

## News in pictures



Professor John Hicks and CSU Melbourne Students having an informal chat



After a full orientation schedule, time for some pizza!



The graceful award ceremony served as a motivator to many students



Ferdinand, with the coordinators for Business and IT programs



Dr. Carol McKenzie welcomed the students on Orientation Day



Assignment pressures!! Students working hard in the postgrad study room (3.15)



Students keenly attended the "myCSU", "Interact" and "Turnitin" sessions



CSU and Taylors' staff wish Dr. Carol McKenzie a very happy birthday



Monica Fillianci, consistently providing valuable advice to students.

### Monica's words of wisdom

Student should always remember:

- Regularly check "myCSU" for updates and communication
- Their timetable—use a planner to record important dates
- Their network and CSU login and password
- To attend classes regularly and punctually
- Check their assignments before submission (do not copy or plagiarize their friends work)
- Submit all assignments on due dates, talk to your lecturers if you have issues
- And most importantly, **work hard!!!**



### Indian Cooking: Student style

#### Butter Chicken with Rice

Preparation time: 5 minutes

Cooking time: 20 minutes

After a busy day at University, Tulsi was more interested in watching StarPlus rather than cook a traditional desi style meal. Since her friends had indicated they would be coming home from dinner, she is hard pressed for choice. She decides to cook butter chicken, full student style (ready mix, quick fix).

#### Her ingredient list is as follows:

- 500g chicken breast fillets, diced
- 540g Patak's butter chicken simmer sauce
- 2 Tablespoons cooking oil
- 50g Blanched Almonds and Cashews
- 2 Cups Tilda Basmati rice
- Coriander leaves for garnish

While she prepares the items, her mp3 player blares songs from the latest hindi movie "Race". Swinging to the tunes, she puts a tablespoon of oil in the pan, and sets the stove on medium heat. She tosses in the cashews and stir fries for 2 minutes. Next she adds the chicken pieces and stir fries until golden brown (approx 5 minutes).

As the chicken is getting tender, she pours the bottle of simmer sauce onto the chicken, covers the pot with a lid and lets it simmer for 10 minutes. She adds some butter as flavoring and turns the stove off.

Once the butter chicken is cooked and ready, she garnishes it with a dollop of yoghurt and chopped coriander leaves. Finally, she puts the rice and water in the rice cooker and sets it to steam.

Her friends arrive and the meal is served. Her friends compliment her expertise in cooking and the aromatic and wholesome meal.

The aroma from the kitchen is escaping out and she can hear Nitin, her neighbor complaining to his wife that why she cant cook as well as Tulsi.

In her favorite TV serial style, Tulsi chuckles to herself and says "kyunki biwi bhi kabhi student thi".

Next newsletter, Tulsi's best mate Fang Hua will be continuing with Oriental Cooking: Student style.

### Yarra Chronicle

Level 3, 399 Lonsdale Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia

#### Board of Editors

- Dr. Carol McKenzie
- Ali Syed
- Azeem Mohammad
- 2 student members (positions vacant)

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## Dean's Award presented to Melbourne Student

The 20th March, 2007 became a memorable day for Ferdinand Gouw, when he received the Dean's award for academic excellence from the Dean of the Faculty of Business, Professor John Hicks. The award ceremony was attended by a large number of students as well as academic and administration staff.

Dr. Carol McKenzie initiated the ceremony by inviting the Campus Director, Tony Cranshaw to say a few words. In his brief but important address, Tony congratulated the student on his achievement and expressed the desire to see the Campus grow and to see more students achieve high accolades.

Invited by Tony, Professor John Hicks informed the students about the award and its significance. In his words, the award recognizes "superior academic achievement" and places the recipient in the elite "2%" of the entire student body. His motivational comments were well received by the students present. According to the students present, they would be exerting efforts to be the next recipient of the prestigious award.

The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the award to the recipient. The student was congratulated by his peers as well as the staff attending.

