Message from the Vice-Chancellor

Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, a most distinguished alumna of the University and a pioneer of the biotechnology industry in India, was honoured by Federation University Australia on Thursday 5 March with the unveiling of a road named after her at the Mt Helen Campus.

Dr Mazumdar-Shaw, chairperson and managing director of India’s largest biopharmaceutical enterprise, Biocon, officially opened Mazumdar Drive near the University’s Science and Engineering building.

During her visit she was also inducted as an Ambassador of the University for a three-year term.

The University was so honoured to welcome Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw back to the university she studied at all those years ago.

Kiran was able to use the skills she learned here studying brewing to develop Biocon into one of the world’s leading biopharmaceutical companies.

We are also delighted that Kiran agreed to become an Ambassador for FedUni. This role will entail the promotion of the university on specific occasions.

The University were thrilled to receive advice that Kiran will fund two scholarships within Biomedicine and Biotechnology.

Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw

Dr Mazumdar-Shaw graduated from the Ballarat College of Advanced Education in 1975 as a Master Brewer with a Graduate Diploma in Malting and Brewing. She also received an honorary Doctorate of Science from the University in 2004 in recognition of her pre-eminent contribution to the field of biotechnology.

A first-generation entrepreneur, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw became one of the youngest recipients of one of India’s top civilian awards Padma Shri in 1989 and then the Padma Bhushan in 2005.

Named among TIME magazine’s 100 most influential people in the world, Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw has made affordable innovation the foundation of her business model.

Recently, she was conferred with the Global Economy Prize for Business by Germany’s Kiel Institute for the World Economy and Othmer Gold Medal by the Chemical Heritage Foundation in US for her outstanding contribution to biotechnology.

Biocon, India’s only publicly listed biopharmaceutical company, serves customers in over 85 countries and is committed to reducing therapy costs of chronic diseases like autoimmune, diabetes, and cancer. Through innovative products and research services it is enabling access to affordable healthcare for patients, partners and healthcare systems across the globe.

“I am very grateful to Federation University Australia for its generosity in naming Mazumdar Drive in my honour. I have many happy memories of my time here and acknowledge the significant role the University played in my education and development” said Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw.
Graduate speeches

A graduate speaker (student) is selected for each graduation ceremony, to speak on behalf of all graduates. In December, there were four graduate speakers who were quite inspirational.

Some excerpts are below. A full copy of their speeches are available at:

Lorne Williams

“Look down at the piece of paper in your hands; while frail and fragile those few words and bit of parchment are, they represent the culmination of many sleepless nights, toil, stress and hard work over the years. Hold it tight because it is the key to your future, one that we, the next generation of academics, teachers, scientists, businessmen and engineers will build using the skills we learned here and the ideals imparted to us by this university ….”

Rishi Kanojia

“Being a part of an institute that excels in quality of teaching, training and research, today I am proud to say that we are now equipped with the knowledge and skills in our respective fields ranging from business to science and technology and other faculties…”

Annabele Gomez

“Fellow graduates this is our moment! To celebrate months and years of hard work. A new chapter of our lives, where we take what we have learned at this university to another level …”

Sujan Bharati

“Today I feel both humbled and proud; humbled because I am indeed fortunate to be among so many wonderful, hard-working and dedicated individuals representing different faculties and from different countries in the world, and proud not only for what I have achieved, but for what all of us have accomplished. All of the graduates should feel very happy with their efforts …”

Congratulations to our 2015 Alumni Award winners

Alumnus of the Year

Mr Grant Meredith

Grant completed his Bachelor of Computing (Honours) in 2008. Grant linked his passion for helping people in need, promoting the University and his crowd funding appeal to multiple target audiences. Grant launched and established the Technologies for Empowering People for Participation in Society “TEPPS” research program.

Through TEPPS, Grant has envisaged, created and managed a number of free software systems for people with special needs, including the Scenari-Aid website which is an online social simulator that enables people to desensitise themselves to commonly feared social settings and also to practice different forms of speech therapy within.

Grant also lead the way and showcased Scenari-Aid via the University’s highly successful crowd funding project, which alumni members were asked to support. The crowd funding project reached its goal of over $25,000.

International Alumnus of the Year

Mr Shane Armstrong

Shane completed his Diploma of Education in 1983. Shane’s career has taken him from the western suburbs of Melbourne to Sydney where he accepted the position of Education Publisher with Scholastic Australia in 1992. Receiving the Company’s Excellence Award for over $1 million worth in sales during 1995, just one of his achievements.

