



UniSA

The Research EDGE

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4

MAY 2011

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Call for 2011 Research Centre applications on page 1

Strategic Research Partnerships on page 2

ITEK news on page 2

Legal services welcomes new solicitor on page 2

Prestigious awards for high achieving students on page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Human research ethics training 1

Project Quality System 1

Research expertise in the media 3

What's new in research degrees? 3

Key dates 4

Glossary 4

Call for 2011 research centre applications

UniSA is now calling for applications for University Supported Research Centre status. The 2011 round of Supported Research Centre applications is a two-stage process.

Stage 1 – Expression of Interest (EOI)

Before completing a full application for Supported Research Centre status it is suggested that applicants submit an EOI to Research and Innovation Services (RIS).

The EOI should cover:

- proposed membership and eligibility under the ReNEW Guidelines
- area of focus of the proposed centre and any overlap with existing research concentrations.

RIS will assess the EOI and within 10 working days advise the applicant of the research income indicator, eligibility of proposed members and any overlap with existing research concentrations.

Completion of the EOI is not mandatory, however it will assist potential applicants to decide whether to move to the full application. EOIs should be submitted to RIS between **16 May** and **10 June**.

Stage 2 – Full application

Full applications should be submitted to RIS by **29 July**. Additional information about the call:

www.unisa.edu.au/res/concen/renew.asp

Human research ethics training

Have you commenced your HDR program in the last 12 months and plan on undertaking research involving humans?

The Ethics Centre of South Australia, in collaboration with the University of South Australia, Flinders University and the University of Adelaide, invites all HDR students who have commenced their program of study in the last 12 months to attend the following workshop:

'Ethics and Integrity in Research with Humans'

This interactive workshop aims to provide:

- an understanding of the ethical issues that may arise in research involving humans (across the full spectrum from biological samples to whole populations);
- tools to analyse and address these issues;
- an understanding of what constitutes good practice in research; and
- assistance in the preparation of Human Research Ethics Committee applications.

This free workshop will run on Monday **20 June** (9am – 4pm) and Tuesday **21 June** 2011 (9am – 1pm) at the University of Adelaide. Refreshments will be provided.

Current HDR students who have research projects which require Human Research Ethics Approval are strongly encouraged to attend this workshop.

For further information and a registration form, please contact Amy Baker by Friday 10 June:

amy.baker@unisa.edu.au

Project Quality System

The Project Quality System (PQS) is a core tool in the management of the University's diverse range of research and consultancy activity.

The launch of the enhanced PQS has been long awaited and will occur on the **28 May**.

This enhanced version of the PQS includes added functionality to better capture research proposals and client information. The back-end of the system has also been rewritten to improve its overall performance and efficiency as well as giving the overall system a much

needed facelift to keep up with the modern look and feel of University systems. Some modules have also been amalgamated to improve workflow and user-friendliness.

For further information contact Nathan Lam: nathan.lam@unisa.edu.au

Visit the PQS website: www.unisa.edu.au/res/busadmin/POS.asp

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the UniSA logo and the title 'Add Proposal Information'. The user is logged in as 'User: lamns (Business Development Manager)'. The form is divided into two main sections: 'Proposal Details' and 'Project Personnel Details'. Under 'Proposal Details', there are input fields for 'Title', 'Description', and 'Grant Application No.'. Under 'Project Personnel Details', there are input fields for 'FinRep4 Code', 'Division (Info from Org1)', and 'School/Institute (Info from Org2)'. There are also some icons and a 'New Query' button at the top of the form area.

Legal Services welcomes new solicitor



Xavier Bell recently joined UniSA as a Solicitor in Research & Innovation Services.

Xavier graduated with a Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice from Flinders University in 2008. In September of that same year he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of South Australia as a Barrister and Solicitor, and a year later was admitted to practice in the Federal and High Court

of Australia. Previously Xavier worked at Lieschke & Weatherill Lawyers, specialising in Employment, Industrial Relations and Injury Law. He is also experienced in general commercial law, intellectual property law and criminal law. Xavier has in fact worked for UniSA previously, assisting as a temporary solicitor in 2009 and 2010.

In his role as a solicitor in Research and Innovation Services, Xavier will provide advice on a range of legal issues relevant to UniSA's

core research work, including intellectual property, contractual issues such as warranties and indemnities, international agreements, plagiarism, and privacy.

