

Summer 2016

# Intouch



**Murdoch**  
UNIVERSITY

alumni magazine

**World Problems –  
Murdoch Solutions**  
*Research@Murdoch*



# inside

*Intouch* is Murdoch University's alumni magazine for all those who have graduated from the University.



◀ **Cover:**  
World Problems - Murdoch Solutions  
Research@Murdoch

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## Alumni – what's in a name?

As you may know the traditional names for graduates can be quite confusing:

**Alumna** – one female graduate

**Alumnus** – one male graduate

**Alumni** – a group of graduates, male or male/female

**Alumnae** – a group of female graduates.

We believe that these terms no longer meet the needs of a modern institution and society and it is time to simplify the way we refer to our graduates.

As such we have decided to adopt the Macquarie Dictionary approved Australian terms in all our publications and communications:

**Alumnus** – one graduate

**Alumni** – a group of graduates

# 3

### Made with Glove

Getting a handle on wearable tech.

### Virtual Gallery launched

Showcasing the Art Collection online.

# 10

### World Problems - Murdoch Solutions

Showcasing Murdoch's pioneering research.

### Geoffrey Bolton Library

Honouring a Murdoch icon.

# 7

# 18

## Keep Intouch!

Help us keep in touch with you by making sure your details are up to date. If you have changed your name, employer or contact details let us know by visiting [www.murdoch.edu.au/Alumni/](http://www.murdoch.edu.au/Alumni/)



## Vice Chancellor's foreword

Drug Administration approval for the first-ever treatment for Duchenne muscular dystrophy. This is a life-changing development for sufferers of this condition and has put Murdoch University in the global spotlight.

Professor Wilton's laboratory has pioneered the use of a novel category of compounds called antisense oligonucleotides (AOs) to bypass the genetic defect that is the underlying genetic cause of Duchenne muscular dystrophy. Professor Wilton is now extending his research to explore the use of AOs to treat other diseases. The therapeutic use of AOs is potentially applicable to a broad range of diseases.

Our research expertise in grains continues to make headlines through projects such as mapping the entire wheat genome and breeding a new high protein variety, which have culminated with the announcement of a new grains research partnership with China. The Australia-China Joint Centre for Postharvest Grain Biosecurity and Quality Research was launched at Murdoch on 23 September 2016 and I was delighted to welcome His Excellency Dr Ren Zhengxiao, Administrator of China's State Administration of Grains to the South Street Campus for the launch.

This year has also seen some very well-deserved recognition of two Murdoch staff at the 2016 Premier's Science Awards, where the late

Professor Ian Ritchie was posthumously inducted into the Western Australian Science Hall of Fame and Dr Simon Cook was awarded the inaugural Premier's Fellow for Agriculture and Food.

As I look ahead to 2017 and the important work we are undertaking to formulate our next University Strategic Plan, it is critical that we focus on clearly defining Murdoch's strengths as a research-led University and on fostering a research environment where our people can grow as leaders in their fields.

With this in mind, Murdoch will strive to formulate a ten-year research strategy focusing on opportunities to increase funding over the next five years; to better target our resources; and to heighten our focus on quality publications and industry collaboration - all aimed at providing an environment in which research at Murdoch University can flourish.

It is an excellent time to be part of Murdoch's continuing quest for knowledge and this edition of *Intouch* shines a spotlight on some of the inspiring discoveries our staff and alumni are making.

**Professor Eeva Leinonen**  
**Vice Chancellor**

From its earliest days, Murdoch has encouraged academics and students to challenge conventional wisdom, engage with global challenges and seek inspiration and progress through innovation and collaboration.

This philosophy underpins our future direction as we continue to be world-leading in our areas of research strength; Health Futures, Food Security and Sustainable Development.

This year has seen some remarkable developments generated by our research teams, including the ground-breaking work of Professor Steve Wilton, Professor of Molecular Therapy at Murdoch University and his colleague, Professor Sue Fletcher when they received US Food and

## From the Manager

Welcome to the Spring 2016 edition of *Intouch*. This is my first opportunity to write an introduction as manager of the Alumni Relations office and, thanks to the hard work of the editor Jo-Ann Whalley along with our numerous contributors, you'll find much here to fascinate, inspire and impress. In this issue we will be exploring the exciting ways in which Murdoch is working to solve the challenges that face the world in a range of different spheres.

Murdoch is a university that has always had, at its core, a benevolent desire to help others and make a positive contribution to our society. These values guide our work in a range of fields, notably the One Health initiative to address the wellbeing of humans, animals and the environment across a range of disciplines. Many of our alumni are already doing fantastic work to advance these goals around the world, some of whom you will read about here.

Since coming to Murdoch a few years ago I've been consistently impressed by the level of loyalty and affinity this university inspires in its graduates; our alumni carry their Murdoch degrees with pride, because they know that it stands for

something special. So many of our alumni are eager to share their memories of Bush Court and their experiences here, that it's easy to feel the sense of history as one explores the campus. Over the past couple of months I've also been fortunate enough to meet graduates in other countries and I've been pleased to see a similar passion across our alumni community worldwide.

Even as the world becomes more digital and our interactions are increasingly online, it's interesting to observe how much we all value interpersonal connection. Murdoch has graduates all over the world, and many of our alumni will find themselves living and working in countries other than their birthplace; I'm British, but now find myself working in Australia after having also spent over a decade in Japan. In this global community, it can be a source of great comfort to be able to reach out to fellow alumni and form new connections while also maintaining the old ones. I look forward to meeting and engaging with even more of you in the future.

**Will Perera**  
**Advancement - Manager**



# CoderDojo a hit with young students

A PASSION FOR COMMUNITY, EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY WAS BEHIND KAREN WELLINGTON'S (BA 2004, GRADCERTCOMMDEV 2015) DECISION TO TRANSITION FROM A CAREER IN COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. IN PARTICULAR, CREATING AND MANAGING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION IN THE COMMUNITY.

Her passion combined with her postgraduate credentials helped Karen land a position at the Fogarty Foundation, managing their CoderDojo WA project, a grassroots network of computer programming clubs for children. CoderDojo was designed to encourage children to work on their own creative digital projects with the help of volunteers to mentor and advise them.

"CoderDojo club enables young people to develop a passion for technology, to build their own digital creations and to develop the self-directed learning habits necessary for a career in the 21st century," she said.

Karen was one of 10 Australians to be awarded the 2016 Westpac Social Change Fellowship, which aims to build the capacity and skills of individuals who are working to create positive social change. For her fellowship, Karen will travel to the US to learn more about scaling educational programs, which will inform future improvements to the CoderDojo project.

Karen credits her studies at Murdoch for teaching her the importance of empowering individuals and enabling sustained community-driven change from the bottom up.



Karen Wellington is helping young students develop a love of coding



Farewell to rising film star Wayne Davies

## Gone too soon

TALENTED RISING STAR WAYNE DAVIES (BA MEDIA STUDIES 2016) HAS BEEN POSTHUMOUSLY HONOURED FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION TO PERTH'S ACTING AND MUSIC SCENE AFTER TAKING HIS OWN LIFE IN JANUARY THIS YEAR.

In March he should have attended two important milestones – his Murdoch University graduation and the awards ceremony of his third Best Actor title at the WA Screen Awards (WASA).

But he did neither after committing suicide, amid treatment for anxiety.

Davies, 46, was a talented musician and sought-after bass player who had played with iconic Australian acts 1927, Gangajang, Mental As Anything and Ross Wilson from Mondo Rock.

His brother Glen Davies said an acting workshop in the late 1990s unearthed a

passion for film that eventually led Wayne to enrol at Murdoch University in 2013 to study a Bachelor of Media.

"Wayne quickly impressed his peers and lecturers with an innate ability to fully immerse himself in a role," Glen said. "Acting parts began to flow and in their wake, accolades."

His first WASA nomination came in 2009, with a Best Actor award in 2011 as part of director Maziar Lahooti's Good Pretender.

Two years later he picked up his second Best Actor award for Lahooti's short film Heaven.

