



# UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE

at Adelaide University Inc.

Telephone: 8303 4988

No. 2

March 2009

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Dear Parents and Students

February saw the campus burst back into life as more than 400 students commenced the 2009 academic year. Late in January students new to the school participated in a comprehensive orientation program. Lisa Temple and Igor Plisko provided the Years 12 & 13 students with the essential details and procedures to get their year off to a flying start. Kate Cutts and Lisa Lanchester organised an extensive, informative and dynamic two-day program to familiarise our local Year 11 students with their new routines and surroundings. In addition, Inger Schmidt, Head of USC International, put into action a special program for the particular needs of our overseas students. Despite the extremely hot weather all three programs ran very smoothly and provided students with sound advice on how best to maximise their potential.

As summarised on the school webpage the 2008 Year 12 results were outstanding. The announcement that Phoebe Paterson De Heer was awarded the Tennyson Medal for English Studies, was especially pleasing. I am delighted to let you know that four USC students have been awarded academic scholarships to undertake their tertiary studies. Paul Swincer (2007) was awarded the University of Adelaide Merit Scholarship and G'deona Soeharyo the University of Adelaide Principal's Scholarship. Stephanie Bai secured a scholarship to study at Sydney University whilst Eleanor Cannon was awarded a scholarship to attend the Australian National University in Canberra.

I was delighted with the response from those parents who attended the recent information nights. I'm sure that you all left the meetings feeling more confident about our teaching program and the procedures that are in place to support students.

There can be no doubt that USC provides a unique pathway to tertiary studies and the school is becoming widely recognised. On this note, if you know of friends or relatives who are considering USC, they should register their interest as soon as possible. Vacancies in the school filled for the first semester and a significant number of applicants had to be turned down. I cannot see this situation changing in the foreseeable future and I would like to give our current school community priority in securing positions for 2010 and beyond. There is an opportunity for a limited intake at Year 11 during second semester this year and prospective students are encouraged to attend our Information Day on Sunday 15 March, commencing at 2.00pm in the Napier 102 Lecture Theatre.

I thank those families who have elected to receive this newsletter in electronic form and remind those who have not taken up the option that the change can be made at any time.

*Bob Holloway* (5 March 2009)

## IMPORTANT DATES

Sunday	15	March	Information Day Napier Lecture Theatre 102— 2.00pm start
Wednesday	25	March	Year 11, Year 12 and Intensive English Mentoring—Year 12 reports distributed
Wednesday	8	April	Year 11 Mentoring — reports distributed
Thursday	9	April	Final Day Term 1
Monday	27	April	Term 2 commences
Wednesday	29	April	Year 12 Drama Production (Preview performance—invite only)
Thursday	30	April	Year 12 Drama Production
Friday	1	May	Year 12 Drama Production
Wednesday	6	May	Year 11, Year 12 and Intensive English Mentoring
Thursday	7	May	Parent/Teacher Interviews : 5.30—9.00pm
Sunday	10	May	Mother's Day
Wednesday	13	May	Drama Studies Individual Moderation
Thursday	14	May	Parent/Teacher interviews



**Term 1 Holidays**  
**Friday 10 April**  
to  
**Sunday 26 April**

## YEAR 11 NEWS

Students have come a long way since their Orientation Days five weeks ago and they will soon have an array of feedback from tests and assignments by which to gauge their progress. Most students seem to have settled well into the routines of the school and are still being given plenty of reminders about how to make the most of the resources available at USC.

Subject reports are handed out to students in the final week of term and a copy will be posted home in the holidays. Parent/teacher interviews are held early in Term 2 when you can get more personal feedback on your son/daughter's results.

Students and families are reminded that absences from school should be reported to the USC front office by a parent/carer phoning the school. The office opens at 7.45am and there is an answering machine if you need to leave a message earlier than this.

Unexplained absences will be reported to you using an SMS message. Parents/carers can reply by phoning the school to give us information about the reason for the student's absence. This system operates after every lesson and is an important part of maintaining the safety of students at school. If they can't be at school, please do let us know.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any concerns.

