

TOWER



SUMMER 2015
ISSUE 13

THE 2015 ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS

The inspiring
success stories
behind our highest
achievers

CREATIVE BY DESIGN

UTS isn't just thinking
outside the box; we're
changing how you think

FAREWELL KURING-GAI
The end of an era for UTS's iconic bush campus

THE POWER OF ONE

How **Li Hua
Tong** is saving
China's most
vulnerable



A year of ACHIEVEMENT



“We are reaping the benefits of hard work and investment made over the past decade.”

THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS HAVE MARKED a year of tremendous achievements for UTS, in spite of the ongoing debate around deregulation alongside policy and funding uncertainty. Highlights for us include opening three new buildings and we have been ranked the best young university in Australia.

We have also played a leading role in state and national initiatives, including the establishment of Sydney's Digital Creative Hub, Piivot. Our reputation for innovation continues to grow with the launch of the Hatchery for entrepreneurial students while students completing our Bachelor of Creative Intelligence and Innovation degree have partnered with Visa to help imagine what's next for wearable technology.

We are reaping the benefits of hard work and investment made over the past decade, which gives us a strong foundation to becoming a world-leading university of technology.

I would like to thank all of you in our alumni community for your continued support of our vision as we move into 2016 and beyond.

Professor Attila Brungs, Vice-Chancellor



TOWER

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P +61 2 9514 9861 F +61 2 9514 9872
E alumni@uts.edu.au

UTS Advancement Office

Director: Jane Westbrook

Deputy Director: Rosanne Hunt

Editor: Kevin Cheung

Contributors: Vice-Chancellor Attila Brungs, Steve Meacham, Melinda Ham, Carey Swan, Jenifer Waters, Kim Williams.

Cover Photography: by Kevin Cheung

Published by Mahlab Media

Mahlab

369a Darling Street,

Balmain NSW 2041

P +61 2 9556 9100

F +61 2 9818 6080

E inquiries@mahlabmedia.com.au

W www.mahlabmedia.com.au

Managing Director Bobbi Mahlab

Account Manager Stuart Singleton

Editorial Liaison Jo-Anne Hui

Designer Nina Christian

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08

FAREWELL KURING-GAI

GOT A TABLET?

Download the iOS (iPad, iPhone) edition from the App Store or from Google Play for Android devices.



ON THE COVER: Mitchell Smith, Anthony McDermott, Jackie Edwards, David Barker AM, Dr Jennie Small, Karina Sherwood, Georgina Gotch.

UTS acknowledges the Gadigal and Guring-gai people of the Eora Nation upon whose ancestral lands our university now stands. We would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present, acknowledging them as the traditional custodians of knowledge for these places.

A man in a dark pinstriped suit jacket, light blue shirt, and dark trousers stands on a wooden deck. He is positioned between two large brick pillars. In the background, a cityscape is visible under a cloudy sky, featuring a prominent cable-stayed bridge and various buildings. The man has his hands clasped in front of him and is looking directly at the camera.

What future for **television?**

How Graeme Mason rose to the top of Screen Australia.

STORY BY STEVE MEACHAM

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN CHEUNG

This is a sweeping generalisation, but young people don't own TVs," says Graeme Mason, former UTS Communications student and now head of Screen Australia. "They don't watch TV. They don't watch the news. They don't watch long-form drama unless it's *Game of Thrones* or *House of Cards*."

"They are consuming things on their computers, on their phones, on their tablets. There's been a fundamental shift in who consumes things and how. Broadcasters and makers, and funders of films and television like us, have to be cognisant of that, and adapt."

Mason took over from Ruth Harley as chief executive of Screen Australia in 2013. It's his job to decide which Australian films, TV dramas, documentaries, multimedia projects and Indigenous productions win public funding.

Mason is the first to admit that 2014 was an *annus horribilis* for the Australian film industry. Russell Crowe's *The Water Diviner*, released on Boxing Day, became the biggest grossing Australian film of the entire year simply because there was nothing else.

That prompted a national debate: Why are so many Australian movies so bleak that few people are tempted to pay money at the cinema to see them?

Mason points out that film accounts for only one-third of Screen Australia's funding, with small screen products accounting for two-thirds. "And in telly, the dramas we were able to support were all going gangbusters – shows like *The Code*, *House Husbands*, *Puberty Blues* and *Secrets and Lies*. Australians still want to watch Australian TV. We need to think a little more about this when it comes to film."

Poor attendance for locally made films isn't just an Australian phenomenon. "They're having this same debate in London, Denmark, Ireland. The audience for film – not just Australian film – has changed," explains Mason.

When he was a 1980s undergraduate at UTS, people went to the movies for spectacle and event, but also for thought-provoking movies that everyone would discuss afterwards over a drink. "But people now largely get those thought-provoking things from TV or online. Cinema is having to play catch-up and is struggling to connect."

Nevertheless, he admits, "People were making films which were never going to reach an audience." Not that bleak films can't prove popular. "*Snowtown* and *Animal Kingdom* were both very bleak and both were big hits."

Born in Sydney and raised in the Blue Mountains, Mason is the third child of two academics. His father was once the deputy registrar of the University of Sydney, while his mother was a lecturer at the University of Western Sydney. There was always expectation for him to go to university, but he kept his parents on tenterhooks.

Mason was offered a place to study medicine at the University of Sydney, but instead waited a year before studying communications at UTS. During the course he took further time out in London before returning to complete the final year.

"My father begged me to come back and complete the degree, but I was young and having fun in London. He was right though. I'm glad I did come back. I got a lot out of those final semesters."

"Then, as now, UTS was known for its hybrid courses – industry focused but also embracing thought. I did the theory of film and psychology, but also worked in radio and TV labs."

After graduating, Mason embraced his love of sports and worked as head researcher on a sport documentary series, before returning to London in 1989. There he worked for Sky TV for a year before his partner's sister, Wendy Palmer, offered him a position at Manifesto Film Sales. ◀

“In those days, film sales were how independent films were financed. We used to go to distribution companies around the world and pitch films, at script stage, and they would commit to buying the rights for their countries. You took those contracts to the bank (to get the money to make the movies).

“Two of the films Wendy was working on when I joined were *Wild At Heart* and *Barton Fink*, the very beginning of David Lynch’s and the Coen Brothers’ careers. It showed me, very quickly, that film is a global business.”

In 1992, Mason joined Polygram Filmed Entertainment, eventually becoming senior vice president. Some of the films he helped sell and distribute were Working Title’s *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and *Billy Elliott*. He also worked on *Trainspotting* and *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*.

Polygram merged with Universal Pictures in 1995 and Mason stayed on as president of film acquisitions and sales. In 2002, he joined Britain’s Channel 4 as head of media projects. His brief included music programming, documentaries, co-productions, education and learning.

It was a time of huge transition in the TV industry, with HBO, Showtime and Channel 4 leading the way in producing dramas and docs that had once been the domain of film. “Channel 4 was fun and edgy – an interesting mix of culture, creativity and business.”

In 2009, after a short spell living in Thailand, Mason was appointed chief executive of the New Zealand Film Commission. While the Australian film industry was in the doldrums, New Zealand was in the middle of a golden age.

“At one point, we had Sir Peter Jackson, James Cameron and Steven Spielberg all making films in Wellington. And at the other end, there are people trying to make films for \$250,000.”

New Zealand filmmakers were producing local stories that local people wanted to see. *Boy*, for example, is now the most successful independent NZ film of all time, with traditional Maori stories such as *Whale Rider* also having success.

Interestingly, Mason recalls the 2014 horror movie, *The Babadook* was “seen by very few people in Australia, but was a big hit in the UK, France, Spain, Thailand and Singapore. It was critically acclaimed and a commercial success – just not here.”



“Australians still want to... hear Australian voices and be told Australian stories.”

Mason reputedly beat 250 other candidates for the Screen Australia job. What distinguished him from the competition was his top level experience in all aspects of film and TV – not just the creative side, but the hard-nosed business end: pitching, buying, selling and distributing product that people want to watch.

Multi-platform will be the growth area, he says. Increasingly consumers will watch product online. He cites the example of Mighty Car Mods, “two guys who live in Sydney and run the most successful car channel on YouTube. They have hundreds of millions of viewers”.