In March this year he should have been on stage accepting his third WASA for his work in drama short Lola & Luis.

Davies is survived by two sons, aged nine and six.



Michelle Hua is forging ahead in the world of wearable tech  
Photo Credit Sarah Jones Photography

## Made with glove

AFTER WORKING AS A LAWYER FOR EIGHT YEARS, MICHELLE HUA (BLAWS 2004), TOOK THE ENTREPRENEURIAL PLUNGE AND STARTED HER OWN WEARABLE-TECH BUSINESS, DESIGNING AND MANUFACTURING FASHIONABLE HEATED GLOVES FOR WOMEN.

Michelle, now CEO of Made with Glove Ltd, came up with the idea after a six hour winter walking tour around Prague left her hands numb. After conducting research back in the United Kingdom, Michelle discovered a gap in the market for heated gloves that were also fashionable. Her invention won a wearable technology hackathon, giving her the kick-start she needed as the prize included support from Lancaster University and funding.

"I love my life as an entrepreneur because it gives me the freedom to be creative, make my own decisions and travel," she said. "I do

the legal work for my business and I am very grateful that I don't have to pay a lawyer to review or negotiate any contracts for me."

In an industry dominated by men, Michelle was fortunate enough to find a female mentor who provided her with ongoing support. This inspired her to co-found an initiative, Women of Wearables (WoW), which aims to inspire, support and connect women in the wearable tech industry.

"I was very lucky to have a [female] mentor and after speaking to many women, a lot of them aren't as lucky as I am." "Our goal for WoW is to build a global community of women in wearables, Internet Of Things (IOT) and Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality, to create a platform for them to connect and support each other through our events and wearable tech workshops," Michelle added.

Michelle, now based in Manchester and London, received the Tech Nation Exceptional Talent Visa in Digital and Technology. The visa allows her to remain in the United Kingdom to focus on growing her company, Made with Glove and the WoW community.

Website:  
[www.madewithglove.co.uk](http://www.madewithglove.co.uk),  
[www.womenofwearables.com](http://www.womenofwearables.com)

Twitter:  
[@madewithglove](https://twitter.com/madewithglove), [@women\\_wearables](https://twitter.com/women_wearables)

Email:  
[hello@madewithglove.co.uk](mailto:hello@madewithglove.co.uk),  
[hello@womenofwearables.com](mailto:hello@womenofwearables.com)

LinkedIn:  
<https://uk.linkedin.com/in/michelleqthua>

## Alumnus named mentor of the year

SIMONE PAINTER (BSC EXTRACTIVE METALLURGY 1997) DISCOVERED THE TESTING REALITIES OF WORK IN THE MINING INDUSTRY AT THE AGE OF 20.

As a fly-in, fly-out worker on a demanding six weeks on, one week off roster she was just one of five females in a team of two hundred on-site employees.

But despite being in a minority, Simone has been driven to succeed and help other women thrive in the male-dominated industry.

Her efforts in mentoring and supporting other women in the field recently earned the Alkane Resources' Tomingley Gold Operations processing manager Mentor of the Year gong in the 2016 Women in Industry Awards.

These awards recognise and reward the achievements of women working in the mining, engineering, manufacturing, logistics and commercial road transport industries.

Over the course of her 19 year career, Simone has employed and mentored approximately 50 women, including several from Indigenous backgrounds, as clerks, operators, engineers, managers and technicians.

To ensure the success of female employees, Simone also mentors their direct supervisors, who are most often men, if they lack experience in dealing with women in the workplace – a common issue in mining.

Simone said Murdoch University had afforded her great opportunities that had led to success in her field.

“I found Murdoch to have a good balance of practical and theoretical learning,” she said.

“Although Murdoch is in Perth, we had plenty of opportunities to get out to mine sites and be in amongst it.”

Simone has worked for Sons of Gwalia (WA), Independent Metallurgist Laboratories (WA), Big Bell Gold Mine (WA) and Mt Isa Copper Concentrator (QLD) and held senior roles at Cowl Gold Mine (NSW).



Simone Painter works tirelessly to help women succeed in a male-dominated industry

## Life's highway leads back to Perth

FIONA MCDUGALL (BA 2003, GRAD DIP 2004, GRAD CERT 2012, MASTER OF EDUCATION 2007) HAS TAUGHT PRISONERS VITAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS, WORKED WITH PERPETRATORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SHE HAS HELPED TURN AROUND THE LIVES OF CONFLICTED YOUNG CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH THEIR ANGER, FAILURES AND FRUSTRATIONS.

As a health and education advocate with more than 25 years' experience, Fiona has worked tirelessly to develop communities in Australia and overseas.

The former enrolled nurse from Canada began re-educating herself in 1999 when she started a teacher assistant training program. She now has an impressive resume of qualifications, including a Master of Education in 2007.

After 15 years living and working in Geraldton, Fiona and her family are preparing to relocate to Perth to spend more time with family.

Fiona said she would always be grateful to Murdoch University because her study pathway had “many bumps and curves in the road”.

“Sadly, I wasn't allowed to graduate from my Canadian high school in 1984 due to being pregnant. I was sent to an unwed mothers' home and felt like I had really disappointed my family,” Fiona said.

“That disappointment stayed with me for decades and I believe I have over-compensated for not graduating from high school as I have now achieved a Master's Degree in Education and three Post Graduate Certificates in Health.”

Fiona attributed her own life journey to growing up in the Peace Country of Northern Alberta, the daughter of a local doctor and nurse.

“Caring about others was instilled in us from a young age,” she said.

“I like speaking to kids – youth that may have lost their way – and I tell them that whatever hardships they are experiencing today, they still have a future.”



Fiona McDougall is looking forward to spending more time with her family

# A passion for sustainability brings innovation to Perth Zoo

AS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR AT PERTH ZOO, DANIEL BAKER (BSC COMPUTER SCIENCE 2004, BSC BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE 2014) COMBINES HIS PASSION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT WITH HIS KNOWLEDGE OF CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY TO PLAN, DEVELOP AND DELIVER PERTH ZOO'S ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS.

"Being able to work on sustainability projects at a conservation focused organisation like Perth Zoo is the ultimate opportunity," said Daniel.

The focus of Daniel's role is to reduce the zoo's environmental footprint. His most notable achievement to date is the implementation of the Creature Compost project, in which organic waste that was originally discarded as landfill, is processed commercially and sold to the public as compost.



Daniel Baker is developing innovative sustainability programs for Perth Zoo

"Organic waste represents 70 per cent of the zoo's waste and we generate around 1.5 metric tonnes of green waste and manure every day," he said. "The project has helped slash Perth Zoo's landfill waste by 74 per cent in three years, which I'm really happy about."

With Murdoch's reputation as a green university it was the obvious choice for Daniel when deciding where he should continue his studies in Biological Sciences. He also found the quality of teaching hugely inspirational.

"Quality teaching is what students actually care about, not published papers and, as paying students, we want access to the best and most inspirational teachers," Daniel added.

In addition, a work experience program for water quality monitoring has been developed for students and graduates. They collect and analyse water samples and use the data to create meaningful reports for the zoo.

"This helps us meet our organisational needs and adds a solid chunk of experience to student CV's," Daniel explains.

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## Developing employability through self-awareness

CAN ENHANCED SELF-AWARENESS, POSITIVE SELF-TALK AND LIFE SKILLS ENHANCE CAREER ADAPTABILITY IN YOUNG PEOPLE? THAT'S THE QUESTION POSED BY MURDOCH ALUMNUS JASMINE LOW (BA PSYCHOLOGY 2012) WHO HAS EMBARKED ON HER PHD STUDY IN ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VALENCIA IN SPAIN.

Now in her second year of the PhD at IDOCAL, the Research Institute of Psychology in Human Resource, Organisational Development and Quality of Work Life, Jasmine's study is based on experiential learning strategies and calls on participants to draw insights as to how their skills can support them to be more career adaptable.

