



PROVIDING PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGH-ACHIEVING SOUTH AUSTRALIANS

Well done to the scholarship winners for 2010

Regional Science Scholarships

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Alana Cuthbert | Kadina Memorial High School | The University of Adelaide: Mathematical Sciences |
| Jacob Dawson | Murray Bridge High School | The University of Adelaide: Mathematical Sciences |
| Kazsandra Howell | Cummins Area School | Flinders University: Forensic and Analytical Chemistry |
| Tim Symonds | Victor Harbor High School | The University of Adelaide: Aerospace Engineering |

Honours Scholarships

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Mark Aarsten | The University of Adelaide | Physics |
| Christopher Coffey | The University of Adelaide | Agriculture, Food and Wine |
| Kathryn Hill | The University of Adelaide | Water, Energy and Climate Change |
| Paolo Sossi | The University of Adelaide | Mining and Resources Development |
| Lilian Ellis-Gibbings | Flinders University | Physics |
| Natalya Schmerl | Flinders University | Physical Chemistry |
| Tamsyne Smith-Harding | Flinders University | Marine Biology |
| Leigh Thredgold | Flinders University | Physical Chemistry |
| Niall Buggy | University of South Australia | Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering |
| Evan Johnson | University of South Australia | Natural and Built Environs |
| Jason McLaren | University of South Australia | Ian Wark Research Institute, (Nano & Bio Materials) |
| Grant Neale | University of South Australia | Electrical and Information Engineering |

Scantech/Playford Physics Scholarship

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Emma Langhans | The University of Adelaide | Physics |
| Benjamin Owen | The University of Adelaide | Physics |

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tafeSA

Davey Storm Edwards and Chad Preston from the Urrbrae Campus Horticulture and Conservation Land Management program were awarded Playford Trust Scholarships. (see page 3)



Chairman's Message



I hope I am not too late in wishing you all a very healthy, safe and prosperous 2010.

While last year's economic down turn did impact on our investment income, I am pleased to report that, overall, the Playford Trust is in good form. We were delighted with the support that we were able to

provide to our wonderful scholarship recipients in 2009 and we now look forward to another very positive year. Thank you, once again, to those who have assisted our work through your donations and to the South Australian Government for its ongoing support.

Our Scholarship Committee had the difficult task of assessing a large number of students of a very high standard. The 2010 scholarship recipients are a very talented group of young South Australians.

The Playford Trust Alumni continues to grow and it is always very satisfying to receive news of the successes gained by our scholars. Ros Judson, who provides excellent secretarial support for the Scholarship Committee keeps us in touch with our scholars' activities.

We appreciate the continuing support from our corporate donors and thank Scantech International Pty Ltd and the SA Branch of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. This year we will be meeting with a number of leaders of industry to make them aware of partnership opportunities.

As you will see in this newsletter, the TAFE awards program continues to flourish. We plan expansion of this program in 2010.

My thanks to all of the Trustees who give so freely of their time with each one making a significant contribution to our successful outcomes. Thank you to our Administrative Assistant Tricia Lynch and her colleagues in the Department of Premier and Cabinet, our accountants Adamson Penhall and all those who contribute in so many ways.

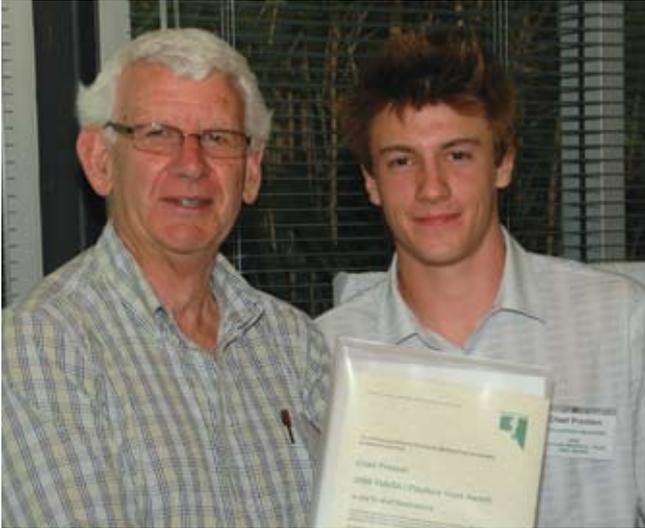
Finally a very big thank you to our donors. I encourage you to visit our website www.playfordtrust.com.au where you can learn about our programs. If you are able to assist our students by making a tax deductible donation, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

With my best wishes

The Hon David Wotton.



tafeSA AWARDS



David Wotton and Chad Preston



Davey Storm Edwards



Marlene Boundy

Marlene Boundy: Senior Program Manager TAFE SA Regional Gawler Campus reports:

The hottest November night ever did not deter people from gathering at the Urrbrae Campus on November 18th.

