

UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA

OCT 2018

monitor

ALUMNI, SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS

50 YEARS OF EDUCATION

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
OF EDUCATION



Dog on the Tuckerbox:
A University tradition that started
in the 1970s as part of Stone Day
was the annual scavenger hunt.

Students were given a list the day before Stone Day and the team that collected the most items earned bragging rights over their fellow students.

Each year, the list contained a 'mystery item' and it didn't take long for students to get creative. The most infamous item was presented in 1981, when the iconic Dog on the Tuckerbox statue appeared on campus.

Students had attempted to steal the statue in 1980, but did not have the strength to lift it. More students were recruited for the task in 1981 when the statue was successfully transported to the Bruce campus.

Gundagai and ACT police investigated the theft, but the culprits were never found.

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The University of Canberra has been influential in many different aspects of our diverse community.



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If you studied at the Canberra College of Advanced Education in the 1970s to 1980s, there is a good chance you will be lost among the new additions to what is now the University of Canberra.

TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION: A WHOLE NEW WORLD 20

Technology is sweeping through classrooms as educators move to enhance teaching and the student learning experience.



Welcome to the latest edition of *Monitor*, the magazine for University of Canberra alumni and friends. We'd love to hear your story ideas, feedback and thoughts. Contact us at: monitor@canberra.edu.au

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Australian Government Higher Education
(CRICOS) Provider #00212K. UCCOR0439

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CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF EDUCATION

The University of Canberra has a rich history.

From starting out as the Canberra College of Advanced Education in 1968 through to becoming the University of Canberra in 1990, our commitment to delivering high-quality tertiary education has never faltered in 50 years.

Our community, made up of staff, students and alumni, is a diverse and proud group boasting impressive achievements, both at home and abroad.

But no matter where our dreams have taken us, Canberra has remained the heart of our University – not only as the location of our campus, but the community that we live in, learn from and shape. It influences us, and vice versa.

As we celebrate 50 years of providing education in the nation's capital, it's only fitting that the following pages capture the impact some of our alumni have had on our city. Amanda Whitley sheds light on her reasons for establishing HerCanberra as a platform for telling Canberra's story, while Catherine Townsend and Neil Hobbs discuss spaces around town and the thoughtful and sustainable designs that make Canberra unique.

The importance of early education and Canberra's role as a leader in the teaching profession is highlighted by celebrated University figure Careen Leslie.

While a lot has changed since the 1960s, the Canberra College of Advanced Education and the University of Canberra have always been relied on by thousands of students as places to grow, live and learn. In this issue, we take you on a trip down memory lane where you'll see how our campus has changed and what has remained the same.

Perhaps the biggest change in the last 50 years has been the expansion of technology and its spread into our lives. The University has embraced technology in many ways, recognising its value and role in enhancing students' experiences. I'm sure members of our community from the Canberra College of Advanced Education days will be fascinated to learn that we are the only university in Australia with a working robotic staff member.

Reflecting on the past can be both emotional and heart-warming. It can bring about feelings of nostalgia, which ring true in the case of John Grant, former Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and Anita Crotty, former University librarian, who have partnered on the Personal Histories Project. The project provides an opportunity for former staff and students to share their memories of their time at our institution. We invite everyone to contribute to this project, to have their say in writing our history.

While the University's story is already impressive and unique, we continue to add to it each day. We are currently ranked among the world's top 100 universities under the age of 50 and are on track to enter the top 50 within the next decade. Our campus is also undergoing a significant transformation as we adapt to meet the needs of students now and into the future. I am immensely proud to count myself as a member of the University of Canberra community and I encourage you to join our journey on the following pages, and beyond.



Professor Deep Saini
Vice-Chancellor and President





TRANSFORMING CANBERRA

The University of Canberra has been influential in many different aspects of our diverse community. We chat to a number of University alumni who have impacted the city around them.



**OUR
COMMUNITY**

STORY: STEPHANIE COSSETTO



Ranked as one of the world's most liveable cities in 2017 by Lonely Planet, Canberra has forged a reputation as a must visit destination. Rich in history, culture and entertainment, the nation's capital packs a punch with its award-winning bars and restaurants, cultural institutions and outdoor activities.



▲ Amanda Whitley is the founder and director of *HerCanberra*

“
To me, our work is really
satisfying and inspiring –
it's having an impact
”

Surrounded by national parks, Canberra is a wonderful balance of country landscapes with city benefits. Its unique foundation means it is large enough to host an international airport, yet small enough that strangers still acknowledge one another when walking the streets.

While Canberra is adjusting to its new-found 'cool' status and shedding its public service skin, there are numerous individuals and organisations who have worked hard to transform the city into a mecca of arts, food, adventure and excitement.

Many of the individuals who have helped to influence Canberra are graduates of the University of Canberra and leaders in the fields of communications, marketing, landscape, education and design, not only locally but across the globe.

Placing Canberra firmly on the map in the digital space is alumna Amanda Whitley, founder and director of *HerCanberra*, a website and publishing house designed to connect locals with their city and each other. By celebrating Canberra's diverse range of people, events and opportunities, *HerCanberra* has become a must-read resource that attracts over 125,000 monthly readers across the globe.

Finding herself on extended maternity leave following the premature birth of her daughter, Ms Whitley discovered how disconnected Canberra could be and saw the opportunity to build something that would connect locals digitally. The content for *HerCanberra*, both online and in print, has developed a fiercely loyal community that highlights the demand for local stories.

“I’d like to think that we are leaders in the communication space and that we provide high-quality content,” Ms Whitley said. “It’s easy to slap a media release up, but our magazine takes time, money and effort to create and I think Canberra deserves something like that.”

Ms Whitley highlights the reduction in investment in regional media, particularly print journalism, and how her team have been working hard to avoid that same fate. Adapting to the changes of traditional journalism roles, *HerCanberra* has become comfortable in creating content across multiple disciplines and channels, developing a team of editors, writers, event organisers, promoters, marketers and advocates for the community.

Since its beginning, the organisation has shed light on numerous issues that affect women in the community, including domestic violence, mental health and disability.

“It was always planned to be engrained in the community, with events to connect with people in real life. To me, our work is really satisfying and inspiring – it’s having an impact.”

The changes to the physical landscape and urban development have also had an impact on Canberra. Since the 1960s the city’s population has increased steadily, growing from 60,000 to over 400,000 in 2017, bringing with it an influx of commercial and residential development. At this intersection of economic, social and political forces shaping the city is ACT Government Architect Catherine Townsend. A Canberra College of Advanced Education graduate, Ms Townsend’s expertise and philosophy of work focus on ‘capturing the citizen voice’ in planning.

