Message from the Vice-Chancellor

The University of Ballarat has been awarded the maximum rating of five stars for teaching quality for the fifth year in a row.

The 2014 Good Universities Guide also awarded the University a further four stars for each of the following – overall satisfaction, retention rating, socio-economic equity, proportion of TAFE and proportion of school leavers.

Three stars also were awarded for positive outcomes and cultural diversity. The Good Universities Guide provides independent five-star performance ratings of Australian undergraduate courses and their providers.

These ratings compare graduates’ educational experiences while studying and their outcomes shortly after graduation.

5 stars for teaching quality. 5 years running.
The only Victorian university with these grades.

Source: The Good Universities Guide 2010 - 2014

Apply Now
Save the Date

The University of Ballarat is awaiting final approval to change its name to Federation University Australia from 1 January 2014.

To celebrate the launch of FedUni, the University is planning a huge celebration at Melbourne’s Federation Square on Tuesday, October 1.

Alumni members are encouraged to come along and join in the fun with our current students. The more the merrier.

Stay tuned for further details and keep an eye on our website. We’d love to see you there.

---

In this Edition...

| Message from the Vice-Chancellor | 1 | Careers and Employment News | 8 |
| Save the Date | 2 | Victorian Collections Cataloguing Award | 9 |
| University of Ballarat Alumni Awards | 3 | UB’s First Crowdfunding Project | 9 |
| Alumni Volunteers wanted | 3 | Golden Key The Great Debate 2013 | 10 |
| Gippsland Campus | 4 | Sri Lanka Alumni Chapter to be launched | 11 |
| Manufacturing Technology Training Centre | 5 | Australia-China Alumni Association | 12 |
| ub)alumni working at Monash University | 6 | Hong Kong Chapter | 12 |
| Are you graduating? | 6 | Ex-Staff—Gippsland | 12 |
| Jacqueline Dark honoured | 7 | UB Ex-Staff Association | 13 |
| Graduate Profile—Strobe Driver | 8 | | |
Alumni Awards

In 2014 the University will introduce its inaugural Alumni Awards to formally recognise our alumni for their achievements within their chosen field of study and beyond, and in this regard I ask that you consider nominating an alumni member.

Three awards will be available:-

- Alumni of the Year (for alumni over 30 years of age)
- Young Alumni of the Year (for alumni under 30 years of age)
- International Alumni of the Year (for international alumni living and working in a country other than Australia for more than three years since graduation)

To be considered for an alumni award, nominations should be based on one or more of the following categories:-

- Outstanding professional achievement
- Outstanding academic or research achievement
- Outstanding service to the University of Ballarat
- Outstanding service to the community

How to Nominate

1. Please read the Alumni Awards Guidelines for full eligibility criteria www.ballarat.edu.au/alumni
3. Send or deliver the supporting documents to the address shown on the application form by the closing date.

Closing Date

4pm Friday, 31 January 2014.

Alumni Volunteers wanted

To join the Alumni Volunteer Network please fill in the Alumni volunteer registration form available on our website http://www.ballarat.edu.au/alumni.

Registered Alumni volunteers will be added to the volunteers communication list and alerted to upcoming opportunities via email.

Please note that registered volunteers are not obligated to participate in every activity or opportunity.

For further information please contact the Alumni Office on 03 5327 9929 or email alumni@ballarat.edu.au.
Federation University Australia, or FedUni, will officially come into operation on 1 January 2014 (pending final approval). The University of Ballarat and the Gippsland Campus of Monash University have come together to form a new expanded, regionally focused university.

The Gippsland campus is located about a two-hour drive south-east of Melbourne, in the township of Churchill. The campus is valued as a place to study and live, offering a broad range of degrees at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. There is also a strong research presence at the campus, with a focus on addressing key issues in regional Victoria.

Home to over 2,500 on-campus students and over 4,000 students studying via distance education, Gippsland is renowned for its focus on providing a personalised approach to learning and ensuring all students have access to a wide range of opportunities, including international study experiences and industry-based learning.

More information about the Gippsland campus is available at www.monash.edu/gippsland.
The University of Ballarat officially opened its new Manufacturing Technology Training Centre (MTTC) at the SMB Campus on Wednesday, 24 July. Catherine King, Federal Minister for Regional Australia, opened the new centre.