If you are a UniSA staff member requiring legal assistance or advice regarding a contract, please contact Xavier or one of the other University solicitors by sending a Legal enquiry form: www.unisa.edu.au/res/legal to the Legal inbox: legal@unisa.edu.au

'UniSA's energising research environment has stimulated new perspectives, ideas and directions in my research.'

Dr Matt Haren
(Research Fellow,
NHMRC Training
Fellowship)

ITEK news

Exploring commercial opportunities for electronic touch-sensitive surface materials

Researchers at UniSA's Wearable Computer Lab (WCL) have developed a novel and unique electronic technology, **Digital Foam**. The highly flexible foam can accurately detect multiple simultaneous deformations in its surface. Once the shape and size of the foam is known the research team can wrap the foam around hard surface substrates and then capture precise touch-based gestures and movements with various degrees of pressure. These capabilities have led to the



creation of a number of prototype devices, including a virtual modelling clay environment for digital sculpturing.

The technology is ideally suited to applications where a highly flexible, potential soft material can be used as a means to control or respond to single or multiple touches. Therefore, multiple applications are anticipated,

from human-computer interfaces for mobile devices or home entertainment games controllers, to medical mannequins used for training surgeons and doctors.

ITEK and Dr Ross Smith from the WCL are working with a Medical Device Partnering Program on the path to commercialisation of the technology.

Video of the technology is available on the Digital Foam webpage, <http://wearables.unisa.edu.au/projects/digital-foam/>

John Haskey, Commercial Manager ITEK Pty Ltd. Visit the ITEK website: www.itek.com.au

Strategic Research Partnerships

One of the key activities of Strategic Research Partnerships continues to be the support of Research and Innovation Clusters and other special interest networks.

Three Clusters endorsed by the DVC: Research & Innovation are:

- Human Rights and Security Research & Innovation Cluster (Co-convenors: Associate Professor Wendy Lacey and Professor Nicholas Procter; Refugee Research Network convenor: Dr Sophie Rainbird)
- Healthy Kids Research & Innovation Cluster

(Co-convenors: Dr Sarah Blunden and Dr Kirilly Thompson)

- Research in Regions Cluster (Co-convenors: Professors Guy Robinson and Elspeth Probyn)

Each Cluster hosts various events to bring together researchers and external stakeholders to address specific but complex issues from different perspectives. Clusters are not formal parts of the university structure but, rather, frameworks to encourage academics from our many Schools and Research Centres to meet each other, share perspectives and

develop important collaborations. The website is being updated to profile each Cluster's interests and activities and entice new folk to participate! Anyone interested in connecting with a Cluster (or developing a new one) is welcome to contact Lynette Kelly of SRP lynette.kelly@unisa.edu.au Visit the Strategic Research Partnerships website: unisa.edu.au/research/clusters



Research expertise in the media

Journalists from South Australian and national media organisations are increasingly seeking comment from academic experts on a wide range of research topics.

UniSA's News and Media Team is regularly asked for comments on current public affairs issues and scientific breakthroughs.

Researchers can assist by updating their expertise details on our UniSA directory's Find an expert:
www.unisa.edu.au/mdu/media/expert.asp

It is very easy to update your staff homepage with this information – but if you have any problems you can ask the News and Media Team for assistance, or refer to Staff homepages help: www.unisa.edu.au/helpstaff/add-change/expertise.asp

Your details are an important tool for the media and also for the UniSA News and Media Team: www.unisa.edu.au/news/contact.asp This information helps us refine our approach to media requests for expert comment.

It is particularly useful for both the UniSA News and Media team and the media if you can make your mobile phone number available to MDU and the media. Media queries often require tight turnaround times and being able to contact experts quickly is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions about these directories or our media liaison services you can call us any time:

Michelle Nardelli—ext 20966

Kelly Stone—ext 20963

Prestigious awards for high achieving students

Applications are currently open for the **Endeavour Awards**. These awards are part of the Australian Government's internationally competitive, merit-based scholarship program providing opportunities for citizens of the Asia Pacific, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas to undertake study, research and professional development in Australia. Academics may wish to forward this link to colleagues in eligible countries:

www.deewr.gov.au/International/EndeavourAwards/Pages/Home.aspx

Awards are also available for Australians to undertake study,

research and professional development abroad. The most well-funded and prestigious of these is **The Prime Minister's Australia Asia Awards**, for high achieving university students in Australia looking to undertake study or research in Asia towards their Masters or PhD qualification in any field of study.

Award Holders will have the opportunity to enrich their academic experience through exposure to unique education systems, teaching expertise and comparative perspectives while studying in distinctive locations or undertaking collaborative research at leading universities in Asia.

