Spring Back to Sydney Alumni Reunion

Enjoy a day of celebration, friendship and renewal of old ties at the University of Sydney

Saturday 19 September 2009

Program

The University of Sydney Alumni
Vice-Chancellor’s Welcome – Spring Back to Sydney

I am delighted to welcome you to the University of Sydney’s 2009 ‘Spring Back to Sydney’ Alumni Reunion.

Thank you for joining us and I hope that you and your family and friends will enjoy a day celebrating the best of the University of Sydney.

The Reunion is a chance to re-connect with fellow alumni, relive old memories, and share in the creative energy and joy in discovery that abounds at the University.

We trust that you will come to see the high standard of people, facilities, teaching and research that have made the University amongst the best in the world, and experience the benefits that your alumni network brings through its social, sporting, professional and cultural outreach.

Have a wonderful day!

Dr Michael Spence (BA ’85 LLB ’87)
Vice-Chancellor & Principal
The University of Sydney

Dr Spence is a graduate of the University of Sydney with First Class Honours in English, Italian and Law (BA (Hons) ’85 and LLB (Hons) ’87). Dr Spence spent twenty years at Oxford where he served as head of the Law Faculty at the University of Oxford and most recently, was Head of the Social Sciences Division, one of the four Divisions that make up the University. He has been Vice-Chancellor & Principal at the University of Sydney for over 12 months.
You are invited to enjoy tea with the Dean and senior faculty representatives of the presenting faculty following each Sydney Ideas Lecture; light refreshments will be served.

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11:00am - 10:30am Mixing medicines: when care is needed
Professor Andrew McLachlan
Faculty of Pharmacy
Kevin Lee Room
Quadrangle

10:15am - 10:45am Images from the collection – rare and unusual photographic items in the Macleay Museum
Mr Jan Blauster
Macleay Museum
Macleay Museum

10:15am - 10:45am China and globalisation
Professor David SIS Goodman
Faculty of Arts
Oriel Room
Quadrangle

10:15am - 10:45am Sustainable energy
Professor Tony Vassallo
Faculty of Engineering
Refectory
Quadrangle

10:45am - 11:15am The Sky’s the Limit – Astronomy in Antiquity
Dr Charles Fairchild
Sydney Conservatorium of Music
Withdrawing Room
Quadrangle

10:45am - 11:15am The public lives of popular music
Dr Charles Fairchild
Nicholson Museum
Quadrangle

10:45am - 11:15am Personalised therapy with new anticancer drugs
Professor Michael Murray
Faculty of Pharmacy
Kevin Lee Room
Quadrangle

11:00am - 11:30am Bushfires – an urban attitude
Professor Mark Adams
Faculty of Agriculture
Oriel Room
Quadrangle

11:00am - 11:30am Issues in learning to read: the great literacy debate
Professor Ian Caterson
School of Education and Social Work
Quadrangle

1:15pm - 1:45pm Travels in ancient Egypt with Herodotus
Dr Sophie Winlaw
Nicholson Museum
Quadrangle

1:15pm - 1:45pm Creative collaborations in the real world
Dr Stefan Popescu & Katherine Berger
Macleay Museum
Quadrangle

1:00pm - 1:30pm New perspectives on contemporary leadership
Associate Professor Richard Hall
Faculty of Economics and Business
Professorial Boardroom
Quadrangle

1:00pm - 1:30pm The American Civil War and the shaping of Australia’s constitution
Professor Helen Irving
Faculty of Law
Kevin Lee Room
Quadrangle

1:00pm - 1:45pm Great moments in science
Dr Karl Kruszelnicki
MacLaurin Hall
Quadrangle

1:15pm - 1:45am Individual and the world
Professor Anne Twomey
Faculty of Arts
Quadrangle

11:30am - 12:00pm City gardening demonstration – Faculty of Agriculture
Dr Justice Roddy Meagher
Art Gallery

10:00am - 10:30am Personalised therapy with new anticancer drugs
Professor Michael Murray
Faculty of Pharmacy
Kevin Lee Room
Quadrangle

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Dr Sophie Winlaw
Nicholson Museum
Quadrangle

11:45am - 12:00pm Comedy Debate featuring Adam Spencer, Rob Carlton, Tim Brunero and international student debaters
Comedy & Music – The Great Hall: Pages 10 - 11

10:00am - 12:00am Medieval performance by Jill Forrest
Registrations are essential for tours. All tours will depart at the starting time listed, please arrive at the meeting point 5 minutes prior to the tour.