“One of my areas of attention as Government Architect is looking at how we can be more responsive to the rate of change,” Ms Townsend said.

As a campaigner for high-quality design in Canberra, Ms Townsend has been consistently involved with the community since joining the Institute of Architects and co-founding Townsend + Associates Architects, one of Canberra’s leading architectural firms. She also served two terms as President of the Australian Institute of Architects, the peak body for the profession. Ms Townsend said the Institute was a resource for developing greater awareness of how the profession sits not just in Canberra but the rest of Australia, and how architecture as an industry can correspond and create dialogue with the community.

“It’s important that we look at our city and the design problems in a holistic way, and to coordinate the points of views in a collective form,” she said.

Ms Townsend played a crucial role in fostering the conversation between various industry professionals and the heads of paraprofessional organisations, including the Master Builders Association, Housing Industry Association, the Property Council, Planning Institute and Institute of Landscape Architects, bringing them together to form a collegiate relationship that’s been beneficial to the city. Her most recent work is focused on implementing a city-wide Design Review Panel, which will in turn provide a much more detailed, responsive and nuanced way of procuring new developments.

“We have a very rich opportunity here to plan for the real and projected sustainability of the city. We need to think freely and creatively to apply best scholarship to Canberra and ensure that the future is the one we want.”

▼ Catherine Townsend is observing and planning for the rate of change in Canberra





“
The first of its kind in
Canberra, the design allows
children with and without
disabilities to play together.
”

Another pioneer for the Canberra design industry is Neil Hobbs, a leading landscape architect, founding partner of Harris Hobbs Landscapes and graduate of the University of Canberra. As the landscape character of Canberra has evolved over the years with greater population density, Mr Hobbs has been at the forefront of these changes.

Much of his work has centered around large public spaces, specifically in the education sector. He has contributed to the campus development of both the University of Canberra and the Australian National University, as well as many other playgrounds at various facilities. His work transcends traditional urban environments, completing work for Namadgi National Park, Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve and Morton National Park.

Mr Hobbs believes that public spaces and urban landscapes have provided space for creative and innovative design. One of his greatest achievements as both a professional and philanthropist is his work on the Boundless all-abilities playground. The first of its kind in Canberra, the design allows children with and without disabilities to play together in an environment without physical restrictions and represents a newfound appreciation for old-fashioned outdoor play.

“It is encouraging to see a change back to an earlier time where risk is considered desirable – playgrounds had become very risk-averse, and this has changed with a swing back to natural play,” Mr Hobbs said. “I’m glad to see Canberra embracing these ideas.” From the physical design of educational resources to the theoretical development, Canberra has established itself as an education hub. University alumna Caren Leslie and former Director of the Wiradjuri Centre has been a leading figure in this change. With a career spanning over 30 years, Ms Leslie’s leadership saw the Wiradjuri Centre become one of the most in demand in Canberra.

“Early education is the beginning of the lifespan and it is rewarding to educate young children who are naturally inquisitive and full of wonder,” she said. “Working with the fastest growing minds while developing a creative approach to teaching has been a fabulous challenge.”



During her time at the University, Ms Leslie managed the student-led preschool, introducing a new work-integrated learning model that incorporated research – a cutting-edge idea at the time. Working with the Faculty of Education, Science, Technology and Mathematics, she developed teaching videos to assist early childhood teachers working with three to five-year-olds. The program has been implemented across Australia.

Having mentored 150 early childhood teachers directly, Ms Leslie also tutored undergraduate students and was the course convener of the University’s early childhood degree. She was instrumental in managing the long-term relationship between the University and the Canberra Institute of Technology, collaborating on the design and delivery of the degree in early childhood education.

“The experience set me up for new innovative ways of thinking and programs that challenged the sector at the time. Over the years that was extremely satisfying as an educator.”

As for what’s ahead, Ms Leslie said Canberra will only continue to grow as an exciting, accessible and education-focused city.

“Canberra is well situated to continue to be a leader in early education. This, alongside the many early childhood education and care centres, provide excellent environments for young children to become inquisitive learners and set them on a learning pathway for the rest of their lives. In turn, this will benefit the community and our future.”

With deep roots in the nation’s capital, members of the University’s alumni community continue to serve as powerful figures driving economic development, social wellbeing, creative thought and public discourse.



CHLOE CARROLL

University of Canberra alumna Chloe Carroll dishes on some of her favourite things.

Chloe Carroll graduated from the University of Canberra in 2017 with a degree in human nutrition. She moved to Brisbane soon after and was establishing her own nutrition consulting business when she decided to apply for the 10th series of *MasterChef Australia*. Fast-forward a year and Chloe has just finished competing on the hit reality cooking program, which she described as “an absolutely exhilarating and eye-opening experience into the world of food and hospitality”. Chloe wants to combine her passion for healthy eating and food by opening a cooking school in the near future. She is also developing a range of initiatives such as healthy eating and cooking programs in the hope that they will be implemented in public schools around Australia.





1

PHOTOS OF MY FAMILY

Moving to Melbourne and having minimal contact with my family for a number of months while filming *MasterChef Australia* was something that I openly struggled with. What inspired and motivated me, above all else, were pictures of my children and partner. They lived on my bedside table during production. They reminded me of home and I found comfort in knowing they were, metaphorically speaking, by my side every step of the way.

2

INDOOR PLANTS

I love plants. In fact, I'm addicted to them. Not only do they brighten the home and office, indoor plants offer a number of physiological and psychological benefits. Plants are great for physical health because they purify the air. They have also been proven to reduce stress, improve morale and contribute to a happy, healthy working environment. Some of my favourites include the monstera deliciosa (swiss cheese plant), peace lily, devil's ivy and maidenhair ferns.



3

COOKBOOKS

After receiving the coveted white *MasterChef Australia* apron from Matt, George and Gary, my recipe book collection grew quite extensively. We had no access to the outside world during the early stages of production, no phone or internet access, which meant that we had to rely solely on cookbooks for recipe ideas, techniques and inspiration. Hence why I collected so many books. Some of my favourites are: *Eleven Madison Park*, *The Tivoli Road Baker*, *Brae*, *Noma*, *Finding Fire*, *Room for Dessert* and *Biota*.



4

HOME GYM EQUIPMENT

I haven't had a gym membership nor have I stepped inside a gym since I was studying. Don't get me wrong, I love nothing more than sweating it out, but the cost of a gym membership became too much while I was a student. Instead of giving up the gym completely, I decided to bring it home by investing in free weights and other equipment. My partner and I get creative with workout programs, and the added benefit of our home gym is that it's outdoors. It's like our own little boot camp.