Chad Preston, Davey Storm Edwards and Dannielle

Denton from the Urrbrae Campus Horticulture and Conservation Land Management program were each awarded a \$2,000 Scholarship for further study from the Chair of the Playford Memorial Trust, the Hon David Wotton.

The Playford Memorial Trust has supported TAFE SA students studying in the disciplines of Horticulture, Agriculture, Conservation Land Management including Environmental Management for the past five years.

All candidates demonstrated their commitment to the environment but there were three students who were able to convince the Panel that they possessed outstanding knowledge, skills and commitment in making their community a better place in the future.

I would like to acknowledge the effort by our lecturing staff who have worked with me in the promotion of the Scholarship program – and in ensuring that we have suitable candidates each year.

Last night Bob Curley of Balanced Habitats, who employs Danielle and Davey, also attended the presentation.

The Trust members look forward to the evening and are delighted to have the opportunity not only to meet the recipients and their families, but to mingle and chat with our lecturing staff!

Members of the Trust keep in touch with TAFE SA during the year and are very keen to hear of the success of our students. They too enjoy our good news stories. They have taken much pride in sharing the success of our own Daniel White when he received the award for Apprentice of the Year, he being a Scholarship recipient in 2007. In 2008 we have seen Bernice Lawton receive the South Australian Indigenous Student of the Year. These are terrific examples of our commitment to the community – industry and the environment.

The Scholarship Program is an outstanding way for our students in TAFE SA to be promoted across South Australia. Since 2005, TAFE SA Urrbrae Campus has worked with members of the Trust to ensure that staff, lecturers and students are aware of the opportunities made available by being involved in the Scholarship program. TAFE SA is working with the Trust to enable this to be promoted as an opportunity for our students studying in the particular areas of land, earth and water.

Institute Executive and Staff from the Primary & Allied Industries Program sincerely thank the Playford Memorial Trust members for their on-going support.

Promotion of the 2010 Scholarship Program will be posted on the Playford Trust's website in late July early August. So watch this space!

Reports

From 2009 Honours Scholars



Nikita Simakov

**Scantech/Playford Honours Physics Scholarship 2009
Optics and Photonics. The University of Adelaide**



Nikita with Peter Pedler from Scantech.

I have just completed my Honours degree in Optics and Photonics with the Optics group at the University of Adelaide. The aim of my project was to design and construct a laser for a system that provides a reference

beacon for extremely large telescopes. The results of this research have been submitted to the Journal of Quantum Electronics and recently presented at the Australian Conference on Optics and Laser Spectroscopy. I was awarded the International Society for Optical Engineering (SPIE) prize for the best student (undergraduate and postgraduate) presentation as part of this conference.

I would like to thank my supervisors – Professor Jesper Munch, Associate Professor Peter Veitch and Dr. David Hosken – for providing such an exciting project, as well as the necessary pressure and support that enabled me to make the most of the year. I would also like to thank the other members of the group for providing such a fun and stimulating learning environment.

I would like to acknowledge the Playford Trust and the Scantech Corporation for providing the scholarship for my Honours year. I would also like to acknowledge the Defence Science and Technology Organization (DSTO) for their scholarship support over the duration of my whole undergraduate degree. These scholarships have enabled me to focus on my studies and really enjoy the time spent in the laboratory.

During the year I was also given the opportunity to spend some time working at Scantech, and it was time very well spent. It was great to be part of such a vibrant and hard working team.

In the future, I would like to return to university and undertake post-graduate studies. Currently, I am looking forward to working at DSTO and being involved with research into high power lasers.