The ceremony concluded with coffee, drinks and chocolate Easter eggs.



Ferdinand Gouw with Tony Cranshaw, Professor John Hicks and Dr. Carol McKenzie

### Announcement

#### PRE ENROLMENT TERM 200870

All continuing students must see **ALI (IT) and AZEEM (Business)** to enrol for 200840 subjects **Between 12 May to 23 May 2008**

Note: Students who fail to ENROL by these dates may incur late enrolment charges or risk exclusion from the session.



### Happy 1st Birthday Study Centre Melbourne!

Dr. Carol McKenzie summed up the first year with an analogy to the human gestation process. In her brief but entertaining address, she highlighted the several achievements and minor shortcomings of the past year. It was her comments about the campus "coming of age" and the invitation to the students to be there "in 17 years" to celebrate the 18th birthday that summed up her aspirations and commitment to the campus. The students were indeed amused Carol's jovial comments about the birthday cake being "delicious but unhealthy".

The entire CSU team, were instrumental in the organization of this function but a special word of thanks to Monica Fillianci who arranged the scrumptious Tiramisu Cake and nibbles.

## Do you wish to be SEEN? HEARD? NOTICED?

Then come forward, say it loudly, make a difference. This newsletter is published with the students' own ideas, their stories and pictures. So if you think you can contribute, please contact us. Students wishing to contribute as an editor are invited to send their brief bio and intention via email - [news.melbcsu@sga.edu.au](mailto:news.melbcsu@sga.edu.au).



# Editor's Desk

Study Centre Melbourne has achieved a few milestones in the past month. It has celebrated its first birthday, a student received the Dean's award, a staff member completed their doctoral research, our first set of graduating students, and still there are lots of ideas to add to "campus life".

The campus management has been generous to approve the "campus voice" in the form of this newsletter. It is planned that future issues would be richer in terms of staff and student contributions as well as informing about different academic and socio-cultural activities on campus. Some of the activities planned include a sports club, multicultural movie nights, food festivals, and end of term party!

On behalf of the editorial board, we wish all students success in their careers and endeavor to make their study tenure with us as positive and rewarding experience.

It is my real pleasure to write the opening piece for the inaugural edition of the "Yarra Chronicle."



Just over a year ago the Charles Sturt Study Centre was launched here in Melbourne.

This came about after rigorous compliance audits by state officials and by the university itself.

The staff were new and on 26 February we welcomed a grand total of 38 students into our courses. In July 2007 we had an intake of a further 61 students and in November 2007, we enrolled another 24 students.

The new year has begun well and we now have 148 students enrolled in our programs. We have launched our Masters of Accountancy course with 13 students and we are looking forward to our first Business and IT graduates at the completion of the summer session.

It has been a steep but exciting learning curve for the campus and congratulations should go to Dr Carol McKenzie and her hardworking staff for co-ordinating a successful first year. I am positive that the centre will continue to thrive and expand as the word spreads about the caring environment operating here on our campus.

The Melbourne Charles Sturt University Study Centre has made an excellent start in its first year. The ground has been laid for growth and further success.

**Tony Cranshaw**  
Campus Director

When I decided to move to Melbourne from Sydney, the debate about a better city was the last thing at the back of my mind. During my visits to Study Centre Melbourne I had experienced the atmosphere of teamwork and the culture of understanding student needs.



Looking back, I can say that I made the correct decision. My interaction with students at the Study Centre has provided me with the valuable insight and motivation to further improve student outcomes and experience at CSU.

It gives me immense pleasure to be part of this newsletter and look forward to bringing more initiatives in the future!

**Ali Syed**  
Coordinator of IT Programs

Being there from the very start of this campus, I can reflect and say that the journey certainly has been worthwhile and rewarding.



At Study Centre Melbourne, I have come across several intelligent and hard working students and extremely dedicated staff members. I am very optimistic about the future of the campus and our students as they are intricately linked to each other. In my role as coordinator of programs, I feel privileged to be a part of this campus. I will be contributing with news on sports and other activities on campus, so keep watching!

