Connecting
The latest news from alumni around the world.

Leadership directions
We introduce you to the new Vice Chancellor.

New state-of-the-art facilities
The School of Chiropractic and Sports Science have a brand new performance lab.

New sports fields for Murdoch
A deal made with the Western Australian Cricket Association will see an upgrade to the sports field and change rooms.

Is your appetite working against you?
A Murdoch researcher is investigating the link between exercise and hunger.

Alumni Awards
The winners of the inaugural alumni awards are revealed.

The importance of sport
A six-year study has shown that sport has a positive influence on sense of self and well-being.

Inprint
We preview some of the books produced by our talented alumni and staff.

In memorial
We reflect on the life of Murdoch’s first Vice Chancellor, Professor Stephen Griew.

Alumni tell their stories
A snapshot of what your fellow alumni are doing now.

Alumni contacts
Here you’ll find the closest alumni chapter to your home.

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

We hope you will approve of this change and quickly become used to these non-gendered and simplified terms. As always, we welcome your feedback at alumni@murdoch.edu.au
2011 has been a year of exciting change and progress for the University and Alumni Relations. We are very grateful to have had the strong support and interest during the year of interim Vice Chancellor Professor Gary Martin and we are extremely pleased he will remain at Murdoch University, returning to his previous position of Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor. We would also like to warmly welcome Professor Richard Higgott as the sixth Vice Chancellor of Murdoch University. Professor Higgott, an academic at Murdoch in the 1980s, also has a personal connection through his wife Professor Diane Stone who is a Murdoch graduate, as are his mother-in-law and sister-in-law.

You will notice a distinctly ‘sporty’ flavour to this edition of Intouch. Putting together this themed edition has made us aware of how important sport has always been to our alumni and the University community. We think you’ll enjoy these stories from our alumni who are still actively participating and working in sport-related areas and perhaps be inspired to reconnect with old sports buddies or the many fitness and team activities occurring all over our campuses.

The presentation of our inaugural Distinguished Alumni Awards was a major milestone this year for the University and Alumni Relations. From a field of more than 140 nominations and a shortlist of 11 finalists, we were delighted to choose our four overall winners. The full story of the winners and our Awards Ceremony is on page 14. Nominations for the 2012 Awards will be opening soon and we look forward to receiving nominations for more outstanding alumni.

Our second Annual Appeal took place in the middle of the year and sought support for Student Aid. We were again pleased with the generosity of our alumni and hope that we can count on your support in the future. If you would like to know more there is an information sheet inside this edition.

Finally, congratulations to all our new alumni graduating this year. Welcome to Murdoch’s alumni family. I hope that you will play an active role in your alumni association. I look forward to corresponding with you and hopefully meeting you at our future events.

Vanessa Fernandez-Kennedy
Manager – Alumni Relations
Sports presenter Basil Zempilas has a job he loves.

**LIVING THE DREAM**

ONE OF MURDOCH’S BEST-KNOWN GRADUATES, SPORTS BROADCASTER BASIL ZEMPILAS, SAID HE HAS BEEN LUCKY ENOUGH TO FEEL LIKE HE HAS NEVER WORKED A DAY IN HIS LIFE.

“It doesn’t feel like a job. It never has and nearly 20 years on it still doesn’t,” he said.

Mr Zempilas, who finished a Bachelor of Arts with majors in Communication Studies and English and Comparative Literature before going on to study a Graduate Diploma of Journalism the following year, said Murdoch was a good fit.

“I liked the practical opportunities the Murdoch courses provided and looking back those opportunities proved invaluable,” he said.

He said getting work experience was the most important step in starting a career in the media.

“The more involved you get, the quicker you’ll find your first job,” he said. “The first job is always the hardest, but once you find one, the rest of your career will take care of itself.”

And although technology may have changed, the building blocks of the profession remain.

“I started on tape and typewriter, now it’s digital and on computer,” he said.

“But building and maintaining contacts, accurate and fair reporting, relevant content or subject matter – that part hasn’t and won’t change.”

**DEAFNESS NO BARRIER**

MURDOCH GRADUATES AND STUDENTS FREQUENTLY CITE THE EQUITY DEPARTMENT AS THEIR MAIN REASON FOR CHOOSING TO STUDY THERE, AND SO IT WAS FOR ALEXANDRA SHAW.

Ms Shaw, who is deaf, graduated in 2009 with a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Mass Communication. She now works as a consultant, interpreting, writing and managing events, as well as working as a research assistant at Murdoch.

The practical law degree was the other major factor in Ms Shaw’s decision to study at Murdoch.

“I believe that Murdoch gave me not only a sound theoretical background, but also ensured that I had many opportunities to put that theory into practice,” Ms Shaw said. “Working at SCALES (the community legal centre at Murdoch) and in the newsroom on campus were valuable experiences that provided me with a taste of a ‘real life’ workplace.”

The 2008 top student in Social Welfare and Law also works extensively in the deaf community in WA, having worked as a Deaf Relay Interpreter, as Youth Officer at the WA Deaf Society, as Employment Project Officer at the Australian Federation of Deaf Societies and as a tutor of deaf students.

Ms Shaw is now studying for her Postgraduate Diploma in Education at Murdoch. “I chose to return to do my postgraduate diploma at Murdoch because I love the University, and know that it will equip me well for a career in teaching,” she said.

Ms Shaw’s motivation and drive is infectious.

**PROMISING CAREER**

THE FRIENDLY, INCLUSIVE NATURE OF MURDOCH STAFF AND STUDENTS HELPED BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) GRADUATE ALANA SHELDLEY MAKE THE TRANSITION FROM A SMALL COUNTRY TOWN TO THE CITY.

“I liked the practical and local focus of environmental studies at Murdoch, whereas I found other universities to have a more theoretical approach,” she said.

Since her graduation in 2009, Ms Shedley has completed Honours in Soil Science at UWA (receiving first class honours) and this year began work as a Sustainable Agriculture Project Officer with the South West Catchments Council.

“I work with farmers and landcare officers to deliver on-ground projects, trials and extension activities that are aimed at improving land management practices in the broadacre agricultural region,” she said. “Currently this is focused around the integration of perennial pastures, salt-land pastures and commercial tree crops into traditional agriculture.”

This year, Ms Shedley earned the top award at the State’s Young Professionals in Agriculture Forum.

“Sustainable agriculture is my passion, so I am very grateful to have received an award which supports my career direction, but the most joy for me has come from the interest the award has generated in my research.”

Ms Shedley said she may look into studying for a PhD in the future, but is currently learning a ‘huge amount’ and having a great time.

Sustainable agriculture is an area of passion for Alana Shedley.

Mr Zempilas, who finished a Bachelor of Arts with majors in Communication Studies and English and Comparative Literature before going on to study a Graduate Diploma of Journalism the following year, said Murdoch was a good fit.
Ex-basketball star passes on his passion to students

FORMER NBL STAR PAUL ROGERS WAS SO IMPRESSED BY MURDOCH THAT SINCE GRADUATING WITH A BACHELOR OF SPORTS SCIENCE IN 2010, HE HAS DECIDED TO RETURN TO PURSUE A GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION.