5

FRESH PRODUCE

Being a nutritionist, I love healthy food. One of my favourite pastimes is going to the farmers markets and buying a large variety of fresh seasonal produce. My family's health is my priority and having a well-stocked fridge full of vegetables and fruit means that I can always whip up a healthy meal, snack or school lunch for my children.



THE EVOLUTION OF BRUCE

If you studied at the Canberra College of Advanced Education in the 1970s to 1980s, there is a good chance you will be lost among the new additions to what is now the University of Canberra. There are also locations on campus likely to spark feelings of nostalgia, as you are reminded of the parts of student life that remain the same.

As we celebrate 50 years of education on our campus, join us as we compare student life as it was at the beginning, to student life as it is today.



**THEN
AND
NOW**

STORY: TARA CORCORAN



GROWING

FOUNDATION STONE

The Foundation Stone signalled the ceremonial birth of the Canberra College of Advanced Education. It was unveiled by then Prime Minister John Gorton on 28 October 1968. The stone still lives on campus today – between Building 1 and Student Central.



CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

In 1970, construction began on Building 1. We've added more than 30 buildings since then with work currently underway for the Canberra Specialist Medical Centre on the corner of Broula and Allawoona streets.



LIVING

ACCOMMODATION ON CAMPUS

The original on-campus accommodation included 50 study bedrooms, which were first inhabited in April 1971. As of Semester One 2018, there are more than 2,700 beds available on campus. Over the next 15–20 years, a residential community encompassing 3,100 properties will be constructed on campus for all members of the general public to occupy.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA UNION (UCU)

The UCU enhances the student experience through their facilities and events. The UC Refectory has hosted many memorable gigs over the decades including AC/DC, Little River Band, Air Supply, Courtney Love, The Smith Street Band, The Cat Empire and Angus and Julia Stone.



LEARNING

STUDENT SUPPORT AT OPEN DAY

Technology has come a long way in the past 50 years, creating a new landscape for student communication, resources and equipment and course content. We introduced our career-driven robot, Cody CareerBot, at our 2017 Open Day. Cody helps students find their future career.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The School of Computing Studies was set up in the mid-1970s after the arrival of the College's mainframe computer, the Burroughs B5500. The rapid development of computer and software technology has lent itself to a range of courses including software engineering and postgraduate information technology courses.



SPORT

Over the years, the University of Canberra has established itself as one of Australia's leading tertiary sports institutions. The Sporting Commons, established in 2014, is home to the ACT Brumbies, Special Olympics ACT, the ACT Sport Hall of Fame and the University of Canberra Research Institute for Sport and Exercise.



MEDIA

In the early 1970s, the Instructional Media Centre (IMC) produced film, television, audio, graphic and photographic materials for academic staff to use as teaching aids. As the IMC developed, it began offering media courses to students. The TV studio currently lives in Building 9 and is utilised by both staff and students.



A WEEKEND IN CANBERRA: AN ITINERARY

STORY: CAITLIN JUDD

When was the last time you were in Canberra?
Having recently been named in the top 20
best places to visit by Lonely Planet, there's no
better time to plan a trip or explore the nation's
capital through fresh eyes.

There are a multitude of options for a range of holiday styles – from award-winning restaurants and fresh produce, to shopping for the latest fashion and finding second-hand gems, to exploring the many walking trails and taking in the views of the 'bush capital'. You may need multiple weekends to discover it all. We've put together a suggested itinerary for your next visit. We promise by the end of your trip, you'll be packing to move here permanently.



Enjoy lunch or dinner at Lazy Su in Braddon

VISITING SOLO

Start your day in Braddon for the incredible shopping and food on offer. Enjoy a coffee at Lonsdale Street Roasters and a bite at Sweet Bones, a vegan café that will blow your mind. Head to Rebel Muse for a shop through the latest designer trends or hit up second-hand store ADRA which is full of vintage goods. If the outdoors is for you, get your hiking shoes on and head up Mt Ainslie. The walk takes about an hour return and the views at the top are breathtaking. Book yourself a night at Hotel Hotel, one of Canberra's most contemporary places to stay and enjoy a few cocktails at Monster Bar. If you're pining for some good old-fashioned home cuisine, head to Chez Frederick in Braddon to feel like you're back at the family dinner table.



▲ Visitors to the Canberra National Zoo and Aquarium can now stay overnight at the Jamala Wildlife Lodge

COUPLED UP

Couples can choose to relax and unwind or to get out and explore. New Acton is a great place to start, taking in the stunning architecture and incredible restaurants. Stop off at Mocan and Green Grout for a homemade bagel and coffee. Follow brunch with a walk or hire a segway around Lake Burley Griffin, before heading to the National Gallery of Australia to catch one of the amazing exhibitions on display. Head past the Fyshwick Fresh Food Markets for all your picnic needs – think French cheese, organic wines, Italian meats and Australian fruits. Lunch can be enjoyed on the lake, via GoBoat where you can hire a self-drive, sustainable, electric picnic boat. Attached to the iconic National Zoo and Aquarium, Jamala Wildlife Lodge boasts an unforgettable experience where you can enjoy close encounters with some of the world's most dangerous and endangered animals, all from the comfort of your living room or bath.



▲ A GoBoat is a new way to enjoy Canberra's most famous lake

FEELING FRIENDLY

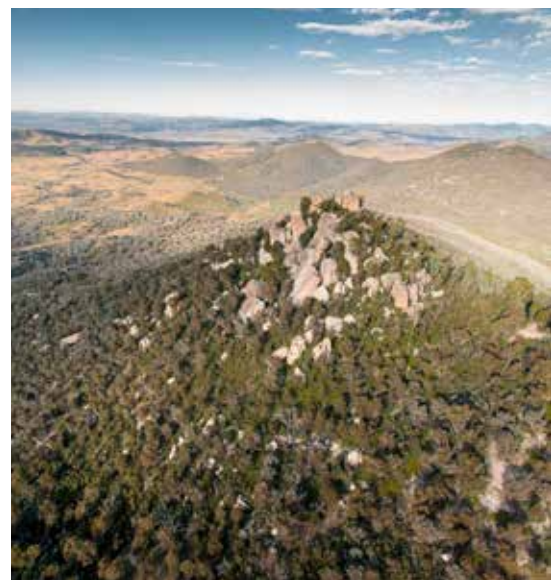
Pialligo Estate is the best place to start for a paddock-to-plate style breakfast. Not only is the food amazing but the view is second to none. Enjoy locally smoked meats and hand-crafted wines – don't forget to purchase some extra goodies to take home with you. After lunch you can relax on the bean bags out on the lawn while playing an oversized game of connect four. Put your friendships to the test at the Riddle Room, an interactive series of puzzles to solve using only the items in your room, progressing through the story to find your way out. Celebrate your victory with a night out on the town. We would recommend QT hotel for some quirky fun and to get ready for the night. Book your banquet dinner at Lazy Su to feast on contemporary Korean (cheeseburger spring rolls = essential) and some delicious cocktails. Wander down the street to dance the night away at Kokomos while enjoying the tropical setting and creative cocktails, or head to 88 mph in Hobart Place if the 80s are more your style.

