**What’s On Calendar**

**October**
- 16 Community Forum

**November**
- 14 Graduation Ball for Hamilton students

**Community Forum**

‘The Small Town Debate Five Years On’.
Presented by Gordon Forth and Trevor Budge.

Gordon Forth presents:
‘W(h)ither Upper Wombat; the unvarnished truth about Australia’s Small Rural Towns’.

Gordon Forth is an independent historian and consultant who has lived in Warrnambool since 1975. Formerly a Senior Lecturer in Australian History and Director of the Centre for Regional Development at Deakin University, Gordon holds Masters degrees in Education and Australian History and a PhD (Monash). The focus of Gordon’s historical research and consultancy work has been on regional communities. His publications include Winters on the Wannon, A Biographical Dictionary of the Western District of Victoria; A History of Warrnambool Base Hospital (with Peter Yule) and A History of Portland Coast Water. Gordon is currently working on a study of contemporary Warrnambool and as a consultant in the wool industry.

Trevor Budge presents:
‘Australia’s Small Country Towns: Don’t Write Them Off’.

Trevor Budge is a geographer-planner who has worked in urban, rural, regional, statutory and strategic planning since 1975, in Bendigo, Melbourne and Tasmania. He has undertaken studies throughout rural and regional Australia with a particular focus on Victoria and Tasmania. He is widely acknowledged for his work in integrating land use planning with natural resource management plans and strategies and for his work in the planning and development of country towns. Trevor Budge is currently researching his PhD on the state planning policy on rural areas and small country towns.

**Thursday, 16 October 2008, 5.30pm to 7.00pm**
RMIT University, 200 Ballarat Road, Hamilton

For more information or to RSVP, contact
tel: 5572 0500 or email rmithamilton@rmit.edu.au

**Bachelor of Nursing Program**

Currently, all Year 2 and 3 students are on clinical placement. This is the final clinical practicum for Year 3 before graduation.

The Bachelor of Nursing program at RMIT University Hamilton Centre expects 20 students to graduate this year. The Graduation Ceremony will be held on the evening of 17 December at the Telstra Dome in Melbourne. A Graduation Parade will be held earlier the same day with RMIT students walking through the streets of Melbourne.

Next week is the final teaching week for semester II. This will be followed by SWOTVAC and 3 weeks of exams. Year 1 students will undertake their first clinical practicum on completion of the exam period.

There have been numerous enquiries for entrance into the 2009 Bachelor of Nursing program and there are 25 Commonwealth Supported Places approved to be filled. Program renewal has taken place and a new, more integrated program will be offered next year.

Recent visitors to the site include Associate Professor Philip Maude on 10th October to undertake a Mental Health workshop with Year 2 students. 5 new academics from Bundoora also visited the Hamilton campus to view the laboratories, equipment and meet the students. These academics were most impressed with the equipment and facilities offered here at Hamilton.

The undergraduate Bachelor of Nursing students now have a new clinical uniform. The more ‘corporate look’ consists of Navy Pants or skirt and a light blue pin striped shirt with the RMIT logo embroidered on the front. The changes were undertaken in collaboration with our clinical partners, students and staff.

Recently, 4 students undertook Student Staff Consultative Meeting training which helps position them to be a stronger more informed voice for their student peers at student staff representative meetings.

**Graduate Diploma in Midwifery for 2009**

RMIT University is committed to undertaking a Graduate Diploma in Midwifery in 2009. The Graduate Diploma in Midwifery prepares Registered Nurses to enter midwifery practice leading to endorsement as a midwife with the Nurses Board of Victoria, and fosters the development of leadership and scholarship in the discipline of midwifery.

This program will run subject to numbers and aims to give local Registered Nurses an opportunity to study locally and further their nursing career. For more information please contact Kerry McMullan on 5572 0551 or kerry.mcmullan@rmit.edu.au

**10MMM Award**

10MMM wins “Highly Commended” in the 2008 Victorian Public Healthcare awards.

On 10 September Dr. Kaye Scholfield together with Leanne Watt from Youthbiz and young researcher Beau Neaubould attended the 2008 Public Healthcare Awards to be presented with the Highly Commended prize in the category – Improving the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged people and communities.
10MMM aims to improve the health and wellbeing of young people in rural Victoria by using multimedia to encourage voice and leadership.