Mr Rogers, who spent four years playing college basketball at Gonzaga University in Washington before returning to Perth to play for the Wildcats, said that from the first meeting he had with Murdoch staff he knew his experience there would be ‘phenomenal’.

“I am a mature age student and it had been a while since I had studied in the States, so I was a bit apprehensive at first,” he said.

“My basketball career was halted with a career-ending injury. Suddenly life after basketball was thrust into focus and became a reality, so to be so welcomed and supported at a university was incredible.”

Murdoch was particularly helpful in assisting Mr Rogers to transfer units from his prior study in the US.

“I instantly sensed a ‘can do’ attitude from the administration,” he said.

“I have every confidence that the Elite Athlete Program is continuing to provide incredible support for athletes in their education.”

Now living with his family in Denmark, Mr Rogers’ ultimate goal is to be a physical education teacher. He is currently teaching basketball at Denmark High School, working as a residence supervisor at Denmark Agricultural College and coaching teams in Denmark and Perth.

For further information or to support the Elite Athlete program please contact the Office of Development on +618 9360 7594.

Murdoch University Alumni Association

As one of more than 45,000 Murdoch graduates around the world, you are entitled to many professional and personal rewards:
- Career and employment support
- Invitations to events and functions
- Free University library use
- Executive Education Centre Open programs discounts
- Bookshop discounts
- Free parking privileges on campus
- Discounted room hire on campus
- Sport & Recreation Centre membership discounts
- Hire of Student Village visitors’ flats

For more information visit http://ace.murdoch.edu.au or by telephone +61 8 9360 6668.
Dedicated to the cause

BE PREPARED TO SACRIFICE IF YOU WANT TO BUILD A CAREER IN FILM AND TELEVISION – THAT’S BACHELOR OF ARTS (MEDIA) GRADUATE BRAD MAJOR’S MESSAGE.

Mr Major, who runs his own production company *Until January*, has positioned himself as the leading producer for 3D filmmaking in WA.

Having worked with the team behind James Cameron’s *Sanctum*, the man who started in the Murdoch Law School in 2002 has also supplied shows for Fox Sports 1 and is attempting to attract feature film and TV series to be shot in WA.

Mr Major said although media courses are ‘pretty standard’ across WA universities, the lecturers at Murdoch imparted the knowledge he needed and gave him the support he required to ultimately be successful.

“This next 12 months we’ll be looking to progress into the high-end digital market supplying shows for our own internet-driven television stations streaming a combination of live and post-live shows,” he said.

“If you want to go out partying, spending all your free time with your friends, boyfriends, girlfriends, then the film and television world is definitely not for you. After receiving a degree you have a good four or five years of further sacrificing and working odd jobs while you network your way into the industry.”

It’s more than just a game for these two entrepreneurs

AWARD-WINNING BUSINESSMEN KRIS HADIPUTRA AND SUDARMIN THEN GRADUATED JUST FOUR YEARS AGO.

Since then, they have built a company – Toge Productions – based on their shared passion for games and gaming after what Mr Hadi putra described as ‘starting with two laptops, a lot of thinking and hard work.’

Mr Hadi putra and Mr Then studied Games Technology at Murdoch as part of a partnership program with Bina Nusantara University in Indonesia.

“Murdoch was our first and best choice since it was the only university that offers Games Technology as a major. Also, studying at Murdoch offers real practical experience and knowledge compared to others that only offer theories,” the pair said. “And we are very satisfied with our choice.”

The pair were friends at university in Indonesia, and once at Murdoch realised their professional goals were aligned.

“We found that we have the same interest, the same ambition to create games and to build our very own company,” Mr Hadi putra said. “While working in other companies we felt that sometimes we didn’t get to take part in the decision-making process, and that most of the time great ideas that could be implemented got rejected by project leaders.”

And their dedication is paying off. Having won the ‘Best Multiplayer Game’ award for their game *Planetary Conflict* at a Flash Gaming Summit in San Francisco this year, the pair are now working on a number of projects including multiplayer web games and a few cross-platform games developed for the web, iPhone, iPad and android mobile devices.
Returning her skills to Murdoch

When athlete, singer, scientist and scholar Caroline Minton decided to tackle an Honours degree in environmental science in 1997, Murdoch was the only choice. A full-time researcher at the Water Corporation, the project she was working on naturally lent itself to an Honours thesis.

“I jumped at the opportunity to gain more qualifications,” Ms Minton said.

“As I was working full-time, and the project schedule for the research was driven by the employer, I needed a study program that could be adapted to fit. Murdoch was able to offer that, whilst the other universities did not. Murdoch was the stand-out candidate.”

Although she swore she would never study again, Ms Minton, who is the Environmental Program Manager at Murdoch, is now studying a Masters in Sustainability and Business. She said she ‘fell in love’ with the natural campus and jumped at the chance to work there.

A talented athlete, Ms Minton represented Western Australia in Inline Hockey while studying for her thesis. She later played for Australia at the inaugural ladies’ World Titles in Rochester, New York, in 2002, and helped the team bring home a bronze medal. She is now in the process of developing and implementing stakeholder workshops to engage staff, students and leasees across the University to develop a campus-wide sustainability policy and plan.

“This will not work without collective commitment,” she said.

“We will develop a blueprint for best practice campus sustainability, to maintain and increase our leadership in this essential arena. It will be an exciting challenge and I believe we are up to the task.”

Kasey is kicking goals in terms of her career

After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in media from Murdoch in 2002, Kasey Ball scored a job with the West Perth Football Club. This first step on the career ladder enabled her to take the leap into the highly competitive world of AFL at the Fremantle Football Club, where she is now Communications Manager.

Upon finishing her degree, Ms Ball moved to Melbourne to try to get work in media production, but the competitive market was hard to break into.

“I moved back to Perth and got an opportunity to do PR and events at West Perth,” she said.

“This was an amazing opportunity for me to get a grasp on working in the football industry and it certainly gave me an advantage when applying to work at the Fremantle Dockers.”

Now in her fifth season at the club, she started as multimedia producer and worked her way up to her current position.

Ms Ball said Murdoch was her first pick for tertiary study. “The location was ideal for me and I had friends apply to study there,” Ms Ball said. “I was also keen to add a theatrical element to my studies and I liked the units Murdoch offered in that area, particularly Children’s Theatre.” Ms Ball said the highlight of her time at Murdoch was the chance to produce children’s television.

For Ms Ball, working in digital media is exciting because of the new technologies that emerge and the opportunities to do jobs in the future that haven’t yet been created.

And working at a football club is not at all ‘blokey’, she said.

“Working in the sporting industry can be really enjoyable because of the weekly ‘result’,” she said. “When we have a win it feels like everything for that week has fallen into place.”

International Youth Ambassador

The former President of the Murdoch Guild of Students and University Senator, now holds a position as the City of Perth’s International Youth Ambassador.

He recently returned from a tour of Houston, Halifax and Washington DC. During his trip Reece met with high profile civic leaders, community champions and inspirational young people throughout the cities he visited.

He has been a member of the Perth Youth Advisory Council for more than three years, is a founding member of the Rotary Club of Crawley and served previously as Director of Media and Communications for Young UN Women Australia’s Perth Committee.

