

Thanks!

The newsletter for Monash University's donors and volunteers
November 2010

Building a legacy

In this edition:

Meet dynamic
philanthropist
Les Erdi OAM

Thanks! from the Vice-Chancellor

Welcome to the third edition of **Thanks!** – Monash University's newsletter to recognise the contribution of our donors and volunteers.

Over the last year I have been very pleased to be able to meet many volunteers and donors. I have shared the vision for Monash to become the outstanding university in our region of the world. This vision is being progressed through the Monash Futures initiative. This program covers: research strategy, academic strengthening, campus enhancements, improved services and mark II of our successful degree offering the Monash Passport.

Each and every volunteer and donor plays a part in the success of Monash University. In this edition of **Thanks!** you can read the engaging personal stories of some of the University's donors and volunteers.

One way volunteers give their time, expertise and wisdom is through the alumni-student mentoring program. You can read about two mentors on the back page of **Thanks!**. It is wonderful that these busy alumni make the time to connect with our students.

The program is win-win, with both the alumni and students gaining insight, advice and understanding. The program also enhances the Monash student experience and strengthens student employability.

The cover story profiles the philanthropy of Eva Erdi and Les Erdi OAM. I'm sure you will agree that they are extraordinary Australians who are having a substantial impact on the lives of young people.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Thank you for your continuing support of Monash University.



Professor Ed Byrne AO
Vice-Chancellor and President
Monash University



About Thanks!

Thanks! is Monash University's newsletter to recognise donors and volunteers. It is published by Donor, Alumni and Community Relations, Office of the Vice-President (Advancement), Monash University.

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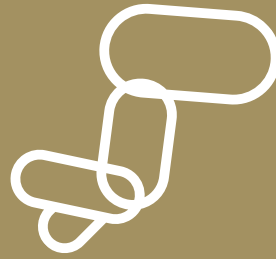
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Jazzy new gift



Report: Penny Rankin

Photography: Neil Bennett

Monash University's Clayton campus boasts a magnificent new sculpture thanks to the generosity of an accomplished jazz musician.

Jazz musician and chairman of the Australian Jazz Awards Albert Dadon has donated an impressive new sculpture — a 2.5 metre high bronze replica of the 'Jazz Bell Award' — to the Monash University School of Music — Conservatorium.

The sculpture is situated next to Robert Blackwood Hall in the Performing Arts Precinct.

Not only is the philanthropist a talented musician: he is also an artist and designed the sculpture himself.

Mr Dadon said he felt Monash University was the right home for his artwork.

"Monash has a wonderful music department with lots of young musicians and I think that this sculpture is a symbol of excellence in jazz," he said.

Mr Dadon is a long time supporter of the Australian jazz scene. He founded the Australian Jazz Bell Awards in 2003. He was also the Chairman of the Melbourne International Jazz Festival from 2003 to 2005 and Artistic Director from 2006 to 2008.

Australian pianist and composer Graeme Bell AO MBE, after whom the Jazz Bell Awards are named, said he was impressed with his friend's design.

"The longer I look at it, the more I get out of it. It is like a mother giving birth to children in the form of circular rings," he said.

"I suppose they symbolise all the different interconnecting elements of jazz."



Your role: Give the gift of music. Your support means we can continue to provide our students with the best well-rounded education in music and inspire creativity and innovation.

Visit www.monash.edu/giving/music

Graeme Bell AO MBE and Albert Dadon AM

Talking 'bout re-generation

Report: Neha Kale **Photography:** Greg Ford

High-flying Melbourne hoteliers are not conventionally known for wearing their hearts on their sleeve. Then again, conventional is the last word you would use to describe Les Erdi OAM and his wife Eva.

The philanthropists built their thriving Erdigroup business on values of honest communication and these same values led them to Professor Peter Currie and the Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute.

"I met Peter Currie and I spoke to him for about three minutes and I really fell in love with him," Mr Erdi said.

Based at Monash University's Clayton campus Professor Currie is deputy director of the institute and an expert in the field of zebrafish genetics, an exciting strand of regenerative medicine that could spark treatments for conditions such as Parkinson's, dementia and muscular dystrophy.

