Our Mission
To be a university of international standing and outlook, achieving excellence through scholarship, teaching, learning, research and service to its regional, national and international communities, beginning with the people of Greater Western Sydney.

Our Vision
Bringing knowledge to life in Greater Western Sydney through community and business engagement with our learning and research.
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Message from the Chancellor

Thank you for supporting the University of Western Sydney throughout 2013. I am delighted to share with you some of the inspiring outcomes of your donations to the University. Your support has enabled us to reward excellence - with over 200 prizes being awarded to students in 2013, and provided opportunity to our students, with over 80 donor funded scholarships awarded across the year.

As we as an institution embark on our 25th anniversary I am even more enthusiastic about the potential of our students and our graduates. The University of Western Sydney is unique. Our students come from diverse backgrounds, most are first in their family to attend university, they are students who see not barriers but opportunity and given that opportunity will transform Greater Western Sydney and beyond.

Your generous support gives our students the opportunity not only to strive to achieve their dreams and goals but change the landscape of our region.

We have commenced an exciting new phase of philanthropic activity at the University and I hope you will continue to support our region, our university and our students so we can continue our teaching, learning and research programs and continue to uncover the hidden gems Greater Western Sydney has to offer.

With gratitude for your commitment to the future development of UWS.

Professor Peter Shergold AC
Chancellor
University of Western Sydney
Message from the Vice-Chancellor

I am pleased to share with you the range of remarkable achievements made possible because of your generous support of the University of Western Sydney. Having commenced as Vice-Chancellor in January 2014, I am greatly encouraged by the fact that the University’s mission of personal and regional transformation appeals so strongly to such a diverse and highly accomplished range of supporters.

The large-scale reforms announced in the Federal Budget, coupled with the ongoing rapid internationalisation of higher education present a series of pronounced challenges and opportunities to UWS. At the practical level, much of this is centred on the need to seek alternative sources of support, beyond that traditionally offered via the Commonwealth. Equally, the increasingly competitive environment in which universities operate make a focus on quality, innovation and adaptability even more important to institutions like UWS.

The University’s capacity to anticipate and prepare for many of the challenges it currently faces prompted the establishment in 2013 of the UWS Foundation Council to lead and realise its fundraising strategy.

We were pleased to have one of the country’s most highly-respected legal figures and business leaders, Danny Gilbert of Gilbert + Tobin, as the founding Chair of the Council. Since taking on this role, Danny has led a team of prominent Australian business leaders in advancing philanthropy and engagement at the University.

With change comes the opportunity for growth and development. The University has consolidated a strategy to rapidly build its international profile, including effective and enhanced engagement with international alumni. This strategy will be supported by growth in sustainable research, a focus on the Greater Western Sydney region and building the University’s reputation as an innovative and flexible institution. I look forward to sharing this journey with you as supporters of UWS.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to keeping you up to date on the achievements your commitment makes possible.

Professor Barney Glover
Vice-Chancellor and President
University of Western Sydney
Message from the Foundation Council

It is with great pleasure that I accepted the role to Chair the Foundation Council which is responsible for advancing philanthropy at the University of Western Sydney (UWS). The role of the Foundation Council has become an even greater priority for UWS with the current reform agenda unfolding in Australia for the university sector.

Foundation Council members all share a commitment to support UWS as we help build a culture of philanthropy and engagement amongst staff, business associates, philanthropists and the community.

Our commitment is to help change lives through research excellence, teaching and scholarship. A key focus area and priority for the immediate future is rewarding excellence through scholarship and making education possible for deserving students. Scholarships play a life-changing role by creating opportunities for those who otherwise might not be able to attend university.

In the longer term, the Foundation Council will continue to work closely with the dedicated Advancement and Alumni team headed by Dr Joe Collins. While this team will lead engagement with supporters, alumni and friends to increase support for students as well as UWS research and teaching areas of excellence, they cannot do it alone. Dr Collins will need the support of all areas of UWS so that together we can strengthen our position in the region and internationally.

Foundation Council members trust you will join with us on the exciting journey ahead and will enjoy helping us make a difference.

Kind Regards,
Danny Gilbert AM
UWS Foundation Council Chair, Co-founder and Managing Partner of Gilbert + Tobin

For more information about the UWS Foundation Council visit uws.edu.au/uwsfoundationcouncil
In 2013, the University's Board of Trustees approved a new governance structure to support philanthropy at UWS.

A new UWS Foundation Council, reporting to the UWS Board of Trustees, was established to replace the former UWS Foundation entity. The new Foundation Council is chaired by Mr Danny Gilbert, Managing Director of leading national legal firm, Gilbert + Tobin. Council members include prominent business and community leaders who are committed to making a difference by advancing philanthropy at UWS.

