from the Chair
of the Standing Committee of Convocation

The next forty years

At the time of writing, a year of celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the University’s establishment is reaching its conclusion.

There have been several exciting events in the second half year and, importantly, opportunities for alumni to revisit the campus and renew friendships.

Recent highlights have been the annual alumni luncheon held at Parliament House, Sydney, with a record number attending, and the Open Day in September, when crowds literally flocked to the campus. Many former graduates visited the Alumni marquee, which housed a remarkable retrospective of photographs of the early days on campus, student fun and activities, and lectures and tutorials. Visitors were invited to identify people in the photographs, and shots of lecturers and tutors were most popular. As the exhibit was so outstanding, the Vice-Chancellor has resolved to have it permanent displayed in the Lincoln Building (formerly the Council Building).

The AGM held on 14 October saw some changes in our Committee membership, with Russell Agnew, Li-an Baker and Ruth Duckett retiring. Two new members elected were Anna Pawlak-Simpson and Laine Simpson, so a warm welcome to these younger graduates who feel they can make a contribution to the Committee. To the retiring members, a special thank you for their years of service and dedication to promoting alumni objectives.

Even though it is early days with the Alumni Appeal, I am pleased to say the response has been encouraging (see p. 21). Donations and the sale of merchandise have enabled us for 2005 to raise the value of prizes and to offer one new scholarship for an Indigenous student.

The University has come a long way in 40 years. It is a challenge to us all to continue and promote our alumni objectives through networking, joining Chapters, attending events and reunions, or by keeping in touch through the ‘Grapevine’ in Sirius. We hope to see you in 2005.

Pamela Kenny
BA(ANU), Dip Tertiary Ed(NE),
Master of Arts, 1997
Workshops in museums, galleries and other sites across campus ranged from archaeological drawing to drawing in the landscape. Workshop leaders included prominent artists Colin Lanceley, Ambrose Reisch, Rod Pattenden and Errol Davis, curators and other Macquarie staff.

An outstanding success, The Big Draw was the first major event of the Drawing Australia research project, which aims to help educators develop drawing as a tool for learning. Modelled on an established UK event attracting thousands of people, Macquarie’s approach embraces research, teaching and community outreach.

In the 21st century, dominated by visual communication, visual intelligence and skills are fundamental, but we still know little about how seeing affects thinking. The research aims to address this, and more, and is partnered with the UK’s Power Drawing research project.

‘We’re able to mine the riches of our museums and collections as a starting point,’ says Dr Margaret White, Senior Lecturer at Macquarie’s Institute of Early Childhood and project leader. ‘We’re emphasising the inter-generational and inter-cultural aspects of drawing, to promote lifelong visual education.

‘Macquarie’s culture is ideal for this inclusive project because the University has defined its role so broadly and deeply. In the absence of formal art and music schools, the Vice-Chancellor has nurtured an eclectic group with expertise in visual art, music, writing, media, museums. Art education and research is flourishing.

The Big Draw is set to become an annual Macquarie event, with participation from various arts organisations being sought for 2005.

Footnote: Vice-Chancellor Professor Di Yerbury, whose passion for visual arts is a byword on campus, has become Patron of Drawing Australia.
Last year social entrepreneurs Peter and Helen Sjoquist celebrated 25 years of a show biz phenomenon that now enjoys a world-wide reach.

They had many reasons to celebrate. Together with their talented team, every year they promote good health and self-confidence in thousands of young people and give them a fabulous time into the bargain.

Peter and Helen (formerly Slattery), graduates of Macquarie from the early 70s, are the team behind the national Rock Eisteddfod Challenge® (REC) and its newer outback version, Croc Festival®. The innovative character they admired in their fledgling university has marked their own work with young people.

Since 1988, Executive Producer Peter Sjoquist has seen the REC evolve from a small school-based arts event into a huge undertaking, with shows in every state, nationally televised finals, and international versions in New Zealand, the UK and Germany. Involved behind the scenes ‘from day one’, his wife and partner Helen is now a full-time Associate Producer.

Essentially, the events aim to marry the joy and creativity of self-expression with healthy living messages. While involved in professional quality performances through their schools, students absorb powerful messages on health, drugs and social choices.

It’s a unique model and it works: independent studies have shown lower drug use and alcohol drinking and, especially, stronger resiliency – the ability to cope with difficult life challenges. Over 90 percent of students who watch the televised REC finals can recall the health messages – a huge outcome compared to other public health campaigns.

Also well into its stride in 2004 was the annual Croc Festival®, the outback version of the REC. The then Governor-General, Sir William Deane, described the first Croc Festival in Weipa in 1998 – involving 350 students and 17 schools – as ‘reconciliation in action’. And has it grown: last year 17,317 students – Indigenous and non-Indigenous – and 422 schools took part in visual and performing arts, health expos, sports and careers clinics in eight locations: Weipa (Qld), Katherine and Alice Springs (NT), Derby (WA), Geraldton (WA), Port Augusta (SA), Swan Hill (Vic), and Moree (NSW).

Research shows that participants gain in skills, confidence and self-esteem, and the opportunity to participate is often used by teachers as an incentive for school attendance.

Public and private sponsorship is vital: Commonwealth and State Government funding provides a third of the REC’s costs, the balance coming from ticket sales. Croc Festival® is fully funded by government, NGOs and the corporate sector, including Macquarie Bank.

In 2004 a Croc Festival® and OPSM partnership won an Australian Business Arts Foundation Award, after OPSM had conducted eyesight tests for young people at the festivals.

Also marking the 25th anniversary was the first Junior Rock Eisteddfod Challenge (‘JRock’) for primary school students, which aims to fight childhood obesity.

Perhaps the most inspiring development in 2004 was the inaugural South African Rock Challenge, which aims to convey HIV and AIDS prevention messages to school students. The first two shows in Johannesburg were so successful that substantial growth is planned for 2005, including TV coverage.

In recognition of his contribution to youth and the arts, Peter received the Sydney Leadership Award for Social Innovation in 2001 and was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 2004 Australia Day Honours.

Both the REC and the Croc Festival® are produced by non-profit Foundations and operate as very lean machines, combining serious hours, dedicated staff and modest premises to ensure every dollar benefits the young people it is all for. Foundation directors are eminent people in law, education, medicine and non-government organisations.

The Sjoquists lead an enterprise characterised by professionalism, a social conscience and a very good heart. Below, they share some reflections on Macquarie in the 70s and on the pathways they’ve taken since.
Peter Sjoquist

I majored in accounting but took advantage of Macquarie’s flexibility to do other subjects such as population geography.

My accounting subjects have stood me in good stead throughout my production career but I also gained a much broader education. I remember some excellent teachers, including Harry Lindstrom in management accounting and Eddie Oliver in statistics.

I have great memories of 1970-71, especially winning the photographic competition, playing rugby, hanging out at El Rancho, skiing at Intervarsity and producing the Tripaway balls.

I interrupted study at the end of 1971 to see the world on a shoestring and work out what to do with my life. I’d been passionate about photography and film at school and was a budding entrepreneur too, exhibiting films at lunchtimes and selling photos I’d taken of school events.

After graduating I worked in Channel 7’s accounting department, then went overseas again, this time with David Leckie (another Macquarie graduate, now CEO at Channel 7). After a year at Granada TV in Manchester, I landed a great job as financial assistant to the head of production of Lord Lew Grade’s UK company, when it was making massive investments in film production.

In the late 70s I was also very fortunate to be supported financially to complete the MSc in Broadcast and Film Management at Boston University.

I made good friends and contacts working at Channel 9 after we came home, then branched out as a freelancer. Three stand-out projects were the world-wide TV coverage of the Bicentenary in 1988, the opening of the Sydney Entertainment Centre in 1993, and the film Crocodile Dundee in 1995.

Projects like these have you on the road for weeks at a time. We had a young family and none of it could have happened without a totally supportive wife. Helen was deeply involved.

I’ve been fortunate in having great mentors such as Sam Chisholm, Kerry Packer, Bruce Gyngell and Peter Faiman. I was lucky to work with Peter on the TV broadcasts of the Sydney Olympics opening and closing ceremonies.

Helen Sjoquist

Macquarie in the early 70s was small and innovative and one of its best features was the wide choice of courses. I majored in urban geography and remember Arthur Brownlea as a great lecturer. Our field work took place at the creeks right on campus.

My interest was environmental science and planning, and after graduating in 1973 I studied planning at Sydney University and later at Boston University.

Into the 90s, along with raising a family, I was primarily a planning consultant, and involved in the REC part time. My family background gave me an enduring interest in Indigenous and community affairs and I became more involved on our 1997 trip to research the first Croc Festival.

Since I joined our operation full time in 2000 I’ve worked on production, research, reporting to government agencies, and contractual work for all events.

It’s very rewarding to be part of events that are vehicles for health, education and reconciliation, among other objectives. At Croc Festival events we observe grandmothers, mothers, community members and Elders being incredibly proud of their children’s performances and achievements. The message we retain is that most communities want the same for their children as anyone else – good education, jobs and opportunities in life.

Listening to members of remote Indigenous communities talk about their goals and aspirations, and how they hope to overcome some huge difficulties, made planning issues like dual occupancy grievances seem pretty unimportant.