His research focuses on the zebrafish embryo, whose unique transparency allows easy observation of cell changes and a sharper understanding of the link between genetics and human disease. But it takes a believer to help harness this life-changing potential.

"I asked Peter 'do you know how long this will take?' and he said 'we don't know but all we can do is try.' That was an honest answer. That was when I thought 'this is a man who I'm ready to put my money on' because he has something that's unbelievable if it succeeds."

The significant support of the Erdis led to the formation of the Eva and Les Erdi Zebrafish Research Group, a talented team of researchers working within the institute's state-of-the-art zebrafish facility under Professor Currie.

The Erdi's contribution will allow Monash to recruit an exceptional young scientist to lead the group and unearth ways for the human body to repair and regenerate damaged tissues and organs.

"The long-term research goal is to learn from our findings so that we can benefit patients inflicted with muscle-wasting diseases or who have lost or damaged muscle through injury," Professor Currie said.

Regenerative medicine is characterised by boldness, innovation and faith, values that resonate with Mr Erdi and underpin his remarkable career.

After all, this is the man who spearheaded one of Melbourne's original high-rise buildings at 131 Lonsdale Street following a fateful meeting with a sceptical Lord Mayor and a yellow piece of paper. Eva and Les Erdi now own and operate a wide portfolio of hotels,

including the celebrated Grand Hotel Melbourne and the Urban boutique chain in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney. Philanthropy, however, remains an enduring passion.

"I think the highest enjoyment in the world is when you've done something to help someone and they don't have to tell you 'thank you,'" Mr Erdi said.

In 2008 Mr Erdi received a Medal of the Order of Australia for his wide-reaching services to the community.



Professor Peter Currie



Mr Les Erdi OAM

The Erdis have a long and abundant history as Monash donors, generously supporting important medical and health science research as well as initiatives that foster cultural understanding. These passions are amalgamated in their latest gift to Monash, the Eva and Les Erdi AUSiMED Fellowship in Neurological Diseases.

The prestigious fellowship will provide funding for a promising scientist to work with Professor Claude Bernard from Monash Immunology and Stem Cell Laboratories and Professor Tamir Ben Hur of the Hadassah University Medical Centre in Jerusalem. The team will conduct collaborative research into multiple sclerosis and severe neurological conditions such as strokes, brain trauma, Alzheimer's and spinal cord injury.

The fellowship builds on Monash University's alliance with AUSiMED, a Hassadah Australia medical research initiative inviting partnerships between researchers and clinicians in Australia and Israel.

For Mr Erdi science is the best conduit for building this relationship.

"Scientists are scientists! Scientists all speak the same language wherever they may be," he said.

He is deeply passionate about the strengths of both countries having immigrated to Australia via Israel with Eva in 1954. Mr Erdi hopes that pooling these strengths will uncover solutions to critical medical problems and "bring in fruit that is sweet for everybody".

"Australia and Israel understand each other, believe me. I think they appreciate each other," he said.

The theme of cultural appreciation strongly resonates with Mr Erdi and forms the basis of his Sandridge Bridge project at Southbank. Mr Erdi cites the daring restoration, which memorialises the city's immigrant and Indigenous populations as one of his proudest achievements — after marrying his wife Eva.

Mr Erdi is drawn to Monash University's "open-minded leadership", an attribute he clearly shares.

"Institutions are supposed to be admired by the ones who run it and what they achieve — not what they achieved in the past. And that is why I want to work with them more and more."

Monash University honoured this partnership at a reception in October 2009. Recognising the power of the Erdi's generosity Vice-President (Advancement) Ron Fairchild stated: "Healthcare and disease prevention are global challenges, but these areas are where Monash is well placed to have a substantial impact. Your philanthropy will undoubtedly extend and consolidate our ability to improve human health."

Your role in supporting life-changing research

You can read more about the exciting work of the Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute by visiting www.armi.org.au. To make a donation in support the institute's work please visit:

www.monash.edu/giving/regen

Engineering future leaders



Report: Neha Kale

Photography: Melissa Di Ciero

Eight stalwarts of the Australian engineering industry have made a powerful contribution towards shaping the sector's future leaders through their support of Monash University's Leadership in a Technical Environment Program.