Also in 2013, the Office of Advancement and Alumni (A&A) was created to foster and support the University’s fundraising endeavours and outreach to UWS Alumni. The A&A team, led by Dr Joe Collins, aims to embed philanthropy across the University by implementing the Foundation Council's fundraising strategies involving staff and students, Alumni, donors and friends.

The establishment of the UWS Foundation Council and the Office of Advancement and Alumni reflects industry best practice, and is the culmination of a review that was finalised during 2013. Administratively, this means that all gifts will now be receipted by UWS as it is a holder of Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status.

These improvements to philanthropy governance and support at UWS will result in increased opportunities for students, research, infrastructure and the UWS community. They will provide more efficient and effective approaches to fundraising and philanthropy, and improved donor and alumni relationships.

For more information about the future of philanthropy at UWS visit uws.edu.au/give
Giving at UWS

753 donors
total number in 2013

502 donors
gave for the first time in 2013

2,180 gifts
given in 2013

$796,917
increase on 2012

Total donated 2013

$2,393,991

47% General Donations $1,122,027
18% Sponsorship $420,974
17% Scholarship $404,784
13% Research $317,793
5% Prizes $128,413
Allocation of gifts

- Research & academia positions: 34%
- Scholarships: 22%
- Prizes: 7%
- Sponsorships: 26%
- Other: 11%
Providing students with the ability to graduate from University

The University of Western Sydney (UWS), together with many generous donors are committed to providing opportunities for those who want to excel at University.

The Walter and Eliza Hall Trust generously support three scholarships known as the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust Opportunity Scholarships. These scholarships are allocated to students with a physical disability, with ideally at least one of these scholarships awarded to an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student with a physical disability. These scholarships provide both financial assistance and encouragement for recipients to complete university and to pursue fulfilling careers after graduation.

The Walter and Eliza Hall Trust are able to provide these scholarships through funds bequeathed to the Trust from the Estate of the late Judy Lennox. Judy, who had a severe physical disability herself, was given the opportunity for an education and saw that not all people with disabilities were provided with that same opportunity. She left a gift in her Will to the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust which the trust determined would be used to fund scholarships for students with physical disabilities.

These scholarships were awarded for the first time in 2013 and recipient, Naomi Deck successfully completed her Bachelor of Health Science degree at the end of 2013. Naomi was involved in a serious car accident on the way to her nursing job at Nepean Hospital, while a student a UWS.

She was hospitalised for a year, left with severe back, leg and brain injuries. Following the accident, Naomi re-evaluated her future as a nurse, and decided to enrol in a related degree where she would be physically able to help others in need.

After receiving this scholarship Naomi commented ‘It has been a real challenge getting to this point and this scholarship gives me great motivation to continue reaching for my goals’.

Naomi’s courage and determination enabled her to reach her goal and graduate from the University of Western Sydney with a Bachelor of Health Science in April 2014. Naomi is now happily working as a manager in the aged care industry and at 31 years of age says she ‘finally feels like I got to where I needed to be professionally post-accident; financially independent and with a great job’.

Without the support of our donors and supporters, the University of Western Sydney wouldn’t be able to assist students like Naomi.

‘The Directors of The Walter and Eliza Hall Trust are pleased that the Trust is in a position to fund these scholarships and are able to provide assistance to UWS students, who may otherwise struggle to reach their goals because of financial or physical disadvantage.’ Helen Cook, Secretary, The Walter and Eliza Hall Trust.

If you would like to support scholarships for UWS students, please contact UWS Advancement and Alumni on 02 9685 9511.
84 scholarships
total number of donor funded scholarships in 2013

$384,332
total value of scholarships to students

10%
increase in scholarship funding for students

2012 2013
10% increase
Building a body of proof for complementary medicine

The University of Western Sydney’s National Institute of Complementary Medicine (NICM) is Australia’s leader in complementary medicine research and the translation of research evidence into practice.

NICM was established by Prime Minister Tony Abbott when he was Health Minister in 2007 with funding also contributed by the NSW Government. NICM was formed to research the economic and public health benefits of complementary medicine, and to act as a think tank for policy, coordination, commercialisation and monitoring of this burgeoning Australian and international industry.

Led by Professor Alan Bensoussan and supported by world class researchers, NICM has been acknowledged by the World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies as a leader in Chinese medicine research in Australia and internationally.

Local and international demand for complementary medicine products is growing at unprecedented rates and Australia is recognised internationally for both the quality of our products and our research in the field.