11:00am - 12:00pm Children’s activities – baby animal farm, jumping castle, face painting and treasure hunt
12:00pm - 2:00pm Live jazz by The Con Artists – Sydney Conservatorium of Music
1:00pm - 2:30pm The Great Physics Air Show
1:00pm - 2:30pm Debate by The University of Sydney law students – Faculty of Law

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11:30am - 11:45am The NSW Bar Chor
1:00pm - 2:30pm The Law Revue performance
1:15am - 1:45am The Great Physics Air Show
1:00pm - 2:00pm Law Building Tour 2 [Full]
11:00am - 11:30am Law Building Tour 1 [Full]
10:15am - 11:00am Tour of University Museums 2 [Full]
11:15am - 11:45am Tour of University Museums 1 [Full]
10:00am - 1:30pm Tour of University Museums 3 [Full]
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10:00am - 10:30am
Mixing medicines: when care is needed
Professor Andrew McLachlan – Faculty of Pharmacy

Medicines have a great potential to treat and prevent human disease. Yet like many things in life they also provide a risk of harm to the patient. Indeed many older people take a combination of treatments to deal with different medical conditions. Understanding how medicines can improve rather than harm your health is what this session is about. This session will discuss our recent research that examines why some people respond differently to medicines, which combinations of medicines require careful attention and advice on how to reduce the risk of problems so you get the most from the medicines you take.

Venue: Kevin Lee Room, Quadrangle

10:00am - 10:30am
The relevance of Beethoven in today’s society
Professor Gerard Willems – Sydney Conservatorium

What does this statement really mean and how does Beethoven’s music infiltrate into our everyday life? Can we live without the music of Beethoven and how does his music enrich our society and make us believe in our sense of destiny?

The music itself.

Come and be amazed at how ubiquitous Beethoven is in our lives some two hundred years later. In 1841 the daguerreotype process arrived in Sydney and the first photographic images of the colony were captured. Over the next hundred years technology progressed from the cumbersome wet plate process to the Kodak brownie film camera, and practitioners changed from scientific amateurs and professional studios of the 19th century, to amateur snappers of the early 20th.

Venue: Maclay Museum

10:15am - 10:45am
Images from the collection: An illustrated talk showing some of the rare and unusual photographic items in the Macleay Museum
Ms Jan Brazier – Maclay Museum

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10:15am - 10:45am
Sustainable Energy
Professor Tony Vassallo – Faculty of Engineering

Sustainable energy covers a very broad range of technologies and activities. In this talk Tony Vassallo will explain what sustainable energy means, why it is important, and which technologies are likely to be deployed in Australia in the next decade or two. In addition to the electricity generating technologies, Tony will also explain why energy storage is important and how the introduction of electric cars might change the way electricity is produced and used.

Venue: Macleay Museum

10:45am - 11:15am
The Sky’s the Limit: Astronomy in Antiquity
Dr Elizabeth Bollen – Nicholson Museum

The rapid economic growth of the PRC since 1978 has placed China as a state has a long and cultural composition: that China has been ‘rising’ during the last three decades; that China as a state has a long history; and that there is a high degree of social and cultural homogeneity amongst the Chinese. Each of these three assists in the understanding of China’s development and place in the public beliefs about China’s economic development, history, and cultural composition: that China has been ‘rising’ during the last three decades; that China as a state has a long history; and that there is a high degree of social and cultural homogeneity amongst the Chinese. Each of these three assists in the understanding of China’s development and place in the world. At the same time there are alternative interpretations that result from taking a longer term/historical perspective on these same issues. This longer term perspective suggests a more complex role for China in the future of globalisation, as well as for the development of the Chinese state.

Venue: Nicholson Museum, Quadrangle

10:45am - 11:15am
Personalised Therapy with New Anticancer Drugs
Professor Michael Murray – Faculty of Pharmacy

How did the ancient Egyptians know when the Nile was about to flood? Why was Stonehenge built? How did people track the movement of the year to create calendars? How did devices like the Antikythera Mechanism help mark time? Which zodiac sign did Augustus use to legitimise his rule? How did the Call to Prayer perfect astronomical observations? What did Galileo do that so angered the Pope?

Join Dr Elizabeth Bollen, curator of the current exhibition The Sky’s the Limit: Astronomy in Antiquity, to learn the answers to these questions and to understand the significance of the sky through time.