After graduating from Murdoch's Singapore campus in 2012, she took up full-time work as a trainer in a leadership development company but resigned after winning a European Commission scholarship to pursue a Masters in Work, Organisational and Personnel Psychology.

Jasmine said she opted to specialise in organisational psychology to contribute to individual and organisational systems such as corporate culture, work climate, leadership and teamwork.

She was recently recognised for her contribution to practice, winning the Young Psychologist with Talent award from the Spanish Psychology Council for her 2014 thesis on employability and development.

"The award is an affirmation that my research topic and direction has practical contribution to both the scientific and practice community," she said.

Jasmine said it was only when she applied for her PhD scholarship with the Spanish Government that she realised Murdoch University's standing as a tertiary institution. The scaling of her grades helped her become one of just 15 foreigners to be awarded scholarships out of 350 recipients.



Jasmine Low's research is leading to practical career outcomes



Newly appointed High Court Judge, Justice James Edelman

## Murdoch alumnus becomes Australia's youngest High Court Judge

INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED LAWYER, FEDERAL COURT JUSTICE AND ACADEMIC JAMES EDELMAN (BCOM1997) HAS BEEN APPOINTED A JUDGE OF THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA – ONE OF THE YOUNGEST-EVER APPOINTMENTS TO THE HIGH COURT AT THE AGE OF 42.

Justice Edelman was the youngest-ever judge appointed to the Supreme Court of Western Australia in 2011 before being recruited last year to the Federal Court based in Brisbane.

Prime Minister Turnbull has described Justice Edelman as "one of the most outstanding legal minds of his generation".

Whilst completing his business studies as Murdoch, he simultaneously undertook degrees in economics and law at the University of WA.

Justice Edelman completed his articles of clerkship with Blake Dawson and was admitted to practice in 1998.

Following his acceptance into the law profession, Professor Edelman was named Western Australia's Rhodes Scholar and completed his doctorate at Oxford University three years later.

Justice Edelman has continued to work in both academic and legal professions throughout his career.

Justice Edelman lectured at universities in Australia, Britain, Europe and the United States, and in 2008, he was appointed Professor of the Law of Obligations at

Oxford University, becoming the youngest professor of law in the university's history.

He has also practised at the bar in both Perth and London before joining the WA Supreme Court in 2011 at the age of 37, one of the youngest judges ever appointed.

Justice Edelman has continued his relationship with Murdoch University since graduation.

From 2013 until his departure to the Federal bench in Queensland 2014, Justice Edelman was also a member of the Dean's External Advisory Group at Murdoch Law School.

The Dean of the Law School, Professor Jürgen Bröhmer, described Justice Edelman's appointment as "breathhtaking and awesome" and said "that Justice Edelman's career path and speed is fairly unique not only in Australia but throughout the world."

Professor Bröhmer added that Justice Edelman's appointment at such a young age is also astounding because it is on the basis of a wealth of professional and international high level experience that few successful people could claim for a lifetime.

"A bit frightening, really, for those of us who also thought they had been around the block a bit", he added with admiration.

"Obviously I am now hoping that his connection to our Law School will bring him back here as a speaker in the not too distant future".

## A successful percentage



PERTH FILMMAKER STEPHEN MCCALLUM (BA MEDIA STUDIES 2001) HAS EMBARKED ON HIS NEXT BIG THING – HIS FIRST FEATURE FILM, THANKS TO A \$750,000 GRANT

AIMED AT UNCOVERING, INSPIRING AND DEVELOPING LOCAL TALENT.

McCallum, along with writer Matt Nable and producers Jamie Hilton and Michael Pontin, are the recipients of the 2016 West Coast Visions grant, one of Screenwest's largest funds, which will help bring bikie drama 1% to the screen.

"It's a Shakespearean tale of loyalty, brotherhood and betrayal set in an outlaw motorcycle club, so it's kind of like Macbeth on wheels," Stephen said.

Stephen said he was proud to be filming his latest project in his hometown and started shooting in mid-November.

"I'm a proud West Australian filmmaker so I'm very excited to direct my first feature film in Perth," he said.

One of Stephen's highest profile works has been the marriage equality advertisement It's Time, which was produced for advocacy organisation GetUp! The ad went viral in 2011 and has drawn 16 million views on YouTube.

He also worked as a director's assistant on the Channel 9 series Gallipoli and his resume boasts a plethora of dramas, commercials and music videos.

Stephen said it was ironic he had forged a career in film since graduating from Murdoch University with a Bachelor of Arts in Media Studies in 2001, because it was not his ultimate goal.

"When I studied film at uni, I was the only one in my class who didn't want to be a director. I only ever wanted to shoot experimental music videos. It's funny that this career has ultimately found me and now I couldn't imagine doing anything else," he said.

"Murdoch was a really good start in terms of me learning how to express myself visually, collaborating with a team and having the opportunity to explore and experiment to find your voice."



# Virtual Gallery launched

The New Bathers by Anne Zahalka  
 2013, Type C photograph  
 Murdoch University Art Collection  
 Artist represented by Arc One Gallery, Melbourne

There are exciting times ahead for Murdoch University's renowned Art Collection. Founded in 1974 with donations from Rix Weaver, Peggy Perrins Shaw and Surveyor-General John Morgan, the Collection has grown and developed over the intervening years and now holds more than 1600 works, which are displayed across campuses at Murdoch, Rockingham and Peel, including a small dedicated exhibition space at the South Street library. A new larger dedicated gallery is currently under construction and the University's new Student Hub will also feature an impressive range of existing art and new commissioned works.

The collection has also recently launched itself into the virtual realm with a dedicated Instagram virtual gallery - [murdochuniversity\\_art](https://www.instagram.com/murdochuniversity_art).

Art Curator Mark Stewart believes this new foray will increase the reach and audience for Murdoch's collection.

"We have an incredibly striking and cohesive art collection that has been carefully acquired through commission, purchase or through the generosity of our donors. Instagram provides us with an opportunity to showcase these works to a much wider audience than just the Murdoch community," he said.

"The new account features a range of art works and artists including Anne Zahalka, one of Australia's most highly-regarded photo-media artists. It's really exciting to be able to share works like The New Bathers online, where people from all over the world can like, comment on and engage with the individual pieces and the collection as a whole."

The account is managed by Art Collection Assistant Jane Tangney and Mark explains how much dedication is required to establish and maintain this new virtual gallery.

"The Instagram Gallery was Jane's brainchild and she works incredibly hard to ensure the images are uploaded at the highest possible quality and in an order that really does justice to the collection and the individual pieces. She is adding new images every week and we are starting to get a real conversation going about the collection with our followers and the Instagram community," he said.

You can find the Art Collection on Instagram by searching for [murdochuniversity\\_art](https://www.instagram.com/murdochuniversity_art) or via the URL [www.instagram.com/murdochuniversity\\_art/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/murdochuniversity_art/?hl=en)

# Sowing the seeds of success

COLLABORATIVE INNOVATION HAS BEEN THE BACKBONE OF DEREK BARTLEM'S (BSC (HONS) 1998) 19 YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, WHICH HAS FOCUSED ON HOW PLANTS RESPOND TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES AT CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR LEVELS.

Now the head of Research USA for international plant breeding company KWS, Derek is also the Managing Director of the company's new research facility in St Louis, North America.

Prior to the post he served as Associate Professor at Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan and worked at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York and Murdoch University, where he actively promoted research collaborations with American, Japanese and Australian scientists.

"One of the things that has really had an impact on me is realising that the way to succeed is not by blocking others or trying to do it on your own, but rather by encouraging innovation around you and that working well with others will lead to success," Derek said.

"Collaboration, and a willingness to adjust your ideas based on the input of others, only makes things better.

"Innovation shines when you bring different experiences and backgrounds together and challenge ideas from all viewpoints."

Derek said Murdoch University and its scientists were one of the main reasons he had continued to be successful even though he graduated almost two decades ago.

"I would say both my time at Murdoch from 1992 to 1998 and then my interactions with Murdoch and collaborations from 2007 to 2013 are key factors that have led me to where I am today," he said.