He continues: “We have supported 50 of Australia’s top online video creators through the multi-platform program. These creators reach phenomenal views – collectively their content has been viewed on YouTube over one billion times globally.

“This is the most exciting growth area we’ll be involved in over the next few years. It’s certainly something all the current UTS communications students will be interested in.”

As Dorothy put it in *The Wizard of Oz*, “*Toto, I have a feeling we’re not in Kansas anymore!*” ■■■

ABOVE: Mason was with the New Zealand Film Commission before coming to Screen Australia.

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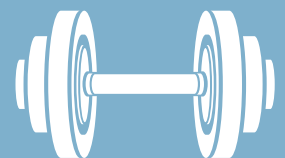
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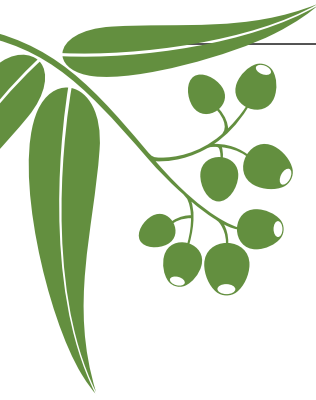
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Farewell Kuring-gai

It might be closing, but Kuring-gai has changed UTS forever.

STORY BY MELINDA HAM

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN CHEUNG

Located on a 92-acre site in Lindfield, 13 kilometres north of Sydney, UTS's Kuring-gai Campus is an iconic structure surrounded by verdant bushland. Over the past 25 years, more than 40,000 UTS graduates have journeyed through its trademark lime green halls, but December 2015 will mark the beginning of a new chapter when the site's ownership reverts back to the NSW Department of Education.

It is by no means an end, however, as all staff and students will be joining their friends and colleagues at the UTS City Campus in Ultimo. Likewise, all teaching and learning activities will be transferred from Kuring-gai to the City Campus as part of a unified and revitalised, state-of-the-art urban campus.

A COMMUNITY LIKE NO OTHER

Originally a rifle range purchased from the NSW Department of Defence, the Kuring-gai site is unlike any other university campus in Australia. The sprawling concrete structure, nestled in the seclusion of the Lane Cove National Park, was as much an educational institution as it was a home away from home to both students and staff; its privacy and unique collection of gathering spaces nurtured a sense of warmth and community spirit. Its defining feature, as any alumni from Kuring-gai will attest, is its green carpet.

Emeritus Professor David Barker – who was UTS Dean of Law from 1997-2004 – recalls his initial observations: “The first time I walked

into the Kuring-gai Campus building in March 1989, I noticed the green carpet, something that I subsequently discovered was synonymous with Kuring-gai,” he says.

Dr Jonathan Tyler, senior lecturer and Deputy Head, School of Accounting, who joined the Kuring-gai campus in 1985, also noted the equally prevalent bright fuchsia handrails: “The campus was really caught in a time warp and was the pinnacle of what was en vogue in the 1970s,” he says. “We also had the ‘Passion Pit’, a sunken lounge room, with benches built right into the wall, which was a favourite meeting place for staff and students for tutorials.”

Barbecues for staff and students were a regular fixture, as were lunchtime tennis matches and various other social events.

“I was always impressed by how they brought people from disparate parts of the organisation together,” says Former UTS Vice-Chancellor Professor Tony Blake. “There was just a warm sense of common purpose.”

It's a view shared by nursing lecturer, Marika Jenkins, who believes “With just one big building, it is so compact that you get to know people really well.” She adds, “You make friendships with people because you see them all the time, passing them in the corridor and the stairs if you are going to classes or the gym.”

Jenkins, who studied at Kuring-gai, loved the intimacy of the studying environment. “We had one mental health nursing class held out on the lawn and we all sat around in a big circle.” ▶



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The student cafeteria; the brutalist architecture as viewed from outside; the scenic bushland that sits at Kuring-gai's doorstep; the fuchsia handrails were as synonymous to Kuring-gai as the green carpet; students walking along the iconic green carpet.

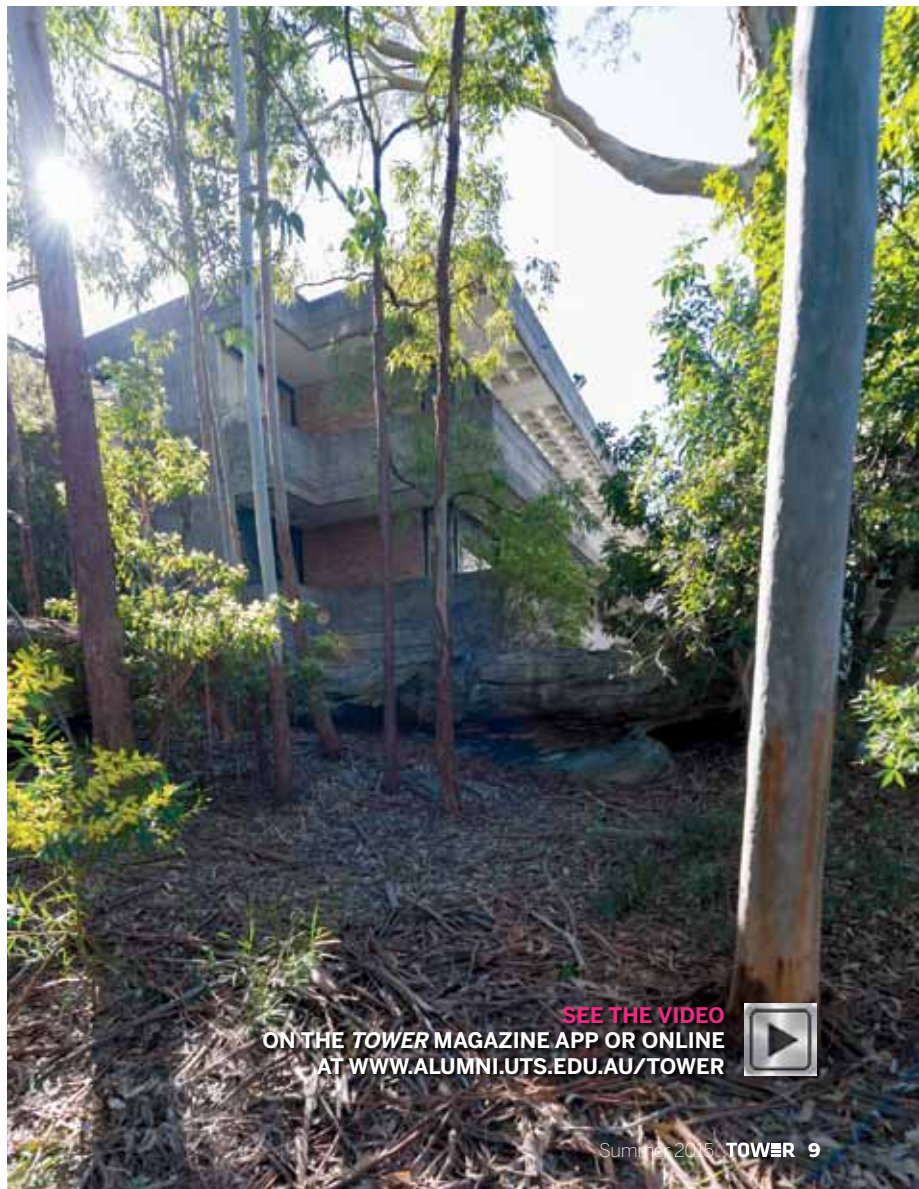


Photo: Anna Zhu Photography



Photo: Anna Zhu Photography

“With just one building, it is so compact that you get to know people really well.”



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PARTNERING WITH UTS

Prior to 1990, the Kuring-gai campus was independently operated as the Kuring-gai College of Advanced Education (KCAE). The college began expanding its scope in 1977 by affiliating with the College of Law at St Leonard’s, offering practical legal training. During the 1980s, it grew with the establishment of Business and Nursing departments.

In 1987, the Hawke Labor government began implementing the Dawkins education reforms and consolidating educational institutions. Professor Blake was appointed as KCAE’s principal, having previously served as the Deputy Principal at the Sydney College of Advanced Education. One of his goals was to find a suitable institution for Kuring-gai to partner with.

Impressed by the esprit de corps at KCAE, Professor Blake approached different universities over the next 18 months, including UNSW, Macquarie, the University of Sydney and finally a young University of Technology Sydney with a view to amalgamation.

