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Focus on... English Language and Foundation Studies Centre

The English Language and Foundation Studies Centre (the ELFS Centre) came into being in 2002 when all the University’s foundation/entrance programs were brought under one banner. With approximately one third of Australia’s enrolled enabling students studying at Newcastle the ELFS Centre, quite rightly, prides itself on its outstanding record.

The Centre offers a diverse range of programs, targeted to specific needs.

• ELIOS Programs (English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students) offer intensive English programs for overseas students who wish to either go on to further study in Australia or upgrade their English language skills and return to their own country.

• The International Foundation Program is a one-year, full time program designed to cater for international students with a minimum of 10 years education, who seek admission to a Bachelor’s degree in a range of different disciplines.

• Newstep is a one-year, full-time tertiary preparation program for people aged 17-20 who want to enter University but, because of particular disadvantages, don’t have the qualifications to do so. Newstep is offered at both the Callaghan and Ourimbah campuses.

• Open Foundation is a tertiary preparation program for people 20 years of age or over who want to enter University but do not have the qualifications to do so. Offered at Callaghan and Ourimbah campuses and now by Distance Education, it may be undertaken as a part-time or full-time program of study.

• Yapug is a program designed to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people gain skills for entry into the tertiary sector. It was brought under one banner. With approximately one third of Australia’s enrolled enabling students studying at Newcastle the ELFS Centre, quite rightly, prides itself on its outstanding record.

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Napoleon and Newcastle

Founded in 1794 during the French Revolution, the Ecole Polytechnique is the most renowned of the so-called Grandes Ecoles in France. It trained France’s scientific and industrial elite in Napoleon’s day and continues to do so today. Exceptional scientists, many of whose names are now attached to fundamental laws and concepts, have walked the halls of the Ecole Polytechnique as students or professors. These include mathematicians like Cauchy, Coriolis, Fourier, Navier, Poisson and Poincaré as well as physicists and chemists such as Ampère, Carnot, Gay-Lussac and Lagrange.

Over the last five years or so, students from the Ecole have come to Newcastle to carry out a three month mini-semester course at the University of Newcastle in conjunction with other French students and others who may wish to undertake a French third year in Newcastle, staff members in Newcastle are impressed anew at their calibre. In fact, they should not be surprised since these are the very best students France has to offer. Following the completion of their final Secondary School examinations, they undergo two to three years of intensive training in maths and physics before competing nationally for places in the Grandes Ecoles. The competition is fierce and only the very best are accepted into the Ecole Polytechnique.

Kelver Hartley himself studied in France. His doctoral thesis regarded the French influence on the work of Oscar Wilde, researched in France and subsequently published, remains an important and original study today. He saw value in students being able to travel to France and continue their studies, explained Emeritus Professor Ken Dutton OAM, the Director of the Hartley Bequest Program.

It is interesting to note that most of the Hartley Scholarship winner study French in conjunction with other courses - often commerce or law - with the understanding that their French studies will assist them within their chosen profession. Each Scholarship has a value of approximately $30,000 for a program of six months, covering all expenses, including travel, accommodation and a living allowance while the scholars immerse themselves in French language and culture. The students undertake an intensive language course in Vichy, a more extensive one-semester course at the University of Franche-Comte in Besancon and a two-week cultural program in Paris. “Kelver Hartley himself studied in France. His doctoral thesis regarding the French influence on the work of Oscar Wilde, researched in France and subsequently published, remains an important and original study today. He saw value in students being able to travel to France and continue their studies,” explained Emeritus Professor Ken Dutton OAM, the Director of the Hartley Bequest Program.

Not only did Kelver Hartley endow the University of Newcastle financially. During his life he also donated his valuable book collection to the Auchmuty Library, the Hartley Collection includes a number of rare volumes, first editions and limited number editions bound in morocco, valued at $100,000.

The Hartley Bequest has also made possible the publication of six titles under the “Kelver Hartley” series as well as contributing to the restoration and maintenance of the Hartley Collection. After his retirement, the University decided to refer to Professor Hartley the title of Emeritus Professor, the first such title to be granted by the, then, newly autonomous University of Newcastle.

