The Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, turned the first sod on 7 October 2011 to mark the beginning of construction of the University of Ballarat’s Manufacturing Technology Training Centre (MTTC).

The new $18.09 million facility in Grant St, Ballarat, will become the hub of manufacturing education and training throughout Western Victoria.

The centre will provide an enhanced regional focal point for manufacturing technology education and incorporate new and emerging developments, with an emphasis on mechatronics, computer automation control and robotics.

Already the University has 200 apprentices in manufacturing and when the MTTC is operational this number is expected to increase to 300.

Construction of the MTTC will bring together the vocational education and training streams associated with manufacturing services.

The building will accommodate current course provision and specialist spaces for developing skill requirements in manufacturing technology.

The MTTC will provide 4,700 square metres of building area for administration, amenities, workshops, laboratories, storage, classrooms and plant and equipment, associated with the skills based training areas of welding, metal fabrication, mechanical fabrication, equipment maintenance and robotics.

In this Edition...
What’s been happening?

**International Triathlon Union (ITU)**

*Age Group World Championships*

UB Alumni member Sarah Bone participated in the International Triathlon Union Age Group World Championships in Beijing from 7-11 September 2011. *(Sarah is featured in the Graduate Profile on page 3).*

Sarah was selected among the 200 strong Australian contingent for the International Triathlon Union event in the 25-29 year age group over the Olympic distance. Olympic distance triathlon consists of a 1.5km swim, 40km bike ride and 10km run.

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**Congratulations Sarah on finishing equal 20th!**

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Tell us your story!

**ub)alumni** would love to hear what you’ve been doing since you left University.

To provide feedback or submit information for the newsletter please contact Pam on (03) 5327 9929 or email alumni@ballarat.edu.au.
Sarah Bone studied at the University of Ballarat between 2001-2003, graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) in 2004.

### Describe the most enjoyable and challenging aspects of your job

- I currently work at the University of Ballarat (UB) as Systems, Business Analyst in the Finance Department
- I enjoy the variety of jobs I am given and the changing environment
- I love working with a great group of people

### What are some of your career highlights?

- Working at UB is a highlight! There are a number of staff who studied at UB, and are now working here
- Coordinating consolidation of annual accounts for Australia’s second largest Uni (University of Queensland)

### Do you have any advice about life after study for current students?

- It’s really important to continually challenge yourself - and look for opportunities to build on your skills
- Never doubt your abilities
- Always take opportunities that present themselves

### What are your strongest memories of your time studying at the University of Ballarat?

- The friendships formed with my fellow students over the years
- The small class sizes
- Great support from teaching staff and fellow students
As mentioned in the September edition, implementation of our new Contributor Relations Management system is on track for early April 2012.

Contributor Relations is a system designed to capture information related to Alumni of the University of Ballarat and to promote an active participation from members. Part of these objectives include an online forum for former students to facilitate the update and tracking of their personal information.

Work is well underway in relation to the implementation, and we will be seeking all former graduates of the University to update their details online once the system is fully operational.
The following Committee members have been appointed to the Hong Kong Chapter:

- Ivan Chan \textit{President}
- Pan Leung \textit{Vice-President}

**Attention Graduands and final year students from Singapore.**

Australian Alumni of Singapore (AAS) is a non-profit organisation established in 1955 to promote friendship and goodwill among the various graduates and members from different Australian tertiary and professional institutions. It is an umbrella organisation of Singapore-based alumni from each of the Australian Universities. More than 100,000 Singaporeans have studied in Australia.

The current Patrons of the AAS are His Excellency Dr Tony Tan, President of the Republic of Singapore, and His Excellency Mr Doug Chester, Australian High Commissioner to Singapore.

Activities organised include talks, networking nights, career services, study tours, business start-up coaching and reunions. AAS maintain close linkages with various alumni offices in Australia and Singapore.

Should you be interested in joining visit [http://members.aas.org.sg/register](http://members.aas.org.sg/register) to sign up.
University of Ballarat Alumni Malaysia Chapter had the opportunity to meet with the Victorian Governor, His Excellency, The Honourable Alex Chernov AO QC during a Business Insights luncheon on 5 November 2011.

The event organised by the Victorian State Government via its Business Office in Malaysia, was part of its initiative to connect and foster closer relationships among the Victorian alumni members.

He shared some light moments and also gave a short history of Melbourne, explaining that it was built from gold discovered in Ballarat.

Jafri bin Abdullah, Malaysia Chapter
The UB Ex Staff Association (UBESA) aims are:

- To foster and preserve the fellowship and friendships formed and developed by staff of the University of Ballarat during their period of employment.
- To provide social and other activities for members.
- To maintain and foster interest in, and support of, the activities of the University of Ballarat as appropriate.
- To co-operate with other organisations with similar interests and objectives.

Those eligible for membership are all former staff members of the University of Ballarat and its predecessor institutions.

The association meets twice each year in May/June and in December. A newsletter, which is also valuable for members living beyond Ballarat, is published twice per year with contributions from members.

To view UBESA Newsletters and application for membership go to www.ballarat.edu.au/alumni/ub-chapters-and-networks/networks/ubesa or contact the Secretary Verna Barry on vernabarry@bigpond.com or phone (03) 53 323318.

Arrangements for the 2011 end of year function on Thursday, 8 December at UB Caro Convention Centre are as follows:

10:15am    Presentation by Mal Vallance, Technology Park Director
           ‘The Regional Impact of the University of Ballarat Technology Park’.

11:15am    Annual General Meeting at UB Caro Convention Centre.

12:00noon  Lunch at Albert Coates Complex.

Are you graduating in December?

UB and Graduate Careers Australia would like to invite you to complete the Australian Graduate Survey. Your feedback is extremely important to us and we would love to hear how you are progressing in your chosen field since completing your studies at UB.

The survey will be distributed to you in the coming weeks.
If you have moved recently please update your details at: www.ballarat.edu.au/aasp/student/admin/he/contact_details.pdf

If you have any questions please call Carly (Survey Officer) on 61 3 5327 6162