For many regional students the cost of attending University is out of reach. Of course the University already has excellent student support services but the Foundation enables us to target students whose needs go far beyond what our regular student support programs can offer.

Students who require support from the Foundation are identified either by their secondary school before or during the enrolment process, or later in their tertiary studies when remaining at University comes problematic.

In this regard, the University of Ballarat Foundation was launched with a $200,000 donation from one of the University’s long-time supporters, Dr Wai-Man Woo.

Since then, the Foundation has raised over $1 million towards its target of $4 million.

I therefore seek your support in sharing the Foundation’s vision, to assist those students in pursuit of further education, regardless of their circumstances, and I can assure you that, whatever your gift, it will help to make a difference.

Should you be interested, a Pledge Form for the University of Ballarat Foundation is attached. For further information, contact the Foundation Office. Contact details are listed on the Pledge Form.

Help us ‘Make a difference’
By giving to the UB Foundation
You are making more than a donation,
You are investing in a young person’s future.

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Four graduation ceremonies were held in December 2011, with more than 650 Higher Education (HE) and TAFE students graduating from UB.

**Congratulations to all UB graduates and best wishes for your future!**

### KIRAN MAZUMDAR-SHAW

For those of you wanting an interesting read, there was an article ‘Drug Test’ in The New Yorker on 2 January 2012 about one of our former graduates, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw is known as the richest self-made woman in India.

Page 2 of the article refers to Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw’s time in Ballarat:

*She moved to Australia to study the biology of beer at the University of Ballarat, outside Melbourne. “It was kind of a transformational time for me”, she said. “I had a great time”.\*
Matthew Coates studied at the University of Ballarat between 1995-1999, graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce / Bachelor of Computing in 2000.

Matthew is currently a Partner at Accenture—www.accenture.com

What are some of your career highlights?

I think the highlight of my career was being promoted in 2009 to partner in the London office, nine years after graduating from University. It was something I had set my sights on and managed to achieve at a relatively speedy pace.

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

Make sure that you pursue a career that you enjoy – if you do this – you will excel in whatever you do. Also, when you start your new job, don't be afraid to ask for help and guidance in whatever task you set.

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

UB is a great learning environment that fosters learning and collaboration between staff and students. Looking back, the staff created a great learning environment where they took a personal interest in the development and learning of each student.

Describe the most enjoyable and challenging aspects of your job

The best part about my job is working with highly motivated and intelligent people – I work with some of the best people in the consulting industry and they keep you on your toes, thinking and challenging you.

I really enjoy the project and client based work also – it means that you are always getting a new challenge to solve for a client.

Matthew Coates
Ed Rogers, a former graduate of the School of Mines and Industries Ballarat has been named as part of the exclusive AECOM Fellowship Program. The inaugural program celebrates companies senior-most leaders who have demonstrated a lifetime of industry advancement and technical success at AECOM.

Ed Rogers, an industry director, joined AECOM in 1967. His technical expertise has resulted in major advances in diverse areas across the industry. With extensive experience working with both private and public clients across several markets, Rogers has been responsible for many milestone international projects, including: the Waihai bridge, the first major bridge in China by an international design and constructor contractor; the Rod Laver Tennis Arena in Melbourne, Australia, which features one of the world’s first retractable stadium roofs; and the world record-breaking space frame steel roof on the Singapore Exhibition and Convention Centre.

An AECOM Fellow is a life-long title awarded to current or past employees who have set himself or herself apart as a true technical thought leader over his or her entire career and who has demonstrated significant contributions to the company, the engineering industry, their specific discipline and, of course, the clients.
my Alumni Centre—Coming Soon!

As you will have read in the last newsletter, the implementation of our new online system—my Alumni Centre is on track for April 2012.

my Alumni Centre gives you an opportunity to reunite with your fellow graduates, through an online system to:

- Update your personal details
- Search for other ub)alumni
- Apply for UB Alumni Library membership

Those ub)alumni currently receiving this newsletter, will be sent login details from the Alumni Office once the system is available.

* Please note however that my Alumni Centre is only available for higher education students at this stage. TAFE will be implemented at a later stage.

UNVEILING OF HISTORY BOARD

A Founders' Hall History Board was unveiled in December 2011 at the Caro Convention Centre, Mount Helen. Ex-Staff Association members were present.

ENGINEERING GRADUATE REUNION

A reunion for all graduates of UB engineering degree courses is being planned for late April 2012 and will be hosted at the UB Mt Helen campus.

This event will provide a great opportunity to reacquaint with former graduates, share your experiences with current students and staff and catch up with what’s new at UB.

Interested to know more? Available to help organise this event? Contact:

- Neil Blanchard on 0437 363 961 or neil.blanchard.au@gmail.com; or
- Chris Hutton on 0429 575 684 or chrishutton@ballarat.vic.gov.au
Preman Parameswaran studied at the University of Ballarat, graduating with a Bachelor of Business in 2005.

Preman is currently responsible for the Olympic Council of Malaysia Liaison & Marketing.

Describe the most enjoyable and challenging aspects of your job

For me, I don’t consider it as a job but passion. As sport is my passion, working in the sports industry is something I love and enjoy doing on a daily basis.

