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THE OFFICE FOR RESEARCH & OFFICE FOR INDUSTRY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STAFF HAVE MOVED OFFICES

The Office for Research and Office for Industry and Community Engagement have moved offices to Building C, Level 3, Room C303, Footscray Park Campus. Please come and visit our new offices.

LEARNING MATTERS: RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT GRANT SCHEME PRESENTATION DAY

2007 Researcher Development Grants Scheme (RDGS) Chief Investigators will be participating in a presentation day as part of Learning Matters to be held between 8-11 December 2008. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss all of the research outcomes our RDGS recipients have produced. Overwhelming support for this initiative has been received from across the university. A best presentation award will be provided.

NEW ADDITION TO DIVISION OF RESEARCH & REGION

Bhanuka Wanasinghe recently commenced with Victoria University in the Office of Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research and Region as Project Officer – International Postgraduate Research and International Research. In this new role, Bhanuka is responsible for the development of international higher degree by research student cohorts and international research collaborations with industry partners, overseas universities and research institutions. Victoria University has committed itself to improve its research profile through an increased international engagement in both postgraduate research education and research. This new position will directly contribute to achieving this goal.

Bhanuka is a graduate in Business Studies from Manchester Metropolitan University and has a Masters in International Business from Monash University. He has worked in multiple industry sectors mainly in Financial Services and Higher Education; and specialising in international higher education. Before joining VU Bhanuka was working in international education development and management in the Faculty of Education at Monash University. Bhanuka is based in Footscray Park Campus and can be contacted via Bhanuka.Wanasinghe@vu.edu.au or ext 5911.
TALK ABOUT MELTDOWN!
The U.S. economic meltdown is big news and a big opportunity for researchers who can provide expert comment on the impacts of the crisis globally and in Australia. The Media Unit would like to hear from researchers who can talk about the financial, social, psychological and policy ramifications of what is happening in America. If you have something to say, let us know and we can discuss media opportunities to promote you and your research in line with the University’s objective of making VU researchers the top choice for journalists seeking expert comment.

Christine White, Media Manager
christine.white@vu.edu.au
Ext. 4322

Craig Scott, Senior Research Writer/Journalist
craig.scott@vu.edu.au
Ext. 5025

RESEARCH IN THE MEDIA
Here is a snapshot of media coverage from the last week of August and most of September.

At the end of August sports ethicist Dr Dennis Hemphill had an Olympics related opinion piece in the Canberra Times (circulation 33, 935); Dr Lily Stojanovska was interviewed by the Age health reporter Mario Xuereb for his feature on ‘Junk Food Junkies’; and Dr Gerard Kennedy garnered sizeable coverage in publications from MX to the Australian Nursing Journal about a research project investigating the link between male self-esteem and penis size.

September saw a late winter flurry of activity with psychology PhD student Daniela de Fazio featured prominently in the Herald Sun (circ. 535,000). The story commends Daniela for taking out the prize for best paper presented at the recent Australian Psychological Society College of Clinical Neuropsychologist’s Postgraduate Research Symposium held at Monash University.

Professor John McCallum, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, had his thoughts on aged care research, as well as his study on incontinence, featured in an in-depth article by Sue Goss in the Careers section of the Age (circ. 301, 500).

Dr Judi Inglis’s research on community attitudes to living in the Croajingalong National Park appeared in the September issue of Parkwatch, the quarterly journal of the Victorian National Parks Association.

And Last but by no means least, Dr Lily Stojanovska and Dr Nicholas Milne (ISI) joined the Vice Chancellor in recording separate 60 second radio interviews to be broadcast as part of the University’s postgraduate recruitment campaign. The interviews, which highlight VU’s areas of research strength and commitment to the community, will air on Radio 3AW several times daily until Friday 10 October.

EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH FOR AUSTRALIA (ERA)
On 26 February 2008, Senator the Hon Kim Carr, Minister for the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research (DIISR), announced the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative. This initiative will replace the Research Quality Framework exercise. On 4 June 2008 the Minister released a Consultation Paper outlining some details of ERA and posing a number of questions requiring feedback from the sector. The University’s response is located at: http://research.vu.edu.au/ordsite/management/ERA.pdf

If you have any questions, please visit the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) website http://research.vu.edu.au/era.php or contact a staff member from the Office for Research.