The Sjoquists lead an enterprise characterised by professionalism, a social conscience and a very good heart. They promote good health and self-confidence in young people and give them a fabulous time.
Financial consultant Katherine Cheng: serving business and the community

Katherine Cheng, Master of Commerce and President of the Macquarie University Alumni Association (Hong Kong) Ltd, shared her personal story with Vice-Chancellor Di Yerbury.

Every inch the successful, competent professional these days, Katherine Cheng never forgets her family didn’t have an easy time of it, with five daughters to raise – she’s third in line – and feels immensely fortunate to have had an excellent education. She now sponsors educational opportunities for children in China.

“We’re so lucky, and if we can afford to do something to help others, we should,” she reflects. “My family background helped me understand the privilege of education. We worked very hard to get ours, and when we succeed in those circumstances, we’re very proud of it.”

It was a recurring theme as we sipped coffee overlooking the sparkling waters of busy Hong Kong harbour from the Grand Hyatt, our location for the graduation ceremony. She’d been preparing for the evening’s alumni dinner, but Katherine’s calm, relaxed manner made it clear everything was well organised. It would be, with Katherine at the helm.

After she finished secondary school in Hong Kong, her family couldn’t afford further studies, so Katherine took a job while studying part-time at Hong Kong Polytechnic (as it then was), joining MB Lee & Co in 1976. The principal, Mr Lee, advised her to get her professional qualifications. After four years, she completed the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators program in 1983, as an Associate Member, and became a Fellow in 1990.

Those were uncertain times for Hong Kong, and her sister applied for her parents to emigrate to Australia. Katherine applied too, asking her sister to check if she could do further studies. She could – but the application was due in one week. She just made the deadline, ending up at the Australian Catholic University, close to her parents’ home in Wollstonecraft, which she shared.

She enjoyed that time, studying her Bachelor of Business full time, taking a double major in finance and accounting and graduating with Distinction in 1994. She still worked a bit with MB Lee & Co, returning to Hong Kong in vacations or sometimes travelling to Melbourne for her employer.

After her father had a stroke in late 1993, the family returned to Hong Kong. By then an Australian citizen, Katherine had to decide whether to stay, or return to Hong Kong. She chose further studies at Macquarie, completing her Master of Commerce in 1996, and becoming a CPA in both Australia and Hong Kong.

Now self-employed, Katherine runs Incorporated Company Secretaries Ltd, the corporate and secretarial arm of MB Lee & Co, as Managing Director. She loves her work. These days she’s primarily an adviser and consultant, specialising in investment.

She has ‘absolutely no regrets’ about choosing Macquarie and says that her finance major, including international finance, provided an excellent foundation. In a few years she’d like to do a DBA, perhaps with MGSM.

As for study of accounting and finance, ‘they give you an understanding of the business world, a lot of useful techniques and a knowledge of law, economics and commerce. I wouldn’t hesitate to recommend them to young people – but my advice would be to accompany them with a law degree. That’d be the ideal combination.’

Katherine became involved in Macquarie’s Hong Kong Alumni Association in the late 1990s when Joseph Leung, the immediate Past President, asked her to join the Organising Committee, saying a CPA on the team would be useful.

She took on the Presidency in 2002 and wants more young people on the Executive Committee. On the evening following our interview, she was a warm, gracious hostess at the successful alumni dinner in Pacific Place, while pushing two talented young alumni into the limelight as lively MCs.

In her busy life, based in a pleasant apartment in Happy Valley, she finds time to help charities with planning and finances, and as Honorary Auditor for various not-for-profit organisations serving people with disabilities, and professional associations.

Hobbies? There’s no time to take on much else, but she hopes she’ll be able to take up golf next year.
Science teacher Dr Mark Butler: physicist turned classroom wizard

It's been a pretty big year for Macquarie Physics PhD Mark Butler.

In September he won the 2004 Prime Minister's Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching in Secondary Schools.

In October he was selected as an outstanding science teacher for a NSW Premier's Science Teachers Scholarship.

Perhaps most exciting of all, however – in September he became a grandfather.

Having gained first class physics honours at Macquarie in 1981, Mark received a PhD scholarship to work with Professor Jim Piper and graduated in 1985 with a thesis on a new type of recombination laser.

There were many opportunities in the 1980s – the Reagan 'Star Wars' years – for a talented laser physicist to join the ranks of international R and D projects. But after flirting briefly with the prospect Mark decided to pursue a long-held ambition to teach high school science.

Although fascinated by science from childhood he was completely turned off in high school, so dropped out in Year 10 and went surfing, eventually taking the HSC through TAFE.

Encouraged to do further study, he finally began his science degree at the ripe old age of 22. Taking advantage of Macquarie's flexibility, he studied meteorology, maths, biology, environmental and earth science as well as physics – reflecting not just his intention to teach, but his intrinsic interest in the bigger 'game of science'.

His teaching career took shape over 11 rewarding years as Deputy Principal and science teacher at the tiny, unconventional Australian International Independent School in northern Sydney. In 1997 he joined Gosford High, where he is now head of science.

From the start, Mark set about making students curious, excited, high achievers in science, and there's plenty of testimony to his success. Since he became head of science at Gosford, senior class numbers have soared – from one or two classes to five each in physics and chemistry and a current enrolment in Year 11 Physics of 100.

Results are equally impressive: 9 out of 24 in the class of 2002 entered advanced science at UNSW and Sydney. The same year, two of his students came 3rd and 7th in NSW in HSC Physics. Three current physics honours students at Macquarie are former students.

His passion for turning young people on to science is undiminished: he carries a substantial teaching load, trains local students for the Physics Olympiad and other science competitions (which they regularly win) and contributes to HSC Review lectures and master classes.

In December he used his Science Teachers Scholarship to study collaborative e-learning in UK schools (linking up with the work of Professor James Dalziel, Director of the Macquarie E-Learning Centre of Excellence), and plans to develop similar initiatives across NSW for gifted science students who can’t access advanced classes and facilities.

Very fit at 50, Mark indulges another lifelong passion – surfing – several times a week. Below, he describes some of the people and ideas that inspire his life and career.

I chose Macquarie in the 1970s because it was new and fresh and obviously going places, and offered so many choices. I found physics hard at first, but the challenge got to me and then I discovered a knack for it.

I had many inspirational teachers. Terry Freeman was exceptional, and John Ward told marvellous stories – he’d worked at Princeton, and knew luminaries like Richard Feynman. Above all, I’m grateful to my PhD supervisor, Jim Piper, who supported me unequivocally.

With Year 11 students on the long haul to the HSC, I use the analogy of mountain climbing. It’ll be tough, I say, it’ll be cold, some slopes will be steep, but if you hang on I’ll get you to the top. It’s my proud boast that I can get every student from Years 11/12 a reasonable pass in HSC Physics. And I look upon the syllabus as the floor, not the ceiling.

Physics demands creative, new ways of thinking about old problems. Because students focus so heavily on results these days, I encourage them to broaden their ideas and use imagination. My approach is to tell stories – about science, but also about life. I also tell them that many big moments in science involve bright but not exceptional people in the right place at the right time, and encourage them to think they could be among them.
I love trying 'new' science with young people, interacting with them and being the 'sage on the stage'. Brad Green, who transformed a US ghetto school from disaster to success (the model for the film Stand and Deliver), is one of my heroes. His unsparing message is that once students know you care, they’ll listen to you.

I’d like to pay the highest tribute to the late Bill Eason AM, who first persuaded me to teach. He was a remarkable man and inspirational teacher who founded the Australian International Independent School after retiring from public education.

I first taught physics there in a fibro garage with one sink, one tap and one power point, and we had a ball. The students brightened things up with murals and words from a poem by Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore. He was another inspirational teacher, starting a school in 1901 near Calcutta and teaching the entire enrolment of five students under a tree. That school is now a leading university.

Bill Eason was so fond of Tagore’s poem that he had it engraved on a steel plaque, which now has a place of honour in my lab at Gosford High.

The same stream of life that runs through my veins night and day
Runs through the world and dances in rhythmic measures
It is the same life that shoots in joy, through the dust of the earth in numberless blades of grass and breaks into tumultuous waves of leaves and flowers
It is the same life that is rocked in the ocean cradle of birth and death, in ebb and in flow.

Mark set about making students curious, excited, high achievers in science, and there’s plenty of testimony to his success.
On 1 December at a gala dinner on campus, Macquarie enjoyed the excitement of presenting its first Innovation Awards. The selection was a tough task given the high quality of the entrants, but the winners we celebrated shone out as exemplifying the culture of innovation nurtured at this University over the past 40 years.

From its beginnings in 1964, Macquarie has prided itself on being 'Australia's innovative university', not only in terms of research, teaching and community outreach, but also in academic decision-making and support structures. This innovative quality is one of the key factors in Macquarie's comparative advantage and distinctive edge.

Under the leadership of the visionary founding Vice-Chancellor, the late Emeritus Professor Alex Mitchell, Macquarie provided the first full science degree by distance education in the world (in 1967); the first degree in Actuarial Studies; the first external law degree in Australia; and the first MBA in NSW. Later it also pioneered the first privately funded on-campus R&D Park in Australia, located in this country's biggest high technology precinct. It was a Macquarie research student who invented the term 'proteomics', now widely used around the world. Another world first in a university environment was the Follow the Sun 24x7 IT Library Helpdesk, provided by Macquarie and the London School of Economics.

