

TOWER

UTS

WINTER 2016
ISSUE 14

MORE THAN MEDICINE

How UTS is playing
to its strengths in
health research

REIMAGINING THE ENTREPRENEUR

A new generation of
business leaders
share their insights
as UTS launches
the new MBAe

Instinct for success

How **Troy Lum** became one of Hollywood's
most promising filmmakers



KEEP INNOVATING



This year, recent developments in government policy mean that all eyes will be trained on innovation.

IN FEBRUARY WE FAREWELLED OUR BELOVED Chancellor, Professor Vicki Sara AO, after more than a decade in the role. Her contributions to UTS and Australian higher education are peerless. In addition, her decision to become the Patron of UTS's Creating Futures Bequest Society, and more significantly to leave a bequest gift to UTS, are testament to her ongoing love and ceaseless dedication to education.

While Vicki will be dearly missed as Chancellor, it is my pleasure to welcome Brian Wilson in the role. Brian has been Deputy Chancellor since 2011 and a member of our Council since 2006. His term as Chancellor will conclude on 30 November, after which the role will be assumed by Business Council of Australia President, Catherine Livingstone AO.

Recent developments in government policy mean that all eyes will be trained on innovation in 2016. This is an incredible opportunity for UTS, as innovation is our sweet spot. While other universities play catch-up, the key to our success will be to continue to stay at the forefront of innovation in all that we do.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support in this endeavour.

Professor Attila Brungs, Vice-Chancellor



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ON THE COVER: Troy Lum takes a break at The Little Queen Cafe in Chippendale, NSW.

UTS recognises the Gadigal people of the Eora nation and the Boorooberongal People of the Dharug Nation upon whose ancestral lands our campuses 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 lands.

THE ROAD AHEAD

Outgoing UTS Chancellor, Vicki Sara AO, reflects on her achievements and the coming challenges.

STORY BY STEVE MEACHAM

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN CHEUNG

After 11 years as UTS Chancellor, Professor Vicki Sara is devoting a few precious months to herself. But don't mention the R-word. "Gosh no," she laughs when asked if standing down from the chancellor role marks her retirement. "I'm having a gap year."

There is a lot to organise in her personal life, she explains: things she has been too busy to attend to during the second phase of her professional career as one of Australia's key defenders of university education – including two stints as Chair of the University Chancellors' Council.

But she's too good a political operator, and too committed to improving Australia's contribution to high-end research, to walk away from a fight now.

The final months of her chancellorship coincided with Malcolm Turnbull's elevation to prime minister and his call for "an ideas boom". With "innovation" the new mantra, this might seem a godsend to universities.

However a key focus of the \$1.1 billion plan the Prime Minister unveiled in his "Innovation Statement" in December was the need to strengthen ties between the business community, universities and scientific institutions. In future, he implied, universities should concentrate on research which yields a commercial benefit for Australian business. Professor Sara knows more about innovation, research and their application to "the real world" than most. Not only was she an internationally renowned research scientist involved in groundbreaking discoveries about the human brain at Sweden's Karolinska Institute from 1976 to 1992, she was the Chair (and later CEO) of the Australian Research Council and a member (during John Howard's leadership) of the prime minister's Science Engineering and Innovation Council.

"This discussion about industry linkage has been going on for 15 years. It is nothing new," she says firmly during her final interview as UTS Chancellor in February. She adds, "What is lacking in the discussion in Australia today is an understanding of the quality of the research that underpins that linkage to industry. It is very populist terminology to talk about simple innovation."

If Australian universities have forged less profitable connections with industry than their European and North American equivalents, that is more a reflection of economic reality than want of trying, Sara insists. "There are huge industries there with the money to invest in research and development. We don't have a lot of that here. What we do have, or have had, is world-class researchers."

The Australian research community does have links with both Australian and international companies, Sara continues. But she fears the push to concentrate on research which delivers immediate commercial benefits for Australian business is both naive and dangerous.

"You can't shift money, which is happening, from fundamental research of the highest quality over to mediocre research because it will get you a contract with industry," she insists. "You need to maintain the excellence of Australian research."

In fact, she explains, Australian universities have made a huge leap forward in terms of industry connections since she returned from Sweden in 1993. At the Karolinska Institute, Sara and other researchers had thrived, partly because of the close relationship with private enterprise.

"We had enormous support from global pharmaceutical companies, no ties attached, the very best equipment," she recalls. "I was used to working hand in glove with industry. ●"



Professor Sara has taken a new role as the Patron of UTS' Creating Futures Bequest Society.

“What is lacking in the discussion in Australia today is an understanding of the quality of the research that underpins that linkage to industry.”

Photography: Terry Clinton



Photo: Encapture Photograph

But when I came back to Australia I was surprised that it hadn't happened here. Obviously there weren't the same companies available. But there was an attitude within universities which was still a 1950s attitude.

"The funding was a lot less here in Australia. It still is. The investment the government makes in research is very much less."

Nevertheless, UTS is a beacon of what can be achieved even under an imperfect system. As chancellor, Sara has never been a mere figurehead. Asked to name her proudest achievements at UTS, she says: "The facile answer is 'Look at the campus!' You can see we've changed the physical face of the university over the past 10 years. But that's not the key to the success of the university. It's always the people who count most.

"Over the time I've been chancellor, this university has changed markedly. It has become a research-intensive university, and that has been the achievement of the staff and students of the university.

"We have moved up in our rankings today to being recognised as the top university in Australia under 50 years of age. That's a huge step forward from where we were 12 years ago. Today we're up among the top 10 universities in Australia.

"Twelve years ago, UTS had a very fine reputation as a teaching institution, with professional connections – a job-ready kind of place.

"But it wasn't a research-intensive university. Today it is. That has been the major achievement of the last decade. We've become a force to be reckoned with in Sydney – in Australia, in fact."

Born and raised in Bondi, Sara's passion for science was planted at Sydney Girls High School.

"At school I had a most wonderful biology teacher," she says. "Everyone in my situation can always go back to a teacher. Mine was Mrs Ruth Komon. Her husband, Rudy, started the Komon Gallery in Paddington. She would teach us about biology by bringing in Fred Williams paintings into school. Really fabulous."

Sara was just 16 when she began her science degree at the University of Sydney. "I was a miserable failure in my first year," she concedes. "We're talking about the '60s. I had a wonderful time, but study wasn't part of it."

Instead she got involved in theatre and filmmaking, deciding to switch to an arts degree after the first year.

"I studied psychology, philosophy, anthropology, but the one thing that has kept me in good stead all my life has been philosophy. It gave me a new way of thinking."

By the time she graduated, Sara had become fascinated by the human brain and how it worked. "I wanted to study how the brain grows," she explains. "What happens inside the brain, inside the cells and the nervous system."

At that point, a lot was known about how the body works – but very little about the workings of the brain. For her PhD, Sara chose an immense topic: What makes the brain grow?

"The structure of the brain was set very firmly in pre-natal development," she explains. "If something goes wrong in the first



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

LEFT: Professor Sara hosts the first Bequest Society luncheon of 2016.

ABOVE: Professor Ross Milbourne, Sydney lord mayor Clover Moore, Professor Sara, Sir Gerard Brennan, and Dame Marie Bashir at UTS's 25th anniversary celebrations.

“We have moved up in our rankings today to being recognised as the top university in Australia under 50 years of age.”

semester, or the beginning of the second, there's permanent damage to the structure of the brain. I wanted to know how the brain formed. And that's not a question you do with an arts degree!”