*Kate Cutts*

Year 11 Dean of Studies

## WELCOME TO ANDREW HARTIGAN

We take this opportunity to welcome Andrew Hartigan to the teaching staff at USC. Andrew graduated from the University of Adelaide with a First Class Honours degree in Applied Linguistics and moved into teaching after the completion of a Graduate Diploma in Education.

Andrew has taught with Catholic Education here in Adelaide and has involved himself fully as an examination marker and subject moderator with SACE (formerly SSABSA). His experience in the delivery of Foundation Studies and his previous work with SATAC provide skills and knowledge that will enable him to support students in their transition to University.



We look forward to the energy and enthusiasm that Andrew will inject into the teaching and development of the ESL program.

*Bob Holloway*—Principal

## YEAR 12 NEWS

The Year 12 students will receive the results of early assessments over the next few weeks. In many cases, despite good preparation, these marks will be below, and perhaps well below the students' expectations for their results at the year's end. Our advice is—don't panic! It is common to experience a beginning of the year slump in results—the study in Year 12 is harder, the teachers need to quickly and clearly indicate the standard of achievement necessary for final success and some students take time to become fully aware of exactly what is required of them.

If faced with a poor result, the student should:

- identify what he/she did wrong and revise that topic;
- practise similar problem-solving;
- discuss it with the teacher; and
- keep it in 'perspective' - it's the result at the end of the year that matters more!

Using all assessments as a learning experience should be an important element of each student's strategy for success this year.

Please contact your son/daughter's mentor if you have concerns regarding their progress.

Reports will be issued to students in Week 8, and posted home following this.

*Lisa Temple*

Year 12 Dean of Studies

## 'MAESTRO'

On Wednesday 11 March, Year 11 English students will be viewing a performance of 'Maestro', the first play in the State Theatre Company Season 2009. 'Maestro' is the introductory novel studied by all English students at USC. This performance will allow the English classes to experience how the novel has been adapted for the stage and compare and contrast the central features of the novel and the play.

Students are required to make their own way to Her Majesty's Theatre in Grote Street by 10.10am for a 10.30am start. The cost of the performance will be added to the student's school account.

*Lisa Temple*

Year 12 Dean of Studies

## LEADERS OF THE FUTURE ...

A distinct advantage that University Senior College has as an educational site is access to the facilities on North Terrace. Stage 1 Politics students recently went to Parliament House to learn more about our system of government. This included a tour of the 'three' houses and a very active role play in the House of Assembly! Seen here from left to right are **Dillon Muller, Morgan Baxter, Jade Palmer, Amarah Henderson-Wilson, Vanessa Zerella** and **Taylor Rundell**.

*Morris Allen*

Politics Teacher



## CAREER RESEARCH — DO IT NOW!

Every year, as part of their program of study, our local Year 11 students participate in a work experience activity known as Career Research — so named because of its focus on students finding out about post-tertiary careers of interest, rather than simply having an experience of a work place.

Students received a kit of information in week 2, and this included a letter to parents, outlining the aims and requirements of the program. Students are now involved in arranging placements in suitable workplaces that provide opportunities for students to research a career that is of interest to them. The placements occur in the last week of Term 2, but arrangements should be completed in the next few days. It is vital to finalise these matters early in the term, as to procrastinate often results in missing out on the most sought after placements. Students who wish to use some holiday time for this program should see the program coordinator, Brian Bates, to negotiate the details of such options.



Over the years, this program has been extremely popular with USC students, as they recognise that it is not simply a repeat of Year 10 work experience, but plays a valuable part in their emerging interest in various career pathways. If you have any questions about the program, or can assist in any way, please ring Brian Bates, on 8303 4988.

## YEAR 12 DRAMA PRODUCTION

The Year 12 Drama students are busy preparing for their production of '12 Angry Jurors', adapted from the Reginald Rose play, 'Twelve Angry Men'. They will be performing in Week 1 of Term 2 and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

**Twelve Angry Jurors**  
29 (Preview) - 30 April and 1 May 2009

**Little Theatre, Adelaide University 'Cloisters'**  
7:30pm

## REMINDERS TO STUDENTS

- Please remember to notify the school immediately of any change of address, telephone numbers or parents' work details. It is imperative that we are able to contact students and parents at all times.
- Please ensure that you read your email and check the electronic noticeboards daily.