"I left Murdoch not only with a depth of knowledge but also strong hands-on experience and practical 'real-life' knowledge that was immediately applicable and put me at an advantage amongst my peers while working in other countries."



Encouraging collaboration has underpinned Derek Bartlem's career success

## Innovative approach to collective learning



David Tham is creating innovation opportunities for young people

DAVID THAM (BA MEDIA STUDIES 1999, BA COMMUNICATION AND CULTURAL STUDIES (HONS) 2000) IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF A NEW INNOVATIVE MOVEMENT TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF STRUCTURAL UNEMPLOYMENT IN AUSTRALIA AND ASIA.

According to David, structural unemployment refers to joblessness from industrial reorganisation, typically due to technological change – an issue from which graduates are not immune.

This year he launched a project to connect with alumni from WA universities in Singapore to determine what they have created for themselves in life and career. The interviews are expected to be rolled out to alumni in other countries across the Asia Pacific region.

The project targets university students, graduates, staff and alumni, encouraging them to have in-depth conversations about creating a shift in mindset to create initiatives for themselves with guidance from experienced mentors.

"In Perth, my colleagues and I have started conversations at Murdoch University because

we see graduates as the university's greatest innovation," he said.

After graduating from Murdoch, David worked as a medical technology journalist in Singapore and creative director for a Silicon Valley-based dot-com company before establishing nanoKnowledge in 2003.

David said nanoKnowledge, which began as a simple idea to create new experiences of collective learning, was the world's first enterprise knowledge brokerage and management consulting group. It has senior representatives in Singapore, Australia, China and the United Kingdom.

"I established nanoKnowledge because I saw the importance of people as the building blocks to an organisation's success and future, and I recognised that people, not technology, created and consumed new ideas, products and services, through personal experiences," he said.

"I wanted to inspire younger people to be more innovative, breaking uncharted territory and showing others how to follow."

# Marine champion

AS DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC DIVISION, DR NICK GALES (BSC VET BIO 1979, B VET MED & SURGERY 1980, PHD VET STUDIES 1996) IS A PERSUASIVE CHAMPION OF THE WORLD'S MOST INHOSPITABLE CONTINENT.

"Antarctica is important scientifically and strategically. It's really important for everyday life in Australia because what happens in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean drives our climate and affects ocean health around us," Nick said.

With over 130 scholarly articles and two books to his name, his passion is evident – a passion that began as an undergraduate in Veterinary Studies at Murdoch, where he later completed his PhD.

"My undergraduate years had a huge influence on me. The University was still new, and there was a great vibe," he said.

"The degree was innovative, with state of the art equipment, and allowed students to follow their own interests. That flexibility, and the enthusiasm of the university staff, allowed me to pursue my interest in marine mammals – an engagement that was to end up being a very major part of my career."

Among his many career highlights, Dr Gales is now Australia's Commissioner to the International Whaling Commission (IWC), having played a key role in gaining a successful outcome in the International Court of Justice case against Japan's scientific whaling in the Southern Ocean.



© Australian Antarctic Division

Dr Nick Gales has been recently appointed as Australia's Commissioner to the International Whaling Commission



World class, award winning researchers.  
Murdoch researchers are changing the world.



Dr Stephen Beatty and his research team have discovered football-sized goldfish in WA waterways

## Fighting a feral invasion

DR STEPHEN BEATTY ISN'T A MAN DESPERATE TO ESCAPE HIS JOB AT THE END OF THE DAY. IN FACT, HIS LIFESTYLE INSPIRES HIS TIRELESS RESEARCH.

When not monitoring the sustainability of Western Australian (WA) waterways and major threats to freshwater fish, he's still likely to be found near the water.

"I've spent countless hours fishing and snorkelling in the Swan River and it's something that I continue to do with my young family," he said.

"Having both sides of my family hail from country WA instilled a deep sense of fascination and love of nature, particularly aquatic ecosystems, and I want to make sure that our interactions and use of those spaces are undertaken sustainably."

As a member of Murdoch's Freshwater Fish Group and Health Unit, he's been involved in over 100 technical reports and 50 peer-reviewed articles on everything from threatened fishes in isolated river pools to the impact of climate change on species viability.

In 2014, he helped discover the Little Pygmy Perch (*Nannoperca pygmaea* sp. nov.) in South West WA and since then has been on the trail of invasive feral fish in the area, including football-sized goldfish in the Vasse River and the mosquito fish, known as the cane toad of fish.

## Healthy ageing a goal for neuroscientist

BEHAVIOURAL NEUROLOGIST DR ANN-MAREE VALLENCE IS OUT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR AGEING POPULATION.

“My aim is to understand causes of age-related impairments in voluntary movement in older people – why they move slowly, have poor coordination, and are more likely to experience a fall,” she said.

Her work uses transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) to measure neural activity, specifically which brain areas become excitable for certain activities.

“I’m particularly interested in brain connectivity – for instance, understanding how the area of the brain responsible for planning a movement is connected to the area responsible for executing that movement,” Anne-Marree said.

“If we find that connectivity is deficient in the aging brain, we can design interventions and enable people to age more healthily.”

Dr Vallence was drawn to Murdoch for several reasons, including the University’s commitment to developing the neuroscience stream and its close proximity to Fiona Stanley Hospital and the State Rehabilitation Service.



Dr Anne-Marree Vallence is using transcranial magnetic stimulation to help prevent falls in older people

## Taking research to the marketplace

AS DEAN OF THE SIR WALTER MURDOCH SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, PROFESSOR BENJAMIN REILLY IS ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR TALENTED STAFF AND STUDENTS.

Established in 2013, the school is already ranked as one of Australia’s best for policy, politics and international studies, an achievement Professor Reilly attributes to engagement.

“Being a good researcher means involvement with real-world events and issues,” he said.

“You have to have something to say, be credible and authoritative with your evidence and be willing to put your views into the marketplace of ideas.”

Leading by example, Professor Reilly has penned over 100 scholarly papers,

writes regularly on Australian politics and democracy in Asia and consults with a who’s who of international agencies and governments.

This includes the United Nations and Australian government as well as countries transitioning to democracy, such as Myanmar, Papua New Guinea and Egypt.

“These countries want to know how other nations have navigated complex issues such as setting up fair electoral systems and improving relationships with previously marginalised groups like regional minorities and women,” he added.

As for WA, he sees great potential.

“In a global world, Perth is evolving into the fulcrum on which Australia and the Indo-Pacific region tilts,” he said.



Professor Benjamin Reilly leads one of Australia’s best ranked schools for policy, politics and international studies

## Profiling a world expert in forensic science

FOR ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JAMES SPEERS, WORKING IN SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST VOLATILE CONFLICT ZONES HAS GONE HAND-IN-HAND WITH BEING AN AUTHORITY ON SEVERAL FORENSIC DISCIPLINES.

His career has seen him responsible for developing forensic services for the United Nations and the European Union in the Middle-East (Jordan/West Bank), Poland and Turkey.

Before starting at Murdoch University in 2014, he led a United Nations project to develop forensic services and legal frameworks in the West Bank, Palestine which aimed to reduce the reliance on confession based policing in favour of forensic science that provided corroborative evidence.

Associate Professor Speers has also served as a principal forensic advisor for the Northern Ireland Police Service providing scientific and strategic advice in the forensic investigation of more than 500 crimes including terrorism offences, murders and cold case reviews.

"I became involved in this field because I wanted to practice forensic science to support the greater community and the



Working across forensic disciplines Associate Professor James Speers is a world expert

delivery of justice during the period of armed conflict in Northern Ireland," he said.

"My specialities now involve most forensic disciplines but I am noted for the development of methods for the detection of trace explosive and firearm residues and as a forensic biologist with expertise in blood pattern analysis, sexual offences and sexually motivated murders."

At Murdoch, Associate Professor Speers is the academic chair for the Master in Forensic Science (Professional Practice) program.

His research has included the detection and profiling of drugs of abuse, including ecstasy and new psychoactive substances; as well as developing remote sensors to covertly detect explosives.

