

MAY 2017



STEAMPUNK GIRLS

The counterculture
revolution for
young women

ANOTHER THINK COMING

Could this new
treatment end
obesity?

ABORIGINAL SYDNEY NOW

Helping students
engage with
Indigenous culture

ASK THE EXEC

Patrick Woods



deputy vice-chancellor
(resources)

Do you have a secret talent?

Hmm, if I told you, it wouldn't be a secret, would it?

What characteristic do you most admire in other people?

During my career and travels, I have spent a considerable amount of time experiencing different countries, cultures and industries. Invariably, the people I admire most are those who exude a sense of confidence but without any hint of arrogance.

Somehow, they seem able to leverage their self-assurance to show leadership and to help others succeed. Yet, despite this amazing talent, they are still able to remain humble and laugh at life. Many people take life far too seriously!

What was your favourite TV show growing up and now?

OK, I'll admit I was a *Star Trek* fan growing up. I vividly remember being annoyed when my mother called me for dinner before the show was over because I didn't want to miss a minute. These days I don't watch much TV although I recently enjoyed a mini-series called *The Night Manager*, based on a John le Carré novel.

It's about a former soldier who has to navigate the corridors of power when he's recruited to infiltrate an arms dealer's inner circle. The world of international espionage helped to put the challenges of my job into perspective!

What are the key construction projects for UTS in 2017?

Our campus never stays still! The transformation of building 2 – right in the heart of our campus – is obviously the biggest and most visible. Construction is now underway and I personally cannot wait to see this student and research hub take shape.

There are also two other major projects that aren't nearly as visible. One is our new state-of-the-art sport science facility at Moore Park – an Australian-first project that will see our university programs integrated with major sporting facilities. The other is the new Blackfriars Children's Centre, which will provide much-needed additional childcare places for our staff and students. Of course, there are many, many smaller projects too, and all of them are playing a crucial role in reshaping our campus.

What excites you most about the UTS campus?

There's a vibrancy to our campus that is palpable and really excites me. One of the objectives of the Campus Master Plan was to create a 'sticky campus', a place where students want to study, learn and socialise. I think we've achieved that.

When building 2's student hub opens, that sense of connection will be even more powerful. I've also been heartened by our ability to keep an eye on the big picture through some pretty significant changes. Yes, some of our building projects have been – and will continue to be – disruptive, but we are a resilient bunch and what's ahead will make it all worthwhile.

Photographer: Jesse Taylor

Articles

06

Aboriginal Sydney now

The new subject teaching students how to better engage with and understand contemporary Indigenous culture

08

Another think coming

Could the way we think, not just what we eat, be the key to fighting overweight and obesity?

10

STEAMPunk girls

The Hatchery has teamed up with female high school students to start a new counterculture revolution that teaches women to lead innovation in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics

02

Ask the exec: Patrick Woods

04

News: We are UTS

05

Around U: Give and let live

12

Staff profile: In style

13

Alumni profile: Beyond a label

14

Two of U: Close knit

16

Student profile: Bridging the gap

17

U: read it: UTS in print

18

Featured event: Impact

19

What's on: May

19

Art & U: UTS art collection

Next issue

The next issue will be released on
Monday 5 June 2017

All U: articles are available to read online via newsroom.uts.edu.au or follow us [@utsnewsroom](https://twitter.com/utsnewsroom)
Send your story ideas, opinions and events to u@uts.edu.au

Page 19 images: Taloi Havini, *Habitat: Konawiru*, single channel video with sound, 3:43 mins, 2016 (detail). Courtesy the artist and Andrew Baker Art Dealer; unspash.com; *Eco-Warrior vs. The Plastic Menace* by Sameed Khan

Issue 03

U: is published by the Marketing and Communication Unit and provides a voice for the university community. As such, the views in U: are not necessarily the views of the university or the editorial team. U: reserves the right to edit as it sees fit any material submitted for publication.

Managing editor: Greg Welsh

Editor: Fiona Livy

Assistant editor: Hannah Jenkins

Enquiries: 02 9514 2249 | u@uts.edu.au

Contributors: Joumana Awad, Anita Dawson, Rebecca Gallegos, Peta Gilbert, Amy Grady, Eleanor Harrison-Dengate, Maya Marcus, Janet Ollevou, Jay Raman, Courtney Wooton

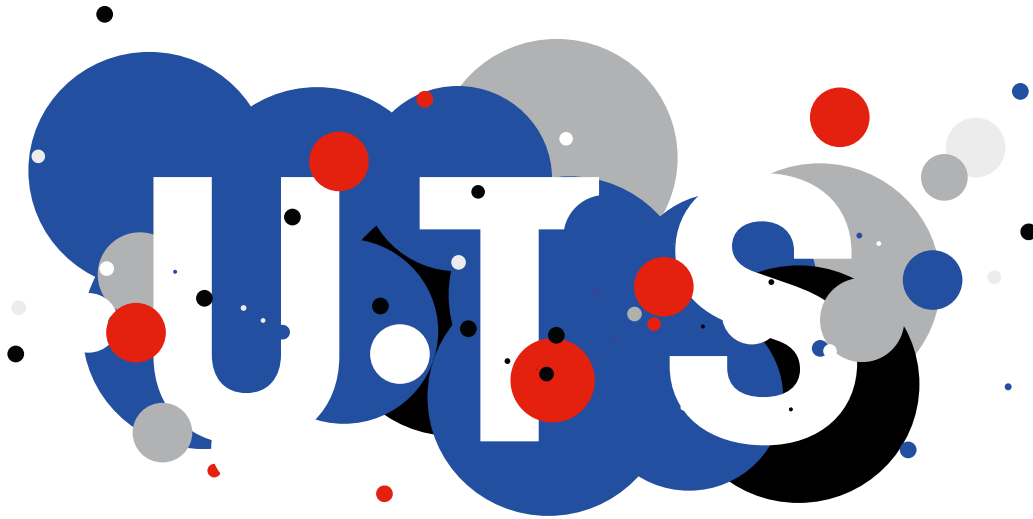
Art direction: Shahnam Roshan

Design: Paul Boosey

Cover image: Shane Lo

Media enquiries: Terry Clinton | 02 9514 1623

We are UTS



Authentic, creative, energetic, open and entrepreneurial. If UTS were a person, that's how you might describe them. And, from Monday 1 May, the way the university presents itself to its stakeholders will increasingly reflect these personality traits.