FAMILY GETAWAY

Need to keep the children entertained? Questacon is an old favourite and with the ever-changing exhibitions it's a fantastic and educational source of entertainment for people of all ages. Just up the road, the National Gallery of Australia offers an interactive kids area where they can play with art, colour and technology. For lunch, head over to Braddon and visit Grease Monkey or Catch for a delicious burger or fresh fish and chips that will make you feel like you're by the sea. With any remaining energy, the Arboretum offers spectacular views and an amazing playground for the kids – pack a picnic and watch the sun set over Canberra. If you've got your own wheels for the weekend, head to Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve to see koalas, wallabies, kangaroos and platypuses all in their natural environment. You can do a guided tour or go at your own pace.

“
You may need
multiple weekends
to discover it all.
”

▼ Gibraltar Peak at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve



TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION: A WHOLE NEW WORLD

Technology is sweeping through classrooms as educators move to enhance teaching and the student learning experience.

New technologies like artificial intelligence, machine learning and educational software aren't just changing the field for students, they're shaking up the role of educators and creating huge shifts in approaches to teaching.

The University of Canberra has embraced technology's creep into the classroom.

**LOOKING TO
THE FUTURE**

STORY: ANTONY PERRY





A digital graphic overlay on the left side of the image, resembling a data table or dashboard. It includes a header row with labels, a table of data, and a circular progress indicator.

Category	Value
Category 1	100
Category 2	200
Category 3	300
Category 4	400
Category 5	500

STUDENTS AND ROBOTS COME TOGETHER

Rohan Reece is on autopilot as he nears the end of another long day behind the counter at Mizzuna, the popular café he manages at the University of Canberra's Bruce campus. He's calling out names for coffees while applying the finishing touches to other orders, the day's labour splattered across his plain t-shirt. For Mr Reece, the work is second nature – even if it is merely a means to an end. A day earlier, he received confirmation he'd met the final requirements of his undergraduate degree in contemporary music.

The conversation turns from his time studying at the University to the future. Mr Reece is currently a barista by day and a musician by night. He dreams of making a living out of the latter, not only is it where his true passion lies but he wants to inoculate against the looming threat of artificial intelligence. Global management consulting firm McKinsey estimates more than a fifth of the global labour force – 800 million workers – might lose their jobs because of automation – an alarming claim for any worker, not least someone only just entering the workforce.

Mr Reece believes musicians are less at risk than baristas of being superseded by machines. It's an assessment he's qualified to make. He has seen first-hand the software at work in hospitality as well as on stage in the form of Ziggy Nao, a pint-sized robot listed as a working staff member at the University. Ziggy Nao is the brainchild of Senior Management Lecturer Diane Phillips and has been programmed to undertake tasks including that of an executive assistant, greeting customers at Mizzuna and musical performances.



▲ Rohan Reece with Ziggy Nao



▲ Senior Management Lecturer, Diane Phillips

Ms Phillips insists Ziggy Nao doesn't exist to replace humans in the workforce, but merely as a reminder of what people can expect to work alongside as technology and artificial intelligence become more pervasive in the workforce. "We are the only university in Australia to have a working robot as a staff member and like other staff, he is here to help students do their best," Ms Phillips said. "I'm trying to get my students used to working with something they will encounter in the future workforce."

Automation is expected to have a far-reaching impact on the global workforce as employers look to increase productivity and cut costs. Ms Phillips said students had embraced having Ziggy Nao working alongside them, with many reporting his presence as having a positive influence on their own motivation levels and desire to succeed. Students, Phillips says, are wary of becoming complacent.

"It's about staying ahead of industry needs," she said. "We know artificial intelligence is going to have an increasing impact on the workforce in the years to come and it's important that we prepare students as best we can. They need to be thinking about how they can reinvent themselves and improve their skillset to become irreplaceable."



“
[Ziggy is] a reminder
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”

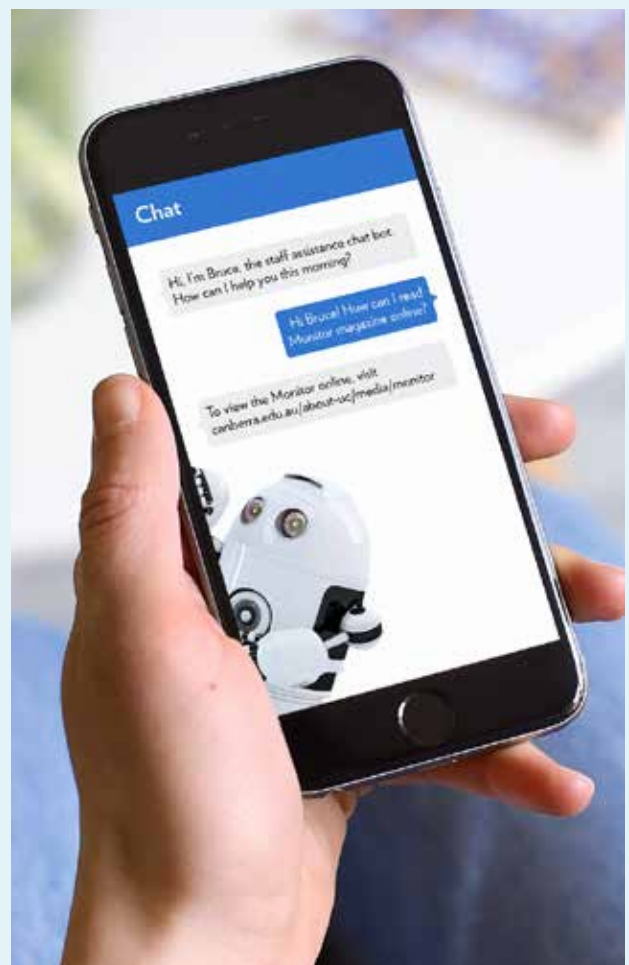
AI SPEARHEADS NEW SERVICE MODEL

The University’s push into artificial intelligence is not just limited to the learning experiences of students. Earlier this year, two chatbots were deployed to help students and staff based at its Bruce campus get faster access to information. The two bots – Lucy, aimed at students, and Bruce, for staff – were developed using Microsoft Azure’s Bot Framework, QandA Maker and LUIS natural language service.