Over 80% of the world’s population and two out of three Australians use some form of complementary medicine. Australian annual expenditure is close to $3.8 billion and growing.

Yet this use often occurs without a full understanding of the effectiveness of complementary medicine treatments. Many complementary medicines offer a wealth of potential healthcare solutions, backed by hundreds of years of clinical use.

It is vital for the health of all Australians that high quality research is undertaken into the safety and efficacy of complementary medicine.

In many cases complementary medicine interventions have been shown to be clinically effective, some with better safety profiles and greater cost effectiveness than conventional care while others are of doubtful benefit.

‘There is widespread recognition that complementary medicine (CM) is a large and growing industry, and evidence is mounting that CM can make a significant and cost-effective contribution to public health and chronic disease management.’ Professor Alan Bensoussan

Capitalising on these achievements and demand, further investment in NICM’s research will make an immediate impact on the strength of the industry and thus the health of all Australians.
With the support of our partners including Jacka Foundation for Natural Therapies, Soho-Flordis International, Blackmores and Catalent along with many other wonderful supporters, NICM has been able to contribute improved health choices for consumers, most particularly in the areas of heart disease, gastrointestinal disorders, women’s health and dementia.

Clinical researchers at NICM are working towards identifying and verifying new methods to complement existing treatments for common disorders. NICM Professor, Caroline Smith is currently undertaking Australia’s largest clinical trial in acupuncture, to test whether acupuncture provides an effective adjunct for the treatment of infertility and associated disorders. This trial provides hope to the many women who struggle with conceiving their children.

NICM has the track record to deliver better health choices for all, developing evidence-based complementary medicine treatments for export around the world and integrating mainstream and complementary medicines.

In 2012 NICM’s research received the highest possible rating of “well above world standard” in the Commonwealth Excellence in Research for Australia rankings.

Support received from government, industry and the community has already enabled NICM to work towards building the necessary research base and policy to:

» Give patients better health choices

» Help clinicians and consumers integrate complementary medicines into mainstream medical treatment

» Keep Australians safe by regulating the practice of traditional Chinese medicine

» Support a strong and responsible Australian manufacturing industry

» Grow Australian research capacity in complementary medicine

» Take research from the bench to the bedside

» Build Australian research capacity through NICM Collaborative Centres, training over 13 PhD students and 21 research associates and post-doctoral fellows and generating in excess of 1888 citations from 170 peer-reviewed publications to date

» Improve the health of all Australians in priority disease areas

» Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Medicine

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For more research successes, please see the NICM website nicm.edu.au
Research Highlights

UWS research project paving the way in Gastroenterology

The Gastroenterology Research Team, based at the UWS School of Medicine, is investigating disorders where the muscles of the digestive system become impaired, and changes in the speed, strength, or coordination in the digestive organs occur.

Dr Vincent Ho, Director of the UWS Gastroenterology Research Team, says the research program was initiated after one of his patients, 26-year-old Ashley Allum, was diagnosed with gastroparesis or ‘paralysed stomach’.

“We have performed extensive tests and tried all current medical therapies to no avail. This disease, which has intractable nausea and vomiting as its main symptoms, has greatly affected her life, as not only does she feel sick every day, she is no longer able to work,” said Dr Ho.

The team is running a basic science research program and also a clinical research program at its teaching hospitals to better understand gastrointestinal (GI) motility disorders, with benefits expected not only for very sick patients like Ashley, but also for patients with more common gut motility disorders such as irritable bowel syndrome.

In tandem with the research project, UWS has launched an awareness campaign to teach the Greater Western Sydney community about the family of GI motility disorders, and the work of the Gastroenterology Research Team. To find out more about how you can support research projects such as GI motility at the UWS visit uws.edu.au/give

Growing a better future for Australia

Since 2012 the Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment (HIE) has rapidly become a leading centre of excellence in ecosystem function and environmental responses to changing climates.

Excellence in Research Australia (ERA) gauges research quality at Australian universities and has assessed four of the Institute’s areas as being ‘above world class’.

In a changing world, we need to understand the effects of rapid change in both natural environments and farming systems and on the communities of living organisms ranging from the smallest microbes to the tallest forest trees.

Thanks to extensive landholdings at the Hawkesbury campus HIE is able to host the world’s only Free Air CO2 Enrichment experiment in native forest. HIE is also involved in extensive collaborations with research development corporations both on campus and off site.

For more information about supporting research at HIE visit uws.edu.au/hie

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For more information about supporting research at HIE visit uws.edu.au/hie
The University sadly lost a valuable PhD student, tutor, colleague and friend, with the untimely passing of Dr Mohammed Zaman in early 2013.