Successive national quality reviews have praised Macquarie for its innovation, and in 2003 the Australian Universities Quality Agency commended it for 'using its top-level slogan: Australia's Innovative University to effectively articulate and direct [its] overall efforts'.

In an environment where universities can no longer rely on public funding for their survival, it is fitting that many of Macquarie’s outstanding outcomes have been forged in partnerships with research and education providers, industry and commerce, both nationally and internationally; and that in our Innovation Awards we celebrated innovators not only in Teaching and Learning and Research, but also in Commercialisation and Partnerships.

On 1 December, 40 years after Macquarie’s establishment, we looked back on a University that has grown from a ‘radical, bold experiment’ in 1964 to become research-driven, flexible, interdisciplinary, richly international and boldly entrepreneurial; and we celebrated the innovators who made this possible.

To nurture those important up-and-coming inventors/entrepreneurs, we took the opportunity also to launch the Macquarie Institute for Innovation, bringing together executive, corporate and degree level education, research, mentoring in enterprise and innovation, and outreach through the new Macquarie Enterprise Forum; and we introduced the Director, Professor Craig Mudge, an Australian who’s joined us from California’s Silicon Valley where he worked in venture capital.

The new Institute will capitalise on Macquarie’s key role in the local ‘Silicon Gully’ – the home of innovation in Australia.

Di Yerbury
Vice-Chancellor and President
The Division of Information and Communication Sciences (ICS) enjoys an enviable research record, has pioneered many new degrees and eschews hard boundaries between specialisations. It derives a key strength from a combination unique in Australian universities: the co-location in one academic unit of the four key disciplines that underpin modern information and communication technologies.

In ICS you will find internationally recognised research centres in lasers and their applications, optical computing, quantum computing, cryptography and security, natural language technology and category theory. Strong links exist between researchers across departments and centres, and with national and international research organisations.

To quote the Dean of ICS, Professor Ray Offen, Divisonal research interests run from ‘the bluest of blue sky to research so applied that we’re into product development for spinout companies’. It was not by accident that, through its state-of-the-art facility, Laser Micromachining Solutions, ICS was able to provide the technology pivotal to producing the Olympic torches for the 2000 and 2004 Olympic Games.

In the 2004 ARC Discovery Grant round, ICS achieved a phenomenal 51.8 percent success rate – way above national norms. In 2003, research student numbers almost doubled from 45 to around 80, with strong growth continuing into 2004.

The Division introduced Australia’s first undergraduate programs in optoelectronics and in natural language technology. In recent years undergraduate computing programs have been redesigned to match industry needs. Degree labels such as electronic business, IT, information systems, engineering (telecommunications), all tell the story.

While fostering the strengths of departments and disciplines, ICS also encourages a cohesive group of complementary disciplines. People work on photonic crystals in both electronics and physics, and on lasers as well as photonics in electronics. Quantum computing, based in physics, relies on computing.

In astronomy, Dr Quentin Parker is on a joint appointment with the Anglo-Australian Observatory, and physicist Dr Mark Wardle is forging links with the Australian Centre for Astrobiology. Since 2002 Dr Mike Johnson of Computing has been on partial secondment to the ICT Innovation Centre based at Macquarie.

Through Industry@ICS, led by Ben Smith as Academic Director, Industry Liaison, the Division is building partnerships with commercial, cultural and professional organisations. Initiatives include the popular Technology Trends seminars, co-sponsored by CSIRO, which provide insights into emerging ICT and internet technologies.

External organisations are invited to host teams of advanced students, and to provide internships, scholarships, prizes and industry-based projects. In one such project, postgraduate IT students can explore an IT concept and turn it into a reality. One recent exciting project studied steganography (literal Greek meaning ‘covered writing’), the art of hiding information in image files, with applications in security and intelligence analysis.

Successful spin-off activities from research include the start up company Lighthouse Technologies P/L, which will commercialise a portable solid-state yellow laser developed by Dr Helen Pask and Professor Jim Piper. The company also received an R & D start-up grant from AusIndustry. Dr Mike Johnson of Computing has been on partial secondment to the ICT Innovation Centre based at Macquarie.

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Through the Postgraduate Professional Development Program led by Dr Dominic
for the sky

Verity, postgraduate courses are riding a wave of success, achieved by offering several strands, using flexible technology, and ensuring only advanced level courses are taught by carefully selected teachers, including external experts.

The suite of specialised Master of Information Technology degrees introduced in 2003 is a prime example. A graduate diploma in the same field to begin in 2005 will be taught flexibly, including by distance. ‘Virtual classroom’ software to enable electronic lecturer-class interaction and delivery of practicals is being trialled.

ICS is also working to improve undergraduate teaching and learning through enhanced facilities and greater attention to induction and training programs for academics.

Each department can be proud of different strengths. In Computing a highlight of 2005 is the new Bachelor of Information Systems, which has helped raise student interest in Macquarie computing courses, as has the effective work with high schools of Schools Liaison Officer Megan Brandl.

The new Head of Computing, Dr Tony Sloane (who won a 2004 Outstanding Teacher Award), is leading improvements in teaching and learning in the department, which runs some of Macquarie’s largest undergraduate classes. New wireless access throughout the ICS building will ease pressure on overstretched computing laboratories.

Following the departure of Professors David Skellern and Neil Weste (founders of the company Radiata, sold to Cisco Systems in 2000 for $US295m), the Department of Electronics has been rebuilt under its Head Dr Tony Parker and is back at full research strength: recently it won an ARC Linkage grant worth $2m to support industry projects in next generation wireless technology.

In Mathematics the new Chair, Professor Paul Smith, is developing a new degree in applied mathematics to which all disciplines will contribute. Combined programs with the Department of Statistics are on the drawing board.

Physics remains a powerful research engine. It hosts centres of excellence in Advanced Photonics and Quantum Computing Technology, and the new Fluorescence Applications in Biotechnology and Life Sciences Network led by Professor Ewa Goldys. Enrolments and interest in astronomy and astrophysics are also on the rise.

In his second year as Dean, Ray Offen is pleased to report the Division’s administration is lean and focused, absorbing only 7 percent of gross revenue, from which are funded full-time staff in human resources, postgraduate research student administration and research administration. These support the Dean and the three Directors – Dr Mark Wardle (Research), Dr Michael Hitchens (Teaching and Learning) and Associate Professor Karu Esselle (Postgraduate Research).

‘We aim to get the processes right,’ says Professor Offen. ‘We ensure research proposals are well prepared, we track research students carefully and provide them with solid research training. We’re planning to grow research student numbers significantly, so good administrative support is vital. I’m also exploring ways to generate more useful student feedback on teaching.’

And the biggest challenges ahead?

‘The big question is how to maintain and improve our position in a volatile environment. Indicators of success for me will be how well we teach our undergraduates and maintain our research excellence, as well as increases in spin-off activities and industry collaboration.

‘I see my role as an enabler and bridge between the University Executive, the funding sources and academic staff. Division Manager Dr Mark Ainsworth has been instrumental in reworking our budget and I’ve encouraged transparency, bringing staff into the process and explaining decisions. In my view, all the technical brilliance in the world is no use unless you get the people side right.

His final word? ‘When I retire at the end of March 2006 I want to leave the Division in the best possible state.’

The ‘holy grail’ of photonics

The Centre for Ultrahigh-bandwidth Devices for Optical Systems (CUDOS) led by Dr Mick Withford is a collaborative venture between CSIRO and Macquarie, Sydney, ANU, Swinburne and UTS. Its goal is to produce a miniaturised photonic chip – the ‘holy grail’ of photonics – a device that will use light in the same way that current chips use electrons.

Vitally involved in this is PhD student Martin Ams, whose project deals with fabricating the microscopic pathways within the chip itself. Using laser technology he makes tunnels just five microns wide – one-twentieth the width of a human hair – within a one centimetre piece of glass.

In the 2004 ARC Discovery Grant round, ICS achieved a phenomenal 51.8 percent success rate – way above national norms.
Bob Lawton: three decades of sporting leadership

Anyone familiar with sport at Macquarie would almost certainly have run across Bob Lawton. Whether as a mentor to aspiring young athletes or as a champion of lower-profile sports such as canoe polo, Bob was the ‘face’ of Macquarie sport for more than 30 years until his retirement.

When Bob was appointed Executive Officer of the Macquarie University Sports Association (MUSA) in 1971, the fledgling university offered just 2 squash courts, 3 grass and 3 asphalt tennis courts, 3 sports fields (without watering systems) and half a gymnasium.

There was plenty to achieve and Bob quickly made his mark, encouraging ‘plodders’ as well as ‘stars’ to participate in sport. Many alumni will remember the 1971 staff/student volleyball competition, with 24 teams joining regular lunchtime battle.

Under Bob’s leadership many new sporting clubs were established. He fought tooth and nail for the best in facilities and equipment – sometimes overcoming scant resources through a canny ability to pull off amazing coups in an unorthodox fashion. Who could forget the Local Government Engineer Field Days, held at Macquarie for five years, in which the engineers demonstrated heavy earth-moving equipment by moving more than 10 000 cubic metres of landfill to prepare new sports fields!