Challenges

1. Creating local sports content for local pay per view television station
2. Working with local sports association and world class

What are your career highlights?

- Being part of the core team to set up an all new, first of its kind local sports channel in Asia.
- Successfully coming up with marketing and content strategy for the channel since its inception
- Educating local national sports bodies/associations on how to market and popularise their sports to masses and increasing their revenue through intensive marketing and broadcasting rights.

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

- Always generate and focus on positive thinking even during hard times.
- Dream the impossible
- Always look to challenge yourself and never fail to look for new opportunities

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

- Making new friends especially with international students.
- Strong support from academician and also program officers.
- Last but not least, graduating from the University of Ballarat is the best memory/experience which I will cherish for the rest of my life.
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 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](http://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.

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The 2011 AGM of UBESA was held on Thursday 8 December, 2011.

Prior to the meeting, members attended a presentation by Mal Vallance, Director of UB Technology Park, on ‘The Regional Impact of the University of Ballarat Technology Park’

A recommendation from the executive committee proposing the introduction of a life subscription payable at the AGM was accepted by the members. The election of office bearers then followed.

At the conclusion of the meeting a Founders Theatre History Board was unveiled in the foyer of the building.
ub)alumni Chapter Hong Kong President Ivan Chan attended a Welcome Dinner for the Australian Consul-General Mr Paul Tighe in Hong Kong in Nov, 2011. The event is organised by The Federation of Australian Alumni Associations Hong Kong.

Mr Tighe is a Senior Career Officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He is currently First Assistant Secretary of the Trade and Economic Policy Division, a position he has held since March 2008. Mr Tighe has previously served overseas as Australian Ambassador to Greece, with earlier postings to Thailand and the Australian delegation to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris.

The Hong Kong Chapter has also revamped and launched its website. Please visit the website for the latest news—http://www.ubachk.com

A Facebook page has also been created for the Hong Kong Chapter — http://www.facebook.com/

Are you graduating in May?

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

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Stephanie Sharp studied at the University of Ballarat, graduating with a Bachelor of Applied Computing, and is currently studying / Bachelor of Computing (Honours).

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

- I enjoy having the freedom to participate in a number of different projects, and gain a wide range of skills and experiences. It's satisfying seeing a product I've created being used by other IBMers to improve our service to our clients.
- It can be difficult to juggle the workloads of the various projects I am working on simultaneously, good time management is really important in my role. Being the only female in my team is also sometimes a challenge!

### What are some of your career highlights?

I have been in my current role for just over a year, but one of my highlights was being the soledeveloper of a web application that is now used by IBMers across Australia and overseas.

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

- Be confident. Know what skills you have (and don't have), and be confident in yourself and your abilities.
- Be realistic. As a web developer I am constantly pushed to meet unrealistic expectations and deadlines. Do yourself a favour and be realistic about what you can and can't do.
- Have fun! Uni was one of the best times of my life, work hard but remember to enjoy it (this applies to your career too).

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

- I remember having great subjects, and lecturers and staff that were friendly and willing to help.
- One of my favourite memories was having the opportunity to speak at the UB Research Conference. When I started my degree I would have never thought I was capable, but I really enjoyed the experience.
At a meeting of the ITE Australia & New Zealand Section/Engineers Australia Transport Branch recently, Bill Saggers received a certificate denoting his election to Honorary Life Membership of ITE. Only 5 Australians out of a total of some 80 recipients have now achieved this status with the ITE since the organisation began making the award in 1933.

ITE is an international organisation currently with 17,000 members covering 90 countries and headquartered in Washington DC. Details on the Institute, its aims and its listing of past Life Members can be found on their website – www.ITE.org

Bill Saggers, a past SMB Civil Engineering Diplomate (1952-1955) said:

I remain forever pleased with my years spent, and indebted for the education I received, at the Junior Technical School and The School of Mines.

**Career**

Bill’s first engineering position was with the Portland Harbour Trust in 1956 where he carried out the preliminary design for the No.1, K S Anderson Wharf. His starting position was to be as an Assistant Engineering on a salary of 876 Pounds, but, being only 18 and not 21, Public Service Regulations directed that the position be changed to Engineering Assistant at the reduced salary of 848 Pounds.

He continued to work part-time in consulting for 5 years following retirement from VicRoads in 2002, his last piece of major work for Vicroads was to champion and oversight the particularly successful introduction of modern day metering on Melbourne’s Eastern Freeway. Following that success the practice has extended to Auckland (NZ), Perth (WA) and is being rolled out across Melbourne’s entire freeway network.

**Sport**

Whilst attending SMB in 1954, Bill represented Victoria at the National Under 18 Baseball Championships. He was one of the first players from regional Victoria to be selected at this level. He subsequently played some 450 games for the University of Melbourne Baseball Club over the period 1958-88 and was awarded a Half Blue in 1958 and a Full Blue in 1961; and on three occasions at the National Intervarsity Baseball Carnival was selected in the All-Australian University Baseball Team. In 1986 he was one of the inaugural recipients of the Melbourne University Sport ‘Special Services Award’ in recognition of an extended period of helping younger players.