May marks the start of the roll out of the university's visual identity refresh. Key to the new look and feel are a set of characteristics that describe who we are, what we stand for and how we interact with each other and the broader community.

"Our staff and students are all potential advocates and the authentic voices of UTS," explains Director of the Marketing and Communication Unit (MCU) John Chalmers. "We all have a role to play in helping UTS be a world-leading university of technology, and to recruiting the right staff, students and partners to help us grow."

The visual identity refresh comes after extensive research into what the university community and its current stakeholders think UTS stands for.

"We all have a unique perspective of UTS and could give countless reasons of why it's important to us," says Chalmers.

"We explored that diversity of thought and experience to help us define and articulate what UTS stands for – we're authentic, creative, energetic, open and entrepreneurial.

"Many workshops and stakeholder interviews were conducted and we established a Brand Advisory Council that included two Deputy Vice-Chancellors, four Deans and representatives from Alumni and Advancement, UTS International and UTS:INSEARCH."

The move to a more consistent, unified way of representing UTS, which is being overseen by MCU, includes the roll out of a new visual identity and tone of voice guidelines. "It brings us the opportunity to more easily talk about the exciting work that is happening across the university, and better profile UTS as part of everything we do," says Chalmers.

Over the next six months, staff can expect to find new email signatures, and business card and stationery templates on StaffConnect. Within the next year, you'll see a new website, advertising and other external communication templates come together too.

Moving forward, all UTS materials will use a combination of red, blue, black, white and monochrome colours.

"The inspiration behind our new colour palette is technology and data," explains Chalmers. "The blue is inspired by the colour of MS-DOS coding screens and the red by website heat maps."

The logo is also breaking out of its box, literally. The updated logo, (you can check it out on page 2) maintains the anchor form at the top, inspired by the City of Sydney coat of arms and maritime location; the DNA double helix in the centre is symbolic of innovation, technology and collaboration; and the wave forms at the base reflect our Sydney Harbour location," explains Chalmers.

Arguably, the most exciting part, though, is the new UTS Visualiser. Its development included input from academics in the faculties of Engineering and Information Technology, and Design, Architecture and Building. Says Chalmers, "It's a data visualisation tool we have built to uniquely tell our stories and enable a vibrant, energetic, flexible and ever-evolving visual identity.

"We input unique data about our faculties, our students or research centres into the UTS Visualiser and it outputs superb graphics which are supported by our photography, graphics and typography.

"It's unlike anything other universities are doing, and represents that junction where creativity meets technology. That is really at the heart of UTS and it's something we can all get behind."

For the latest information about UTS's brand refresh rollout, visit uts.ac/2nQdEXo

FIONA LIVY
Marketing and Communication Unit



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
or share it @utsnewsroom

Give and let live

In September 2000, a then seven-year-old Safa Rahimi flew into Sydney Airport. The Rahimi family (which includes four daughters and one son) had spent the last eight years living in Pakistan after fleeing Afghanistan.

“Thinking back on it,” recalls Rahimi, “coming here was very, very shocking. It was so different from what we had experienced in Pakistan. We didn’t know where to begin or what to do.”

Rahimi and her family, with help from her father’s brother, settled in Western Sydney. Her mother, a paediatrician, stayed home to raise the children while her father, an optometrist, went back to work.

Fast forward to 2011 and Rahimi began studying social inquiry and law at UTS.

“My parents, at that stage, were retired and I didn’t want to rely on them financially, so I started working quite long hours.”

By early 2015, Rahimi was not only studying full-time, but working part-time in the personal injury department of a private law firm, working weekends at Officeworks, interning at Immigrant Women’s Speakout Association and volunteering at the Australian Refugee Volunteers.

“It did take a toll on my mental health and also my physical health,” admits Rahimi. “So I thought I should probably get some help.”

With encouragement from a friend, Rahimi applied for the UTS Alumni Scholarship and her application was successful. “It was just a massive weight off my shoulders,” she reveals.

Not only did the scholarship help Rahimi pay for text books and reading materials, but “it made me step back from work for a while and just concentrate on uni.” She was even able to undertake an additional teaching session for honours in law.

Rahimi says, “There are a lot of students who are struggling to go thorough university not because they don’t want to be there, but because they’re so worried about how they’re going to buy textbooks or travel or buy laptops or notebooks or pens.”

UTS’s Annual Appeal Manager Natalie Shillitto agrees. This month, as Rahimi graduates from UTS, the university is also launching its Annual Appeal.

“We raise funds primarily for disadvantaged students, who may not otherwise be able to afford to attend university,” says Shillitto.

Last year, the Annual Appeal raised over \$150,000. This year, the target is \$200,000. And while Shillitto’s team will focus much of their efforts engaging with alumni, staff and the general public are encouraged to contribute too.

“It’s quick and easy to donate,” says Shillitto. “You can do it all online and select whether you want to make a one-off contribution or a recurring gift.



Donations of any size quickly add up and every gift makes a real and positive impact in helping students in need.”

Rahimi agrees. “What strikes me particularly about this program is that it helps students who genuinely need it. You can never go wrong with helping students who actually require, and are grateful for, that help.”