Soon after being appointed Publishing Director for Macmillan Education Australia in 1996, he was selected by the Macmillan UK Board as the new Managing Director of Macmillan Education Australia, employing over 200 staff and a $30 million turnover.

In 2006 he moved to Singapore when appointed Head of Publishing Group Times Publishing Limited Singapore, overseeing $200 million in revenue. With more than 500 staff spread over nine countries he successfully brought together an operation of 19 separate businesses into seven.

In 2010, Shane and his family moved to New York when he was appointed Executive Vice President of Scholastic Corporation and President of International Group, the world’s largest Publisher and Distributor of children’s books as well as educational materials, with a revenue of approximately $1.8 billion US. He is now responsible for representation and distribution into over 140 countries, 2500 staff with revenue in excess of $400,000,000 US per annum.

Graduate of the Year

Mr Grant Meredith

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Honorary Ambassador

In recognition of his service to the University and for outstanding stewardship of international education in Malaysia, the University Council proudly appointed Mr Tamil Chelvan as Ambassador of the University.

University Medal

The University Medal is awarded to a graduate who has consistently demonstrated exceptional academic achievement throughout their studies. The University Medal is the highest academic award that can be bestowed on a graduating student by the University.

In 2014 the recipient of the University Medal was Lovisa Lindstrand.

Congratulations to our December graduates

PhD graduates

Dr Alan Francis Lawler, Doctor of Philosophy
Dr Helen Song-Turner, Doctor of Philosophy
Dr Deborah Joy Greenslade, Doctor of Philosophy
Dr Scott Talpey, Doctor of Philosophy
Ms Vikki Nash, Master of Arts
Dr Alia Al Nuaimat, Doctor of Philosophy

Above: Dr Paul Hemming, Chancellor & Ms Lovisa Lindstrand

Dr Jing Tian, Doctor of Philosophy

December graduates, family & lecturers (pictured above)
December Graduation Ceremonies

December graduations (pictured above)
Federation Business School holds Networking Evening

Federation Business School held the first of its networking evenings in December. Alumni were encouraged to attend, along with current students and staff and business leaders in the Ballarat community.

The first speaker of the series was Daniel Flynn, Managing Director and Co-Founder of Thankyou Co.

Thankyou Group is a multi award-winning social enterprise that exists to empower Australians to live every day, give every day.

Thankyou Group sells 25 consumer products that are distributed through over 4000 outlets across Australia including Coles, Woolworths, IGA and 7-Eleven. Each product 100% exists to fund aid and development projects around the world. To date millions of dollars have been raised and thousands of projects have been funded in over 14 countries.

Thankyou Group has received over 550 media features in Australia alone and their world first social media campaigns have gained international attention. Daniel was named Victorian Young Achiever of the Year in 2013, Victorian Young Australian of the Year in 2014 and has recently become a recipient in the 2014 Junior Chamber International 10 Young Outstanding People of the World.

Business School Executive Dean, Bob O’Shea said the networking events were a fantastic way for alumni to re-connect with the school, each other and network with like-minded business professionals.

The next networking evening is scheduled for April. To register your interest, please contact Veronica Boast, v.boast@federation.edu.au or 03 5327 9292

We now have over 60 names on the list of prospective attendees for the 1965 SMB leavers’ reunion to be held at Craig’s Royal Hotel on 3 December 2015: 50 years to the date from the 1965 leaver’s dinner.

The reunion committee will be asking for definite statements of intent to attend at the end of April.

For further information go to johnthorne.com.au or contact the Alumni Office alumni@federation.edu.au
FedUni Store is now online!

Everyone’s favourite place to shop on-campus is now available 24/7, stocking a great range of FedUni merchandise, clothing, memorabilia and stationery products delivered right to your door or pick-up in store during business hours.

The new FedUni Store online platform has been created with the end user in mind, offering convenience, a great range of products, along with flexible payment and delivery options.

“We are very excited about the launch of the FedUni Store online and, in particular the opportunity it now provides for students around the world to purchase memorabilia and keep their FedUni experience and connection alive” Colin Marshall, Director Campus Life said.

“With the increase in FedUni off-campus and distance learning along with students studying at partner organisations, the online store was a natural step to take to further engage with our diverse student community around the world” he said.

Customers can continue to visit the on-campus FedUni Stores located at both Mt Helen (T Building) and Gippsland (1N, 108) campuses of FedUni.

Visit FedUni Store online at fedunistore.federation.edu.au and start shopping today.

