

# Community Connections@UWS

University of  
Western Sydney  
Bringing knowledge to life

E-NEWSLETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY ENGAGEMENT

ISSUE 3 • 2008

## WELCOME

The start of the new academic year is always an optimistic and exciting time. As our students return the sleepy summer campuses come to life again, and a happy hum of greater activity begins. Welcome back to everyone, and get ready to be engaged in community partnership activities this year!

The Office of University Engagement has been busy over the summer, building strategies and new relationships that will guide the university's involvement in community issues throughout the 2008 year.

Successful engagement partnerships already in place will carry forward and in some cases, be expanded to new sites.

New engagement activities will increase UWS involvement in environmental sustainability, schools partnerships, assistance to small-medium enterprise, literacy programs, and a number of research projects.

Rosalie Atie is working with us as a research intern and she has two projects underway: an international study to benchmark UWS engagement performance and a study that will explore the perspectives of young adults regarding the future of democracy and civic responsibility (in partnership with The Whitlam Institute).

Anne McLean is joining OUE as the Manager, Schools Engagement, and the Schools Engagement Agenda and 2008 Action Plan are published and underway.

OUE Director Jan Temple retired 1 Feb 2008, and while her special gifts and talents cannot be replicated, a search is underway for her replacement. A thank you from us to Jan and her farewell message to you are in this newsletter. We wish her much happiness and relaxation!

Please enjoy the stories in this issue about our many cultural activities, events, people, and recent project successes.



We also welcome your feedback and suggestions. May 2008 be a rewarding academic year for us all.

Professor Barbara Holland  
Pro Vice-Chancellor Engagement

## ALSO IN THIS ISSUE...

- **2007 UWS Partnership Awards**
- **UWS journalism student wins at the Ossies**
- **UWS literacy program supporting refugee students continues to grow**
- **Hop along down to the OUE office**
- **New Art in the Medical School Building**
- **What's On – Artistic and Cultural Public Domain Events**
- **'She's so sweet' – Barbara Doran opens at UWS Art Gallery**
- **Farewell message from Jan Temple**
- **Thank you Jan**
- **New staff member joins OUE Team!**

## FEATURED PARTNER

The UWS Partnership Awards provided the opportunity for the Office of University Engagement to acknowledge the excellent contribution our community partners make in assisting us to meet our community engagement responsibilities.



Hanan Dover, President of Mission of Hope has worked tirelessly with UWS with the Muslim Harmony Reference Group and the School of Psychology bringing knowledge of Muslim communities and culture to UWS.

MoH provides resources such as the "Muslims in Australia: A Health & Community Worker's Guide", Cultural Competency Training for UWS staff and is a source of knowledge for the implementation of the UWS Ramadhan Iftar. MoH also introduced UWS to prominent Muslim scholars

Hanan has been appointed to the National Consultative Council for the National Centre for Excellence in Islamic Studies of which UWS is a partner. Hanan is a very valuable partner for UWS and we congratulate her on the Award.

OUE is dependent on our community and industry partners to achieve our goals. We thank them all for their contribution.

For further information please contact Kim Leever at [k.leever@uws.edu.au](mailto:k.leever@uws.edu.au)



## 2007 UWS PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

The UWS Partnership Awards acknowledge excellent partnerships the University has with external organisations and individuals supporting community engagement, particularly in Greater Western Sydney.

In 2007, the number of applications was improved on previous years due to:

- The Office of University Engagement reviewing and revising Award guidelines, promotion and procedures
- The large number of excellent partnerships between UWS and external organisations
- The commitment of our partner representatives and UWS staff in establishing, fostering and strengthening these partnerships

Members of the Regional Council are active participants on the Partnership Awards Steering Committee that determines those partnerships that are most outstanding and deserving of the Award.