ERA PILOT SUBMISSION
The ARC is running a Pilot Submission to assist Universities preparing their systems to support ERA. VU will be making a test submission using the pilot guidelines. ‘Pilot Submission Guidelines’ and ‘SEER Technical Specifications’ are available from http://www.arc.gov.au/era/SEER.htm

RANKED OUTLETS
A key component of ERA will be a complete set of ‘Ranked Outlets’ that, in combination with other research metrics, will be used to measure research quality. The Australian Research Council (ARC) released the draft ‘Ranked Outlets’ and asked all Australian universities to provide feedback by 14 August 2008. The draft Ranked Outlets http://research.vu.edu.au/ordsite/management/ERA_rankings.xls list currently comprises 19,500 journals, each with an A*, A, B or C ranking, and one more

VU RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT GRANTS SCHEME (RDGS) RECIPIENTS FOR 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Chief Investigator</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Funding</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr S Bergin-Seers</td>
<td>CTSR</td>
<td>$21,460</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr A Assaf</td>
<td>HTM</td>
<td>$22,960</td>
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<td>Dr G Wickremasinghe</td>
<td>Accounting &amp; Finance</td>
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<td>Mr A Josiassen</td>
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<td>Dr C Higgins</td>
<td>Management</td>
<td>$28,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr T Zhang</td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Fields of Research (FOR) codes. We have submitted feedback on the listed journals through consultation with colleagues.
representational state transfer (REST) services.

A/Prof AM Hede
HTM
Negotiating the inauthentic: Exploring strategies, process and outcomes for suppliers and visitors in the museum sector.

$23,806

Dr D Skelly
Biomedical & Health Sciences
Is there a role for cannabinoid receptors in endocytosis in the kidney?

$27,377

Dr A McAinch
Biomedical & Health Sciences
The role of the endocannabinoid system in primary skeletal muscle adiponectin resistance.

$29,974

Dr D Skelly
Biomedical & Health Sciences
A role for the endocytic complex in cell signalling in the proximal tubule.

$26,077

Dr H Suraweera
CTME
An intelligent medium access control framework for disaster recovery ad hoc networks.

$20,945

Dr Q Liang
ACME
Nonlinear analysis and behaviour of thin-walled concrete-filled stainless steel tubular columns.

$26,998

Dr JP Baldacchino
Social Sciences
Sacred journeys and migrant communities: The role of religious tourism in the construction of diasporic identity.

$15,950

Dr W Hosking
Psychology
Rule formation and violation in gay open relationships: Implications for sexual health, relationship quality, and psychological wellbeing.

$13,500

Dr I Levinger
CARES
Bone structure and metabolism in females with type 2 diabetes: Effects of acute exercise.

$25,154

Dr I Levinger
CARES
Exercise induced reactive oxygen species (ROS): The endogenous insulin sensitisser.

$28,150

Dr J Sparrow
Communication, Culture & Languages
The political economy of creative writing in Australia.

$19,299

PRESS RELEASE

ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN A HEALTHY WEIGHT AND LIFELONG GOOD EATING HABITS

Food & Nutrition For Dummies, Australian and New Zealand Edition, provides all the latest guidelines and research, showing you how to manage your and your family’s diet through all of life’s different stages — from pregnancy and breastfeeding, through childhood and adolescence, to nutrition for older adults. With tasty lunchbox ideas to fuel kids, a list of superfood foods, easy ways to cut calories and idea for healthy eating, Food & Nutrition For Dummies, Australian & New Zealand Edition, can help you live healthily — and happily — ever after. Discover how to:

- Interpret nutrition labels
- Prepare delicious, healthy meals
- Keep nutrients in food, even after cooking
- Eat smart when eating out

Quick Facts:
- 20-25% of children and adolescents are considered overweight or obese (1.5 million under 18 year olds).
- Some 59% of males and 42% of females were classified as overweight or obese
- Australia is ranked as one of the fatest developed nations.

- By 2020, if current trend continues, 80% of all Australia adults and 33% of all children will be overweight or obese.
- Type 2 diabetes which is more common in people who do insufficient physical activity and are overweight or obese, has risen dramatically over the last decade, and is now occurring in adolescents and even children.
- Studies indicate that relative body weight is sustained from childhood to adulthood, and, once children or adolescents are overweight or obese, their weight is unlikely to track backwards

Dr Lily Stojanovska
DipMLT, BSc, MSc. PhD is an Associate Professor at Victoria University, Melbourne. Dr Stojanovska teaches in the area of nutrition, including eating disorders, to undergraduate students in Australia and overseas, designed a master’s program in nutrition and supervises PhD students in the area of nutrition, food technology and functional foods. She is the Visiting Professor at the Assumption University in Bangkok, teaching the nutrition program. She is a regular presenter at national and international food conferences and has published her findings in prestigious journals such as the European Journal of Clinical Nutrition and British Journal of Nutrition.