The legacy of Kelver Hartley is substantial. So was the man himself. After retirement, Professor Hartley lived the life of a paupers, content with his life and his learning. Some say he was an eccentric, others that he was dedicated to understanding his students and those to come after him. It is attested that Hartley lived the life of a pauper to ensure that his bequest to the University was as he intended.

The Hartley Collection and the Hartley Scholarships are fitting memorials. The University of Newcastle, its students and its community gain immeasurably from gifts donated and bequeathed. Not as tangible as that from Professor Hartley. Even the smallest donation can make an enormous difference to a student, to research, to resources. Over the page, the story of the University Foundation explains the difference made by those who choose to give to the University.

Copy deadlines for the remainder of the year are:

- August edition - 30 July
- September edition - 19 August
- October edition - 22 September
- November/December edition - 4 November

For UniNews enquiries please phone (02) 4921 5160 or email: uninews@newcastle.edu.au

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The gift in any culture establishes a special relationship between the donor and the recipient. A gift which promotes learning, education and scholarship has the potential to embrace the wider community and to enhance the future of our world.

Many of the University of Newcastle’s achievements have been made possible by the generous financial support of its benefactors who have contributed everything from bricks and mortar to scholarships, research funding, expertise, ideas and equipment. The University’s partnerships with government, business, industry, alumni, and other members of the community are a vital part of its foundation. In an increasingly deregulated and competitive higher education environment, the need to find additional revenue is now greater than ever before.

The University Foundation was established in 1998. Its role is to involve the community in mutually beneficial partnerships and to gain financial support for those projects which will be of regional, national and international benefit. The Foundation Board comprises members from the University, Alumni and the wider community. Please visit the website for Board membership details.

The Board is serviced by the Foundation Unit, a University unit which coordinates the development of plans, policies, procedures and fundraising strategies to support the Faculties and the University. All donations to the University are processed through the Unit.

Foundation Executive Officer, Dr Bernie Curran, says that the ultimate objective of his office is to seek and secure investment in the University that will improve the quality of life of all Australians.

“Philanthropy is the best aspect of humanity, the ultimate expression of responsibility and caring for our society and community. It is our role to facilitate that sort of significant investment in a better world.”

The University adheres to the Code of Practice for Australian University Philanthropy developed and endorsed by the Australian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee (AVCC). The code lays out the rights of donors and the responsibilities of universities in accepting their donations. It ensures that universities carefully manage all the legal and financial details of the relationship and that the wishes and privacy of the donors are respected.

The work of the Foundation

Special projects
The University of Newcastle, in partnership with business, industry, and community leaders, undertakes major projects which will benefit the Hunter and Central Coast communities. These projects have a target amount of funding that is required to realise the project, and the Foundation through its fund-raising efforts appeals for financial support.

The University is currently seeking financial support for several major projects:

- **Centre for Research and Education in Ageing (CREA)**
  CREA has been established to focus on research and education for ageing in response to the changing needs of our ageing population. The Centre will facilitate the collaboration across existing organisations and individuals providing research, education products and services required by an ageing population. It will address issues of local, national and international significance through discussion and dissemination of research findings and contribute to the planning and delivery of education and training in the area of Ageing and Aged Care.

- **HMRI Clinical Research Centre**
  The Foundation is seeking support for the construction of Stage 2 of the HMRI Clinical Research Centre. A current shortage of research space, particularly wet laboratory facilities close to patient care facilities, is hampering future growth. Approximately 1,800 square metres of wet laboratory and associated office space at the John Hunter Hospital has been made available to HMRI as Stage 1 of the new HMRI Clinical Research Centre. This meets the immediate needs of the HMRI research groups at the John Hunter Hospital but is not sufficient for the longer term aims of HMRI.

- **Institute for Environmental Sustainability: Our environment, Our future**
  This project is still in its beginnings. The University of Newcastle aims to establish a multi-disciplinary institute for the environment which brings together researchers from the University and community organisations. This endeavour will provide a focal point within the Hunter and Central Coast region for addressing the health of our environment in all its facets - economic, social, cultural and physical.