The partnerships honoured and acknowledged at the Vice Chancellor's Excellence Awards Ceremony held on 5th December are:

- John Blythe Child Psychology
- Talent2 International Limited
- Pendragon Management Services
- Australian Property Institute
- Fairfield City Council
- Penrith City Council
- Parramatta City Council
- Campbelltown Hospital
- Sydney West Area Health Service, Lemongrove Unit
- Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation
- TAFE NSW
- Department of Education, Science and Training
- Bligh Park Primary School
- Cambridge Park Primary School
- Faulconbridge Primary School
- Leonay Primary School
- Baulkham Hills Holroyd Parramatta Migrant Resource Centre
- Mission of Hope
- Macarthur Centre for Sustainable Living
- NSW Cancer Council
- South West Sydney Academy of Sport
- Australian Museum
- Cardiac Health Institute

- Mr Roy Medich
- Mr Brian Lindsay
- Mr Jim Taggart

Recipients were recognised for a variety of achievements including: ensuring the future mental health needs of the community are met by providing internships for psychology students, sponsoring student placements that encourage graduates to study and work in the area, supporting local medical research, and providing health promotion messages to keep UWS students safe.

The awards also recognised community advocates who have worked with the University to achieve literacy for refugees, encourage primary and high school students to study science, promote sustainable living and environmental innovation, support cancer patients in the community, and provide sporting scholarships to high achieving athletes.

**Congratulations to all recipients and nominators.**

For further information please contact Lynne Fairey at [l.fairey@uws.edu.au](mailto:l.fairey@uws.edu.au)





## UWS JOURNALISM STUDENT WINS AT THE OSSIES

When University of Western Sydney (UWS) journalism student Kellie Greene accepted an international internship in South East Asia, she never envisaged the opportunities that would flourish from it. Kellie's cutting edge story on drug users in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, won the overall award for Best Story (Any Medium) as well as the award for Best Photojournalism at the recent 2007 Ossie Awards.

The 2007 Ossie Award winners were announced at the Public Right to Know Conference held at University of Technology, Sydney, in November 2007. The Ossie Awards is an annual event organised by the Journalism Education Association (JEA) to recognise outstanding work by journalism students. The entries are judged by media executives across Australia and New Zealand.

"I am incredibly grateful for the awards and especially for the recognition of my journalistic work. It was my international internship that made these opportunities possible," said Kellie, who undertook a UWS Careers & Cooperative Education International Internship with the Phnom Penh Post in summer 2006/2007, sponsored by School of Communication Arts.

Whilst Kellie initially found her international experience daunting, as she started photographing aspects of Cambodian life and culture, she became immersed in the many stories waiting to be told. Travelling through the drug streets and alleys of Phnom Penh, Kellie saw how drugs infiltrated the lives of children



and families in Cambodia, and managed to capture the "sorrowful cycle of poverty and drug addiction".

"Kellie is a quiet and intensely reflective observer of Asian events. Her maturity and passion for interpreting reality through her camera allowed her to produce outstanding photojournalism work. Congratulations to Kellie; she truly deserves her Ossie Awards," said Professor Richard Broinowski, who founded the Myer

Fellowship program to promote international internship opportunities for students.

Kellie has recently returned to Cambodia as part of her Visual Communication (Honours) course this year, to study the relationship between the photographer and the subject/matter.

For further information please contact Careers and Cooperative Education [careers@uws.edu.au](mailto:careers@uws.edu.au)





## UWS LITERACY PROGRAM SUPPORTING REFUGEE STUDENTS CONTINUES TO GROW

Life in Australia can pose many challenges for refugees. For children who have come from countries torn apart by war and violence, school is an entirely new experience if you've never had the opportunity to pick up a book or hold a pencil.

As of last year, UWS in partnership with the Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation (ALNF) and the NSW Department of Education and Training, established a literacy tutoring program targeting refugee students in schools across Western Sydney.

The Refugee Action Support Partnership (RASP) sees UWS Master of Teaching (Secondary) students, who are trained each term by the ALNF, work as tutors in local schools.

The RASP program supports students in years 7-11 that have recently arrived in Australia as refugees, from countries like Sudan, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan. Students attend special 'tutoring centres' up to twice a week, to build on their English and literacy skills and gain assistance with homework.

Last year in semester one, 15 UWS students undertook the program in four schools. This year, 35 UWS students are undertaking RAS in eight schools throughout semester one, with more expected in semester two.

In addition, Dr Loshini Naidoo, Professor Margaret Vickers and Dr Tania Ferfolja, Centre for Educational Research (CER) together with ALNF have been awarded a UWS Research Partnership Program grant to further the research work in this area and continue to provide targeted literacy support to humanitarian refugee students in the Western Sydney Region.