Rebecca Armstrong, Deputy Director of Projects at the University, said the initiative was aimed at providing innovative new support channels for students and staff. “The chatbot additions are part of University of Canberra’s larger Digital Catapult Strategy: first, to promote a digitally-enabled culture and second, to build a digital environment across the institution that is distinctive, seamless, intuitive and convenient,” Ms Armstrong said.

Lucy and Bruce provide help and information, ranging from enrolment and class schedules to car parking and student services, based on content within the University’s website and intranet. If Lucy can’t find an answer, she will raise a ticket with the Student Centre team to receive a response. The University is also exploring how it might be possible for Bruce to raise support requests with the organisation’s IT service desk.

Lucy has answered almost 1,000 questions since going live in February, while Bruce has handled more than 1,500 since January. While Bruce and Lucy are still learning, the University hopes to enhance its chatbot experience and streamline interactions with staff and students in the future, with more bots and additional features.



▲ Students and staff can now use chatbots to ask questions



▲ Deputy Head of Nursing, Jane Frost

MIXED REALITY IMPROVING PATIENT CARE

Nursing students at the University are benefiting from new technology that is changing the way they are preparing to treat patients. In 2017 the University introduced mixed reality devices to help students conduct visual assessments using holographic patients in an Australia-first trial. The technology allows students to interact with holographic patients projected into the classroom via a Microsoft HoloLens. The technology can be used to augment nursing courses and provides students with the chance to explore complex patient scenarios.

Second year nursing students have been using the technology to boost their understanding of physical assessment. They are unable to physically touch the patient, meaning they must rely on other skills to provide a proper assessment. The University's Deputy Head of Nursing, Associate Professor Jane Frost, said the technology enhances both the learning experience of students and prepares them for clinical practice. "Using a holographic patient that displays various symptoms and behaviours allows students to learn assessment and clinical reasoning skills," Dr Frost said.

"Being able to walk around the hologram and view the patient from 360 degrees gives an added dimension to the experience. You can't touch the hologram or take vital signs – you're actually relying on what you're seeing," Dr Frost said the technology complemented other experiences offered throughout the nursing degree, including working with manikins and Mask-Ed™, a teaching method in which educators wear silicone props to play a character relevant to the lesson.

"HoloLens allows students to actually look at a patient and really study the patient and the situation, without offending anybody," Dr Frost said. "You're able to get really close to the hologram, you're able to stare at the ear and have a good look at the image of the patient and then use clinical reasoning and judgement to figure out what's going on. It's innovative, it's safe, students are learning to notice and interpret important cues. It is a new way of learning."



Students can use technology to learn about spatial reasoning and STEM concepts

“
Using a holographic patient that displays various symptoms and behaviours allows students to learn assessment and clinical reasoning skills.
”



TECHNOLOGY KEY TO BETTER RESULTS

Technology-enhanced teaching methods developed by University staff are also improving science and mathematics literacy among young Australians. Researchers from the University's STEM Education Research Centre (SERC) partnered with Samsung Electronics Australia in 2017 to collaborate on the development of an innovative technology program aimed at inspiring young students to use the latest technological devices to learn about spatial reasoning and STEM concepts.

The project builds on SERC's previous use of technology to determine the extent to which spatial skills have a sustained impact on overall STEM competence among young Australians. The project, led by Centenary Professor Tom Lowrie, had two parts: the primary school program looked at spatial-reasoning skills in a dynamic 3D-like world on a smartphone or tablet, while the program for high school-aged students used augmented reality to represent the real world as 3D objects on tablets.

"By using creative activities and innovative programs through cutting-edge technologies, such as digital sensor-based mobile platforms, augmented reality technologies, next generation digital signage and visual display solutions, we hoped to complement traditional classroom learning and engage the students in these subjects," Professor Lowrie said.

The primary school program involved students in Years 5 and 6, with one cohort swapping regular maths lessons for digital and hands-on activities while a second cohort continued with normal class work. The program led to substantial gains in primary students' mathematics skills after just six hours of teaching. The experimental group improved their spatial reasoning score by 12 per cent and maths by 20 per cent, while students undertaking normal maths lessons improved their score only slightly.

Key outcomes of the high school program included an increase in design-process thinking and inquiry-based learning among participating students. "The two programs were quite different in nature, but both showed enormous potential where digital tools were used in really productive ways and were embedded within a rich learning program which enhanced students' learning," Professor Lowrie said.



A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF ... DEBBIE FRIEND

STORY: TARA CORCORAN

In this issue, University of Canberra alumna and Resident Medical Officer Debbie Friend takes us behind the scenes of her life in the emergency department and at home.

Debbie Friend didn't always envisage having a career in medicine. In fact, there was never a set path in mind. Realising her interest in science during secondary school, she began studying a Bachelor of Applied Science at the University of Canberra, only to change her focus to physiotherapy after developing a love for biology.

The biggest change came while she was undertaking clinical placements as part her studies. Working in hospitals, Debbie was exposed to the world of medicine and realised the combination of science, practicality and human interaction was perfect for her, prompting her to study again.

Four years later, Debbie emerged from university with a medical degree and began working for ACT Health. She is currently in her second year (residency), and is working in the emergency department while she decides her next step.





EARLY STARTS AND SHIFT WORK

The typical working week for a junior doctor is dependent on the rotation. In the first and second year after graduation, junior doctors rotate through specialties within the hospital system to gain an understanding of the different fields of medicine. Days on medical and surgical rotations start early with a review of the team's patients. This is called a ward round and typically involves the senior doctors deciding on treatment plans for patients. After this, I complete the jobs required for patients which can include ordering investigations, getting advice from other specialty teams, taking blood, inserting drips, performing minor medical procedures, writing medication, checking results and correcting any issues from blood tests as well as responding to any medical emergency that might occur on the wards.

FAMILY

My family is everything to me. I was in my late 20s and just starting out at medical school when I got married and had my first child. My daughter is three years old now and is a vibrant bundle of energy. I miss her when I'm at work. My husband is my rock and has supported me through nine years of tertiary education. He is currently a stay-at-home dad to our daughter and is studying a Masters of Teaching. My parents have been a huge influence on me. They always encouraged me to do my best and told me I could be anything I wanted to be without pushing me in any one direction. My family has made my career path possible and without them I would not be where I am today.