So while she worked on her PhD (at the Garvan Institute of Medical Research and Sydney University) she simultaneously completed her science degree.

The PhD earned Sara the University of Sydney's Tasman Lovell Memorial Medallion for the Best PhD in Psychology. But she couldn't proceed with her research without leaving Australia. In Sweden, the team she worked with identified a secondary substance that produces a growth hormone in the foetus, and found a way of making it by biosynthetic process.

She returned to Australia determined to make a difference to the standing of research, and in doing so has flown a standard for women in science. “I was the first woman to be head of the Australian Research Council. I was one of the first to be a dean of science, and I believe one of the first women to be a chancellor,” she says. “But it is very hard for women. Choices have to be made.”

Does she believe more women should be encouraged to take STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) subjects? “Women have always been attracted to the biological sciences rather than the hard sciences, the physical sciences – although there are exceptional women in the physical sciences in Australia.”

One role she has agreed to take on in her “gap year” is Patron of the UTS Bequest Society, Creating Futures. Her decision was influenced by the different attitudes she believes exists between Sweden and the country of her birth. “In Australia, we still have an elitist approach to (tertiary education), even though it might be something that is not right for everyone.

“Personally, I think it is appalling we pay so much for education here. I don't know the answer, or where we'll find the money. But that is why I am committed to creating scholarships. Education is not a privilege. It is a right everyone should have.”

Her attitude has been formed by family experience. “My mother left school when she was 12 to work in a factory. I don't ever want to be part of a society where that happens again.

“I want to use my money, my knowledge, everything I've learned, to enable me to provide scholarships.”

She reveals that she and her partner will be making a bequest in their will “to support scholarships to provide opportunities for study at UTS”. And yes, she will be using her undoubted powers of persuasion to convince others to make bequests too.

However there's one thing that makes her slightly wary about being Patron of the Bequest Society. Though she's “extremely good at getting money from government for research” – and from companies – Sara is “a bit shy” when it comes to asking individuals.

She's confident she will conquer her diffidence, but is also conscious of the sensitivity of the subject: the decision to make a bequest gift is an intensively personal one.

Interview concluded, she hurries off to her next chancellor duty. Only later is it announced that the new Science and Graduate School of Health Building, where the interview has been conducted, is to be named after her. A permanent and fitting memorial. ■■■

Instinct

FOR SUCCESS

How Troy Lum became one of the world's most promising filmmakers.

STORY BY STEVE MEACHAM

PHOTOGRAPHY BY YIANNI ASPRADAKIS

Troy Lum and his fellow producer, Andrew Mason, had been working on their film project for a couple of years before they took it to their potential leading man.

The original script, by Andrew Knight and Andrew Anastasios, had been polished and fine tuned to the point of perfection.

"I got the screenplay to Russell about three years ago," says Lum at his headquarters in Chippendale – a stone's throw from UTS where he successfully completed his Bachelor of Business degree in 1994 ("I never made it to my graduation," he admits. "I was travelling").

After reading the script, Oscar winner Russell Crowe not only came aboard as the lead actor in *The Water Diviner* but "said he was interested in directing it".

As Lum recalls it, "We had a meeting, and it was obvious that he could do it. He was amazing to work with. Brilliant.

"None of that stuff people seem to associate with him. People forget he's a true artist."

The rest is history. *The Water Diviner* shared with *The Babadook* as the Best Film title at the AACTA Awards (Australian Academy Cinema Television Arts) and made over \$16 million at the Australian box office. It also proved a huge hit in Turkey. ("It's massive there," Lum explains. "The biggest non-Turkish film of the year outside of the final *Hobbit* movie").

As well as being Crowe's directorial debut, the film was also the first to credit Lum's name as a producer. That's a big step up from the executive producer title he earned on the other movies he's helped bring to the big screen – most notably *Mao's Last Dancer*, directed by fellow Australian Bruce Beresford, and *Saving Mr Banks*, starring Tom Hanks as Walt Disney and Emma Thompson as PL Travers

(the complex Australian author who wrote the *Mary Poppins* stories).

Now 40, Lum has been working on the business side of the movie industry since he was 22. His trajectory has been rapid and illustrious. Several years ago, *The Hollywood Reporter* named him as one of the world's top 50 young film executives, and *The Water Diviner* is evidence that early promise is being delivered.

Yet Lum insists he was never particularly ambitious, saying he's been blessed with a series of great mentors: "I think people saw more in me than I could see [in myself] at the time."

The middle of three children, he grew up in Carlingford and went to school at Muirfield High in North Rocks, NSW. His parents ran the long-standing Satasia restaurant in Balmain, and Lum began working part-time as a waiter there in his teens.

After school, Lum went to UTS to take a Bachelor of Business in marketing, with communications as a second major. Why UTS? "Both courses, business and communications, had good reputations. But to be honest, I just wanted to get out of Carlingford. I left home when I was 17 to go to UTS and shared a place in Darlinghurst with a friend.

"I had great university years. They were life forming. But I can't say a lot of it happened on campus. Part of the UTS experience was being in the middle of the city. A lot of people who are friends now I met at that time, but they weren't necessarily at UTS, or if they were, they weren't on my course."

During his UTS years, we worked in hospitality jobs and got involved with a group of friends who organised raves and funk parties. ●



“It is one of those moments that make you realise everything can change overnight.”

Troy Lum completed a Bachelor of Business degree with UTS in 1994.

Photo: Entertainment One Australia



ABOVE: Troy Lum at the Australian premiere of *The Water Diviner*, with Keith Rodgers (L) and Andrew Mason (R).

After graduating, Lum spent 18 months travelling through Asia and Europe. “But I do remember feeling that the travelling had gone on for too long and that I had to get more serious.”

He returned to Sydney, but still drifted. “I wanted to be a writer and I wrote every day, in a disciplined way. I wrote a screenplay, which was just terrible. And poetry and short stories. I didn’t feel ambitious. I don’t know when that kicked in.”

After various unsuccessful attempts to get a job in publishing, Lum decided to try a second interest, film: “I loved independent cinema, and the Dendy was the brand at the time.” His letter landed on the desk of Lyn McCarthy, the Dendy founder. By chance, her assistant had just resigned. She gave Lum the job.

At first the jobs were menial. “I just made really good coffee and did whatever I was told.” That included checking the session times were correct in local newspaper ads.

By the time Dendy was taken over three years later by a public company, Lum’s potential was apparent to his new bosses. He was just 24.

“They saw something in me and took me to my first Cannes Film Festival. I was so young and naive. Like so much of my life story, I was just rolling with the punches.”

That year at Cannes, they made three purchases which subsequently helped forge his reputation for spotting independent films which would appeal to Australian audiences: *The Blair Witch Project*, *Buena Vista Social Club* and *All About My Mother*.

His standing soared even higher with the success of *Amélie*. He bought the Australian rights

for \$60,000 a year before it went into production and before Audrey Tatou had been cast as the lead. “I just thought the script was so inventive, and I’ve always been a big fan of Jean-Pierre Jeunet, the director,” he explains. His hunch proved profitable. *Amélie* made around \$7 million in Australia.

Isn’t it ironic that he wrote a terrible screenplay, but has a talent for spotting potential in other people’s screenplays? “Yes, but I am probably a much better reader than I am writer. I was one of those kids who read two novels a week. I’ve always had a good eye for a story, but I’m not a highbrow person. Even though I became known for buying interesting independent film, my sensibility is quite broad. When I am reading these independent scripts, I’m thinking about the emotional response for an audience, and who the film is for. I’ve never been an artist, and I’ve never really been a businessman. I’ve always straddled the two.”