## THANK YOU FROM THE COUNSELLOR



Did you know that the USC school community raised \$2224

for the **Victorian Bush Fire Fund?**



Congratulations everyone. The money was raised from donations and a St Valentine's Day cake stall. Thank you also to the staff and students who baked the delicious cakes. We raised over \$440 on cupcakes alone.

Plus many thanks to those families who donated toiletries. Six large boxes were taken to the showgrounds and sent off to those Victorian families affected by the devastating fires.

If you are still interested in donating blood then contact the Red Cross Blood Bank to make an appointment 13 14 95.

*Nadia*

Cupcakes were enjoyed by all!



## INFORMATION DAY

Do you know anyone who may be interested in learning more about USC?

An invitation is extended to prospective students and families to attend an Information Day on Sunday 15 March at 2.00pm sharp in the Napier 102 Lecture Theatre, Level 1. Please ring the office on 8303 4988 if you know anyone who would like a more detailed invitation and map sent to them.

## Support Services

Need some help? A list of useful help providers.

### Alcohol and Drug Information Service

Ph: 1300 13 1340

### Crisis Care

Ph: 13 14 78

### Kids and Youth Helpline

Ph: 1800 551 800

### Lifeline (24 Hour Phone Counselling)

Ph: 13 11 14

### Parent helpline

Ph: 1300 364 100

Internet: <http://www.cyh.com/SubContent.aspx?p=102>

### Quitline

Ph: 131 848

### Second Story Youth Health Service

57 Hyde St Adelaide SA 5000

Ph: 8232 0233 or 1300 13 17 19 (Youth line)

### Shine SA (Sexual Health Information Networking SA)

General: 8431 5177

Hotline: 1800 188 171

Internet: [www.shinesa.org.au](http://www.shinesa.org.au)

### Other useful health related websites

[www.reachout.com.au](http://www.reachout.com.au)

[www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)

[www.bullyingnoway.com.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au)

[www.headroom.net.au](http://www.headroom.net.au)

[www.cyh.com](http://www.cyh.com)

<http://www.moodgym.anu.edu.au>



## More interesting sites

### Re Cyber safety

<http://www.wiseuptoit.com.au>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rvp-kZeoWW0>

<http://www.digizen.org>

### Re: Adolescent Brains

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GPMP68QP698>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4-9sjvitKWA>

[http://www.decs.sa.gov.au/drugstrategy/files/links/TeensandAlcohol\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www.decs.sa.gov.au/drugstrategy/files/links/TeensandAlcohol_factsheet.pdf)

### Re: Drugs and Alcohol

<http://www.decs.sa.gov.au/drugstrategy/>

<http://www.decs.sa.gov.au/drugstrategy/pages/resources/>

<http://www.decs.sa.gov.au/drugstrategy/pages/resources/>

## Oral Presentation Workshops

Feeling a little nervous about delivering your next oral presentation in class?

Need a few tips about how to improve your existing oral language skills?

Well, why not come along to a series of oral presentation workshops?

Yvette and Nadia are organising the sessions which will begin on Thursday 19 March at 12.15pm in the Drama Theatre, L1 Charles Street.

Bring your lunch.



**adelaide symphony orchestra**

### The Peasant Prince

**Saturday 9 May**—1.00pm and 3.00pm—Adults \$28.30, Child. \$18.00,  
Family (2 Adults & 2 Children) \$80.00

**Her Majesty's Theatre—Book at BASS 131 246**

*A world premier family concert based on the 2008 Picture Book of the Year.*

*"You have secret dreams, follow them! Make them come true."*

A story of the inspiring journey of a poor peasant boy plucked from the harsh world of rural China during the cultural revolution and thrust into the world of international dance stardom. Inspirational courage is theatrically captured