Sophie Underwood

**Scantech/Playford Honours Physics Scholarship 2009
Optics and Photonics. The University of Adelaide**

This year, I have undertaken an Honours project in Theoretical Physics. My task was to focus on expanding quantum chromodynamics (the theory that describes the strong force governing interactions between quarks and gluons) about a low energy fixed point. The infrared limit of quantum chromodynamics is markedly different from the low energy behaviour of another theory, quantum electrodynamics (the theory that describes electromagnetism).

More specifically, I have explored the need for the introduction of a light scalar particle, the dilaton, to keep baryon masses from tending towards zero in the low energy limit.

This is a highly interesting area of research, and is particularly relevant since most data that we have for strong interactions are at low energies. I have very much enjoyed expanding my knowledge not only of the theoretical framework of quantum chromodynamics, but also quantum field theories in general.

Sophie has attached a photograph taken during her work at the Gemini South Observatory in Chile over the summer, when she was studying astrophysics.

David Haddow

**AusIMM/Playford Honours Geoscience/Mining
Scholar 2009. The University of Adelaide**



David Brunt of AusIMM and David Haddow

I was very honoured to receive a scholarship from the Trust, and used it to buy a new laptop (MacBook Pro) which I used to complete my honours studies in 2009.

I should like to thank the Playford Trust for the support given to me over the past year. All this assistance will be remembered as I move into the industry next year. I have secured a graduate position with Newmont Asia Pacific at their gold mine in the Tanami Desert, Northern Territory, which will mean a big change in my way of life.

I look forward to 2010 and aim to remain in contact with the Trust in the years ahead.

Regional Scholars 2010

This year's four worthy winners.

The Playford Trust is once again pleased to support four new Regional Scholars. Nominees for this award must be South Australian residents, who have been living in regional or rural areas of the State and who are planning to study various science disciplines at a South Australian University. Assessment of applicants for this award considers the student's school record outlining academic achievement as well as their contribution to their school and their community and their potential for leadership and high achievement. It is a pleasure to learn a bit about these young people.

Kazsandra Howell

Kazsandra (Kaz) is from a farming family living at Yeelanna which is 55 km west of Cummins in the far west of the state, 700 km from Adelaide. She has been a student at Cummins Area School. The remoteness of her home location and cost of travel make undertaking tertiary study particularly challenging for regional students such as Kaz.

Kaz has been very involved in school and community sporting events, teaching at VacSwim, playing and umpiring netball and representing her school and the state at wrestling. She has planned and broadcast radio programs to fellow students and last year was the student representative on the staff and parents governing council of the school.

Following the achievement of sound academic results in her Year 12 studies, Kaz plans to study Forensic and Analytical Chemistry at Flinders University in 2010.

Jacob Dawson

Jacob was a student of Murray Bridge High School, where he was Dux of the school in 2009 and winner of numerous academic awards. As the School Captain, and leader of the SRC at high school, Jacob has been very involved in all school affairs.

As a youth leader at his local church, Jacob assists in teaching of Sunday School and in coordinating Sunday services.

Jacob plans to continue his study of sciences at The University of Adelaide, studying Mathematical Sciences, Chemistry, and Biology.

Tim Symonds

Tim achieved outstanding results throughout his secondary schooling receiving a TER of 98.4. He was the dux of Victor Harbour High School, and also studied specialist maths through the Open Access College.

Tim's references report that he is a very dedicated and hardworking student, well-respected by teachers and fellow students.

Tim has an interest in kayaking and is on the committee of Encounter Paddling. He was selected to compete in Japan as part of a junior development squad in 2008. Tim has an ambition to be a member of the Australian kayaking team, and to compete in the Olympic Games.

He also plays tennis in the Senior Division 1 team for the Port Elliot Tennis Club.

In 2010 Tim plans to study Aerospace Engineering at The University of Adelaide.

Alana Cuthbert

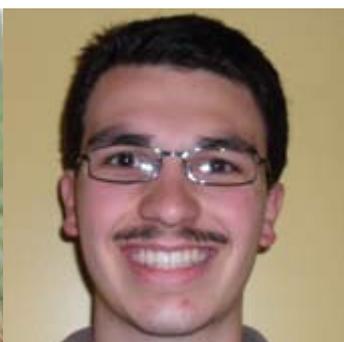
Alana, who lives at Moonta, completed her year 12 studies at Kadina Memorial High School. Alana's school reports describe her as a very talented student who is reliable and conscientious with a strong desire to succeed. Alana enjoys competing in mathematics academic competitions in which she has been very successful.