Developing partnerships
On 26 May 2004 the Foundation hosted a University and community breakfast at Noah’s on the Beach. With over 40 guests from local government, regional organisations, industry, business and the media, it was an opportunity for the Chancellor, Conjoint Professor Trevor Waring AM, to outline the plans and aspirations of the Foundation. The Foundation is hoping that this breakfast will be one among many such functions through which we can develop strategies to meet the challenges facing the people in the Hunter and Central Coast.

The Gifts

Just as there are many different kinds of gifts to the University, so there are as many reasons for creating them. Each gift symbolises each person’s or organisation’s way of making a difference to our community.

The Barker PhD Award in Environmental Science and Healthy Ageing
The Barker family have established the Barker PhD Award Fund in Environmental Science and Healthy Ageing, through their donation of $100,000.

“For the foreseeable future, the world’s focus will be on environmental science and all of its facets. The University of Newcastle will play a significant role in that future and it gives my family a great satisfaction to contribute to that.”

Don Barker

The Bill and Iris Burges Trust in Health Sciences
Newcastle graduates Steve and Bill Burges have established a trust fund at the University in memory of their parents Bill and Iris. The Bill and Iris Burges Trust, ultimately worth up to $4 million, will fund a chair in health sciences at the University.

Retired educator Bill Burges said his father would like to have trained as a doctor but was unable to afford to study full-time. “It was 1934, at the
height of the Great Depression, and Dad was supporting his mother and younger sisters,” he said. “He needed to get a job and could only study part-time at night and weekends.” Bill pursued a career in accounting and local government. “Mum and Dad did a lot for Newcastle during their lifetimes,” Bill said. “The Bill and Iris Burgess professorship at the University will provide an enduring link between their names and the city they served so well.”

The Bowmore Music Scholarship for students of the violin and the cello
An endowment fund established by Dr. William Bowmore in 2004 with his donation of $250,000.

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Research (Faculty of Science & Information Technology)
The contributions of Titian Light Pty Ltd and Judith Mason together have provided over $1.4 million for CFS and related research.

The Reta Light Memorial Trust
The Auchmuty Library’s first and greatest benefactor was Miss Reta Light (1898 - 1988), who upon her death in September 1989 left the Auchmuty Library $1.5 million to purchase books, periodicals, microfilms and musical scores. (From 1991 to 1999 the Trust financed $597,172 worth of acquisitions including a fine collection of Australasian poetry, rare first editions of works by James Joyce and Thomas Hardy and impressive editions of Le Corbusier and titles related to the history of theatre.)

The Jack Papworth Band, a life-time of sheet music
Donated through the bequest of Jack Papworth in 2014.

What the Gifts mean
“The community will benefit from scholarships like UNISS as the students that graduate from the scheme are focussed and talented engineers full of enthusiasm and experience. These are the type of people that the work place will most greatly benefit from.”

Sophie Douling, 3rd year Electrical Engineering UNISS scholar. Her Industry sponsor is TransGrid. UNISS: The University of Newcastle Industry Scholarship Scheme represents a great partnership between industry leaders and the University of Newcastle. UNISS is a unique integrated scholarship program that combines degree studies with industry experience.

“...When Jennie came into Amanda’s office and asked ‘what is your dream?’ we were speechless. It isn’t often that someone comes along and who is prepared to remove the barriers to what might be possible. Your interest, enthusiasm and encouragement for all our work - across a diverse range of areas means so much but beyond that, you are enabling us to pursue our dreams.”

Frances Kay-Lambkin, PhD student studying depression treatments with Dr. Amanda Baker, speaks about the impact of Jenny Thomas’ gift to Health Research. (Jennie Thomas has established the Jennie Thomas Travelling Arts Scholarship as well as scholarships in Music, Environmental Science and Health in memory of her late husband, Philip Emlyn Thomas. She has also supported the University through donating an organ to the Conservatorium and a rowing scull reflecting Philip’s passions.)