Associate Professor Speers counts the development of Sexual Assault Referral Centres and the training of forensic doctors in the West Bank, Palestine among his career highlights.

"This resulted in the humane support and advanced examination of victims of sexual abuse and honour crimes," he said.



Professor Yonglin Ren is working to reduce an expensive pest, the Mediterranean fruit fly (inset)

## New research unit set to fly

AS DIRECTOR OF MURDOCH'S POST-HARVEST PLANT BIOSECURITY AND FOOD LABORATORY, PROFESSOR YONGLIN REN IS EAGER TO GET TO WORK ON THE UNIVERSITY'S LATEST RESEARCH PROJECT, THE \$5 MILLION MEDFLY UNIT.

A major pest for Australia's \$9 billion horticulture industry, the Mediterranean fruit fly (Medfly) spoils up to 15 per cent of stone fruit and is a problem for exporters, particularly with recent bans on wide-spectrum chemical insecticides.

This is where Professor Ren's expertise comes in, with more than 30 years of experience that includes developing food-grade and non-chemical treatments to reduce insect damage within the grain and fruit industry.

"With the world's population set to reach 9 billion by 2050, our challenge is not only how to grow more food, but how to protect what we've grown and harvested in a clean, green and environmentally friendly way and to ensure that food safety is directly related with human health," Professor Ren said.

The Medfly Unit officially launched in September 2016.



Professor Helena Grehan with Professor Peter Eckersall, City University of New York

## Imaginative disruptions

APPROACHING MURDOCH UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR HELENA GREHAN'S RESEARCH CAN BE DAUNTING, AS HER WRITING'S ANALYTICAL NATURE BELIES THE AGITATION AND INSURGENCY OF ITS IDEAS.

Her latest Australian research Council (ARC) funded research project is out to show how theatre, fringe acts, public performance and apps open up new ways for people to engage with one another and contest social norms.

"We're living in an era of consensus where we're encouraged to conform and consume and not ask difficult questions or disagree with the decisions being made by governments and corporations," she said.

"I'm interested in how art can disrupt that – triggering our imaginations and making us unexpectedly, and often abruptly, aware of traps of thinking and behaviour patterns."

She is particularly interested in how audiences deal with ambiguity – how unresolved questions can follow individuals home and demand consideration.

It is a dynamic she thrives on, having recently become fascinated with an app called Karen by Blast Theory and the University of Nottingham which sees users interact with a Skype-based 'life coach'.

The aim is to make participants conscious of how much information they willingly hand over through the internet and what this might mean.

"I thought I was being guarded, but was shocked at how much I revealed," Professor Grehan said.

# World problem – Murdoch solution

ACCORDING TO ESTIMATES, GLOBAL DEMAND FOR WATER IS EXPECTED TO DOUBLE BY 2050, WITH A SHORTFALL IN SUPPLY HITTING 40 PER CENT BY 2030 ALONE. EVEN MORE CONCERNING, 40 PER CENT OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION ALREADY LIVE IN WATER-SCARCE REGIONS.

While the problem is significant and global, Professor Wendell Ela suggests solutions may be small-scale and local.

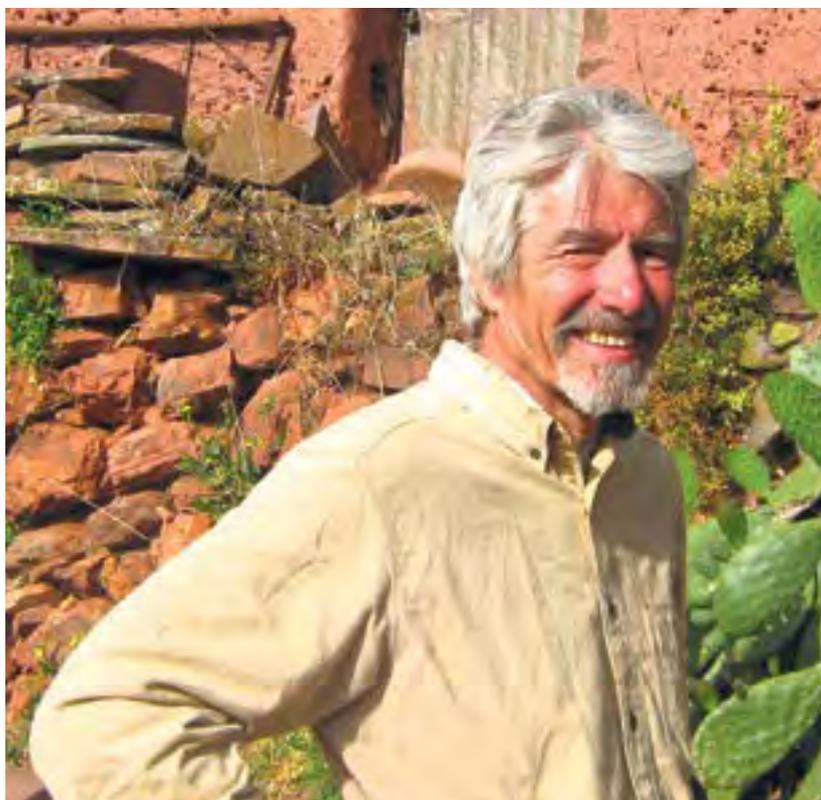
As Murdoch's inaugural Chair of Desalination and Water Treatment and Chief Scientific Officer of the National Centre of Excellence in Desalination Australia, he's out to put theory into practice in Western Australia's drought-hit Wheatbelt.

"I'm working on a project designed to determine the region's water portfolio, including impaired groundwater, with an aim to deploy small on-site desalination units for specific farms," he said.

"These would be powered by renewable energy sources, so they would be self-sustaining and would reduce the need for piping in water, thus making better use of local resources, economically and environmentally.

"It is water-intensive industries such as agriculture and mining where we're going to see the most change in terms of innovative water use and small-scale desalination in the future."

Professor Ela came to Murdoch in 2015 from the University of Arizona, drawn by WA's water challenges and the commitment of the university and local stakeholders to find research solutions.



Professor Wendell Ela is researching small-scale, local solutions to the world's water shortage

# A fearless fascination

FEARLESS IS A WORD THAT COMES TO MIND WHEN YOU MEET DR JACQUI BAKER.

The sentiment is evident in her ABC Radio National documentary *Eat Pray Mourn: Crime and Punishment in Jakarta*, a blunt look at life in the slums, vigilante justice and human perseverance.

“At the heart of my research is an exploration of how power is negotiated in Indonesia, including police corruption and the somewhat blurry line between certain state actors and criminal interests,” she said.

Despite this often dark focus, her relationship with the country is much more ambiguous, with frustration offset by a fascination which began as an undergraduate.

“I first went to Yogyakarta on exchange through the Australian Consortium for 'In-Country' Indonesian Studies (ACICIS) Study Indonesia program, founded at Murdoch by Professor David Hill,” she said.

“I became infused with, and infected by, the country, with its chaos and colour and the life of the people, who were entering a new political life after the fall of Suharto.”

Following a PhD at the London School of Economics and Political Science, Dr Baker embraced a position with Murdoch's Asia Research Centre (ARC).

“There is a deep and established academic canon of thought at the ARC, one crafted and nurtured over the past 25 years. I feel part of a living legacy.”



Dr Jacqui Baker lecturing on power and politics in Indonesia

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## Murdoch researchers develop new muscular dystrophy treatment

THE INTERNATIONAL DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY (DMD) COMMUNITY HAS APPLAUDED THE DECISION BY THE US FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) TO APPROVE A DRUG DEVELOPED IN PERTH BY WA RESEARCHERS, HERALDING A NEW FRONTIER IN THE TREATMENT OF DMD.

Close to two decades of research undertaken by a group led by Steve Wilton, Professor of Molecular Therapy at Murdoch University and Director of the Western Australian Neuroscience Research Institute (WANRI) and his colleague, Professor Sue Fletcher has culminated in the first ever treatment to drastically improve the health and wellbeing of DMD sufferers.

