NEWS FROM THE RSO

ERA UPDATE

In preparation for the ERA submission in March, meetings are currently ongoing between RSO staff and the Strategic Research Leaders. These meetings are fine-tuning Flinders’ submission.

While all these meetings are taking place, a number of casual staff employed by the RSO are providing excellent data cleaning work. Ms Joanne Petty is also providing administrative assistance as the Administrative Officer, ERA Support.

2012 KEY DATES REMINDERS

- Animal Welfare Day
  24 Feb 2012
- ERA ARC Submission opens
  5 March 2012
- ‘No Nonsense IP’ Seminars during Dec 2011 to June 2012
- NHMRC Project Grants Close
  14 March 2012

RESEARCH REPORTS

AND SUCCESSES

ANDS “LIZARD” PROJECT FINAL REPORT

The Australian National Data Service (ANDS) is building the Australian Research Data Commons: a cohesive collection of research resources from all research institutions. This cohesive collection will facilitate increased accessibility to Australia’s research outputs and information data.

ANDS funded projects will enable data and research outputs, currently stored on individual computers and within research institutions, to be accessible on national and in some cases international platforms.

Flinders University is an ongoing ANDS partner and was successful in winning funding for 3 projects with ANDS in 2011. One project was on data transformation and research data policy development in the Drama and Theatre Studies area, led by Dr Jonathan Bollen. Database development and research data policy development in the Cinema Studies area was led by Professor Richard Malby. In 2012 Flinders and ANDS will be partnering in a new project which will be supporting eResearch@Flinders.

The project on data transformation and data repository development in the Biological Sciences area, “Automated measurement of the responses of wildlife populations to climate change” (DC23A), led by Professor Mike Bull and Mr Grant Jackson, recently submitted their final report to ANDS.

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Professor Mike Bull’s team are conducting research into sleepy lizards. They are investigating activity by using a miniature data logger carried by each lizard. The ANDS project with Professor Bull’s team had 11 key deliverables that were completed within the required timeframe. Highlighted below are 3 of the achievements from the project.

One achievement of the ANDS project was the creation of software to ‘clean’ data which had been downloaded from the data loggers. This was successfully completed by Mr Craig Dawson from the Electronics Workshop, School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics. The software has been made available under an open source licence here.

Secondly, the resulting ‘cleaned’ research data needed to be shared with team members and potentially researchers outside the University. Hence a repository was required which would allow straightforward password access to the data for existing and future researchers. The ARC’s Data Fabric was chosen because it allows password access via a web browser.

Finally, a research data metadata store was created for the University. The metadata store contains discovery information regarding research data and the projects and researchers who produced it. After metadata is entered at Flinders it is automatically sent to the national collections registry, Research Data Australia. This portal allows researchers from throughout the world to find information about research data produced at Flinders and other research institutions.

Article submitted by Grant Jackson, Research Assistant, School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics

MEDICAL DEVICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE LAUNCH

The Flinders Medical Devices & Technologies research group has recently been granted Institute status and is now The Medical Device Research Institute (MDRI). This recently announced Institute is a uniquely multi-disciplinary research network that aims to be the national research leader in medical device research and development.

The Institute’s collaborative approach allows for the development and delivery of innovative solutions and services to the wider community. Projects that have a common focus on delivering benefits through the application of various technologies to the medical and allied health sectors are encouraged by MDRI.

Research within the Institute includes, but is not limited to; Assistive Technology & Rehabilitation Engineering, Biomechanics & Implants, Biomedical Computational Modelling; Devices, Sensors & Signals; Health Informatics; Medical Image Analysis; and Medical Simulation.

Any members from the broader university research community who are involved in medical devices or associated technologies, or who have an interest in this area, are encouraged to visit the MDRI website or to contact the MDRI Manager, Strategic Initiatives, Carmela Sergi.