“My time at Murdoch was absolutely invaluable. Not only have I had the chance to use the skills and knowledge learnt during my studies, but the friends and contacts made during my time at the University have continued to this day,” Mr Harley said.

“The hours I put into serving the University community through student representation and advocacy have repaid themselves countless times ever since graduation.”

Mr Harley graduated in March this year with a Bachelor of Communication.
New Leadership

INTERNATIONALLY-RENOWNED POLITICAL ECONOMIST PROFESSOR RICHARD HIGGOTT IS SETTLING INTO HIS NEW ROLE AS MURDOCH’S SIXTH VICE CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT.

Professor Higgott, who took up the post in August, had been Pro Vice Chancellor for Research at the University of Warwick in the UK for the last four years, and had previously held professorial appointments at the Australian National University and the University of Manchester.

Immediately before joining Murdoch, he was engaged as a Winthrop Professor at the University of Western Australia (UWA). He was also director of a $15 million European Commission project of research institutes from 15 leading world universities examining the implications of the emergence of a multi-polar world.

Chancellor Terry Budge said Professor Higgott had the ‘perfect combination of skills’ for the job.

“Richard Higgott’s academic record as an international research leader in his chosen field speaks for itself,” he said.

“But importantly for us he brings to Murdoch a wide array of senior university management experience in one of the world’s most successful young universities.”

Professor Higgott is no stranger to Perth, having held posts at UWA and Murdoch in his early academic career, including several years on the Advisory Board of Murdoch’s Asia Research Centre. He also has personal links to the University – his wife Diane Stone, also a Warwick and UWA Professor, is a Murdoch graduate, as are his mother-in-law and sister-in-law.

He said: “I am delighted to be returning to Murdoch as Vice Chancellor, having been impressed by its strong performance in the recent Excellence in Research for Australia exercise, which recognised several areas of world class research and many areas of above national average research at the University.

“For a still developing university, this was an excellent outcome. However, I am convinced that with the right research leadership and encouragement it can do better still.

“I am also looking forward to continuing to grow Murdoch’s enviable reputation for teaching excellence and in improving access and social inclusion.”

Professor Higgott replaced Professor Gary Martin, who held the Vice Chancellor role on an interim basis since Professor John Yovich’s retirement from academia.

Elite Athlete Program

MURDOCH UNIVERSITY IS PROUD TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL NETWORK OF ELITE ATHLETE FRIENDLY UNIVERSITIES, AN INITIATIVE OF THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT.

The University has developed an Elite Athlete Program to help athletes competing at a national or international level to achieve their academic goals while meeting the demands of an often vigorous training and competition regime.

These students are self-reliant people from a range of diverse backgrounds who, through sheer hard work, determination and commitment have earned the right to compete at the highest levels of their sport. At Murdoch, this includes an impressive array of athletes, ranging from members of the Fremantle Dockers and Western Force through to students from non-professional sports such as fencing, hockey, cycling and wheelchair basketball.

As part of the program, Murdoch University offers considerable flexibility and support, with staff negotiating outcomes tailored to suit individual athletes, depending on their circumstances.

Regardless of this University support, athletes face huge financial challenges while studying. This includes expenses such as travel costs to attend national or international competitions and the purchase of equipment.

Murdoch University is establishing an Elite Athlete fund to assist these athletes with financial support to balance sport and study. This fund will help to alleviate some of the financial burden for students who, in addition to combining a rigorous training schedule with their studies, have to hold down jobs in order to pay their own way to represent their state or country as sportsmen and women. Applicants will be able to apply for funds to assist with travel and other costs associated with their training or competition requirements.

If you’d like to assist Western Australia’s aspiring elite athletes or you’d like further information on the Elite Athlete Program, please contact Heather Williams in the Office of Development, telephone +61 8 9360 7281 or email h.williams@murdoch.edu.au.
The continuing growth of sport at Murdoch

The last five years have seen a resurgence in sport at Murdoch.

There is once again a full student sports calendar each year.

Social sports leagues run on campus each weeknight, including mixed netball, social tennis, basketball, indoor soccer and squash competitions. These are very popular with students, for exercise and as a social get-together.

Interfaculty sport was reinstated in 2007 with weekly fixtures played across the two semesters. Competition for the Annual Trophy has reignited old rivalries and generated some new ones with the creation of new faculties. In the last two years the Vet School and School of Minerals and Energy have held bragging rights.

Murdoch continues to battle the other WA universities in the Tertiary Sports WA (TSWA) competition. Over 350 students a year take part and Murdoch has been consistently performing well.

But our biggest achievements over the last five years have been at the National Australian University Games (Unigames). Over the last few years we have leapfrogged into the top 10 of Australian sporting universities.

Out of the 42 Australian Universities our final placings in the last five years have been:

- 2006 – 35th
- 2007 – 29th
- 2008 – 23rd
- 2009 – 14th
- 2010 – 8th

We’ve risen from a final placing of 35th out of the 42 universities in 2006 to 8th in 2010 – an amazing improvement.

In the last two years we have added new outdoor tennis courts and a new multi-use sports field at the front of the South Street Campus. A new Sports Science Hub is nearing completion, along with newly renovated sports fields and new clubrooms.

A major contributing factor for this growth and success has been the support of the University, Australian University Sport and our alumni members.

If you have a great sports story from your time at Murdoch or would like to contribute in any way to the growing legacy of sport here please contact Adrian Fisher at Murdoch Sports on +61 8 9360 2318 or gym@guild.murdoch.edu.au.
Sports building stands out from the crowd

A PERFORMANCE LAB COMPLETE WITH RUNNING TRACK AND LIFE-SIZE BIOMECHANICAL IMAGING IS ONE OF THE STANDOUT FEATURES OF MURDOCH’S STATE-OF-THE-ART NEW BUILDING FOR THE SCHOOL OF CHIROPRACTIC AND SPORTS SCIENCE.

Completed in August and already in use by students, the facility was built and equipped with a $4 million Commonwealth Government Teaching and Learning Development grant.

School Dean, Associate Professor Brian Nook, is very proud of the new building, which will certainly ensure the next generation of graduates are highly-trained and gain valuable hands-on experience using the latest equipment.

Professor Nook said the School had grown rapidly since it first launched its undergraduate degree in chiropractic in 2002.

“In 2007 we added our three-year sports science degree and a four-year degree in exercise physiology,” he said.

“The popularity of these new courses was placing increasing pressure on our current facilities and it quickly became apparent that we needed to expand.

“We already had an extensive outpatient clinic for the chiropractic students and a rehabilitation suite, but we needed to expand the exercise rehabilitation facilities and teaching and research spaces for all students.”

The new building covers about 900sqm and is located near the gymnasium on the northern side of the South Street campus.

The new labs create a centrally-located ‘sports centre’ around the multi-purpose courts, gymnasium and squash courts, complemented by the new nearby playing fields and international grade cricket pitches.

Professor Nook said the new facility included change rooms for both men and women and a multipurpose teaching space that holds about 35 people.

There’s an exercise physiology laboratory with equipment for testing metabolic rates, lung capacity, heart rates and blood and tissue samples, as well as a specially-designed thermal chamber that can raise the temperature to above 50 degrees Celsius.