The CER will soon include a strong, reputable focus on refugee studies, resulting from the successful combination of community engagement and research accomplishments.

For further information on RASP program please contact Dr Loshini Naidoo at [l.naidoo@uws.edu.au](mailto:l.naidoo@uws.edu.au)



## HOP ALONG DOWN TO THE OUE OFFICE

Many visitors to the Office of University Engagement office in Building 3, Campbelltown campus are intrigued by the growing collection of frogs adorning the office. There are now over 35 various representations of frogs collected from around the world.

There is a Greek frog, French frogs, an English frog, an Egyptian frog, a Hungarian frog, an American frog, a Singaporean frog and, of course, many Australian frogs.

How did this come about? In the early days of the office it was decided that we needed a totemic animal that represented us.

As the frog is an indicator species, an indicator of environmental health, we decided to adopt the frog. If our office was healthy it was an indication of the health of our environment and the work we are doing.

It became a practice for any of our staff and friends who travelled either for work or pleasure to bring back a frog for the collection. It continues to grow.

Unfortunately many living frogs and other amphibians in the wider world aren't as fortunate. In fact 2008 has been declared the Year of the Frog by Amphibian Ark an organisation whose vision is the world's amphibians safe in nature.

Regrettably one-third to one-half of the world's approximately 6,000 known amphibian species could go extinct in our lifetime, the largest mass extinction since the disappearance of the dinosaurs.

The main causes are habitat loss, climate change, pollution and pesticides, introduced species, over-collection for food and pets and the most immediate cause... a parasitic fungus called amphibian chytrid which invades the outer layers of their skin.

We can help the frogs by frog-scaping our gardens. Hop to it!

For more information see [www.amphibianark.org](http://www.amphibianark.org) [www.frog.org.au](http://www.frog.org.au)



## NEW ART IN THE MEDICAL SCHOOL BUILDING



Sculpture: Amity



Painting: The Journey – Nura nura

### AMITY

Amity is a sculpture designed and fabricated by Bruce, Benita and Lee Tunks. Bruce is an Artist, Benita operates a design company, Liquid Creative Projects and Lee owns a steel design and fabrication company, Man of Steel

Amity is located in front of the Medical School at Campbelltown Campus, University of Western Sydney. Amity's scale and form compliment the design of the medical school. The work can be viewed obviously from all angles at ground level but also on the four levels above it. The form changes from each perspective.

It was deliberately sited beside the building, to enable the viewer to view it from above, displaying a lotus flower opening, which accentuates the sculpture's graceful lines.

The siting of the work was a collaborative process with both the architects and the artists. By being located the Goldsmith Avenue entrance, the sculpture acts as both a gateway to the campus and the medical school building, linking it to the evolving sculpture walk located on Campbelltown campus. The artists, have donated this work to UWS via the cultural gifts program.

Amity means friendship, harmony and understanding, especially between nations. The sculpture is approximately 6 metres high, 5 metres wide with a footprint of 10 metres. It weighs 3,200kg and is constructed from steel.

The sculpture incorporates symbols of peace and unity, with structural elements conveying balance and harmony. The result is a form abstracted from the lotus flower, which is associated with peace, harmony and understanding.

For further information please contact  
Monica McMahon  
[m.mcmahon@uws.edu.au](mailto:m.mcmahon@uws.edu.au)

### THE JOURNEY – NURA NURA

The painting by Ian Waldron in the foyer of the new medical school building Campbelltown Campus is called, "The Journey – Nura nura", Nura means path in the Tharawal language, the local indigenous language group.

The composition of this painting reflects the indigenous language groups spoken within NSW, based upon the reference map produced by AIATSIS, as well as the artist's own totem, that being the bloodwood tree. This is one of the important species of flora in the artist's traditional country of the Gulf of Carpentaria, a eucalyptus encased in a thick, rough bark. The tree gained its name from the red sap that flows from it when cut.

The artist Ian Waldron, was the open Painting Prize winner in the 12th National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Art Award winner in 1995 and has been a finalist eight times since then. In 2007 he was a finalist in the both the Wynne and Archibald prizes, and the Art Gallery of NSW.