Coffey International, the John Holland Group, Sinclair Knight Mertz (SKM), WorleyParsons, Thiess, and GHD along with wind power firm Suzlon and trade and investment agency AUStrade have played a key role in the highly successful program, facilitated by the University's Faculty of Engineering.

These companies are awarding industry scholarships to gifted students, enhancing the program's impact by helping them forge pathways to careers in engineering, as well as trade and investment development.

Their generous support includes financial contribution towards student expenses, a paid internship, and the chance to acquire valuable networks and first-hand experience through a mentorship with an industry professional.

The Leadership in a Technological Environment Program commenced in 2007 to prepare promising students for an industry where engineers are expected to lead projects and drive innovation as well as employ technical acumen.

Offered to high-achieving first and second-year students, the program commences with a three-day residential induction workshop. This is followed by nine topic modules over three years, and regular seminars and activities with industry and research leaders to nurture the student's leadership, critical thinking and communication skills.

Students who participate in the program are also given the opportunity to talk with engineers about their careers, 'shadow' them in their workplace, and spend a week working with an engineering organisation — all of which enables them to gain important insight into real-world conundrums that may not arise in the classroom.

In 2010 the program has helped nearly 160 Monash engineering students realise their future potential. This year's program began with a residential induction workshop at The Country Place, Kalorama where new recruits became acquainted with their leadership strengths over three dynamic days. Monash alumni and volunteers served as guest speakers during the induction and gave talks on their professional challenges and experiences.

Students were then formally presented with scholarships from industry at a special function held in June.



Dean of the Faculty of Engineering Professor Tam Sridhar acknowledged the influence the companies had in fostering leadership skills in future engineers.

“These scholarships are a fantastic new dimension to our leadership program. With the generous support and commitment of our industry partners, we are now uniquely placed to equip our brightest engineering students with the skills and knowledge needed to successfully lead industries and communities,” Professor Sridhar said.

Roger Olds, Managing Director of engineering giant Coffey International, praised the leadership program for its combination of “theoretical and practical learning.”

“The skills the leadership students are developing in this course will serve them in any career path they choose as leadership is practised everywhere. It is terrific that they can learn this at the start of their career,” he said.

Andrew Sharpe, a Senior Ecologist at Sinclair Knight Mertz, agreed that graduates need to hone leadership abilities to thrive in the sector.

“It is not enough just to have good ideas. In order to be successful you need to have well-developed leadership skills to make your ideas come to life. Your leadership skills will enable you to take people on the journey with you,” Dr Sharpe said.

“Change is the only constant. As a society there are many questions that need to be answered — our engineering graduates are the driving force behind that change.”

Faculty of Engineering Associate Dean (Teaching) Gary Codner said the program had received wide industry acclaim as well as an award from the University’s Vice-Chancellor for its role in developing responsible, versatile graduates with an eagerness to engage with the world around them.

“We’re providing our students with the skills and industry contacts and an understanding of what’s required to be successful in their chosen field,” Professor Codner said.

“I would like to thank our generous supporters and all the volunteers who have been part of the leadership program; they have been instrumental in it being such a success for Monash.”



Your role in shaping our future engineering leaders

You can help give outstanding engineering students additional leadership, communication and industry skills that will help their future careers.

Visit www.monash.edu/giving/eng

Report: Shaunnagh O'Loughlin

Photography: Neil Bennett

A personal connection to the Australian Centre for Blood Diseases (ACBD) led Gordon Wheaton and his family to establish the Wheaton Family PhD Scholarship in Blood Diseases in 2008. Through their philanthropy the Wheaton family wants to help build the critical mass of knowledge required to help people living with blood diseases and provide students with important financial support. In 2009 the scholarship program had its first recipient in cardiologist Dr Saheb Al-Daher. A year on, both Gordon and Saheb reflect on what brought them together.

Blood ties

Gordon Wheaton

“I have been receiving treatment for a rare blood disease called paroxysmal nocturnal haemoglobinuria at the centre for many years. ACBD director Professor Hatem Salem was my physician and haematologist. As my treatment continued he made a case for me to get a new life-saving drug. He has gone above and beyond for me — something I am extremely grateful for.