Dr Ken Doyle, who lectured at KCAE during that time and is now President of the Kuring-gai Staff Network, describes the negotiations as “a frenzied dance; partners, clasping and disengaging and clasping elsewhere lest they be left neglected or passed into oblivion”.

KCAE ultimately chose UTS. It was the only university that guaranteed it would honour KCAE’s criteria for amalgamation: a commonality of mission and management style and an opportunity to participate in equitable decision-making.

AFTER AMALGAMATION

The amalgamation between UTS and KCAE took place on 1 January 1990, and Professor Blake was appointed the campus’ first Deputy Vice-Chancellor. The Business, Nursing and Teacher



Education departments were placed under their respective faculties at the city campus.

“UTS was prepared to be very accommodating, and Kuring-gai appreciated that very much,” says Professor Blake. “There was no sign of any sort of paternalistic attitude. I think it gave Kuring-gai academics a much more fertile intellectual environment in which to flourish.”

Beyond the practical exchange of staff and resources, however, the Kuring-gai campus had an unexpected but unmistakable impact on the grim, concrete halls of UTS’s city campus. The community spirit that so impressed Professor Blake when he was first appointed the principal of Kuring-gai was infectious and spread throughout the city campus. Art, sculptures and colour were introduced. With time, the campus that is said to have once been compared to a

ABOVE: Professor Tony Blake (centre) during his early days at Kuring-gai.

“The campus might be closing, but its spirit is very much alive and well in UTS.”

1946

Balmain Teachers College opens

1971

Balmain Teachers College is renamed the William Balmain Teachers’ College and relocates to the Lindfield site (Kuring-gai Campus).

1974

William Balmain renamed Kuring-gai College of Advanced Education (KCAE).

1977

KCAE affiliates with the College of Law.

1978

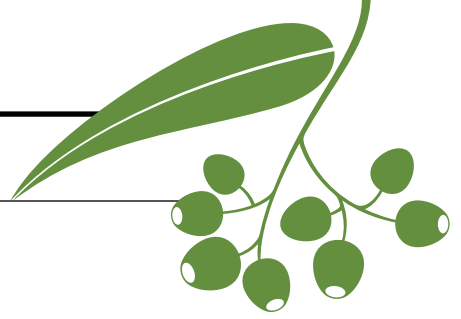
Building architect David Don Turner awarded the Sir John Sulman medal from the NSW chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects. It becomes known as one of Australia’s standout examples of post-war brutalist architecture.

1984

Kuring-gai School of Nursing opens.

1988

UTS is established.



public railway station by the Duke of Edinburgh was transformed into the vibrant city campus we have today.

Professor Blake went on to be elected UTS's second Vice-Chancellor in 1996 – a position he held until his retirement in 2002.

Life at Kuring-gai, meanwhile, continued apace. Dr Tyler observed that while the demographics between campuses were much the same, it was a time of social change. “We had a wonderful affirmative action program, encouraging women who maybe hadn’t done their HSC, but had other valuable experience, to come and study with us,” he says. “These women had lots of motivation, were more responsible and had totally different expectations. They were older than many of the lecturers.”

There were also the part time, evening students who came to Kuring-gai as mature age learners, many of them holding down full-time jobs. Todd Greenberg, who is now the Australian Rugby League’s Head of Football, was among the inaugural intake for the Masters of Sports Management when he started attending lectures in 1994.

“I really enjoyed coming to the campus after work because it was in such beautiful grounds,” says Greenberg, who was then working in his first job at Cricket Australia and continued evening classes until graduating in 1997. “I met some fantastic people, who were similar to me and have gone on to have careers in the Olympics, other sports or started their own businesses. And those friendships I still have today, as well as industry contacts that have continued over 20 years.”

Among the Kuring-gai campus’ most memorable staff and students is Paddy Parkhill, who headed campus security for most of the last 25 years. Parkhill was particularly revered for saving the main Kuring-gai building from the 1993 fires that raged in the surrounding bushland.

“When one looks back at the melting lamp-posts and the cracked glass windows as the only outcome, we could truly appreciate the fact that Paddy epitomised the Kuring-gai spirit in putting his life on the line to save the campus,” Professor Barker says.

THE FUTURE FOR KURING-GAI

UTS is timetabled to formally vacate the Kuring-gai campus by the 20 December 2015. The NSW Department of Education plans to renovate the campus and reopen it in 2017 as a state-of-the art “education village” for pre-schoolers to year 12 students. The campus will reportedly incorporate small schools under one umbrella, giving children the opportunity to learn by stage not age. ■■

STUDENT LIFE



Kuring-gai Student Association President (1992), Martin Hollander, recalls the ‘90s as a period of social change. “It was the genesis of increased awareness about equality,” Hollander recalls. “We had visibly increased female participation rates and the Broadway campus had the first gay and lesbian officer.” Hollander, who counts federal deputy opposition leader Tanya Plibersek and NSW Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy Anthony Roberts as his Broadway counterparts, recalls: “I have vivid memories of many lively discussions with Anthony and Tanya... Lighting in the carparks was a really a big deal. There had been some minor incidents and threats to students, and safety emerged as a big issue.”

REFLECTING ON KURING-GAI



“The campus might be closing, but its spirit is very much alive and well in UTS,” says Former UTS Vice-Chancellor Professor Tony Blake. Recalling the stark concrete hallways of UTS prior to their merger, he believes “amalgamation was the greatest gift to UTS... There was a huge sea change in the atmosphere. I enjoyed being part of that transformation, putting colour into the place, putting signs and artwork, flying big kites out in the main foyer...” Blake ultimately set the wheels in motion for the Kuring-gai campus’s closure after the NSW government reneged on a promise to build a railway station nearby. “I think Kuring-gai was a wonderful place whose time had come, really,” he reflects. “I think all the qualities at Kuring-gai have transformed and flourished at UTS.”

1990

UTS amalgamates with KCAE.

1991

Kuring-gai campus’ Department of Law switches from association with Business to the new Faculty of Law and Legal Practice.

1993

A major bushfire leaves the Kuring-gai campus miraculously unscathed.

2015

Ownership of the Kuring-gai Campus reverts to the NSW Government in exchange for an expanded footprint for UTS’s city campus.



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Speed-dating FOR A CAUSE

How UTS is helping students and community organisations find each other.

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY
KEVIN CHEUNG

Many UTS students are eager to volunteer their time towards a worthy cause, but how does one go about choosing one? There are so many organisations, so much to learn, and so little time. That’s where UTS Careers and Shopfront come in with their new initiative – Perfect Match.

A nod to one of Australia’s classic dating shows of the ‘80s, Perfect Match is a networking day for students and not-for-profit organisations. 100 students are split into groups, cycling between 12 different organisations in eight-minute sessions. During each session, the organisations explain their cause while the students ask anything that will help them decide who they’d like to be involved with – a little like speed-dating.

Perfect Match lets students choose their own path based on their own interests and their interactions with each organisation. As many as 300 volunteer roles can be created at a single event, with many students signing up for two or more organisations.

“For so many community based organisations who use volunteers, it’s difficult to know where to go to engage with people who have time and

resources to volunteer,” explains Scott from Shine For Kids. “[Perfect Match] has provided me with the opportunity to speak with so many people, which might otherwise have been weeks of work.”

“It’s been such a great opportunity to meet with such a diverse group of organisations,” says social inquiry/law student Ruby Wawn. “It’s given me the opportunity to think about issues that I’ve not even considered before, and put my skills into action.”

“We are delighted by the effectiveness of Perfect Match. It’s a great opportunity to collaborate across the UTS programs and to meaningfully support students to become aware of and involved in a great diversity of civil society organisations,” says Acting Program Manager at UTS Shopfront, Claire Pettigrew.

Perfect Match began as a collaboration between UTS Careers Service, the NSW Centre for Volunteering, the BUiLD leadership program, the law faculty’s Brennan Justice and Leadership Program and Shopfront’s UTS:SOUL Award. It counts Lifeline, The Smith Family and the Wilderness Society among its partners. ■



ABOVE: UTS students get eight minutes to see what an organisation is all about.