Macquarie now boasts 14 tennis courts, 5 sports fields including 3 ovals, a golf driving range, a recreation hall, a licensed restaurant and a full-sized gymnasium.

But Bob’s pride and joy is surely the Real (or ‘Royal’) Tennis Court, opened amid great fanfare in 1997. Macquarie joins Oxford, Cambridge and Middlesex universities as one of only four campuses in the world boasting a court on which this medieval contest of physical strength and strategy can be played. The Macquarie University Real Tennis Club now has 140 members and has spawned champions such as Kunal Gupta, the number one junior player in Australia.

‘I saw the Real Tennis Court as an opportunity for Macquarie to take a lead in developing a unique, historic game, and in turn benefit from the players in all walks of life who enjoy it,’ Bob says.

Bob has held many external appointments, including General Manager of the 1992 Australian Winter Olympics Team, and National Olympic Committee Assistant for Canada during the Sydney Olympics. In recognition of his outstanding contribution, MUSA made Bob Lawton an Honorary Life Member in 1991 and the University awarded him a Silver Jubilee Honorary Fellowship in 1992.

From the outset, sport played an important role in the formation of a thriving Macquarie campus community. The approach was inclusive, not elitist – even the first Vice-Chancellor, the late Professor Alex Mitchell, got involved.

As with academic endeavour, sporting life on campus grew rapidly and diversified: students could participate and excel in activities from rowing to rugby, sprinting to self-defence, skiing to fencing and aerobics. The University developed top-quality recreational and fitness facilities, along with large sporting grounds open to students, staff and the public. Teams and individuals notched up successes in intervarsity competitions from the very first years.

Today, Macquarie University Sports Association supports more than 40 student sporting clubs that participate in regional, national and international competitions. MUSA also administers scholarships and awards to high achievers in various sporting fields. The team spirit is strong on and off the field, with the Blues Dinner a major annual event.

This Sporting Life: fun, fitness and sporting excellence
Macquarie sporting champions

As Dennis Phillips wrote in his 1995 book *Team Effort*, which documents the first 28 years of sport at Macquarie, ‘an entire book could be written about the careers of its greatest champions’. The champions profiled below are necessarily just a small selection, and we plan to include more in future issues.

Previous issues have featured Australian Netball Captain and dual Commonwealth Games Gold Medallist Liz Ellis (BA/LLB 1997); golfer Edwina Kennedy (BA Accounting 1981); runner Terry Devin (BA Economics 1976); and brilliant all-round athlete and skier Janine Shepherd, renowned for her courageous recovery from horrific injury in a 1986 road accident.

*Copies of *Team Effort* can be obtained from MUSA.

Ian Pollard

At Macquarie, playing sport has always been, first and foremost, fun.

While the University has certainly nurtured some phenomenal sporting talent, many of whom have succeeded in international competition, for most people taking part and enjoying the camaraderie of a sporting club has been its own reward.

Dr Ian Pollard, who represented Macquarie in the 1970s at intervarsity level in cross-country, squash, tennis, rugby and baseball, remembers sport on campus as reflecting the same open, supportive approach the young University adopted towards most things.

‘Macquarie may not have had the tradition and history of the established universities, but it was a fantastic environment for anyone who wanted to get involved,’ he says. ‘Sport was enthusiastically supported by the administration and participation by everyone was encouraged. You could grow as an individual while having a lot of fun. Sports clubs were starting up and new facilities being built all the time.’

The Rugby Union Club led the way. Its inaugural meeting was held in March 1967, followed two weeks later by the Women’s Basketball Club. Cricket, soccer, squash, tennis, karate, mountaineering and the ‘Macquanauts’ had all established clubs by year’s end.

An all-round sportsman, Ian’s first love was tennis. He was captain and number one player in the 1971 Junior Davis Cup team that toured the US, a member of the Australian Davis Cup squad in 1971-2, and NSW Open Hardcourt Singles champion in 1975. He was awarded a University Blue for tennis in 1973 and represented Australian universities in tennis at the World Universities Games the same year.

The son of the founding Chair of Economic Statistics at Macquarie, Professor Alf Pollard, Ian displayed a unique combination of academic and sporting excellence. He achieved a BA in mathematics and statistics in only two and a half years and was named Shell Scholar in Economics for NSW in 1972. In 1973, still only 19, he became the University’s first Rhodes Scholar. He gained a Master of Arts with First Class Honours in Mathematics from Oxford University, becoming Captain of the Oxford University Lawn Tennis Club and winning an Oxford Blue in both tennis and squash.

Later he gained a PhD from the International Management Centre and in 1974, aged 20, became the youngest-ever Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of London. He is also a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of Australia.

Ian has had an outstanding career in corporate finance and strategic investment. A former Managing Director of Development Finance Corporation, he founded the investment company Development Capital of Australia Limited (DCA) in 1984 and was its Managing Director until 1998. He remains a director of the renamed DCA Group Limited, Australia’s largest radiology company.

Lois Spencer

A belief that any child should have the opportunity to learn to ski, regardless of background or school, inspired Lois Spencer (BA 1984) to develop the NSW interschool skiing race program.

Lois is credited with developing the program from its humble beginnings as a low-key alpine ski race for a handful of school kids in the mid-80s, into the week-long event it is today. More than 2500 primary and secondary children from both private and public schools now compete in four disciplines (cross-country relay, snowboarding, moguls and alpine).

‘The program allows any child in the state to ski without having to belong to a ski
club,’ says Lois. ‘It aims to develop skiing as a legitimate school team sport available to anyone.’

Although the program is intended as a purely recreational team event, it has also spawned individual skiers, such as Zali Steggall, who have gone on to international careers.

In 2000 Lois received the Australian Sports Medal, awarded in recognition of services to Australian sport, as a performer, coach, official or administrator.

Daven Timms

Skiing was a way of life for Daven Timms (BSc/LLB 1985) who grew up in Canada and moved to Australia aged 11. He became Australian alpine ski champion in 1980, was awarded a Full Blue in the same year, and was twice named Macquarie Sportsman of the Year (1981 and 1985).

During his presidency, the University Ski Club went from strength to strength, attracting both serious and social skiers.

Disappointed not to be selected in the Australian downhill ski team for the 1984 Winter Olympics, Daven turned his attention to cross-country, coming third in the Australian 15k championship.

But skiing had to compete with Daven’s other sporting love – soccer. It could be said he got as big a buzz when his soccer team, Wahroonga, won the NSW Under 21 Champion of Champions tournament, or when the Macquarie team won the Intervarsity competition in 1984, as he did from his skiing achievements.

Leanne Brown

Leanne Brown (BEd/LLB 1997) became Macquarie’s first-ever individual world champion in any sport when she won the coveted 1993 World Series Water Skiing Championships in France – a title she also successfully defended in Belgium in 1995. There she took part in four races over eight days at speeds exceeding 160 km/hr, winning all four.

In 1994 Leanne was the first non-American to win the gruelling 64-mile Catalina Island Race and in 1997 she headed an Australian team in the four-race World Championships, creating history by becoming the first competitor to win three world titles.

Leanne, who now works for law firm Minter Ellison, won the Dawn Fraser Medal for outstanding achievement in sport in 1995.

Nadine Neumann

When Nadine Neumann (BA DipEd 2003) dived into a shallow swimming pool, hitting her head and fracturing her spine, the 16-year-old breaststroker’s hopes for making the 1992 Barcelona Olympics were dashed.

But four years later Nadine was back. Showing the determination that has characterised her career both in and out of the pool, she fought back to swim in the 200m breaststroke event at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, placing sixth in the final in a personal best time of 2 minutes 28 seconds. She went on to captain the Australian Swimming Team at the 1998 Commonwealth Games and 1999 Pan Pacific Championships.

Nadine successfully juggled an exacting training schedule with part-time studies for a BA DipEd at Macquarie, graduating in 2003. She has also worked for the University in schools liaison, and now teaches English at Cheltenham Girls High School.

Jemma Brownlow

The Australian Women’s Waterpolo team was one of the success stories of the 2004 Athens Olympics, losing the Bronze Medal play-off by just one goal to reigning world champions the USA. In a thrilling contest, Australia rallied from four goals down at half time to four all, before the American team shot the deciding goal in the closing moments.

Defending her country’s goal was Macquarie student and 2003 Chancellor’s...
Rugby Club (aka Forever Ambers)

If Rugby Union is the game played in heaven, then heaven must surely have come to Macquarie in March 1967 when, amid great fanfare, the Macquarie University Rugby Union Club was launched. It was the first University sporting club and, if the roll-up at the 37-year reunion last July is anything to go by, one of the most successful and enduring.

Some 150 stalwarts attended part or all of the three-day reunion, including many ‘originals’ such as Peter Franks, Mick Male, Phil Friend, Frank Gow, Graham Mackie and Dave Leckie. They reminisced about the ‘old’ days when Union dominated over Aussie Rules; about post-game revelry at the old ‘rugby house’; about the golden year (1974) when the green, gold and whites were premiers in every grade through the 2nd division competition; about the year the club was promoted to first division (1976) to do battle with big guns like Eastwood and Randwick; and about ‘legends’ such as John Devlin who has played nearly 400 games for the club since 1978.

