THE GLOBAL REACH OF UTAS
Special issue

BRODIE NEILL (page 14)
International acclaim with a Tasmanian edge
CONCERT 2
Sunday 4 July   | Venue TBA 2:30pm  
Conductor Luke Dollman
N. Rimsky-Korsakov  | Capriccio Espagnol, Op.34
M. Ravel            | Ma Mère l'Oye
N. Rimsky-Korsakov  | Scheherazade, Op.35

CONCERT 3
Sunday 29 August  | Stanley Burbury Theatre 2:30pm
Conductor Myer Fredman (As part of the Australian Shakespeare Festival)
H. Berlioz         | Overture King Lear
G. Verdi           | Otello: The Willow Song and Ave Maria
F. Mendelssohn     | A Midsummer Night's Dream:
                   | Nocturne and Scherzo
R. Vaughan Williams| Serenade to Music
W. Walton           | Two pieces from Henry V
                   | I. Passacaglia; Death of Falstaff
                   | II. Touch her soft lips and part
P. Tchaikovsky     | Overture Romeo & Juliet

CONCERT 4
Sunday 26 September | Stanley Burbury Theatre 2:30pm
Conductor Myer Fredman | Viola Liz Gormley
F. Schubert         | Rosamunde: Overture, D.644
W. Walton           | Concerto for Viola and Orchestra
J. Sibelius         | Symphony No.5, Op.82

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Alumni News is the regular magazine for graduates and friends of the University of Tasmania. It is prepared for the Development and Alumni Office by the Communications and Media Office.

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Contents

Alumni and friends
A big thank you to everyone who supported the 2009 Alumni Annual Appeal.

Pip Courtney – looking forward, looking back
Reflections from the ABC Landline journalist on her father’s passion for the media … and the quest for the perfect Snickerdoodle.

Building the UTAS experience
The completion of three UTAS building projects will provide ongoing health benefits to all Tasmanians.

Statewide graduations
The Cradle Coast campus joins the party with its first Burnie ceremony.

Fellowships support marine conservation
Two UTAS alumni have been awarded Pew Fellowships for their work with seabirds and ocean ecosystems.

The timbre of Tassie timbers
Could local woods produce a violin that’s as marvellous as a Stradivarius?

UTAS alumni global reach
Special feature: Stories from alumni around the world, including:
A healthy collaboration in Vietnam

Designer guy
Internationally-acclaimed furniture designer Brodie Neill discusses the UTAS edge.

Alumni across the globe
London calling
Cycling for Olympic gold.

Postcard from Germany
Young alumni
What are they doing now?

UTAS Foundation Awards Dinner
Honorary degrees and distinguished alumni.

Alumni artists
Two Tasmanian alumni excelling in the arts.

Preparing for politics
Burnie Alderman James Simpson and his future in the political arena.

Alumni survey results
Your responses have helped shape the future direction for UTAS alumni.

Vale
Farewelling some of the people who made UTAS great.

Books from UTAS alumni
Profiles of some of the many books published by UTAS alumni from around Australia and overseas.

Designer guy
Internationally-acclaimed furniture designer Brodie Neill is consistently named among the world’s most influential designers. Here he is pictured with the ‘reverb’ chair – it is hand-formed and polished from sheet aluminium and was inspired by the reverberation of sound.
2009 Annual Appeal Thanks

The University of Tasmania Foundation wishes to thank everyone who generously supported our 2009 Alumni Appeal. Your gifts make a real difference towards developing excellence at UTAS and provide real opportunities to students for educational and social growth.

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For those alumni with a USA address wishing to receive USA tax deductibility for their gifts, contact the UTAS Foundation USA, PO Box 3995, Ithaca NY 14852-3995 USA; Fax +1 607 2777 0078.
A distinctive experience

Sometimes there are stories that are about much more than just a personal journey—and for me, in this issue of our UTAS Alumni News, there are many examples of this. As we look at the reach of our alumni across the globe, the story of Brodie Neill’s awe-inspiring career resonated with me. I believe it will with you as well.

Brodie, who graduated from UTAS almost a decade ago, is making his mark in the world as a top-class furniture designer. The images of his work that you will find in these pages are illustrative of his talent. Living and working in the UK, Brodie’s designs are known and sought after through Europe and the United States.

What stands out to me is Brodie’s belief that it is his Tasmanian creative roots that have given him that competitive edge—a point of difference and excellence in the international scene.

Many of you as UTAS alumni will agree with his observation. Certainly the rich pool of talent that we have, and continue to develop at UTAS at undergraduate, research and academic levels, reaffirms all that makes a UTAS qualification so special.

Another fine example of that is in the article about ABC Landline journalist Pip Courtney. Pip says that advice from her father and his peers prior to her commencing her degree in the 1980s has stood her in great stead for her award-winning career—and what fantastic advice it was, reinforcing the benefits of learning and knowledge.

As I write this, I am preparing to meet a small group of UTAS alumni in New York, and I look forward to hearing their stories following on from their UTAS experience. Other alumni events will be held locally and around the world during this year, bringing a sharp focus to the extent of our alumni expertise.

I take inspiration from you as our alumni and I hope that you, like Brodie Neill and Pip Courtney (as well as the many other alumni who have helped make this issue of Alumni News such a testament to UTAS talent), enjoy keeping your connection to your alma mater, the University of Tasmania.

Professor Daryl Le Grew
Vice-Chancellor, University of Tasmania

Enjoy your winter … or summer

The global reach of our alumni has never been better demonstrated than by the map which forms the centre-page spread of Alumni News in this issue. Wherever you are when you read this magazine, I hope it reminds you of your association with UTAS.

The aim of the UTAS Development and Alumni team is to build communication and relationships with our graduates, to build pride in the University, and to find ways of successfully connecting with you as alumni wherever you are around the world.

The team is endeavouring to extend its global reach in line with our far-flung alumni, and as well as functions we have planned in Tasmania and interstate, events in New York, Malaysia, the UK and China have also been scheduled this year. If you are able to attend any of these events, you will meet one of our senior team members there. We will be in touch with you about these events in the coming months.

Alumni News will continue to be posted out to those of you who wish to receive it in printed form. Many alumni have already opted to receive issues electronically, and you can view this issue along with previous issues of Alumni News at www.utasalumni.org.au. I draw your attention to the back cover of this issue where you will find details of this option. Some of you may also have discovered our presence on social networking sites, and inevitably we rely increasingly on email for communication. For e-minded generations, we encourage you to connect with us in this way.

Whether you are approaching winter or summer in your part of the world, I wish you all the very best.

Elizabeth Daly
Chair, University of Tasmania Alumni
Pip Courtney
Looking forward, looking back
By Kathy Grube

Pip Courtney had been working at the ABC in Hobart for just 18 months, her first job since graduating from UTAS, when she phoned her dad in tears. “I am the worst cadet journalist the ABC has ever had,” she told her father, Michael Courtney, a nationally respected journalist and long-term editor of The Examiner newspaper.

Her father managed to talk Pip out of throwing it all in to instead study wool classing in Geelong. Twenty-four years later, Pip has gone on to forge an award-winning career in journalism.

In 2009 Pip took out two state awards for excellence in rural journalism, and this year she was a finalist in the Australian Star Prize for rural broadcasting. Picking up state media awards every year since 2003, Pip was also named joint Queensland Journalist of the Year in 2007 for her story “Black Dog”, which was a collaboration with Sally Sara on depression in rural Australia.
After graduating from UTAS in 1985, Pip worked for ABC Radio and TV News Tasmania. Over the next seven years she was based in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie, covering everything from sport and courts to breaking news. Her career in rural current affairs began in 1993 when she was offered a position in Canberra on *Landline*, one of ABC TV’s longstanding programs.

It was during her first filming job for *Landline* that she met cameraman John Bean, who became her future husband. In 1994 she moved to *Landline*’s Melbourne office and stayed for eight years. Today, she is based in *Landline*’s Brisbane office. Pip spends about 80 days a year away from home, reporting from remote parts of Australia. Her travels have also taken her overseas, including a three-week tour last year to the United States. In 2008 she worked on stories about the International Year of the Potato in Peru, and the year before she reported on the rebuilding of the agricultural industry in East Timor.

Her blog, “Saddle Up”, of her travels through Texas and Iowa, attracted a loyal following. It covered everything from high-tech dairy farms and a life-sized butter cow to deep-fried produce on a stick and television, “They are reports not just about the particular industry, but stories that anyone can learn from. I had a panel beater ring me up once after a wool story of mine aired. He said the story taught him something about his own business.”

Pip believes it’s *Landline*’s in-depth and mainly positive stories that have made it essential Sunday lunchtime viewing – not only for Australian farmers, but also for urbanites. Half of *Landline*’s audience live in towns and cities.

Pip’s father died in January 1998, just a few months after being awarded an honorary doctorate from UTAS for his services to Tasmania. Pip said that if he was still alive he’d be interested to see how the journalism trade has changed.

“Dad was a true newspaper man and he used to tease me about working for radio and television,” she said.

“When we went on summer holidays together to Hawley Beach we would sit with the radio on and the newspapers spread out, doing a critique of each other’s media all morning. And then, when the evening television news came on, we would start at it all over again, much to Mum’s annoyance.”