For further information please contact  
Monica McMahon  
[m.mcmahon@uws.edu.au](mailto:m.mcmahon@uws.edu.au)



## WHAT'S ON – ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL PUBLIC DOMAIN EVENTS



### ACQUISITIVE SCULPTURE AWARD AND EXHIBITION 2008

**Launched 2004 – Ongoing  
UWS Campbelltown Campus**

#### **Proud Community Partnerships**

- Landcom
- Acclaimed Australian artists

The UWS Acquisitive Sculpture Award and Exhibition aims to establish closer links between the University, artists and industry; to provide a valuable educational and cultural resource for the region and to enhance the campus environment for teaching and learning.

In partnership with Landcom; a leading master planner, facilitator and developer of sustainable communities in NSW, the exhibition offers artists two awards; The UWS Acquisitive Prize and the Landcom Acquisitive Prize; valued at \$20,000 each.

Past artists sculptures have explored contemporary artistic and cultural issues such as:

- Aboriginal heritage
- Degradation of the marine environment and the fate of endangered species
- Atmospheric changes of wind, light, air, space, time and sound
- Alienation and isolation of the human body

**From Friday 2nd May 2008 to Sunday 1st June 2008, the third UWS Acquisitive Sculpture Award and Exhibition will be held at UWS Campbelltown Campus. All visitors are welcome.**

### ART FOR LITERACY EXHIBITION

**May – June 2008  
UWS Parramatta Campus and  
Bean Art Gallery in Thirroul**

#### **Proud Community Partnerships**

- The Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation (ALNF)
- Student in Free Enterprise (SIFE) UWS
- The Refuge Action Support Partnership (RASP)

The Art for Literacy Exhibition is appealing for artists, both student and independent, to donate their artwork with all proceeds to assist The Refuge Action Support Partnership.

The ALNF, an independent charity dedicated to raising language, literacy and numeracy skills in Australia; in collaboration with the UWS School of Education and the NSW Department of Education's Multicultural Programs Unit, developed the RASP tutoring program.

The RASP targets new migrants from African and Afghan backgrounds in years 7-11 who have difficulty in literacy studies. This program offers up to 16 UWS Master of Teaching, Secondary, students each term to be trained by the ALNF to serve as effective literacy tutors for young migrants at an after-school setting.

Two exhibitions will be held to raise funds for this highly beneficial program. Works available for purchase will cover all mediums from paintings, photographs, sculptures, wood-work, textiles and ceramics.

- **Wednesday 30th May 2008, Ian Turbott Auditorium UWS Parramatta Campus**
- **Thursday 7th – Saturday 9th June 2008, Bean Art Gallery in Thirroul**

### UWS GALLERIES

The University has two galleries currently open to the public, these being the UWS Art Gallery, AD Building, Werrington North (Penrith) Campus; The Margot Hardy Gallery, Building 23, Bankstown Campus. Both are open to the public from 9.00am–5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

### UPCOMING 2008 EXHIBITIONS INCLUDE

#### **She's So Sweet**

A photographic exhibition by Barbara Doran, as part of UWS International Women's Day celebrations. To be opened by the 2007 Women of the West Award Winner, Juliana Nkrumah on Saturday 15th March 2008. Exhibition commences 7 March and continues until 30th May 2008 in the UWS Art Gallery, Building AD, Werrington North (Penrith Campus). All welcome.

#### **UWS Campus Art Project**

This project enables students in local Primary and Secondary Schools to showcase their artwork in exhibitions at the Margot Hardy Gallery, Bankstown Campus.

This project is designed to encourage school students to prepare their own art exhibition: selecting artistic creations for display, framing of artworks, captioning artworks and producing invitations for their exhibition. Each school exhibition runs for 8 weeks.

Participating schools are supplied with a resource kit from UWS, which includes information about The Campus Art Project and the Margot Hardy Gallery; a floor plan of the gallery to assist in planning the exhibition; details of UWS frames which are provided to schools, as well as templates for posters, art labels and permission letters.