Venue: Nicholson Museum, Quadrangle

10:45am - 11:15am
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Venue: Maclay Museum

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Venue: Maclay Museum
Issues in learning to read: the great literacy debate

The so-called ‘phonics-whole language’ debate about how children learn to read continues to rage in education circles. The so-called ‘phonics-whole language’ debate about how children learn to read continues to rage in education circles. This damaging and inaccurate polarisation is often coupled with criticism about how universities prepare new teachers to teach reading. Being obese or overweight is now the norm for Australian adults. Obesity rates are increasing in most countries throughout the world as well. Almost one in 4 of our children are overweight or obese as well and this does not bode well for the next generation. Obesity is such a major issue because it predisposes to, or causes many diseases, and obesity-associated disease is also on the increase. The reasons we are gaining weight are both our genetic predisposition, but also the ready availability of food and the impact of technology and urban design. We are eating more and doing less! Now that we have realised the problem, can we do something about it?

Venue: Refectory, Quadrangle

Sydney Ideas Lectures

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Challenges facing the Australian economy in 2010

Associate Professor Russell Ross – Faculty of Economics and Business

The current global financial crisis has certainly helped to focus minds on the economic challenges we are facing in Australia and has heightened interest in how the economy works – or could work!

Russell Ross, Associate Professor and Chair of the Faculty’s Discipline of Economics highlights that there are two sets of economic challenges we are currently facing in Australia. The first are the longer term challenges such as climate control, infrastructure and productivity. These are the challenges of disadvantaged groups and advancement of socioeconomic policies. However, it is the second set of challenges arising from the current recession in which many developed countries that Russell will focus on in his presentation for Spring Back to Sydney to ask the question – “What’s next for our economy?”

Venue: Professorial Boardroom, Quadrangle

Great chemical disasters

Professor Tony Masters – Faculty of Science

Join Associate Professor Tony Masters on this extraordinary journey through the world’s greatest chemical disasters. The stupidity of human error and the unpredictability of nature are guaranteed to astound audiences in this talk and demonstration, which will delight the crowds. Don’t miss out on how NOT to do chemistry!

Venue: Oriental Room, Quadrangle

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Venue: Oriental Room, Quadrangle

No free lunches at the table of knowledge – ending political donation scandals

Professor Anita Bundy – Faculty of Law

A lot of research tells us that play is good for kids; they learn motor, cognitive, and social skills. Many researchers and theorists tell us that play prepares children for life. The bubblewrap project aims to promote active, social and creative play amongst children. Professor Bundy is Head of Discipline of Occupational Therapy. Professor Bundy’s research is widely used by occupational therapists throughout the world. She has lectured on 5 continents and supervises graduate students from all over the world.

Venue: MacLaurin Hall

11:00am - 12:00pm

Comedy Debate

The Global Financial Crisis is a plot by alumni to keep University students in their place.

To celebrate the University’s long history of achievements in debating we are holding our third annual comedy debate. Adam Spencer (BA ’92) will again captain the Alumni team, along with Rob Carlton and Tim Brunero, debating against the current international student champions.

Venue: The Great Hall

Capacity: 600

1:00pm - 1:30pm

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Venue: MacLaurin Hall

Popping the bubble wrap – rethinking children’s outdoor play

Professor Anita Bundy – Faculty of Health Sciences

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Venue: The Great Hall

Capacity: 600

1:00pm - 1:30pm

Medley by The Sydney University Graduate Choir

Sydney University Graduate Chamber Choir, directed by acclaimed conductor Christopher Bowen, will sing a 30 minute medley of choral works for four or more voices - something old and something new. The Sydney University Graduate Choir was a State Finalist in the ABC’s Choir of the Year competition last year.

Venue: The Great Hall

Capacity: 600

1:30pm - 2:00pm

The NSW Bar Choir

The NSW Bar Choir was first formed in the mid 1990s to sing Christmas carols. It soon took on more challenging events, such as the opening of the Sydney Opera House. It is now one of Australia’s premier choirs; it sings regularly with the Australian Symphony Orchestra and with international choirs and orchestras. The choir has sung at the launch of the Sydney Opera House, at the opening of the Sydney Theatre and in many other events.

Venue: The Great Hall

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Venue: The Great Hall

Capacity: 600
9:00am - 10:00am  
Carillon performance by Jill Forrest  
Venue: Front Lawns, Quadrangle

The University of Sydney Carillon is located in the Clock tower of the Quadrangle. The best place to listen is the south west quarter of the Quadrangle. Performed by University of Sydney Carillonneur Jill Forrest.