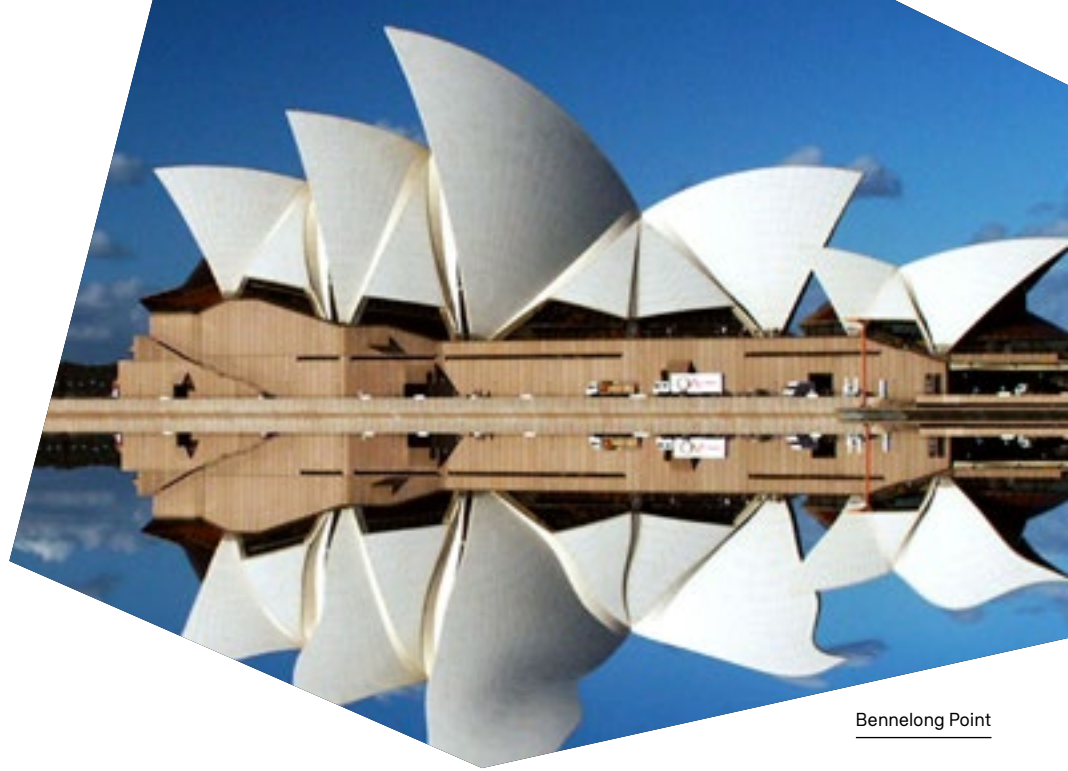
To find out more about the UTS Annual Appeal or to donate now, visit giving.uts.edu.au

FIONA LIVY
Marketing and Communication Unit

Photographer: Kevin Cheung



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
or share it @utsnewsroom



Bennelong Point

Aboriginal Sydney now



Susan Page

You may have heard about the Bangarra Dance Theatre and Bennelong Point, but what about Lake Northam, Bidura, Royleston and Murawina? A new subject run by the Centre for the Advancement of Indigenous Knowledges (CAIK) is giving all undergraduate students the opportunity to better engage with and understand Indigenous culture.

Hurrying through the Tower foyer on the way to your next meeting or lecture you might just miss it. But there, opposite the concierge desk, hanging proudly, is *Portrait of Aunty Joan Tranter*, a 2013 painting of UTS's inaugural Elder-in-residence.

It's this kind of easily-missed engagement with contemporary Indigenous culture that CAIK Professor Susan Page wants students to take notice of in the new undergraduate subject, Aboriginal Sydney Now.

CAIK, which was established in 2015, focuses on the implementation of UTS's Indigenous Graduate Attributes. The strategy aims to ensure all graduates understand and engage with Indigenous ways of knowing, being and doing in their

Remnants of Lake Northam
in Victoria Park, Glebe



chosen discipline. Aboriginal Sydney Now, offered to undergraduate students in all faculties as an online subject, is the first step to achieving these outcomes.

The subject, says Page, “is designed to be an introduction to Indigenous studies and we’re hoping that ultimately, a significant number of undergraduate students will take it in their first year.”

It was launched in Spring session 2016, and has, so far, been very well received, thanks in part to the unique and authentic assessments and activities.

“The very first thing we did was to get students to look for something Aboriginal on campus,” explains Page. “Students found all sorts of things like flags, publications, and of course artworks like the portrait of Aunty Joan.”

Throughout the subject, students are encouraged to undertake walks around Sydney to find significant Aboriginal sites. They include Murawina childcare centre on Eveleigh Street, Redfern, the historic Bidura and Royleston children’s homes in Glebe and the remnants of Lake Northam in Victoria Park, Glebe.

They’re guided by the City of Sydney’s *Barani/Barrabugu (Yesterday/Tomorrow)* booklet which splits significant sites into four separate journeys. They also watch select episodes of the TV series *Redfern Now*, which is used in the online lectures and discussions, led by CAIK Research Assistant and Tutor Alison Whittaker, to structure and frame elements of learning.

Page explains these activities all “have some emphasis on contemporary Indigenous Australia. That’s not to say that we forget about the past, and there are certainly parts of the subject that are about the past, but to remind students that there are Aboriginal people here now, and that even if we’re in the city, we are on country.”

Bachelor of Laws graduate Laura Qiu says, “My journey with this subject has really highlighted the intricacies and difficulties that threaten Aboriginal culture. It has been really eye-opening to learn about Aboriginal culture in far more depth than what I’ve previously experienced.”

The final assessment for Aboriginal Sydney Now requires students to create an e-portfolio mapping their home community, wherever that may be, and the Indigenous sites in that area.

“Students first had to figure out whose country they were on, then they looked at language groups, they investigated council records, they sought out organisations,” says Page.

Bachelor of Biomedical Science student and Wiradjuri man Rene Oslizlok explored the Aboriginal communities along the Georges River (Dharawal country). “I enjoyed researching my old stomping ground near Salt Pan Creek,” Oslizlok says. “And finding out more about the people that strode upon it.”

Says Qiu, who mapped the Leichhardt Council area (Gadigal and Wangal country), “We could all be doing more to promote Aboriginal culture and educate people on the issues facing Aboriginal people in Australia.”

In the future, UTS students will have a number of touch points throughout their degree that will help them engage with Aboriginal perspectives and histories.

“My journey with this subject has really highlighted the intricacies and difficulties that threaten Aboriginal culture”



Portrait of Aunty Joan
Tranter in the Tower foyer

“This subject really is about knowledge and knowing,” says Page. “We hope that other subjects will help connect the dots between what we look at and how that matches up with their disciplines.”

“Ultimately,” concludes Page, “we want students to question, ‘How will I, as an Indigenous or non-Indigenous person and as a professional, engage with the Indigenous community?’”

HANNAH JENKINS

Marketing and Communication Unit

Photographer (S Page): JK Photography
Photographer (*Portrait of Aunty Joan Tranter*):
Fiona Livy
Photograph (Victoria Park): Wikipedia Commons
Photograph (Bennelong Point): Bernard Spragg/Flickr



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
or share it @utsnewsroom

Another think coming

Imagine if you could lose weight by not just watching what you eat, but by how you think? New research by clinical psychologist and UTS Research Fellow Jay Raman suggests the key to sustained weight loss lies with our 'executive function' – the ability to pay attention to details, plan, organise and make healthy decisions. It's a revolutionary approach that's set to offer tangible, inexpensive obesity treatments that trim waistlines and government spending.