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UTS: ALUMNI AWARDS 2015

**Be inspired by this year's
UTS Alumni Award winners:
entrepreneurs, innovators,
leaders and change-makers,
making their mark here in
Australia and around the world.**

STORY BY JENIFER WATERS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN CHEUNG

Lance Kalish and Ido Leffler

**UTS ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE –
UTS BUSINESS SCHOOL; UTS CHANCELLOR'S
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE. Co-Founders, Yes To Inc**
Bachelor of Business (2000)



“We always felt that finding a purpose for our business was as important as driving a profit...”

LANCE KALISH

Lance Kalish and Ido Leffler have built an internationally successful business that embodies entrepreneurship, innovation and philanthropy.

Co-founding Yes To Inc in the USA in 2006, they started out with big ideas, big promises, and big debt. The following year, they launched a line of natural beauty products, Yes To Carrots, which has grown tremendously in popularity and can be found in more than 25,000 stockists across 15 countries – including retail giants Target and Walmart.

Today, Yes To is an exciting multi-million dollar business that continues to grow at a rate of around 25 per cent per annum. Its range of cleansers, lotions, moisturisers and other beauty products

now comprises seven brands, all of them staying true to the company’s vision of using predominantly natural ingredients.

They’re not just influencing consumer choices: Kalish and Leffler are also driving social change through their Yes To Seed Fund, a not-for-profit organisation established as a central tenet of the business, and to which a portion of their profits are donated. The fund teaches children about nutrition and healthy living through micro-farms in Africa and planting organic school gardens across the globe, contributing to feeding 100,000 students each day.

“We always felt that finding a purpose for our business was as important as driving a profit,” says Kalish. “Understanding that

the more successful your business is, the more you are able to give away and make an impact on society. It’s the best driver you can set for yourself and your employees.”

Last year they established two more brands with social impact: Yoobi school supplies and Cheeky Home disposable table-top products. Partnering with US-based charities, the brands have already donated classroom supplies to one million children and meals to more than four million of the nation’s hungry.

“We sincerely hope that this will become the new way that everyone does business in the future,” says Leffler. ▶





Chris Bulmer

UTS ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE – FACULTY OF DESIGN, ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING.

**Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Group Holdings Pty Ltd
Bachelor of Applied Science in Building (1991)**

Recently recognised as one of the fastest growing Indigenous businesses in Australia, asset management company Pacific Services Group Holdings (PSG) delivers tangible change to the lives of Indigenous people. Through its Indigenous enrichment plan, the company is a major employer of Indigenous people, investing in their future through training, mentoring and outreach programs.

Last year, it also developed a university cadetship program supporting Indigenous undergraduates. Chief executive officer Chris Bulmer has built a solid reputation as a leader in the property and construction

industries, and for helping others realise their highest potential. His leadership and strategic vision have steered the company through rapid advancement.

Bulmer was previously with Hansen Yuncken, which earned more than 90 awards during his tenure.

PSG also builds capacity in other Indigenous businesses, providing suppliers and subcontractors with management education. “In doing so, we can deliver a holistic solution to our customers and ensure a strong Indigenous supply chain, able to deliver across all markets throughout metropolitan and regional Australia,” says Bulmer.

Andrea Myles

UTS ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE – FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES.

**Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder,
China Australia Millennial Project
Master of Arts in International Studies (2007);
Master of Arts in China Studies (2011)**

Andrea Myles was 23 years old when she selected China as the destination for her first overseas travel adventure. The visit spun into a career spent bringing Australia and China closer together.

Myles co-founded the China Australia Millennial Project (CAMP) – the first of its kind worldwide – in 2014, and remains the organisation’s chief executive officer. A bilateral, cross-industry business incubator, CAMP unites exceptional young leaders from China and Australia to build

intercultural capabilities, relationships, and innovative leadership skills.

She has also helped co-found the Engaging China Project, represented Australia at the G20 Young Entrepreneurs Alliance, led the then Prime Minister Julia Gillard’s business delegation to China, and headed the Australia China Business Council.

“The rise, or return, of China is up there with the digital revolution as the greatest moments shaping the 21st century,” she says.





“It’s an incredible honour to be recognised as someone who is trying to make systemic change.”

Carolyn McGregor AM

UTS ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE – FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

Canada Research Chair in Health Informatics, University of Ontario Institute of Technology Bachelor of Applied Science in Computing Science (1991); PhD in Computing Sciences (2003)

Professor Carolyn McGregor’s frontier research in big data is helping doctors save the lives of premature babies, and could also keep astronauts alive on Mars.

Her early career spent designing corporate information systems, Professor McGregor turned her skills to health informatics, developing the Artemis Project.

A sophisticated platform enabling real-time analysis of multiple data streams, Artemis delivers enhanced ability to detect patterns, for earlier detection of disease and reduced mortality.

She is currently working with NASA to adapt Artemis to monitor astronaut health on the planned mission to Mars

in 2030, and give them tools to self-monitor while out of contact with mission control.

A world-leading expert in her field, Professor McGregor was made a Member of the Order of Australia last year, and was recently awarded the Advance Global Australian Award for Technology Innovation. “It’s an incredible honour to be recognised

as someone who is trying to make systemic change,” she says.



Tanya Farrell

UTS ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE – FACULTY OF HEALTH. Executive Director, Nursing and Midwifery, Royal Women’s Hospital, Melbourne Bachelor of Nursing in Midwifery (2000)

With her strategic vision and capacity to lead others through significant change, it’s no surprise that Tanya Farrell is one of Australia’s most successful leaders in healthcare.

Farrell is executive director of nursing and midwifery at the Royal Women’s Hospital in Melbourne, Australia’s largest specialist hospital dedicated to improving the health of women and newborn babies. In addition to providing strategic and operational guidance, critical to her role is attracting and retaining exceptional nurses and midwives, and helping them excel in a rapidly changing healthcare environment.

“My challenge every day is to ensure that we are able to both meet the needs of our nurses and midwives, and ensure that women, babies and their families receive the best care possible,” she says.

Farrell is also an Adjunct Professor of La Trobe University, where she has established a strong base for improving healthcare outcomes for women and babies through research and education. ▶



Photo: Supplied



Genevieve Clay-Smith

UTS YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD.
Director and Co-founder, Bus Stop Films and Taste Creative Bachelor of Arts in Media Arts and Production (2009)

Fusing significant talent and creative vision with a strong commitment to social justice action, Genevieve Clay-Smith is not just succeeding in a notoriously difficult business – she’s changing lives.

After winning Tropfest in 2009 with her first inclusive film – engaging people with disabilities as cast and crew members – Clay-Smith was inspired to co-found Bus Stop Films, a not-for-profit organisation she runs on a volunteer basis. Bus Stop creates inclusion within the film industry through providing workshops and training, film production opportunities and work placement for people who identify as having a disability.

“I wanted to make film studies accessible to those who might not usually get the opportunity to learn about the subject at university or TAFE,” she says.

Clay-Smith, who was named 2015 NSW Young Australian of the Year, also co-founded boutique creative agency Taste Creative, and was recently named Australia’s Top Female Creative at the B&T Women in Media Awards.

Jane Needham SC

UTS ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE – FACULTY OF LAW. President, NSW Bar Association Bachelor of Laws (1991)

Jane Needham SC has forged a reputation as a strong leader at the Bar.

Specialising in equity, revenue and succession law, Needham was named Senior Barrister of the Year by *Lawyers Weekly* in 2013. Having appeared in many significant cases, she is known for her determination.

She is currently appearing for the Truth, Justice and Healing Council as senior counsel in the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Needham has also driven change in her role as president of the NSW Bar Association, including building equal opportunity and diversity into the profession through initiatives such as dedicated child-care places for members of the Bar and making sitting hours more family-friendly.



“I think that there is a real impetus around making the legal profession a better place to work as a whole; not just for women but for everyone,” she says.

Justice Rong He

UTS INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI AWARD.
Deputy Vice President, People’s Republic of China Supreme People’s Court Master of Laws (2004); Bachelor of Medical Science (First Class Hons) (2003)



Photo: Supplied

Justice Rong He has rapidly risen through the ranks of the male-dominated legal profession in China.

She was made an Assistant Judge in the Criminal Court of Beijing High People’s Court at just 22 years of age. She has since been appointed to the People’s Republic of China Supreme People’s Court, where she is currently Member of the Party Leadership Group, Vice President, and a Grand Justice of the second rank.