Hong Kong Chapter

The FedUni Alumni Hong Kong chapter is organising a networking event with other Australian University Alumni Chapters on Thursday 12 March 2015 7pm – 10pm. All welcome.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alumni

Federation University Australia’s Aboriginal Education Centre (AEC) is calling all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander graduates of Federation University Australia and its predecessor institutions.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alumni Chapter’s purpose is to reconnect with Indigenous graduates and to strengthen those relationships and develop a strong and vibrant alumni network.

Federation University Australia has a strong record of leadership in supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and graduates through its ongoing commitment towards reconciliation. The University shares the vision of Reconciliation Australia that recognises the special place and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first Australians.

We also recognise that reconciliation will only be achieved if the past is acknowledged, the present understood and the future based on equality, respect and genuine opportunity and seek to build a proactive and innovative network.

We are currently compiling an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alumni database and would like to hear from you to ensure that our records are current and that our messages can reach you.

To update your details, please contact Erinne Milliken e.milliken@federation.edu.au
Are you Graduating?

FedUni and Graduate Careers
Australia invite you to complete the Australian Graduate Survey.

Your feedback is extremely important to us and we would like to hear how you are progressing in your chosen field since completing your studies at FedUni.

The survey will be distributed in the coming weeks.

If you have moved recently please update your details with the Alumni Office at www.federation.edu.au/alumni - Update your details or email alumni@federation.edu.au

For further information contact the FedUni Surveys Team on +61 3 5327 8083 or email Surveys@federation.edu.au

We are always interested in hearing what you’ve been doing since you left the University. If you’d like to share what’s been happening in your life, we’d like to hear it!

Please contact the Alumni Office – alumni@federation.edu.au

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Graduate Profile

Name: Isolde Standish
Degree: Bachelor of Arts (Humanities & Social Sciences)
Graduation Year: 1983
Current Position: Reader in Film and Media Studies
Employer: The School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London

What are some of your career highlights?

• Being awarded a two year Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowship in 2014 to complete my latest book project on the Japanese filmmaker Oshima Nagisa - Oshima Nagisa: a Politics of Cinema.

• Watching my former PhD students publish and build their careers.

• Living, working and studying in Japan and Korea.

• Completing my Bachelor of Arts degree at Ballarat and then going on to the PhD at SOAS (London)

What are your strongest memories while you were studying at the University?

• The Ballarat College of Advanced Education (BCAE), as it was known, gave me the theoretical and discipline specific grounding without which I would not have been able to complete the PhD. Going on to study at major universities in London, Tokyo and Seoul one realised the significance and value of the foundation I had received at the BCAE.

• I was particularly fortunate to arrive at the BCAE in 1980. This was an enlightened period, when access to education was seen as a right and not something to be purchased. The Tertiary Education Assistance Scheme had been implemented and provided free fees and a small, but adequate, living allowance. I was extremely fortunate to arrive in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences when it was headed by Frank Hurley and a team of lecturers that included Isobel Dowling, Ruan Maud and Dennis Price, all of whom had a significant impact on my intellectual development, for which I am most grateful.

Describe the most enjoyable and challenging aspects of your job

• I particularly like working with the post-graduate students as they are fewer in number and one can work with them in small groups. In this way, one can try to instil an ethos of cooperation and collaboration rather than the competitive individualism increasingly being promoted in the university sector.

• Writing and publishing are very satisfying.

Do you have advice about life after study?

I find myself at a loss how to answer this at a time when students are now graduating with the burden of debt, when I was so fortunate to go through the system, in the first instance, with TEAS and then with scholarships.

In one sentence what words of wisdom would you pass on to students

To remain true to yourself and your beliefs.
What are some of your career highlights?

• Successfully bidding for two ARC (Australian Research Council) grants that enable me to be an active researcher within the field of Indigenous Studies. The opportunity to travel extensively within and outside Australia and meet others with similar passions for Indigenous focussed research. Perhaps the most memorable highlight was an opportunity to speak at the International Cricket Council (ICC) Centenary Conference held at Oxford University and to be approached by Clive Lloyd, former West Indies cricket captain at morning tea. Having Mr. Lloyd agree with some of what I said about racism in Australia and chatting over tea and scones was priceless!

• Another highlight would be going on to postgraduate studies and to complete several qualifications at the University of Melbourne and Monash University.

• The opportunity to publish and inform debate on Indigenous issues is always something I consider a highlight of my career.

What are your strongest memories while you were studying at the University?