In 2002, Lum was invited by film distribution veteran, Frank Cox, of New Vision, to form Hopscotch Films. Cox would fund it, with Lum getting half the company. “I was only 27, and it was a big risk.” Dendy’s marketing expert,





“They saw something in me and took me to my first Cannes Film Festival. I was so young and naive. Like so much of my life story, I was just rolling with the punches.”

Sandie Don, joined soon afterwards.

Their first film was American documentary *Bowling For Columbine*. “It was a massive hit,” Lum recalls. “We bought it for around \$60,000 and it made \$5-6 million. We had a lot of success at Hopscotch, but starting with such a big hit was fantastic. That led to *Fahrenheit 9/11* which made \$11 million. By the time we sold Hopscotch we’d been nominated for 35 Oscars.”

Each film presents a different problem. Hopscotch bought Woody Allen’s *Moonlight in Paris* after seeing the film at Cannes. Allen’s box office record had been tarnished, so they got it for around \$100,000. “It did \$11 million.”

On the other hand *Mao’s Last Dancer* involved investing to get a script written. “We could have lost \$50,000, which in the context of the film grossing \$17 million doesn’t seem much, but that \$50,000 could have gone nowhere.”

Hopscotch was presented with a great Australian script about Australian author PL Travers in *Saving Mr Banks*. “We loved it and got on board as co-producer,” Lum explains. “It goes

through various incarnations. I bring in a UK producer, Alison Owen, who did *Elizabeth* and *The Other Boleyn Girl*. Years go past. I feel it’s never going to get made.

“We can’t get permission from Disney to clear any of the *Mary Poppins* songs or have Walt Disney as a character.

“Then Alison happens to be sitting next to a guy from Disney at the Emmy Awards. She mentions the script. He’s never heard of it. She sends it to him and suddenly we have a ‘go picture’ within weeks. Suddenly it’s starring Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson. It is one of those moments that make you realise everything can change overnight.”

In 2011, Hopscotch was taken over by UK giant, eOne. Lum stayed on as managing director. “We’d built the company to turning over \$20 million a year. I had 35 staff. The stakes were getting higher. Four years later, turnover is \$60 million.” The future, he says “is all about scale; having links to big international organisations.”

Having said that, *The Water Diviner* was made by Hopscotch Features, a separate partnership between Lum, Andrew Mason and John Collie.

Troy Lum has achieved much in Australia, but is his future overseas? “I’ll always have a link to Australia. I’m very passionate about the local industry. I like to tell stories driven out of Australia.

“My next project as a producer is *All That I Am*. I’ve taken an option on Anna Funder’s novel, and we’ve just started on that journey. If it gets up, I’ll be spending a lot of time in London because it is set in the UK.

Lum has also recently boarded a film about legendary war correspondent, Lee Miller. Actress Kate Winslet has been attached as the lead and it is expected to go into production next year.

“I’m now 40. It sounds so exhausting when you describe it all. But it has gone so quickly. I’ve never really stopped to think what I am going to do next.” ■■■



The TOWERING 10

Meet the high-achieving UTS alumni who've become success stories in Australia and abroad. Their inspiring work has enriched numerous fields, including health, law, engineering and more.

STORY BY JENIFER WATERS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN CHEUNG



Marina Brizar

» **Head of Corporate – Solicitor and Registered Migration Agent, Playfair Visa and Migration Services**

Bachelor of Laws Bachelor of Arts in International Studies, 2013

When talented migration lawyer **Marina Brizar** works to improve outcomes for asylum seekers and refugees, she draws on her own personal experience.

Brizar fled with her family to Australia as a refugee from former Yugoslavia at the age of five. As a corporate migration lawyer, she has helped major corporations and small businesses expatriate talent from across the globe; as a humanitarian lawyer she has advocated for some of the planet's most vulnerable citizens, advising on human trafficking and refugee cases and leading task forces to several of Australia's immigration detention centres.

Last year, the 26-year-old was named both the Law Council of Australia's Young Migration Lawyer of the Year and the Women Lawyer's Association Woman Lawyer of the Year – Up and Coming. She also co-organised *Courage*, a photographic exhibition as part of Refugee Week 2015. "The ultimate aim was to start a conversation about humanitarian migration and Australia's standing as a global citizen," she says.



Nas Campanella

» **Journalist, ABC News, Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Journalism), 2010

Nas Campanella goes through a level of complexity that most other journalists don't as a newsreader for ABC's Triple J Radio.

Campanella lost her sight at just six months old, when a rare condition caused her retinas to detach. She also suffers from a genetic disease resulting in lack of sensitivity in her fingertips and hands, leaving her unable to read braille.

Mastering the art of listening and reading at the same time, she has no less than four audio streams feeding into her headphones whilst live on air – one of them an electronic speech program that reads her typed news bulletins back to her, which she repeats a split second later.

A prolific public speaker and mentor, Campanella inspires others to overcome barriers. "I'd like to think that through my experiences people could learn, and won't have to have such a difficult time navigating the education system and the workforce." ▶

Anntonette Dailey

» **Director, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

Bachelor of Engineering Diploma in Engineering Practice, 2008

Anntonette Dailey credits her engineering education and industry linkages with giving her the capability and confidence to take on senior roles in the Commonwealth Government, at a very young age.

“An engineering qualification definitely stands out on your resume,” she says. “Even non-traditional engineering pathways – like the Australian Public Service – see engineers as having unique tools, especially around complex problem solving, attention to detail and ability to apply these skills into any area.”

Appointed to her first director level role at just 24 years old, over the last 10 years Dailey has led complex and internationally significant logistical and infrastructure projects – amongst them the temporary relocation of the government to the Torres Strait Islands as part of a pledge to Indigenous communities.

She also mentors others through her website, Maverick & Stella. “I would like to see other young professionals get a competitive advantage, so I share my knowledge and experience freely.”



Photo: Supplied

“I would like to see other young professionals get a competitive advantage, so I share my knowledge and experience freely.”

Associate Professor Richard Ferrero

» **Research Group Head, Gastrointestinal Infection and Inflammation, Hudson Institute of Medical Research**

Bachelor of Applied Science Biomedical Science, 1985

Stomach cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer deaths – something Associate Professor **Richard Ferrero** seeks to change through his world-leading medical research.

As head of the Gastrointestinal Infection and Inflammation research group of the Hudson Institute of Medical Research, Ferrero leads critical investigation into understanding the chronic inflammation caused by the stomach bacterium, *Helicobacter pylori*.

“This is important because chronic inflammation is essential for the

development of stomach cancer,” he explains. “More broadly, inflammation is now recognised to play a key role in many diseases, including arteriosclerosis, Alzheimer’s, diabetes and many types of cancer.”

Several of Ferrero’s studies have led to important clinical outcomes in the areas of antibiotic resistance, vaccine development and host immunity. “My hope is... to develop predictive tests that can identify those *H. pylori*-infected individuals who are most at risk of developing stomach cancer.”



Photo: Supplied



Christine Gibbs Stewart

» **Chief Executive Officer, Austmine Limited**

Master of Business Administration, 2002

Christine Gibbs Stewart plays a crucial role in steering Australia's mining equipment, technology and services (METS) sector – one of the nation's leading export earners – through a challenging period.