“This will enable us to look at the effects of elevated body temperature on exercise and physical activity,” explained Professor Nook.

“We’re already undertaking research in conjunction with BHP to consider how to keep workers in WA’s north free of heat stress and other illnesses. This work can also be applied to athletes such as cricketers who play in extreme temperatures.”

Other features of the building include a strength, conditioning and rehabilitation lab with a complete suite of exercise equipment, free weights and weight machines.

Then there’s the performance lab, with the 50m running track straight through the middle, along with a 14m by 4m screen that enables life-size biomechanical imaging and a state-of-the-art projection and audio system.

Professor Nook said there were two sensors under this track that measured force and resistance.

“This enables us to see where the most pressure is placed, which helps us determine ways to prevent injuries and improve performance,” he said.

“This is really the focus of our entire school – prevention and performance at all levels of activity to enable people to perform at their optimum in sport and their everyday lives.”

Professor Nook said Murdoch already had a strong partnership with the WA Cricket Association, which gives students across all faculties the opportunity to undertake valuable clinical placements in areas like sports science, media and business management.

“The opening of this new building presents further opportunities for the University to explore research partnerships with sporting or industry groups, giving our students a significant head start in the field,” he said.
MURDOCH UNIVERSITY HAS SIGNED A DEAL WITH THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CRICKET ASSOCIATION (WACA) TO PROVIDE ALTERNATE PRACTICE FACILITIES FOR ITS REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS.

The agreement will see the two organisations work together to provide upgraded sporting facilities for use by the WACA and the University community.

Under the deal, Murdoch will upgrade the sports field and change rooms and the WACA will provide 18 grassed turf practice wickets, three synthetic hard wickets and eight grassed turf centre wickets. The WACA will also provide a full-time curator and other staff, all maintenance equipment and all consumables to maintain the sporting fields as a first class playing surface. Cricket will be the major sport at Murdoch University, with the WACA to have priority access to the new facility for use by representative teams from the Retravision Warriors and Western Fury to Imparja Cup and State under-age squads.

WACA Chief Executive Officer Graeme Wood said a number of parties were considered to before the WACA Board elected to enter into an agreement with Murdoch University.

“Long-term it is anticipated that the facility will be suitable to host second tier domestic or WACA District matches.”

WACA Cricket Operations Manager Andrew Scotford said having access to an outstanding training and playing arena was a fantastic opportunity for the WACA and its representative teams.

“After being a part of the sport for 25 years I can’t wait to see the potential this facility will create for the future of our local cricket.”

Murdoch University’s Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor, Professor Gary Martin, said he was delighted with the partnership.

“The partnership with the WACA will assist us with our endeavours to provide high quality facilities for our students and we look forward to establishing male and female cricket clubs with University and community members,” he said.

“There are many other opportunities that will stem from this partnership, including enhanced teaching spaces for our sport and exercise science and physical education courses, collaborative research opportunities and international collaborations with cricketing countries in the region. We will be looking at hosting and co-branding key sporting events at Murdoch and there will be opportunities to involve Murdoch staff and students in the promotion of cricket events.”

“The overall effect for the Murdoch community will be that sport will feature more prominently in the experience of many of our staff and students.”

Professor Martin said that since the partnership had been announced there had been further interest generated in the broader community with respect to use of the sporting facilities.
Study to examine exercise and appetite links

ARE YOU ALWAYS EXERCISING YET FIND THAT LOSING WEIGHT IS DIFFICULT? IT COULD BE THAT YOUR APPETITE IS WORKING AGAINST YOU.

Murdoch University researcher Dr Tim Fairchild is investigating the relationship between exercise and hunger and whether it can be severed.

With funding from the McCusker Charitable Foundation over the next three years, Dr Fairchild will be investigating how specific hormones known to regulate appetite are affected by exercise.

“We already know that specific hormones play an important role in appetite regulation. For example, a previous study recorded a 30 per cent reduction in food intake when people were injected with a hormone known as peptide YY,” said Dr Fairchild, from the School of Chiropractic and Sports Science.

“Although this is very exciting, longer-term studies have not been as successful. The reason for this is that the body has multiple fail-safe mechanisms so when one hormone starts to send strange signals, the body learns to ignore it and relies on other hormones to provide information.

“What this tells us is that we will need to look at a series of hormones, rather than just one or two, to unlock the link between appetite and exercise.”

Studies by Dr Fairchild and collaborators at the University of Western Australia have found that although food intake immediately after exercise was higher, this did not account for the additional calories expended during the exercise.

Somewhat disappointingly, long-term studies with exercise alone still do not lead to large losses in weight.

“The additional calories burnt during exercise are made up in subsequent meals, but not necessarily in the first meal after the exercise,” said Dr Fairchild. “So we will need to measure the quantity of food consumed over the following few hours and days to see where the system falls through, and this will then give us a clue as to what may govern this whole process.”

Dr Fairchild will specifically be investigating how different types of exercise including running, cycling and swimming can affect appetite differently and whether these can be manipulated to decrease how much we eat.

“We might find, for example, that multiple short bursts of exercises are better than longer sessions and that the timing of these becomes essential,” he said.
Turning up the heat on research

WHAT EFFECT DOES HEAT HAVE ON PERFORMANCE AND HOW BEST CAN WE TREAT HEAT STRESS AMONG ATHLETES?

These are the questions that Dr Jeremiah Peiffer is hoping to answer by turning up the heat on his research into thermal regulation and athletic performance.

Dr Peiffer – a lecturer in exercise physiology – is using the state-of-the-art thermal chamber in the new School of Chiropractic and Sports Science building to analyse the effect of environmental temperature on performance among different athletes.

The chamber is the only one in Western Australia that can artificially raise the environmental temperature as high as 60 degrees Celsius.

“By exercising an athlete in the chamber we can determine the effect of environmental heat on things like core body temperature, perceived fatigue levels, performance variables and accuracy and skill,” explained Dr Peiffer.

“In Western Australia, in particular, you can get environmental temperatures well into the 40s in summer. For athletes playing outside in these conditions, it can mean the on-field or on-court temperature is closer to 50 degrees.

“My aim is to work out how this heat affects the athletes then determine the most effective way to cool them down.”

Dr Peiffer has spent the past few years investigating current cooling techniques to determine whether they have any detrimental effect on performance.

“The current ‘gold standard’ protocol is to plunge the athlete in cold water (about 14 degrees Celsius) for about five minutes, which is very effective at rapidly lowering core body temperature,” he said.

Results from past studies have shown that this type of intervention can enhance recovery from exercise in the heat and lead to better performance later on.

“Other techniques being used include contrast showers – alternating between hot and cold – and drinking ice slurries to literally cool from the inside.”

As he begins his new project with funding from the McCusker Charitable Foundation, he will be working closely with the WA Cricket Association through its formal partnership with Murdoch.

This will give him access to some of the state’s top cricketers who will be participating in his research.

Opening presents new opportunities for researcher

THE OPENING OF NEW FACILITIES FOR THE SCHOOL OF CHIROPRACTIC AND SPORTS SCIENCE HAS OPENED UP NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR MURDOCH RESEARCHER SEAN MULLER.