The $19 million project, situated on Grant St, Ballarat, is set to become the leading manufacturing training site throughout Western Victoria. The Centre will offer a wide range of programs in manufacturing technology, mechatronics, robotics, computer automation and welding metal fabrication. There are four classrooms and approximately 4700 square metres of floor space throughout the building. Computer laboratories and work shops also are included.

A range of environmental solutions has been incorporated in the building, including radiant slab heating and cooling, natural ventilation, ‘super’ insulation, solar water heating and rainwater storage.

The aspiration for this building was to create a new learning facility which celebrated the education of manufacturing and enabled an interface between students, teachers, industry and the public.
John Hayman is studying a Graduate Diploma of Occupational Hazard Management at the University of Ballarat whilst working at Monash University.

**Describe the most enjoyable and challenging aspects of your job...**

Monash University:
Finding practical solutions to safety while considering legislative requirements. I enjoy working in a high end research environment with new and complex challenges daily. I enjoy strategic planning and building a safer work environment.

**What are some of your career highlights?**
Golden Key Honour Society Membership 2013 (Top 15% Academically at UB)
Publishing scientific haematology papers in journals such as Blood, Current Biology & PLoS One in my research career as a geneticist.

**Do you have any advice about life after study for current students?**
Everything is achievable, you just have to want it enough. Find a job/career that you are absolutely passionate about and that makes you want to go to work every day.

**What are your strongest memories of your time studying at the University of Ballarat?**
Friendships formed with the Victorian Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (VIOSH) students and postgraduate learning.
Friendly staff who are willing to support you in your endeavors.
The laid back life style that is provided at UB.

---

**Are you Graduating?**

UB 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 UB.

The survey will be distributed in the coming weeks.
If you have moved recently please update your details with the Alumni Office at ballarat.edu.au/alumni or email alumni@ballarat.edu.au

For further information contact the SEEQ Unit on +61 3 5327 6162 or email SEEQ_Survey@ballarat.edu.au
Ballarat opera singer and ub)alumni member Jacqueline Dark has been honoured with the country's top live performance award, winning a Helpmann Award for her performance as Herodias in Opera Australia’s production of Salome.

The Helpmann Awards recognise distinguished artistic achievement and excellence in the many disciplines of Australia’s live performance sectors, including musical theatre, contemporary music, comedy, cabaret, opera, classical music, theatre, dance and physical theatre.

Jacqui was presented with the award at a star-studded ceremony at Sydney Opera House, which was also broadcast live on Foxtel. “The role was an absolute gift,” she said, “She is a fearsome, twisted beast of a woman and it was so much fun to get inside her skin for a little while … but also nice to get back out!”. Jacqui thanked director Gale Edwards and her “incredible friends and family who supported me, babysat and kept me sane while I was juggling rehearsals of an extremely tough opera with caring for a three month old baby”.

Other winners on the night included Kylie Minogue, Neil Armfield and Geoffrey Rush.

Jacqui is currently rehearsing Britten’s opera Albert Herring, which opened at Sydney Opera House on August 16, and then returns to Melbourne to perform in Opera Australia’s prestigious Ring Cycle.
Since graduating in 2011 I have concentrated on gaining experience in lecturing and tutoring in the Sociology and History fields of academic pursuit and in the process have tried to build up a more solid understanding of the way in which my doctoral studies have been able to contribute to an understanding and interpretation of history. Combined with this I have continued with focusing my interests to a more geographical closer location – the Asia-Pacific (A-P).

In the time since my studies have ended, I have also managed to coordinate several subjects such as Sociology in Australia which deals with the unique aspects of Australian culture Japan: Economy and Society which is a course designed by the School of Education and Arts Associate Dean Dr. Jeremy Smith which emphasises the importance and/or influence of Japan in the region as well as the International arena which addresses issues in the contemporary political situations and the role of the United Nations.

In keeping with the International Relations component of my doctoral studies I have written newspaper articles with regard to the United Nations Security Council and its inaction with regard to the crisis in Syria, the complexities of North Korea in the region, and also an article on the European Union and the necessity for it to remain solid in the face of recession in order to remain a future influence in a globalized world.

The peer-reviewed articles I have written and submitted for examination consist of a re-examination of war in the light of history with regard to the Pacific phase of the Second World War, as well as the rise of China in the Asia-Pacific region. I intend to keep with geo-strategic analysis and the interpretations that are needed in the twenty-first century in keeping with the focus of my thesis which dealt with the changing face of warfare.