As chief executive officer of Austmine Limited, the sector's peak industry body in Australia, Gibbs Stewart is firmly focused on delivering value to the organisation's members, creating opportunities and driving strategic innovation to add value today, and create new industries tomorrow. She has forged powerful collaborations, and significantly raised the profile of the sector to the point that it is now recognised as a Federal Government Industry Growth Centre.

“I hope to breakdown stereotypes – the perception that you need to be male to work in this industry and the perception that you need to be a miner, a geologist or an engineer to make a difference.”

In a highly diverse industry where there are no formal career pathways, she is also an inspiring role model. “I hope to breakdown stereotypes – the perception that you need to be male to work in this industry and the perception that you need to be a miner, a geologist or an engineer to make a difference.”

Laura Liu

» **International Student Leadership Ambassador, City of Sydney**

Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Public Communication), 2015

Making a difference through volunteering, says 25-year-old **Laura Liu**, is about subtle but consistent contributions.

As a volunteer with the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, Liu helped deliver some of the state's key programs: Australia Day, Remembrance Day, the G20 leaders visit to Sydney, and the Martin Place siege memorial. Now a volunteer international student leadership ambassador for the City of Sydney, she gives international students a voice in policy and programs aimed at making Sydney a better place for them to live, study and work.

When her extraordinary contribution was honoured with a Betty Makin Youth Award last year, Liu donated her prize money to help recently arrived international students adjust to life in Sydney.

“To me, applying my capabilities in a range of volunteering roles – whether organising high profile national events, helping communities to translate materials or taking time to talk to newly arrived students – is equally important, because they all influence other people in different ways.”





Photo: Supplied

Alex Moore

» **High Performance Director, Cleveland Cavaliers National Basketball Association team (USA)**

Bachelor of Human Movement Studies, 2001; Master of Arts (Sports Studies), 2004

In a career spent helping elite athletes to perform at their peak, **Alex Moore** has positioned himself as one of the world's leading strength and conditioning coaches.

Moore got his start working in strength and conditioning for the Australian ski team, the NSW Waratahs and the Brisbane Lions. Heading to the United States in 2008, he managed the physical training of the nation's celebrated national ski team, before landing a dream role with the prestigious National Basketball Association as high performance director for one of the sport's highest rated teams, the Cleveland Cavaliers.

As point-man for the team's medical, strength and conditioning, nutrition, and psychology programs, Moore's role is crucial to the overall success of the team, and to extending the career longevity of individual players through workload monitoring systems and contemporary injury rehabilitation strategies.

"When our roster is getting paid over \$US100 million annually, that's a big responsibility," he says.



Charles Tang

» **Senior Associate Director, Haskoll**

Bachelor of Arts (Architecture), 2000; Bachelor of Architecture, 2002.

For **Charles Tang**, the key to exceptional architecture lies in its ability to influence human lives.

"A great piece of architecture not only refers to buildings, but also spaces – internal/external spaces, private/public spaces – and how people interact and utilise these spaces," Tang told *Architectural Knowledge*.

Tang is currently senior associate director in the Beijing offices of Haskoll, a dynamic design-led architectural practice delivering large-scale projects across 39 countries. He has built up an impressive portfolio

over the last 15 years, with a particular focus on mixed use developments that seamlessly blend commercial and retail functions with residential and public spaces.

He has a particular respect for history, and for the cultural attributes of each site. All this translates to powerful, cohesive structures that take into account the local environment and the unique social needs of the community, as well as the commercial interests.

"We need to create a sense of place, where it will lift up people's spirits."

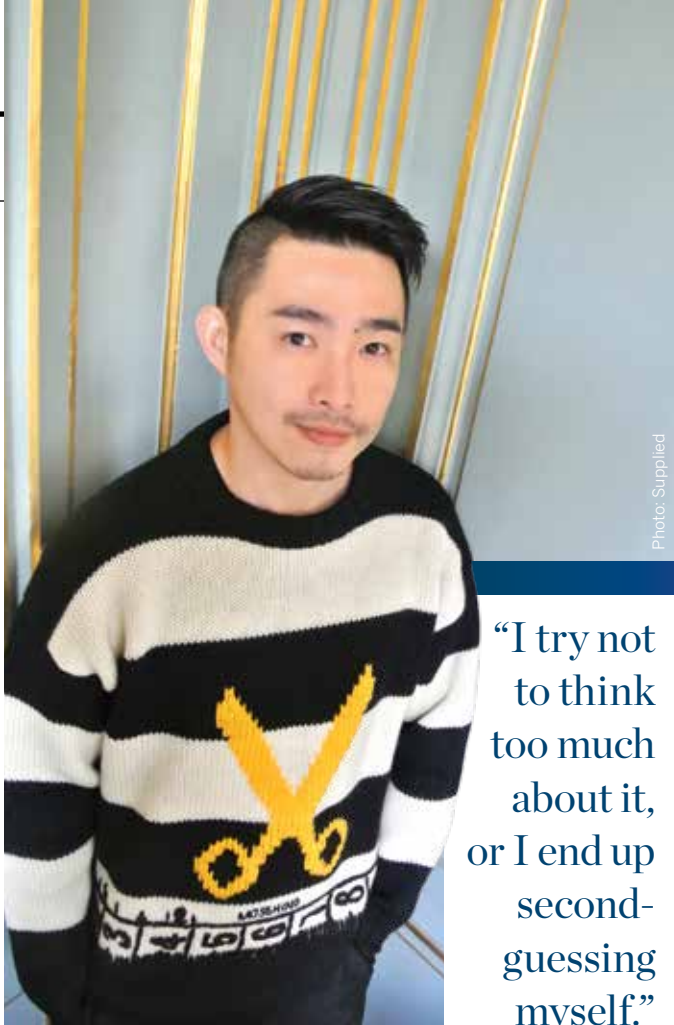


Photo: Supplied

Robby Tjia

» **Womenswear Designer, Kenzo**

Bachelor of Design in Fashion and Textiles, 2008

At just 31 years old, **Robby Tjia** has already achieved what many fashion designers dream of their whole lives.

As womenswear designer for internationally acclaimed fashion house Kenzo, Tjia knows the extraordinary feeling of designing one of Paris Fashion Week's most anticipated runway collections. "I try not to think too much about it, or I end up second-guessing myself," he says.

After graduating from UTS, Tjia gained a coveted spot in the Institut Français de la Mode's master's program. Collaborations with Louis Vuitton and Gucci won him the attention of Balenciaga, and a spot on their design team. It was only a matter of time until Kenzo came knocking.

Tjia adores the creativity of fashion design, but remains grounded. "At the end of the day, we need to sell these garments, so it's always interesting to find a balance between being creative and, at the same time, thinking about the wearability of the pieces."

"I try not to think too much about it, or I end up second-guessing myself."

Dr Robin Way

» **Chief Executive Officer, Community Connections Australia**

Master of Management in Community Management, 1995; Doctor of Philosophy in Management, 2005

Dr Robin Way has spent much of her working life fostering independence and confidence for people with disabilities, and delivering support and peace of mind for their families and carers.

As chief executive officer of Community Connections Australia, for the last 28 years she has overseen the development and delivery of in-home support services for people with all types of disability. Four years ago, she led the establishment of Jeenee Mobile: a telco that puts people before profits.

Offering mobile services to a growing base of 10,000 consumers, Jeenee Mobile's profits are directed towards delivering crucial, life-changing support and independence for people who are living with disabilities – everything from a 24-hour help centre and services tailored to individual needs, to GPS tracking so people can be instantly identified and assisted when things go wrong.

"These are seemingly small steps for people, but they have such magnitude for empowerment," she says. ■■■



SAVE THE WORLD?