**GETTING INVOLVED** The UWS Art Collection and Galleries aims to promote contemporary arts, with the purpose of enriching the community's educational, cultural and everyday experience, whilst visiting UWS. If you are interested in visiting an exhibition or exhibiting work at either gallery or are a school wanting to participate in the Campus Art Project, please contact Monica McMahon on [monica.mcmahon@uws.edu.au](mailto:monica.mcmahon@uws.edu.au) or 02 4620 3450 (office).



## 'SHE'S SO SWEET' – BARBARA DORAN OPENS AT UWS ART GALLERY

UWS Art Gallery, AD Building  
UWS Werrington North Campus  
On View from 7 March – 30 May 2008

UWS Art Gallery announces the opening of **She's So Sweet**, an exhibition of photography by Sydney artist, Barbara Doran, as part of UWS wide International Women's Day celebrations.

**She's So Sweet** is a series of rosy pink photographs, harking back to the 60's 'model woman' and housewife. Here we have the evolved, 5 star energy rated woman – yes she does it all – she cooks, she cleans, she brings home the bacon, she keeps herself looking good and keeps us connected to our kin.

The exhibition series begins with our 'model woman', dressed in a bodice of piped pink icing and a full skirt decorated in cream swirls, a beehive of melting fairy floss. When the dress is done – she eats it. Then the 'artist as model' is transformed into domestic multi tasking bliss – sporting an apron made of pink gloves that have a distinct association of multiple udders, she bakes a feast of pink patty cakes and keeps up crispy clean domestic 'service' all with the help of her handy 'modern' appliances.

Yes this woman is actually 'now' – beyond 2000. This woman is a player in economy – she's a working career climber. Here is she photographed working in an environment resonating modernist mouldings – her white lap top offset by her neat, pink business suit made of chux cloths – her cute hand bag made of bacon.

And next we see images to show that this woman has down time – a picnic party in the park with the kids, family and friends. The patty cakes are cooked, the picnic rug and gingham table cloth set the scene, everyone is taken care of, she has time for relaxation and research – our latest tabloid facts and figures – she was and is – so sweet.

These images are ponderables. On one hand the artist is trying to elude to a faultless,



an udder delight (left) – 2006  
120 x 95cm lambda print  
baker's delight (above) – 2006  
75 x 100cm lambda print

fantasy world - one that is not ours – but the familiar 60's feel reminds us this is somewhere we have come from and the insertion of very contemporary symbols defies dismissing this all as 'the past'.

These images tease us – prompt us to ask how far have we come – is it really about doing it all with 5 star energy ratings? Can we sustain it all and do we really have the energy? How much "fun are we having"? Was and is "damned domesticity" all that bad? Maybe we need to re-edit the script – isn't that what we have been doing all the way along – no shame in that, the confidence to correct errors is the substance of progress.

**She's So Sweet previews from the 7 to 14 of March 2008 and the exhibition will run through to 30 May 2008. Please join us!**

For further information please contact the UWS Art Curator, Monica McMahon on 02 4620 3450 or email [monica.mcmahon@uws.edu.au](mailto:monica.mcmahon@uws.edu.au) or visit online at [www.uws.edu.au](http://www.uws.edu.au)

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Barbara Doran was born 1971 in Wagga Wagga, Australia and grew up in Southern African countries Swaziland and Zimbabwe. Known for a diverse mix of skills, studies and experiences, her artwork similarly employs inter-disciplinary mediums macro and micro relationships between physical and symbolic systems.

Barbara's work has been exhibited in solo and group shows since 2003. Barbara Doran's work focuses upon the shifting grounds of mythologies, their disparities, values, histories and the very 'real' realities they bare. Doran grew up in Africa where these issues were highly visible. Returning to Australia and the 'developed' world only enhanced her awareness that there are 2 sides to every coin. Her art is also informed by other life experiences including world travel and studies in architecture, psychology, philosophy and anthropology. She has a MA in Environmental Planning and Environmental Aesthetics and is a lecturer at the University of New South Wales.

She has built a rammed earth house by hand and played a co-coordinating role in community development projects and festivals. For the last 7 years Doran has been working in multi media including film, music and performance.