Careers and Employment News

The Careers and Employment team has been busy over the semester break helping nursing students with their computer match applications. The team also assisted students with applications for Internships and vacation programs.

Many of the students with appointments for application advice have proceeded through to the interview stage and are now booking in for practice interviews. If this is bringing back memories for you, and you are interested in helping out our current students, we are keen to hear from you. We would like you to provide an insight into how you found out about your first job as a graduate, tell us about any “sticky” questions you have been asked in an interview, or even do an alumni profile for our promotional materials. We would like to be able pass on your previous experiences, good or bad, to current students to assist them in becoming successful in their chosen careers.

Are you a female who is working in IT? We are also looking for females who have graduated and found an exciting career in the IT industry to help support our current students in this field.

For more information on how you can help, please contact the Careers and Employment Team on: 03 5327 9910 or email studentcareerhub@ballarat.edu.au
UB’s first crowdfunding project was recently launched to raise funds to support the outstanding work of UB academic and alumni member, Grant Meredith and his Scenari-Aid project.

The program, Scenari-Aid, was launched as a free website by Grant Meredith in July as part of the Technologies for Empowering People for Participation in Society (TEPPS) program. Grant Meredith is an academic and researcher with the Centre for Informatics and Applied Optimisation at the University of Ballarat. He also is a person who stutters.

Scenari-Aid is a world first technology which utilises the NBN to its advantage. The philosophy behind TEPPS has had a major impact on the lives of Australian people who stutter. Initially Scenari-Aid was released in 2010 as a DVD and a run of 1000 DVDs were distributed freely to people who stutter, speech clinics and related academics in Australia and globally. The DVD contained 25 digital scenarios including shops, cafes and job interviews. Scenari-Aid now a streaming website containing over 100 digitally recorded scenarios for people to work through (www.scenariaid.com). Access to the website is free and within the first two months of release it has attracted hundreds of registered users.

Mr Meredith’s efforts have been supported by national stuttering bodies and research centres. These include the Australian Speak Easy Association, The McGuire Program (Australia) and the Australian Stuttering Research Centre. Scenari-Aid also has been used and evaluated for assisting with developmental disorders, stroke recovery, addressing social anxieties, teaching English skills to people from non-English speaking backgrounds and for assisting unemployed people to learn interview skills.

The goal is to raise $25,000 by 21 September, 2013 in order to enable Scenari-Aid to work across mobile platforms, to ensure its free accessibility for at least the next five years and to further expand its scenario base.

Alumni members interested in contributing funds towards this project can visit the website http://www.pozible.com/scenariaid . Please consider contributing to this worthwhile project.
GOLDEN KEY
THE GREAT DEBATE 2013

In the lead up to the current Federal election, Ballarat’s chapter of the Golden Key International Honours Society and the Student Experience Office hosted the “Great Debate Political Forum”. Held at the University of Ballarat on Tuesday, 13 August, six delegates vied for crowd approval on policies, political platforms and ‘if our party is elected’ promises. The parties represented on the day were from the Democratic Labor Party (Stephen Vereker), the Palmer United Party (Gerard Murphy), the Labor Party (Catherine King), the Liberal Party (John Fitzgibbon), the Greens Party (Stephanie Hodgins-May), and the Christian Party (Anne Foster).

Any thoughts that the two hour long forum would resemble the relative chaos normally associated with question time in Federal Parliament, were quickly dispelled as the candidates maintained a high degree of civility, and were kept well in check by the MC, local ABC radio host Dominic Brine. Topics and questions covered by the MC and the audience ranged from issues pertaining to the University specifically parking and cutting through ‘red tape’ and bureaucracy, to matters concerning asylum seekers, live export, and economic management of the Treasury’s purse-strings.

The forum was well attended with a diverse audience of over 200 students and community members filling the room. The usual polite applause and nods of approval were seen when non-controversial issues were discussed, until the issue of same sex marriage was on topic which brought an increased intensity to the debate. With the room seemingly divided on this issue, and some audience members quite vocal, candidates continued throughout the question with the pros and cons of their stance.