What is the benefit of being a member of the Institute?
• Greater engagement with end-users and industry
• Benefit from unified and streamlined approach to medical device research
• Increased relevance of research and the opportunity for new challenges
• Stronger links to industry resulting in increased opportunities for co-applications to funding bodies.
• Invitation to regular networking events
• Grant, publication, marketing and events assistance
• Student and ECR members can benefit from dedicated support and mentoring programs
Promotion of your research via MDRI quarterly newsletter, website and other forms of media.

The award-winning Medical Device Partnering Program (MDPP), is an initiative of the MDRI when it was the Flinders Medical Devices & Technologies. The MDPP is a collaboration between South Australian researchers, end-users and industry to develop cutting-edge medical devices and assistive technologies, that solve real end-user problems.

Article submitted by Kelly Burton, Project Officer, School of Biomedical Engineering

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE GRANTS AND E-BOOK

In 2010 and 2011, the Southern Knowledge Transfer Partnerships Office (SKTP) at Flinders offered Knowledge Exchange Grants up to the value of $10,000, under a competitive selection process. Projects were assessed for their ability to deliver knowledge exchange between the University and the southern Adelaide community, and also for their alignment with the University’s Strategic Plan, regional priorities, local impact, sustainability and value for money.

Approximately $350,000 in funding was provided to 34 individual projects over the 2010 and 2011 period.

In February 2012, Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Barber launched “Partnering with our Southern Adelaide Community”, an e-book showcasing the stories of Knowledge Exchange Grant projects. The e-book contains stories of individual projects, and provides hyperlinks for contact with Project Leaders as well as access to resources such as video, websites or papers. The e-book will continue to be added to as these projects develop further resources.

There have been a number of successful outcomes from the Knowledge Exchange Grants. These have been inspiring and provided great benefit to Flinders and the wider southern community.

The School of Humanities, in a project led by Professor Karen Orr Vered, worked with Willunga Primary School staff, students and the greater community to make the most of the potential of the National Broadband Network in enhance learning within the classroom and beyond.

Further highlighted in the e-book are projects led by, but not limited to: Ms Penny Edwards, School of Psychology, Ms Mary McKenna, Flinders Law School, Mr Brent Banham, Science Communication Officer – School of Chemical and Physical Sciences, Associate Professor Pi-Shen Seet, Flinders Business School, Professor Joe Shapter, School of Chemical and Physical Sciences, Professor Murray Drummond, School of Education.

Professor Andrew Millington, School of the Environment and Dr Keith Miller, School of Social and Policy Studies

The University has already seen benefits for research, teaching and engagement, with new ARC grant proposals, ongoing work integrated learning partnerships, continuing academic collaborations in both teaching and research, and enhanced partnerships and recognition in the region. Community partners have benefited from engaging with the University through new ways to apply and develop knowledge, developing new streams of business and service, improving operations, enhancing education and community structures, and building community capacity.

For further information on Knowledge Exchange Grants, see the Flinders webpage here and to access the e-book and read about other inspiring projects, just follow this link.

Article submitted by Kathryn Anderson, Manager, Industry Partnerships, Southern Knowledge Transfer Partnerships Office

WHERE IS IT? THEREITIS - A COMMERCIALISATION SUCCESS

The Flinders developed website, theretis.com, is entering a new and exciting phase. From its humble beginnings as a series of research papers to a Flinders Partner’s seed-funded project in 2008, it grew to be a company in its own right by May 2010.

The first investors came on board with $300,000 in December 2010, and a patent was secured in January of the following year. Since then, it has won a top 50 Cool Company Award and secured $250,000 of Commercialisation Australia funding (the largest amount ever awarded to a SA company). It was recently re-
valued at $5.9 million. A total of $2 million from angel funding has been raised, as reported by StartupSmart, to assist with the company’s global expansion. From such small beginnings, its success has already returned more to the University than its initial capitalisation – including the patent fees.

Theodor Wyeld from the Department of Screen and Media, the inventor, says the idea was born 10 years ago out of a need to find a more user-friendly way of searching and finding files in a digitised archive. Since then, the core technology has gone through numerous transformations, adaptations and optimisations. It works by leveraging the human tendency to memorise things visually, reducing the time it takes to find documents and images on a computer or the web by as much as 80 per cent.