Mohammed was an extraordinary PhD student. At just 38 years of age, he had published five journal papers during the two years of his candidature, including two papers in leading journals in water resources engineering. He worked as a Research Assistant for Dr Ataur Rahman for 18 months before starting his PhD and was also involved widely in teaching in the School.

Upon hearing the news of Mohammed’s passing, students, academic and professional staff in the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics were motivated to establish an academic prize in his honour.

The Ashraf Zaman Memorial Prize will be awarded for the first time in 2014 to the most outstanding student in the unit of Fluid Mechanics in the School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics.

In April 2013, Mohammed’s Doctorate was awarded posthumously, received by his father. The graduation ceremony was charged with emotion but was a fitting tribute, recognising Mohammed’s commitment to his academic career. Mohammed’s wife, father, sister and brother-in-law were all present at the ceremony.

Mohammed is survived by his wife Zenis, who at the time of her husband’s passing was eight months pregnant, and a full-time carer for their two year old son. Zenis has since given birth to their second child, a son.

Memorial giving provides an opportunity to remember and pay tribute to a friend, colleague, mentor or family member. To find out more about memorial giving visit uws.edu.au/memorial_giving
Donors help dreams become reality for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

Donor funded scholarships and prizes are providing opportunities to a number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at UWS. Prizes and scholarships assist students to accomplish their best by removing some of the stress of attending university and also recognising academic achievement, encouraging them to realise their goals.

In 1998, the UWS Board of Trustees made a commitment to providing higher education pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in its reconciliation statement. The University continues to do that today through initiating and delivering a number of programs designed to increase participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people studying at university. These include the Bridges to University program in which UWS is partnering with other institutions to improve opportunities for those under-represented at university, and the Pathways to Dreaming project – a UWS mentoring program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students.

Donor funded scholarships also support pathways to university such as the NSW Transport Indigenous Scholarship. This scholarship was developed with the UWS Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education to maximise the best opportunities for prospective students.

Scholarships funded by donors currently recognise both excellence and opportunity and are offered across all programs or specifically to a particular course. For example, the John R Marsden Memorial Scholarship is for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student undertaking any course at UWS, while the Soukup Memorial Scholarship for Indigenous Medical Students, donated by the Rotary Club of Sydney, supports the studies of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student undertaking the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery.

A number of our endowed scholarships also provide opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, such as the Hill Trust Scholarship, and the Enid Helen Hort and Family Scholarship.

Additionally, prizes specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are offered in most schools and are generally awarded to recognise scholastic achievement.

Some donors also support students by offering the opportunity to undertake practical work or attend seminars, in addition to a financial reward. For example, the UnitingCare Children’s Services Award provides incentive for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in early childhood degrees. The prize provides financial and mentoring support with the opportunity to complete practicum and potential employment within one of their services.
The Soroptimist International of Hawkesbury & District UWS International Women’s Day Award is awarded to the most outstanding female Indigenous student enrolled in either of the Bachelor of Nursing or Bachelor of Community and Social Development and includes both financial support and attendance at their International Women’s Day event.

Dana Slape, Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (Honours) graduate 2013, was a recipient of a number of prizes for academic excellence during her studies at UWS. Dana received the Blacktown Medical Practitioners Association Prize in her first year which was awarded to her as the most outstanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student.

In addition, Dana received upon graduation, the Michael Kalkhoven Memorial Prize for Oncology and the Richardson and Wrench Prize for Personal and Professional Development.

Dr Slape, now working at Westmead Hospital says ‘The recognition of strong and consistent commitment was incredibly humbling and inspiring. In many students, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, there can often be a sense of feeling like you might not be capable of a meaningful contribution to the tertiary education environment, these prizes challenge and overcome that.’

‘The generous support from the donors to celebrate academic and leadership success stories reinforces that the students of Greater Western Sydney bring a passion and drive for success and also despite the odds, self-doubt and challenges, great achievement is possible.’

‘These prizes weave an ongoing relationship between high achieving students from diverse backgrounds and the University which positively impacts other students earlier in their studies as well as benefits the reputation of the great potential of UWS and its graduates in the broader community,’ says Dr Dana Slape.

For more information on supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at UWS visit uws.edu.au/give
For over 30 years, UWS academic, Professor Katherine Gibson, and Professor Julie Graham from the University of Massachusetts, USA, worked together in a unique research partnership that was internationally renowned for its contribution to theorising diverse economies and proposing new pathways for community economic development.