# Community Connections@UWS

University of  
Western Sydney  
Bringing knowledge to life

E-NEWSLETTER FROM THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY ENGAGEMENT

ISSUE 3 • 2008



## FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM JAN TEMPLE

To all the wonderful people who I have had the great privilege of working with in partnership over the past 15 years as Manager Careers Service, Manager Industry Liaison, Director Regional Development and most recently Director University Engagement at UWS, its time for me to say... GOOD BYE! Yes... I'm finally retiring from the world of work, after talking about it for so long, to explore the next stage of my life and I'm truly looking forward to it.

In all my roles at UWS the focus has been on building links with the community for mutual benefit and this has proved a most rewarding experience which has highlighted the incredible talent and generosity of spirit residing in the communities UWS serves and in particular within Greater Western Sydney.

I will look back on my time at UWS with great pride and warmth of feeling that few can attribute to a place of work. It truly has been a most rewarding time for me.

Much has been achieved but there is still much to be done in developing and strengthening the University's engagement with its communities and in particular in building partnerships that support the development of Greater Western Sydney. I urge you to continue to find ways to link with UWS, as I will and to support the University in its engagement endeavours.

Warm regards, Jan Temple

## THANK YOU JAN

Jan Temple has been with the University of Western Sydney (UWS) since 1994. Jan has a Bachelor of Arts from Macquarie University and a Master of Letters from University of New England. Prior to her employment at UWS, Jan worked in human resources and training and development in private industry.

Jan is the Director University Engagement. During her time at UWS Jan has held the positions of Head of Careers Services, Director of Industry Courses, Manager Industry Liaison, Senior Manager Regional Development, Director Regional Development. Jan's roles at the University focused on industry outreach, graduate placement, facilitating academic involvement with industry, and building strategic industry and community partnerships with UWS, particularly in the region of Greater Western Sydney. Jan was instrumental in setting the community engagement agenda at UWS establishing the UWS Regional Council, the Business and Industry Advisory Panel, the Australian Universities Community Engagement Alliance (AUCEA), the UWS Partnership Awards and the UWS Regional & Community Grants.

Jan's role was about engaging with the wider community including government at all levels.

Jan was committed to providing ease of access for all sectors of the community to the expertise, services and facilities of the University and to the development of the region of Greater Western Sydney where she has lived for the past 30 years.

Jan's attitude towards work and to all of her staff (past and present) was greatly appreciated by all those who have worked with and for her. Jan was open minded in her decision making and always there to listen and lend a hand where ever and when ever. Jan has always had an attitude of give and take, which works both ways with the staff of OUE. Jan's passion, her positive attitude, her commitment and loyalty; her ability to understand people and to be an equal as well as a person in charge is what makes Jan the much loved and cherished person she is today.

It has been a great pleasure to work with Jan over many years and she will be missed not only by her staff at OUE, but by other UWS colleagues and also her community partners and contacts who she has worked tirelessly with over the years to build a foundation between them and UWS. We wish Jan the very best in her retirement and hope that all her dreams and goals are realised. The OUE Team!

## NEW STAFF MEMBER JOINS OUE TEAM!

Rob McDonald recently joined the Office of University Engagement on a six-month secondment from the College of Business, filling in for Yvonne Gatt who is currently on maternity leave. Rob has taken on the role of Community Engagement Facilitator for the College of Arts and is working to support the Office of University Engagement, the College of Arts and community partners on a variety of engagement initiatives.

Rob previously completed a Bachelor of Arts (Media and Communications) at Sydney University before taking up a media production position at marketing company Guthy-Renker Australia. Always harbouring an active interest in media and public relations, an opportunity soon beckoned at NSW Business Chamber where Rob assumed the role of Regional Media Coordinator within the

Public Affairs unit. In June 2007 Rob took up a position as an Administrative Support Officer with UWS in the Dean's Unit, College of Business, assisting the Associate Deans Engagement and International and Development. Rob's media experience, coupled with his prior exposure and work towards the College of Business' engagement goals, has prepared him well for his work with the OUE and the College of Arts.

Currently Rob is working on various College projects including a cross-college project with the College of Health and Science to facilitate a university delivered 'discovery science' enrichment activity for school students.

For information on College of Arts engagement projects please email Rob McDonald at [robert.mcdonald@uws.edu.au](mailto:robert.mcdonald@uws.edu.au)