Pip’s idol during her university years was chief political correspondent for *The Age*, Michelle Grattan. Pip pinned press clippings from Grattan’s stories on the walls of her tiny room at Christ College. The lecturers at UTAS helped inspire Pip’s passion for literature. She was particularly captivated by the intelligence and eccentricity of the late Margaret Scott.

“She would breeze into the lecture theatre and start being eccentric and fascinating,” Pip said. “No-one wagged her class.”

Pip and her film crew, which included husband John Bean, spent from dawn till dusk interviewing and filming four stories. These included an orchardist who started his own gourmet apple juicing business after refusing to put up with low market prices for his fruit; a wine grower who is avoiding the wine glut by turning his grape juice into wine vinegar; and a farmer who grows 70 different organic herbs and vegetables on just three acres.

Inspiring stories of survival are the ones that Pip loves most.

“Dad always told me that everyone has a story,” she said.

“I love telling stories about how people are not only surviving, but overcoming adversity to be successful in their chosen fields.

“They are reports not just about the particular industry, but stories that anyone can learn from. I had a panel beater ring me up once after a wool story of mine aired. He said the story taught him something about his own business.”

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The internet and social media technology have changed journalism dramatically. The boundaries of what a story is are changing. You can write about what happened on the way to a story as well as the story itself.”

One good example was Pip’s blog about Snickerdoodle biscuits. Grabbing some biscuits for the road from a bakery in Iowa during the US tour, she developed a love of the simple butter biscuits that are crunchy on the outside and chewy in the middle. And so began the quest for the best Snickerdoodle recipe in Iowa. It turned into a phenomenon that people still ask Pip about.

Growing up in Launceston with a newspaper editor for a father, Pip decided from a young age that journalism was her future.

“I loved reading and loved English and thought journalism was the natural path,” she said.

She sought advice from her father and one of his former colleagues and friend, Geoffrey Barker of the *Financial Review*, on what she should study at university to be a good journalist.

“They told me to study philosophy so that I would know about the great ideas and issues that had occupied men’s minds for centuries,” Pip said. “They also said English was important so that I would be able to recognise great writing. History was mentioned because Dad said one of the biggest problems with journalists was that they did not have perspective of what has happened over time. And politics, so I would have an in-depth understanding of political systems.

“They told me that, although I could not bring experience, I could bring knowledge to the job when I started out as a young journalist. My degree was purpose-built for me and gave me the grounding for what I wanted to do.”

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“She would breeze into the lecture theatre and start being eccentric and fascinating,” Pip said. “No-one wagged her class.”

With a love of reading and English that’s still as strong as when she enrolled at UTAS in 1983, Pip is now writing her own book. The book will profile some of the pioneers and inspirational people from rural Australia that she has met during her years travelling the nation.

“Dad always told me that everyone has a story.”
Hi-tech extension to Rural Clinical School

More than $1 million has been spent on extending the medical teaching facilities of the Rural Clinical School at the University of Tasmania in Burnie. The Australian Government investment in the school is designed to cater for growing student numbers and will also provide cutting-edge facilities to train future health professionals.

Developments include new teaching spaces, a study hub, breakout rooms for small group meetings, clinical teaching-consulting rooms, and a student lounge that opens onto a paved outdoor area.

Rural Clinical School Chief Executive Professor Judi Walker said that the facility is catering for growing student numbers in the region. It is also providing benefits to an increasing number of clinical supervisors and researchers in the wider north-west health community.

“The new facility incorporates leading-edge technologies, including video debriefing facilities, extended video conferencing options and the expanded Clinical Skills and Simulation Centre,” she said.

On opening the new facilities, Federal Health and Ageing Minister Nicola Roxon said the Rural Clinical School Program is proving crucial in the training of young doctors to ease the shortage of medical professionals in rural and regional areas of Australia, such as north-west Tasmania.
Hobart Unigym has re-opened after a year of extensive refurbishments, providing UTAS with some of the most advanced fitness options in the state. The renovations include upgrades to the existing Sport and Recreation site, as well as state-of-the-art equipment in the weights and cardio facility. It’s a more holistic and contemporary fitness environment, catering for overall wellbeing.

Gina Poulton, State Manager of Unigym, said members are appreciating the spacious layout of the Sandy Bay campus gym, as well as the extensive health and fitness opportunities. “While the majority of the new equipment is updated versions of what the gym previously had on offer, the revolutionary new pieces, such as the free motion cable cross-over and xtreme bike, allow clients to train in virtually any movement pattern with minimal adjustments required,” she said.

As well as the Hobart Unigym, the University runs Unigyms at the Launceston and Burnie campuses.

TAS VICE-CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR Daryl Le Grew recently welcomed Prime Minister Kevin Rudd to the architecturally-stunning $58 million Medical Science 1 building in Hobart.

The building is the first stage of the new UTAS Medical Science Precinct in Hobart’s CBD. Professor Le Grew said the Medical Science Precinct is an important development not just for the University but also for Hobart and the state as a whole. “This is an exciting development that puts Tasmania in the lead in terms of providing facilities for medical research and education,” he said.

“MS1 is the new base for the Menzies Research Institute and the Faculty of Health Science’s School of Medicine. We are co-locating for the first time our medical research and education, which will enable the highest levels of collaboration between our health professionals.”

Professor Le Grew said MS1 will soon be augmented by stage two of the development, which will see the $90 million Medical Science 2 building erected by the end of 2012.

Professor Le Grew said neither development would be possible without the support and financial contribution of the Australian Government, the State Government and the US-based Atlantic Philanthropies. “For this first stage, UTAS has received funding support of $23.5 million from the Australian Government, $9 million from the State Government and $7.5 million from Atlantic Philanthropies,” he said. “Along with the commitment from UTAS, the second stage has also been strongly supported with $44.7 million from the Australian Government’s Health and Hospitals Fund, $15 million from the State Government and a further $15 million from Atlantic Philanthropies.”

Hobart Unigym refurbished: Team leader Nadia Roulias helps Charlie Law use the new seated leg press machine.
Statewide graduations feature Cradle Coast campus

For the first time the University of Tasmania has held graduations statewide, with the inaugural north-west graduation ceremony held in Burnie last year. Almost 2,300 UTAS graduands donned caps and gowns to attend ceremonies in Launceston, Hobart and Burnie during December.

In 13 ceremonies, University of Tasmania Chancellor Mr Damian Bugg AM QC, Deputy Chancellor Yvonne Rundle and Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew conferred awards and degrees on 59 graduates in Burnie, 1,422 graduates in Hobart and 799 graduates in Launceston.

There was a special atmosphere in Burnie as the graduates from Education, Business, Science, Engineering and Technology, Arts and Health Science crossed the stage on their own turf, watched by around 250 guests. Formerly these students would have graduated at ceremonies held in Hobart or Launceston.

No rest for fast-tracked nurses

By Sharon Webb

Seventy students were recently awarded Bachelor of Nursing degrees in a graduation ceremony at Sydney’s Angel Place Recital Centre. The students studied at UTAS Sydney campuses at Rozelle and Darlinghurst, completing a fast-track, two-year degree that qualified them as registered nurses.

While the course runs for two years (compared with the three years offered by other universities and the UTAS Launceston campus), the Sydney students have the same course content, contact hours and practical experience as other nurses. The difference is the lack of holidays.

Meanwhile health management professionals from one of the nation’s largest health services also graduated with UTAS in Sydney.

The 29 graduates already work in leadership roles in the Sydney South-West Area Health Service’s hospitals and clinics. They include doctors, nurse educators, pharmacists, neurologists and X-ray experts.

The graduates are the first to complete a UTAS Master of Business Administration (Health Management), with another 50 health professionals beginning the course this year.

UTAS is also developing a Master of Management and Leadership (Health and Human Services) degree through its faculties of Health Science and Business, and a Doctor of Business Administration.

A career built on community involvement

By Sharon Webb

Megan Cavanagh-Russell has a vision of a future Cradle Coast campus with around 1,500 students and a position within UTAS much like any other Australian regional campus.

“To succeed, Cradle Coast really needs to hold onto its sense of relating to the community while maintaining the standards of the academy,” she said.

Awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters degree at the inaugural Cradle Coast graduation ceremony in December last year, Megan has now retired from a hugely varied teaching and academic career. But her guiding principle, community involvement, still exists. She is well known in Tasmania as a trainer of music teachers, a leader of teacher educators and a contributor to arts bodies and local development boards.

In 1988 Megan was appointed senior lecturer and manager at the Tasmanian State Institute of Technology (North West Centre). Later she was appointed director of the Cradle Coast campus. She was responsible for leadership and management, and ensuring that strong links were maintained between the University and the regional community.

Pondering her long career, Megan said there are three highlights: the creation of a Launceston-based centre for music studies; the establishment of a UTAS north-west campus; and the reconstruction of the UTAS Education Faculty.
Fellowships support marine conservation

**Marine expert:** Dr Beth Fulton is developing models that address the full impact of environmental threats on species diversity within an ecosystem.