Justice He also actively promotes the role of women in the legal profession in China.

Dr Lacey Johnson

UTS ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE – FACULTY OF SCIENCE. *Principal Research Fellow, Australian Red Cross Blood Services*
Bachelor of Medical Science (2002); Bachelor of Medical Science (First Class Hons) (2003)

Dr Lacey Johnson's internationally recognised work on cryopreserved platelets is putting Australia at the forefront of research into frozen blood technologies, with significant potential to save military and civilian lives.

Platelets are crucial to ensure blood can clot after an injury, but when stored at room temperature have a shelf-life of just five days – presenting a particular challenge in rural and remote areas.



“My goal as a research scientist is to contribute to society in a positive way.”

Her applied research into cryopreservation has the ability to extend platelet shelf-life to two years. The Australian Defence Force have embraced this groundbreaking work, trialling frozen blood inventory in combat zones, and Dr Johnson is participating in a clinical

trial to extend the technology to treat bleeding in cardiac surgery patients.

“My goal as a research scientist is to contribute to society in a positive way,” she says. “That’s why I love the applied research area, as you really get to see the work you do get translated into the real world.”



Ralph Kelly

UTS ALUMNI COMMUNITY AWARD. *Founder and Director, Thomas Kelly Youth Foundation*
Bachelor of Business in Marketing (1991); Master of Business Administration (1998)

When Ralph Kelly's 18 year-old son Thomas died in 2012 after an unprovoked attack in Kings Cross, he was stirred to create change.

Within three months, Kelly had established the Thomas Kelly Youth Foundation in his son's name, with the aim of ending alcohol-fuelled violence on our streets. Since then he has successfully lobbied for legislative reform, including the introduction of the one-punch law, lock-outs, and the removal of alcohol as a mitigating factor in sentencing. The foundation has

also implemented community-based outreach programs, including Safe Space and Take Kare.

Kelly's work is helping to turn the tide, and influence community attitudes and behaviour, resulting in a significant decrease in alcohol-related violence: a 40 per cent reduction in assaults in Sydney's CBD, and eight per cent across NSW.

“Our vision is to foster change and provide new strategies in creating a more responsible drinking culture, ultimately providing a safer and healthier community,” he says. ■■■

THE POWER OF one

Li Hua Tong is bringing justice to China's most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN CHEUNG

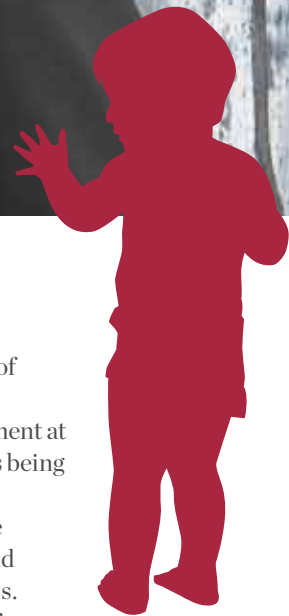
The Beijing Zhicheng Public Interest Law Firm is China's largest non-government organisation dedicated to providing free legal services to children, women and migrant workers. As of 2015, it has dealt with more than 30,000 cases and provided services to more than 400,000 people. These are overwhelming numbers by any standard, not surprisingly because it is taking place in a country with a population four times the size of the USA and more than 50 times that of Australia.

However, one cannot fully appreciate this achievement without understanding the environment it operated in and the humble beginnings of its founder and CEO, UTS alumnus Li Hua Tong.

“When I first started working in children's legal aid in 1998, I didn't want to be a full-time advocate. I thought maybe I'd work in the field part-time,” he recalls. “There were not many others working in this field as it was a very new, and I realised very soon that there were many problems.”

Elaborating on the legal climate of that time, Tong explains, “Children suffered physical and sexual abuse from parents and teachers. There were already some special laws in place to protect children's rights, but we needed more specific laws and policies.” Another challenge was convincing lawyers and government officials to implement new executive laws and policies.

In 1999, Tong used his personal funds to set up the Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Centre, the first non-government organisation in China dedicated to providing pro-bono legal services to children.



“For the first two years, I had no idea about fundraising. I just thought it was only natural that if I wanted to work in this field, I would have to pay,” he confesses. “Then one day in 2001, a foundation officer told me he’d like to offer financial support, and asked if I could write a proposal.

“He called me back two weeks later asking why I didn’t submit a proposal, and that’s when I realised that a public interest law firm could be supported by other organisations.”

He has since been involved in the creation of 29 child protection committees at a provincial level, and a further 90 at a city level. He also helped create a network of more than 9000 lawyers nationwide who work on child protection.

The eldest of two children, Tong grew up in a rural village in Hebei, in northern China. His first aspiration was simply to become a city resident because “life is very poor for farmers.” That dream expanded to become a police officer,

a government officer, or a judge, after a number of what he describes as “unfair” experiences.

Tong also became concerned for the environment at age 14, when he witnessed entire mountainsides being stripped of trees by local farmers.

Interestingly, as his desire to make a positive difference to society took root, Tong was an avid reader of Louis Cha wuxia (action genre) novels. “I was really inspired by his superhero stories,” he says, “especially of the swordsmen who’d help disadvantaged people achieve justice.”

In 1991, Tong went to study at the China University of Political Science and Law. He was the first from his county to study at this university. After graduating, he didn’t specialise in any particular field. “It was a very early time for Chinese lawyers back then,” he explains. “It wasn’t like Australia or

“I have worked very hard in the public interest field for the last 15 years and we have changed a lot for children and migrant workers.”

the US where there is a lot of history and structure... as long as the clients could pay, I worked on any cases I could get.”

He enjoyed quick success. Within two and a half years, he was made the deputy director of the law firm he worked at. A year later, he became a director; and one of Beijing’s youngest, at that. But it wasn’t the success he was looking for.

“As a young commercial lawyer, I had a car, I had bought an apartment and I was earning a good income. I was living a good life compared with other people my age,” he explains. “But I didn’t feel satisfied with my life, so I continued with my studies and started getting involved in public interest work.”

In 2002, through a partnership with the Beijing Management College of Political Science and Law, Tong undertook UTS’s Masters of Laws program. After completing it in 2004, he went to Columbia University in the US for more than a year as a visiting scholar.

“It was very important for me to broaden my understanding of other countries’ legal systems. China has benefited a lot over the last 30 years from its open policy, and a lot of the comparative research conducted by academics includes my studies at UTS and abroad.”

To wit, Tong and his organisation have been able to help draft reform legislation for the protection of abandoned and homeless children, child welfare, labour disputes and more.

His work with migrant workers (workers who have moved between provinces) began in 2003 when two of his childhood friends moved to the city and had trouble being paid

BELOW: Tong’s work was recognised with the 2014 International Alumni Award of the Year.

for their work. He resolved their disputes within a week but, as with children’s legal aid, he felt that there was a lot more he could do to help. And so, after two years of study and research in the field, he expanded his operations in 2005 to provide free legal assistance to migrant workers and women under the name Zhicheng Public Interest Lawyers. Together with 30 other affiliated organisations, it has won more than RMB600 million in payments and compensation for his clients to date.

Reflecting on his achievements compared with his life as a young commercial lawyer, Tong remarks, “I have worked very hard in the public interest field for the last 15 years and we have changed a lot for children and migrant workers. We’re promoting more lawyers to work in those fields and we’re now able to promote legal and policy reform. In this context, I can see my work and my life’s meaning. And it’s good.”

However, there is a lot of work that remains to be done. While most foreign commentators observe that Chinese society is progressing and changing at a rapid rate, Tong thinks it isn’t fast enough.

“I hope it can be faster,” he says. “In some fields, especially in the rule of law, there are so many problems that I just want the reforms to happen faster.”

Despite achieving so much in policy reform and being recognised as an expert in the legislative community at a national level, Tong has no desire to enter politics. Instead, his continuing work is driven by continual self-evaluation.

“In China, we have an old saying that you should introspect yourself three times a day,” he explains. “I always think about what I can do better, if I could work more, or study more... If I can change myself, then I can change the outside world. I ask myself this a lot, and it drives me to have more new ideas and do more good work.” ■■



Mr Tong and Zhicheng Public Interest Lawyers hosts international students including UTS to broaden their global network. Visit the UTS Faculty of Law website for more information.