It can be used to sort web-based data such as ebay listings, book sales or other image-rich catalogues. The software creates a navigable 3D-array of images or documents, and based on how the individual user organises things, the tool adjusts to fit their search style.

We can often visualise in our minds what it is we are looking for but find it difficult to describe the same thing in words. And, we have very individual ways of organising these spatial thoughts. The research done to date with this project consistently shows that the: “just show me everything, I’ll know it when I see it” sort of search behaviour tends to be the most efficient method for finding items in large collections of disparate data. thereitis supports this kind of behaviour.

The Faculty of Health Sciences had 4 researchers honoured; Dr Lareen Newman from the Southgate Institute, Dr Claire Jessup from Flinders Medical Science and Technology, Dr Morton Burt from Flinders Clinical Effectiveness and Dr Lynley Bradnam also from Flinders Clinical Effectiveness.

Patents are being lodged in 6 countries around the world and markets opened up in Europe, the US and Asia. Watch this space for the next revolution in internet search and find tools!

Article submitted by Theodor Wyeld, Lecturer, Department of Screen and Media.

**BOOST FOR FLINDERS EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS**

In December of last year, the Vice-Chancellor’s Awards for Early Career Researchers 2011 were announced. 10 researchers each received a cash prize of $2,500 to enhance their research networks. The winners came from a pool of 24 high quality applications. All four faculties were well represented.

The winners included: Dr Paul Gardner Stephens from the School of Biological Sciences, and Dr Guido Para, School of Computer Science, Engineering and Mathematics from the Faculty of Science and Engineering were successful in the Awards.

Dr Jennifer McKinnon from the Department of Archaeology in the Faculty of Education, Humanities and Law was the single beneficiary for that Faculty.

The School of Psychology in the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences had 2 awardees in Dr Amy Slater and Dr Tobias Loetscher, while Dr Suzi Adams, in the School of Social and Policy Studies, was another Faculty recipient.

Launched in 2009, the annual awards aim to recognise, reward and promote individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the University. It is a great source of pride to see so many of our researchers being recognised for their achievements.
to research at the University since finishing their PhD.

**BEST STUDENT PAPERS, 7 WORTHY WINNERS**

On Wednesday, 15 February 2011, 7 higher degree research students received an inaugural Best Student Paper Award. The ceremony was held in the Council Room, Registry Building and each of the recipients received a cash prize of $1,000 and a certificate from Professor David Day, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).

The awards, which will be offered annually by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) aim to recognise excellence in student research across Flinders University.

Listed below are the 7 winners and the title of their papers.

- **Emily Bienvenue**, School of International Studies - The safeguarding of International Shipping: A solution to Somali Piracy?
- **Mark Bissett**, School of Chemical and Physical Sciences - Dye functionalisation of PAMAM-type dendrons grown from vertically aligned single-walled carbon nanotube arrays for light harvesting antennae
- **Ching Li Chai-Coetzer**, Flinders Clinical Effectiveness - A simplified model of screening questionnaire and home monitoring for obstructive sleep apnoea in primary care
- **Coraline Chapperon**, School of Biological Sciences - Space-time variability in environmental thermal properties and snail thermoregulatory behaviour
- **Darren Hedley**, School of Psychology - Cross-cultural evaluation of the Autism Detection in Early Childhood (ADEC) in Mexico
- **Rhianna Lindop**, Department of Medicine - Molecular signature of the public clonotypic autoantibody in Primary Sjögren's Syndrome
- **Ilka Wallis**, National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training - Process-based reactive transport model to quantify arsenic mobility during aquifer storage and recovery of potable water

**SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS**

**HUMANITIES IN THE COMMUNITY MASTER CLASS**

Are you a researcher in the sciences, social sciences or humanities looking to refresh, review and improve your writing for general audiences? If so, an innovative editing and publishing collaboration between Griffith REVIEW and The Writing Centre for Scholars and Researchers (WCSR), University of Melbourne, supported by the Sidney Myer Fund, might be for you.