Two UTAS alumni have been awarded 2010 Pew Fellowships in Marine Conservation for their work with seabirds and ocean ecosystems.

Dr Ben Sullivan, a Tasmanian-based coordinator for the BirdLife International Global Seabird Program, is working to reduce seabird bycatch, the catching and killing of non-target species, in open ocean longline and trawl fisheries.

Dr Sullivan's fellowship will utilise an existing seabird task force to conduct research and develop best practices for reducing the killing of seabirds in many of the bycatch hot spots around the world.

Dr Beth Fulton, science leader at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) in Hobart, received a 2010 Pew Fellowship in Marine Conservation for her work in developing models that address the full impact of environmental threats on species diversity within an ecosystem.

Dr Fulton will use this fellowship to work with selected fish and plankton data to develop scientific models that show how shifts in the number of species affect the broader ocean ecosystem and, by extension, the marine resources available to humans.

The Pew Fellowship in Marine Conservation is an international program that gives recipients US$150,000 for a three-year scientific research or conservation project designed to address critical challenges facing our oceans.

Vice-Chancellor's awards for community engagement

UTAS staff members who made an outstanding contribution in community engagement were recognised in the Vice-Chancellor's 2009 Awards for Exceptional Performance.

**Professor Rob White**, from the School of Sociology and Social Work, was nominated for consistent and outstanding levels of engagement with the community. Professor White has encouraged numerous students to come to UTAS to study as undergraduates or coursework or research postgraduates, often from key organisations.

**Dr Bernardo León de la Barra**, (Grad Cert ULT 2007) from the School of Engineering, was nominated for outstanding dedication in managing innovative and creative partnership programs which engage with the Tasmanian educational community. Dr León de la Barra's programs have ensured that the School of Engineering and the University of Tasmania have strong, ongoing links with schools throughout the state.

**Lucy Marshall**, (BA [Hons] 2007) from the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students & Education Division), was nominated for her outstanding example of significant community engagement for the Active Launceston program in the northern Tasmanian community.

**The Maritime Engineering Maths in Schools Program Team** was also nominated as an outstanding example of significant community engagement. Dr Giles Thomas, Dr Irene Penesis, Art Shrimpton, Associate Professor Dev Ranmathugala and Ms Sally McKenzie's dedication to the Maritime Engineering Maths in School Program – from the initial concept through to successful implementation – has been exemplary.

**Community engagement awards:**
- **Top left:** Dr Bernardo León de la Barra
- **Top right:** Lucy Marshall
- **Lower left:** Professor Rob White
The timbre of Tassie timbers

By Merian Ellis

STRADIVARIUS RELIED ON THE European timbers spruce and maple to make his famous violins. But UTAS research may soon reveal that violins crafted from Tasmanian timbers are equally remarkable in terms of acoustic and tonal qualities.

Maria Perez Pulido is a luthier – a creator and repairer of stringed instruments. She is a graduate of the Antonio Stradivari International Institute in Cremona, Italy, and has been making and restoring bowed string instruments using traditional timbers since 1991. But Maria is now researching, as the focus of her PhD, the potential of Tasmanian timbers for their use in making instruments from the violin family.

“When using traditional instrument-making techniques for the creation of bowed string instruments, Tasmanian woods seem to match some of the important tonal qualities of European woods,” Ms Pulido explained.

“This research aims to recognise the potential benefits of using Tasmanian woods for violin making by determining the acoustical and mechanical properties of species, including the hardwoods like blackwood, Tasmanian myrtle and sassafras, as well as the softwood from Huon, King Billy and celery-top pine.”

Timber for violins must be light, flexible and beautiful.

“King Billy and blackwood have been used successfully for many years to make instruments,” she said. “But what we are doing is putting some science behind the luthiers’ assumptions about the timbers.”

“Forestry Tasmania donated 31 slabs of wood, which I took over to the CSIRO in Melbourne. From these we cut 175 samples and these were tested by a machine that sent sound through them to determine their acoustic characteristics. The idea was to determine which areas of the slabs would be best to actually make the instrument.”

Ms Pulido plans to compare the scientific results for wood quality with the luthiers’ ear for picking timber suited to violin making.

“I will make a violin with traditional European timbers and another with the best of Tasmanian timbers,” she said. “Then one of my supervisors, Edwin Paling, who’s Head of Strings at the UTAS Conservatorium of Music, will organise to have both instruments played by an accomplished violinist to make a comparison of their sound quality.”

So far, Ms Pulido has made two violins out of Tasmanian timber. One of these is on permanent display at the Makers’ Gallery in Burnie.
Dreamscapes from the digital palette

By Cherie Cooper

The potential of new technology on the frontiers of art was explored in an exhibition at the UTAS NEW Gallery at Newnham earlier this year.

In DIGI, Launceston artist Brad Allen used a broad digital palette to explore the sculptural potential of coastlines and mountains, as well as the microscopic inner space of the body.

“Mr Allen has used cutting-edge technology to develop this emerging aesthetic, giving the viewer insight into the bright potential of the new world of digital art,” gallery curator Louise Reid-Davies said.

A Tasmanian trained in pre-press graphic art, Mr Allen opened his own commercial and new media design house in 1999.

“My fascination with creating imaginary worlds has been a lifelong passion,” he said.

“As a 10-year-old I drew pictures of spacecraft and planetary communities. Now I work as a 3D landscape artist.”

Mr Allen’s artwork was brought to life in collaboration with UTAS’s Human Interface Technology Laboratory (HIT Lab AU).

From drug testing to bomb detection

From the drug testing of elite athletes to helping identify explosives used by terrorists, separation science is delivering significant new discoveries for the benefit of all Australians.

Separation science involves the separation of complex mixtures into their components, followed by the measurement of the amount of each component present. An example is the measurement of a banned drug in an athlete’s urine. The separation step makes it easier to detect the banned drug by removing it from the many other components of urine.

The Australian Centre for Research on Separation Science (ACROSS), within the UTAS School of Chemistry, is developing new technology at the heart of the separation science system.

The unique technology is expected to have major implications for existing studies under way at the Hobart campus. These include biotechnology for the identification of disease markers, pre- and post-blast identification of improvised explosives used by terrorists, and improved pharmaceutical drug discoveries.

ACROSS Director Professor Paul Haddad said funding from a recent Australian Research Council Discovery Grant will focus on the design and evaluation of a new stationary science system. This will build on platform technology already patented and commercialised by UTAS and a major US manufacturer.

Advances in separation science at ACROSS have inspired new developments in biological sciences (genomics, proteomics and medicine), pharmaceutical sciences (drug discovery and characterisation), environmental sciences (ultra-trace residue analysis) and forensic sciences (illicit drugs, DNA fingerprinting and analysis of explosive residues).

ACROSS was established in 2001 as a strategic agreement between key researchers at UTAS and RMIT University.
Who do you think you are?

Researching Family History Unit

Do you want to learn about who you are and where you came from?
Do you love solving puzzles?
Do you want to leave a written legacy?
Do you like investigating?
Do you want to learn about your family’s medical history?
Whatever your reasons, genealogy is a stimulating hobby that will give you the insight that you are looking for.
The School of History and Classics invites you to enrol in this unique Research Family History Unit, which is being held intensively over six days from Monday 21 June 2010.
This unit is a hands-on, face-to-face applied history, focusing on historical research methods and archival searches in genealogical research for individuals interested in researching family histories.
You can choose to work on your own projects or on other case studies, under the guidance of an experienced academic.

For further details go to http://courses.utas.edu.au and enter the unit code HTA260, email: course.info@utas.edu.au or phone 1300 361 928.
A healthy collaboration in Vietnam

By Simone Yemm

Researchers from the Menzies Research Institute are working in collaboration with Vietnamese locals to improve health outcomes in non-communicable diseases (NCD). Associate Professor Leigh Blizzard leads a team of researchers developing a national system for the collation of data on the incidence and prevalence of heart disease, stroke, diabetes and cancer in Vietnam.

The project, titled National NCD Surveillance System, began in 2006 and will conclude at the end of this year. In addition to the collation of data, researchers hope to develop national strategies to prevent and manage NCD by implementing healthy lifestyle interventions and monitoring clinical outcomes of NCD management.

A fully equipped office has been established in Hanoi and qualified staff appointed. Considerable training has taken place to develop and strengthen staff skills in project management, survey methodology, information systems, health promotion, and the planning and evaluation of health-related interventions. Using WHO protocols, eight provinces from Hanoi to Can Tho have been included, and 12,335 individuals surveyed to date.

The project has been instrumental in establishing a national NCD prevention and control plan by developing: national targets for hypertension and diabetes; an implementation plan for early detection and management; policy on the financial obligations of government and private insurance; treatment guidelines for hypertension and diabetes; a system of maintaining health records for individuals; and guidelines for the duties of local health collaborators. Protocols have also been developed for an action plan for hospital staff training, and the evaluation of hospital-based reporting.

In the next phase, Menzies researchers plan to improve hospital-based information systems by developing guidelines on the structure and specialised staffing of hospital record departments, and upgrading computer equipment and software systems.