“Duchenne muscular dystrophy mainly affects boys, where every muscle in their body — including their heart — deteriorates, eventually leading to loss of life,” said Professor Wilton.

Clinical trials of the drug, Exondys 51, in the United States indicate that treatment reduces the severity of the disease by

delaying the loss of muscle function. Boys, who have previously been told they are incurable, are still able to walk into their mid- to late-teens and potentially beyond.

“Through the trials we’ve seen the progression of these kids doing things they would not ordinarily be doing. Boys who would normally be in wheelchairs are instead running around playing football, jumping into cars,” continued Professor Wilton.

Professor David Morrison, Murdoch University Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and Innovation, praised the success of the researchers and the new drug.

“Murdoch University could not be prouder of Steve and Sue for their commitment and dedication to this ground-breaking research. It is not often researchers can take an idea from a concept through to market, but to see children benefiting from the product is extraordinary,” Professor Morrison said.

Exondys 51 is now licensed to the US pharmaceutical company Sarepta Therapeutics and will become available on prescription to DMD sufferers worldwide.



Professors Sue Fletcher and Steve Wilton have worked hard to improve the lives of Duchenne muscular dystrophy sufferers

## Public access to wheat genome to revolutionise farming

WHEAT IS THE STAPLE FOOD FOR MORE THAN A THIRD OF THE GLOBAL HUMAN POPULATION AND ACCOUNTS FOR 20 PER CENT OF ALL CALORIES CONSUMED IN THE WORLD.

Murdoch University researchers have played a crucial role in research that will revolutionise the world's wheat growing community.

The researchers have co-lead a decade long world-wide effort to understand the wheat genome through the International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium (IWGSC).

Having finalised quality control on the completed wheat genome, the IWGSC is now making this breakthrough resource publicly available.

Wheat breeders and scientists around the world will be able to download and use this invaluable new resource to accelerate crop improvement programs and wheat genomics research.

IWGSC Co-Chair Professor Rudi Appels said this new resource will help to develop crop improvement programs and wheat genomics research.

“The wheat genome is five times more complex than the human genome with 21 chromosomes, and has been incredibly challenging to sequence,” said Professor Appels.

Professor Appels is now working closely with AgriBio in Victoria to assist the IWGSC project team to work towards completing a high quality, ordered sequence of the wheat genome that includes annotating and identifying the precise locations of genes, regulatory elements, and markers along the chromosomes.

## Wheat breakthrough at Murdoch

RESEARCHERS AT MURDOCH UNIVERSITY HAVE MADE A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND PROFITABILITY OF AUSTRALIA'S \$6 BILLION WHEAT CROPS.

The team have increased the protein content of wheat to more than 14 per cent in a new high-yielding variety, allowing farmers to command premium prices for superior crops on the global market.

This latest breakthrough provides Australia's farmers with a stronger competitive edge against countries which have been delivering wheat with higher protein content to some of Australia's key customers.

Murdoch University Adjunct Professor Dr Ian Edwards explained, “The wheat market is worth more than \$6 billion to the Australian economy.”

“Increasing the protein yield of Australian crops will increase the revenue that Australia receives for its wheat, making our growers more competitive.”

With over 50 years' experience in his field, having participated in the development and commercial release of 53 new wheat varieties on four continents, Dr Edwards leads the wheat research project at the Western Australian State Agricultural Biotechnology Centre (SABC) at Murdoch's Perth campus.

The new wheat variety, which they've named Tungsten, has been tested in National Variety Trials and is now ready for full commercialisation in 2017.

Thanks to higher grain protein content, the wheat is also better for bread baking. This is a critical factor when foreign buyers are selecting the highest quality of wheat available for import.



Dr Michael Robinson, Professor Eeva Leinonen, Vice Chancellor of Murdoch University, and His Excellency Dr Ren Zhengxiao unveiling a plaque to mark the agreement

## Grains research centre launched at Murdoch

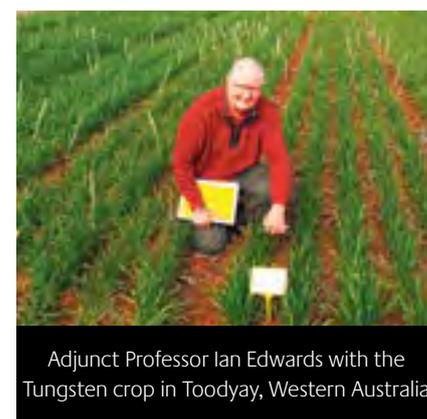
A GRAINS RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND CHINA WAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED AT MURDOCH UNIVERSITY IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

The Australia-China Joint Centre for Postharvest Grain Biosecurity and Quality Research is a partnership between Australia's Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre (CRC), Murdoch University and China's Academy of State Administration of Grain.

China is Australia's largest grains export market and both countries have agreed to work together to reduce losses in stored grain.

It's hoped that research will lead to the development of non-chemical controls to protect crops.

Professor David Morrison, Deputy Vice Chancellor Research & Innovation at Murdoch University pointed out the global importance of the centre's research focus when he said, “Success for this partnership is reducing hunger. Research will lead to a reduction in grain losses and enhanced food security.”



Adjunct Professor Ian Edwards with the Tungsten crop in Toodyay, Western Australia

# Inprint

Books produced by our talented alumni and staff



## The Sound

SARAH DRUMMOND'S (BA HISTORY (HONS) 2010, PHD COMMUNICATION STUDIES 2016) PASSION FOR WRITING STARTED IN CHILDHOOD, AS A WAY TO QUIETLY REFLECT.

"I've written since I was a kid. I think it was often due to my needing to think about things and writing was quieter and more considered than speaking," she said.

Drummond's latest novel, *The Sound*, is based on the true story of a small community of sealers who travelled from Bass Strait to Albany, Western Australia, just prior to British colonisation in the 1820s.

"I grew up in Albany amidst a strong settlement narrative, a story that I always suspected as incomplete. One day a friend told me about the sealers who lived on Breaksea Island before the British turned up. They were from all over the world. They were lawless and living off the land," Sarah explains.

*The Sound* depicts the world of sealers, escapees and renegades who have fled from colonial societies, with crews including indigenous women and children, to the southwest shores of Australia and the Bass Strait islands.

The novel's protagonist, William Hook, is a Maori man who crosses the Tasman in search of the sealers who sacked his village. To find them he joins a sealing crew.

"I wanted to know who these people were. I realised there was an amazing story in these people and the events that had unfolded in my home town," she said.

*The Sound* is available through the Fremantle Press website and to contact or find out more about Sarah Drummond visit her blog <http://sarahdrummond.org/about/>



## Seeing the elephant

IT WAS COLD CHISEL'S TRIBUTE SONG TO VIETNAM VETERANS, *KHE SANH*, THAT INITIALLY INSPIRED AUTHOR PORTLAND JONES (PHD, 2015) TO START RESEARCHING AND WRITING ABOUT THE VIETNAM WAR AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE INVOLVEMENT OF AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS. THIS INTEREST WAS CEMENTED BY THE WELCOME HOME MARCH IN 1987, WHICH LEFT JONES WITH THE UNEASY FEELING THAT THE WAR WAS, IN HER WORDS, "A DIRTY LITTLE SECRET THAT NO ONE WANTED TO TALK ABOUT."

*Seeing the Elephant* was written as part of Jones' PhD candidature at Murdoch and examines learned helplessness in Vietnam War veterans.

"No-one that is touched by war remains unscathed. The longing for homecoming is often just the return to a reality that struggles to adequately reimburse, let alone accommodate, their sacrifice," explains Portland.

The story is a fictional one that explores the relationship between Australian soldier, Frank, and his Vietnamese translator, Minh. Part epistolary novel, the book contains letters from Frank to Minh and his grandfather as well as accounts of things past.

*Seeing the Elephant* has garnered critical acclaim, being shortlisted for the 2015 TAG Hungerford Award as well as being accepted by the Margaret River Press for publication.