“Visiting the centre regularly I knew that a lot of their research was about thrombosis and blood clotting — something that is a factor in so many illnesses. The impact of their work on quite large patient populations is significant.

“My family and I were fortunate to be in a position to give something back. Here was a way we could say thank you for what they have done for us over the years, but at the same time maybe also try to help others. We decided that trying to further the research efforts of the centre by making a donation to support PhD scholarships was the way we could help most.

“I think many people get to a stage in their life, like I have, where they want to give back. If they are in a position to be able to help, they should, and know that they will get great personal benefit. Our contribution to the centre is very much a family contribution and I hope that my family will remain engaged with it into the future. It is actually a privilege for us to be able to help in some small way.

“Saheb is driven to his research because of the impact of blood clotting on his cardiac patients. I'm extremely pleased that we are

able to support him to do that. I can see the profound implications of what he is doing and it's good to be associated with it. While I don't have his understanding of the research process, I enjoy the conversations I have with him and I appreciate the efforts both he and Professor Salem make to involve me with it.

“I'm actually quite moved by Saheb and am particularly excited and pleased that he is doing this particular research. Here is a successful practising surgeon whose curiosity is such that he is giving that up for some time to investigate this particular aspect of patient management. For somebody to set their professional income earning activity aside to explore their curiosity, as well as their passion and concern for their patients, takes a special kind of person ... and I think Saheb is a special sort of person.”

A figurehead in the Australian Financial Services industry, Mr Wheaton is the former Executive Vice-President for Visa Australia and New Zealand, and former Chief Executive Officer, Australian Financial Services, and Manager Domestic Banking Operations, for the National Australia Bank.



Dr Saheb Al-Daher and Mr Gordon Wheaton

Dr Saheb Al-Daher

“I lost my father to a heart attack when I was eight and it hit me very hard. I decided to become a doctor so I could help people. Medicine is a gift — there’s nothing better than to be able to make people happy. I’ve been a doctor for 17 years.

“I moved to Australia from Iraq in 1999. The Saddam regime wasn’t very supportive of doctors. I wanted to be a physician and a cardiologist and to do that I had to move to a Western country. I moved to Australia straight away to continue my specialty training.

“Leaving my work as a cardiologist was hard because I love it. I also knew it would be a big move from clinical practise to bench research. I contacted Professor Salem at the ACBD about undertaking a PhD on blood clotting because it was something I was dealing with in my clinical work every day. I thought there must be some improvement we could achieve for patients through further research. He introduced me to the head of the thrombosis lab at the ACBD, Professor Shaun Jackson. They would become my co-supervisors. Soon after that Professor Salem introduced me to Gordon.

“The Wheaton Family PhD Scholarship has been a great help to me in providing financial support so I can concentrate on my research and continue to support my family. I’m now into the second year. It’s been challenging; there are a lot of things that I’ve had to learn and re-learn, but the team has been very supportive.

“My project looks at the increased risk of blood clotting problems in diabetic patients and people with high cholesterol. We know that platelets, tiny blood cells that prevent bleeding, are hyperactive in

diabetic patients and are therefore more likely to cause blood clot formation in diseased arteries. Patients with diabetes also respond less well to medicines that are normally effective at preventing heart attacks and strokes. Long term I hope to identify new approaches to prevent clotting abnormalities in diabetic patients.

“Throughout my research project Gordon and I have developed a good relationship and it’s great to have his support. I almost feel that he is a father figure to me. When I’m working on an experiment I can imagine Gordon and my supervisors behind me encouraging me and giving me that push.

“Support from people like Gordon and his family means that people like me get to do research. We get so much from this one generous gift: encouragement to others to help through philanthropy, support for a PhD student, satisfaction in Gordon’s life, and a friendship that I hope will last forever. Thank you is not enough for him.”

Dr Al-Daher is a cardiologist at Geelong Hospital and a PhD student in the Thrombosis Research Laboratory at the ACBD.

Your role in advancing knowledge

To support the introduction of new PhD scholarships in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences visit:

www.monash.edu/giving/scholar

Inspired investment

Photography: Neil Bennett

A \$10 million trust fund set up under the will of the late Ada Booth will support the establishment of a significant collection of Slavic studies material at Monash University Library.