A brainwave leads to medical books for Cambodia

By Michelle Nichols

A conference presentation on the lack of textbooks for medical students in Cambodia has led to a tangible donation from the UTAS Faculty of Health Science.

Late last year Dr Jamie Chapman, from the School of Medicine, attended an anatomy conference in Melbourne. He was fascinated by a presentation on medical teaching in Cambodia.

“It mentioned how medical schools were in desperate need of textbooks,” Jamie said. “Many were either very old or entirely in French.”

Coincidentally, a couple of months before, Jamie had raised the question of finding a charity for textbooks that might be discarded in the School of Medicine’s move to its new Hobart building.

“Throwing them away wasn’t an option for me,” Jamie said. “They are too valuable and I was sure they could be put to better use.”

He sent an email asking for textbook donations for Cambodia and the response was immediate.

Inundated with more than 550 medical textbooks on anatomy, biochemistry, pathology and immunology, Jamie worried he’d bitten off more than he could chew – before spending a week collating, organising and listing the books into discipline subjects.

He sent the book list to the initial conference presenter, who passed it on to his contacts in Cambodia. They wanted not just the recent titles, but all of them!

Now the books are destined for the International University in Phnom Penh and the UTAS Foundation and School of Medicine have come to the aid of Jamie to get them there, donating the funds to cover the transport costs.
BRODIE NEILL HAD BEEN SITTING ON A bus for 23 hours. Volcanic activity in Iceland had grounded all planes across Europe, and Brodie, who’d been working with clients in Italy, was keen to get home to his London studio. Twenty-three hours with a hard bus seat – it’s an example of what great furniture design tries to avoid.

“Furniture design is about making functional objects as visually stimulating as possible,” said Brodie, 30, who graduated from UTAS with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2001. “When clients call me up, they ask for a product that will instil a sense of excitement and emotion. Furniture will always be a practical object, but we try to make it a little more important and a little less mundane.” And Brodie’s career has been anything but mundane! The Tasmanian-born designer has captured the attention of the international design scene with a distinctive use of form – fluid, continuous lines fused with colourful and modern materials.

Working from his studio in London’s East End, Brodie is consistently mentioned in the same excited breath as many of the world’s top designers. He was included in TIME magazine’s “Top 100 Most Influential Designers for 2008”, and was named one of the best designers in the world by Taschen’s Design Now (which is like an encyclopaedia of contemporary design).

Have you ever seen his designs? Maybe you have, without even knowing it. Brodie Neill objects find their way across the globe into businesses such as hotels and airport lounges, as well as television studios and international galleries. Recently they’ve even been used in movie sets – they portray contemporary style and sophistication. Many of the reasons why Brodie’s distinctive brand stands out on the international scene, he explained, relate back to his UTAS education.

“The course at UTAS gave me an edge,” he said. “It’s not just me who’s noticed this. Journalists and clients and various commentators highlight the fact that my approach is different, more thorough, and diverse. “I travel the world, going to New York, London and Milan. The designs I see have been created by pen and paper and computer. But UTAS encouraged a hands-on, sculptural approach – very creative, very challenging, very form-oriented. We had to build the objects ourselves, which meant we got to understand the materials that go into the process. One day it may be making a chair out of wood, and the next, something out of steel. I’ve always had a bit more of an industrial-design outlook, but my creative roots are definitely Tasmanian.”

It was at a young age that Brodie decided he wanted to be a furniture designer. A creative child, he was always drawing and making and challenging himself. When he grew into his teens, Brodie wanted to see if the artworks he created could take on a function. Even today, his work remains very sculptural, bordering on art.

When Brodie got to university, it confirmed to him that furniture design wasn’t just a local industry, but a profession that could take him around the world. “I realised that my passion for design would allow me to explore different cultures,” he said. “I wanted to see how far it could take me. “The other thing that surprised me at uni was that people were moving to Tasmania specially to do that course. Furniture design isn’t taught like that anywhere else in Australia. And here I was, a Tasmanian, with the best design school for what I wanted to do, within walking distance of my home.”

From UTAS Brodie received a fellowship to study at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), a college that consistently ranks as the number one fine arts school in the US. UTAS and RISD share a hands-on approach to design, with many students participating in exchange programs between the schools. In fact, Brodie’s teacher and the...
current department head at RISD, Peter Walker, is also a UTAS Furniture Design alumnus.

While working in the States, Brodie began to receive more and more commissions from Italy, particularly Milan. It’s the centre of the furniture design universe. So it seemed natural to move his base to London.

And that’s how Brodie ended up on a 23-hour bus trip between Milan and London. These days, he spends hours, days, and weeks travelling every year. But trips back to Tassie don’t feature as often as Brodie would like.

“My family is still all in Hobart, as well as lots of friends,” he said. “I wish I could get back more often. Living in London, I miss the calmness of Tasmania. Everything is peaceful and easy going.

“I also think about the good food in Tasmania! But mostly, I miss the familiarity of my home town.”

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**a: e-turn**
The e-turn is a sculptural bench that’s entirely handmade in lacquered fibreglass. Brodie said that the e-turn refers to eternity. It represents a continuous ribbon that twists and turns from seat to structure, before overlapping and returning to a seat. Some reviewers said it’s like a 3D realisation of a line.

**b: jet**
Brodie’s jet desk is appropriately named because it got some reviewers excited about blasting off into a space-age future. Jet was shown at New York’s 2008 Contemporary Furniture Fair, and it features the seamless fluidity that’s typical of Brodie’s style.

**c: reverb**
This chair was described as beautiful and elegant; it was showcased in a London gallery last year. Brodie said that his design, hand-formed and mirror-polished from sheet aluminium, was inspired by the reverberation of sound.

**d: @ chair**
The @ chair was chosen as one of TIME magazine’s best designs of 2008. Notice how the continuity never breaks, even after its strip widens and changes directions to form a chair seat and back. The @ chair has become one of Brodie’s signature pieces.

**e: scuba**
Brodie used the aerodynamics of a high-performance sports car as the inspiration for the scuba lounge. But the name scuba has more to do with the underwater world – watching fish species drift by with ease and elegance. One reviewer described this design’s sweeping sides as being “like the wings of a manta ray”.

**f: remix**
Brodie launched the remix lounge in London last year. It’s a low chaise longue carved from a mixture of laminated plastic, plywood, chipboard and fibreboard – some of which are reclaimed. The random mix is shaped from the one laminated block to create a smooth, organic surface.
GLOBAL REACH

Where are our alumni now?

This map shows the number of UTAS alumni in different countries.

Over 77,000 students have graduated from UTAS since it opened its doors in 1890, and the Development & Alumni Office sends out 41,000 copies of Alumni News to graduates living and working around the globe today.

Want to attend an international event but not hearing from us? Simply contact Melanie.Roome@utas.edu.au to be placed on the event mailing list.

Want the latest news on international alumni? Go to www.utasalumni.org.au
Over 77,000 students have graduated from UTAS since it opened its doors in 1890, and the Development & Alumni Office sends out 41,000 copies of Alumni News to graduates living and working around the globe today.

International alumni event being held in 2010.

Numbers of alumni who graduated in 2009 from various UTAS campuses.

Kuwait – 4

China – 406

Shanghai, 7 July

Malaysia, date TBC

International alumni event being held in 2010.

Numbers of alumni who graduated in 2009 from various UTAS campuses.

Tasmania – 4,199

Sydney – 46

Want the latest news on international alumni? Go to www.utasalumni.org.au
Racing to the Olympics: UTAS alumnus Kirsty Broun has swapped law for cycling – for the time being.

GL oBAL  ReACH

Two Tasmanian researchers will head to the United States to study marine protected areas and renewable energy technology, as the 2010 winners of the Fulbright Tasmania Scholarship.

Associate Professor Graham Edgar, a marine ecologist at the Tasmania Aquaculture and Fisheries Institute (TAFI), will research the effectiveness of marine protected areas as a tool for biodiversity conservation.

Simon Gamble (MBA 2006), Manager of Technology and Commercialisation at Hydro Tasmania, will study the application of renewable energy technology in modern power systems.

Associate Professor Edgar (PhD Zoology 1983) will spend four months at the Centre for Applied Biodiversity Science (Conservation International) in Washington, DC. He will also work with researchers at the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Californian Channel Islands Marine Park.

“The aim of the project is to improve marine conservation planning through the development of models that accurately predict ecological benefits arising from one important tool available to managers, the declaration of marine protected areas, including their value protecting populations of threatened species,” he said.

“The project will also look at cost-effective ways of monitoring the inshore marine environment through information provided by volunteer divers trained in scientific survey techniques.

Simon Gamble will spend four months with the US National Renewable Energy Laboratory. He will use the information gained to support the development of a renewable energy power system and research facility for the Bass Strait islands.

His Fulbright Scholarship will also create relationships to assist building the UTAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Power Systems.

The Fulbright Commission annually awards up to 25 Fulbright Scholarships for Australians to study in the United States. For more information about the Fulbright Scholarships, visit www.fulbright.com.au

Fulbright scholarship takes researchers to the US

DETERMINATION, ATTENTION TO detail and a thrill of pursuit are worthy attributes for a top-line lawyer – or a super-competitive road cyclist.