REIMAGINING THE ENTREPRENEUR

How innovation is driving UTS's next generation of business leaders.

STORY BY MELINDA HAM

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN CHEUNG



**UTS Alumni
Award winners
Chris Zaharia and
Andrea Myles
are two of our
promising young
entrepreneurs.**

Andrea Myles was a regular country girl from regional NSW. At the age of 23, she took her first ever overseas trip to China. Later, she enrolled in successive masters programs at UTS. Never once did she realise this sequence of events would transform her into an entrepreneur.

“Coming from a working class background I believed I had to get a real job, not create my own,” says Myles. “The culture of UTS was really different; really multicultural, egalitarian and the teaching was practically-based. You had to jump off the bridge and swim – it was not just stuffy, theoretical academia.”

After completing a psychology degree at another university she realised it wasn’t for her and enrolled at UTS in a Master of Arts majoring in International Studies, graduating in 2007. She then undertook a Master of Arts majoring in China Studies and International Management, graduating in 2011.

These two degrees equipped Myles to co-found the China Australia Millennial Project (CAMP) with four others, three of whom are also UTS alumni. CAMP links young Australian entrepreneurs and innovators with their China-based peers in a fast-paced business incubator.

Over a period of nine weeks, 150 young business people (with male, female, Australian and Chinese demographics equally represented) build relationships with their counterparts and develop business ideas to change their communities while receiving mentoring from experts in the field.

This culminates in an intensive five days in Sydney where the young entrepreneurs pitch their business ideas face-to-face to venture capitalists, government agencies and corporate sponsors. In its first year, CAMP has spawned four bilateral businesses and 13 cross-cultural think tanks. In recognition of these achievements, Myles was awarded the 2015 Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Alumni Award.

THE NEW MBAE

After carefully taking onboard the experience of entrepreneurial graduates such as Myles, and considering what skills and tools other

budding innovators actually need, the UTS Business School has launched Australia’s first entrepreneurially-focussed MBA – the MBAe.

The inaugural students began attending lectures in February. “A conventional business education program is about skills acquisition, teaching you how to do something,” says Associate Professor James Hutchin, UTS Business School’s Associate Dean, Business Practice and External Engagement, of the new degree.

“But when you talk about entrepreneurial education, it’s about teaching you how to be something. It’s about creating the conditions that allow entrepreneurship to emerge, while giving people the skills they need.”

Students can choose to undertake a full MBAe, divide it into three discrete graduate certificates in commercialisation, entrepreneurship and new venture funding. All students attend lectures in the inspiring Frank Gehry-designed UTS Business School in Ultimo, Australia’s start-up capital.

Hutchin says MBAe candidates will bring their own business idea to develop, test and launch under the guidance of academic experts and local and international industry mentors. They will also get opportunities to liaise with incubators and accelerators.

DESIGN-LED THINKING

While she was at UTS, Myles says the university’s philosophy of design-led thinking, with its end user focus, had a deep impact on her and was a crucial component when she constructed the scaffolding for her business. Design-led thinking is also at the heart of UTS’s Innovation and Creative Intelligence Strategy, which underpins the new MBAe.

“When I was studying at UTS, even the Chinese language, I learned that it wasn’t just about speaking. Listening was just as important and I used that skill when I was strategising how to launch CAMP,” she recalls.

“I looked at the Chinese government’s five-year plan about how they want to work with countries like Australia. I talked to Chinese business people to see how we could work in synergy and parallel with their goals. I really didn’t want it only Australia focussed.” ◉

Bosco Tan, a UTS MBA graduate from 2010, says that he also used design-led thinking when he and a friend from high school created Pocketbook in 2012, a personal finance and budgeting app.

“We really listened to the feedback from our early customers; what they liked, what they didn’t like and what else they needed,” he says. “We built up trust and, from that basis, we felt we had a solid product we were able to eventually grow to 5-6000 customers and then get external fundraising.” After three years on the market, Pocketbook now has 200,000 customers Australia-wide.

Tan initially enrolled in a UTS MBA straight after graduating from a combined Bachelor of Commerce and Science from another university. He says he needed the MBA because he landed a job at a start-up consultancy in internet security, but felt totally ill-equipped.

“I was supposed to talk to senior corporate executives about their strategy issues and I just didn’t have the confidence,” says Tan. “I felt I had a choice to go through the painstaking process of networking with them through their social pursuits like golfing, or do an MBA and quickly learn their language.”

Tan spent the next three years studying the MBA part-time at UTS while simultaneously continuing to work full-time. Within that time, he was able to hone his management and business skills to a point where he could discuss business issues as equals with CMOs, CFOs and CEOs of blue-chip clients.

In fact, his MBA made him so confident that he left a secure job to plunge into Pocketbook – spending the next year working out the details of this new start-up in his business partner’s sitting room.

“UTS made me feel that nothing was too hard. Even failure was not the worst that could happen because I had an MBA to fall back on and could get another job – that was my safety net!” he says. The degree also equipped him with a business toolkit that can be applied to many situations.

UTS’s practical approach to teaching, and the fact that many of his lecturers were still immersed in their respective industries, was also an inspiration to Tan.

“My marketing professor had just come from a senior position as head of marketing in a big company. He had real-world stories that he shared with us – not just academic research – and that

really gave me a lot of motivation,” Tan says. “The uni preached work-ready and we really got down to doing stuff.”

Unlike Tan and Myles, Chris Zaharia, who graduated with a Bachelor of IT and Bachelor of Business from UTS in 2010, was not such an accidental entrepreneur. “My parents ran their own business so I saw the appeal of it immediately,” he says.

Rather than his undergraduate course content, which Zaharia says was more focussed on large corporates rather than start-ups, the most useful activity he did on campus was joining UTS’s ACES (Australian Collaborative Entrepreneurial Society) where he networked with alumni business founders and was inspired by speakers such as Michael Cannon-Brooks, the co-founder of IT giant Atlassian.

Within six months of graduating, Zaharia co-founded Zookal with a fellow UTS alumnus and a current student, based on the Blockbuster Video model. Their company rents out university textbooks, initially to UTS students. It has since expanded throughout NSW and Victoria; and soon it is expected to expand into Singapore. Now with revenue of more than \$1 million, they have attracted international investors and have a customer base of 40,000.

Zaharia’s achievements were recognised at the 2014 UTS Alumni Awards.

SUGGESTIONS FROM THE FRONTLINE

Now that these young alumni are succeeding in their start-ups, they have some constructive ideas for what UTS’s new MBAe students should look out for on their journey towards the business world.

“I would have liked to learn more about entrepreneurship in my business degree and how concepts apply to small businesses and start-ups in particular,” says Zaharia.

“There are unique issues at every stage of entrepreneurialism,” adds Tan, who’d like to see a focus on legal and regulatory basics. “Turning an idea into a product, finding first customers and seeking seed funding require a very different set of business skills.”

But above all, Zaharia suggests it’s important to be realistic about the business life cycle, and understanding “why companies fail, when it’s time to change products, or pivot to something else.” ■■■





“When you talk about entrepreneurial education, it’s about teaching you how to be something. It’s about creating the conditions that allow entrepreneurship to emerge, while giving people the skills they need.”



ABOVE: Associate Professor James Hutchin, Associate Dean, Business Practice and External Engagement at the UTS Business School.

LEFT AND RIGHT: Zaharia, Myles and Tan at





More inspiring stories like Fatima's can be found at www.giving.uts.edu.au.