Ada Phyllis Booth (1921–2008) was a physicist who spent most of her working life at The University of Melbourne. A brilliant student, she attended Presbyterian Ladies' College, completing her Leaving Honours at age 15.

Too young to enter university, she spent three additional years at the school before receiving a Senior Government Scholarship to The University of Melbourne, where she completed a Bachelor of Science majoring in physics.

A self-declared communist, Ada completed a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Russian Language and Literature in 1960.

Following a visit to Russia she was less passionate about the doctrine, but she retained her love of Slavic literature and continued to build her personal library until old age.

In retirement Ada became a shrewd, almost inspired investor and read the *Australian Financial Review* daily until her final year.

Monash University librarian Ms Cathrine Harboe-Ree said Ada's collection would be combined with existing material at the library to form the Ada Booth Collection.

"Thanks to the large annual income of the trust fund, the collection is expected to rapidly become the best Slavic studies collection in Australia," Ms Harboe-Ree said.

"The estate also includes valuable Chinese and rare books that are being added to the Monash University Library collection."

Head of the School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics Professor Marko Pavlyshyn said while Monash Library's collection of Slavic materials was already very good — Ada's generosity had made it outstanding.

"It's a boon for Monash researchers working in Slavic and Ukrainian Studies, and a magnet for graduate research students," he said.

To find out how you can have an impact on education and research by including Monash University in your will visit:

www.monash.edu/giving/bequests

Associate Professor Marko Pavlyshyn and Monash librarian Cathrine Harboe-Ree

Research goals

Report: Neha Kale

Photography: Neil Bennett

He may have earned his legend status on the football field, but these days Peter Hudson is kicking a different kind of goal. The celebrated former footballer has teamed up with the Monash Obesity and Diabetes Institute (modi) to champion crucial research into obesity and raise awareness of its health risks.

Ranked among the developed world's most alarming health issues, obesity can lead to serious diseases including Type 2 diabetes, hypertension, stroke and cancer. The condition is a major public health problem in Australia with more than 17 million Australians either overweight or obese.

Based at the Monash University Clayton campus, modi aims to uncover breakthrough therapies for the treatment and prevention of obesity, diabetes and other metabolic disorders.

Peter Hudson's commitment to health issues stems from his days as a full forward for Hawthorn Football Club, where he kicked an extraordinary 727 goals in 129 games.

"I think as a footballer you know what it takes to get the best out of yourself," he said.

This focus has also shaped Peter's post-football career including his work at health insurer HBA.

"Ironically, my job is in health and we want to see people live healthy lives."

Peter's belief in the transformative power of research was sparked when a close friend's daughter won a battle with leukaemia. He has since embraced the opportunity to use his

profile to make a difference, generously giving his time to modi and the Monash University Medical Foundation.

"It's amazing how much people know and talk about football. There are a lot of people who know you, so it's a great way to open doors and start conversations. If I can apply that to a good cause — all the better."

For Peter, "getting to meet people who do good work" fuels his desire to volunteer.

"I feel privileged to be a part of it. I've met all the professors and people attached to the foundation and I thoroughly enjoy it," he said.

"It's just that feeling that you're helping in some small way to improve people's lives."

Director of modi Professor Michael Cowley believes Peter's involvement has been central to heightening public awareness of obesity issues.

"High profile individuals like Peter Hudson provide immense recognition to modi. People remember his great achievements. His support puts us and our efforts squarely in the public eye," Professor Cowley said.



Peter Hudson

Your role in supporting obesity research

You can read more about modi or make a donation to support research into obesity and diabetes by visiting:

www.modi.monash.edu.au/partners-support

Quality assured

Report: Neha Kale

Photography: Greg Ford

Charles Khallouf (BPharm 1976) has always believed that “pharmacy is not just about dispensing medicine”. The Monash alumnus is the founder and CEO of the Quality Pharmacy Group, a pharmacy chain respected for its holistic approach to community health as well as its professional expertise.



The desire to ‘give back’ to the institution that nurtured this vision has inspired Charles’ long-time involvement with Monash University’s Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

“I’m a strong believer in contribution, so if you are a beneficiary to something you should also contribute back,” Mr Khallouf said.