See: www.deewr.gov.au/International/EndeavourAwards/AusApp/Pages/PMAwards.aspx

The **Endeavour Executive Awards** are also open to staff looking for exciting professional development opportunities. These have been won by UniSA staff in previous occasions. See:

www.deewr.gov.au/International/EndeavourAwards/AusApp/Pages/ExecutiveAwards.aspx.

Applications for 2012 close **30 June**.



What's new in research degrees?

Graduate Certificate in Research Commercialisation

If you are looking to bring your research-based ideas, inventions and innovations to market, then you may be interested in the Graduate Certificate in Research Commercialisation. The Commonwealth Government provides scholarships to support research commercialisation training for a limited number of domestic Higher Degree by Research (HDR) students. For more information: www.unisa.edu.au/research/students/scholarships/gcra.asp

Closing date for applications: **31 May**.

Induction resources

Presentations and web videos from the March 2011 higher degree by research Induction sessions for new students are now available in

the RESA Online workshop *Commencing your PhD*.

Follow the link to the 'Induction for new HDR students', for resources such as Responsible research, and Managing your study: www.unisa.edu.au/research/support/induction/resources.asp

RESA on campus workshops

Upcoming workshops in May across all disciplines include:

- Discussion groups for supervisors, students and early career researchers
- SPSS training (4 workshops)
- Computing tips – working with the thesis template

For locations and to register for workshops (May and June) please visit:

www.unisa.edu.au/research/support/oncampus/default.asp

RESA online resources

Please visit the Index of online workshops, courses and resources:

www.unisa.edu.au/research/support/online/default.asp

Topics include *Writing the research proposal* as well as many other resources relevant to a research degree at any stage of the journey.

Library

Staff members: are you a member of the global, multidisciplinary scholarly **ResearcherID community**? Join to make your research visible to the world and search for other researchers in your field. ResearcherID lets you create a unique researcher profile, generate your h-index and average citation counts, list your research affiliations, and view your collaborative networks. Link people to your profile by displaying the ResearcherID badge on

**Attention:
students &
supervisors**

your UniSA staff homepage. Not indexed in **Web of Science**? List your publications (regardless of whether they are indexed in Web of Science) to keep track of what you have published, as well as letting others discover your research. Records not included in Web of Science can be added using EndNote Web or by importing them from other databases such as Scopus. Connect to ResearcherID by going to the Library home page > Databases > Titles > R > ResearcherID or through the database Web of Science. Contact your relevant Academic Library Services team for help getting started: www.library.unisa.edu.au/services/alservices.aspx

KEY DATES—MAY 2011

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
9 Deadline for online submission (UniSA HREC)	10	11	12 RDC meeting	13 RPC meeting
16	17	18	19 REQUIEM meeting	20
23 UniSA HREC meeting	24	25	26	27
30	31 Commercialisation Training Scheme Scholarship applications close			

KEY DATES—JUNE 2011

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2 RDC meeting	3
6 RIACC meeting	7	8	9 Deadline for online submission (UniSA HREC)	10 RPC meeting; Supported Research Centre applications close
13	14 REQUIEM meeting	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27 UniSA HREC meeting	28	29	30 Endeavour Awards applications close	

Glossary

ARC: Australian Research Council

ARMS: Australasian Research Management Society

BICC: Business Innovation and Commercialisation Committee

DIISR: Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

HREC: Human Research Ethics Committee

NHMRC: National Health and Medical Research Council

NPEG: National Partnerships Engagement Group

RDC: Research Degrees Committee

REQUIEM: Research Quality, Innovation and Engagement Metrics Working Group

RIACC: Research Integrity, Accountability and Compliance Committee

RPC: Research Policy Committee

UPS: UniSA President's Scholarship

If you have ideas for articles for *The Research EDGE*, please contact:

Mandy Towler (Research and Innovation Services)

Phone: +61 8 8302 5377

Email: mandy.towler@unisa.edu.au

Andrea Rankin (Graduate Research Centre)

Phone: +61 8 8302 5246

Email: andrea.rankin@unisa.edu.au

Research and Innovation Services (RIS) provides support for the management of research. The Graduate Research Centre (GRC) provides support for research degree students and staff.

Research and Innovation Services

Phone: +61 8 8302 3247

unisa.edu.au/res/contact.asp

Graduate Research Centre

Phone: +61 8 8302 5880

unisa.edu.au/researchstudents/contact.asp