Alana has played tennis at the Kadina Tennis Club, enjoyed water sports, reading, travelling and socialising with her friends. Alana has had part time employment in retail sales over the past year.

In 2010 Alana is planning to live at St Ann's College and study Mathematical Sciences at The University of Adelaide.



Kazsandra Howell



Jacob Dawson



Tim Symonds



Alana Cuthbert

Our regional science scholars come to town...

We asked Steve Dutchske **SD**, Donna Kupke **DK**, Ryan Quarrington **RQ**, Jarrad Thiele **JT**, Maddie Iles **MI** and Tiffany Reeves **TR** about the move, their studies, university life and what winning a Playford Trust Scholarship has meant to them.

What particular challenges did you face in moving to Adelaide to study?

- SD** The biggest challenge was the adjustment to university life. The skills needed to learn in a university environment are a different set from those required in high school.
- DK** Learning to run a house - washing, cooking, cleaning. Learning to budget.
- JT** Finding and renting a place to live and learning to budget independently were all new and daunting experiences. However, all of these things paled in comparison to the difficult challenge of learning to cook!

- MI**  Most of the day-to-day processes in the city were a shock to the system. Conquering public transport was a fairly major milestone. Living away from my parents and family was a challenge. Having to do all my own shopping, cooking, cleaning etc. was a little daunting to begin with, but I soon adjusted, and enjoy the independence now.

- RQ**  As I am unable to receive any government assistance I could not afford to move to the city to study. However we did recently move to Strathalbyn, somewhat closer to the City. The 70-90 minute travel time into the city has provided the biggest challenge both financially and in taking time from study.

- TR** The main challenges were becoming comfortable in the busy city setting and traffic, and in financially supporting myself while living away from home.

How did winning a Playford Trust Scholarship assist in your move to the City?

- SD** It has allowed me to participate more fully in university life which I could not have afforded on a country student's budget. I was able to play sport at a high level, for example and represent the university interstate.
- DK** It helped take some of the financial stress off for things like text books, stationery and even just general expenses.

- JT**  Having never lived away from home, it was easy to underestimate the cost of living independently. This scholarship made dealing with rent, bills and transport that little bit easier, while also providing some much-needed recreation time.

- MI** Financial assistance in the early stages of the university year was very helpful. I had to buy textbooks and university material, as well as set myself up at my new accommodation.

- RQ** Receiving the Scholarship has been a huge help for me. The \$90 a week I receive at my work is insufficient to pay for my weekly expenses.

- TR**  The Scholarship helped me greatly by allowing me to pay for rent, food, and bills without having to earn as much while at uni. This allowed me to focus more on settling in and getting to know the uni set-up.

Which subjects have you found enjoyable, and what is it about these subjects which has interested you?

- SD** This year I have had the freedom to choose my subjects for the first time. I have particularly enjoyed broadening my knowledge base in statistics and geophysics. Other highlights have been the work done in the laboratories of Adelaide University's Chemistry department. Through this I have been exposed to technology which will play a large part in the future, such as nano solar cells and lights.

- DK** Calculus, Optimisation, statistics. I like the logical way in which mathematical theories work.

- JT** It has been particularly interesting in Educational Psychology to learn how students' minds tick. Courses in mathematical modelling have also dealt with some enjoyable everyday applications, ranging from the algorithms used to minimise



2009 Maddie Iles (MI)
Mining Engineering.
The University of Adelaide



2008 Jarrad Thiele (JT)
Science and Education.
University of South Australia



2009 Tiffany Reeves (TR)
Forensic and Analytical Chemistry.
Flinders University



2009 Ryan Quarrington (RQ)
Sports Engineering.
The University of Adelaide

Not shown 2008 Scholars: Steve Dutchske (SD) Chemical Engineering. The University of Adelaide and Donna Kupke (DK) Quantitative Finance. University of South Australia.

waiting-time at traffic lights to the maths that makes medical imaging possible.

MI My favourite subject so far has been Introduction to Mining Engineering. I found the concepts and applications extremely interesting. It included a 5-day field trip to some major South Australian mines. I have also enjoyed Mathematics 1A and 1B, as I typically enjoy and understand maths.