Dr Muller, a lecturer in motor control and learning, will be using the performance laboratory to further his research into visual anticipation – how an athlete reads the body language of an opponent to predict what will happen next – among athletes of differing skill levels.

He’s particularly excited about the state-of-the-art projection system, which will enhance the way he can use video simulation in his investigations.

“The aim of my research is to identify what differentiates the expert athlete from the emerging athlete,” he said.

“If we know what differentiates the players we can use that evidence to train those who aspire to be experts.”

Since 2002, Dr Muller has been funded by Cricket Australia’s Centre of Excellence to examine how world-class batsmen read visual cues to anticipate bowlers’ deliveries.

Players from the Australian Test Team, AIS program and State First Class teams have participated in this research.

By using a combination of video and field-based assessment tools, he has determined that elite players are able to read the ball before it is even released.

His next step is to use his findings to develop training programs to improve this skill in emerging athletes.

To help him with this, Dr Muller plans to use video simulation and special glasses that block out vision in conjunction with floor sensor plates that measure force and the three-dimensional motion capture system.

“There’s already some preliminary evidence that indicates the skill to anticipate may be enhanced,” Dr Muller explained.

“My task now is to determine the best way to do this, and the new facilities will make this much easier.”

Dr Muller holds a degree in exercise and sport science and a PhD in motor control and learning from the University of Queensland.

The research funded by Cricket Australia will be further developed with funding from Murdoch University’s Integrated Health Research Institute and the McCusker Charitable Foundation.

Dr Muller also works with Karate Victoria, Taekwondo and the Carlton Football Club to examine anticipation skills in these sports.
MORE THAN 70 DISTINGUISHED GUESTS GATHERED AT SOUTH STREET CAMPUS IN JULY TO CELEBRATE THE WINNERS OF THE INAUGURAL MURDOCH UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS.

The event was hosted by the Alumni Relations Capital Office and Professor Gary Martin. Special guests included the Hon Dr Elizabeth Constable MLA, Minister for Education and Professor Richard Higgott, Murdoch University’s new Vice Chancellor.

The 2011 Murdoch University Distinguished Alumni Award category winners were:

- **Faculty of Arts, Education and Creative Media**
  - John Exeter

- **Faculty of Law, Business and Information Technology**
  - Anna George

- **Faculty of Science and Engineering**
  - Dr Glen Power

- **Faculty of Health Sciences**
  - Dr Yap Kok Wei

Finalists were:

- Adam Bandt
- Atul Garg
- Frank Horgan
- Mike Mouritz
- Alvin Lai Oon Ng
- Pritam Singh
- Rachel Anne Nosworthy Westcott

Griffin Longley compered the evening.
Manager of Alumni Relations, Vanessa Fernandez-Kennedy, said the finalists were chosen from a field of more than 100 incredible candidates and that the four winners represented the core values of Murdoch University.

“Each winner has provided outstanding service to the community and is a leader in their chosen field of endeavour,” Ms Fernandez-Kennedy said.

“The evening was a wonderful celebration of our outstanding alumni and the delight of all guests was clear.

“We were particularly thrilled that our finalists and winners were pleased to be honoured by the University and that they enjoyed the opportunity to meet the supervisors and academics who taught and nurtured them during their time at Murdoch, as well as celebrate with their loved ones.”

Murdoch graduate Griffin Longley compered the evening while Murdoch alumnus, magician and illusionist Chew Eng Chye entertained the guests.

Each of the recipients of the inaugural Murdoch University Distinguished Alumni Awards received a framed photograph and personally autographed book by internationally renowned, Perth based photographer, Brad Rimmer. See page 16 of Intouch for more details on the artist and artwork.

Nominations for the 2012 Murdoch University Distinguished Alumni Awards will open on March 5, 2012. Details and the online nomination form will be available closer to the date at www.murdoch.edu.au/Distinguished-Alumni-Awards.

For more information on the Awards please contact alumni@murdoch.edu.au
BRAD RIMMER IN FOCUS

EACH OF THIS YEAR’S DISTINGUISHED RECIPIENTS OF THE INAUGURAL MURDOCH UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS RECEIVED A FRAMED PHOTOGRAPH BY INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED, PERTH-BASED PHOTOGRAPHER BRAD RIMMER.

The photograph depicts an expansive blue sky above a golden wheat field in the township of Wyalkatchem, situated in Western Australia’s central wheatbelt district.

This image forms part of Mr Rimmer’s critically-acclaimed photographic portfolio titled SILENCE: The Western Australian Wheatbelt.

SILENCE captures Mr Rimmer’s reflections on this locality, which is also his adolescent home. These deeply personal landscape and portrait photographs present evocative recollections of growing up in rural Australia, capturing the quietness of the landscape and the contemplation of the unspoken word in a changing rural environment.

Photographing SILENCE was a challenge for Mr Rimmer, particularly in trying to find subjects for his portraits. This involved hours of patiently wandering around the small, quiet towns hoping to come across someone, often without success.

Thanks to the encouragement of his peers, who insisted that SILENCE should be published, Mr Rimmer applied for and was awarded a Visual Art and Craft Mid-Career Fellowship from the Western Australian Government’s Department of Culture and the Arts to fund the publication. The book was launched to coincide with an exhibition featuring the complete anthology of photographs from SILENCE which was showcased as part of FOTOFREO – The City of Fremantle Festival of Photography in 2010.

Both the exhibition and the publication received national and international accolades with the Art Gallery of Western Australia acquiring the entire SILENCE folio for the state’s permanent collection by the end of 2010.

More recently, photographs from the folio caught the eye of Perth-based band Eskimo Joe and these images now feature on the cover and throughout the album sleeve of the band’s fifth studio album, Ghosts of the Past, which was released in August 2011.

Mark Stewart
Murdoch University
Art Curator
Active lifestyle leads to better outcomes for teenagers

A survey of Western Australian teenagers is already proving that sport and other extra-curricular activities can have a positive impact on their sense of self and well-being.

Psychology Professor Bonnie Barber is heading up the six-year Youth Activity Participation Survey, funded by the Australian Research Council in conjunction with Murdoch University.

Assisted by colleagues Helen Davis and Kathy Modecki, as well as several PhD students, Professor Barber has been annually surveying 1800 teenagers from 33 independent and government, metropolitan and regional high schools across the state since they were in Years 8 and 10.

They are in the fifth year of the study, which concludes in 2012.

Professor Barber’s interest in the influence of activities on personal development was fuelled by a similar 20-year study in the US.

“Two decades of data collected from this study showed that being involved in sport or other activities led to better school and university outcomes and better career prospects in the long term,” Professor Barber said.

“It also significantly reduced the likelihood of depression in young people and improved their general sense of well-being,”

Professor Barber said although Western Australia had a slightly different system to the US – where excellence in sports lead into university through scholarship – early indicators were that the outcomes of the local study would be similar.

“Already we are seeing that the teenagers who participate in sport and other activities feel more engaged with their schools and are much less likely to experience depressed mood,” she said.

However, it was also highlighting some areas for improvement, especially in regional and low socio-economic areas where opportunities were limited.