“It makes me feel obviously happy but very grateful that these scholarships are available for students. When I received the scholarship it actually motivated me to do better. It shows that the University cares and caters for students that are not financially sound. Jack Doherty helped Aboriginal people, and even though he has passed on now, he is still helping Aboriginal people, which is fantastic and by the sounds of it what he would have wanted. That’s why I want to finish uni and get out there into the communities, and try and make a difference. Obviously I cannot thank Jack Doherty, but I can thank the people who make the money available and I want to let them know that it does make such a big difference.”

Nathan Turney - Jack Doherty Scholarship recipient - studying to be a PE teacher.

There have been times in the last four years when Ivan had medical problems and it’s all seemed too much. But knowing that I had the scholarship and that I would have been letting other people down as well as myself kept me going. Without the scholarship I don’t know if I would have stuck it out for the whole four years or not.”

Judy Vajak - a fourth year speech pathology student - has received the Godfrey Tanner Memorial Scholarship each year of her studies - it is normally only awarded for one year. Judy’s son Ivan was diagnosed with Leukemia at the age of 21 months. While studying full-time to become a Speech Pathologist, Judy, a single mother, has also supported Ivan through his battle for life, which has included chemotherapy, extracorporeal surgery and a bone marrow transplant.

Dr Bernie Curran
Executive Officer
University of Newcastle Foundation
**Women@UoN ends a successful inaugural year**

Women@UoN, the professional development program for female staff of the University, recently concluded its first year of activity successfully. Launched in January, the program was established with the support of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Director of Affirmative Action, Professor Brian English in June 2004, with the aim of developing support systems for women.

Women@UoN and WLDI (joint initiatives of the Equity Unit and Human Resource Services) were designed to establish systems that would assist women in achieving promotion and to prepare for leadership roles.

Women@UoN has a number of aims such as:

- to identify and provide for the developmental needs of women at all levels in line with the University’s priorities;
- to facilitate meeting and networking of women across the University.

Dr Julia Connell, the inaugural Professor in the Newcastle Graduate School of Business, has been the inspirational Project Manager for the inaugural year of Women@UoN. June 2004 marks the handover of Julia’s role as Project Manager to Ms Kate Lindsay, Deputy Head of the School of Law. In the past twelve months Julia and the WLDI team (three staff from the E&D Unit and one from HRS) have developed and conducted a number of events for the program.

Initially, members of the team consulted with general and academic women staff to identify their newly visited other universities to benchmark initiatives for women, and following these steps, developed a comprehensive program. That program has included five forums, three workshops and two networking events to May 2004. Events have focused on topics such as career planning and promotion for both academic and general staff, and research development processes.

Issues arising out of these forums were put to the Senior Executive Group at consultations between the women of the University and the SEG in March and May of this year. A number of positive outcomes were achieved as a result of these dialogues including:
- an agreement to review the promotion process in the light of issues raised in relation to gender;
- an undertaking that Heads of School will be asked to encourage academic women to prepare and apply for promotion; and
- an agreement that senior Faculty Managers will be offered the opportunity to explore issues affecting female academics during training programs in areas such as what constitutes merit, workplace diversity, work/life balance etc.

This first year of operation has been a very fruitful one for Women@UoN. Its success owes much to the leadership and energy of Dr Julia Connell. Kate Lindsay and the WLDI team look forward to the coming year with enthusiasm. Plans are already in place for the first ‘event’ of semester two, 2004, scheduled for September. Details of that event: "Balancing and Juggling: Does it take a circus act to combine work and family effectively?" will be available soon on the website at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/services/equity/women/program2004.htm

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**Dr Julia Connell**

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**On Track: Online services in support of teaching & learning**

One of the key outcomes of the funded projects successfully completed this year was the Curriculum Tracking System and Teaching & Learning Website redevelopment project. The sponsor of the project was Professor Bill Hughes, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and the project lead was the Faculty of Science and Information Technology. In July 2003 the Teaching and Learning Website of the new Course Tracking System was released on 27 April 2004.

Together, these systems will provide teaching staff with information and contacts to support teaching and learning activities at the University whilst providing the mechanisms for managing course curricula and availability in a more user friendly and timely manner.