Fatima Shafaie's work with refugees is an example for Australians to follow.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

STORY BY AMOS WONG

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KEVIN CHEUNG

As a child, Fatima Shafaie used to lay out newspapers at home and read them like a newsreader. "It was a very unconscious thing," she recalls. "I just did it because I liked it." It's fitting that she's now immersed in current affairs and governance for a Bachelor of Communication in Journalism and Law degree at UTS.

"They are very different, yet they balance each other out," she remarks of the subjects. Journalism is very practical and on-the-go, while Law is more thought provoking: "we do a lot of discussions, analytical thinking and arguing about laws."

Born in Afghanistan, Shafaie moved to Iran and Pakistan with her family as refugees at a young age. She came to Sydney on a humanitarian visa in 2007 sponsored by her father, who arrived by boat a few years earlier. Members of her extended family in Pakistan are still being targeted due to their ethnicity and religion, she explains. "I consider myself quite lucky. I came here as a very young teenager, so I've had opportunities that other people may not have."

A passionate social justice advocate, Shafaie is making an impact in the community. She is a youth leader of Afghans Unite!, a project striving to end prejudice and bullying among young Australian Afghans. It opens a dialogue to promote harmony between youth from different Muslim denominations and teaches them media skills to spread the message. She also volunteers at Refugee Advice & Casework Service.

"I'd like to follow the footsteps of everyday people who try to make a change," she says. Former Justice of the High Court of Australia Michael Kirby; lawyer and Islamophobia Register Australia creator Mariam Veiszadeh; and Amal Clooney are cited as examples. "They're individuals in their own field and do

things a little bit outside the mainstream, yet they make a lot of impact."

Shafaie is a recipient of the Ezekiel Solomon Scholarship, awarded to UTS Law undergraduate students who demonstrate initiative and require financial or educational assistance. It is an integral part of the Law Faculty's commitment to ensure excellent students from diverse backgrounds have access to quality legal studies.

"Despite having come from a low socio-economic background, my dad has always been supportive of our education," she says about her family. An older sister who completed a vision science degree is now working in optometry and pursuing a master's degree. Nevertheless, money is always a concern.

"The one major thing that the scholarship has done for me is to boost my confidence. I can focus on other things like how to enhance my skills, and how to search for internship opportunities," Shafaie explains. It enables her to pay for textbooks and law books, and access technology for her studies. Being able to purchase appropriate attire to confidently apply for internships at high-tier firms has also eased the pressure.

As the final fifth year of the degree approaches next year, Shafaie is torn between which path to take. She's considering the ABC and SBS for media; and to gain law experience she's currently working as a migration agent assistant. "I'm confident enough to go and work independently, so I feel like this has given me a very good base," she says. ■■■

"I'd like to follow the footsteps of everyday people who try to make a change."



**Help UTS create more
opportunities for
Indigenous students.**

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LEADING IN LIFE

Mark Wilson needed more than his training and experience while deployed at South Sudan.

STORY BY KEVIN CHEUNG

Veteran of 32 years at the Royal Australian Navy, Lieutenant Commander Mark Wilson is officer-in-charge of the Sailors' Leadership and Management Facility at Garden Island. Graduating from UTS in 2007 with a Masters of Education in Adult Education, Wilson and his 24 staff oversee the training of around 800 sailors.

"I absolutely loved it," says Wilson of his time at UTS. "I was an instructor, so I was already doing the job. But I had nothing to substantiate what I did from an academic perspective. In fact I'm wondering now if I should go back."

Wilson would need all of his training, experience and more

during a six-month deployment to South Sudan. Assisting the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), his goal was to help keep the peace and foster development within the impoverished African nation. However, heavy fighting in the region forced improvisation, with Wilson acting as a mediator between Indian, Nepalese and South Korean personnel.

There was also a dire shortage of beds to tend to the sick and injured. His camp was designed to accommodate 2000 people over a 72-hour period. But with all the fighting and refugee movements, that number ballooned to 27,000.



Wilson was recognised at the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours.

“My Australian Colonel, Michael Chadwick, said ‘Mark, you know all that training stuff you used to do? That’s gone. You’re now ‘that’ guy,’” recalls Wilson. “So four and a half of the six months was spent doing those other jobs – triage and remains management.”

Wilson’s efforts were recognised at the 2015 Queen’s Birthday Honours with a Conspicuous Service Medal. “It was a nice surprise,” says Wilson.

He continues, “There’s no training for it. I’m sure there are many capable people out there, but few of us are tested to the point where it really becomes a question of, ‘What would you do?’ At the risk of sounding immodest, I draw some degree of satisfaction from being able to say, ‘Well I was asked the question, and I was able to perform.’”

“Fifty people were killed on that occasion, with a couple of hundred critically injured. It was bedlam.” – Mark Wilson

The moment that weighs most heavily occurred during his last day on the mission. While preparing to leave by helicopter, the camp was attacked by 200 rebels. Wilson was caught in their direct fire, which killed 50 people and injured hundreds more. Miraculously, Wilson wasn’t injured.

“We were in the camp when they were firing. They were strafing,” he recalls. “Without trying to sound overly dramatic, I’d never experienced ricochets bouncing around my head, off containers as we were trying to get the hell out of there. Fifty people were killed on that occasion, with a couple hundred critically injured. It was bedlam.”

Back in Sydney, Wilson is adjusting to normal life and managing the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder. “It’s quite challenging,” he confesses. “It’s an internal wrangle. On most days, I’m okay. But there is the odd day where I don’t really feel like playing.”

Wilson, now aged 54, is eager to find new challenges with plans to join maritime experts at Sea Training Group where he’ll assist in the testing and assessment of navy ships. He’s also thinking about going back out to sea. “I’m 32 years in and there are still things I haven’t done,” he says. “And I still have butterflies when I go out to a new job. It makes no difference whether you’ve been there for a day or 300 days.” ■■

More than medicine

How UTS is moving forward in health research.

STORY BY MELINDA HAM

Australia's health system is considered one of the most comprehensive, accessible and affordable in the world. However, there is increasing pressure to find new 'outside-the-box' methods to address the challenges brought about by disruptive social change. Much of this change comes through the advent of new technology and research that point towards the need for a broader, more holistic approach to the provision of healthcare. They call for a multi-faceted approach to addressing the needs of the public's growing demands on the health system.

By playing to its advantages in innovation and collaboration, UTS is uniquely placed to make a difference to Australia's health system in the areas of policy creation, practice and technology. Its multidisciplinary approaches to health issues and the incorporation of inter-professional education are already making a difference to the way we think about primary healthcare and allied health professions.

Here are just a few examples of how UTS is making a difference to the health sector, incorporating the thinking and know-how of multiple faculties to produce superior real-world results for primary and allied healthcare providers.

BUILDING THE SUPER SIM LAB

Manikins – high-tech simulated patients – capable of feeding back life signs such as heart rate and blood pressure, are an important part of educating healthcare providers of the future. There are plans to acquire more but at the moment, there are only three of the most high-tech variety at the UTS Faculty of Health, used daily and shared between 2100 undergraduate nursing students, 165 midwifery undergraduates and 500 postgraduates.

Funding more manikins would vastly enhance the students' learning experience. "We want to create a high fidelity experience, as realistic as possible for our students before they go on to work with real patients," says, Associate Professor Joanne Gray, Associate Dean of Teaching and Learning in the Faculty of Health (pictured overleaf).