UTAS alumnus Kirsty Broun has balanced these two passions over the last few years but now she’s taking a break from law to pursue her dream of cycling in the 2012 London Olympics.

Kirsty’s cycling career started as a 16-year-old in north-west Tasmania when her coaches predicted that she would compete in the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

Disappointingly, glandular fever and a knee operation put those ideas out of her reach. She spent her early twenties focused on her other dream of becoming a lawyer, graduating in law at UTAS before moving to Bundaberg in Queensland to work in commercial litigation.

But the balmy Bundaberg weather proved too much of a lure to leave her bike in the shed and Kirsty soon found herself back in the saddle competing in local club competition.

A big win in a road race in Brisbane put her talents in the spotlight and a year ago Kirsty was offered a place in the Australian road cycling team to race in Qatar.

At 30 years old, Kirsty is just reaching the peak age for road racing, but beyond her Olympic dream she is happy to see her future focus on law.

“It is great to have my career under my belt so I can give racing my best shot and know that I can come back to something I love when I finish my cycling career,” she said.

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Postcard from Germany
By Michelle Grima

The Life of Judith Marquardt is as inspirational as any of the texts she would have studied as a literature student at UTAS.

Through a passion for the written word and foreign languages, Judith is now living the life inspired by her studies on the other side of the world.

Based in Germany, Judith’s career has taken her to exciting destinations, cultures and professions, including her latest role at one of Germany’s best business schools as the Chancellor (Head of Administration) at HHL – Leipzig Graduate School of Management.

Her path to such great academic heights started at The Fahan School, in Hobart, where, as Judith Sallis, she was introduced to the French and German languages.

Surrounded by supportive teachers, she received various scholarships before her interest took on a whole new level at UTAS.

After securing further scholarships to study language in Germany for 12 months at the University of Tubingen, Judith returned to UTAS to complete her PhD in German in 1990.

Graduating the following year, she worked as a tutor in the former German Department at UTAS, and also taught the language to Fahan students.

“I was very fortunate to have excellent faculties in the German and French departments at UTAS, and a small class with highly motivated fellow students,” Judith recalls.

But it was at a Perth conference in 1993 where her professional path set her on a new personal journey.

“I presented a paper at this conference and I met my future husband Jochen, who also presented a paper there,” she recalled.

“He is from Leipzig, but when the wall fell he took a position in the German Department at the University of South Africa in Pretoria.

“I spent 1995 in South Africa and while I was there I worked for the German-South African Cultural Association, organising student exchanges and internships.”

Judith and Jochen moved to Germany during Christmas 1995, when he was appointed Director of the Heinrich von Kleist Museum in Frankfurt (Oder).

Soon after, Judith took a position as Executive Assistant to the Scientific Director of an international research institute, IHP – Innovations for High Performance Microelectronics – and a couple of years later completed an MBA at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder).

After continual progression through the university ranks, she is now the Chancellor at the oldest private business school in Germany, HHL – Leipzig Graduate School of Management, which offers master and doctoral programs in English.

But it’s not all business for Judith. In her spare time she performs oratorios as a member of a choir in Halle (Saale) and rejoices in her German lifestyle.

“In all, I love living in Germany because of its proximity to so many different cultural regions, the rich history, the music, literature, art, theatre, being able to fly for just two hours and be in a totally different country,” she said.

But her homeland, Tasmania, remains close to Judith’s heart.

“I don’t get to return to Tasmania often enough,” she said. “It’s such a long way, and it’s hard to take sufficient time off to make it worthwhile.

“Each time I do come home, there have been new developments, but they don’t seem to have changed its character. Hobart is still a wonderful place to live.”

Judith’s father, Dr John Sallis, is Reader in Biochemistry at UTAS until his retirement in 2001.

Leading International Law expert Professor Tim McCormack has been appointed special adviser on international humanitarian law to the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

Until recently Professor McCormack was Foundation Australian Red Cross Professor of International Humanitarian Law at the University of Melbourne Law School. He is a graduate of the UTAS Law School (1982) and is currently Adjunct Professor of Law at UTAS.

In his new position Professor McCormack will focus on the application and interpretation of international humanitarian law in relation to crimes within the jurisdiction of the court, as well as on general principles of criminal law and legal issues related to military structures.

The International Criminal Court is an independent permanent court that investigates and prosecutes people accused of the most serious crimes of international concern – genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

ICC prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo said Professor McCormack has a worldwide reputation for his scholarship and expertise in this area.

“He combines a deep knowledge of the law with how it has been applied in military operations,” he said.

“He will advise my office on complex legal issues such as indiscriminate attack, proportionality and command responsibility.”

For the past decade Professor McCormack has worked closely with the Australian Red Cross and the Australian Defence Force. He was involved in establishing the Asia Pacific centre for Military Law at the University of Melbourne Law School.

He acted as amicus curiae on international law matters before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia for the trial of Slobodan Milosevic. He also provided expert Law of War advice for the defence of David Hicks before the US Military Commission in Guantanamo Bay.
The UTAS Community Friends and Networks Program (CFnP) has been launched.

This program is aimed at providing 'new to town' UTAS students with assistance in accessing social, volunteer, work experience, and community networks.

Acting Pro Vice-Chancellor for Students and Education, Professor Gary O’Donovan, said CFnP helps students studying at UTAS experience the rich and vibrant Tasmanian lifestyle.

“The UTAS Community Friends and Networks Program connects students who are new to town with Tasmanian people from all walks of life,” Professor O’Donovan said. “It’s a way to get to know the locals.”

Students who are welcome to participate include international students, migrants, and students newly arrived on humanitarian visas, as well as those from other Australian states and territories or regional Tasmania.

CFnP volunteers include local staff and students at UTAS, and individuals and families from the wider Tasmanian community. The program is statewide and will be run out of both Launceston and Hobart.

Volunteers in the program offer friendship and local knowledge to the students who are new to town.

“This may involve meeting for coffee, sharing a home-cooked meal, having a BBQ, going on a bushwalk or sharing other activities with the student out and about,” Professor O’Donovan said.

“Volunteers are also a great source of local knowledge to support the students finding links in the community.”

For information about joining the CFnP call (03) 6226 2548 (southern Tasmania) or (03) 6324 3566 (northern Tasmania) or email community.friendship@utas.edu.au

UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew has welcomed the release of the Baird review final report into international education in Australia.

Professor Le Grew said UTAS supports the report’s recommendations, which include improved regulation of Australia’s international education sector.

The recommendations of the report of former MP Bruce Baird, Stronger, simpler, smarter ESOS: supporting international students, were released by the Federal Government in March.

“This University is very supportive of more support for international students and improved information, including mechanisms to improve international students’ experience while they are studying in Australia,” he said.

“Over the past few years, UTAS has been improving the experience it can offer to students who choose to study overseas in Australia.

“UTAS has zero tolerance to racial vilification and any behaviour that impacts on the safety of international students, both on and off campus. We also have a high quality and entirely ethical approach to our interaction with our international students.”
Matt Pride

Bachelor of Engineering (Ocean Engineering) 2006
Installation Engineer for Technip

Matt is currently based in Perth where he works as an installation engineer for Technip, a French company that specialises in on-shore, off-shore and subsea design and installation. He travels extensively, often at a moment’s notice, to locations as diverse as France and Indonesia.

Life at AMC: “AMC was just incredible. To be able to speak regularly with your lecturers, to be friends with your lecturers, was just something that worked so well for me. The classes, the access to the facilities – the ship simulator, the towing tank, the wave pool – you just can’t get that kind of experience anywhere else.”

Life after AMC: “It’s just been amazing. If you want to work from the office you can do that or if you want to get out to where the work is happening offshore, Technip also offers you that. There are so many options open to you.”

Matt was part of one of AMC’s 30th-year celebrations in Perth last month.

Richard Gleeson

Bachelor of Applied Science (Agriculture) 2009
Assistant Director (Internal Investigations), Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Canberra

Paul Hubbard

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws 2005
Policy Analyst, Department of Treasury, Canberra

Rachel Mallinson

Bachelor of Commerce 2002
Executive Manager Financial Services, Circular Head Council, Tasmania

Kate Graham

Bachelor of Arts 2006
Second Secretary Political (Designate) at the Australian Embassy Beijing, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Dr Danny Cheah

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (Hons) 2004
Psychiatry Registrar, Royal Hobart Hospital

Meredith Roe

Bachelor of Education 2008
Teacher’s aide with a high needs – special needs student at St Michael’s Collegiate School, South Hobart, Tasmania

Michael Shi

Bachelor of Information Systems 2007
Master of Professional Accounting (Business Management)
Tutor in UTAS program at AIEN, Shanghai Ocean University, China
Honorary degrees for marine geoscientist and engineer

Two University of Tasmania graduates recently received honorary Doctor of Science degrees in recognition of their esteemed careers and outstanding public service.

UTAS's first female engineer graduate, Koesmarihati Sugondo, and internationally renowned marine geoscientist Philip Symonds have both made enormous contributions in their specialist fields – and to society.

Ms Koesmarihati was a Colombo Plan scholar and one of the University of Tasmania's first two female engineering graduates in 1966.