*Seeing the Elephant* is available through the Margaret River Press, Amazon and other good bookstores.

# Big Change, Best Path



AFTER COMPLETING A BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY IN 1984, WARREN PARRY'S CAREER HAS HAD MANY TWISTS AND TURNS, ALL OF WHICH HAVE CULMINATED IN HIS BOOK BIG CHANGE, BEST PATH.

"The inspiration for the book came from wanting to quantify, to make more tangible and visible how the experience of staff undergoing organisational change - their thoughts feelings and actions and how these influence and impact achieving business outcomes," said Warren.

Using ground-breaking research and modelling over 15 years, Big Change, Best Path shows that a whole new way of managing change is possible, from empirical benchmarking, predictive approaches that highlight the specific actions needed at any point of a change program, to visualisation to show how each part of an organisation is responding. The book describes how the insights gained from this approach have helped global clients successfully navigate large complex change.

In 1989, Warren founded Change Track Research and pioneered the development of Change Tracking, a patented system of predictive analytics. Accenture Strategy acquired his business in 2013 and use Change Tracking to enhance the value of the change management services delivered to clients which is used in more than 30 countries and in 20 languages in over 300 global organisations.

Big Change, Best Path has been shortlisted for the CMI Management Book of the Year Award, held in association with the British Library and sponsored by the Henley Business School. Copies can be purchased at Amazon.com for Kindle, in hardcover and in paperback.



## Writing the dream

WRITING THE DREAM IS A COLLECTION OF STORIES FROM PUBLISHED AUTHORS OUTLINING THEIR JOURNEY FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS TO PUBLICATION, LESSONS THEY HAVE LEARNT ALONG THE WAY AND THEIR TOP FIVE WRITING TIPS.

Lucky enough to have been one of 24 writers chosen to contribute to 'Writing the Dream', Sonia Bellhouse (BA English and Creative Arts 2008) credits her time at Murdoch University and many of her tutors for opening her mind to creativity and possibilities.

"I wrote about how, as a writer with no writing industry contacts, I was able to get my stories and articles published in various magazines in Australia and in the UK," Sonia said.

"Because of the guidance of these fabulous tutors and through Murdoch University I gained a sense of self belief and self-confidence that enabled me to send my work out in pursuit of my writing dream," she said.

Sonia has enjoyed success as a published author of short stories and articles in various national and international magazines.

"I believe in the power of stories. Stories reassure us that we are not alone, that other people feel and have felt the way we do. I hope that by telling my story it will provide inspiration for others to follow their dreams," she said.

To find out more about Sonia Bellhouse or to purchase Writing the Dream visit the Serenity Press website <http://www.serenitypress.org/>

## Fatal Cocktails



DR MONIKA NAGEL'S (BPSY 2000, PHD PSYCHOLOGY 2005) MOST RECENT LITERARY ACHIEVEMENT, *FATAL COCKTAILS*, OUTLINES SOME PROVOCATIVE AND INSPIRING THOUGHTS ON

MODERN SOCIETY AND POLICIES, AND AN ARGUMENT ON PERSONAL, CORPORATE AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY.

"The catalyst that made me decide to write this book comes from my personal experience and observation, namely, how the quality of service, workmanship and products has plummeted and how disasters, corruption, misuse of our natural resources, family breakdowns, an emphasis on all sorts of social programmes and drug problems have escalated, while at the same time people's responsibility has rapidly deteriorated," Monika said.

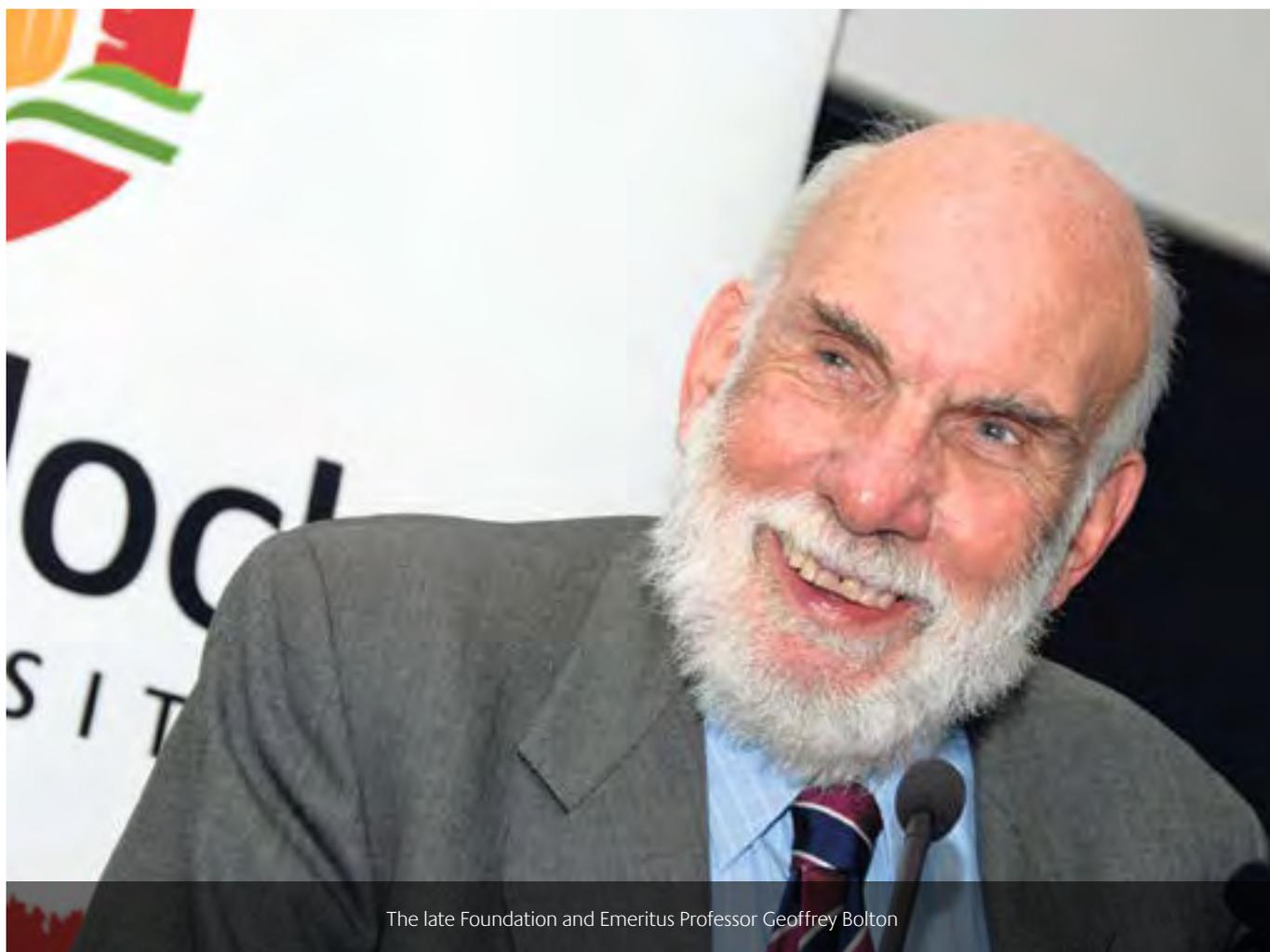
*Fatal Cocktails* explores some interesting ideas on how governments and society should analyse past mistakes in order to avoid

repeating them and to use what is learnt as a guide for better future decisions. Dr Nagel says the research method for this book was different, compared to the methodology used for her PhD. However, she credits the studies she completed at Murdoch for expanding her knowledge on world social and cultural issues and on diverse research approaches.

"My study programmes and PhD gave me an exceptional understanding of social issues, human behaviour, multiculturalism, politics and work-related matters and to see current world problems, holistically. So and not surprisingly, my book *Fatal Cocktails* takes a very broad outlook on the state of our world today and inspires the reader in a challenging way for change," she said.