Obesity is one of the greatest causes of preventable morbidity and mortality worldwide. In Australia, almost two-thirds of adults are overweight or obese. And despite the fact that overweight and obesity significantly contribute to heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, stroke, dementia and certain types of cancer, treatment options remain poor.

In today's information-rich world, we're constantly saturated with lifestyle advice as to how much and what we should eat, how much we need to exercise and where we should go to seek help. Yet, paradoxically, obesity is escalating in pandemic proportions. Even with the help of professionals and extended behavioural treatments, statistics show, for most people, weight regain typically re-occurs when that professional contact ends.

So, what hope have we got?

As obesity typically develops when an individual's energy intake exceeds expenditure, it's critical to address disordered eating behaviours. In order to overcome unhealthy eating habits and resist temptation towards highly appealing but unhealthy food, individuals have to attend to details, plan, organise and make healthy decisions. These thinking skills are aspects of 'executive function'.

Jay Raman



Eating the 'right' kinds of food is just one component of sustained weight loss

“In order to overcome unhealthy eating habits and resist temptation towards highly appealing but unhealthy food, individuals have to attend to details, plan, organise and make healthy decisions”



Cognitive remediation and cognitive behaviour therapies may improve brain function and coping skills, and enable sustained weight loss

yielding to habit and temptation can sabotage even the best laid plans for weight loss. Despite substantial research showing neurocognitive deficits in obesity, these processes are not addressed in current weight loss programs.

In my doctoral studies, completed last year, I implemented a novel treatment called cognitive remediation therapy for obesity (CRT-O). This study showed improvement in cognitive flexibility was a predictor of clinically significant and sustainable weight loss – that is where, three-months post-therapy, the participants in the treatment group lost more than five per cent of their body weight. This study also found CRT-O improved the mental health-related quality of life in people with obesity.

Since then, we have translated our growing body of knowledge into the cognitive remediation enabled cognitive behavioural therapy (CR-CBT) program – it’s a world-first for obesity treatment.

CR-CBT, as its name suggests, aims to improve brain function so as to aid weight loss and maintenance. This treatment has been specially tailored to address the habit and temptation aspects in individuals with obesity using both cognitive remediation therapy (CRT) and cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT).

The CRT addresses the implicit and autonomic processes (for example, problem-solving skills are taught using games, puzzles and other tasks), while CBT modifies unhelpful attitudes and behaviours (for example, participants are taught skills to cope with dissatisfaction when they first try temptation resistance strategies).

I’m currently running two case series pilots. One is individual face-to-face treatment in a community setting and

Executive function is an umbrella term for the neurologically based skills involving mental control and self-regulation. Executive deficits, therefore, can lead to impaired performance in goal-directed behaviours, delaying rewards, difficulty adapting to change, difficulties putting a sequence of steps in order, difficulties shifting perspectives, impulse control problems, poor planning and decision making difficulties. Sound familiar?

Current weight loss treatments assume that in obesity, people have sufficient cognitive resources so they are able and ready to follow the recommendations during and after the treatments, and they are able to make the required choices in their lifestyle change. But that’s not always the case.

There is emerging evidence of a negative association between obesity and executive function. For example, in adults with obesity, evidence has demonstrated executive deficits in inhibitory control and inhibition response leading to disinhibited eating, greater food cravings, impulse dysregulation and decision-making impairments. Hence, executive deficits can make weight management highly challenging and onerous in obesity.

The two hallmark features of obesity maintenance, namely habit and temptation, rely heavily on our executive abilities. Despite our earnest efforts,

the other is group-based therapy in a metabolic clinic setting. In these pilots, my team and I are looking at changes in weight loss, maintenance, improvements in heart and metabolic functions as well as habit and temptation-related behaviours. We’re also looking at the quality of life at the end of treatment and at three- and six-months post treatment.

These pilots are the first systematically developed psychological intervention program of their kind. They are informed from a strong empirical basis and will potentially aid in weight loss and weight loss maintenance, heart and metabolic health and also improve health-related quality of life in obesity.

Given the substantial economic and wellbeing costs of obesity, it’s vital to identify cost-effective means to help individuals achieve sustainable weight loss. The success of our projects will have major ramifications for community-wide, tangible and cheap treatment options for obesity.

JAY RAMAN
Research Fellow
Graduate School of Health

Photographer (J Raman): Shane Lo
Other photos supplied by: UConn Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
or share it @utsnewsroom

COVER
HATCHERY

girls

STEAMpunk



STEAMpunk Girls workshop,
November 2016



Kate Paterson

While government, schools and industry debate how society can empower women, UTS has been taking action. The Hatchery, based in UTS's Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Creative Intelligence Unit, has teamed up with female high school students to start a new counterculture revolution – teaching young women how to take charge of their careers and lead innovation in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM). It's a program called STEAMpunk Girls and it launches this month.

November 2016: The basement of building 15 is overflowing with young women. There's foil, cellophane and cardboard everywhere. Not to mention Post-it Notes; lots of Post-it Notes. A group of Year 10 students are in the Hatchery building prototypes for the 'universities of the future', and their ideas and laughter fill the concrete-lined space.

UTS integrated product design and international studies student Kate Paterson played witness to the creative chaos. Paterson, alongside four other student coaches – Alex Hiller, Julia Down, Laurence Presland and Joanna Griffiths – spent two days as a coach for UTS's STEAMpunk Girls.

While the workshop wasn't exactly how she pictured spending her summer break, it's an experience Paterson would never trade. "It was really good to be able to learn about what's going on in other industries," explains the young designer.

"Learning about the ways that collaboration is helping things like science, which can seem so insular, is really great. It's a reminder that no matter what level your skills are at or what you're working on, you should always be sharing with other people."

STEAMpunk Girls is an education program that introduces young women in high school (aged 12 to 16) to entrepreneurship and the science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics industries. It promotes a transdisciplinary approach to problem solving and aims to empower young women.

“We need young women to be equipped with STEM skills and entrepreneurial mindsets so they can help innovate and improve Australia”

The first day was an introduction to STEAM, transdisciplinary problem solving and interviewing skills. The young women then headed back to their schools to interview other students and gather information about how they want to learn more about STEAM and what barriers might be blocking their understanding.