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UTS FUNCTION CENTRE



Planning for **BETTER** **HEALTH**

Giving pharmacies a bigger role to play
in cardiovascular health.

STORY BY KIM WILLIAMS PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANNA ZHU

Imagine popping into the local pharmacy for a check of your blood pressure, cholesterol, medication, diet and exercise regime. Your condition is monitored and recorded to an expert standard, providing health professionals with an up-to-date snapshot of your overall health. And if required, you are referred without delay to a GP.

This is not the current practice in the Australian health system. Yet if it was, it would represent a major improvement to the standard of healthcare in Australia. That's why Dr Daniel Sabater-Hernández, a researcher in UTS's Graduate School of Health, has made it his mission to enhance the pharmacist's contribution to society. He is now working to create a community pharmacy service that could reduce the

burden of cardiovascular disease (CVD) for patients and the health system.

Dr Sabater-Hernández says the goal of his project is to improve the current system to become more sustainable. “It’s about collaboration and always respecting other health professionals, knowing when to refer patients and how to collaborate with GP’s and specialists,” he says.

Dr Sabater-Hernández’s research involves collaboration with UTS’s Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF) and fellow ISF researcher, Dr Dena Fam, who engages key players and provides planning vital to the project’s success.

“We develop processes, set up workshops and analyse qualitative data with the aim of getting people thinking about how to create change and visualise what needs to happen for a community pharmacy service to become a reality,” says Dr Fam.

Growing up in the Canary Islands, Dr Sabater-Hernández was able to witness the trust his local community placed in his family’s pharmacy.

“Pharmacies are under-utilised and can do much more to reduce cardiovascular disease,” he says. “They have wide knowledge and expertise and are in a unique position to educate people about potential risk factors and closely monitor medications.”

Sixty-one-year-old Ron Garner would welcome such a service in cardiovascular care. He was diagnosed with higher than normal levels of cholesterol 15 years ago. He now attends his local pharmacy’s sleep apnoea clinic.

“I go regularly for check-ups. It’s convenient. I don’t have to wait six weeks for an appointment with a specialist and it’s cheaper,” says Garner.

Pharmacist Catherine Bronger, managing partner of Chemistworks Group, likewise believes pharmacists are in a perfect position to deliver a cardiovascular service and is excited about the prospect of one in her own pharmacy network.

“Patients come in regularly to pick up medicines or inquire about minor ailments so we are usually their first point of contact for advice. We can build on that relationship and use that trust for better patient outcomes,” says Bronger.

For Dr Sabater-Hernández, who has spent years working on the project, the collaborative aspect is exciting – “to change the system, to change policy, to improve health, we need to bring people together. You cannot do it alone.”

Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death in Australia, accounting for 30 per cent. Figures from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare put the number of people with some form of CVD – coronary heart disease, stroke, heart failure, irregular heartbeat, high blood pressure – at more than 3.5 million. Medicines to treat CVD cost the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme about \$1.8 billion in 2012-13.

The four leading risk factors for CVD are high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and smoking. Dr Sabater-Hernández says the 5000 or so community pharmacies in Australia are well placed to screen and manage, with other healthcare professionals, the major cardiovascular risk factors before they lead to heart attack or stroke.

Dr Sabater-Hernández and Dr Fam held their first community pharmacy workshop in July, with a gathering of health professionals from across the sector. A follow-up workshop is planned to take place in November. A pilot study will follow shortly thereafter.

“The first workshop was very productive,” recalls Dr Fam. “There was a lot of interest in how we can work together in cardiovascular health and how we can move to a more sustainable system.” ■■

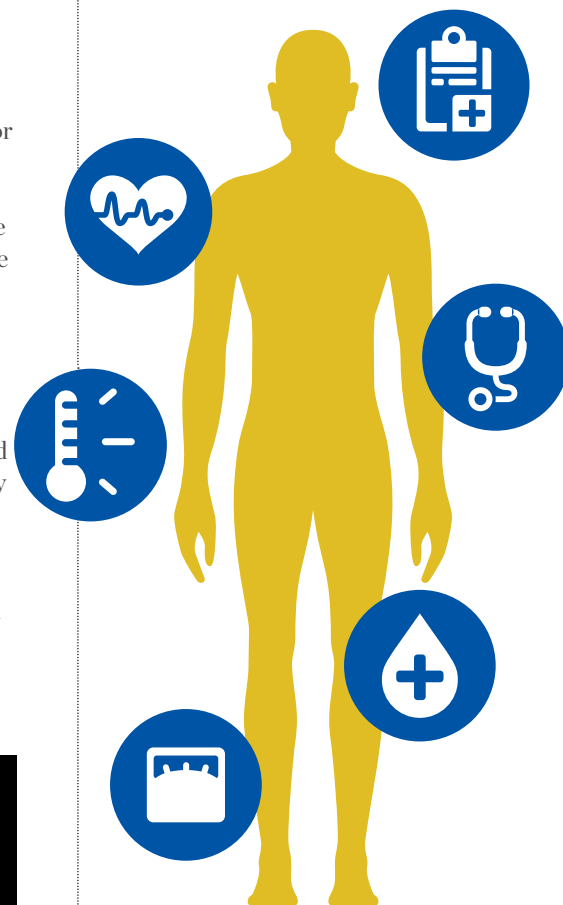
MORE RESEARCH AT UTS

Find out about other projects and causes at UTS at www.giving.uts.edu.au



“Pharmacies are under-utilised and can do much more to reduce cardiovascular disease.”

DR SABATER-HERNÁNDEZ



ANSWERING the CALL



Meet the students behind the UTS Annual Appeal.

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN CHEUNG

“I think it’s important to acknowledge the importance of giving. It’s human nature to want to fulfil our own needs; but once you start giving, you realise it’s one of the most wonderful acts of kindness you can perform.”

Rosa, who is studying her final semester of a communications degree at UTS, was one of the dozens of students manning the phones at this year’s Annual Appeal. The funds raised will be distributed through the UTS Alumni Scholarship Fund to the students who are most in need; students who are struggling with housing and living expenses, text books, computer equipment and more.

Every dollar raised makes a tremendous difference to the lives of these students, who deserve the chance to make the most of their studies.

Over a period of four weeks, Rosa and her colleagues connected with thousands of UTS graduates. It was also a chance to let alumni know about the latest that’s happening on campus, as well as to update their contact details to ensure they receive the latest news.

“I think it’s a fantastic opportunity to really get to know the people who have graduated from the same institution that you’re attending,” says team supervisor Joyce, who is in her third year of a communications law

degree. “They always give you useful tips to help you get through your own degree.”

There is also a great sense of satisfaction from being able to raise money and knowing that it will go to students who are deserving of it. “I believe in what we’re doing because through these connections with alumni and their gifts, we’re enabling students to attend university and focus on their studies without having to take a second or third job to make ends meet.”

It’s a difference some of the volunteers know personally. “I actually received a scholarship as part of my university degree, so I feel a very close bond with the UTS Annual Appeal,” says Rosa. “The difference it makes is transformational and I’m so grateful to be part of this.”

This year, UTS’s student callers received more than 1000 donations. The money raised will fund students in every faculty, as well as new computer packages, book vouchers, emergency grants and rental subsidies. ■

DID YOU MISS THE CALL?

The UTS Annual Appeal campaign runs throughout the year. You can make a difference too by donating at www.giving.uts.edu.au/annual-appeal.



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Creative by design

The UTS Innovation and Creative Intelligence Unit is fostering new thinking to solve complex future challenges.

STORY BY JENIFER WATERS

What happens when we throw away our preconceived ideas about solutions and start to think differently, more creatively?

In developing their resilient cities program, the City of Sydney knew that affordable housing – specifically, addressing the critical shortfall – was key to the city’s future adaptability and resilience. They also knew they needed an innovative approach to this incredibly complex issue.

Enter the UTS Innovation and Creative Intelligence Unit (ICIU). Over two days of immersive, collaborative workshops, run through the **INNOVATION AND CREATIVE INTELLIGENCE LABS (ICI LABS)** program, facilitators brought together a range of stakeholders to expose new opportunities for insight.

Dennis, a tenant in one of Sydney’s first public housing developments in Milsons Point, was among them. A former taxi driver who was diagnosed with cancer and, during his treatment, ended up homeless, Dennis was able to share a very different perspective of the value of affordable housing.