However, it is in his role as Chair of the Quality Pharmacy Consortium — a group of five leading pharmaceutical and healthcare firms including Quality Pharmacy Group, Willach+Heise, Rose Health, Genepharm, and Abbott Diabetes Care — that Charles has arguably made his most valuable contribution to the University thus far.

The consortium is the flagship supporter of Excellence in Pharmacy Education, a Monash University initiative to transform education for the next generation of pharmacy students.

Based on a highly-innovative model of pharmacy, the initiative includes Virtual Practice Environments and a cutting-edge learning resource called Pharmatopia, which helps foster skills critical to the profession through a virtual tableting laboratory and interactive learning experiences.

As a natural innovator, Charles’ connection with the program was instant.

“I was quite wowed by what I saw — so much so that it drove me to get this consortium together and get involved. I felt the old traditional way of education was not working. What I’ve seen here at Monash is life-changing,” he said.

Mr Khallouf brought the consortium together and asked them to consider the Excellence in Pharmacy Education initiative.

“Without hesitation they were ready to sign on and support the whole program. They really have seen the vision and are prepared to invest in the future,” he said.

For Charles, supporting the pharmacy program at Monash is key to building a clear path for future pharmacists. It is part of his vision for the profession.

“The people at Monash University believe in what they’re doing and they believe in excellence. You ‘stand on the shoulders of giants’. I’ve known a lot of the faculty here for 30 years plus — since I was a student — and we all stand on each other’s shoulders so we can see further out.

“That’s the enjoyable thing about working with Monash — the passion of the people here, their belief, and the desire to make it work,” he said.

Your role in pharmacy education

To learn more about the education innovations at the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences visit www.pharm.monash.edu/education

To make a donation to pharmacy education visit:

www.pharm.monash.edu/foundation

A family tradition

Report: Shaunnagh O'Loughlin

Photography: Melissa Di Ciero

Students across Monash will benefit from the generosity of staff, who have responded positively to the University's second annual staff philanthropy appeal. The May 2010 appeal focused on the Achieving Potential Fund — a new \$50 million funding target to provide scholarships, bursaries and support grants to Monash students.

The fund will offer bursaries to students facing disadvantage and extend crucial support through emergency and special grants. It will also help Monash attract the best and brightest students by offering scholarships to top undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Faculty of Education associate dean Associate Professor Helen Forgasz (BSc 1972, DipEd 1973, BEd 1982, MEdSt 1991, PhD 1995) said her family's long association with Monash was a key factor in motivating her to support this year's staff philanthropy appeal.

"My association with Monash began in 1969 as an undergraduate student. It was an exciting era to be a Monash student; you had an identity. I have very fond memories of that time," Associate Professor Forgasz said.

"This strong identity and bond has stayed with me over the years. Except for a break of 10 years of school teaching, and short stints working elsewhere, I have been around in various guises."

The bond with Monash goes even deeper — Helen's husband Paul (MEdSt 1985) and daughters Rachel (BPerfA 1998, GradDipEd 2000, PhD 2008) and Rebecca (BA 1997, MA 2002, GradDipEd 2005) are also alumni and at one point all four worked at the University.

"My gift to Monash is a family affair. Monash has been good to me and my family ... and that's what has motivated me most to give something back," Associate Professor Forgasz said.

"Although I don't think I've yet given enough, I feel my contribution may benefit students in some way. Scholarships, in particular, are very important to me. Working in the Faculty of Education and supervising higher degree by research students you see how they are struggling, even with the Commonwealth or Monash stipend.

"Monash is an exciting place to be and everything about my family's experience here has been positive. I think it's very important that we can provide 'top up' scholarships to support research students so that, hopefully, their experience at Monash is as positive and rewarding as ours."

Your role in helping students achieve their full potential

You can support the Achieving Potential Fund by visiting: www.monash.edu/giving/potential



Associate Professor Helen Forgasz

Pressing donation

Report: Shaunnagh O'Loughlin

Photography: Neil Bennett

The family of late Australian artist Robert Grieve has donated his personal printing press to the Faculty of Art & Design.

The cast iron Japanese etching press was purchased new in Japan in the 1970s by Grieve, who then had it shipped to Australia.