Now retired, she spent her professional life working in the telecommunications industry and rose through the ranks to become a Director of PT Telkom, one of the biggest state-owned telecommunication companies and the largest cellular mobile phone provider in Indonesia.

Dr Symonds gained a Bachelor of Science degree with first class honours in Geophysics from the University of Tasmania in 1971.

Dr Symonds' research into the morphology of the sea floor, sediment thickness and tectonic history has had a major impact on the Australian economy through, for example, offshore oil exploration, delineation of shipping routes and the nomination of marine protected areas.

The Foundation Graduate Award recognises a high-achieving graduate who is judged to have the potential to shape the world through their vision, leadership and professionalism.

The science of success

After Emily Hilder finished her postdoctoral work at Berkeley University in the United States, she could have gone anywhere to work – such was her academic prowess and Berkeley's standing in chemistry.

But she decided to come back to Tasmania. She has since established herself as one of Australia’s most talented and productive young researchers in analytical chemistry, enjoying a national and international reputation for her ability to perform high-quality research in separation science.

Awarded the 2010 Foundation Graduate Award by UTAS, Dr Hilder told the 500-strong crowd at the Wrest Point Casino dinner that she had been tugged back into the fold of the family who had supported her though her studies – her family and her closest friends.

She said it was also a decision driven by the quality of the research environment in the Australian Centre for Research on Separation Science, based at UTAS.
Monash VC is 2010 distinguished alumnus

The Vice-Chancellor of Monash University, Professor Edward Byrne, has been awarded the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award, presented recently at the UTAS Foundation Awards Dinner at Wrest Point Casino.

Presenting the award, UTAS Alumni Committee Chair Elizabeth Daly said the University was honoured to have him as one of its alumni.

“Professor Byrne’s career achievements span many spheres and are outstanding by any measure,” she said.

“In recognition of his contribution to the maritime industry, Gary Prosser was named the recipient of the Peter Morris Prize at the Australian Maritime College’s awards dinner last December.

The award recognises an alumnus who has made a significant contribution to the enhancement of the maritime industry.

At the time of the awards dinner, Gary was coordinating his move from the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, where he was Deputy Chief Executive Officer – Maritime Standards Division, to undertake the next part of his career as the Secretary-General of the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities in Paris, France. He is now located in Saint-Germain-en-Laye, in the western suburbs of Paris.

With a Diploma in Teaching and a Bachelor of Education from UTAS, Gary was originally a graduate of the pre-integration AMC and has more than 30 years’ experience in the maritime sector.
When speaking to jewellery designer Emily Snadden, it’s hard not to be distracted by the beautiful silver twigs dangling from her ears and twined around her finger.

Her unique handmade creations range from the silver twig jewellery, to sleek, modern pod-like pendants and lovingly crafted pillows of silver that appear delicately wrinkled.

“Most of my production range work is inspired by branches, twigs, seed pods and natural flora,” Emily said.

Twenty-nine-year-old Emily always wanted to be a jewellery designer, but she has also trained as a photographer. She completed both a bachelor degree and honours in photography at the UTAS Tasmanian School of Art, and has since also gained a Bachelor of Arts (Jewellery) and Master of Arts Practice at Charles Sturt University.

Her foray into jewellery making and design is going very well. She has her own brand, Emily Snadden Designs, as well as the label Little Twig, which is a collaboration with graphic designer Peta Riddell. Emily also produces jewellery, brooches, cards and stationery.

She was awarded Third Prize in the 2008 national Contemporary Jewellery Award of the Griffith Regional Art Gallery. Her piece The Bends (2008, fine silver and sterling silver die-formed pendant) is an acquisition of the National Contemporary Jewellery Collection, Griffith Regional Art Gallery, NSW.

“I’ve been experimenting with the materiality of my conceptual works, pushing the silver to do things it normally wouldn’t do, making it look like fabric or folds,” she said.

Emily said the emerging craft scene in the Tasmanian art community has provided a venue to showcase her work.

“As an emerging artist, it’s really exciting for the young designers coming through to be able to showcase what they do and to develop their skills,” she said.

“It’s very rewarding to be able to put it out there and see if people like it, and to witness their response.” Emily said the coming year would see her busily preparing for the coming ‘The Market’ events, held on the first Sunday of every month in Hobart. She is also hoping to have another exhibition and expand her business.

For more information on Emily’s work, visit: www.emilysnadden.com
POTS, CUPS AND VASES USUALLY come to mind when you think of ceramics – not monsters, action men and bejewelled teddy bears.

But artist Vipoo Srivilasa’s ceramic art pieces break the mould – figuratively speaking. His designs are a delightful and deft fusion of traditional and experimental forms. His work is often brightly coloured, sometimes jewel-studded, and occasionally glittering. It always contains a strong, playful sense of fun and irony.

His Action Man series (2001 – 02) consists of a series of ceramic men resembling children’s action figure toys. But instead of army fatigues or uniforms, the miniature icons are clad in metallic or sparkling jewellery or jumpsuits, creating an entirely different interpretation of the heroic masculine figure.

According to Vipoo, who is now based in St Kilda, his reason for working with ceramics is relatively simple: “I just like working with clay.”

Vipoo was born in Bangkok, Thailand, in 1969. He gained a Bachelor of Art (ceramic) from Rangsit University in Thailand, which he followed with a Graduate Diploma of Arts (ceramic) from Monash University, Melbourne, in 1997.

In 1998 he received his Master of Fine Art and Design (ceramic) from the UTAS Tasmanian School of Art.

Tasmania’s beautiful environment and especially the beaches attracted him to the state.

Vipoo’s Mythical Monster Teapots series is a key example of his subversion of traditional ceramic forms. His series of tea pots more closely resembles monsters than staid kitchenware. They invoke a sense of both knowing and strangeness in the viewer.

Vipoo also holds workshops and masterclasses where he helps others hone their skills in ceramics and he has worked in conjunction with primary school students, helping them create with clay.

His affinity for art and creating beautiful objects began early in his life when, as a schoolboy in Thailand, he would make and sell jewellery made of clay to his friends, earning himself pocket money. This evolved into his later designing and selling jewellery on a freelance basis.

Vipoo acknowledges the playfulness of his artwork, saying that fun is important to what he does. He calls his pieces “light-hearted”. “Fun plays a big part in my work,” he said. “I think it comes from my personality.”
Preventing for politics

By Merian Ellis

How many of our leading politicians are actually prepared for the job when they take their place in parliament or local government? Burnie-based UTAS arts graduate 25-year-old James Simpson has made the most of his educational opportunities to ensure his future in the political arena.

When he was about 12 years old, James decided that he wanted to be a politician. His first steps were to join the student council in primary and secondary school. His suitability for leadership roles became even more evident at Hellyer College, when he was voted College President.

“When I was 18 I spent time studying what the major parties stood for and decided that my view on life was most closely aligned with the Liberal Party,” he said.

“I joined the party and helped out with the 2004 election campaign in Tasmania.”

James enrolled at UTAS in 2003, studying arts and majoring in political science.

“I moved to Launceston to study and one of the benefits of this was that it allowed me to learn more about another useful precursor to my career in politics, the dramatic arts,” he said. “I was able to complete two years in the School of Visual and Performing Arts as part of my arts degree.

“Halfway through my third year at UTAS, I spotted an opportunity to gain some hands-on experience in politics. I applied for and got a job as an electorate officer for Senator Stephen Parry. It was great to see how the Australian political system works at the highest level, and to see the day-to-day decision making processes both on the ground here in Tasmania and in Canberra.

“It was also really hard because I was working full time, as well as trying to continue with my degree. When I was home in Burnie I attended lectures at the Cradle Coast campus, which I really loved. Getting that face-to-face attention really helped me to stay focused on finishing my degree.”

Despite the heavy work and study load, James was awarded the Cradle Coast Arts Faculty Award for History.

“I particularly loved the history subjects with Professor Mike Davis, because they were all about the politics of the past,” he said.

James left the job with Senator Parry after two and a half years, and graduated from UTAS in 2007. It wasn’t long after this that he found his first opportunity to get started in politics.

After a vigorous campaign in the local council elections last October, James received a creditable 1,259 votes (polling well ahead of three elected aldermen) and was sworn in as one of the youngest aldermen ever in the Burnie City Council.

The sad loss of an outstanding young man

Aaron Mackrill, the 2008 Tasmanian Young Achiever, passed away on 25 April 2010 from complications related to cystic fibrosis.

Aaron, who was a past president of Cystic Fibrosis Tasmania and a nursing graduate from UTAS, was just 29 years of age.

“Aaron was born with cystic fibrosis and was not expected to live into his teens,” said the President of Cystic Fibrosis Tasmania, Scott Lancaster. “But after receiving a double lung transplant, he received a second chance at life.”

Aaron’s health improved and he was named Tasmanian Young Achiever in 2008 in recognition of his tireless work in raising awareness of cystic fibrosis, diabetes and organ donation. He also received the Young Achiever Community Service Award and was a finalist in the Spirit of Tasmania category in the same year.