**Course Tracking System (CTS)**

The Curriculum Tracking System was recently released under the new Course Tracking System. With the new CTS, the course approval process is far more efficient. The CTS now provides for a more refined curriculum evaluation and revision process in addition to improved enquiry and reporting facilities.

**Dr Frances Munt, A/Senior Administrative Officer (NURSM)**

Frances Munt, A/Senior Administrative Officer in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, explained "This is a major step forward for the School. The course code search provides up to date information on the status of an entry. The amount of email and phone enquiries regarding the status of a course has been reduced. An increasing number of staff, both academic and general, are able to access the CTS system via the internet. This means that staff are not being disturbed by telephone calls to check course status. So far, the new CTS has been very well received. We anticipate that it will be used even more in the future."

**Course Tracking System (CTS)**

The CTS now provides for a more user friendly and more efficient method of tracking student enrolment. The new system allows academic and administrative staff to work together more effectively and makes the University’s operation is more efficient and more effective. The University is now able to deal with issues such as enrolment, student records and course availability more effectively.

The University’s operation is complex and continually changing and it requires the very best people to be able to run it efficiently, plan for the future and make the necessary changes in a seamless manner. Dr Gould will bring to the position the excellent management and human resources skills she has demonstrated in her present role at Deakin. She will be a valued member of the University Senior Executive and will be supported by an Executive Director in each of the portfolios."

With the appointment of Dr Gould, the University will have three Deputy Vice-Chancellors reporting to the Vice-Chancellor: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Planning and Management Action Plan – ITMAP) to ITMAP@newcastle.edu.au

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**The God who Kills?**

In society we increasingly hear religion used as justification for war. Terrorists claim that Allah will reward their violent actions, while George Bush claims that God will bless America.

Is killing in the name of any God acceptable? Dr James Alison, the University of Newcastle’s newest resident, will start at 7pm sharp. Free entry. For more information contact John Dugas, the University of Newcastle, on 4921 6699.

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**Dr Sue Gould has been appointed to the newly created position of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Services), effective June 2004. She will take up the appointment in late November.**

"Dr Gould was an outstanding candidate," said Vice-Chancellor, Professor Roger Holmes. "She has been Head of the Academic Administration Services Division at Deakin University for the past ten years and is perfectly suited for this demanding role at the University of Newcastle."

As Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University Services, Dr Gould will be responsible for the strategic leadership of a wide range of services within the University, including the student and alumni services, human resource services, business services, education services and infrastructure services as well as planning and business improvement. It is a major task,” said the Vice-Chancellor. “It requires a person with a great deal of experience in several areas of administration and human resources as well as the ability to guide and manage the five University Services portfolio areas in line with the University’s strategic plan."

"The University’s operation is complex and continually changing and it requires the very best people to be able to run it efficiently, plan for the future and make the necessary changes in a seamless manner. Dr Gould will bring to the position the excellent management and human resources skills she has demonstrated in her present role at Deakin. She will be a valued member of the University Senior Executive and will be supported by an Executive Director in each of the portfolios."

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**Teaching and Learning Website**

The Teaching and Learning Website is a very useful resource for teachers and students alike. The Teaching and Learning Website has been designed to provide centralised information and resources in a consistent and structured manner.

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**New challenges for the Higher Education Reforms**

The Higher Education Reforms affect many of the University’s major business processes that are administered by Student Administration Services. As a result, the changes within the online systems that support these processes will be offered to encourage academic women to take up leadership roles at the University of Newcastle, the spotlight in this edition is on the information systems which support student and academic administration.

The IT Management Action Plan (IT MAP) is contributing capital funding to the Higher Education Reforms. The amount of change required is significant – for both the online systems and the people who use them - and the IT Management Action Plan will help to make the necessary changes.

Contact David Donnelly (Director, Student Administration Services) for further information about the initiatives discussed above.

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**University network upgrades at Callaghan**

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1. **Mapping the future**

Campus network upgrades at Callaghan

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**“The God who Kills?”**

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**Dr Julie Connell**

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**Enquiry and reporting facilities.**

Throughout the project, a number of CTS users at the School and Faculty level were consulted. Both General and Academic staff representing the Faculties and Schools took part in the project as part of Reference Groups. The Reference Groups provided invaluable feedback about business processes relating to the new CTS, the old system and suggested improvements in a collaborative forum.