RQ I have enjoyed Maths 1A and 1B and Dynamics the most. I have always enjoyed solving mathematical and physics-related problems and these subjects have provided a challenge for me in this area. Dynamics also opened my eyes to the types of analysis and problem-solving required in the engineering workforce.

TR During my time at uni I have found Chemistry and Maths the most interesting because they are very analytically based and challenging at times.

Are there any other aspects of University life which you have found challenging, interesting or enjoyable?

SD I have found uni to be a melting pot of ideas. I have enjoyed not only learning about technology and science but also debating with people of different backgrounds and disciplines. The exposure to so many people's ideas, has helped me to improve my methods of problem solving and evaluation.

DK Learning to manage my time was a big challenge, between studying, social life and work. It does teach you good time management skills.

JT My final university semester has proved particularly challenging and valuable, with several seminar-based courses. This involved researching entirely new physics topics and using maths-based software to create simulations that could be used in developing engaging presentations to fellow students.

MI I was surprised by how easy I found it to make a group of good friends with similar interests, and how easily we can both work and socialise together. I was surprised by what a small world the University, and indeed Adelaide, really is, frequently running into people I know.

RQ I have really enjoyed the social and team-work aspects of University life. Also the relationships I have formed with lecturers and tutors has made the experience all the more enjoyable.

What career aspirations do you have at this stage?

SD I have almost finished my science degree with one more year to go in my engineering degree. After that, I hope to get a job working in the oil and gas sector. I believe the future of the world is very dependent on the ability to get cheap energy, while minimising greenhouse gas emissions. I hope to contribute to the solution of this enormous problem.

DK I am currently working with the ANZ Bank as a business banker, but I would like to be able to work as a data analyst one day - looking for patterns and meaning in data.

JT I am currently in the process of applying for jobs as a mathematics and science teacher in secondary schools. I look forward to eventually returning to the country to offer my services to the type of schools I owe my own education to.

MI At this stage I am very excited to be graduating from University and entering the work force. I am hoping to do a post-graduate program at a facility such as BHP Billiton's Olympic Dam when I complete my degree. I am hoping to learn a lot very quickly and take the chance to travel within Australia and overseas.

RQ I would love to one day work with the AIS or Australian Olympic/Paralympic teams to develop improved, more efficient sports equipment to give Australians an advantage in the world-wide sports arena. I also aspire to work with international sporting goods manufacturers, such as Nike.

TR I think it would be great to work in the crime and customs sides of forensics. However, as the course progresses and the topics become more specific I hope to get a better idea of the area I might work in.

Help us create a brighter future together.

In 2010, we are hoping to expand the scholarship program by forming new partnerships with commercial or individual interests.

Companies wishing to invest in the future of science within their industries can join with the already successful model established by the Playford Trust.

Individuals who wish to establish a scholarship or bequest – either in the short term or in perpetuity – can liaise with the Playford Trust, knowing that all the administration and assessment of, and communication with students will be undertaken efficiently.

Advantages of a Playford Trust Partnership include involvement with this prestigious scholarship program which:

- Has a long and distinguished track record;
- Enjoys bipartisan support from the South Australian Government;
- Allows all funds donated to be spent directly on scholarships;
- Funds TAFE, undergraduate, Honours and PhD students;
- Invests in our state by supporting the study of sciences in South Australia;
- Invests in the young people of South Australia, here in South Australia;
- Benefits from good working relationships with the South Australian University and TAFE sector;
- Publicises donor involvement through our newsletters, website and regular student functions;
- Provides opportunities for jointly named scholarships;
- Allows for full or part funding of scholarships;
- Provides tax deductibility for all donations.

Our current partnerships with Scantech and AusIMM have proved beneficial to the organisations and students alike. Students not only get financial support when it is most needed, but also may undertake work experience and learn about the donor organisations at a valuable time in their studies, and the donor organisations benefit from building and maintaining expertise in these study areas.



We are delighted with our revised website

www.playfordtrust.com.au

and the support received from Wallace Web Design.

Do take a look to keep informed of the Trust's activities and key dates for scholarship applications.

Please contact

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Letters from scholars or donors are welcomed. Please send to admin@playfordtrust.com.au