SPARE TIME

I don't have much time for hobbies. By the time I get home from work and play with my daughter until she goes to sleep, I am too tired to do much else. However, I have started to get into sewing and hope to one day be able to make dance outfits and book week costumes for my daughter.

GOING COASTAL

We lived in Nowra while I was studying medicine and we love to get back to the Shoalhaven region to reconnect with the great friends I made while studying. It is such a beautiful part of the world and the feeling of freedom that my daughter gets from being at the beach makes me so happy.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Being able to make a real difference in people's lives is the best part of my week. Sometimes it is helping to make a difficult diagnosis, other times it is being an advocate for a patient or simply listening to someone's story. Spending time with and helping people is the best part of my working week.

While I love my job and I realise I am very fortunate to be in the position I am, I certainly do not love it more than I love my family. I look forward to the end of a run of shifts because I know I can go home and spend some quality time with my husband and daughter. However, I am very lucky that I genuinely enjoy my job and appreciate how much I learn each and every day. Medicine is a career based on lifelong learning and I am only just beginning my journey.

2017 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

Late last year, more than 200 members of the University of Canberra community gathered at the National Museum of Australia to recognise the outstanding contributions made by University alumni to their communities and professions.

Among the guests were alumni, current students, staff, donors, University Council members, senior executive staff, business leaders and friends of the University, all of whom watched on as nine high-achieving former students were honoured.

These incredible alumni are leaders, innovators, influencers, creators, champion sportspeople and high achievers in their respective fields.

Here are the stories of two of our distinguished alumnae.

DR NANCY ODEGAARD

Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Science (1997)

Winner of Chancellor's Alumni Award

Dr Nancy Odegaard is an internationally recognised conservator and educator who has had an outstanding impact as a conservationist. A pioneer and exemplar of research-led practice and practice-based teaching and learning, Dr Odegaard has maintained a strong track record of professional achievements and research.

Since completing her degree in 1997, Dr Odegaard has held numerous leadership roles, including her election to the Board of the American Institute for the Conservation of Historical and Artistic Works, serving as the President during the Hurricane Katrina disaster in 2005. She also holds qualifications in anthropology and materials science and engineering from the University of Arizona.

Among her long list of achievements, Nancy is the recipient of the 2008 National Preservation Award for Demonstrated Excellence and Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections. She co-authored three ground-breaking research monographs, more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, and received numerous teaching awards, including the 2012 University of Arizona Faculty Student Interaction Award.





DR SKYE SAUNDERS

Bachelor of Law (2004) and Doctor of Philosophy in Law (2015)

Winner of Chancellor's Young Alumni Award

Dr Skye Saunders is a leading expert in the area of sexual harassment in rural communities and has made outstanding achievements to generate national dialogue on this topic.

In the course of her PhD research, Dr Saunders uncovered a cultural epidemic of entrenched gendered harm in traditionally male dominated, bush workplaces which inspired her book *Whispers from the Bush – The Workplace Sexual Harassment of Australian Rural Women*. She has worked collaboratively with the Victorian Women's Trust to produce a short documentary called 'Grace under Fire', which sparked further discussion about the issue in Australia.

A passionate advocate for issues relating to gender and the law, her next research project will explore the manifestations of workplace sexual discrimination through women's voices and consider creative legal solutions.

"I am inspired by women who actively live the suffragette's motto 'deeds not words'," Dr Saunders said. "For example, I inwardly celebrate the women in Australia who have the courage to report workplace sexual harassment, particularly where there is a lot at stake in their circumstances. Having the courage to move so far outside of one's comfort takes strength and guts, but it is critical to broader cultural change."

“

**These incredible alumni
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”

Q&A WITH MICHAEL THOMSON

Michael Thomson, by his own admission, isn't a gifted sportsman – but not from a lack of trying.

A sports lover from the beginning, he spent winters – 20 of them – playing rugby and long summer days on the cricket field.

From learning to work in a team to experiencing the highs and lows of winning and losing, there was a lot to gain from playing sport and he wanted to experience it all, even if it was with “very limited talent”.

His lack of natural ability on the field, however, has failed to stymie his progress off it. In a fiercely competitive industry in which jobs are highly sought-after, Michael has ascended to the peak and is currently at the helm of the ACT Brumbies, Australia's most successful Super Rugby team.

Armed with a Bachelor of Law from the University of Canberra, as well as economics and science qualifications obtained at the Australian National University, Michael briefly plied his trade as a commercial lawyer before transitioning into sport. As FIFA's Head of Business and Legal Affairs, he helped deliver the 2002 FIFA World Cup in South Korea and Japan – a career highlight to date.

After four years with FIFA in Switzerland, Michael returned to Australia where he worked with Football Federation Australia, Nike, the Brumbies, and the Australian Rugby Union in a variety of commercial and administrative roles. In 2013, he took a China-based role with Nike to oversee the sportswear giant's marketing operations in Asia.

Born and raised in Canberra, Michael returned home in 2015 to lead the Australian Sports Commission's participation and sustainable sports division, a move that preceded his return to the Brumbies in 2016 when he took the reins as Chief Executive Officer.

“It's very important for us to develop better people as well as better rugby players.”

You've had a long career in sport. Have you always loved it?

From a very young age I was enthusiastic about playing whatever sport was going, albeit with very limited talent. But that didn't stop me. I really like all the positive things that sport can bring – be it the community side of things, the teamwork, the leadership, learning to win and lose, and so on. Sport benefits individuals and society in many ways and it's a great way to connect with people. Most Saturday mornings you'll find me running a line either for my 10-year-old or 13-year-old's sport.

What attracted you to the top role at the Brumbies?

I'm a Canberra boy. I was born and bred here. I've always been passionate about the Brumbies and what they represent for Canberra and the region. The club went through a tough time a couple of years ago and I felt that perhaps I could contribute and help stabilise the organisation. I wanted to come back and help the club return to its strengths and reconnect it with the community. I saw it as an opportunity to make a difference.

In what ways does the club benefit from being based at the University of Canberra?

Being based at the University of Canberra is fantastic. There's no question that we have one of the best, if not the best, facilities in Super Rugby in Australia. With the set up here, our players have access to everything they need in one location – gym facilities, training fields, locker rooms, rehabilitation areas. Having access to the University's researchers is also very helpful. Our staff collaborate with PhD students and established research teams to enhance our injury prevention techniques and rehabilitation measures. We also benefit from having so many willing students wanting to undertake internships with us. We have students coming in and helping with everything from media and marketing to high performance.