The second day, held at UTS one-and-a-half weeks later, saw the high school students unpack their interviews and findings using ideation and the design thinking process.

“My favourite part of the workshops was ideating,” enthuses Paterson. “I think high school can encourage a lot of wrong and right thinking. It was exciting to see young people shake that all off and just have fun while thinking about a real-world problem.

“It may not seem like a bunch of Post-it Notes and a lot of laughing can result in anything productive, but they were really switched on about how to tackle the opportunity space.”

Paterson says this distinct co-design process was the key to empowerment. “We don’t listen to young people enough, especially young girls. So when you give them the chance to be heard, they will make the most of it.”

Tippapart agrees. “The co-design process was an important way for us to give the high schools girls the authority to tell us what issues were affecting them and what type of content resonated with young women. In many respects, the young women are the subject matter experts and the insight they gave us has been the cornerstones of how we approach the design of the program.”

The key themes and ideas that came out of the co-design workshops have been used to design the program’s official pilot which kicks off this month. The program, which runs until August, will involve over 60 girls from four Sydney high schools.

Using the theme ‘future earth’, the young women will identify a problem area to work on and develop a project that can solve it. It will culminate in a showcase event where they will pitch their solutions and present the prototypes they’ve developed.

STEAMPunk Girls is also an opportunity to highlight the amazing STEAM projects and role models at UTS. Tippapart is working to bring together UTS researchers and external partners to design unique content that will excite the participants about STEAM study and career paths.

“UTS has some world-class researchers and facilities that are all right at our door step. The aim of the program is to expose the students to as many different ways of thinking and working, which is the core of STEAM education.”

The STEAMPunk Girls pilot will also be supported by ongoing research with the students, their teachers and parents. By testing what effectively engages young women with STEAM, entrepreneurship and project-based learning, UTS will then be able to design scalable educational interventions to help engage all Australian high school girls with STEAM.

Says Tippapart, “We need young women to be equipped with STEM skills and entrepreneurial mindsets so they can help innovate and improve Australia. In the 2017 National Science Statement, participation in science, technology, engineering and mathematics subjects in Australian schools is declining. If this decline in participation and performance continues, Australia may be unable to supply the skills required for the future workforce.”

Find out more about STEAMPunk Girls at uts.ac/2nFnDkl

MAYA MARCUS
Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Creative Intelligence Unit

Photographer (K Paterson): Shane Lo
Photographer (workshop): Clare Hannah

“Introducing young women to STEAM and entrepreneurship will help support them to participate in the innovation conversation,” says UTS Hatchery Program Manager Tida Tippapart.

Tippapart, who helped manage and design the workshops, adds, “It’s also about enabling young women to create their own counterculture where they can carve out their own transdisciplinary study and career pathways, have a voice in society, and disrupt expectations about the role and place of women in Australia.”

Tippapart says, “Graduates of STEAMPunk Girls will be creative, lateral and critical thinkers who are able to approach problems and opportunities with an entrepreneurial mindset. Even if they don’t move into STEM fields, they’ll be aware of their impact and be able to incorporate elements of the STEM industries in other areas where they work.”

The program was co-designed by female Sydney high school students and their teachers who came to UTS for two days last November.



STEAMPunk Girls workshop, November 2016



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
or share it @utsnewsroom

STAFF PROFILE

ACTIVATEUTS

In style



Jay Ouffoue



#lesecteur_ men's summer suit

Meeting Gerard 'Jay' Ouffoue, you're immediately struck by his sense of style – his hat, his sweatshirt, his overalls. Ever since Ouffoue was young, he was always a bit too tall and skinny for regular sizing, so he decided to start sewing for himself in his hometown of Paris.

"Slowly, slowly I got better as I was doing it," says Ouffoue. Then, when he arrived in Australia in 2010, Ouffoue says, "I had the chance to buy a sewing machine. I started to play with it and one thing led to another, and now I have my own brand."

That brand is #lesecteur_ . 'Le secteur' literally means 'the area' in French and it's a name that Ouffoue says alludes to one of his core values – that a sense of community is critical to having a good life.

"It's important to feel a part of your community, to feel good about what you're doing and what you're wearing. Communication isn't just about your voice. For me, I express myself through my clothes."

Ouffoue's style can primarily be summarized as 'tribal'. "My designs can be inspired by African, Aboriginal, Asian or Indian styles," he explains. "I like lots of patterns and colours. Most of the time my clothes carry a story."

In addition to designing, and working in the facilities department at ActivateUTS, Ouffoue's own story includes a stint, from 2003 to 2005, playing soccer for French Ligue 1 team FC Metz. However, an ankle injury cut his professional career short.

In 2010, after changing gears and interning as an accountant, Ouffoue decided to come to Australia for a new adventure. One year later, he began working at ActivateUTS and hasn't looked back.

"I work in the facilities department, so I help and support all of the other departments of ActivateUTS. We maintain and repair everything that belongs to ActivateUTS. That means I do everything from shifting offices and carrying out repairs, to helping out with events and making sure everything runs smoothly.

"I also met and married my lovely wife here in Australia," adds Ouffoue.

Although he grew up in Paris, Ouffoue's family is from Cote d'Ivoire. He credits the country and its people, who are able to craft exquisite items with only limited resources, as one of his main inspirations.

"It helped with my self-motivation," admits Ouffoue. "Sometimes I think we are too comfortable with what we have and forget to be grateful."

When Ouffoue isn't working at UTS, designing clothes or playing soccer with his friends, you can find him dancing to Coupé-Décalé music – the Cote d'Ivoire's definitive pop music.

As for the secret to Ouffoue's success, he says, "I try to be a humble, simple person, who loves life. I try to be grateful for what I've got and I try to always find a reason to smile and be positive."

ELEANOR HARRISON-DENGATE
Master of Journalism

Photographs supplied by: Jay Ouffoue



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
or share it @utsnewsroom

ALUMNI PROFILE

GSH

“The first time I labeled a box, the pharmacist told me that a crooked label means a crooked pharmacist. It was the first lesson I learned from a pharmacist, and so, now, I always have to have the label very straight on each box that I dispense.”

So says Master of Pharmacy graduate Liam Nguyen, who is now living out his childhood dream of working in healthcare.

“When I was younger I liked rearranging the medicine cabinet and I didn’t know why. I thought it was really unusual how this little white pill could go into your body and save your life.”