Even Dummies can learn to eat properly

Victoria University’s Deputy Senior Vice Chancellor - Education Programs, Professor John McCallum officially launched ‘Food & Nutrition For Dummies’ by Vu’s Associate Professor Lily Stojanovska on Tuesday August 19 at Footscray Park Campus.

Special guest Gabriel Gate, chef, cooking author, television presenter and cooking teacher examined one of the great food mysteries of the world ‘Chocolate and Cheese : The French paradox for staying slim’.

From L-R: Professor John McCallum, Associate Professor Lily Stojanovska and special guest Gabriel Gate.

Media are welcome to attend

‘Food & Nutrition For Dummies’ is easy to read and contains all the latest information about how to manage...
your diet and your family’s through all of life’s different stages, as Lily calls the section ‘from womb to tomb nutrition’ — through childhood and adolescence, through pregnancy and child rearing, to nutrition for older adults. It provides a list of superstar foods, easy ways to cut calories, tasty lunchbox ideas for kids and recipes for healthy eating. This book can help even Dummies to live healthily.

Lily Stojonovska answers those constant and gnawing questions that we ask ourselves. How do you interpret nutrition labels; prepare delicious healthy meals; keep nutrients in food even after cooking; eat smart when eating out? It is a reference book that you can dip into and out of as the need arises.

One surprising fact is that chocolate is (as) one of the ten superstar foods. Lily Stojonovska says, “The cocoa bean is a strong source of energy, fibre, protein, carbohydrates, potent antioxidants, B vitamins and minerals—30 grams of dark sweet chocolate has 12 per cent of the iron and 33 percent of the magnesium a healthy woman needs each day.”

“Nutrition wise, the fat in cocoa butter is 59 percent saturated fat, which sounds really bad however unlike other saturated fats, the stearic acid in cocoa butter does not behave in the same way as other saturated fats and may even contribute to lowering the risk of heart attack and stroke.”

Lily says “It is still fattening, so don’t eat too much.” “If you are chocoaholic, tease your taste buds with just a small piece”.

This Dummies guide also compares different types of diets, diet fads, and their effectiveness.

With the rising epidemics of childhood obesity and adult-onset diabetes in Australia, this book will appeal to parents and middle-aged people wanting a plain English guide that provides clear and simple advice. It will also appeal to pregnant and elderly women worried about nutritional requirements.

THINKING ETHICS

Understanding your research proposal’s level of risk is the key factor that will determine which Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) will review your ethics application.

ASSESSING RISK

All applications assessed by the Ethics and Biosafety Administration Group as non-minimal risk (high risk) will be forwarded to the Victoria University Human Research Ethics Committee (VUHREC) for ethical review.

WHAT IS HIGH RISK RESEARCH?

If your research project involves any of the following, it will be deemed to be non-minimal risk requiring review by the VUHREC:

• Involves deception or covert observation
• Clinical trial
• Uses personal information obtained from a Commonwealth department or agency
• Involves potentially vulnerable groups (eg children, people in dependent/unequal relationships, highly dependent on medical care, cognitive impairment or intellectual
disability, may be involved in illegal activities)
• Focuses on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples
• Involves human genetics & stem cell research
• Includes women who are pregnant and the human foetus

Generally, non-minimal risk applications are identified by nominating items g to k in Section 5.3 of the Human Research Ethics Application form.

With this in mind, you will be able to plan which HREC will review your application and the date of the next submission deadline. For details of VUHREC or Faculty HREC submission and committee dates, refer to: http://research.vu.edu.au/HRE_cttee.php

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY REPORT ON ACORN WORKSHOP AND INDUSTRY DAY BY JASON GAO

In July 14 - 17, the joint ACORN workshop on multi-hop wireless networking and cooperative communications workshops and tutorial in conjunction with industry day was hosted at Victoria University. Besides these main events, a BBQ lunch for all attendees took place on the 17th at the Footscray bowling club. The workshops and tutorial were well attended by both ACORN members and non-ACORN members from a number of major Australian organizations such as CSIRO, NEC, ACMA, and Telstra (to include the actual numbers when they are available). During the event, many meaningful and interesting discussions took place to exchange ideas and explore the possibilities for future collaborations among universities and potential industry partners.