“The new CTS is far more sophisticated than the old system, the course approval process is far more efficient and the University’s operation is more efficient and more effective. The University is now able to deal with issues such as enrolment, student records and course availability more effectively.”

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**Contact**

David Donnelly (Director, Student Administration Services) for further information about the initiatives discussed above.
Achievements

Dr Marj Kibby

Teaching Excellence
Senior Lecturer in Social Sciences, Dr Marj Kibby, has won the University of Newcastle’s Teaching Award for 2004 and Lecturer in Health and Physical Education, Dr Philip Morgan, was highly commended.

The awards are based on a Lecturer’s ability to deliver high quality student learning. The winner is chosen as someone who has shown an outstanding ability to motivate students to pursue further learning and encourage independent thought.

Dr Marj Kibby’s research interests are in representations of class, race and gender in the media and the internet and teaching in the areas of communication and culture, youth music and cyber culture.

“The key aspect of my teaching recognised by the award is the way in which I use the Internet to help students develop life-long learning skills. The courses are structured to help students develop the skills and the confidence to take responsibility for their learning. They are encouraged to gather new information, to analyse it critically, to discuss its meaning with others, and to reflect on how that information fits with their own experience and value systems,” explained Dr Kibby.

Award Committee Chair, Professor Bill Hogarth said, “The panel was very impressed with the work Dr Kibby had done with teaching on-line. She showed commitment and exceptional performance in the criteria set for the award and we have encouraged her to apply for a national teaching award.”

Dr Philip Morgan lectures in Health and Physical Education and is on the board of NUSport (Newcastle University Sport). His research interests are in the importance of students having fun while learning.

“Teaching strategies must strive to engage, inspire, and intrinsically motivate students to develop a certain level of self-efficacy. As a student, you want to be immersed in the learning process and stimulated with well-presented and researched information that makes sense and relates to your life and chosen profession,” explained Dr Morgan.

“The committee was impressed with the students’ reaction to Dr Morgan’s teaching and his performance in his field has been outstanding given the short time he has been with the University,” Professor Hogarth said.

A Dramatic Life membership
Dr Wendy Michael lectures in the School of Humanities at Ourimbah campus, was honoured at a ceremony at the National Institute of Dramatic Art at the University of NSW on Friday 7 May. Well known for her role in initiating and conducting a highly successful program of Fine Art Study Days in English and Drama as well as mentoring programs for HSC students, she was the recipient of a membership conferred by the Educational Drama Association. A life membership was also presented to fellow lecturer, Dionne Mackenzie.

The awards were a tribute to the work that both women have done for drama in education in New South Wales and beyond. At the ceremony, playwright Katherine Thomson launched the annual conference and Wendy launched a book entitled The State of Our Art III. She described the book as a particular honour as she was editor of the previous edition. “There is much work to be done to bring the plays of our South Australasian playwrights to a wider audience,” she said.

Shakespeare’s Word Plot

In a world first, a University of Newcastle website was launched on graph Shakespeare’s use of words. Director of the Centre for Literary and Linguistic Computing, Professor Hugh Craig explained, “For centuries readers have been fascinated by the language of Shakespeare’s plays, and have marvelled at its power to sum up a thought, a character, or a scene. Recently researchers have been exploring this language with computers, as part of the exciting new field of humanities computing.

“Our Centre for Literary and Linguistic Computing has been a pioneer in this area through the work of Emeritus Professor John Burrows. His ‘computational stylistics’ focusses on the variations in ‘Mimesis of the common world’ the words and phrases used by Shakespeare. When analysed by some of the powerful statistical techniques now available, these very common words yield insights on almost everything about style, from who wrote what and when to the deep differences writers can create between one character’s speech and another’s in the same work. In 2001, Emeritus Professor Burrows’ work earned him the Busa award, the premier international prize in humanities computing.

“The new website now combines Burrows’ approach and Shakespeare’s language in a single Computer Stylistics Facility (CSF). Once inside the CSF, you choose your own set of plays or characters, and then which words to count in them.