Years later, Nguyen embarked on a journey to become a pharmacist where he learned the art of the little white pill and the “delicate balancing act” of medicine.

UTS’s Master of Pharmacy was Nguyen’s second attempt at the degree. In his early 20s, Nguyen left a Bachelor of Pharmacy for a Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science in Canberra. Armed with an undergraduate degree, confidence and much more experience working in community pharmacies, Nguyen was attracted to UTS’s practical approach to study.

“They were saying, ‘We’ll prepare you for a career in hospital, industry or community depending on what you want’. I found that really attractive,” says Nguyen. “And they followed through!”

Nguyen’s arrival at UTS coincided with the opening of the university’s state-of-the-art Science and Graduate School of Health building. But he attributes his success to the people at UTS.

“A lot of my success is due to Cherie,” says Nguyen of his Clinical Practice Subject Coordinator Cherie Lucas. “She really pushed me out of my comfort zone.

“In the beginning, I didn’t realise that I’d actually become a hospital pharmacist. I thought community pharmacy like everyone else because hospital was so competitive.”

But, Nguyen says, undertaking almost 500 hours of clinical placements and another 90 hours of virtual community



Liam Nguyen

Beyond a label

and hospital placements in the simulated pharmacy and hospital rooms on campus, gave him a competitive edge.

One four-week rural placement even took the young pharmacist to Grafton Base Hospital.

“It was challenging working in Aboriginal health because a lot of the people I met didn’t want to speak to anyone who wasn’t Aboriginal,” recounts Nguyen. “I found out that in rural hospitals there’s an extra member of the healthcare team – the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner. They’re the bridge between doctors and pharmacists and those who don’t feel comfortable speaking directly with us.”

Since finishing his degree last year, Nguyen has been interning full-time at the Sydney Eye and Hand Hospital. At the same time, he’s preparing for his written and oral exams in June this year. It’s the final frontier in his nine-year journey to becoming a registered pharmacist.

Despite the long journey, Nguyen’s fascination with medicine remains.

“My goal is to eventually become an antimicrobial stewardship pharmacist. The extensive overuse of anti-infective agents in healthcare means resistance is rapidly developing to the most commonly used drugs.

“A lot of people think that all pharmacists can do is label their medications on a computer. But, there’s actually so much going through our minds when we first see a script: what interactions might occur for this patient? What allergies do they have? What side-effects would put them most at risk?”

“Ensuring the quality use of medicines and patient safety; they’re the two most important goals of a pharmacist.”

ANITA DAWSON

Marketing and Communication Unit

Photographer: Shane Lo



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
or share it @utsnewsroom

The Beanies for Baldies box at The Children's Hospital at Westmead



Beanies donated to Beanies for Baldies



Close knit

When Tamara Shaw, a nurse at The Children's Hospital at Westmead, and Anita Dawson, a Communication Officer at UTS, first met in Year 7 they had no idea they would forge a friendship that would span 13 years (and counting). During this time, the two have finished high school, graduated from UTS, travelled overseas and started a not-for-profit project, Beanies for Baldies, which brings together yarn lovers who craft beanies and sick kids in hospital.

Tamara Shaw

A few years ago, I noticed one of the oncology wards at work had a stack of beanies for kids, but there weren't enough for all the children. My grandmother taught me to knit when I was younger and so when I went away with Anita and a few other friends for a girls' weekend in June 2014, I showed up with a stack of knitting needles and forced them all to knit and watch *Harry Potter*.

Anita's grandmother had also taught her to knit when she was a child but neither of us could remember how to do it! We had to look up some YouTube videos, but after that it all came back.

Since then, Beanies for Baldies has grown and grown. It's been massive; way bigger than either of us ever expected. It started off with Anita and I knitting beanies in our spare time and putting them in a box on the ward, but the interest among our family and friends kept growing so we decided to make Facebook and Instagram pages so more people could get involved.

We have about 20 regular knitters and crocheters. This year alone we're already north of 200 beanies, and it doesn't look like it's slowing down! We're even getting a couple of donations of booties, mittens and scarves, which we love.

We have so many now that we're looking to send them to different areas of the hospital and even to surrounding hospitals. Every now and then at work, I'm on the Variety Ward, we have a quiet night shift so I'll teach some of the other nurses how to knit so they can contribute beanies too.

We also organise regular meet-ups which we call 'Wine and Woolies'. It's basically where we get a group of people together and we all sit, drink wine and chat. It's a great time to thank people for what they're doing and connect with knitters of all different ages. It's really cool to see grandparents and people in their 20s all sitting around teaching each other how to knit. People think it's hilarious when we sit in a cool rooftop bar in Kings Cross and whip out our knitting needles!



Travelling in Thailand, 2014



Anita Dawson
and Tamara Shaw

Anita Dawson

Tamara and I were so different when we met in high school at Catherine McAuley Westmead. Toward the end of high school we became so much closer and then we both ended up at UTS when we started university in 2010.

Tamara did nursing and I studied a Bachelor of Sound and Music Design and Bachelor of Arts in International Studies. I was coming into a course that was brand new and I really enjoyed it, but I loved international studies more than anything. I'm still at UTS – I work in the Marketing and Communication Unit (MCU) – where I manage the university's social media channels, so I think that's a testament to how much I love UTS!

Tamara and I didn't see each other all that much during university – it was mainly just our friendship that kept us going. But we used to go on dumpling lunch dates. We were regulars at the Chinese Noodle House in Haymarket. We'd always get the braised eggplant dumplings and still do to this day! We recently found out it's also

BYO so we could even have a Wine and Woolies there!

Wine and Woolies is our favourite part of Beanies for Baldies. I feel like we built this project just to combine our two loves: knitting and wine. It's really nice to give the crafters a purpose for their knitting, and it's really rewarding to put a smile on the kids' faces.

We even have a small group in MCU who get together once a week for a lunch and a catch-up over knitting. We're lucky to have amazing people who support us and regularly donate yarn and knitted items – we don't accept financial donations. It makes it easy for us to love what we do because everyone involved is really passionate about it.