Aaron’s determination and strength of character in overcoming personal adversity was also recognised when he was awarded the Pride of Australia Courage Medal in 2008.

“Aaron was an inspiration to all those that knew him,” Mr Lancaster said. “He refused to let a ‘little thing like CF’ stop him from achieving great things.

“He lived life to the full. Unfortunately, that life has been cut cruelly short, and we have lost an outstanding young Tasmanian.”

For more information on cystic fibrosis please visit the CF Australia website at www.cysticfibrosis.org.au
The University of Tasmania’s School of Architecture and Design is working with the internationally acclaimed urban design practice Gehl Architects, from Copenhagen, to create inner-city development plans for Hobart and Launceston. Forty students from the Master of Architecture program are collating data on the way the cities are used by people, working directly with Jan Gehl and his team. With staff from both Launceston and Hobart City Councils, the students will contribute to public-space and public-life studies, documenting the quality of the streetscape and pedestrian use of streets, malls, courtyards and parks. This observation and analysis of the ways people use public spaces provides an understanding of how the structure of the urban environment influences human behaviour. These studies are part of a process of urban analysis that has been developed by Gehl Architects over the past 30 years. They have been used as the basis of the redevelopment of many cities world-wide, including Melbourne, Sydney, London and New York.

Envisaging the future: UTAS’ Helen Norrie, with State Architect Peter Poulet and Architecture graduates Adam Dyason and Alysia Bennett.

Urban transformation: Hobart’s Elizabeth Street bus mall now, and the transformed future view created by architecture and design students Alysia Bennett and Adam Dyason.
THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO answered the alumni survey – more than 650 in total – which featured on the back cover of the previous edition of Alumni News. Our prize winner was Wendy Bowen of Lindisfarne, Tasmania. Your responses have helped shape the future direction for UTAS Alumni, providing impetus and guidance for our plans, below. We aim to provide graduates with the connections they desire.

By Melanie Roome
Alumni & Development Manager

Alumni News will still be published and distributed twice a year, in June and December. Please provide us with interesting material by letting us know what you are doing. For the significant number of you who wish it, you may now receive Alumni News electronically (see back cover of this issue).

As 77% of respondents preferred to receive electronic communication from us, we have launched a monthly e-newsletter featuring news that you told us you would like to hear about: short courses, postgraduate opportunities, public lectures, faculty talks, UTAS Alumni networking events and news of fellow alumni. Of course your email address needs to be up to date with us for you to receive this.

We have established a facebook page www.facebook.com/UTASAlumni and LinkedIn groups for UTAS alumni in Australia and, so far, in the UK. Through these tools you may care to stay connected with us and other alumni.

Our 2010 program includes several events being held in Tasmania this year (where the vast majority of you are), and one each in Sydney, Melbourne, the UK, USA, Malaysia and China. We will visit other states and countries in future years. If you would like to be a contact person in your state or country, please drop me an email at Melanie.Roome@utas.edu.au. Our goal is to help you establish or revitalise active interstate and overseas networks. Events are listed on our events calendar at www.utasalumni.org.au as they are confirmed and registration for them is generally online.

As you expressed considerable interest in receiving discounts through UTAS Alumni, a fresh package of benefits will be launched later in 2010. Log onto our website for more information in coming months. Extra benefits over time will include career advice, mentoring opportunities and a wider range of travel and accommodation discounts.

We hope you enjoy our refreshed Alumni program and stay connected with UTAS.

What you told us interests you:

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<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Per cent of respondents</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sports news at UTAS</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Updates on giving at UTAS</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ugrad study opportunities at UTAS</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific academic disciplines at UTAS</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Names of distinguished alumni</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian alumni groups</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International alumni groups</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achievements and honours awarded to UTAS alumni</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviews and interviews with UTAS alumni</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News on significant achievements and celebrations at UTAS</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books from UTAS alumni</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short courses at UTAS</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General UTAS news</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate study opportunities at UTAS</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alumni events and activities</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Alumni services package</td>
<td>10</td>
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The Development and Alumni team: Director Mark Bennett, Alumni and Development Manager Melanie Roome and Alumni Officer Michaela Lightfoot.
Revamped Buttery comes up with the goods

By Michelle Nichols

Traditionally, a ‘Buttery’ was the place in university colleges where residents ventured to seek food such as bread and butter – along with a nip of wine and ale. In 2010 at Christ College, it serves as a meeting place, amenities room and a space for students to try their hand at snooker or challenge others to a game of table tennis. The Buttery faces out across the River Derwent, in a building erected in the early 1960s when Christ College moved with the rest of the University from the Domain to Sandy Bay.

Late last year, work started on a major refurbishment of Christ College, including the Buttery, which has received a fresh coat of paint and interior face-lift to make it more user-friendly. The Governor of Tasmania, His Excellency the Honourable Peter Underwood AC, officially opened the refurbished Buttery earlier this year and spoke fondly of his time at Christ College in the 1950s. Christ College is the oldest tertiary foundation in Australia, dating back to 1846.

It is one of several residency options run by Accommodation Services at UTAS. The recent accommodation upgrade also included swipe-card security and bedroom and amenity upgrades, along with extensive landscaping of the surrounding gardens.

Jane is turning 60

It’s always been said that it’s not polite to ask a lady her age. But the residential college Jane Franklin Hall – affectionately known as Jane – is proudly celebrating its 60th year with a series of events and reunions.

It was in 1950 that Jane Franklin Hall opened its doors to 16 female students at the University of Tasmania. Sixty years later the college accommodates 200 men and women, and current building plans propose an increase in numbers to almost 250 residents.

“Jane is more than an education, it’s an experience for life,” said Michael Scanlan, Principal of Jane Franklin College. “It’s a place where lifelong friendships are forged and enduring memories made. For this reason, past and present residents have been eager to celebrate Jane’s 60th anniversary. To many, Jane became a second home and family.”

One of the highlights of this year’s celebrations was the launch of a book, Jane Franklin Hall 1950 – 2010, The story of a residential college, by Dr Alison Alexander. Ruth Solomon (formerly Fleming), Principal of Jane from 1959 to 1962, came from England to launch the book at the college in March.

The following day there was a reunion of residents from Flem’s time as Principal. Former residents came from all Australian states and overseas (Indonesia and Hong Kong) to share afternoon tea and memories. Other highlights for the anniversary include receptions at Government House and the Town Hall, an afternoon with music at Runnymede, reunions, a dinner to celebrate the birthday of Lady Jane Franklin, and enhancement of other annual activities.

A major difference between Jane and other university accommodation is that all meals are provided as part of the tariff. Residents eat together in the dining hall, with formal dinner (with gowns and grace) once a week. As well as offering artistic and cultural activities, the academic assistance scheme provides tutorial expertise in addition to the University’s program. A range of Jane scholarships and bursaries is also available to help reduce the costs of leaving home to study.

To purchase a copy of Jane Franklin Hall 1950 – 2010, The story of a residential college, contact the college at www.jane.utas.edu.au or phone (03) 6210 0100.
Tributes

Professor Arthur Cobbold

Died 19 December 2009, aged 80 years.

Professor Arthur Frederick Cobbold AM, OBE, Bsc, PhD London, dedicated his life to establishing the reputation of the UTAS School of Medicine.

He arrived in Tasmania in 1964 from St Thomas’ Hospital Medical School in London. Professor Cobbold quickly began to play a role in all aspects of the young School’s operation, as Foundation Professor of Physiology and Head of the Department of Physiology for 21 years.

In 1965, Professor Cobbold helped draft the first agreement between the University Council, the Minister of Health and the Hobart Public Hospitals Board to formalise clinical training at the Royal Hobart Hospital.

He also played an important role in the construction of the Medical Sciences building on the University’s Sandy Bay campus and the Clinical School building adjacent to the RHH.

Professor Cobbold was elected Dean of the School of Medicine in 1970 – a position he held for a record 13 consecutive years. He continued as Head of the Department of Physiology until his retirement at the end of 1985, and was appointed Professor Emeritus.

A memorial service was held at the University of Tasmania’s Stanley Burbury Theatre on 11 January 2010. It would have been Professor Cobbold’s 90th birthday.

Professor Enid Campbell

Died 20 January 2010, aged 78 years.

Professor Enid Campbell was one of Tasmania’s most outstanding female scholars, setting a precedent for women in the legal profession.

Launceston-born Professor Campbell graduated from UTAS with an LLB with Honours in 1955, sharing the University prize for the top law student.

After completing a PhD in the US, she returned to Tasmania and was appointed the first female lecturer in the Law School. With her subsequent appointment at Monash University, Professor Campbell became the first female professor of law in Australia and the first female dean of an Australian law faculty.

She was an eminent expert in constitutional law, administrative law and civil liberties, authoring numerous books and learned articles. In recognition of her contribution to legal scholarship and education, Professor Campbell was elected as Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia in 1972.

She was also awarded the Order of the British Empire and was made a Companion of the Order of Australia, one of the highest honours achievable by an Australian citizen.

The UTAS Faculty of Law remembers Professor Campbell as a role model and a distinguished graduate – but mostly, as a friend.

Professor Evan Williams

Died 27 January 2010, aged 93 years.