“You can investigate if women characters speak differently from men, how tragedies compare with comedies, how Shakespeare’s style changed from the beginning of his career to the end and so on.”

The Centre for Literary and Linguistic Computing is a part of the University of Newcastle as part of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and funded by the Australian Research Council. The site is now live at www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/cllc/wordplot

“However, we recognise the expertise of TAFE NSW - Hunter Institute in the provision of education and training, and warmly welcome the formalisation of our relationship to facilitate the provision of quality accredited training for the training industry.”

Marie Larkings, Faculty Director of Health & Community Services at TAFE NSW - Hunter Institute, says the MoU between the two parties to jointly provide education and training across the three areas, using the joint expertise of both TAFE and NUSport, which operates The Forum Sports and Aquatic Centre at the University of Newcastle, NUSport General Manager Samantha Martin and TAFE NSW - Hunter Institute Director, Strategic Business Development, Harry Rainbow, signed the agreement at The Forum Sports and Aquatic Centre on 5 May.

Samantha Martin says the MoU is formal recognition of an existing relationship between the two organisations. “NUSport has been delivering nationally accredited and recognised training for some time,” she said.

The Hunter Institute is continually looking for ways to interact with our community and partner with major businesses. This agreement with NUSport is yet another way we are diversifying our approach to education and training across the Hunter.”

NUSport and TAFE NSW - Hunter Institute will offer several courses each year, primarily Certificates III and IV in Fitness.

University Website - the Latest

We are now concluding a main phase with the Faculty of Science & IT - the deployment of their present website into TeamSite. This is the first step to better management of our public-face content for consistency and reliability. Phase Two, beginning early June, will see workshops with Faculties and divisions detailing the new information architecture which will underpin our website across all areas. Visual design (the look and feel ‘re-paint’) will also begin at this time, but is of course, not as critical as getting the foundations right.

Queen’s Birthday Honours

Member of the Order of Australia (AO)
Chancellor of the University of Newcastle, Professor Trevor Waring for service to psychology, education and the community, particularly through the advancement of mental health research and support services.

Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)
Deputy Chancellor of the University, Emeritus Professor Ken Dutton for service to tertiary education as an academic, scholar and administrator and through the study of the French language and literature.
**What’s Happening**

@ The University of Newcastle

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**Lectures**

**August 17**  
The Mumps Lecture  
Presented by the University of Newcastle and the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle  
**The God who kills** by UK theologian, priest and author, James Alison  
**Catholic Church Cathedral, Newcastle**  
Doors open at 6.30pm, lecture will start at 7pm  
Free entry  
For more information contact John Dougas on 4921 6606

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**Conferences**

**July 5 - 9**  
**“Visual,” 12th Biennial National Conference of the Australian Historical Association**  
Newcastle City Hall  
Contact School of Liberal Arts, University of Newcastle on telephone 4921 5210 or email aha2004@newcastle.edu.au

**July 8 - 9**  
Computing Arts 2004  
Noah’s on the Bay  
Contact Centre for Literary and Linguistic Computing on telephone 4921 5175 or www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/clic/2004

**July 14 - 16**  
The National Conference of Enabling Educators: Building Foundations  
Newcastle City Hall  
Contact the Office of Disability Services for further details  
For more information contact Conference Manager, Dr Jo May by email jo.may@newcastle.edu.au

**November 12 - 13**  
(One for your diary)  
Weaving Stories - Spinning Yarns  
The inaugural Durriabaah campus Children’s Literature Festival.
  