To find out more about Beanies for Baldies or to join the UTS knitting group, email anita.dawson@uts.edu.au

PETA GILBERT
Bachelor of Communication (Journalism)

Photographs supplied by: Anita Dawson and Tamara Shaw



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
or share it @utsnewsroom

the gap

Bridging



Isabella Mifsud travelling in South America



Isabella Mifsud always knew she wanted to travel, but taking a gap year just wasn't right for her. Instead, she enrolled in journalism and international studies at UTS.

Last year, as part of her degree, Mifsud spent a year abroad in Chile where she adventured, challenged herself and discovered a passion for cooking.

"I was lucky enough to go down to Patagonia which is this beautiful landscape that borders Argentina and Chile," recalls Mifsud. "I was able to do a five-day hike and I think accomplishing that was one of the most amazing feelings. I cried after that.

"I'd never done something so physically or mentally exerting in my life and so it gave me a lot of perspective."

While Mifsud says travel and exploration were major highlights, her international studies research project was the defining experience.

While abroad, all UTS International Studies students complete a major research project about their exchange country. Mifsud, a "passionate" feminist, decided to focus her research on abortion in Chile and the factors that influence university students' stances on this.

"It forced me to talk to people I would never have spoken to, to engage with groups and organisations that I would have never had to deal with in daily life and I think

it gave me a unique perspective on the different issues."

After countless hours of background research, surveys with students and interviews with relevant organisations, Mifsud made some really interesting discoveries. Firstly, she says, "There was a 'societal acceptance of promiscuity' among both men and women. This despite Chile being deemed a very Catholic country."

She also found male university students weren't able to discuss contraception in an open manner, which stood in contrast to female students. "It means there's a heavy reliance on females being vigilant when it came to contraception.

"If a girl in Chile was to become pregnant it essentially becomes her burden or her and her family's responsibility. I think fathers need to be equally accountable, but society kind of lets them off," she adds.

Mifsud also discovered that despite abortion in Chile being illegal, the country has one of the highest abortion rates in the world. While the Chilean government has proposed new laws to allow abortion for therapeutic reasons and in cases of sexual assault, Mifsud's research shows

Chilean university students believe abortion should be available by choice. Currently, safe abortions, in clinics, are only available to those who can afford it.

"This really angers me because it becomes an example of economic discrimination. Women who suffer financially are the ones at risk of unsafe abortions and the complications that come with them. It must be terrifying."

Mifsud, having now returned home from her year abroad, says she is inspired to pursue research further and hopes to continue her work with women's reproductive rights.

"I kind of had the forethought that research was very dry and didn't allow me to use the skills that I had learned in journalism.

"I want to dedicate my time to making feminist issues from around the world visible – whether that's through journalism or research, I'm not sure yet."

AMY GRADY

Bachelor of Arts in Communication (Journalism)

Photographs supplied by: Isabella Mifsud



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
or share it @utsnewsroom

U READ IT

UTS in print


THE CLEANSKIN

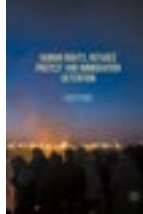
By: Laura Bloom
 Publisher: The Author People

A truly successful novel has the ability to resonate within the lives of its readers. Laura Bloom's *The Cleanskin* successfully touches on the subtle complexities of everyday life, showcasing the ability of universal truths to transcend both time and place. Set against the backdrop of contemporary Australia, the novel begins in the idyllic town of Mullumbimby – a stone's throw away from Byron Bay. To the outside world, Halley lives a carefree life along with her husband and their teenage son. However, when Aidan – the brother of an Irish Republican Army (IRA) operative – resurfaces her secluded existence is interrupted. Halley is forced to re-live the mistakes of her past, when as a naïve and idealistic woman, she was drawn into the activities of the IRA. In exposing Halley's past, and pitting her against her alter ego, Bloom creates a complex, confused, yet morally courageous protagonist. With *The Cleanskin*, Bloom has written a novel relevant to those whose actions in a past life continue to haunt them, proving that true closure is only possible through acceptance of this history.

JOUMANA AWAD

Graduate Certificate in Editing and Publishing

The Cleanskin is the fifth book by 1992 Bachelor of Arts in Communication graduate, **Laura Bloom**. Bloom's novels have been shortlisted for the NSW Literary Awards, the ABC Fiction Prize and the Young Australian Readers' Awards and have been published in France, the US and the UK.


**HUMAN RIGHTS,
 REFUGEE PROTEST
 AND IMMIGRATION
 DETENTION**

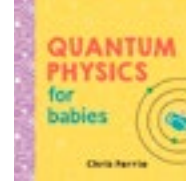
By Lucy Fiske
 Publisher: Palgrave
 Macmillan

Although we might hear news reports of 'illegal' boat arrivals, and the appalling conditions of Australian and off-shore detention centres, the voices of individual asylum seekers inside these centres are rarely heard. In *Human Rights, Refugee Protest and Immigration Detention*, Lucy Fiske seeks to fill this void. By providing a platform for asylum seekers to speak for themselves, we are given the opportunity to better understand what their experiences of detention are, and why they protest. By interviewing former detainees, Fiske explores why protests such as hunger strikes, lip sewing and escaping are so common in detention centres. The current discourse, where asylum seekers are either feared or need to be saved, fails to convey the complexities behind protest actions. All the former detainees interviewed by Fiske spoke of feeling powerless and frustrated, and of a need to feel – and be recognised as – human. Those in detention have little control over their situation, from everyday activities such as choosing when and what to eat, to the core issue of seeking asylum. Rather than simply being criminals reacting to failed visa applications, those in detention are seeking to reclaim agency over their situation.

REBECCA GALLEGOS

Marketing and Communication Unit

Lucy Fiske is a Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.


**QUANTUM PHYSICS
 FOR BABIES**

By: Chris Ferrie
 Publisher: Sourcebooks,
 Inc

Juxtaposed between storybook and textbook, Chris Ferrie's *Quantum Physics for Babies* lightens the intellectual load and adds some colour to concepts usually reserved for academic inquiry and debate. It explores the fundamentals of atoms, protons, neutrons, electrons, energy and the relationship between matter in surprisingly simple and colourful diagrams. The book makes for light, fun reading with children of any age and simplifies without trivialising the core theory of quantum physics. "Oh wow! Awesome!" is not the kind of reaction that I was expecting for a quantum physics book, but that's just what I got when reviewing *Quantum Physics for Babies* with my eight-year-old son, Harvey. I, though an avid reader and lover of words, have been challenged to explore his areas of interest including the hard sciences, mathematics and even coding languages. Many books on these topics are too technical and literal, and just downright intimidating. Ferrie though, has triumphed with an engaging, yet simple take on a complex topic. If only there were books like this around when I was young, I may have been less daunted by the techy-topics later in life!