And to show their ongoing support, the ‘old boys’ formed a guard of honour at the Saturday home game on the lower oval and cheered the current club side to victory against Hawkesbury Agricultural College.

Award winner, Jemma Brownlow.

A member of the Australian team since 2001, Jemma is one of 10 ‘new’ players elevated after most of the 2000 team members retired.

Rebuilding the team and experimenting with different combinations and positions has been hard, says Jemma, making their fourth placing all the more creditable. ‘We’d like to have won a medal,’ she says, ‘but we were very happy with our performance and sent our captain and vice-captain [both retiring] out on a good note.’

For the woman who had nurtured a dream since childhood of competing in an Olympic Games, Athens was everything Jemma had imagined – and more. ‘The village atmosphere, the camaraderie of the Australian team, running into the arena to represent your country in front of 10 000 cheering fans, were just awesome.’

After a long-overdue elbow reconstruction to repair torn ligaments and nerve damage, at just 24 Jemma now has her sights firmly set on Beijing 2008, where a more experienced Australian team will be very much in medal contention.

Now in the second year of a BA in Psychology and the third year of a Dip Ed, Jemma has maintained her studies part time while fulfilling her sporting commitments. She travels overseas to compete up to four times a year and trains in leg work, swimming, ball skills and weights twice a day at Homebush. If that were not enough, she’s also a part-time manager at the Pat Taylor Swim School.

‘It’s probably going to take me another three or four years to finish my studies,’ she says. ‘But Macquarie has been incredibly supportive, including financially, and staff have been very helpful in coordinating my hectic schedules. I couldn’t have done it without them.’

 stories by Jane Mundy
Our much loved Library …

It’s Macquarie’s intellectual heart and repository of knowledge. A place of quiet contemplation – yet also a social hub. Calm and still – yet also a starting point for intellectual adventures, discoveries, journeys both frustrating and fulfilling.

It’s Macquarie University Library.

The Library recorded more than two million personal visits last year, an average of 4900 visits every day.

And – reflecting the relentless growth of the electronic world – there were about the same number of web visits (4800 a day).

But there is no sign electronic access will replace live visits.

‘Visits in person are the highest they have ever been,’ says University Librarian Maxine Brodie. ‘There’s something about the Library that makes it a lot more personal than many others. It’s friendly and undaunting.’

The Library holds more than one million volumes, including books, journals, newspapers, reports, maps, theses, multimedia, microfilm, posters, and even toys and games. Some 25 000 e-journals can be accessed through the website, compared with just 2500 five years ago.

In 2003, Library staff re-shelved 776 000 physical items – equivalent to re-shelving every book in the Library. It lent 350 000 physical items, including 63 000 reserve (high use) items.

But the numbers tell only part of the story. With its colonnade of trees and spacious lawns nearby, the Library is an attractive place for people to meet and socialise. Those who study and research there love its distinctive atmosphere as well as its efficiency.

One simple comment, dropped into the Library suggestion box recently, perhaps sums up the feelings of many: ‘I like the Library’ – accompanied by a smiley face.

The Library is loved not just because of its collection and exhibitions, but also because – thanks to its staff – it runs so smoothly. As a response to a survey last October put it: ‘This is a BRILLIANT library! You guys work really hard and I do appreciate it’, while another noted: ‘I have little to no trouble finding the resources and materials I need. The staff are well trained and professional …’

It’s not only academics and students who rate the Library highly. Over the years it’s won numerous international and national awards for quality and innovation.

The Library’s world-first ‘Follow the Sun’ 24/7 Help Desk, run in conjunction with the London School of Economics, Colorado State University and the University of Newcastle, recently won a Good Practice Award from the Universities and Colleges Information Systems Association.

The Australian Universities Quality Agency also commended the Library for its effective links with academic staff and students, including the Academic Outreach Librarian program, through which each academic Division is allocated a librarian.

Technologically advanced as the Library is – with its smart electronic access and other IT innovations – people simply still love books. And there are enough to satisfy even the choosiest bibliophile.

The Library also cares for many rare and unique items, often housed as separate
collections. The Rare Book Collection includes titles purchased through the generosity of the Macquarie University Library Friends, strong supporters of the Library for many years. (See insert brochure for information on the Eoin H Wilkinson Memorial Appeal.)

The Library has been integral to the University's life from the earliest days. The foundation Vice-Chancellor, the late Professor Alex Mitchell, was keen to ensure its central place, both physically and academically.

Stage 1 of the Library opened for business in 1967. Up to 100,000 items, collected between 1965-67 and stored in a former supermarket in North Sydney, had to be transferred to the new building.

Substantial extensions were completed in 1970 and again in 1978.

That the Library today is so well used and successful stems largely from the foresight and drive of those who came before. In a real sense, it is a work in progress, constantly responding to new challenges. Today these lie mainly in the area of electronic and digital delivery.

'The whole philosophy behind physical libraries was managing scarcity – the number of books to go around,' says Maxine. 'In the world of electronic information, we're dealing not with scarcity so much as glut. Our role now is much more as providers of good information you can trust, whereas the challenge years ago was getting the material in the first place.'

Whatever the challenges, the Library has consistently proven it can rise to meet them and still retain its unique ambience.

David Myton

Macquarie’s Librarians

Standing on the shoulders of giants ... each University Librarian since 1965 has contributed to the Library in a distinctive way.

David Barry Scott OBE
Macquarie University Foundation Librarian 1965-70

Barry Scott came to Macquarie from the University of Queensland, where he was Deputy University Librarian from 1960 and Acting University Librarian from 1963. Among his many achievements he was closely involved in the design and layout of the first Library building and worked hard to embed the Library in the University’s teaching programs. Barry served Macquarie from 1965 until his untimely death in 1970.

Mollie Thompson
Acting University Librarian 1970

Mollie Thompson joined Macquarie after serving as Head Cataloguer at the National Library of Australia. She was appointed Acting University Librarian in January 1970. After Eoin Wilkinson's appointment she served as Deputy Librarian from 1971 until her death in 1980. Mollie is remembered with affection and admiration, as a consummate cataloguer and as the epitome of the complete librarian.

Eoin Wilkinson
1971-87

Eoin Wilkinson came to Macquarie from the Barr Smith Library at the University of Adelaide, where he was Deputy Librarian. He made a major contribution to the planning of Stage IV of the Library, which included improved provisions for special collections. His foresight extended the introduction of machine-readable records and he promoted staff training and development. Eoin established the Library Friends and remained an active member until his death in April 2004.

Barrie Mitcheson
1988-96

Barrie Mitcheson joined Macquarie from RMIT where he was Institute Librarian. His stewardship coincided with a marked increase in the development of information technologies and concern about the implications for academic libraries. His report on IT in the Library contributed to the formation of the new Division of Information Services, bringing together the Library, Office of Computing Services and Centre for Flexible Learning to deliver more coordinated and integrated IT services. He led the Division as Executive Director for two years.

Neil McLean
1996-2001

Neil McLean joined Macquarie as Associate Librarian in 1990 having been Director of the Library and Information Technology Centre, Polytechnic of Central London. Under his leadership the Library initiated or took part in several national and international programs to incorporate technology into its operations – including the LIDDAS project which, in 1998, set out to find a product which would revolutionise inter-library loan business.

Penny Carnaby
2002-03

Penny Carnaby was the first woman to be appointed University Librarian, after serving as Deputy from 2001. Previously she was Director of the Education Resource Centre, Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology. She resigned to become the National Librarian of New Zealand.

Maxine Brodie
2003 – present

Maxine Brodie initially trained as a maths teacher but when education bureaucrats inexplicably posted her to a remote location as a woodwork teacher, she decided to pursue her first love – library work.

She qualified as a librarian and associate of the Australian Library and Information Association in 1976, and spent 14 years as a senior manager in client, collection and management services at the University of Technology, Sydney. Before moving to Macquarie as Deputy Librarian in 2002 she was Director of Information Technology at the State Library of NSW for five years. She holds an MBA from the MGSM and has a strong interest in the application of IT to improve library service provision.

Source: 2004 Library exhibition
From Warehouse to The Web – Macquarie University Library (1964-2004).
Awards and honours

Congratulations to the recipients of 2004 Outstanding Teacher Awards:
Dr Peter Roger, Linguistics; Lawrence McNamara, Law; Dr Glenn Brock, Earth and Planetary Sciences; Associate Professor Alanna Nobbs, Ancient History; Dr Tony Sloane, Computing; Dr Shirley Vyver, Institute of Early Childhood; and Dr Wilhelmina van Rooy, School of Education.

Professor Ed Davis, Dean, Economic and Financial Studies, received a Lifetime Achievement in Human Resources award at the 2004 National HR Awards dinner.

Associate Professor Anita Heiss, Warawara, has been awarded the biennial NSW Indigenous Arts Fellowship.

Dr Neil Holbrook, Department of Physical Geography, has been elected a Fellow of the Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (AMOS), which promotes interest in meteorology, oceanography and related sciences.