<http://www.performanceconsulting.net.au/files/grabdoc.php?type=doc&id=3&cid=446>

*Fatal Cocktails* is available through the Murdoch Bookstore, Boffins and other selected outlets. If you would like to contact Monika you can do so through her LinkedIn profile <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-monika-nagel-5608b19>



The late Foundation and Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Bolton

# Geoffrey Bolton Library

MURDOCH UNIVERSITY WILL BE NAMING ITS LIBRARY AFTER ITS FOUNDATION PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, THE LATE GEOFFREY BOLTON.

A former Chancellor of Murdoch and esteemed historian, Professor Bolton was one of the University's most iconic figures. He died just over a year ago on September 3, at the age of 83.

The Library will be known as the Geoffrey Bolton Library and an official dedication ceremony and public exhibition will take place next year.

Murdoch University Vice Chancellor Professor Eeva Leinonen said discussions had taken place with Professor Bolton's family as to how best to commemorate his incredible contribution to Murdoch.

"We decided dedicating our Library in Geoffrey's honour would be a fitting and lasting memorial," said Professor Leinonen.

"Our Library is considered to be the beating heart of our University, acting as a meeting place for our staff and students, a place of learning, research and community engagement.

"As a foundation professor, academic, Senate member and Chancellor, as well as being a friend and mentor to many colleagues and students, Geoffrey was at the centre of all things Murdoch.

"It's wonderful to ensure his legacy lives on in this way."

His wife Carol Bolton said she and her family were very pleased that Murdoch had chosen to remember her husband by naming the Library after him.

"I can think of nothing that would have delighted him more," she said.

"Libraries and Murdoch meant a great deal to him and to have them linked in his memory is

a great honour. I am sure he would be thrilled with what is being done.

"I have lost count of the number of libraries in which I remember him working. And Murdoch's library gave him a home while he did some of his most recent work. He was very grateful for that."

Professor Bolton began his association with the University in 1970, when he was appointed to the Murdoch University Planning Board. He served three terms on its Senate and was Chancellor of the University from 2002-2006.

He was appointed Murdoch's Foundation Professor of History in the School of Social Inquiry in 1973, holding the position until 1989.

As the author of several books and numerous chapters and articles, he was regarded as one of Australia's most eminent historians and socio-political commentators, immersing himself in the history of WA and its people.

# Scholarship an education in hope

EACH YEAR, THE MURDOCH UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ANNUAL APPEAL HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO GRANT A SCHOLARSHIP TO A FINAL YEAR STUDENT.

This year's recipient is Kate Johnson, a Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood and Primary Studies student.

For many of our students, the scholarship is essential in enabling them to finish their studies, particularly when hardships present themselves.

For Kate, the scholarship meant she could afford teaching resources and general university fees, while combatting an auto-immune disease.

"Due to illness it is extremely difficult to work and maintain study. It has also been an honour to be recognised for my hard work and dedication to my studies throughout adversity," she said.

Kate sees her degree from Murdoch as an amazing tool for her future, helping her to consolidate her desire to work with young people.

"Five years from now, I will have graduated university and hopefully will be employed as a teacher or as a facilitator for families and their young children. I hope to be working in disadvantaged countries, schools and communities in Australia, such as remote Western Australia."

Many students find themselves experiencing challenges throughout their studies and it is through the generosity of donors that they have the opportunity to receive the help they need.

## Giving back

Many of our alumni find it incredibly rewarding to donate their time and expertise to help current students and give generously to the University Foundation's fundraising efforts.

The Murdoch University Alumni Annual Appeal Scholarship was established in 2013 with the generous support of the Murdoch University Alumni community through the Alumni Annual Appeal to assist a Murdoch University student from any discipline who is in the final stages of their undergraduate degree, is achieving good academic results and may be in need of financial assistance

To find out more about this annual scholarship please visit:

[http://our.murdoch.edu.au/Student-life/Finances/Browse-scholarships/UG\\_Alumni-Appeal/](http://our.murdoch.edu.au/Student-life/Finances/Browse-scholarships/UG_Alumni-Appeal/)



The 2016 Alumni Annual Appeal Scholarship has allowed Kate Johnson to complete her studies

## Alumni members stay fit for less

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# Alumni tell their stories

WE'D LOVE TO KNOW WHAT YOU'VE  
BEEN DOING SINCE GRADUATION.  
SEND US YOUR STORY:  
ALUMNI@MURDOCH.EDU.AU

## CAMERON HART

BAST 1999, PCEIA 2006, PDENM 2007, GDEDU 2010, PCIES 2013, MED 2014

After about 6 months working as a Student Support Assistant at an IB school in Nagoya, Japan, I was given the new role of Lead Teacher for Service Learning at Nagoya International School, where I studied for my IB Certificate. I have since also finished my MEd and the Switch PGradCert in Secondary Science.

My wife Nat has also picked up a role teaching Japanese and working in Special Needs. Our two boys are enjoying life here as well. NIS is a great little school and we hope to be here for many years.

## KIM FLINTOFF

BACHELOR OF ARTS 1989

I studied Theatre and Drama Murdoch from 1985-1988 graduating with a BA. Since then I went on to work in theatre and music in a range of roles from mechanist, stage management, front of house, technical operations and performer.

In 1994 co-founded Class Act Theatre and eventually moved into childcare and then education as a drama teacher, university lecturer and tutor at ECU, Curtin, and QUT. I've completed a Grad Dip Ed and Master of Education since my original degree.

I did find myself working with Murdoch School of Education in the mid noughties as a supervisor of preservice teachers. In recent years I've co-authored work with some staff in the School of Education. These days I work at Curtin University as something of an education futurist – still drawing on my insights from theatre and drama, and the eye-opening experiences at Murdoch with John Raser, John Hartley, Serge Tampalini and others who taught me at Murdoch.

My work nowadays involves big data and learning analytics, alternative credentialling, STEM education, serious games, gamification, challenge-based strategies, sustainability education, learning space design, research and publication, and a range of unexpected but very innovative and forward looking projects.

## MILANA ROKSANDIC

B COMMERCE 2012

I graduated Murdoch with a Bachelor of Commerce, Majoring in Marketing, with a minor in Public Relations in 2012. Being extremely driven and determined to pursue my marketing career, I was given the opportunity to work as a Portfolio Manager, within the Enterprise Services division at Bankwest. Whilst being a little outside of my field of interest, it was a foot in the door to a big organisation and I spent the next year volunteering and building my network, applying for every marketing opportunity that presented itself internally.

In July 2013, I was offered the role of Associate Campaign Manager in the Marketing team at Bankwest. The three years that followed taught me all aspects of the marketing process, working across multi-channel campaigns as well as good insight to agency and media planning.

I was keen for the next challenge and secured the role of Marketing Services Manager with the Perth Glory Football Club. This was a bold and brave move, being the head of Marketing within a much smaller team and reporting directly to the COO. Perhaps the most challenging aspect of all was that I was hired following a high profile salary cap scandal which significantly damaged the brand reputation and perception of the club. I was involved in the development of a brand repositioning strategy for Perth Glory throughout the 2015 / 16 Season. In July this year,

I was offered my most recent role as Marketing Executive with BDO, one of WA's leading Accounting firms providing Business Advisory, Tax and Audit services to a diverse portfolio of clients. My aspirations are to continue to build on my knowledge as a marketer, as well as my skills as a people leader with a view to opening my own marketing consultancy firm one day.

## DAVID KAVANAGH

B COMMUNICATION 2016

I am backpacking in South America at the moment and, last July, completed an internship for the magazine, Bolivian Express, where I had my first two pieces published.

Usually it covers a bunch of topics to do with Bolivian culture and politics. However the July issue I was working on was a special edition focused specifically on what makes the city of La Paz great - given that La Paz was recently chosen as one of the top seven wonder cities in the world.

Since we were working partly with the mayor's office I was a bit limited in terms of topics. I ended up being assigned "Topography" as a subject, which is something I never imagined I'd write about. There were a wealth of other interesting things I'd like to have covered at the time but topography actually ended up being quite interesting.

My articles are titled "A Vertical Nature" and the photo-piece "Together in the Light".

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