COLD! The Horror of the COLD! Going to several gigs by the folk band Redgum where only 30-40 others would turn up. The best pasties I ever had were sold on campus. Dr. Janice Newton who lectured me in sociology. She was one of those important teachers who can change the whole direction of your life. She encouraged me to use my university studies to investigate Australian history from Indigenous perspectives. She made me aware of an Indigenous cadetship program at The University of Melbourne (Ballarat was then Ballarat University College and part of Melbourne). That was my first job and I’ve been in the higher education sector ever since.

Do you have any advice about life after study to pass on to current students?

Education at whatever level can transform your life and in small ways free you. I cannot image a world without books and ideas and the ability to communicate my ideas with others. I’d encourage all current and future students to take education seriously – as an act of personal self-determination. The things you achieve today will have huge and positive consequences for your family and your community in the future.

In one sentence what words of wisdom would you pass on to students

Never ever give up!
FedUni Golden Key chapter

The FedUni Golden Key chapter is extremely excited about the upcoming New Members Reception to be held on Friday, 24 April. Not only will we be inducting members from the Gippsland Campus for the first time, but we will also present two awards.

Deborah Cutts, our Chapter Advisor, has been awarded the Chapter Advisor of the year for the Asia-Pacific region and the Chapter won the Best Academic Event award for the Academic breakfast which was held in November 2014.

“We would really like to thank Dr Sam Henson, Head of Campus, Ballarat, for hosting this event on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor who was unable to attend” Elisabeth Eccles, Chapter President said. “We were able to showcase our achievements for 2014, as well as talk about our plans for 2015, and engage with our academics to see how we work together in 2015”.

The chapter has received Gold standing for the fifth year in a row, and plans for 2015 are in place to run some exciting events, which will work towards maintaining this into the future.

Are you a member of Golden Key? Golden Key will celebrate 15 years in Ballarat in 2016, and we are looking to invite Golden Key members to a reunion event during the year.

If you would like to receive an invite to this event, please make sure your contact details are up to date with Golden Key Asia-Pacific, and email goldenkey@federation.edu.au to add your email to our invite list.

Careers and Employment are now online

Embracing new technology and looking to service our online students, Careers and Employment have created a number of online resources for students in Moodle, and are planning to hold a number of webinars over the year using Adobe Connect. “I am really excited to be moving into this environment” Deborah Cutts, Manager of Careers and Employment said. “It reflects the way recruitment has changed, and also allows students to access our services at any time of the day or night they wish”.

To complement this, the team is working with current students to prepare them for “Professional Networking” by encouraging them to create Linkedin profiles and are providing feedback on their profiles. “Alumni members can contribute to this project by agreeing to be contacted by current students who wish to network with people in their industry.” Deborah explained.

If you are happy to be contacted by current students from your area of study via Linkedin to answer a couple of questions about your first professional position, please join the discussion which will be created in the Alumni group in the coming weeks.
Ex-Staff Association (Ballarat)

Another year gone! Our 2014 year concluded with a talk from Clare Gervasoni (Curator of Federation University Australia’s Art and Historical Collection) on accessing information on the University’s website followed by our AGM. The 2015 executive and committee were endorsed as follows:-

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It has been decided to hold an informal lunch get-together (the first Wednesday of each season March, June, September except Summer when it will be the first Wednesday of November, to avoid the usual clashes with Xmas activities. Ex-Staff, partners/friends and alumni are invited to attend. Nothing formal about this gathering, just roll-up if you are in the mood for lunch and a chat on the day. Many of you will know the Crown Hotel Buninyong from past visits!

Our other social activity in March is a visit to Scienceworks. Details of this trip have been sent to all ex-Staff Association members but, as above, all ex-staff and Alumni are welcome. Details can be obtained by emailing Verna (vernabarry@bigpond.com) for further information. Part of this trip involves a ferry ride from Scienceworks to Southbank. The ferry operator requires an indication of numbers so an RSVP for the ferry ride is required please.

Should you be interested in receiving a new FedUni alumni pin please send your postal address to:

alumni@federation.edu.au

There is no cost for the alumni pin

Tom Norwood

It is with considerable sadness that we learnt recently of the passing of Tom Norwood, a long standing member of our association. Many ex-staff and many, many ex-students will have very fond memories of Tom, and in particular, memories of his love for orienteering.

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Above: Dr Jack Barker and Professor David Battersby, Vice-Chancellor and President

Presentation of framed “Our History” to Dr Jack Barker to acknowledge his input in creating a document that reflects the University’s story.