Bryce Courtney AM and Alick French are co-patrons of the festival.  
Includes special sessions for school students.  
Contact Nolan Committee Secretary, Jenny Booker on 4349 4478 or email Ounishih-baab@nmlfw@newcastlee.edu.au

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**Workshops**

**July 7**  
Computing Arts 2004  
Contact Centre for Literary and Linguistic Computing on telephone 4921 5175 or www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/clic/2004

**July 29**  
Communicating at school  
AGOSCI (Australian Group on Severe Communication at school)  
Contact Centre for Literary and Linguistic Computing on telephone 4921 5175 or www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/clic/2004

**August 13**  
Contact Festival Committee Secretary, Jenny Booker on 4349 4478 or email Ounishih-baab@nmlfw@newcastlee.edu.au

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**Arts and Drama**

**June 23 - July 11**  
The Contained Space by Ambrose Reisch  
June 23 - July 11  
Newcastle University Conservatorium, Cnr Laman and Auckland Streets, Newcastle unless otherwise stated. For bookings please call (02) 4921 8931

**July 8 - 9**  
Computing Arts 2004  
Newcastle on telephone 4921 5210 or email student@urbanspace@newcastle.edu.au

**July 9**  
Music  
Newcastle University Choir- Heaven's Hey!  
2.30pm Guest conductor, Peter Ellis  
Solist: René Spaceman (Soprano), Peter Craig (Organ)  
A programme of works by American and English composers which may well be described as “heavenly.”  
Musica by Bernstein-The Chiaroscuro Psalms, Pansy “He Was Glad”, Swarner “Song for Athene” and others will leave you wanting more.  
Young conductor peter Ellis will make his first appearance with the Choir August 25.  
Concert $10

**July 12**  
Lunchtime Concert—Organ Showcase  
1.00pm Adult-$7.00 Conc-$6.00 Child-$5.00  
Conductor-Philip Matthews. Award winning Choir performing in organ soli and duets.  
Directed by Phil Matthews

**August 12**  
Lunchtime Concert—Organ Showcase  
1.00pm Adult-$7.00 Conc-$6.00 Child-$5.00  
Conductor-Philip Matthews. Award winning Choir performing in organ soli and duets.  
Directed by Phil Matthews

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**Music**

**Call for Submissions**

The Acting Vice-President (University Services) invites submissions from academic and general staff who wish to apply for funding from the 2004 Higher Education Equity Education Program (HEEP) grant allocation. The application for HEEP funds should be based on student equity projects specific to your Faculty/School/Division/unit, or with University-wide applicability.

Submissions are to be linked to:  
• the University’s Institutional Strategic Plan  
• the University’s Student Equity Plan  
• the equity goals and priorities of your Faculty/School/Division/unit  

Applications should be lodged with the Equity and Diversity Unit by Friday, 10 September 2004. For further information please contact the Equity and Diversity Unit on 4921 5953 or e-mail sue.mathieson@newcastle.edu.au  
Applications close on Friday 10 September

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**Gondwana Frogs**

Scientists from the University of Newcastle and the South Australian Museum have used molecular genetic technology to discover two new species of frog from the rainforests of northern eastern NSW.

Co-discoverer Dr Michael Mahoney from the Faculty of Science and Information Technology says, “Remarkably after over 100 years of western scientific endeavour Australians, species of frogs are still being discovered at a rate of two or three a year.”

“A time when many species of frogs are declining around the world, the discovery of two new species reminds us of how little we know about the rich biodiversity of our forests. The importance of conserving our natural habitats is that we are still to discover much of our natural heritage.

According to Dr Mahoney the frogs live in mud at the leaf litter at the headwaters of rainforest streams and the small number of locations on the higher mountains of the Great Dividing Range means that their habitat has been intrusively visited by herpetologists.

“They are only four centimetres in length and their tadpoles live in nest chambers underground, so it is not until the tadpole transforms into a frog. The nest. Also unlike most frogs, the mating call is very soft, and can only be detected when very near to a nesting site.”

These frogs are members of a group that are located to Australia’s latitudinal past with an ancestry that can be traced to a time when Australia was combined with Antarctica and South America in the southern supercontinent Gondwana.

The new species are named Phyloria richmondensis and Phyloria pulgii. One is named after the mountain range in which it is found - the Richmond Range - and the other after prominent environmentalist, Dalian Pugh. They were named by the discoverers - Dr Mahoney and former honours student, Rosa Knowles.

“To our knowledge, this is the first time that a frog in Australia has been named in honour of an environmental activist. We named the frog after Dalian Pugh in recognition of the many years he worked to conserve rainforest and other forest habitats in NSW. He is directly responsible for actions that have saved some of the sites where the new frogs are found.”