You can imagine the workout each manikin gets. Every day, students dress them in different clothes and thrust them into a variety of clinical situations. The high-tech manikins can bleed, sweat, fit, recognise medications, and can speak through a voice simulator controlled by a lecturer in a control booth.

"We have sleeves so the manikin can even have tattoos. Their pupils can dilate and they can cry and blink their eyes. They can also go into respiratory arrest,"

says Gray. "The 'sim' babies even go blue (from lack of oxygen) and move their arms and legs."

Gray's main goal is to create a Super Sim Lab by doubling the number of high-tech manikins and setting up a simulated intensive care unit with five to six beds. Each would have a high-tech manikin lying in it so students can learn in a hands-on environment.

Students can also practice communicating with their patients. The high-tech manikins will have video cameras and recording devices positioned at each bed so that lecturers can debrief students and offer feedback.

"Expanding the number of manikins fits perfectly with UTS health strategy," says Gray. "We are looking at producing Australia's best-prepared health graduates, ready for workforce integration and are up-to-date on evidence-based interdisciplinary research.

"A nurse may only ever see a particular life-threatening situation once or twice in their career, but if they have practised on a manikin many times before they get to the real situation then it is familiar and they are ready," says Gray.

The main challenge is that the sim patients don't come cheap; each one requires funding of more than \$90,000 to purchase, but the benefits that students reap are priceless. ●



High-tech simulated patients like this manikin make all the difference to students.



Associate Professor Joanne Gray

“We want to create a high fidelity experience, as realistic as possible for our students before they go on to work with real patients.” – Associate Professor Joanne Gray



Professor Diana Slade

IMPROVING HOSPITAL COMMUNICATION

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, there are over 500,000 people a year harmed in hospital. One third of these incidents are due to communication failures in handovers between clinicians, and doctor-patient interactions. It could be as simple as a GP forgetting to handover written notes to a psychiatrist.

A new initiative led by Professor Diana Slade, director of the International Research Centre for Communication in Healthcare (IRCCH) at UTS, is attempting to reverse this trend with an innovative evidence-based program to teach doctors, nurses and clinicians how to communicate more effectively.

“We aren’t critical of the clinicians – we are impressed by their professionalism,” says Slade. “It is just that they receive very little evidence-based communication during university or later in professional development.”

To address this, Slade and her team have developed an innovative program using authentic audio and video recordings of interactions between doctors, nurses, allied professionals and patients. The videos are incorporated into training programs to improve clinicians’ communication skills and deliver better patient-centred care, as well as empowering junior doctors, nurses and patients to speak up too.

These training programs are drawn from recordings of 829 patient handovers as well as hundreds of hours of patient-clinician consultations collected by IRCCH teams in Australian hospitals over the last eight years.

“At IRCCH we have one of the world’s largest databases of authentic communications between patients and clinicians,” says Slade.

After a successful pilot project at Canberra Hospital involving 350 nurses, IRCCH is now seeking donor funding to expand their training programs across Australia and Asia.

The IRCCH initiative is timely as the World Health Organization has cited improving clinician communication as one of the top five urgent actions to decrease patient deaths in hospitals globally.

BUILDING A LOW-COST PET SCANNER

PET (positron emission tomography) scanners are one of the most effective diagnostic tools for detecting recurring cancer, changes in the brain (such as the onset of Alzheimer’s disease) or finding blocked vessels in the heart. They are key to providing faster and effective treatment and can therefore save lives.

Australian hospitals have about 45 PET scanners, most of them in larger cities, consequently patients in remote and rural areas have comparatively limited access.

A team of UTS researchers led by Dr Daniel Franklin, senior lecturer in the School of Computing and Communications, is using state-of-the-art nanomaterials to develop a low-cost PET scanner with 4D imaging capabilities.

“My vision is that by reducing the manufacturing and operational costs – cutting these by at least half – we could dramatically increase access to these machines, for medicine and research, both in Australia and in the developing world,” says Franklin.

Franklin hopes to design a scanner built from special nano-composite materials. “The material allows for a simplified production and assembly process, with improved sensitivity. We could possibly even build the scanner with a 3D printer,” says Franklin.

The team’s new scanner design would be better at detecting radiation than current models, which means patients can afford to take a smaller dose of the radiopharmaceutical that is usually involved in the procedure. Their scanner would also have the ability to take time-lapse 3D movies of the behaviour of the radiopharmaceutical in the body.

Franklin projects a three year timeline for research; they are now in the midst of the theoretical and simulation stage, building mathematical models and detailed simulations. “When we are confident of our design, we will build a prototype – that is when we will need funding – and then hopefully, head for commercialisation,” he says. ■■

You can help UTS reach its vision with the Super Sim Lab, hospital communications, the low-cost PET scanner, and many other health initiatives at <http://giving.uts.edu.au>.

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Visionary business leader **CATHERINE LIVINGSTONE** to be UTS Chancellor



Photo: Andrew Lucas

Catherine Livingstone AO will assume the role of UTS Chancellor from December 2016.

Catherine Livingstone AO, Business Council of Australia president and Commonwealth Bank board member, will commence as UTS Chancellor in December 2016. She will replace Brian Wilson, whose term concludes at the end of November. Lauded as one of Australia's great thought leaders, Livingstone has advocated innovation in science and technology, corporate governance and women in business throughout her career.

Her dedication, expertise and leadership garnered accolades including the Centenary Medal in 2003 and an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2008. In 2014, she was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Sciences and awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Business at UTS.

"Catherine brings to UTS a vast wealth of knowledge and experience as a business leader at the highest level in Australia and internationally. This is combined with a deep understanding of the research environment here in Australia and a driving force behind our national understanding of innovation and its role in national prosperity," says Vice-Chancellor Professor Attila Brungs, who believes Livingstone's experience and insight will be invaluable to UTS and the higher education sector.

A Macquarie University graduate in 1977 with honours in Bachelor of Arts in Accounting, Livingstone began her career as a chartered accountant at Price Waterhouse in Sydney and London. A tenure at health and community service specialists the Nucleus Group saw her dedicate two decades in the field of implantable medical devices and led

to managing Cochlear Limited as CEO from 1994 to 2000.

Livingstone's directorships and appointments span the gamut of industries from food manufacturing to the arts. She was chairman of CSIRO from 2001 to 2006; her relationship continued with the agency recently as patron of the Australian Design Innovation Network, an initiative between the CSIRO, the UTS Business School and the Design Innovation Research Centre.

Her appointment as UTS Chancellor comes after longtime support and promotion of the university's initiatives. Livingstone believes the position will enable her to play a new, significant role in creating Australian wealth, prosperity and drive innovation in the future. "Our prime minister rightly says that change is opportunity. I believe Australia will only seize the opportunity presented by the unprecedented change currently sweeping the world, if its university and industry sectors can be far more effective collaborators," she says.

"This is a responsibility of both business and university, and will require a shift in mindset by both. This shift is already happening at UTS, and among their many partners in the Ultimo creative and start-up precinct. I am excited to be a part of that."

"Catherine brings to UTS a vast wealth of knowledge and experience as a business leader at the highest level in Australia and internationally."



VERITY FIRTH appointed as Executive Director, Social Justice at UTS

Equity in education and women’s employment advocate Verity Firth has commenced a new position of executive director, social justice at UTS.

Firth will work across social justice, equity and diversity strategies and initiatives at UTS; as a public advocate on social justice and equity issues she will foster partnerships with external organisations, communities and individuals.

“Verity Firth brings to UTS experience at the very highest levels of government and the not-for-profit sector in Australia,” says UTS Vice-Chancellor Professor Attila Brungs.