Embedding empathy and taking a user focus is a key element of design-led innovation; the process provided a window into the real concerns and issues of the tenants. For the City of Sydney, it was able to use this workshop to create more innovative and effective strategies that are tailored to real people just like Dennis, who are directly affected.



In The Hatchery, students can pitch, develop and prototype their ideas in a collaborative environment.

Photo: Supplied

The ICIU serves as a ‘think tank’; a centre for intellectual research and development, piloting new ways of thinking to meet unknown future challenges. Under the direction of UTS Provost and senior vice-president Peter Booth, the unit is charged with implementing the UTS Innovation and Creative Intelligence Strategy – an ambitious and exciting initiative that captures and focuses innovation and entrepreneurship across the university.

“The Innovation and Creative Intelligence Strategy grows UTS’s national and international profile as a leader in the creative industries, innovation and creative intelligence,” Professor Booth explains. “It unifies our approach to exploring new models for research, teaching and learning in transdisciplinary fields and emerging technologies, and new industry engagement avenues.”

Along with the ICI Labs, the unit is responsible for **THE HATCHERY**, a start-up pre-incubator

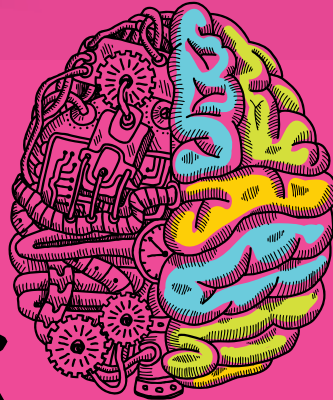
that builds capabilities in students to form their own innovative businesses; and UTSpeaks: **SHAPESHIFTERS**, a public lecture series providing a platform for young creative innovators to share their compelling visions of change.

Formally established in 2012, the ICIU has already produced the Bachelor of Creative Intelligence and Innovation (BCII). It’s an accelerated double degree that young entrepreneurs from any other discipline (such as business, law, engineering and so on) can undertake. The BCII component of this double degree is a world-first, equipping graduates with the skills to reframe and solve complex problems in new and innovative ways.

With cross-faculty collaboration, the course takes a trans-disciplinary approach that leverages UTS’s existing research strengths and industry partnerships. Students hone their skills through industry experience, and working on real-world projects.

1. ICI LABS

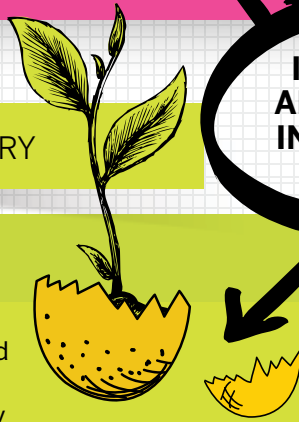
The **ICI Labs** offer a dynamic and immersive studio-style program that puts design thinking and creative innovation into practice, allowing participants to experience them in the context of real problems and projects. It engenders new ways of approaching complex challenges through better understanding the needs and perspectives of the user, often by involving them in the process.



DESIGN THINKING is an approach to innovation that is centred on the user, or customer, rather than imposing a solution or developing a product and then figuring out how best to sell it. The process takes a designer's methodology, identifying people's needs and exploring the possibilities of technology to develop business strategies focused on consumer value.

2. THE HATCHERY

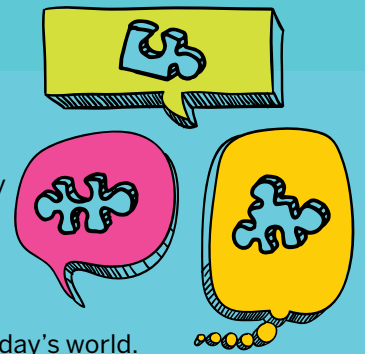
The **Hatchery** is a pre-incubator program that builds the skills and expertise students need to confidently navigate the start-up environment and bring their business ideas to fruition: developing and formalising their business ideas, prototyping, and pitching to industry incubators and accelerators.



INNOVATION AND CREATIVE INTELLIGENCE UNIT (ICIU)

3. SHAPESHIFTERS

Shapeshifters is an interactive public forum. It brings together UTS experts, leading international academics and industry professionals to debate the transformational impact of creative intelligence and the creative economy on today's world.



The ICIU also plays a part in the recently launched digital creative hub, Piivot, Australia's answer to Silicon Valley. Technology organisations are often quick to compare themselves with the San Francisco tech precinct, but this claim has some actual substance: through a combination of good planning and good fortune, UTS and Piivot are surrounded by an incredible number of start-ups. In fact, the entire city campus could be characterised as the nucleus of a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Originally conceived as a collaborative initiative between UTS, the NSW government, leading corporations, and members of the precinct, Piivot connects start-ups with each other, and with more established corporate innovators, for unique opportunities for learning, networking, mentoring and internships. It also seeks to stimulate and influence national debate and policymaking around creative entrepreneurship and innovation.

All these initiatives, as part of the broader UTS Innovation and Creative Intelligence Strategy, advance UTS's clear leadership in future-focused thinking, and are critical accelerators on its path to becoming a world-leading university of technology. ■

To find out more about industry partnerships, mentoring, internships and more, visit the ICI website: <http://creative.uts.edu.au>



SEE THE VIDEO
ON THE *TOWER* MAGAZINE APP OR ONLINE
AT WWW.ALUMNI.UTS.EDU.AU/TOWER

THE DATA ARENA IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Complex data can be visualised in vivid, stereoscopic detail through a 360-degree field of view.

UTS's ground-breaking new data visualisation facility, the Data Arena, is now open. Located on the ground floor in the Faculty of Engineering and IT, it is capable of producing multidimensional sensory experiences for viewers. It is the only one in Australia and the frontrunner of a limited number in the world.

The technology is so new that experts are unsure of what its full potential may be. What is for certain is that sensory effects can be added; temperature variations and smells could embellish the illusion with the ability to add other sensory effects, such as movement.

The Data Arena is a room that envelops the body, the brain, and the senses. It allows your perception to travel. The experience involves standing in the middle of the large cylindrical screen that is four-metres high and 10-metres in

diameter. Unlike other virtual displays, which often involve fully-enclosed headsets, this immersive experience can be shared with as many friends as you can fit in the room.

Sydney-based special effects studio Animal Logic, the company behind *The LEGO Movie*, played an important role in making the vision behind the Data Arena a reality. Utilising a suite of creative tools and proprietary software, it created a seamless three-dimensional panorama that is an incredible 20,000 x 12000 pixels in size.

"The quality of the graphics is top-notch. The equivalent of 12 feature films, in sync, in parallel", says UTS lead Data Arena developer, Ben Simons. He adds, "There's an exciting ride where you start at Sydney Harbour and you travel up into the sky and out into the universe."

Speaking at the facility's launch, UTS Vice-Chancellor Attila Brungs observed that analysts in many sectors could use it to visualise and manipulate data, if not indeed touch it.

"In the massive numeric data sets produced by government, industry and university research there are patterns, trends and interrelationships, with their many implications to be discovered," he said.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Research, Glen Wightwick, adds, "Standing in the middle of this facility and interacting with data in real-time is a powerful experience. Already we have built pipelines to ingest data from high-resolution optical microscopes that helped our researchers gain insight into how bacteria travel across surfaces."

NEW BUSINESS DEGREE FOR INDIGENOUS PROFESSIONALS

The new Frank Gehry designed Dr Chau Chak Wing Building became the home base for the first group of students starting the new Bachelor of Business Administration, which is designed specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander professionals.

The group of 14 students come from all over Australia, are in their early 20s through to their 50s and have diverse business experience ranging from government organisations to the mining industry.

Aimed at Indigenous professionals who want to add a qualification to their CV and move into senior positions, the Bachelor of Business Administration is taught in residential mode to give students the flexibility of studying while continuing to work.

Students attend classes at UTS for three six-day blocks per semester. The program, which is the equivalent to three years full-time study, covers the core functions of management and business administration and gives students the opportunity to explore how to operate in a dynamic global business environment.