COURTNEY WOOTON

Marketing and Communication Unit

A physicist, mathematician and father of four, Chris Ferrie is also a Senior Lecturer at the Centre for Quantum Software and Innovation. *Quantum Physics for Babies* is one of eight science for children books written by Ferrie.


**CO-OP MEMBERS
 SAVE 20%**

on *Quantum Physics for Babies* and *The Cleanskin*. Mention U: magazine at the Co-op Bookshop on Broadway during May 2017

Impact



A baby cries. Flickering images and unnatural human movements cross the screen. This is how artist Michael Cook reflects on his own story of being separated from his 16-year-old birth mother, and how he explores the unfathomable separation of mothers and their children from Australia's Stolen Generation.

Impact brings together new media and video works from Cook and three other acclaimed artists – Taloi Havini, Angela Tiatia and Fiona Foley. It questions the ongoing effects of colonisation on First Nation communities in Australia and the Pacific region.

Impact, which is touring from Cairns Regional Gallery where it was originally curated, is showing at the UTS Gallery from 9 May until 30 June. Senior Curator at Cairns Region Gallery Julietta Park says, “Each work in the exhibition powerfully and evocatively portrays a different issue.

“I approached two artists from Queensland and two artists from the Pacific to present works that explore the close cultural ties that exist between the two regions and the cultural, environmental, social and political issues that are shared between the communities.”

While Cook’s video and photographic works tell the story of an Indigenous mother’s despair, Queensland artist Foley’s film looks at the destruction caused by white men stealing Aboriginal women, the collapse of traditional Aboriginal kinship marriages and the subsequent pain in Indigenous culture.

Moving north to Papua New Guinea, Havini explores the social and political ramifications of the conflict between Australian mining companies and the native Nagovis people of Bougainville. Tiatia takes viewers to Tuvalu in the South Pacific to show the effects of climate change as the island faces the possibility of evacuation due to rising sea levels.

Says Park, “The artists were so supportive and spent lots of effort and time making new works for *Impact*.”

“Taloi Havini made two trips to Papua New Guinea and stayed almost four months there to film *Habitat: Konawiru*.”

Impact was originally curated to coincide with the 2016 Cairns Indigenous Art Fair which presents the best of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures in Queensland to Australia and the world. And it doesn’t disappoint.

***Impact* is on display in the UTS Gallery until 30 June. For more information, visit art.uts.edu.au**

HANNAH JENKINS
 Marketing and Communication Unit

Image: Michael Cook, *Mother (Seesaw)*, inkjet print on paper, 180 x 120 cm, 2016. Courtesy the artist, Andrew Baker Art Dealer and THIS IS NO FANTASY + Dianne Tanzer Gallery



View this article at
UTS NEWSROOM
 or share it @utsnewsroom

WHAT'S ON

May

Email your events for August 2017 to u@uts.edu.au by Friday 30 June

FROM
09



EXHIBITION

Join UTS Art, Jumbunna Research and City of Sydney as they commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Referendum and the Aboriginal activism that preceded and followed it through a program of events entitled *Living in Their Times*. It coincides with the gallery's latest exhibition, *Impact*

■ UTS Gallery, building 6, level 4
Until 28 April
Mon-Fri 12pm-6pm,
Saturday 12pm-4pm
art.uts.edu.au

11



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Come along to the *Coaching for Performance Development* workshop and discover how you, as a supervisor or manager, can develop your coaching skills and better manage and develop your staff

■ Building 1, level 22, room 10
9am-5pm
uts.ac/2np6BET

FROM
23



EXHIBITION

Swing by the ABC foyer between Tuesday 23 May and Friday 26 May to view the Green Week Photography Competition Exhibition – a collaboration between UTS and our neighbours Ultimo TAFE and the ABC

■ ABC building, 700 Harris Street, Ultimo
Until 26 May
8am-7pm
seb.crawford@uts.edu.au

ART & U


Johnny Bulunbulun (1946-2010, Ganalbingu people), *Lunggurrma (Northern wind, body designs)* 1997, lithograph, number 8 of an edition of 40, UTS Art Collection, purchased 1998

In the digital age, traditional printmaking is a somewhat misunderstood art medium. A common misconception is that an art print is simply a printed copy of an original artwork. In fact, some of the best artworks in the UTS Art Collection are prints devised and made as artworks in themselves, usually in small editions, and often with the assistance of a master printmaker in a specialist workshop.

This is the case with *Lunggurrma*. It's a striking graphic produced by senior Ganalbingu man Johnny Bulunbulun in collaboration with printmaker Leon Steiner at the Northern Editions Studio in Darwin. Before his death in 2010, Bulunbulun was an important singer and ceremonial man for the northern part of Central Arnhem Land. *Lunggurrma* depicts one of his personal totem designs. It was used as a body decoration in diplomatic public ceremonies by the Ganalbingu

and Djarrawitjibi people to strengthen economic, social and kinship ties between different groups.

A common theme in many of Bulunbulun's paintings was the annual visit of the Macassan traders. *Lunggurrma* (translated as the northern wind) was what brought the traders boats during the wet season, and is represented here with the triangular pattern. Bulunbulun's lithograph, printed in 1997, is a highlight of the UTS Art Collection and on display in the Dean's Unit at the Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building.

For more information, visit art.uts.edu.au

JANET OLLEVOU
UTS Art

Art & U profiles a piece of work from the UTS Art Collection every issue

Cactus



“February 2017, myself and two of my closest mates organised a trip to Rams Head Mt Kosciuszko. It was their first time being at the highest point in Australia, and what a trip it was!

“On this particular night, we had fallen asleep well before 2am, when the Milky Way was meant to reveal itself. For some odd reason I woke up at 1.50am. I noticed a red light spilling under the tent cover and rushed outside to see why. It turns out the moon was setting with not a cloud in sight, coating everything in a calming, tranquilising red.”

Photographer: Joshua Moll (@jayemol)
Bachelor of Design in Visual Communication



UTS has done its bit for the environment by using environmentally friendly paper and ink to produce U:
UTS CRICOS Provider Code: 00099F
ISSN No: 1833-4113