An international research project grew out of J.K. Gibson-Graham’s feminist critique of political economy that focused upon the limiting effects of representing economies as dominantly capitalist. Central to the project is the idea that economies are always diverse and always in the process of becoming. The project developed as a way of documenting the multiple ways in which people are making economies of difference and in the process realising their interdependence with others.

Tragically, Professor Graham died in 2010. As the sole beneficiary of her estate, Professor Graham’s brother, Alfred, decided to honour his sister’s life’s work by donating approximately $300,000 USD from her estate to establish the Julie Graham Community Economies Research Fund at UWS. This extraordinary gift has enabled Julie and Katherine’s work to continue, by enabling many of their former students to participate in an intensive writing workshop retreat each year. The aim of the workshop is to build international research teams that intensify the publication, grant and engagement activity of the research program.

‘Julie and I found it really valuable to write together, and now, through her brother’s generosity, we are able to give that experience to other people, and generate more collaboration within the group,’ says Katherine Gibson.

The first writing workshop retreat was held in Italy in 2013, funded by the Julie Graham Community Economies Research Fund. Twenty-one scholars from around the world, including Katherine, gathered for two weeks to work on collaborative and individual research projects that furthered the community economies research agenda. A second workshop is planned for 2014.
Your gift to future generations

Making a gift, large or small, in your Will is a powerful way to support the students and research of UWS at a level that may not be possible during your lifetime. It is an opportunity to leave behind the gift of knowledge as a lasting reminder of your life and your values in a way that will benefit many generations of students, teaching staff and researchers. It’s an opportunity to play a part in bringing about long term social change in our region and your chance to contribute to the future of UWS as a university of excellence, and to our region, nation and globally.

Recognition

UWS welcomes the opportunity to thank and honour our benefactors during their lifetime for their support to the University in this meaningful way.

By notifying UWS that we are remembered in your Will, you will be joining a prestigious group of benefactors.

The University is honoured to have the trust and support of our alumni and friends who have confirmed their intentions to leave a legacy in support of research, students, academic positions, building projects, facilities, equipment or the library and art collection.

Contact Us

Is UWS in your Will? Please let us know. By working together we can make a difference and plan ahead.

Don’t have a Will? You’re not alone! Now is a great time to start planning, and please consider including a gift in your Will to UWS.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact our Bequest Manager, Gayle Hannan

telephone: +61 2 9685 9516
mobile: 0427 990 343
email: g.hannan@uws.edu.au
fax: +61 2 9685 9510
Blue Mountains City Council rewards high achieving women in non-traditional career paths

Careers in Engineering, Construction Management and Industrial Design are typically dominated by men, with UWS historically having some of the highest male-to-female enrolment ratios in these areas of study. However, it appears as though the tide is turning on these gender stereotyped careers, as the UWS sees more women enrolling in degrees offered by the School of Computing, Engineering and Maths. Students like Linda Runnalls are changing the gender stereotypes around women choosing a career in engineering. Linda, a second year student studying a Bachelor of Civil Engineering at UWS, has been acknowledged for her commitment to her studies by winning the inaugural Blue Mountains City Council Award for Women in Engineering.

The Blue Mountains City Council established three prizes awarded for the first time in 2013, including the prize for Women in Engineering. This prize rewards the most outstanding second year female Blue Mountains LGA resident completing a degree in Civil Engineering at UWS.

‘The Blue Mountains City Council is proud to be associated with the University of Western Sydney. It was an honour to attend and give the donor address at the School of Computing, Engineering and Maths Prize Ceremony. I was very proud to present Linda with her prize, it is great to see the residents of the Blue Mountains working hard and achieving outstanding academic results’ says Megan TeBay, Senior Human Resources Partner, Blue Mountains City Council.

It is essential to Blue Mountains City Council to support women in non-traditional career paths such as engineering. With a worldwide skills shortage in engineering, supporting women to enter this industry will increase opportunities for women and increase opportunities for business, ours and others’.

‘We believe in equal opportunity for women in the workplace. By supporting prizes, particularly prizes for women, at the University of Western Sydney, we hope to encourage women like Linda to consider all career opportunities available and achieve their goals no matter their gender,’ says Megan.

Supporting an academic prize at UWS provides an opportunity for individuals, organisations and local councils to reward students who have excelled in their chosen field of study. Without the support of the Greater Western Sydney community, UWS wouldn’t be able to recognise the outstanding achievements of our students. The reward and recognition that our students receive from prizes can assist them financially with their studies but can also benefit them in obtaining future employment.