“Students learn how a multi-disciplinary perspective can be used to address economic, financial and social issues,” says UTS Business School Associate Dean, Teaching and Learning, Chris Bajada. “The program has been designed so students take part in collaborative study with other Indigenous people who are business administrators, managers and leaders in their own right.”

Story by Lesley Parker



Business tailored for Indigenous professionals.

COMING SOON: JAPAN UTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

UTS plans to establish the first Australian university alumni network in Japan. It is an exciting country to work in, but it also requires specific cultural and business knowledge in order to thrive. UTS hopes to develop a framework in which our alumni can network and flourish. With time, it will foster an exchange of knowledge and forge long-lasting relationships that embody the values of UTS and Australian society.



Stay up to date at www.alumni.uts.edu.au/networks

INDIAN REUNIONS

UTS will be hosting its inaugural Indian alumni reunion tour in November. UTS has hundreds of alumni in India, and the tour will represent the first of many new opportunities for our India-based alumni to network, reconnect with friends and discover new professional possibilities.

Deputy Vice Chancellor (International and Advancement) Professor Bill Purcell will be hosting the events in Mumbai on Wednesday, 18 November and in New Delhi on Saturday 21 November.

To find out more about inaugural Indian alumni reunion tour, visit www.alumni.uts.edu.au/reunions.



Photo: Supplied

Movassaghi is a new face of the CSIRO.

THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

UTS alumna Samaneh Movassaghi is playing a central role in a new campaign by the CSIRO to promote jobs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics to 18-28-year-olds. The campaign, CSIROseven, will be a departure from the organisation's usual image, moving away from the grey-haired men in long white lab coats. Instead, it will be a celebration of a new generation of scientists whose research may contribute to the wellbeing of millions of people around the world.

As a telecommunications engineer Movassaghi, one of seven champions of the campaign, is working to address the expected strain that Australia's ageing population will have on our healthcare system. "One specific solution would be if we could reduce the need to visit your doctor by finding a way to monitor vitals remotely," she says.

To read more about the projects of the CSIROseven, visit seven.csiro.au.

WHO IS BEHIND NURSING AND MIDWIFERY?

UTS was elected in June to be the Global Secretariat of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Global Network for nursing and midwifery. The network, which has existed for 27 years, comprises 44 different institutions.

The centre director, Michele Rumsey explains, "the four year term entails coordinating the network of 44 institutions. We thank our predecessors at the University of São Paulo at Ribeirão Preto College of Nursing."

The UTS: WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development is tasked with promoting and enhancing collaborative activities, and disseminating information on nursing and midwifery via WHO's six regions. It works across

research, education, advocacy, project management, training and skills, and capacity building, supporting more than 50 projects in 25 countries.

Speaking at an exhibition showcase to mark the appointment in June, the Honorable Tanya Plibersek MP, said of the UTS role, "One of the best contributions that I hope Australia makes globally is to share some of the strengths of our marvellous health system with our region and globally, but also to take a little bit of time to learn from our neighbours."

UTS Vice-Chancellor Professor Attila Brungs added that "It is also a great opportunity to further strengthen the skills, capacity and voices of healthcare professionals here in the Asia Pacific, and globally."



Photo: Supplied

The WHO CC UTS marks the South Pacific Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers Alliance DFAT Australia Awards Round 15.



WHO CC UTS exhibition launch in the UTS Tower building.

"...share some of the strengths of our marvellous health system with our region..."

UTS ALUMNUS NAMED HEAD OF CSIRO AND NICTA'S NEW DIGITAL RESEARCH DIVISION



Photo: Anna Zhiu Photography

Adrian Turner is a UTS Luminary and a member of the UTS Business School's Industry Advisory Board.

UTS Business alumnus and technology entrepreneur Adrian Turner will lead one of the largest digital innovation teams in the world, as the CSIRO's digital productivity division and NICTA (Australia's Information and Communications Technology Research Centre for Excellence) merge to form a new research entity called Data61.

Data61 will be home to more than 300 PhD students, and will focus on digital research and innovation, as announced in a joint statement by then Minister for Industry and Science, Ian Macfarlane and then Minister for Communications, Malcolm Turnbull in August.

"So much of our understanding and interaction with the world is underpinned by digital technology and data," says Turner, following his appointment as Data61's new head. "It is a fast moving and big growth area for Australia and Australian industry."

The appointment marks a return down under for Turner, who has spent the past 18 years in the US since completing his Business degree at UTS in 1997. After ground-breaking work in device security

at technology company Philips, in 2004 Turner co-founded Silicon Valley-based Mocana, which is now a global leader in providing security for 'smart' devices and apps for some of the world's leading technology companies.

In 2014, he co-founded Borondi Group, a company focused on applying emerging technologies across agriculture, mining, water management, transportation and healthcare.

Turner also published the influential 2012 book *BlueSky Mining – Building Australia's Next Billion Dollar Industries*, and in 2013 was invited to speak at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, detailing what a fully networked society would mean for businesses.

While it's a long way from childhood lessons on the value of creativity, it's not difficult to see where Turner's passion for the entrepreneurial came from.

"I've always been entrepreneurial," Turner says. "I think that began when I was busking outside Myer's department store in Sydney when I was nine or 10, playing Christmas carols on my violin.

That was when I first realised that you could do very well if you were a little creative in your thinking."

After completing his degree at UTS, Turner has maintained strong links with the university, not only through his chairmanship of global not-for-profit organisation Advance, which connects more than 25,000 expatriate Australians from 2006-2011, but is also a member of the UTS Business School's Industry Advisory Board, and has been recognised as a UTS Luminary, one of the university's highest honours for alumni.

In March last year Turner also spoke on the Future of Business, at a special UTS Business School event to celebrate the Frank Gehry designed Dr Chau Chak Wing Building, highlighting the importance of entrepreneurialism in Australia's future economic growth.

"I think at the core of it is going to be entrepreneurialism – and entrepreneurialism is not just about startups but key to every facet of the economy, whether it's small business, medium business or large business."

UTS CHANCELLOR VICKI SARA TO RETIRE IN FEBRUARY

UTS Chancellor, Professor Vicki Sara AO, has announced her plans to retire in February 2016. With her trademark warmth, Professor Sara wrote to all UTS staff in late August informing them of her decision to retire in the new year.

“It has been a great privilege to serve as UTS Chancellor since December 2004,” Professor Sara said. “To be part of the university’s amazing transformation and to be recognised as the highest performing university under 50 years of age in Australia (and among the top 25 globally) is an achievement the likes of which we can all be very proud.”

Professor Sara, whose term as Chancellor is due to end next year, has overseen the university’s strategic trajectory for the past 11 years as Chair of UTS Council, the university’s governing body.

“Vicki has been an outstanding and selfless leader, a true navigator during the university’s incredible transformation as Chair of UTS Council, and a passionate architect and driver of our strategic vision,” Professor Attila Brungs, Vice-Chancellor at UTS remarked of the Chancellor.



Professor Sara awards an honorary doctorate to Bangarra Dance Theatre Director Stephen Page.

During her time at UTS, Professor Sara has also made a significant contribution to the Australian higher education sector. She twice served as Chair of University Chancellors’ Council (most recently 2011-2012), chaired the NSW panel of the Sir John Monash Foundation Scholarship (2011 to 2013), and was Chair of the Centre for Quantum Computation and Communication and Technology Advisory Board (UNSW, 2011-2012). Last year Professor Sara was a member of the Prime Minister’s Science Awards Committee (2014).

In 2009, Professor Sara was awarded an honorary doctorate from UTS, adding to the countless awards and prizes that have been conferred upon her in Australia and abroad.

The process for selecting and appointing a new Chancellor has yet to be considered by UTS Council – it is anticipated that the process will be determined and commence in October.

“It has been a great privilege to serve as UTS Chancellor.”

TWO EUREKA PRIZES FOR UTS

Two UTS research leaders, Professor Dacheng Tao from the Faculty of Engineering and IT and Professor Dayong Jin from the Faculty of Science, have been recognised at the annual Australian Museum Eureka Prizes. Professor Tao received the Scopus Eureka Prize for Excellence in International Scientific Collaboration. The findings of his work have diverse applications in video surveillance. Professor Jin was part of a team whose Super Dot technology won the University of New South Wales Eureka Prize for Excellence in Interdisciplinary Scientific Research.



Left: Professor Tao; Right: Professor Jin with Bradley Walsh.

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