Among the 4 day events, Center for Telecommunication and Microelectronic (CTME) of VU is the main organizer for the Industry Day. This is the first time ACORN has incorporated an academia workshop with an industrial forum where guest speakers external to universities present the latest developments and challenges in the telecommunication industry. A broad range of topics have been presented. The first talk was given by Dr. Thomas Haustein from Nokia Siemens Networks GmbH & Co. KG. The talk has two parts: the first part is on Long Term Evolution (LTE) outdoor experiments, the second part on multi-user scheduling and radio resource allocation for OFDM based mobile communication systems. This is the followed by a talk on 3GPP to chipset from NEC. The next talk is given by Dr. Aaron Reid of Nanoradio AB on 802.11n – MIMO-OFDM Wireless LAN. Mr. Thanh Bui also from NEC Australia gave an overview on LTE-Advance. Prof. Stan Skafidas from NICTA gave an interesting talk on 60GHz Wireless. The next talk is given by Mr. Dean Van Gerrevink from Dantree Networks on the ZigBee standards and emerging applications. The final presenter is Mr. Del Smith from NEC Australia on IP Multimedia Subsystem.

In additional to technical sessions and talks, the venue also provides many opportunities for VU researchers to discuss collaborations both during the session breaks and at the BBQ. Dr. Hinal Suraweera had a good discussion with Dr. Maged Elkashtan from CSIRO on collaboration opportunities; Prof. Mike Faulkner held a talk with Dr. Mischa Dohler who is a senior researcher with Centre Tecnològic de Telecomunicacions de Catalunya (CTTC) in Barcelona and a well known expert in co-operative communication; Dr.-Ing. Thomas Haustein and Prof. Mike Faulkner took the opportunity to visit Telstra; Dr. Jason Gao and Dr. Hong Zhou from Southern Queensland University visited Dantree Networks after the ACORN event.

To summarize, the ACORN workshop has offered a number of tangible benefits to VU staff and students in terms of enhancing and broadening their research through the technical sessions and tutorial. The Industry Day forum had a rare gathering of a broad range of industry experts each of which gave a unique insight on the latest development in their respective areas. The venue also provided opportunities for establishing research connections and collaboration discussions. It will be remembered by many as the starting point which leads to a successful grant application or publication.
The ACORN event would not happened smoothly without those staff and student volunteers whose support has made the event such an enjoyable experience for many attendees in their first trips to Melbourne and/or VU. We would like to thank CTME administration officer Ms. Shukonya Benka, the Head of EE school Prof. Richard Thorn, technical/network support Mr. Foster Hayward, CTME PhD student Ms. Leila Koushaeian. Our sincere thanks also go to the others who have contributed to the event large or small.

Mike Faulkner (VU) Phillip Conder(VU), Jason Gao (VU)

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS 2009

The 2009 postgraduate scholarship application round is now open. VU have advertised in The Age on Saturday 27 September and The Australian on Monday 29 September. The closing date for applications is be 31 October 2008. Application forms and further information is available at http://www.vu.edu.au/postgrad or from Lesley Birch at Lesley.Birch@vu.edu.au

UPCOMING TRAINING SESSION WITH THE OFFICE FOR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

The Office for Postgraduate Research has recently released the training programme for the latter part of 2008. For details on the full training programme and registration details for these sessions, please go to http://www.vu.edu.au/Research/Office_for_Postgraduate_Research/Training/index.aspx

RESEARCH SUPERVISOR EDUCATION CONVERSATIONS: WHAT’S WORKING AND WHAT’S NOT?

Footscray Park Campus
Thursday 23 Oct, 2008
Room D309, 3.30- 4.30pm

City Flinders Campus
Thursday 13 Nov, 2008
Room 9.15, 3.30- 4.30pm

St Albans Campus
To be confirmed
Eric Lund Room
Building 4, South, Room 113, 3.30- 4.30pm

You are invited to participate in an informal discussion with other interested supervisors led by the new Director of Postgraduate Research, Professor Helen Borland. Share your experiences as a supervisor at VU. What are the key challenges you face as a supervisor? What techniques and strategies have worked well for you? How effectively is VU supporting you in your role as supervisor? How well do the current VU structures and processes assist you and your students? What are the most important priorities for improving the postgraduate research education experience for students and supervisors. Email: Katie.Batterham@vu.edu.au

THANK YOU to all who contributed to the content of the Research Matters bulletin. 😊