;
- his familiarisation visits to the Waite and Roseworthy Campuses, and to some Faculties on the North Terrace Campus, and his pleasure in meeting so many dedicated people;
- his forthcoming visit to meet with the Alumni Chapters in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore;
- his recent meeting with Federal Minister for Education and Youth Affairs, Dr David Kemp, and the Vice-Chancellor;
- his intention to ensure the Council focussed on assisting the University to achieve its goal of being recognised as a great university by 2022; and
- his readiness to look at ways Council can improve on the way it does its own job, including through the introduction of a "Council Performance Review", and through re

Research Grants & Fellowships

The following is a list of grant, fellowship and other research funding schemes currently available for application. A more detailed electronic version of this listing, together with guidelines and application forms for some of the major schemes, are available at: <<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/RB/>>. For hard copy applications and guidelines for the funding schemes below, contact Research Branch, ext 35137; or email <kelly.parish@adelaide.edu.au>.

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

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) - Projects: Applications may be submitted at any time. Web site: <<http://www.aciar.gov.au/>>.

Australia Council for the Arts: The Council offers a variety of funding opportunities - New Work; Presentation and Promotion; Development; Triennial Grants; Fellowships; Partnerships; and Commissions. Web site <<http://www.ozco.gov.au>>.

National Parks Foundation of South Australia Inc - Research Grants: Internal closing date: Applications may be made at any time. Web site: <<http://nfsa.mtx.net/frames.htm>>.

The Garnett Passe & Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation Awards for 2001 (for research in Otorhinolaryngology or the related fields of biomedical science):
Research Training Fellowships: Internal closing date: 18 August 2000. **Senior / Principal Research Fellowship, Project Grants, Sabbatical Fellowship, Overseas Research Fellowship:** Internal closing date: 6 October 2000.

Garnett Passe & Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation - Grants-In-Aid - 2001: Internal closing date: 18 August 2000.

NHMRC/ Dept of Health and Aged Care - Training Fellowships: Internal closing date: 18 August 2000. Web site: <<http://www.health.gov.au/nhmrc/research/99list.htm#training>>.

NHMRC - Industry Research Fellowships: Internal closing date: 18 August 2000. Web site: <<http://www.health.gov.au/research/99list.htm#training>>.

Motor Neurone Disease Research Institute of Australia Incorporated - Grant-in-Aid for Research: Internal closing date: 18 August 2000.

National Cancer Institute, USA - Molecular Epidemiology of HIV-Associated Cancers - Grants: Internal closing dates: 18 August and 18 October 2000. Web site: <<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide>>.

Australian Academy of Science - Selby Fellowship (for overseas scientists to visit Australia for public lecture/seminar tours and to visit scientific centres in Australia): Internal closing date: 21 August 2000. Web site: <<http://www.science.org.au/awards/selby.htm>>.