Head of the Department of Chemistry, Associate Professor Peter Karuso, has won the prestigious 2004 Ollé Prize from the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI), which recognises the most outstanding publication by an RACI member in the previous year.

Senior Research Fellow Dr Patricia Selkirk, Department of Biological Sciences, has won the Australian Antarctic Medal for her contribution to Antarctic research and for mentoring young scientists in the field.

Appointments

Professor Christopher Bellenger has been appointed Master of Robert Menzies College from January 2005.

Professor Alan Hayes (former Dean, ACES) has been appointed Director of the Australian Institute of Family Studies, and remains an Adjunct Professor of Macquarie.

Tim Sprague has taken up the position of Director of Human Resources (formerly Workplace Relations and Services).

Professor Angela Woolacott has been appointed Chair of Modern History, replacing Emeritus Professor Jill Roe.

Vale

Thea Astley, acclaimed Australian novelist who died in August aged 78, pioneered the teaching of creative writing at Macquarie from 1968 until her retirement in 1980. She was much admired by her students and renowned for her sardonic wit. During her 13 years at Macquarie, four of her novels were published, including her favourite, The Acolyte.

What’s on at Macquarie

A selection of events in coming months

(See also p. 22 for events arranged by the Alumni Office)

For updates and latest events visit:

www.pr.mq.edu.au/events/ (calendar of events on campus)
www.museums.mq.edu.au (campus museums)
www.pr.mq.edu.au/culture/ (cultural and arts events)
www.pr.mq.edu.au/scu.htm (Sculpture Park)

Campus map: www.bgo.mq.edu.au

Cinema in the Park at Macquarie
– FREE outdoor screenings
Where: Lakeside Lawn
When: Fridays 4 and 11 March 6.30pm
Bring picnic and blanket or low chairs. Food available.
Movies TBA – check website nearer to the time.

FREE movies @Macquarie
Watch the movie, then ask the experts.
Where: Macquarie Theatre, Macquarie University
When: Sundays 7pm: 17 April, 15 May, 19 June, 21 Aug
Movies TBA – check website nearer to the time.

Family Orientation Night
Welcome and information for families of new students.
Where: Level 3 SAM Building
When: Friday 16 March 6.30pm

Macquarie Trio Australia
The Trio’s 13th year of music making is titled move, engage, inspire.
Concerts Feb-July 2005
Where and when: Macquarie Theatre, Sundays 2.30pm: 27 Feb, 1 May, 26 June, 28 Aug, 13 Nov.
Verbrugghen Hall (Sydney Conservatorium), Tuesdays 7.30pm:
1 Mar, 3 May, 28 Jun, 30 Aug, 15 Nov.
Also performing in Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne and Canberra.
Subscriptions from $62.
Information: 1800 359 441 Web: www.macquarietrio.com.au

Music on Winter Sundays
– free concert series
Where and when: Macquarie Theatre, Sundays 2.30pm
(begins June)
Information: kerry.kluejin@mq.edu.au Tel: 02 9850 7460

Go Pinocchio
– Theatre of Image
Go Pinocchio is based on the timeless stories by Carlo Collodi and takes its audience on a wild ride with the disobedient puppet.
Where and when: Seymour Theatre Centre Sydney 17 June–16 July Riverside Theatres Parramatta 19-29 July
Email: ngmp@ngm.com.au
www.theatreofimage.com.au

Exhibitions
– University Art Gallery
January-August 2005
Where: Building E11A ground floor
When: Mon-Thurs 10-5pm. Saturday 10-4pm, Sunday 12-4pm.
Admission free.
Information: 02 9850 7437 Email: rdavis@vc.mq.edu.au
24 January-25 February
David Griggs
7 March-15 April
Vantage Point: The Art of Dongwang Fan
20 April-11 May
BodMod Exhibition
In association with the Body Modification conference at Macquarie 21-23 April
9-27 May
On Site Insight: An Australian Excavation in Egypt
1 June-11 July
Across The River: Ambrose Reisch
18 July-25 August
Indigenous Arts Festival

Advance notice
University Open Day
Saturday 10 September 2005
ALUMNI news

BENEFITS PROGRAM for Macquarie Alumni

The Alumni Office is pleased to offer these benefits and services exclusively for alumni, to provide another tangible connection between you and your University. For direct links to the benefits, visit our website.

University Library

The Library is pleased to provide alumni with free borrowing privileges ($55 savings) and free access to EBSCO from 1 January to 31 December 2005, in recognition of alumni support of the Eoin Wilkinson Memorial Appeal (please see the enclosed appeal brochure). EBSCO is a multi-disciplinary, full-text database suite comprising more than 5000 journal titles.

To acquire your library access card, first complete a registration form on the Library website www.libr.mq.edu.au. Borrowing privileges are valid for one year.

For EBSCO access, contact the Alumni Office directly for your user name and password. You will be able to log on through the Library website (select alumni link).

Career Development Office (CDO)

Alumni are eligible for career consultations, advice on career change and review strategies, use of the Career Resource Centre and participation in training workshops and career seminars. The CDO will charge a $50 fee for an initial consultation and two follow up meetings.

Contact: 02 9850 7372
Email: careers@mq.edu.au
Web: www.careers.mq.edu.au

Centre for Open Education

The Centre for Open Education has agreed to waive the non-award study application fee for alumni ($60 savings). The waiver must be requested at the time of application. Alumni should contact the Alumni Office for a verification form or request at the time of application. Alumni should contact the Alumni Office for a verification form or request at the time of application.

Contact: Lindsey Freeman, Manager Academic Services. Tel: 02 9850 7470 Email: lindsey.freeman@mq.edu.au
Web: www.careers.mq.edu.au

Chiropractic Services

The Department of Health and Chiropractic is pleased to offer alumni a reduced rate for chiropractic consultations conducted within its outpatient clinics at Epping, Eastwood and Summer Hill. The special rate of $15 per consultation (not including X-Rays) is valid 1 February - 31 August 2005.

For an appointment phone:
Epping: 02 9868 7744
Eastwood: 02 9858 3723
Summer Hill: 02 9797 0960

Macquarie Trio Australia

The Macquarie Trio is delighted to offer alumni complimentary programs (value $25) with each booking for its 2005 concert series. To redeem this offer, send your contact details, together with your Macquarie student number, to: Macquarie Trio Australia, PO Box 18, Northbridge NSW 2063. If you do not know your student number, please contact the Alumni Office.

Information or bookings: 02 9850 6355 or 1800 359 441 (toll free outside Sydney). Program details: www.macquarietroio.com.au

Macquarie University Sports Association – MUSA

MUSA is pleased to make a special offer to alumni. From 1 February-31 August 2005 alumni will receive student rates for three month ($105) or six month ($160) memberships at the Macquarie University Sport and Leisure Centre. This offer is only available to new members of the Sport and Leisure Centre. A limit of one membership per person applies. Contact the Alumni Office for a verification document, then visit the Centre to sign up.

Dunmore Lang College

Dunmore Lang College is pleased to offer special accommodation and conference facilities rates to alumni. Both the accommodation rate (includes breakfast and GST) and the conference facilities room hire rate will be offered at a discount of approximately 25 percent. The College offers full catering options, state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment and professional services. More information: www.dunmorelangcollege.nsw.edu.au
Alumni reservations: 02 9856 1000

Accor Hotels

Alumni can access special rates (up to 30 percent discount) at over 800 Accor hotels and resorts worldwide through an exclusive partnership with the Alumni Office. Accor brands include Sofitel, Novotel, Mercure, All Seasons, Coralis, and Ibis.

How to book:
Call Accor Reservation Services on 1300 65 65 65 and quote Macquarie University Alumni ID Code: AS79763

AVIS

Alumni are eligible for special rates in Australia and discounts worldwide with AVIS. Simply quote your AVIS Worldwide Discount number P813600 when making a reservation. For details and reservations call AVIS on 13 63 33 or visit www.avis.com.au

AS79763

Tourist Attractions Association (TAA) – NSW

Alumni are entitled to discounted admission at a range of attractions in NSW including the Australian Museum, Australian Reptile Park, Bradman Museum, Cockington Green (Canberra), Eastsail, Harbour Jet, Hunter Valley Gardens, Magistic Cruises, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney Aquarium, Sydney Harbour Seaplanes, Sydney Heli Tours, Sydney Showboats and Sydney Tower.

Visit the TAA website for details: www.taa.asn.au/

The Australian

Alumni are offered a special subscription rate of $3.95 per week for seven-day delivery of The Australian, or $1.50 per week for The Weekend Australian, for a 26-week subscription period. Please subscribe at www.theaustralian.news.com.au/macquarieuni/ or call (toll free) 1800 022 552.

Flight Centre Limited

Flight Centre Limited is offering a VIP service to alumni, giving access to guaranteed lowest domestic and international airfares in Australia, and savings on travel packages and insurance. As an added benefit, join the Qantas Club through Flight Centre and save up to $200 on your first year’s membership. Discounted rates are also available to current Qantas Club members who renew through Flight Centre. Contact: Lucy Paynter on 1300 135 035. Email: travelclub@shoppertravel.com.au

Mark Herndon, Director, Alumni Office

Your Feedback

The Alumni Office welcomes your comments or suggestions on these benefits.
Tel: 61 (0)2 9850 7310
Fax: 61 (0)2 9850 9478
Email: alumni@reg.mq.edu.au
Web: www.mq.edu.au/alumni
ALUMNI news

Last year was a big year for alumni reunions and 40th anniversary events. Highlights of the second half were:

Alumni Reunions held by Divisions and Departments

Division of Economic and Financial Studies
Departments within the Division hosted various alumni events in 2004.