“In the regional areas many kids play sport but their access to non-sport activities is limited,” she said.

“Those in low socio-economic areas seem to participate in fewer non-sport activities. However, the benefits seem to be amplified when they do.”

Professor Barber said one of the most interesting findings of her research, both here and in the US, was that modern-day concerns about ‘overscheduling’ our teenagers actually had little basis in fact.

In fact, teenagers who combined their schooling with a mixture of sport and other activities actually seemed to become the most well-rounded young people.

“Sports can encourage effort and perseverance, and allow one to experience success,” she said.

“An activity can demonstrate to yourself and to others who you are, what you are good at, and where you fit in.”

Professor Barber and her team are now working with the Department of Sport and Recreation to understand more about what kinds of experiences are essential to ensure high quality sport experiences.

She believes good coaching is one key to providing quality experiences for teenagers.

“Good coaches make all the difference,” she said. “They can challenge you to improve and make you feel better about yourself, and that is the key to long-term success.”
Challenging the Porn Industry

Abigail Bray is using the power of the written word to open our eyes to the destructive nature of the pornography industry.

She has co-edited Big Porn Inc: Exposing the harms of the global pornography industry with Melinda Tankard Reist, which is due for release this month (September 2011).

Unmasking the lies behind the selling of porn as ‘just a bit of fun’, Big Porn Inc reveals the shocking truths of an industry that trades in violence, crime and degradation.

“Porn is a human rights issue,” says Ms Bray. “The regulation of the industry is not about censorship or anti-sex ‘wowserism’. Rather it is about putting in place ethical boundaries and challenging this global capitalist industry and the marketing of misogyny, racism, homophobia and other fascist sexual ideologies.”

Ms Bray graduated from Murdoch in 1997 with a PhD in English Literature and has already made her mark on the literary scene with a book on French feminist writer Helene Cixious in 2004, Body talk: a power guide for girls in 2005 with Elizabeth Reid Boyd and articles in the area of sexuality and health issues for women.

Ms Bray was one of 100 women honoured with a place in Western Australia’s inaugural Hall of Fame, launched in 2011 to celebrate the Centenary of International Women’s Day.

Books explore history of sexuality

Emeritus Professor Bill Loader has been rather preoccupied with sex over the past few years. Not in the way you might think, however!

This former Professor of New Testament in Murdoch’s Theology program and Uniting Church Minister has actually spent the last half a decade delving into “Attitudes towards sexuality in Judaism and Christianity in the Hellenistic Greco-Roman era”.

The five-year, full-time Australian Research Council Professorial Fellowship has led him to pen a series of books analyzing the issue of sexuality in early Jewish and Christian literature from the third Century (BC) through to the end of the first Century (AD).

Volumes two and three in this series have recently been launched (The Dead Sea Scrolls on Sexuality and The Pseudepigrapha on Sexuality) while the fourth (Philo, Josephus, and the Testaments on Sexuality) has just been published. The fifth and final volume, The New Testament on Sexuality, is expected to hit the shelves in 2012.

Professor Loader says the five-book series is written for an academic readership and explores the history of sexuality in one of the most formative periods in our history.

“Modern debates about sex, including in religious communities, have often lacked adequate information, especially about what shaped attitudes towards sex in the ancient world,” he says.

“This series aims to address that need.”
Opening up the world of Down syndrome

HISTORY GRADUATE AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JAN GOTHARD HAS DRAWN HEAVILY ON HER OWN EXPERIENCES TO PEN HER FIRST BOOK, GREATER EXPECTATIONS – LIVING WITH DOWN SYNDROME IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

The book explores the varied attitudes and approaches that make up the rich experience of living with Down syndrome in a changing society.

Based on more than 60 personal interviews and supported by scholarly research, it was launched by Fremantle Press to mark the 25th anniversary of the Down Syndrome Association of Western Australia and International Down Syndrome Day.

Professor Gothard, whose daughter Maddie has Down syndrome, said her own story provided the foundations for the book but the interviews highlighted how different the experience can be for each family.

“Until Maddie was born, disability was an invisible area to me,” she said. “Our family’s experience opened my mind to disability and made me aware of what some of the issues are for other individuals and families.

“For all of the people I interviewed the main focus was doing the best thing for their child. “People with disability are fighting for their right to be included, but the rest of society has got to be prepared to open doors,” Professor Gothard said.

Award-winning novel takes us back in time

GRADUATE KIM SCOTT DELVES INTO AUSTRALIA’S EARLY AND OFTEN CONFRONTING HISTORY IN HIS LATEST, AWARD-WINNING LITERARY OFFERING.

That Deadman Dance – which won Kim the prestigious 2011 Miles Franklin Literary Award – is a historical tale set in the early 19th century in Albany, WA.

Through the story of young Nyungar man Bobby, who falls in love with the daughter of a wealthy white family, it explores the relationships and tensions between early European settlers and the Aboriginals.

As the Europeans impose ever-stricter rules and regulations, friction increases and Bobby is forced to take sides.

Critics describe the book as historical and magical, as it drifts between the settler world and the Aboriginal world.

“We see and feel the hardship, tragedies and aspirations of the settlement, and at the same time we are transported into the mystical and spiritual life worlds of Wabalanginy and his people,” they said.

This is Kim’s second Miles Franklin award. In 2000 he was the first Indigenous author to win the prize for his novel Benang, tying for first place with fellow writer Thea Astley.

Kim graduated from Murdoch with a Bachelor of Arts in 1979 and a Graduate Diploma of Education in 1984.

Hailing from the south-east coast of Western Australia, he is also the author of True Country.

Sally serves up some soul

LITERATURE AND COMMUNICATION GRADUATE SALLY COLLINGS HAS COMBINED HER SKILLS AS A WORDSMITH WITH HER NEWFOUND PASSION FOR PARENTING TO BUILD A THRIVING CAREER

Following the success of Sophie’s Journey, Positive and The World According to Kids, Sally has just released her fourth book called Parenting with Soul.

Her latest offering is a wonderful guide for parents who feel that purpose and meaning have been lost under a pile of nappies, crayons and odd socks.

“Parenting with Soul shows how to make spirituality part of your family’s everyday life,” said Sally.

“It’s about seeing the sacred in our homes and turning the things we do each day into opportunities to practise mindfulness, gratitude, love, generosity, and other virtues.

“It means living a life that is rich, deep, authentic, heartfelt – complete with all of the flaws and imperfections that make us who we are.”

Sally’s first foray into university studies was an undergraduate degree in journalism and radio production at the University of Technology in Sydney. She then embarked on a Masters in Literature and Communication at Murdoch, which she completed in 1987.

“Perhaps, because of that grounding, I’m passionate about words flowing in a natural way,” she said.
Born in 1928, Stephen graduated from the University of London in 1949 and was appointed to the chair of psychology at the University of Otago in 1964, transferring to the University of Dundee in 1968. He was offered the vice-chancellorship of Murdoch University in 1971, arrived in 1972 and resigned in October 1977. He spent the rest of his academic career in Canada, first at Toronto University, then as third president of Athabasca University (1980-85), followed by a succession of research posts in gerontology. He died on September 2, 2010.