Professor Evan James Williams is regarded as one of the founding fathers of statistics in Australia. He was described by his teacher and friend, Professor Edwin Pitman, as the “complete statistician” because he excelled in his roles as student, researcher, consultant, administrator, teacher and editor.

Born in Hobart, Evan Williams was a student of The Friends’ School, where his father taught for almost 50 years. He then achieved a Bachelor of Commerce from UTAS in 1937. Over the following years he studied and worked in the UK and the US, and in 1954 he was awarded a Doctor of Science from the University of Melbourne.

Appointed Professor of Statistics at Melbourne University in 1964, he spent almost 19 years as Head of Department. He was also made Professor Emeritus of that university.

Professor Williams had a productive research career and his book, Regression Analysis, (first published in 1959), was a pace setter in its field. His Studies in Probability and Statistics was published in 1976. He also served as editor of the Australian Journal of Statistics, and was President of the Central Council of the Statistical Society of Australia.

In 1993, Professor Williams was awarded the Pitman Medal of the Statistical Society of Australia in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the subject over 50 years.

Dr Joan Woodberry

Died 31 January 2010, aged 88 years.

Dr Joan Woodberry was a woman of passion and creativity. She influenced the lives of young Australians through her writing and teaching, and was also a feisty advocate of women’s rights.

After completing degrees in history and education, Dr Woodberry was appointed Warden at the Hobart Teacher’s College, where she established its academic courses.

She became concerned about the plight of young women students who were living away from their home, and formed a network to help university and nursing students in need of aid (Damsels in Distress).

In the 1960s, she lobbied the Legislative Council for equal pay for women. Tasmania became the second state to have equal pay for teachers. For many years, she was a counsellor at Jane Franklin Hall and on retirement was made an Honorary Life Fellow.

Dr Woodberry was noted particularly for her numerous books and plays. She published 10 children’s books, annotated five historic sketchbooks, wrote six children’s plays for ABC radio, and published five textbooks on English.

In 1981, Dr Woodberry was named a Member of the Order of Australia in recognition of her services to education.
and literature. She was admitted to the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters by the University of Tasmania in 2000 and was appointed a Governor of the University of Tasmania in 2002. Among her many legacies, Dr Joan Woodberry endowed a postgraduate fellowship for women graduates undertaking a Master or Doctorate in Engineering or the Biosciences.

Dr Maida Coaldrake
Died 31 January 2010, aged 90 years.

When Dr Maida Coaldrake studied at UTAS in 1937, she was one of only five full-time female students. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts and then moved to Melbourne to research her masters thesis on Tasmania’s role in the constitutional movement.

Following her marriage, Dr Coaldrake moved to Japan, where her husband was working as a missionary. When she returned to Australia in 1956, she took up a position as Senior Tutor in History at Sydney University.

Dr Coaldrake returned to UTAS in 1974 and was responsible for the establishment of courses in Japanese language and history. She continued to hold senior positions at the University of Tasmania until her retirement in 1984.

In her retirement, she completed her doctoral thesis on intellectual revolutionary movements and personalities in pre-modern Japan. She was Visiting Professor to Sophia University in Japan, and in 1997 was awarded an honorary degree, Doctor of Letters, by the University of Tasmania. On 5 December 1997, Dr Coaldrake received the Order of the Precious Crown (Wisteria level) by His Majesty Emperor Akihito for her contribution to the promotion of the study of Japanese history and language. The Order of the Precious Crown is the equivalent of a British knighthood and it is rare for a foreigner to be honoured in this way.

Professor Konrad Jamrozik
Died 24 March 2010, aged 54 years.

Professor Konrad Jamrozik was a tireless anti-smoking campaigner and academic who wrote more than 280 scientific papers. Born in South Australia, Konrad Jamrozik graduated from high school at 16 to study medicine in Adelaide and in Hobart at UTAS. His doctorate, which he completed in Oxford, looked at anti-smoking strategies in general practice.

Following a brief period as a Lecturer in Community Medicine at the University of Papua New Guinea, he moved to the University of Western Australia, where he was promoted to Professor of Public Health. He went on to hold the chair in Primary Care Epidemiology at Imperial College, London, and then became Professor of Evidence-based Health Care at the University of Queensland. In 2007 he became head of Adelaide University’s School of Population Health and Clinical Practice.

Professor Jamrozik was a life member and former chairman of the Australian Council on Smoking and Health, a fellow of the Public Health Association of Australia, and a recipient of the inaugural President’s Award from the National Heart Foundation of Australia.

Professor Jamrozik was sometimes outspoken and always passionate about public health.

Dr GREGORY Mundy
Died 25 February 2010, aged 67 years.

Dr GREGORY Mundy, MD, was respected throughout the medical world for his work in bone and cancer medicine. At the time of his death, Dr Mundy was Professor of Medicine, Pharmacology, Orthopaedics and Cancer Biology at the Vanderbilt Centre in Bone Biology in Tennessee, USA.

Dr Mundy did his medical residency at the Royal Hobart Hospital and was appointed Lecturer in Medicine at UTAS in 1970. That year he also gained his Doctor of Medicine, undertaking research into the cytogenetics and DNA of multiple myeloma.

In 1980 he was appointed Professor of Medicine and Endocrinology at the University of Texas. He would go on to publish more than 540 original articles, reviews and book chapters, and train more than 150 postdoctoral fellows.

His many awards included: the Fuller Albright Award of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research; a National Institutes of Health MERIT Award; and the Pieter Gaillard Founders Award, which recognises outstanding achievements in the field of bone and mineral research.

Dr Mundy will be remembered for his remarkable career – as well as an enthusiasm and vision that were contagious.

Dr Pieter Roelof Zwart
Died 3 April 2010, aged 68 years.

Professor Jamrozik was sometimes outspoken and always passionate about public health.
Animals of Tasmania: Wildlife of an Incredible Island
By Sally Bryant, illustrated by Tim Squires (Quintus Publishing, 2009)

THE LIVELY AND ENGAGING WRITING STYLE OF SALLY BRYANT (PHD ZOOLOGY 1989) will appeal to natural historians, as well as a broader, more general readership. It provides wonderful insights into the lives of Tasmania’s unique wildlife, and emphasises Tasmania’s significance as one of the most important island ecosystems in the world.
Packed into the book’s economical, 80-page format are detailed descriptions and illustrations of 30 iconic Tasmanian animals, together with the complete story of Tasmania’s geological formation and the evolution of its unique native species.

Sally’s text covers broad themes that greatly enrich our appreciation of this incredible island. Evolutionary theories, continental drift, island biogeography, Indigenous and European knowledge, conservation, wildlife ecology, and exploration and discovery, are just a few of the topics covered by Sally’s warm and accessible writing.
The carefully executed illustrations by artist Tim Squires (MFA 1993) are a perfect match for Sally’s writing, and in many cases are reminiscent of a 19th century natural historian’s field sketches. In this modern context they are accurate and reliable drawings, but they are also reminders of the traditional image-making techniques of lithography and engraving that were once used to illustrate zoological journals.

Animals of Tasmania: Wildlife of an Incredible Island is a finely crafted and appealing volume that is sure to be welcomed by all who love art, natural history, and the very beautiful animals of Tasmania.
The Friends’ School Hobart
Leading-edge school on the quiet rim of the world

Friends’ School Hobart is a pre-K to 12 co-educational school with residential facilities. Our students and staff live and work in Tasmania’s quiet, clean and natural environment.

Established by Quakers in 1887, Friends’ has a reputation for academic excellence. In 2009, 98% of our final year students qualified for university entrance.

Academic Excellence

At Friends’, we believe in providing the widest possible range of educational opportunities. That’s why we offer our Year 11 and 12 students the choice of the International Baccalaureate, the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE) and Vocational Education and Training.

We’d like to tell you more about Friends’ School. For a copy of our prospectus or to arrange a visit, please contact us.

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POST GRADUATE MARINE STUDIES WITH THE AMC

The National Centre for Marine Conservation and Resource Sustainability (NOMRS) was established in 2008 bringing together the AMC and UTS teaching and research expertise in aquaculture, fisheries and marine and coastal conservation.

The NOMRS, on the Lambton campus, is a multi-disciplinary group with world-class researchers in marine conservation & biosecurity; restoration ecology; aquatic animal health; nutrition and culture; fish engineering; and bioengineering. We offer a full range of undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications with discipline majors in marine conservation, aquaculture, and fisheries management.

Post Graduate courses available are:

- Graduate Certificate in Applied Science (Marine Environment)
- Graduate Diploma in Applied Science (Marine Environment)
- Master of Applied Science (Marine Environment)
- Master of Applied Science (Marine Environment) with Honours
- Masters by Research
- PhD

Flexible delivery options are offered including a range of short courses available in the listed discipline majors, plus Seafood Quality & Safety.

For more information or to apply for a place, please visit www.amc.edu.au/marine-studies or call (03) 6224 3801
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Email Alumni.Office@utas.edu.au to arrange electronic delivery.

Please write ‘electronic’ in the subject line and your name and alumni ID in the email (your ID is on the cover sheet of this magazine).

Remember to keep your email address up to date with us.