‘Being the first student to receive the Blue Mountains City Council Award for Women in Engineering is an honour. Being recognised for the hard work I have put into my studies gives me the confidence to go on to complete the rest of my degree. I hope that by winning this prize I can inspire other women to consider careers in engineering,’ says Linda.

Prizes are a great way for the Greater Western Sydney community to be involved with our elite students. For more information on how you can be involved with prizes at UWS visit uws.edu.au/prizes
215 total prize recipients in 2013

17% increase in recipients

$125,550 total value of prizes to recipients in 2013

35% increase in value

2012 2013

17% increase

35% increase
Fundraising event raises over $15,000 for Law Scholarship

On 27th November, the wife of the late Robert Hayes, Elayne Hayes, hosted an event in his honour to raise money for the Robert Hayes Memorial Scholarship.

Dr Robert Hayes was a much loved lecturer and Associate Professor in the School of Law. He was committed to providing the highest quality legal education to his students.

The fundraising event was held at Tokonoma, a Surry Hills restaurant, and the guest list included distinguished guests from the law profession, colleagues, friends and family of Dr Robert Hayes, UWS staff, students and Alumni. The event included a silent auction and a raffle, raising over $15,000 to support UWS students studying law.

Attending the event was the current recipient of the Robert Hayes Memorial Scholarship, Mel Pudig. Mel is a fourth year UWS student studying a Bachelor of Business and Commerce/Bachelor of Laws. Her passion for law and her appreciation of the work of Dr Robert Hayes was evident in the stirring speech she made. The success of this event was due to the commitment and passion of Elayne for UWS and the School of Law. Memorial scholarships and prizes are an opportunity to honour and celebrate the life of a loved one, colleague or friend. For more information about Memorial Giving visit uws.edu.au/memorial_giving

In October, UWS held the Trans-Tasman Final of the Three Minute Thesis competition at the University’s Parramatta Campus. The Three Minute Thesis is a fast-paced academic competition in which research students present the content of their research to a non-specialist audience in three minutes with one PowerPoint Slide.

UWS earned the hosting rights to the 2013 Competition when UWS student Tim Paris was crowned the Three Minute Thesis Trans-Tasman Champion in 2012. The 2013 final, hosted by UWS, was sponsored by some generous supporters of the University, including Parramatta City Council, Sage Publishing and PROQUEST.

The 2013 Champion and the People’s Choice Award recipient was Kelsey Kennedy from the University of Western Australia. Kelsey presented an intriguing overview of her thesis on a new surgical implement that will help surgeons remove breast cancer from patients. For more information about supporting research students at UWS see uws.edu.au/give
Bob Ingham is best known for his poultry and horse racing businesses, but it was this leading philanthropist’s outstanding contribution to medical research for which he recently received a UWS Community Award.

In 1996, Bob Ingham decided that he wanted to give something back to the Liverpool community, where he spent most of his working life. The Ingham Institute, a purpose-built research facility adjacent to Liverpool Hospital, was opened in October 2012. The Ingham Institute conducts medical research that has an immediate and practical effect in the treatment and prevention of diseases prevalent in South West Sydney, while also having application domestically and on the world stage.

Bob Ingham and his family are very proud to be associated with the Greater Western Sydney community. Research facilities such as The Ingham Institute provide great benefit to the people of Greater Western Sydney. For more information about how you can make a difference to the people of Greater Western Sydney visit uws.edu.au/give

Praise for the philanthropist behind the poultry business

It is breaking new ground in medical research by quickly transferring research findings into medical practice across research streams including cancer, internal medicine, infant and children’s health, injury and mental health.

Bob Ingham’s Community Award was received by his two daughters Debbie Kepitis and Lyn Ingham at the April 2013 graduation ceremonies.

“We are just so proud of Dad and all that he has achieved. We know he will be delighted to receive this Award and to be recognised for his involvement with The Ingham Institute. We are all very excited by what is being achieved there,” says Debbie.

Bob Ingham and his family are very proud to be associated with the Greater Western Sydney community. Research facilities such as The Ingham Institute provide great benefit to the people of Greater Western Sydney. For more information about how you can make a difference to the people of Greater Western Sydney visit uws.edu.au/give
UWS Community supports those affected by bushfires

As dark clouds of smoke billowed over UWS’ most western campuses late on the afternoon of Thursday 17th October 2013, staff, students, family and friends faced the unbearable reality of an out-of-control bush fire destroying the homes and possessions of hundreds of Blue Mountains’ residents.

Situated on the door step of the Blue Mountains, UWS is a place of study and work for many Blue Mountains residents. On that day and the days that followed, five UWS staff members and 26 students lost their homes.