A cheer from some for Liberal candidate John Fitzgibbon was received as he declared that perhaps the legal terminology should be changed, and the word ‘marriage’ left to the churches and religion. Other candidates, Gerard Murphy from PUP, Catherine King from the ALP, and Stephanie Hodgins-May from the Greens expressed their support for a conscience vote. Stephen Vereker from the DLP put forward that a referendum would be their party’s preference. Anne Foster representing the Christian Party spoke briefly and adamantly that the party would not support same-sex marriage that it firmly believed that children should have a mother and a father whilst growing up, to which the Greens candidate Stephanie Hodgins-May retorted that mix gender households do not guarantee safety against issues such as domestic violence.

A very informative afternoon, filled with dynamic and lively discussion on topics clearly close to the heart of the students of University of Ballarat and the greater community. The debate increased awareness of political policies and party differences for seasoned and first time voters alike.

Article written by Golden Key member Elizabeth Eccles

From left: Stephen Vereker (Democratic Labor Party), Gerard Murphy (Palmer United Party), Catherine King (Australian Labor Party), John Fitzgibbon (Liberal Party), Stephanie Hodgins-May (Greens Party), Anne Foster (Australian Christian Party)

Question time underway
Sri Lanka Alumni Chapter to be launched

Welcome to our newly formed alumni chapter—ub)alumni Sri Lanka Chapter.

The Executive Committee and Sub-Committee members for the year 2013-2014 have been elected:

Executive Committee—Office Bearers

President - Kanchanamala Marage
Vice-President - Malika Perera
Treasurer - Lakmal Jayarathne
Secretary - Hershan Fernando

Working Committee—
Academic and Student Affairs

Objective: 
Help improve academic capabilities of UB Sri Lanka through lecturing, guest lecturing, tutorial support, mentoring and assignment guidance

Committee Chair:
Manuja Kasthuriarachchi

Members:
Kanchanamala Marage
Hershan Fernando
Lakmal Jayarathne
Chrishanthan
Dayal Weerasoriya

Working committee –
Marketing & CSR

Objective:
Help UB Sri Lanka team in area related to advertising and marketing communications, new student recruitment and CSR activities.

Committee Chair:
Dineth Chandradasa

Members:
Malika Perera
Dhinthka Ariyapala
Tyronne Ockersz
Themiya Weerakoon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Membership Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full members</td>
<td>UB graduates. Have voting rights thus would be voted in to Executive Committee and other sub committees. Membership is life time.</td>
<td>Rs 10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint members</td>
<td>This membership is for Friends / Partners. Does not have voting rights, but can contribute to alumni activities</td>
<td>Rs 2,500.00 annual membership fee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate members</td>
<td>Does not have voting rights before graduation. Once graduated he/she can join as a full member.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An informal gathering of ex-staff from Gippsland was formed in 2011 by co-organisers Kevin Cale and Phil Rayment. Since then, informal gatherings have been held in July and November annually, with attendances ranging from 35-75. As yet there is no formal committee or constitution.

Phil Rayment (Co-organiser) provided some history of the earlier days:-

The Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education (GIAE) was established in 1969, growing out of the Yallourn Technical College, which had been providing tertiary education programs in engineering and later business and applied chemistry from early last century. There was a considerable focus in early days on meeting the professional staffing requirements of the power generation industry and in particular the former State Electricity Commission of Victoria.

Under the umbrella of the Victoria Institute of Colleges (VIC), GIAE grew rapidly in the 1970s and 1980s, building an important distance education program to meet the needs of the dispersed Gippsland population and increasingly attracting students from across Australia and internationally.

By the late 1980s, courses spanned engineering, science, business, humanities and social sciences, education, visual arts, information technology and nursing.
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 a year in May/June and in December. A newsletter, which is valuable for members living beyond Ballarat, is published twice a 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.

On Monday 3 June, 2013 over 20 members attended our mid-year function, which was a tour of the Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (M.A.D.E) conducted by Jessica Gorlin, Education Coordinator who welcomed our group and introduced us to the interactive displays (picture below).

We then held our mid-year luncheon at the Red Lion Hotel, and were pleased to have Professor David Battersby, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ballarat attend to update members on the future changes at the University.

Planning is now underway for the December function of the Association which will include the AGM.

It is hoped that a tour of the new Science and Engineering building can be included as part of the day as well as the placement of a plaque on the “Tree of Knowledge” at the Mount Helen campus.

The changes that the combination of the Gippsland campus of Monash University with the University of Ballarat may have on UBESA will be an AGM agenda item.