Statistics celebrated the 40th Anniversary by hosting former Master of Applied Statistics students and staff at an alumni dinner on 23 September. Speakers included former Head of Department Noel Crockett, Professor Malcolm Hudson and Professor Barry Quinn.

Business held its first ever alumni function on 13 October, when over 80 alumni, guests, and current and former staff spent a memorable evening at the glass-domed Atrium in Sydney. CEO of Coca-Cola Amatil, Terry Davis, and Macquarie demography alumnus and Professor of Tennis Australia, Geoff Pollard, gave inspiring addresses. Photographs of the function can be found at: www.bus.mq.edu.au/info/photos.htm.

Economics hosted a 40th anniversary alumni gathering on 12 November at which the special guests were the ‘Founding Fathers’ of economic and financial studies at Macquarie, Professor Noel Drane and Dr Harry Edwards. Some 80 alumni and staff celebrated at the Law Courts Building overlooking Sydney Harbour. Photographs of the function can be viewed at: www.econ.mq.edu.au/2004_40

The Department thanks all who pledged donations to support a prize for the course ECON309 (Industrial Organisation).

Department of Physics
Talks by two physics researchers closely associated with astronomy were featured at a gathering for 30 Physics alumni and Department staff on 29 October. Professor Ray Norris, Deputy Director of the CSIRO Australia Telescope National Facility, gave a presentation on the Universe from the ‘big bang’ to the ultimate end; while Dr Alan Young, who helped build one of CSIRO’s radio telescopes at Parkes, described engineering projects he had worked on, especially in the area of RF technology.

Chiropractic
A new continuing education program was launched on 18 September at the seminar and reunion dinner for alumni from the Sydney Chiropractic College and Macquarie University. Featured speakers were Robyn Bierman, Henry Pollard, Gary Stavrou, Phillip Morpghew and Julie Uren.

Actuarial Studies hosted a packed out event for 250 guests on 27 October. Guest speakers Emeritus Professor John Pollard and keynote speaker ‘Charlie Munger’ (aka Rodney Marks) provided the entertainment. If you are an actuarial studies alumnus and did not receive an invitation to this event, please email acst.alumnii@efs.mq.edu.au to be added to the mailing list.

Annual Parliament House Luncheon
The annual luncheon on 30 September attracted 120 alumni to an engaging talk and slide show on Egyptian Tombs by Macquarie archaeologist Dr Boyo Ockinga. Guests were transported to the world of ancient Egypt and acquainted with the work of a Macquarie archaeology team on the west bank in Thebes, where they have unveiled a spectacular decorative tomb of the 18th Dynasty (ca 1450BC).

Institute of Early Childhood
A reunion dinner to celebrate the 14th Anniversary of the year the Institute joined Macquarie University was held on 5 November at Oatlands House. Past and present students and staff were entertained by guest speaker Janet Robertson’s lively talk on outdoor kindergartens in Scandinavia, and great fun was provided by the quiz on the Institute’s history.

EFS ‘Founding fathers’ Dr Harry Edwards (left) and Professor Noel Drane (second from right) with Professor David Throsby (second from left) and Dr Tony Bryant (right)

All dressed up and somewhere to go: alumni and guests at the IEC Dinner in November

(Left pic) There were plenty of laughs at the Actuarial Studies alumni function for Alison Petto-Hamilton, Duma Tampubolon, Sue Clarke, Gae Robinson and John Corbett.

(Right pic) (L to R) Six of the best ... Warwick Hearne, Colin Westman, David Solomon, Mark Gallagher and John Shepherd – Macquarie actuarial students before 1970 – telling current Professor of Actuarial Studies Piet de Jong (far right) how much better students were in the good old days!
Alumni chapter development

Macquarie is committed to developing a network of alumni chapters in Australia and around the world, based on geographic, academic or professional interests. The objectives of alumni chapters are to:

- organise professional and social networking opportunities for alumni
- encourage alumni to stay in touch with fellow graduates and the University
- provide a forum for alumni to give feedback to the University
- reinforce continuing education opportunities for alumni
- involve alumni in special projects

The Alumni Office is seeking help from alumni to develop chapters, so now is the time to get involved. To express your interest or find out more, please email Alumni Director Mark Herndon: mark.herndon@mq.edu.au

Alumni chapter networks

For further information on local alumni groups and events contact:
- Brisbane: Richard Hodgson richard.hodgson@qiagen.com
- Hong Kong: Katherine Cheng katcheng@mbilcpa.com.hk
- Malaysia: Tan Haw Sin tan@riskk.com or macquarie@riskk.com
- Singapore: Richard Soh richardsoh@hotmail.com
- USA: Henny Rahardja hrhradja@worldbank.org

40th Anniversary Alumni Appeal

The Alumni Office expresses its deep appreciation to alumni and friends of Macquarie who have generously supported the 40th Anniversary Alumni Appeal. By 30 November 2004 more than $12 000 had been given to support scholarships and services for students. Your gifts have sent a positive message about your belief in Macquarie.

If you have not already donated, please consider giving to the Alumnire
t Office if you would like another copy of the appeal brochure, or download it from the alumni website.

Thank you to the following alumni and friends who have contributed by 30 November 2004:

Mrs Joyce Acheson, Mr Francis Montil
Mr Phillip Antonuccio, Mr A John Oliver
Mr Chris Aspland, Mrs Elizabeth Plant
Ms Lyn Aston, Mrs Vera Rado
Dr Morrish (Tim) Besley, Ms Kellie Read
Reverend Edgar Blain, Dr Stuart Rowland
Ms Marion Brown, Dr Romaine Rutman
Mrs Ruby Catsanos, Ms Geraldine Ryder
Mr James Clark, Mrs Amelia Sanchez
Mr Michael Collins, Ms Marion Small
Ms Esma Dempster, Mrs Lorna Smith
Mrs Gina Dolphin, Dr Brian Spencer
The Hon Dr Justice Rae Else-Mitchell, Mr John Spencer
Ms Jeannine Gardner, Mr John Stanford
Ms Brenda Hawkins, Mr Bruce Stubington-Mitchell
Mr Colin Johnston, Mr David Tait
Ms Margaret Jovanovic, Mr Damian Tay
Mrs Ursula Kirchgessner, Ms Adeline Teseh
Ms Frances Kwong, Mr B R Thoryl
Ms Angela La Loggia, Mr Anthony Trujillo
Mr John Lamaro, Mr P J Teyman
Dr John Lincoln, Mrs Robyn Veal
Mrs Jarungwan Loachaivaj, Mr Michael Veress
Ms Evelyn Mason, Dr Raoul Walsh
Mr John McCarthy, Mr & Mrs NL & MI Wigney
Mr John McDowell, Ms Moya Williams
Mrs Mary McKay, Ms Feng Jung Wu
Mr Shahen Mekertichian, Emeritus Professor Di Yerbury

Macquarie merchandise for alumni

Macquarie University t-shirts, ties, mugs, pens, calculators, plaques (and much more) are available online and on campus. Individualised plaques of your testamur are also available. For further details see: www.mq.edu.au/alumni
ALUMNI events

Bookings and information
Contact the Alumni Office (see this page) for further information, campus maps and event bookings (unless otherwise specified).

The following events were confirmed at the time of printing, but you are advised to reconfirm details closer to the dates.

Wednesday 16 March, 6.30pm
Lecture: Understanding Delusional Belief
Venue: SAM Building Lvl 3, Macquarie campus
Speaker: Professor Max Coltheart, ARC Federation Fellow and Director, Macquarie University Centre for Cognitive Science (MACCS)

There are some remarkable forms of delusion and many attempts have been made to understand their causes. Internationally renowned cognitive scientist Max Coltheart will present a neuropsychological theory of delusional beliefs that seeks to explain their origins and the reasons why a delusional person does not reject a belief that to others is patently bizarre.

No charge, but bookings essential.

Friday 1 April, 6pm
Environmental and Life Sciences Alumni Twilight Reception
Venue: Biological Sciences Gardens, E8A, Macquarie campus
For graduates of the Division of Environmental and Life Sciences (and of its former Schools – Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Planetary Sciences and the Graduate School of the Environment). Catch up with old friends and hear from guest speakers.