Born in Melbourne in 1924 and among the first Australian abstract artists, Robert Grieve's work — painting, printmaking and collage — was particularly influenced by his early studies as a scientist and long association with Japanese art and culture.

He exhibited regularly throughout Australia and his work is represented in the National Gallery of Australia and many state and regional galleries.

Robert Grieve's daughter Anna (BA (Hons) 1981) visited the faculty recently to see the restored printing press in action.

Anna, a documentary film producer, studied visual arts and cinema studies at Monash.

"We really wanted Dad's press to continue as a working press," she said.

"He had a strong involvement with the Print Council of Australia so we contacted them and they identified the need for the press at Monash.

"It seemed like a great tribute to dad that it would be used and be useful to students because he often worked as an art teacher and was so supportive of student learning.

"It's a beautiful piece of machinery and I'm absolutely ecstatic that it's found its way to Monash."

Marian Crawford, Studio Coordinator of Printmedia Programs in the Department of Fine Arts, said the press was a significant piece of equipment for the printmedia studio.

"It provides greater access to printing etchings for our growing and busy student body and because it's a smaller press than our other two machines, it is the perfect size for some of our student's smaller works," Ms Crawford said.

"It is a welcome addition to the studio and will build on the professionalism and learning experiences of our students."



Anna Grieve (second from left) with Studio Coordinator Print Media Marian Crawford, Professor Claudia Terstappen, Sophie Xeros-Constatinides and Antonietta Covino-Beehr from the Department of Fine Arts, Faculty of Art and Design.

Your role in inspiring creative learning

You can help Art & Design students extend their knowledge through international experience and help talented students pursue a research degree.

Visit: www.monash.edu/giving/art-des

Mentoring for success

Report: Shannon Lindsay

Photography: Neil Bennett and Greg Ford

Donating your time is a rewarding way to give back to the Monash community according to Karen Sutherland (BComn 1999) and Waco Tao (MMktg(LogMgt) 2006), two mentors currently participating in the University's Alumni Mentoring Program.

If you don't think you have time to become a mentor take a look at Karen and Waco's busy lives.

Karen, 33, is Monash University's Research Communications Manager, Deputy College Head of Howitt Hall at the University's Clayton campus, and is studying for a postgraduate diploma in arts research.

Waco, 46, is an entrepreneur, CEO of three companies: PowerHouse Homes, Models Inc and SCM Global, and father of two teenagers.

But both mentors believe giving time to others is important.

"One of the surest ways to achieve success in life is by helping others attain their own success," Waco said.

The Alumni Mentoring Program was established to help provide direction to students as they move from study to a career. Mentors aim to encourage their mentee's creativity and self-awareness and assist them to acknowledge and work with their strengths and weaknesses. The mentor/mentee partnership runs for three months during the University's second semester.

Waco meets his mentee, a second-year Bachelor of Business student, about once a month and they're in regular email and phone contact.

Waco's aim is to provide "food for thought" from a "commando in the field" of business.

"Young people today have a lot more than we had 20 years ago in terms of material wealth, but what they sometimes lack is passion, determination, and a fine-tuned definition of purpose."

Karen is helping her mentee, a second-year Bachelor of Arts student who wants

to be a foreign correspondent, fine tune his priorities. "He has all these things that he wants to do. We wrote down his goals and steps for him to achieve them."

Waco believes a mentor can help make a student's pathway clearer and assist them to overcome obstacles.

"Mentors can help ensure that their mentee is ready for whatever career they decide to embark on," Waco said.

Mentors often say they gain just as much as their mentees. Karen says she's been taught patience and how to see things from a different, fresher perspective.

Waco says mentoring helps him to keep practising what he preaches and to take pleasure from helping someone else.

"The biggest kick I will get out of this program is to see the mentee succeed in some shape or form in his or her field and feel that I have perhaps helped them get there."

Waco Tao

Monash University's Alumni Mentoring Program welcomes mentors with at least two years of industry experience and from across all faculty disciplines. To express your interest in joining the program in 2011, email Kristina Vukusic at alumnimentoring@monash.edu or phone +61 3 9903 4143.

Karen Sutherland