Dynamic, quick-witted, and outgoing, Stephen looked the part of a 1970s leader in keeping with Murdoch’s aspirations to a youthful innovativeness. If The University of Western Australia represented conservative academic respectability, Murdoch would seek to be different in every possible respect. Murdoch reached out to groups who had not enjoyed ready access to tertiary education: migrants and mature age students, especially married women.

Beyond a commitment to a veterinary school, Stephen had no pre-ordained ideas about the academic disciplines in which Murdoch would specialise. He simply found ten professors spread across the disciplines who between them defined Murdoch’s ethos and developed academic programmes accordingly. He brought them together in a two-day conference at the now demolished Contacio Hotel in Scarborough, and together they thrashed out the ideas which formed what came to be known as the Murdoch ethos.

It required skill to manage a team who ranged from the cautious Scots mathematician Robertson, to the picturesque Raser, epitome of all that was new in American social inquiry, but Stephen Griew seemed to enjoy the challenges. His mobile features expressed many moods. Sometimes he seemed Christopher Robin exploring a brave new world; sometimes a clean-shaven Groucho Marx, cigars and all; occasionally one saw the wicked eye of a horse about to throw its rider.

Among the successful early initiatives at Murdoch was the establishment of an external studies unit which brought programmes to the most remote areas of the State. One result among many could be found in the young housewife in Carnarvon whose Murdoch studies led eventually to a chair at The University of Melbourne and membership at one of the learned academies. On the science side veterinary studies and environmental studies gained early recognition. Stephen Griew orchestrated these and many other initiatives with electric energy. Nobody ever saw him sitting still. The students called him Groovy Steve.

Following the economic downturn of 1973, funding tightened. In the face of competition from UWA and WAIT (now Curtin) Murdoch’s survival seemed to depend on a pragmatism personified in Stephen’s deputy-vice-chancellor, his old mentor, Arthur Beacham. Together they shepherded Murdoch through its first years of undergraduate teaching. But the ideals of the glad confident morning were never quite lost; and when Stephen Griew departed in 1977 to new pioneering challenges in Canada, his legacy could be traced for decades in the distinctive character of Murdoch University.

As I was completing this article I met one of the original student intake of 1975. ‘The Murdoch ethos?’ she said: ‘They told me it was about governance. But I knew it was about learning to value knowledge for its own sake.’ It would have pleased Stephen to know that his university was remembered in this way.

Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Bolton

Written on behalf of the members of the Banksia Association.
Movie ambition of Murdoch filmmaker

MURDOCH MULTIMEDIA GRADUATE JEFF ASSELIN IS GROWING HIS REPUTATION AS A FILMMAKER BOTH ON AND OFF CAMPUS.

As manager of Murdoch University’s media production unit, Jeff produces several films every year, mostly for the Kulbardi Aboriginal Centre. He is currently working on a documentary with Murdoch academic Glenn Stasiuk which will explore the dark penal history of Rottnest Island.

Away from campus, Jeff is equally busy with his own film projects and was recently awarded $10,000 by the state government to develop the script of Father’s Day, a Full Monty-style comedy feature film with Perth screenwriter Meg Shields.

The story focuses on a miner who becomes embroiled in his estranged son’s custody battles and must fight to overturn redundancies when a giant multinational threatens the shutdown of the local town.

Jeff and Meg are now preparing to enter the script into ScreenWest’s West Coast Visions funding program, which awards $750,000 to one project each year.

“It takes a long time for independent filmmakers in this state to build a reputation which merits state government funding, so we’re really pleased to have secured the $10,000,” said Jeff, who has been working at Murdoch since graduating in 2003.

“The recognition from Screen West also puts us in with a very good chance of getting the $750,000 and we’ll be doing everything we can to put ourselves in a decent position to get this funding.”

For Jeff this includes directing a 14 minute comedy short called Strike about a 10 pin bowling mechanic with epilepsy who falls in love.

“Many of the films I’ve directed have been quite dark and social-realist but I don’t want to be typecast as that sort of filmmaker only,” he said.

“This short is to show the decision makers that I am up for the job.”

Jeff is also hoping that his award-winning film The Billabong, which was recently premiered at the St Kilda Film Festival, will also help his cause.
Alumni tell their stories

**Larisa Vanstien**  
(BSc Biological Sciences, 1990)  
I started out in research and clinical/diagnostic work in the medical area, and worked in London for a couple of years. On returning to Perth, I somehow found myself working for State Government organisations in science education and science communications...and loved it, so have remained in these areas (and the public service) ever since. I am currently Communications Manager at the Department of Fisheries, where my science background comes in very useful — and where I meet and work with a number of Murdoch staff and other Murdoch graduates as well.

**En Khong**  
I started as a graduate accountant in 2004 with a local firm (Stirling Partners), specialising in all aspects of accounting, taxation, superannuation and business services. Since then, I have been promoted through the ranks within the firm and obtained my qualification as a Chartered Accountant. I am currently a Manager with Stirling Partners and my day-to-day work sees me consulting clients on accounting, tax and business solutions as well as supervising a team of five accountants. I love my work as it’s fresh and exciting with each client presenting a unique set of challenges. I am also a Focus Session Leader and Exam Marker for the Institute of Chartered Accountants’ CA Program. One of my interests is photography which sees me doing the odd wedding/family portrait over weekends and entering photo competitions. Two of my photographs are featured in the UWA Friends of the Groups 2011 Calendar in which I was the first runner up. My wife Kin (Combined BSc Vet Biology and BVMS 2007) is also from Murdoch and is currently a veterinarian specialising in emergency medicine at Balcatta Veterinary Hospital. As this magazine went to press we were expecting the arrival of our first baby girl in August.

**Melvin Hoe**  
(BA Mass Communication, 2006)  
I have been writing for Men’s Health magazine in Singapore for close to five years. The magazine is anchored in health, nutrition, fitness, weight loss and sex, so that’s been my beat for a while. My work has involved a constant generation of story ideas relevant to the magazine’s branding, research, profile interviews (and in particular, asking the right questions that would translate to a good story), branding, online writing, and of course matching my work to strict deadlines.

**Jerolina Rankin**  
(BSc Environmental Science, 2005)  
After Uni I went to TAFE to study an Advanced Diploma in Engineering (Civil and Structural) in 2006. Currently I am working with Main Roads WA as an Engineering Associate and am based in Carnarvon. My current role involves project delivery around the Gascoyne Region and also assisting in the environmental aspects associated with road projects. I enjoy my role where I can use both of my qualifications. The project locations can take you to some beautiful parts of our country like Coral Bay, Exmouth and Shark Bay and they are only a short distance away. My husband Steve is also a Murdoch Graduate (BSc in Health and Environment) and is currently working for Main Roads WA in Carnarvon as well. His role mainly involves OSH and Business Support. It’s great working at the same place together.

**Amber Rose**  
(BSc Biomedical Science and Molecular Biology/BForensic Biology & Toxicology, 2008)  
After Uni I mostly travelled and didn’t use my degree at all! I am now living in Oxford and studying for an MSc in Applied Human Nutrition at Oxford Brookes University, where I am also working full-time in the Business School as an administrator in the International Centre for Coaching and Leadership Development. Once my MSc is completed I am hoping to move into international nutrition and public health policies.

