

Welcome to the 2nd Newsletter for undergraduate students

Over the academic year we plan to bring you vital information, news and updates. We will email the letters to you and also archive them on the Student Info page of the Computing website.

We would like to hear from you on ways to improving our newsletter. Tell us what you would like to know. Email us! enquiries@ics.mq.edu.au

Important Dates

- Monday 12 May-** Free Luncheon & IT Presentation to students by SSW 12-2pm E6A131
- Monday 12 May-** IT Society Alumni Event- Do you know what you want to do after uni? Come and met past graduates and get some pointers. 6-8pm E7B 164.
- Saturday 17 May-** ACM PROGRAMMING CONTEST E6A-121, from 11-2pm.
- Saturday 24 May-** Graduation Ceremony to be held between 9.30am and 2pm E7B.
- Friday 6 June-** Last day of classes and to submit advice of Absence or Other circumstances form.
- Monday 9 June-** Public Holiday-Queen's birthday
- Wed 11 June-** Mid-year examination period begins
- Wed 18 June-** Undergraduate Info Evening for Engineering and ICT venue U@MQ C10A
- Friday 27 June-** Mid-year examination period ends- first half-year ends.

Read on to find out further details...

Studying at Macquarie

Professor Schwartz told The Australian "Universities are more than just narrow vocational schools; they have the opportunity to change the world, to shape society and shape democracy," he said. "It's about education for life, not just for a job."

Some form of community work will be compulsory for all undergraduate students at Macquarie under the new curriculum, to start in 2010. In addition, the university will require all undergraduate students to study subjects from the humanities, social sciences and sciences so that arts students must take science subjects and science students must take arts subjects."

webLink <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,23652148-2702,00.html>

MICROSOFT Free Luncheon & IT Presentation to students – 12 May 12-1pm on campus E6A131.

Students are invited to attend a Presentation by guest speaker Mr. Adam Cogan, Microsoft Director, Australia. Brought to you by Superior Software for Windows will be held on 12 May between 12-2pm on Macquarie Campus in E6A131 followed by a lunch in the recreational area outside E6A foyer. RSVP 7 May– with your expressions of interest to email: Helen@ssw.com.au this will assist with catering for all attendees.

Macquarie Computing Graduates... Where are they now?



IT Society - Alumni Event on May 12th 6-8pm MUCS Society will hold an event for their members to hear career tips from our Alumni in **E7B 164** on Monday May 12th 6-8pm. Interested in joining us?

Please contact mattc@ics.mq.edu.au

ACM Programming Contest/Training Session:

This event is part of Macquarie University's preparation for the annual ACM-ICPC. The session will run for a few hours and there will be prizes for top performers. On Saturday, 17 May, 11am E6A121.

Articles from our Alumni students

Information secures PhD student's interest in technology

After three decades in the computing industry; Les Bell is using his PhD to take his skills to the next **Software solutions lead to successful career**

With his outstanding grades, Iranian student Pooyan Asgari was offered a job within weeks of completing his degree. See Profiles. (8th Edition 20.2.08) in the Globe International Magazine.

<http://www.international.mq.edu.au/globe>

Conferences and training opportunities

National ICT Week - July 28 - August 2nd

This is an ACS and AIIA initiative bringing together companies, organisations and universities to promote careers in IT under the slogan "Start Here, Go Anywhere". Along with over 70 other participants, we will be running workshop, visits, and talks in this week. To participate in this event please contact bronwen@ics.mq.edu.au to register your interest.

Future Student Opportunities

Wed 18 June- Undergraduate Info Evening for Engineering and ICT venue U@MQ C10A. More information will be available closer to the date.

Job Opportunities

Watch this spot for a list of current opportunities, full details can be found on the department notice board outside the labs on level 1 in E6A; or contact Macquarie Career Centre on Web: <http://www.careers.mq.edu.au> Ph: (02) 9850 7372

Awards & Scholarships

ACS Foundation Scholarships

Advancing ICT through Scholarships and Research. They have a large number of exciting new Work Integrated Learning (WIL) scholarship opportunities for students. Please visit web:

<http://www.acsfoundation.com.au/newsletter/ACSFnewsletter.html>

2008 Google Australia and New Zealand Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship.

As part of Google's ongoing commitment to furthering Anita Borg's vision, we are pleased to announce the 2008 Google Australia and New Zealand Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship.

In 2006, the Australia Anita Borg Scholarship was established to honour the legacy of Anita Borg and her efforts to encourage women to pursue careers in computer science and technology. Three years later, we continue to strive to encourage women to excel in computing and technology, and become active role models and leaders.

Anita Borg Scholarships will be awarded based on the strength of candidates' academic background, community involvement and demonstrated leadership. A group of female undergraduate and graduate student finalists will be chosen from the applicant pool. The scholarship recipients will each receive a scholarship for the 2009 academic year and an expenses-paid trip to the 2009 Grace Hopper Conference.

In addition, all finalists and scholarship recipients will be invited to an expenses-paid networking retreat to be held at Google's Sydney Engineering centre in September. It will include workshops with a series of speakers, breakout sessions, social activities, and will provide an opportunity for all finalists to meet

and share their experiences.

Applying to the Scholarship

To apply, you should be a female student studying Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Software Engineering or a related technical undergraduate or postgraduate degree at an Australian or New Zealand university in 2009. For complete details, please visit <http://www.google.com.au/anitaborg>. Applications close June 13th 2008.

Latest “Research on Girls in IT”....

"For boys, an interest and success in IT studies is still seen as ‘nerdy’ and is associated with being socially inept while for girls, high levels of skill and interest in IT is still not considered appropriate nor seen as a suitable pathway to study or work."

Dr Lynch said students had a limited understanding about the pathways into IT careers and what to expect in those careers. **Students also incorrectly thought there were no jobs in the IT industry!**

This is a national research project which has identified why, despite 20 years of research and numerous waves of intervention, the number of girls taking IT at secondary school is still significantly lower than that of boys. <http://www.sciencealert.com.au/news/20080105-17258.html>

Need Help?

Contact a Tutor at the Help Desks in the Computing Labs follow the following link – [http://www.comp.mq.edu.au/undergrad/ Help101](http://www.comp.mq.edu.au/undergrad/Help101) in E6A110 for 100-level units, [Help201](#) in E6A121 for 200-level units and [Help301](#) for 300-level units. Click on links to view the Tutor Consultation Times.

Student Services@ICS

ICS Student Services are the first point of contact for all your enquiries regarding studying Computing at Macquarie. You can find them in their office in E6A 202 hours 9 am to 5 pm,
Email: Enquiries@ics.mq.edu.au or phone (02) 98509500.