In response to the bush fire that ripped through the Lower Blue Mountains, UWS launched the UWS Staff and Student Bush Fire Appeal to raise funds for staff and students affected by the fires. The support of the UWS community was overwhelming; staff and students together raised in excess of $50,000 in a few weeks.

UWS staff members, Robyn and Brian Causley of Winmalee, lost their home of 23 years.

‘The fires came through so quickly. Brian and I were at work at the Penrith Campus and by the time we reached our street, the fire had already passed through and destroyed our house. Our street was one of the worst affected, with one third of the houses being destroyed,’ says Robyn.

When UWS staff heard this devastating news, they assisted Robyn and Brian with emergency accommodation at the University’s Kingswood and Werrington South campuses, until they found somewhere more permanent to live.

‘Brian and I are overwhelmed with gratitude for the support of the whole University community during this difficult time. There is a genuine sense of community at UWS, and it never ceases to amaze me the support that staff and students provide each other in times of need. We are so grateful for the support we have received over the past couple of months,’ says Robyn.

From the funds raised by the UWS Staff and Student Bush Fire Appeal, Robyn and Brian, along with the other staff affected by the fires, received $5,000, while the students affected each received $2,000.
In the wake of the devastating effects of the bush fires, the University became aware of the stress on HSC students sitting their final exams during this time, and thus offered University places to all 700 Blue Mountains and Lithgow HSC students.

The UWS Blue Mountains ‘Stay On Track Program’ was established to not only provide a guaranteed place at UWS but also provided a $2,000 On Track Scholarship to those who lost or suffered significant damage to their home. At the launch of the UWS Blue Mountains Stay On Track Program, Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Janice Reid AM, and Chancellor, Professor Peter Shergold AC, both expressed their concern for the residents of the Blue Mountains sitting their HSC exams.

The Blue Mountains community will feel the effects of the 2013 bush fires for many years to come. As the affected residents rebuild and try to move on with their lives, UWS will continue to stand with them and support them. To the staff and students who contributed to the UWS Staff and Student Bush Fire Appeal, thank you for your support.

‘As the Blue Mountains and Lithgow areas rebuild, it’s important that the next generation of residents don’t miss out on the opportunity to study at university. Higher education provides a strong foundation on which people can fulfill their aspirations, build their career, support themselves and their families and - perhaps most importantly for the years ahead - for communities to grow,’ says Emeritus Professor Janice Reid AM.

To provide ongoing assistance to students in need you can donate to the student welfare fund go to uws.edu.au/give
UWS Community rallies in support for Scholarships

Through the combined generosity of UWS staff, students and alumni, five new UWS Community Scholarships have been awarded to UWS students ‘doing it tough’.

UWS Community Scholarships are making a significant difference to ten of our financially disadvantaged students.

The five new recipients were overjoyed and overwhelmed by the support of our donors in assisting them to reach their graduation day.

UWS staff member and donor, Mr Phillip Costley, participated in the interview panel for the scholarship. He was awed by the students who were shortlisted for the scholarship, and is glad that his contribution through the Staff Giving Program is going to such a great cause.

‘I found the whole process inspirational, and I took away from it an increased commitment to supporting these scholarships. My small contribution through Staff Giving makes little difference to my take-home salary, but together with the rest of the UWS community, I can make such a massive difference to the lives of some exemplary UWS students.’

‘I would like to thank everyone particularly the donors for making ‘us’ realise our dreams,’ says Stanley M’Mangwa, UWS Community Scholarship recipient.

The generosity of our alumni, staff and student donors has allowed the University to award 10 students since 2012 with the UWS Community Scholarship providing financial stability to students who might have struggled with completing their degree. The University is committed to providing students with the opportunity to reach their goals. For more information on how you can support UWS Community Scholarships please visit uws.edu.au/give
The UWS Community Scholarships are a way for the UWS Community to support our students, giving them a helping hand to reach their graduation day. For recent graduate, Elle McDonald, this dream would not have been possible without the support of the staff, students and alumni who gave to fund her UWS Community Scholarship.

Greater Western Sydney local, Elle, struggled to complete high school due to a personal illness, and thought attempting tertiary study was near impossible. She eventually enrolled in a science degree at UWS as a mature-age student. Elle continued to struggle with illness and with saving enough money to support herself through a full time degree. Elle successfully applied for a UWS Community Scholarship, which has enabled her to complete a Bachelor of Science (Advanced Science) degree at UWS. She recently started her honours degree at the UWS Hawkesbury campus, and hopes to complete a PhD.