**Erin Foong Sook Ping**  
(BCom Marketing and Marketing Management, 2007)  
I worked in an oil and gas firm for about a year and moved on to FMCG lines. I was in the perishable sector for a year-and-half and then ventured into personal care as a Brand Executive. I am currently working in a brand consulting firm as Senior Brand Executive; brushing up my communication skills as well as getting exposure on brand research and strategic skills.

**Karen Sutton**  
(BSc Biology and Molecular Biology, 2003)  
I worked for the Institute of Immunology and Infectious Diseases for eight years. I was initially based at Royal Perth Hospital and with a large amount of funding from the federal government they now have a new building at Murdoch Uni. I have been working for Silver Chain as a Quality Co-ordinator for the past three months after the experience gained in being involved in accreditation at IIID and was recently accepted into Curtin’s MBA program.

**Summer Goodwin**  
(BA Mass Communication/Public Relations and Journalism, 2005)  
I moved to Darwin after graduating to break into journalism. I worked for the NT News for two-and-a-half years and then in PR for Tourism NT. I also did freelance work for magazines and the NT Government. This led to being headhunted for a marketing role, writing online content for Charles Darwin University. I relocated to Melbourne in January this year after securing a position at Swinburne University of Technology as a PR Executive.
RAGHAV LAL
(MBA, 2011 - DUBAI)

I am currently working in the capacity of Strategy and Business Development Manager for the Murdoch campus in Dubai and was involved with the successful launch of the campus in 2008. We started with 18 students and currently have over 450 students enrolled at the University with 70 students graduating from the MBA program to join the Murdoch alumni, along with our first batch of undergraduate students graduating in May 2011.

CAMPBELL JEFFERYS
(BA HISTORY, 1998)

I am now working as a writer in Germany. That means novels, journalism, ad copy and even teaching creative writing at the University of Hamburg. I have a couple of books out, won some awards (all very small potatoes), and was writer in residence at the Peter Cowan Writers’ Centre in 2008. During the last decade, I got to live and work in lots of different places, and even had a stint writing books for Rough Guides. One of the people who gave me a push to become a writer was Professor Robert Reece. I owe him a thank you the next time I'm in Perth.

IRENA CHANDRAWANA
(BSc ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, 2004/HONS, 2006)

I completed my honours project based in organic chemistry under supervision of Mr Doug Clark. I am currently working as a Research Scientist for a large mining company. My work oscillates around improvements to Bayer process and impurity removal. A small part of my time is also dedicated to the monitoring and management of air emissions.

RAJKUMAR RAJENDRA
(BCom ACCOUNTING/ECONOMICS, 1992)

I worked in telecommunications and IT with companies like SingTel, NWT and HP before I took a year off to travel and ‘find myself’. I then decided to give something back and am now with an environmental not-for-profit organisation that looks at making paper a sustainable resource. We get companies to offset their paper usage by contributing to plant trees. We plant them as a crop and the proceeds of the harvest go into planting more trees which effectively doubles our number every 12 years. Exponentially 10 trees a company plants today would give them 10,000 trees in 120 years and a great positive legacy for their grandkids to enjoy. I’m also getting the Sydney alumni together so anyone based in Sydney should connect with me and I’ll let you know about our next get-together!

Contact Rajendra on +62 8 08 7544 or rajr@10thousandtrees.com

JACK HM WONG
(BCom/LLB, 1994)

I am currently based in Singapore (after migrating from Hong Kong back in 1994) as a tax consultant for one of the world’s largest law firms. At the same time, I am a trainer for a local company in Singapore in the area of wealth building and creation. I also completed both MBA and LLM in two Singapore universities in 2001 and 2004 respectively.

ANDREA SEE
(BCom MARKETING, 1999)

I’ve worked as a journalist in Singapore, run my own magazine in China, and worked in marketing for a literary publisher in Scotland. I’m currently based in England, working freelance and running an online community for a popular young adult author.

STUART LATTER
(BA POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, 1999/ HONS, 2001).

After a couple of attempts at a PhD, and a great deal of tutoring in PIS units, I was employed as a Policy Officer in the office of the Minister for Corrective Services in the Carpenter Government in 2008. After the election I held positions in the Department for Communities and WorkCover WA. In 2009 I moved to Canberra to take up a position with the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. I am still with the Department and am now an Assistant Director in the Skills Group, with responsibility for the day-to-day management of a vocational education and training infrastructure program.

BRUCE CHOW
(Bsc CHIROPRACTIC, 2009)

Since graduating I have established a multi-disciplinary wellness clinic in Kalamunda – the Kalamunda Wellness Centre. I currently have six practitioners with another due to start soon.

NANETTE JONES
(Grad Cert HRM & SAFETY, 2005)

After graduating I worked as an Environmental Health and Safety Manager for a large pharmaceutical manufacturing plant and, while there, I completed a Master of Leadership Management. Over the last three years I have established an OSH Specialist Advisory business here in Perth and now have a really great team working with me. I love the diversity of working with many different businesses.

DAMIAN WARD
(BCom, 1992)

Since graduating I have lived outside Australia in various places including Singapore, the Philippines, the United States and Spain. During those years I have worked with and for global trading, steel, and engineering companies, developing markets and product lines for advanced steel tubulars used in the energy industry to explore, develop, and transport hydrocarbons, steam, CO2, water, and other media. Whilst in Houston in 2007, I founded a small consulting and trading company. We are focused on developing international trade and technology alliances in the energy tubular sector. Since 2007 I have been lucky enough to combine these professional pursuits with a life in Barcelona, Spain. Barcelona is my wife’s hometown. We have shared the last 12 years of adventure with our three beautiful children. Last but not least, I am a member of Football Club Barcelona!

ALICE YEOW
(BA PSYCHOLOGY, 2005)

After graduating from Murdoch I went to Curtin to pursue an interest in cultural studies and fine art. I am now doing my PhD at Curtin. My thesis is about the ‘art’ of cosmetic surgery in the age of globalisation. While still studying, I plan to do a bit of freelance writing/editing, and to continue teaching in Perth. After that, who knows? I will be giving my second international presentation at Oxford University in July.

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

If you’re a graduate of Murdoch University in any degree, diploma or certificate then you are one of our wonderful alumni! Chances are that wherever life has taken you you’ll find fellow Murdochians somewhere nearby. Our groups and chapters would love to hear from you. If none of the groups below is close or suits your interests you might like to consider starting one yourself – and we are here to help. Alumni Relations can assist with contacting alumni in your area or from an old sporting group or even from the School or degree you studied in.

For more information see our website at www.murdoch.edu.au/Alumni/

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If you’re a graduate of Murdoch University in any degree, diploma or certificate then you are one of our wonderful alumni! Chances are that wherever life has taken you you’ll find fellow Murdochians somewhere nearby. Our groups and chapters would love to hear from you. If none of the groups below is close or suits your interests you might like to consider starting one yourself – and we are here to help. Alumni Relations can assist with contacting alumni in your area or from an old sporting group or even from the School or degree you studied in.

For more information see our website at www.murdoch.edu.au/Alumni/