How is the club training players for life after rugby?

It's very important for us to develop better people as well as better rugby players. We want our players to be happy and content off the field because if that's the case, we find they perform better on it. Our relationship with the University of Canberra means players can study in addition to their playing commitments, with many currently undertaking a Master of Business Administration. We've also got a scholarship program in place to support young and upcoming players to make the transition from schoolboy rugby into the professional environment. We require players in that program to be either studying or working while they are contracted with us. There's no question winning rugby matches is very important, but how we set these guys up for life after rugby is also a key focus at the Brumbies.

How do you see the Brumbies and the University working together moving forward?

We're only just scratching the surface of what is a hugely beneficial relationship for both the Brumbies and the University. For us, having access to a cohort of very intelligent students as well as ground-breaking research teams and academics is invaluable to our work. At the same time, we provide some great opportunities to the University, which we signed on as our official education partner earlier this year. There aren't many universities in Australia that have a professional rugby team on campus that wants to work with the institution. There's good will on both sides and it's pleasing how well both organisations are working together.

How has your tertiary education helped you in your career?

Studying law at the University of Canberra opened the world up to me, literally. I worked in Switzerland as a commercial lawyer for FIFA and I led sports marketing teams at Nike in Australia and in China. The degree was very practical – all the skills I learned I have been able to apply to the various roles I have worked in. When I came out at the end of it, I had the knowledge and the skillset to understand and work through problems, which is a requirement of any job you work in. The social aspect of studying at the University was also fantastic. Sport is a people business and the ability to build relationships, which I honed while studying, is key to success.

What are you most proud of professionally?

Turning a profit last year at the Brumbies after losing \$3.5 million over three years is a real highlight. So too was helping deliver the 2002 FIFA World Cup in South Korea and Japan. That was special. I was the last person to walk off the ground following the final in Yokohama and that felt pretty good.

Why is it important to be challenged at work?

If you're not being challenged, you're not reaching your potential. It's very easy to give way to inertia, but in doing that, you can't change anything because you don't have a voice. If you want to succeed, you've got to roll up your sleeves and jump in. You've got to wake up every morning prepared to face whatever the day throws at you. I really appreciate the opportunity to be challenged.

Michael Thomson

Bachelor of Law (1996)

Chief Executive Officer – Brumbies Rugby



WE ARE UC

Find out the stories behind the people who make up the University of Canberra community. Get to know more about our teachers, students and alumni, one tale at a time. To see more stories about the University, follow #WeAreUC.



ANDREA LEWIS

Bachelor of Graphic Design student | ASK Advisor

I love studying at the University of Canberra. I have studied at two other institutions but neither compares to my experience so far at UC. When I moved to Canberra, I made the easy decision to live on campus. I wanted to meet people, make friends, and feel supported at a new university. And I did. I had some great housemates in my first year and I've followed their lead this year, supporting new students and making them feel welcome. But it extends beyond the residential village. I am passionate about helping others and my job on campus enables me to do that. I work in the library as an ASK Advisor, which sees me help my fellow students with anything from understanding an assessment task to navigating online learning platforms. This is my favourite job of the three I've had on campus – all of which I've been employed in under the University's Jobs on Campus initiative. I think it's wonderful that the University is willing to employ so many of its own students. Not all employers understand the pressures associated with studying, but the University is accommodating and flexible which makes it easy for me to keep study as my number one priority.



JESSE AUNGLES

*Bachelor of Politics and International Relations | 2018
Commonwealth Games gold medalist*

The doctors knew they'd need to amputate my legs from the moment I was born. My right leg was significantly shorter than my left and I didn't have a fibula or ankle bone in the latter. When I was 12 months old, the inevitable occurred. As part of my rehabilitation, I spent a lot of time in the pool, preparing my muscles for life with prosthetic legs. Being in the water was a necessity to begin with, but it quickly became so much more than that. It ignited a passion for swimming that still burns strongly in me today. The feeling I get when I'm in the pool, free of my prosthetic legs, can't be beaten. I feel free, I love everything about it. It's always been that way. Of course, representing my country and winning medals on the international stage is a great feeling too. But that's not forever, which is why I'm studying. A university degree is the investment that will look after me when my career as an athlete comes to an end. I won't always be able to represent my country, but I take a lot of comfort out of knowing I'll always have the water.



SHEFALI SEHGAL

Master of Information Technology and Systems | UC & Study Canberra Information Technology Scholarship recipient

It was a big decision to quit my job as an engineer and move to Canberra to study information technology. I was working for multinational transport logistics company Hamburg Sud and the job had taken me from Germany to New Zealand. I had no interest in IT growing up, but that changed when I entered the workforce. My undergraduate degree in international logistics and management engineering served me well during my time at Airbus, my first job, and Hamburg Sud, but I quickly realised where my passion lay – IT. It was a leap of faith, enrolling at the University of Canberra, but I have zero regrets. It was initially the degree that attracted me to Canberra, but the University community has made the experience so much more than I imagined. My time as a student representative on the University Council was very special. I like to make the most of my experiences and that opportunity meant I could play a role in shaping the future direction of the institution. Contributing to strategic discussions around the University's campus development plan and how it positions itself globally was a really rewarding experience. I'm as enthusiastic about the University as I am about IT.



CAREEN LESLIE

Professional Associate – Faculty of Education

I've lived and worked in various places around the world, but none of them have compared to Canberra and the University of Canberra. I was still studying a Bachelor of Teaching at the Canberra College of Advanced Education (CCAЕ), now the University, in 1971 when I became part of the institution's first cohort of beginning teachers. A year later, I got married and life took me away from Canberra. I continued studying but I longed to be back at CCAЕ. I eventually returned in 1985 and it felt like coming home. My career at the University began in 1992. I have been a course convener, a lecturer, and I managed the Wiradjuri Centre, which provides high-quality education for ACT children as well as work experience opportunities for early childhood education students. The centre is a leader in its field and many facilities around Australia have copied our model. I am most proud of the work our small but dedicated team produced. While I am not as involved with the University nowadays, I feel privileged to have had a long and fruitful association with this wonderful institution. From studying at CCAЕ to working for one of the world's leading young universities, it's been a revelatory journey I will never forget.

PERSONAL HISTORIES PROJECT

WORDS BY STEPHANIE COSSETTO

Every picture tells a story and in this case, it can also create a sense of connection.



