

# TechLINK

Number 93  
February 2002

## Gone Fishin'.....

### Farewell to Ross Stewart



All the staff at **REHABTech** (and we are sure many of you in Australia and overseas) wish Ross Stewart all the best of luck in his new career! He finished up at **REHABTech** last month.

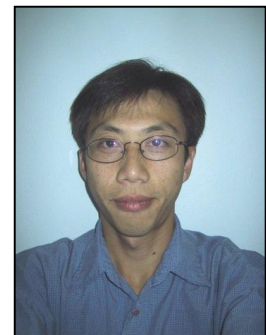
Ross has been an integral (and founding) staff member of **REHABTech** since 1994 and has been responsible for some of the innovations that are now taken for granted **world-wide!!** These include the **TechGUIDE** and interactive web version, PDS, landmark resin/fibre lamination studies and establishing validated inspection intervals and fatigue life calculation models for prosthetic components. Not only did Ross manage to do all of this, but he has maintained a world ranking in his chosen recreation of fly- fishing where he was **World Champion** in 1997!

It is Ross' commitment to high quality monitoring, inspection and fatigue regimes which has provided the bridge to his new career in another industry which highly values these issues - the aeronautical industry. His new role is as an aeronautical engineering consultant for a major firm contracted to look after many of the planes flying our skies! Whilst this will take up more than enough of his time, Ross has also committed to continuing a small contribution to a number of the projects he has been involved in.

Ross' contribution has been immeasurable not only to all of our clients, but to all of the staff of **REHABTech** who have relied daily on his contribution as a vital team member - as well as managing to always fix those annoying computer bugs!

We are fortunate to have seconded Matthew Wong from our parent centre (Centre for Biomedical Engineering - **MUCBE**) for the last two months. Matthew is a Mechanical Engineer with a Masters of Biomedical Engineering and has been a vital contributor to **MUCBE** having been involved in similar work to Ross within the broader medical engineering area.

Good luck Ross, we will miss you!



*From all at REHABTech*

**Welcome Matthew Wong.**

Please address correspondence to: The Editor- **Tech LINK**  
c/o **REHAB Tech**, 260-294 Kooyong Road, Caulfield Vic 3162, Australia.  
Telephone: +61 3 9528 1960, Facsimile: + 61 3 9528 1077, e-mail: [REHAB.Tech@eng.monash.edu.au](mailto:REHAB.Tech@eng.monash.edu.au)  
INTERNET - <http://www.monash.edu.au/rehabtech/>

## LISTSERVE for Occupational Therapists Working With Amputees

This new service is being offered by **REHABTech** for occupational therapists working with individuals who have had amputations or have congenital limb deficiencies.

The list serve has been developed as a result of the 2001 ISPO Conference in Glasgow where a group of OTs identified a desire to share resources and develop collaborative relationships internationally. As of the end of 2001 there were 15 members of the list including members as far away from Australia as Sweden, Canada and the United Kingdom.

If you are an OT and would like to utilise this service, or work with an OT who might benefit from knowing about the service please contact Karen by email to:

[karen.e.roberts@eng.monash.edu.au](mailto:karen.e.roberts@eng.monash.edu.au)

## News from the National Centre for Prosthetics and Orthotics



"Dr Tim Bach has completed his term of office as Head of the National Centre for Prosthetics and Orthotics. Under his direction, the NCPO improved the quality of the undergraduate program, made dramatic increases in research productivity and gained in profile within the University and internationally. Tim will continue to contribute to the NCPO as a half-time staff member with responsibility for research leadership. He will also head the newly established Musculoskeletal Research Centre at LaTrobe University. The new head of the NCPO, Mr Rod Cooper, encourages the Australian P&O profession to join the NCPO in thanking Tim for his valuable contribution to prosthetics and orthotics."

*- certainly count REHAB Tech in that!!*

## Fitness for everyone clinic

Fitness For Everyone Clinics are a gathering of amputees and their families, prosthetists, physiotherapists and other healthcare professionals with the aim of teaching the proper exercises and strengthening techniques for the lower extremity amputee. The presenters are former paralympic gold medallists Dennis Oehler and Todd Schaffhauser. They will be travelling around Australia during the first week of March presenting their special program. A clinic will be held in Sydney on March 5 2002 at the University of NSW. Further dates can be confirmed by contacting Richard Fejer of **Orthopaedic Techniques** on the details in our "Coming Events" section

## COMING EVENTS

25 <sup>th</sup> February – 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2002	Lower Limb Prosthetics and Amputee Rehabilitation 2002 Contact <a href="mailto:nicholas.freijah@mh.org.au">nicholas.freijah@mh.org.au</a> for information.
4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2002	Clinical Management of Upper Limb Amputees 2002 Contact REHAB Tech <a href="mailto:rehab.tech@eng.monash.edu.au">rehab.tech@eng.monash.edu.au</a> for information.
5 <sup>th</sup> March 2002	"Fitness for Everyone Clinic" Contact in NSW: UNSW - Ian Nelmes Ph. (02) 9385 2756, Email <a href="mailto:i.nelmes@notes.med.unsw.edu.au">i.nelmes@notes.med.unsw.edu.au</a> Elsewhere contact Richard Fejer (OT) (03) 9416 3001, email: <a href="mailto:oapl@alphalink.com.au">oapl@alphalink.com.au</a>
20 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2002	ISPO ASM -Rydges Plaza, Alice Springs contact Network PR ph:(08) 8376 6061 <a href="mailto:asjf@ozemail.com.au">asjf@ozemail.com.au</a>

Please address correspondence to: The Editor- **Tech LINK**  
c/o REHAB Tech, 260-294 Kooyong Road, Caulfield Vic 3162, Australia.  
Telephone: +61 3 9528 1960, Facsimile: + 61 3 9528 1077, e-mail: [REHAB.Tech@eng.monash.edu.au](mailto:REHAB.Tech@eng.monash.edu.au)  
INTERNET - <http://www.monash.edu.au/rehabtech/>