**Azeem Mohammad**  
Coordinator of Business Programs

The past year has been an exhilaration and sometimes exhausting time for us at the Study Centre. Classes started for the inaugural cohort of 38 students on 26th February 2007 with students studying in the Bachelor of Information Technology and Bachelor of Business courses.



Since then, there have been a whole series of 'firsts' for us: the first assignment submission, the first examinations, first Master of Information Technology and Master of Accountancy students, first Dean's award student and first graduates, to name only a few.

Our birthday celebrations brought to mind how much has happened in the past twelve months, how many milestones we have passed and hurdles overcome. Like any proud parent we revel in the achievements, both big and small, of our students. It has been a delight to celebrate the achievements of our Dean's award student and our new graduates. However, I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of many other students; those who have achieved 'personal bests' at the Study Centre over the last couple of semesters and those who have managed to keep going despite difficult individual circumstances.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege sharing this part of your university journey and I look forward to the next instalment!

**Carol McKenzie**  
Director of CSU Programs



Ferdinand Gouw with the Dean's Award for Academic Excellence

## Profile of Dean's Award recipient

**Editor:** Congratulations for the award, our readers would like to know more about you so tell us about yourself

**Ferdinand:** I am from Indonesia, and my family includes 2 younger brothers (setting a good example for them).

**Editor:** What was your reason for choosing to study in Australia?

**Ferdinand:** It is much closer to home and provides high quality education.

**Editor:** What did you find positive about studying at Study Centre Melbourne?

**Ferdinand:** The most positive experience was in terms of smaller classes and staff interaction. Some subjects offer challenging and motivating tasks that brings out better outcome in students. I would like to thank all the teaching and administration staff for the support provided.

**Editor:** How do you and your family feel about this award?

**Ferdinand:** It feels great as it is my first award and I am thankful to the staff at Study Centre Melbourne. My family were surprised as they were informed before me, and they are extremely pleased and proud.

**Editor:** What are your future plans?

**Ferdinand:** I would like to continue my education with a master's degree, and perhaps one day be the CEO of a major IT firm (smiles)

**Editor:** What would you say to your fellow students?

**Ferdinand:** I would ask them to prioritize their studies, devote more effort, hand in assignments on time, closely interact with the teaching staff, and most importantly 100% attendance in lectures and tutorials.

**Editor:** Thank you for your time and on behalf of Study Centre Management, we wish you all the best for your future.

## Notices

■ If you have recently changed your address and haven't notified us, please give your new address to Monica as soon as possible. It is important for the University to have your correct address. Check your SGA emails regularly.

■ All subject outlines and study guides are now available via interact (interact.csu.edu.au). Students must make sure they have access to their subjects on Interact as student surveys will be conducted shortly via interact too.

## Announcing...

### CSU Cultural Club

- Currently planned events include:**
- Movie Screenings – Hindi and Mandarin
  - Food Festival
  - Others suggestions are welcome!
- Interested students contact Ali Syed

### CSU Sports Club

- Currently planned sports include:**
- Cricket
  - Table Tennis
  - Others suggestions are welcome!
- Interested students contact Azeem Mohammad

## Belinda Moloney completes her doctorate research



Belinda joined CSU Study Centre Melbourne at the start of this year. With a background in e-Music value chains, IT/IS optimisation, and creative web design, Belinda has been involved in teaching since 2004, lecturing a variety of subjects.

Due to her dedication and enthusiasm she has quickly become a popular lecturer with students. She has earned the respect of her peers through academic prowess and completing her PhD.

Recently, she has completed her PhD at Deakin University. Belinda's PhD focused on analysing the perceptions of value chain stakeholders within the Australian music industry and the use of online distribution in adding or depleting the value of music products.

Her current research interests include: Music e-Commerce, Phenomenology, e-Marketing of Creative Products, Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing, Creativity in Web Design, Value Transfer, and Supply Chain Management (SCM) Practices.