▲ Anita Crotty and John Grant ▼ Digitising photographs from the University archives



Anita Crotty and John Grant are two former University of Canberra staff who have spent hundreds of hours scanning, indexing and digitising photographs and stories from the University's past – delving into its rich history and creating a hub of collective memories. As part of the Personal Histories Project, the duo collect, preserve and share the stories and experiences of the people who have made and enriched the Canberra College of Advanced Education (CCAЕ) and the University of Canberra over the past five decades.

Despite a combined 25 years of service to the institution, Anita and John's paths never crossed while employed at the University. Instead, a chance meeting during a former staff function brought them together to lead the Personal Histories Project in 2015; organising the archives into a single destination to celebrate the spirit of the University.

John's illustrious career began in 1988, when he was appointed as the Assistant Principal (Academic Services) for the CCAЕ. He was active in managing the transition to the University of Canberra, citing it as an 'exciting time'.

"The University of Canberra had a strong base in the CCAЕ but also an opportunity to identify as a new university. Shortly after UC's inauguration, Don Aitkin AO was appointed as Vice-Chancellor and he encouraged wide participation in creating a shared and unique mission for the University. It was a time to be innovative, and the feeling of excitement was embraced by staff and students."

John became Deputy Vice-Chancellor in 1992 with responsibility for developing the University's international activities and managing its staffing, finance and facilities. He recalls the building of International House and the efforts made by academic and professional staff across the University to make international students welcome and to integrate them into university life.

While he has many special memories of his career at UC, the annual Stone Day events stand out. "Stone Day was an exciting time, anticipating what the students were going to do. Turning up with an elephant on a trailer from the local circus in 1974 was a great achievement."

Stone Day is also a favourite of Anita's, who experienced it for the first time as a student in 1973. Moving from home to live on campus, she began a Bachelor of Education, majoring in teacher librarianship. It was a ground-breaking course at the time.

"Before the CCAЕ had the librarianship course, you couldn't do that as a major in Australia, so it was one of the first. It was significant because in that course we also learnt to code and create electronic library catalogues that weren't being done anywhere else at the time," Anita says.

Opportunities saw Anita cross the borders to New South Wales where she spent most of her time working in academic libraries before she returned to the University in 2001 as the Library Services Program Manager. By 2004 she was the University Librarian, leading the team until her departure in 2015. She was instrumental in managing the shift between print to electronic journals – a huge change not only for the library staff but also for academics.

"The library is now more integrated with teaching and learning – it's a service rather than a warehouse of materials."



▲ John and Anita share stories from their time at the University of Canberra

With an eye for detail and a technical background, Anita saw her retirement in 2015 as an opportunity to give back to the community. Her partnership with John complements his editorial and organisational skills.

"The skills Anita has are incredible and ideal for this project," John says. "But as much as our skills complement each other we rely on the support of staff, past and present, and of alumni in telling the stories which make the University the vibrant place it is."

Anita adds: "In one way the Personal Histories Project can help people connect with UC. People like to read stories, look at images and be reminded of their time here. It encourages a sense of community, and that sense can lead to other connections. It keeps the relationship with UC going, long after students and staff have left."

The University of Canberra is proud of its unique characters from the past 50 years. It has engaged many innovative teachers, researchers, academic, professional and administrative staff who have changed the institution, influenced students' lives and produced outstanding graduates who have made their mark on their profession and in the community.

The Personal Histories Project is an opportunity for former staff and students to share their own stories and memories. If you would like to make a contribution, please visit ucpersonalhistoriesproject.omeka.net/contribution or email submissions to reconnectuc@canberra.edu.au

The Personal Histories Project is always on the lookout for volunteers to assist with the preservation and digitisation of photos and stories. Please contact John Grant (john.grant@canberra.edu.au) if you are interested.

You can browse the Personal Histories stories and photos at ucpersonalhistoriesproject.omeka.net/about

▼ In 1974, the University was visited by an elephant as part of Stone Day celebrations



THE LATEST

A roundup of the latest UC news stories

UC LAUNCHES NEW RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

The University of Canberra launched its third Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2018–2020 at the University's 2018 National Reconciliation Week Breakfast on Thursday 31 May.

The latest plan outlines the University of Canberra's role to advance reconciliation and demonstrates an ongoing commitment to build just, prosperous and sustainable communities which are respectful of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage.

FIRST PATIENTS ARRIVE AT UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA HOSPITAL

The first patients have arrived at the brand-new University of Canberra Hospital (UCH) on campus.

About 40 patients were admitted to the hospital on 17 July as ACT Health began the first phase of transferring patients to the new facility from other care facilities around Canberra.

The 140-bed hospital is Canberra's only dedicated sub-acute care facility, specialising in rehabilitation and mental health care.



UC SOARS IN YOUNG UNIVERSITIES RANKING

The University of Canberra has cemented its place among the world's top 100 young universities according to new rankings.

The University has soared to number 58 in the prestigious 2018 *Times Higher Education* (THE) Young University Rankings.

The ranking, which lists the best universities under 50 years of age, saw the University of Canberra climb 33 places after being named at number 91 last year.



UC TEAMS UP WITH BRUMBIES RUGBY AS EDUCATION PARTNER

The University of Canberra has partnered with Brumbies Rugby to become the club's official Education Partner.

In a move that signals an important leap forward in the pair's long-running relationship, the partnership paves the way for greater interaction between the two organisations.

Under this Alliance Agreement, students and researchers at the University will have more opportunities to work with Australia's most successful Super Rugby club.

NEW FREE LEGAL AID CLINIC OPENS AT UC

University of Canberra staff and students, as well as members of the local community, are now able to access legal assistance free of charge and on campus under a new initiative.

The University has partnered with Legal Aid ACT to establish a free service at the University's Bruce campus.

Under the arrangement, Legal Aid lawyers will offer free, confidential legal advice on Tuesdays and Thursdays from the University's Student Central.

FORMER UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA CHIEF JOINS UC

The University of Canberra has appointed higher education expert and former Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson to the newly-created role of Vice-President University Relations and Strategy.

Ms Robinson is responsible for providing leadership to a diverse team of professionals to deliver strategies, solutions and services in line with the University's *Distinctive by Design* strategic plan.

Ms Robinson boasts extensive experience in the tertiary education sector, having led Australia's peak university body from 2011 until earlier this year.



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Back cover of *ccaesarian* (Volume 15, Number 15).

This artwork, by Landscape Architecture student Drew Carling, was published in 1984 on the back cover of *Ccaesarian* — the student newspaper run by the Canberra College of Advanced Education Students' Association.

Ccaesarian was published from 1971 – 1989 and has since migrated to an online magazine called *Curieux*.