Her previous appointments include eight years in the Australian education sector. As minister for education and training in NSW,

she successfully promoted equity in education and addressed educational disadvantage in low socio-economic communities from 2008 to 2011; Firth was also chief executive of the Public Education Foundation. As NSW minister for Women from 2007 to 2009, she implemented sector-wide strategies to improve women’s recruitment, development and employment in the NSW public sector.

Vice-Chancellor Brungs says the new position will build on the university’s proud history in social justice and equity, and continue its strong commitment to these values.

Firth is excited by the opportunity to work at UTS, “a university that has shown a sustained commitment to equity and excellence in higher education.”

ELIZABETH MOSSOP appointed as Dean of UTS Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building

Esteemed urbanist and landscape architect, Professor Elizabeth Mossop, will commence as Dean of the Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building at the University of Technology Sydney in mid-2016.

Mossop’s distinguished academic career spans 25 years in both the US and Australia. She was most recently professor of landscape architecture and director of the acclaimed Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture program at Louisiana State University.

She is also a founding principal of award-winning landscape architects Spackman Mossop and Michaels based in Sydney and New Orleans.

UTS Vice-Chancellor Professor Attila Brungs remarks that Professor Mossop has a record of visionary leadership and exceptional personal accomplishment.

“We were deeply impressed by her commitment to excellence as well as cross disciplinary research and teaching, collaborating with engineering, technology, health and other disciplines,” he says. “Her teaching and research in urban landscape design and multi-functional infrastructure have a strong sustainability focus. This will strengthen UTS’s significant capacity in this area.”

Mossop is honoured by the appointment, “I am looking forward to working with the faculty’s academic staff in highlighting the faculty’s role in the city, and in new collaborations with industry and the professions.”



AIEF PARTNERS WITH UTS TO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIGENOUS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS



Photo: Kevin Cheung

The Australian Indigenous Education Foundation (AIEF) and UTS have announced a new partnership that will provide scholarships for Indigenous students at UTS.

From 2016, eligible students can apply for scholarships that cover the cost of accommodation at UTS Housing Service Residences and provide a living allowance, enabling students to live on campus and access the support they need to excel in their studies.

Scholarship students will also access the AIEF Pathways Program, which offers ongoing career support to ensure students transition successfully from study to careers, in addition to tutoring and other services offered by the Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning at UTS.

The partnership is AIEF's first with a university and the scholarship will be available to students across degree programs, and at all UTS housing residences.

AIEF executive director Andrew Penfold AM said the scholarship was designed to remove financial barriers to university study.

"AIEF scholarships open doors to leading schools and universities, ensuring Indigenous students who want to pursue their education at these schools and universities are not denied the opportunity. "Our partnership with UTS will remove financial barriers that can discourage students from enrolling, or lead to students withdrawing from their course.

"And the scholarships we offer will do more than remove barriers. By enabling students to live on campus and access support through the AIEF Pathways Program – on top of the fantastic support Indigenous students receive from Jumbunna – the scholarships will empower students to make the most of their time at university."

"This is a very significant contribution to UTS and in particular to Indigenous students, many of whom find the securing of accommodation and meeting the costs of living a significant barrier to considering university study," says director of Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning Professor Michael McDaniel. "This is the case for many students wishing to study in Sydney. I believe this scholarship opportunity will make the world of difference to many Indigenous students."

For more information: [visit aief.com.au](http://visit.aief.com.au)



Photo: Wade Laube

Maile Carnegie moves to ANZ

Noted alumna, Maile Carnegie, has accepted a new role as group executive digital banking at ANZ. Carnegie has led a distinguished career for more than 20 years. Since 2013, she was the managing director Australia and New Zealand

at Google and, prior to that, was managing director for Procter & Gamble in Australia and New Zealand.

Carnegie's new Sydney-based role will commence from July this year.

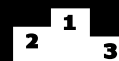
UTS RISES IN THE RANKS



UTS IS AUSTRALIA'S TOP UNIVERSITY

in the Times Higher Education 100 Universities Under 50yo list.

Times Higher Education also ranks UTS as



ONE OF THE TOP 250 UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD

And the 46th most internationalised university out of the world's 200 most internationalised universities in the world.



UTS WON the Hybrid Learning Innovation Award

at the Warton-QS Stars Reimagine Education Awards, which recognises world leadership in innovative teaching.

VALE DAVID GRANT AM, RENOWNED CREATIVE DIRECTOR AND UTS ALUMNUS

Award-winning Sydney event planner David Grant passed away at his home surrounded by family members on 14 December 2015, after battling a brain tumour diagnosed during the year.

A 1988 UTS graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication, Grant created unforgettable events for over three decades that garnered more than 35 industry awards. Among them are 400 Sydney Olympic events, President Clinton's 1996 official Sydney visit and nine of 11 annual Cointreau Balls that rewrote the party book at the start of his events career in the mid-'80s. In 2005 he was made a member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the Queen's birthday Australian Honours List.

Grant is remembered by friends and colleagues for his charm, intelligence, humour and maverick creative genius that ushered a list of firsts in the business: putting dodgem cars in a ballroom, illuminating Sydney for a perfume launch, and hosting parties on a floating pontoon and even in a sewer.



Photo: Lindsay Moller/NewsPix

“Grant is remembered by friends and colleagues for his charm, intelligence, humour and maverick creative genius.”

“He has left an indelible mark on Sydney and Australia,” says UTS Luminary Kim McKay, AO, who worked with Grant on many events over the years. “It’s hard to imagine Sydney celebrating without David Grant being central to that celebration.”

Nominations are now open for the UTS Alumni Awards 2016

The UTS Alumni Awards are an important way to recognise the outstanding achievements of our alumni. Over the years, UTS has honoured alumni from every profession, from scientists and designers to lawyers and entrepreneurs. Nominations for the 2016 awards, generously supported by UTS Insearch, are now open and we need your help to identify deserving alumni.



Photos: Kevin Cheung

WHO ARE WE? LOOKING FOR?

We're looking for graduates who have:

- Achieved success in professional, academic or research areas
- Demonstrated exceptional leadership, innovation, and creativity
- Contributed to the community through their work

The nomination process is quick and easy – just visit www.alumni.uts.edu.au.

Award winners will be announced at a gala dinner on Tuesday 20 September 2016. The results will be published in the next edition of *Tower Magazine*.

Nominations close on 20 May 2016.



UTS REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

UTS held its inaugural alumni reunion events in November last year, firstly at the Taj Mahal Palace in Mumbai; and later at the Taj Palace Hotel in New Delhi. Here are a few photos of the highlights from those occasions.

UTS Alumni Reunions are held across the globe throughout the year, and are a fantastic opportunity to catch up with old classmates and forge new links with a powerful network of professionals in a variety of dynamic industries.

UPCOMING REUNIONS



Vietnam (Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh) –
Late May/Early June 2016

Hong Kong – 24 June 2016

Beijing – 27 June 2016

Shanghai – 29 June 2016

India (New Delhi and Mumbai) –
November 2016

Get the latest updates on reunion information from www.alumni.uts.edu.au/reunions.



UTS Alumnus, **Todd Greenberg**, has been appointed CEO of the National Rugby League. His appointment follows the resignation of Dave Smith in October last year. Greenberg completed a masters degree at UTS in sport management in 1997, and was named NSW Sports Administrator of the Year in 2009.

Don't miss the benefits of the #utsalumni community!

UTS has around 200,000 alumni making a difference across the globe!

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