The ability to write for an intelligent, general audience is not sufficiently valued in universities where career advancement depends primarily on publication in specialist peer reviewed journals. As a result many academics have never learned how to communicate with an interested public beyond the bounds of their specialisation.

Nonetheless much academic research is of wide public interest and social import and deserves wider exposure. Achieving this requires that research outcomes be written in a way that is accessible and engaging.

The Humanities in the Community Master Classes brings together two of Australia’s leading organisations working at the interface between the academy and the public sphere.

Writing for a general audience requires a particular set of skills to present complex material in a clear and engaging way. Building these skills requires sophisticated writing and editing methods, and knowledge and confidence in a wide range of genres and techniques. The master classes will be presented by Julianne Schultz, Editor of Griffith REVIEW, and Simon Clews, Director of WCSR, in addition to other professionals.

Successful applicants will attend a two-day master class in Brisbane or Melbourne to develop their writing skills. The master classes are relevant to both the sciences and humanities.

For more information and application guidelines and the submission deadline of 29 February 2012, click [here](#).

**RESEARCH TO PRACTICE SEMINAR - FLINDERS AND ANGLICARE SA**

Flinders University and Anglicare SA will be hosting a Research to Practice Seminar on Friday, 2 March 2012. The seminar is titled: Addressing the complex needs of problem gamblers.

Where: Level 1, Victoria Square, Flinders University
When: Friday, 2 March 2012
Time: 10 am to 1pm
RSVP: to Anglicare SA

Presenters will include Lynn Arnold, Christine Bell, Cherith Pryer and Vira Thatch from Anglicare SA, Paul Delvabbro from University of Adelaide, and Professor Malcolm Battersby and Associate Professor Peter Harvey from Flinders University.

Information and program details for the seminar can be accessed here. Morning tea will be provided.

Associate Professor Susan Strega from the School of Social Work, University of Victoria, British Columbia will be working with Dr Heather Fraser, Social Work and Social Planning, Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences from late February for a month. The successful application from Dr Fraser and Associate Professor Strega included 2 presentations as part of the application.

The first of these will be a workshop on ‘designing qualitative research with people affected by oppression and stigma’ for interested staff and students in March. Examples include research with sex workers, young mothers in care and fathers identified by child protection authorities.

Also in March, an Evening symposium at the Flinders City Campus is planned, as a forum reflecting upon Associate Professor Strega’s insights into working with highly stigmatised groups such as street-based sex workers and those involved in the child protection system. The symposium will explore the implications of working with highly stigmatised groups for social workers and social scientists.

Keep an eye out for dates, times and venue for these two presentations in March. All sessions are planned to be recorded and uploaded on Flinders Learning Online (FLO) and on the School of Social and Policy Studies website for anyone unable to attend.

VISITING INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PRESENTATIONS – ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR STREGA

The first of the 2012 Flinders University Visiting International Research Fellows have started to arrive at Flinders. As part of their visit, presentations to Flinders staff and the wider community are planned.

Flinders Partners is once again running its highly successful Research to Outcomes workshop, and is extending a warm invitation to all Flinders University research staff. The one-day workshop, presented by Anthony Francis, Managing Director of Flinders Partners Pty Ltd, is a great opportunity for researchers to learn about what is involved in commercialisation.

The Research to Outcomes workshop is a collaborative offering made on behalf of Flinders Partners and the Research Services office, and is free of charge for all Flinders University staff.

Where: Mark Oliphant Building – Science Park
When: Friday, 4 May 2012
RSVP: Philippa Keliouris by phone on 8201 7788 or by email.

To download a copy of the registration form, please see the Flinders Partners website.

FLINDERS PARTNERS RESEARCH TO OUTCOMES WORKSHOP

Share your research successes or information regarding upcoming research related events in your area. Contact Nikki Johnson for article submissions or further information.

inspiring achievement