None of this would have been possible for Elle without the donors who supported her scholarship. Struggling to find the words to explain what the Scholarship means to her, Elle says ‘it has allowed me to gain independence and financial security, enabling me to be able to focus more on my studies, rather than having to work to make sure I can live’.

‘Because of the generous donors, I am able to complete my education, and that means the absolute world to me. So thank you, from the bottom of my heart,’ says Elle McDonald.

You too can help students like Elle achieve their dreams. To find out more information about supporting UWS Community Scholarships visit uws.edu.au/give
UWS engaging with Alumni

What is the Alumni Volunteer Network?
Alumni Volunteers regularly contribute their time, knowledge and expertise as they share their experiences with current and prospective students, as well as fellow alumni, participating in a range of events and activities on and off campus.

The UWS Alumni Volunteers Network continues to grow as graduates do their part to give back to the University.

Alumni Volunteers can offer students and graduates unique insights from their UWS experience, sharing inspiring stories of overcoming personal challenges during studies, providing detail on where their studies have taken them during ‘Life after Uni’, and offering advice on how alumni can achieve their professional and personal goals.

Who can Volunteer?
The Alumni Volunteer Network is open to all graduates of UWS and registration is free. It is a wonderful way to remain connected with your University, meet new alumni peers and future generations of UWS graduates, and most of all, gain the personal satisfaction that comes from providing motivation and inspiration to others.

Ways to Volunteer
» ‘Life After Uni’: sharing career experiences at student events
» Mentoring current students and young alumni
» Speaking at student and alumni events on careers and leadership
» Networking with fellow alumni and students
» Professional expertise and knowledge exchange
» Assisting on Graduation Day

How to Volunteer
If you would like to contribute your time and give back to your University through volunteering, we encourage you to join your peers as a member of the UWS Alumni Volunteer Network.

Visit uws.edu.au/AlumniVolunteers to sign up online and view upcoming opportunities.

In 2013, 45 alumni volunteered to assist at 6 University events, contributing an estimated 200 hours

45 alumni

6 university events

200 hours

163 volunteers

June 2011

2,566 volunteers

December 2013
Whitlam’s legacy carried on to future generations through the Whitlam Institute at UWS

The Whitlam Institute exists for all Australians who care about what matters in a fair Australia. The Institute bridges the historical legacy of Gough Whitlam’s years in public life and the contemporary relevance of the Whitlam Program to public discourse and policy.

A centre of ideas and public conversation
The Whitlam Institute within UWS is a leading national centre for dialogue and debate on public policy. It is an independent think-tank for the people, working to ignite debate, strengthen discussion and enrich policy development in Australia.

Major public policy projects include Human Rights and Public Life, The Impacts of High Stakes Testing on students and their families, and Young People Imagining a New Democracy, several of which have only been possible with the generous support of individual donors.

The Whitlam Institute runs fora and events throughout the year to canvass a broad range of public policy ideas. The flagship event is the annual Gough Whitlam Oration.

Schools’ program
The Whitlam Institute takes seriously its role as an educator, not just about the Whitlam Government and Gough Whitlam, but about Australian political and social history and the power of democracy. The Institute runs an active on-site program for school and community groups.

A highlight of the Institute’s calendar is the annual What Matters? writing competition, which gives thousands of young people in years 5 to 12 a chance to say what matters in society today.

Prime Ministerial Collection
The Whitlam Prime Ministerial Collection is rich with treasures - wonderful objects that capture the essence of Gough Whitlam’s personality, his government, his public life, and his times. The collection has been enriched by generous donations of material by a range of key figures, including Margaret Whitlam AO, Graham Freudenberg AM, former minister Bill Morrison AO, Senator the Hon John Faulkner, and of course, The Hon. Gough Whitlam AC QC. The Whitlam Prime Ministerial Collection has largely been digitised and is available to access at www.whitlam.org. The collection is located in the Female Orphan School, and is available for scholarly use.

Visit the Whitlam Institute
The Institute’s home is in the historic Female Orphan School (1813) on the Parramatta campus of UWS. The exhibition A Changing Australia: the time of Gough Whitlam highlights some of the key objects in the Whitlam Prime Ministerial Collection and explores the dynamic, influential and tumultuous years of the Whitlam government. The Margaret Whitlam Galleries are open to the public on Thursdays and Fridays from 10am – 4pm, and occasional Saturdays as advertised at uws.edu.au/fos. The Institute opens for groups by appointment.

The Whitlam Institute within UWS partners with donors and sponsors who assist with the presentation of key programs. The support takes a variety of forms, including sponsorship of events, untied gifts and donations, in-kind support and project funding.

For more information about the Whitlam Institute please visit www.whitlam.org
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