Aside from lecturing and research, Belinda spends her time playing guitar, singing/song writing, and enjoys scuba diving, cooking and international travel.

## Learning Communities: CSU fostering change

Written by Ali Syed

Francesca Beddie, executive director of Adult Learning Australia recently stated that despite its ability to contribute to the economy, the notion of Learning communities is still foreign to Australia. A plethora of definitions exist for a learning community, but consensus is missing. However, there seems agreement in the role of such communities.

Essentially these communities perform four key functions. Firstly, they develop skills (literacy, numeracy, life skills, problem solving and IT skills). Secondly, they foster collaboration (better sharing of resources, matching solution to local needs). Thirdly, they strengthen the community (healthy, sustainable and geared to improvement). Lastly, they grow business (forging alliances, skills rejuvenation to cater for the knowledge economy).

As a dynamic university, CSU identifies and strives to enhance its communities (professions, industries, students, scholars, researchers, rural & regional, as well as indigenous Australians). Its professional programs are aimed at addressing all four key roles. Programs are designed and delivered to provide its graduates leverage and understanding of the requirements of the current environment as well as the capability to handle challenges of the new economy.

## How to start a fulfilling career

Written by Ali Syed

In today's employment climate, it is expected that new graduates are:

- Likely to retrain 4 or 5 times
- Change jobs approximately 10 to 12 times

Against this backdrop, it is essential to engage in career planning. The following steps are guidelines for a fulfilling career:

1. Understand the difference between a job and a career. A job is a specific activity or paid employment, while a career encompasses many jobs and advancing yourself. Long term perspectives on careers is better than quick money jobs.
2. Build a practical means of obtaining more information about your chosen career. Talk to advisors, teachers, parents and look up newspapers.
3. Compile your resume. Remember that this is the showcase of your key skills and abilities that you are trying to sell to the prospective employer. Focus on key achievements, education, and career goals
4. Search and apply for jobs that provide a pathway to your chosen career. Fulfilling jobs match your personality, skills, interests, and needs to challenges, tasks, and levels of responsibility.
5. Prepare for the interview. This is not an interrogation, but an attempt to determine your suitability, so dress well and present the best side of your personality. Appear keen but not over confident.
6. Work diligently and learn from your mistakes. Your career will develop over time, but it will depend upon experiences, conscious decision making, and awareness of the important of choices as a way to control and direct them.

### Job links

- jobsearch.gov.au
- careerone.com.au
- seek.com.au
- jobnet.com.au
- mycareer.com.au
- herenow.com.au
- futurestep.com.au
- employment.com.au
- jobguide.dest.edu.au
- monsterboard.com.au
- careersonline.com.au
- ambitionconnect.com.au

### Career Links

- graduatecareers.com.au
- myfuture.edu.au
- australianapprenticeships.gov.au
- wcig.org.au
- anta.gov.au

## Building your learning capacity

Written by Mohammad Azeem

Research groups human learning by the following three mechanisms:

- Auditory: by hearing – 25%
- Visual: by seeing – 30%
- Kinesthetic: by doing – 45%

Although no specific order or hierarchy is implied, experts demonstrate exceptional skills in their relevant areas. An engineer enhances his kinesthetic skills while a forensic investigator relies on his sharp auditory and visual abilities.

For a student, all of the above mechanisms are relevant as they play an important role in the successful and meaningful completion of academic tasks.

Using very simple techniques, significant improvements can be achieved in these aspects.

Auditory skills can be improved by attention, active listening and understanding the situation through sounds and verbal discussions

Visual skills rely on perception and picturing of the visual cues and recognizing objects and figures. These can be improved by pattern matching, directionality, spatial relations, scanning and tracking, sequencing, classification, visual planning and critical thinking.

Improving body/motion coordination, spatial interaction, and building self confidence result in higher kinaesthetic learning.

The ideal situation is where the learner makes effort to improve in all three types and works out their own best way of learning.