Recently workshops have been held at RMIT with students from Southern Grampians Adult Education as well as multimedia activities in the school holidays. Planning is underway for research into ICT and wellbeing including focus groups and opportunities for young people to encourage their “voice”.

Professional Development and Short Courses

Marilyn Lyons, Learning Centre Coordinator at RMIT University Hamilton Centre, is in the process of preparing the Short Courses and Professional Development workshops for 2009.

Through RMIT University in Melbourne, Marilyn has access to a wide variety of courses, workshops and experts in their fields and can arrange delivery of specific programs here in Hamilton.

Organisations or industry groups are encouraged to contact Marilyn and discuss their education and training needs to enable delivery of such programs in 2009.

Real Estate – forward notice

Course in Property (Agents’ Representatives) and Certificate IV in Property (Real Estate Agency Practice)

Both Course in Property (Agents’ Representatives) and Certificate IV in Property (Real Estate Agency Practice) will commence in early Semester I 2009.

Certificate IV in Training & Assessment (TAA40104)

Expressions of interest are now required from those interested in undertaking this course. This course is ideal for those who have Line Management responsibilities for Staff Development and Training; for staff working in a Staff Development and Training or Organisational Development role; for people working in a teaching capacity (full or part time) in Vocational Training and Education.

The course is run over 12 days of face-to-face teaching, which is delivered in 4 blocks. Depending on student numbers, this course may commence in late November 2008.

To register your interest for these courses, or for more information, please contact Marilyn Lyons, Learning Centre Coordinator on 5572 0502 or marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au

Staff Changes

We welcome back Administration Officer Carol Burger who has been on Maternity Leave for the last 12 months, and farewell Quin Curcio who has been in this role for the past five months.

We also farewell Megan Irving who has been undertaking a school-based traineeship through Westvic Workforce. Megan has been studying Senior VICAL at Monivae College and Certificate II in Business (Office Administration). Megan has been on site at RMIT University Hamilton one day a week to get a hands-on prospective on how a University works and the office administration procedures involved.

Megan won a Monivae College Principals award for her efforts and has been recommended for other awards with the results of these applications pending.

Research Scholarships for 2009

In 2006, RMIT established four Research Institutes representing areas of research excellence and scale. These institutes demonstrate RMIT’s leading capabilities at national and international levels. In this context, RMIT seeks high quality research students to engage with the key project areas of the Research Institutes listed below. You can find out more information on these projects at www.rmit.edu.au/research/institutes.

Global Cities includes key project areas of:
- Climate Change Adaptation,
- Globalization and Culture,
- Community Sustainability,
- Urban Infrastructure,
- Human Security,
- Learning Cities.

Platform Technologies includes key project areas of:
- Nano Materials and Devices,
- Security and Safety,
- Sport Engineering Technologies,
- Intelligent Industrial Information Technologies.

Design includes key project areas of:
- Customising Space,
- Rapid Manufacture,
- Intervention Through Art,
- Geoplaced Knowledges,
- Urban Liveability.

Sustainable Health and Wellbeing includes key project areas of:
- Lifestyle Approaches to Sustainable Health,
- Electromagnetic Fields,
- Chinese Medicine,
- Evidence-based Health Policy and Practice.

If your research interests align with one of the key project areas of the RMIT Research Institutes, then you may be eligible for a PhD Scholarship to the value of approximately $25,000 (per annum).

You can discuss your scholarship application with RMIT’s Graduate Research Office on 03 9925 8355 or email gro@rmit.edu.au. Further information on scholarships can be found at www.rmit.edu.au/research/scholarships.

To find out how RMIT University Hamilton Centre can assist you with your postgraduate research needs, please contact Shelagh Krummel, Senior Research Assistant, on 5572 0532.

For local information please contact the following staff:
Research in Regional Development: Dr Paul Collits, at paul.collits@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0537.
Nursing and Midwifery: Kerry McMullan, at kerry.mcullan@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0551.
Community Engagement: Dr Kaye Schofield, at kaye.schofield@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0501.
Short Course Programs: Marilyn Lyons, at marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0502.
Local – Global Program: Vicki Finch at victoria.finch@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0549.
General Enquiries and Student Support: Quin Curcio, at quin.curcio@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0500.
Subscription to e-news: Dinah Hallam, dinah.hallam@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0505.