10:00am - 2:00pm  
Children’s Activities – baby animal farm, jumping castle, face painting and treasure hunt

An exciting range of children’s activities is on offer throughout the day. Feed the animals at the baby animal farm, jump on the jumping castle and take part in an exciting treasure hunt. Treasure hunt forms are available from the registration tent. All children who complete the treasure hunt and hand it in to the registration tent before 2:00pm will receive a prize.

Venue: Front Lawns, Quadrangle

10:30am - 11:00am & 2:00pm - 2:30pm  
The Great Physics Air Show

Air is all around us: we breathe it, but we cannot see it. There’s lots of amazing science about air – come and find out all about it. See brains expand and watch barrels being crushed. Find out what happens if you go for a spacewalk without a space suit, or get frozen to -200 degrees. This show will fascinate both young and old!

Venue: Front Lawns, Quadrangle

10:45am - 11:00am  
The Chocolate Workshop – do you know where chocolate comes from?

Chocolate makers create recipes to suit the customer. To ensure the best combination of ingredients, professional “masters” are employed to judge the quality. The Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources invites you to taste the difference. Join us to explore the wonderful world of food science.

Venue: Front Lawns, Quadrangle

11:00am - 11:30am  
Law Revue Performance

With unwavering commitment to parody, performance and pun, the University of Sydney Law Revue continues to uphold the fine comic traditions that have spawned such talents as the Chaser, friends of the Chaser, passing acquaintances of the Chaser, and countless corporate sell-outs. For your viewing pleasure Law Revue is proud to present a number of sketch and song items from their most recent performances - No Justice from Old Men and Law School Musical.

Venue: Front Lawns, Quadrangle

11:30pm - 11:45pm  
City gardening demonstration – native grasses for city living

How to decorate your balcony or small outdoor area with native grasses. Find solutions for inner-city living – join us for the basics of potting plants 101 and buy a plant from our experts at the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources.

Venue: Front Lawns, Quadrangle

12:00pm - 2:00pm  
Live jazz by The Con Artists

The Con Artists are jazz students from the jazz studies unit of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, joined by jazz studies chair Craig Scott. The group will be swinging hard, playing music to challenge and delight your auditory senses. Relax on a comfortable chair Craig Scott. The group will be swinging hard, playing music to challenge and delight your auditory senses. Relax on a comfortable chair.

Venue: Front Lawns, Quadrangle

2:00pm - 2:30pm  
Debate by the University of Sydney law students

Don’t miss this opportunity to see top debaters from the Faculty of Law go head-to-head.

Venue: Quadrangle

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Venue: Quadrangle

3:00pm - 5:00pm  
Sydney University International House Afternoon Tea

Sydney University International House Alumni Association (SUHIA) invite all International House alumni to visit the house for afternoon tea.
Heritage Tours
10:15am - 11:15am  1:15pm - 2:15pm
Join us for one-hour heritage tours of the Quadrangle building and museums. Discover the rich and diverse history of the University of Sydney including gargoyle highlights and the museum collections.
Venue: Tours begin at 10:15am and 1:15pm sharp under the Clock Tower
Capacity: 30 people per tour [Full]
Other information: Registrations are essential for tours as capacity is limited. Tours will involve climbing some stairs.

Museum Tours
11:00am - 11:30am  1:00pm - 1:30pm
Museum curators will take you on a tour around three University museums: Nicholson, Macleay and Art Gallery. Discover the rich collection of art, history and culture and hear some fascinating exhibition insights from our specialists. Don’t miss the opportunity to handle ancient objects!
Venue: Nicholson Museum is located at the southern entrance of the Quadrangle
Capacity: 30 per tour [Full]
Other information: Tours start at the foyer of the Nicholson Museum

Law School Tours
11:00am - 12:00pm  1:00pm - 2:00pm
3:00pm - 4:00pm
The new Faculty of Law Building now occupies a site within the Camperdown Campus bounded by Fisher Library, Eastern Avenue, the Carslaw Building, and Victoria Park. Take a tour of this spectacular building that spans over four floors.
Venue: Meet at the registration tent located on the front lawns for a short walk to Eastern Ave
Capacity: 24 per group [Full]
The University of Sydney hosts a range of talks, lectures, forums and debates featuring leading international and Australian thinkers, as well as our own academics. Visit the Sydney Ideas website to sign-up to the mailing list and receive regular updates on the program.

www.usyd.edu.au/sydney_ideas
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