No charge, but bookings essential. Information: enquiries@els.mq.edu.au 02 9850 6000
RSVP by Friday 18 March

April 2005 (date to be advised)
Department of Accounting and Finance Cocktail Party
The first alumni reunion of the Department of Accounting and Finance. A chance to catch up with former colleagues, friends and current staff. For details visit: www.efs.mq.edu.au/about/alumni.htm

Saturday 9 April 2005 10am-6pm
First Grade Rugby
Eastwood vs Parramatta
Venue: Macquarie University Sporting Fields, Culloden Rd Marsfield (plenty of parking)
MUSA and the Alumni Office present a day of rugby and entertainment for alumni, families and friends.
Program:
10-12pm: sub-teams play
12-2pm: Official welcome with guest speaker (sports personality – TBA); drinks and finger food provided
1-3pm: Macquarie Beacons Rugby play
3pm: The Big Match: Eastwood vs Parramatta
Cost: $25 – adults; $5 – children under 12
Bookings essential (see alumni website for booking form)
RSVP Alumni Office by Friday 1 April

Tuesday 3 May 2005 6.30pm
Lecture: Sars, Monkeypox and Bird Flu – nature bites back
Venue: MGSM city campus, Level 6, 51-57 Pitt St Sydney
Speaker: Professor Peter Curson, Division of Environmental and Life Sciences
Once we thought we had won the battle against infectious disease and the world could look forward to a new aseptic age. Now we know this is not the case. Peter Curson will explain the threat from emerging and re-emerging infections in a hypermobile world, and the real reasons for the emergence/re-emergence of ‘new’ infections.

No charge, but bookings essential.

Saturday 7 May 2005 7pm
Computing Graduates Reunion Dinner
Venue: Macquarie campus (to be confirmed)
Reconnect with your fellow computing students and academics at this dinner. Guest speaker and cost TBA.
RSVP by Friday 22 April
More information: www.ics.mq.edu.au/alumni/

Friday 13 May 2005
Golden Key Honour Society
An event to bring together GK members from the Macquarie Chapter’s inaugural year (1993) to the present. Check alumni website for details.

Thursday 25 May 2005 6:30pm
Annual Alumni Awards Ceremony
Venue: Function Room, Building E11A
For scholarship, prize and award winners and their guests

Saturday 18 June 2005 7pm
Dinner and Beer Tasting
Venue: Redoak Boutique Beer Café
Restaurant, 201 Clarence Street Sydney
An alumni night with a difference. Australia’s newest, independently owned brewery, the Redoak, is renowned for award winning brews. A welcome drink will be followed by a 4-course degustation dinner, each course accompanied by a complementing beer. A special ‘Macquarie University’ brew will be launched.
Cost: $60 per person
RSVP by Friday 3 June

Advance notice
July 2005
Hong Kong and Singapore graduations and alumni functions
Dates to be advised. Check alumni website for details.

Saturday 20 August 2005
Division of Law 30th Anniversary Dinner
Venue: TBA
A celebration marking 30 years of Macquarie law graduates. Seeking your much-loved student memorabilia for anniversary publication to be launched on the night – photos, posters, T-shirts, magazines, ‘then’ and ‘now’ photos. All items will be returned. Post to Fran Chandler, Division of Law, W3A, Macquarie University NSW 2109 or email: fran.chandler@mq.edu.au

Thursday 22 September 2005 12:30pm
Annual Parliament House Luncheon
Venue: State Parliament, Macquarie Street Sydney
Guest speaker: TBA

Thursday 13 October 2005 6:30pm
Convocation AGM
Venue: MGSM city campus
Level 6, 51-57 Pitt St Sydney

Contact the Alumni Office
For chapter involvement, event information, bookings and general enquiries:

Alumni Office
Macquarie University NSW 2109
Phone: 61 (0)2 9850 7310
Fax: 61 (0)2 9850 9478
Email: alumni@reg.mq.edu.au
Web: www.mq.edu.au/alumni
Graduate Members of the University Council

The Macquarie University Amendment Bill 2004, which was expected to become law by the end of 2004, changes the way graduates of the University are selected to become members of the University Council. The previous provision for the election of four Council members by members of Convocation has been replaced by the appointment of four graduates by the University Council. In future, an advertisement inviting expressions of interest from graduates in appointment to the Council will appear in the press and on the University’s website.

GRADUATE grapevine

Note to alumni: When planning this issue of Sirius we were not prepared for the large (and welcome) increase in the volume of Alumni news, so have had to hold over many entries until the next issue. We sincerely apologise for this. Please continue to tell us what you are doing – and if your situation changes, please advise the Alumni Office.

Having completed a doctorate in ancient history, Dr Andrew Bayliss (PhD 2003) has begun a three-year Research Fellowship in the Department of Classics, University of Nottingham on a project funded by the Leverhulme Trust.

In 2003 Dr Meredith Bond (BA 1977) was appointed Professor and Chair, Department of Physiology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore USA. Dr Bond has a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania.

Stuart Braga (MA 1975) is the author of Kokoda Commander (OUP 2004), a biography of General A J ('Tubby') Allen, one of the best-knows generals in the 2nd AIF, who commanded victorious Australian forces in New Guinea in 1942.

Simone Cassar (BA 1995) majored in mass communications and English and was a film and TV editor for Foxtel before working independently. Recent projects include the ABC children’s science project, The Experimentals.

Choy Ming Nga (Sylvia) (MMgt 2000) completed a major in Human Resource Management and now works as Administration Manager with Springridge Investment Management in Hong Kong.

Nominated for the 2004 Australian of the Year Awards and the 2001 Telstra Business Women of the Year Award, Hind Kourouche (BEC 1987) founded the business consultancy Combined Accounting Services Australia (CAS). Hind is the first female President of the Arabic Welfare Council in Sydney and founded the Australasian Society for Islamic Professional Women.

Greg Lindsay (BA 1977), who majored in philosophy, is Executive Director of the Centre for Independent Studies and was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in the Queen’s Birthday Honours 2003.

Queenslander of the Year 2003, Professor Alan Mackay-Sim (BA Hons 1974 PhD 1980) is Deputy Director of the Institute for Cell and Molecular Therapies at Griffith University, and known internationally for his research on olfaction, the sense of smell.

Daniel Morris (BA LLB 2001) is a junior prosecutor at the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, Perth and has worked as a solicitor in personal injury and employers’ indemnity litigation.

Maria Patelis (BA 1978), who studied French and modern Greek, received the 2004 ATHENA award from the NSW Modern Greek Teachers Association for her outstanding contribution to Greek language teaching and learning.

Iggy (Ignatius) Pintado (BA 1982) who majored in mass communications, is Director of Marketing, IBM Australia/New Zealand. He has Certified Practising Marketer (CPM) accreditation from the Australian Institute of Marketing (AMI), is a Fellow of the AMI and chairs its Marketing Advisory Council.

Maria Rankin (BA 1985) enjoyed a varied teaching career after a Dip Ed at Wollongong University. Since moving to Queensland 10 years ago she has taught intensive English and Mathematics in Cunnamulla, assisting Indigenous students, and has been a Learning Support Teacher in Rockhampton.

Hin Soo (MAppF 1997) is the contracts advisor/manager with a Singapore-based firm undertaking multi-million dollar rail projects. Soo has also worked in various countries in Asia and in Australia on cost and contracts management.

After completing geology honours Dr Andrew Stewart (BSc Hons 1999) worked for goldmine company Sons of Gwalia in WA. In 2003 he completed a PhD through the Centre for Ore Deposits Research, University of Tasmania, on the volcanic geology of Milos Island, Greece and is now in Mongolia as a geologist for Ivanhoe Mines.

Sandra Stockley (BA 1992) who majored in English and specialised in drama, went on to study drama at Theatre Nepean and elsewhere. She played her first lead film role in the 2004 Australian film Watermark.

Psychologist Beth Stone (BA Hons 1972) enrolled in Macquarie’s first year of undergraduate teaching, 1967. Her book, The Pictured Feelings Instrument (a non-verbal vocabulary of feelings) was published in 2004 by ACER.

Nikki Verrills (BSc Hons 1999) was a research assistant for two years at Macquarie’s Australian Proteome Analysis Facility and is undertaking a PhD on chemotherapy resistance in leukaemia patients.

Colleen Wardell OAM (BA 1989), a volunteer with the Asthma Foundation NSW for 38 years, is widely recognised for her work in asthma education and pioneered a unique award-winning swimming program for asthmatics, now established in several countries.

Jane Williamson (BA LLB 1998) majored in Russian language and focused on human rights and refugee law. Having worked for four years for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Cambodia and Angola, in September 2004 she was assigned to work in the troubled Darfur region of Sudan.

David Yok (MSc 1995) completed his geology thesis on the Porgera Gold Mine in PNG and is now Environmental Coordinator at Placer Dome’s new North Mara Gold Mine in Tanzania.

Members of the MBA class of 1983 will be interested to hear, via Ron Lee (MBA 1983), that the 2003 Peter Strickland Memorial Prize for Foundations of Management Thought was awarded to Sahra Barton. (Members of the 1983 MBA class raised the funds to endow this prize in memory of Peter Strickland.)

Obituary

We are saddened to report the death of Sriram Arcot (BA Hons Mass Comm 1985) in Chennai, India, in July 2004, after a brief battle with cancer and a valiant lifelong fight against total visual impairment. We extend our condolences to his family.

Correction

In the last issue we reported incorrectly on the qualifications of Roberta Muir. Roberta, who is the manager of the Sydney Seafood School, graduated from Macquarie with a BA in 1988 and completed a Master of Arts in gastronomy from the University of Adelaide in 2003.
A feast of images of campus life made up a fascinating photographic exhibition in the Alumni marquee on Open Day 2004. Photos of the early years were especially popular.

The exhibition will be on permanent display in the Lincoln Building.