2012 UQ Alumnus of the Year

Dr Jean Calder AC, a graduate of the Department of Physical Education and former staff member of the School of Human Movement Studies, was awarded the highest honour of a UQ Alumnus at The University of Queensland’s (UQ) annual alumni awards ceremony, held Tuesday 23 October 2012.

Dr Calder was named the UQ 2012 Alumnus of the Year and was celebrated for her work in the Middle East as a specialist in assisting disabled children in Lebanon, Egypt and more recently in the Gaza Strip. Her contribution to children’s lives over many years has influenced policy and practice in several regions in the Middle East.

Dr Calder established the many programs of the Al-Amal City, Center of Ability Development of the Palestine Red Crescent Society to help disadvantaged Palestinians and Palestinians with a disability. She feels that as a foreigners working alongside the Palestinians in their country sends a clear message that they are not alone in their struggle.

Professor Doune Macdonald, Head of School of the School of Human Movement Studies, was thrilled with the announcement.

"It is a wonderful achievement to be named the UQ Alumnus of the Year," Professor Macdonald said.

"The contribution Dr Jean Calder has made not only to our School firstly as a student and later as a staff member has been invaluable," she said.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Høj said UQ alumni living and working in 160 countries brought home outstanding advantages to Queensland and Australia.

"If we play even a small role in an alumnus’ development, their success and their drive to contribute to society, then it makes us very proud," he said.

Dr Calder will be made an Honorary Doctorate at the graduation ceremony being held in December 2012.

HMS alumni awarded Queensland Senior Australian of the Year 2013

Laurie Lawrence, a graduate of what was The University of Queensland’s Department of Physical Education, has been named the Queensland Senior Australian of the Year 2013.

The National Australia Day Council announced the winners of the State and Territory Australian of the Year awards 2013 on 26 November 2012.

Founder of the Kids Alive – Do the Five water safety program, Laurie has been passionate in his quest to educate Australians about the risks of preschool drowning and what can be done to prevent it.

His program has been widely acclaimed for its key messages, which highlights the importance of teaching young children water safety in order to save themselves from drowning.
UQ students earn gold at London Paralympics

University of Queensland exercise and sport sciences student Brenden Hall has smashed a world record and claimed his first individual gold at the London Paralympic Games.

Mr Hall earned his victory in the Men’s 400m Freestyle S9 event, making him the world champion and world record holder.

The UQ School of Human Movement Studies student and 2012 UQ Sporting Scholarship recipient swam an impressive 4:10.88 to win by more than seven seconds, a four second personal best.

His individual win follows a team gold victory in the Men’s 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay 34 pts (Heat).

Fellow UQ Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Sciences student Blake Cochrane claimed a second team gold in the 4 x 100m freestyle relay final smashing a new Paralympics record time.

The Australian team won in three minutes 50.17 seconds from China (3:51.68) and Russia (3:52.93).

The win follows Mr Cochrane’s gold medal win in the 100m breaststroke - SB7 in world record time taking almost a full two seconds off his heat time of 1:20.76 to win gold with a time of 1:18.77. Mr Cochrane is now the world and Paralympic champion in the 100m breaststroke - SB7.

“The School is very proud of Brenden’s and Blake’s achievements, and is thrilled to see two of our students fulfil their dreams and ambitions as young Paralympic athletes,” said Professor Doune Macdonald, UQ School of Human Movement Studies Head of School.

“These students have managed to meet the challenges of a highly demanding sporting career with academic study which is a particularly dazzling feat,” she said.

To help mark the School’s proud history, former Heads of School and Heads of Department, their families and both former and current staff gathered for an afternoon tea held at the School of Human Movement Studies (HMS) building. Each former Head, or their family member, was invited to speak and through their stories, provided a rich and colourful account of the schools past and the challenges and victories they celebrated along the way.

The gallery comprises of:

- Dr Ivor Bruge (1941—1970)
- Dr Allen Coles (1972—1979)
- Dr David Russell (1979—1981)
- Dr Ian Jobling (1983—1989)
- Professor Frank Pyke (1989—1990)
- Professor Bruce Abernethy (1991-2004)

Professor Doune Macdonald, current Head, acknowledged the important contributions each former Head made towards the School as it stands today.

HMS Advancement Board

The HMS Advancement Board plays a pivotal role within the School and in 2013, the Advancement Board will be contacting our alumni with the aim of finding out how you would like to re-engage with the School. Make sure your details are up to date by visiting our website:


To find out more about the HMS Advancement Board, you can visit the website:

www.hms.uq.edu.au/community-services/hms-advancement-board/

ACHPER Women in Sport Breakfast

This year, the Australian Council for Health and Physical Education Research (ACHPER) hosted the Women in Sport breakfast, celebrating the history of women competing in sporting events.

The School of Human Movement Studies (UQHMS) was proud to again be one of the primary sponsors of the event for 2012. UQHMS’s sponsorship of this event recognises ACHPER’s commitment to supporting active and healthy lifestyles, as well as participation in sport and recreation across Queensland educational communities.

The event showcased the unique careers of some extraordinary female athletes and the path their chosen career has taken them. Second year UQ Bachelor of Health, Sport and Physical Education student Emilee Cherry provided the audience with an insightful account of her sporting achievements. She has represented Australia both nationally and internationally in the Women’s Open Touch Football team as Vice-Captain and in the Australian Women’s Open Rugby 7’s team Rugby, and is grateful for the opportunities these sports has afforded her.

“My goal for the future is to hopefully represent Australia at the Olympic games for Rugby 7’s in Rio 2016,” Emilee said.

Professor Doune Macdonald, HMS Head of School, was invited to present the UQHMS Inspirational Teacher Award specifically to recognise the hard-working HPE teachers who dedicate their time and energy to leading, inspiring and supporting students to achieve in their chosen activity. Mrs Annette Bales of Redlands College was the extremely worthy recipient for 2012.

Annette was nominated by her students at Redlands College for her outstanding dedication to her role as Head of Physical Education and for her personal sporting achievements. Annette has initiated a triathlon program to encourage her students to achieve their sporting goals.

“The School of Human Movement Studies is Australia’s longest running, continuous provider of education in health and physical education, exercise and sport science and, more recently, nutrition,” Professor Macdonald said.

“Each and every one of the seven heads has shown dedication to the School, attracted some wonderful staff around them, was a notable scholar in their field, and each made an enormous contribution to the standing of the School today,” she said.

The portraits of the former Heads are on display in the HMS building at St Lucia.
New classification means fairer competition for Paralympians

An exercise scientist from The School of Human Movement Studies is leading the development of a new classification system for assessing impairments and assigning sporting classes of Paralympic athletes.

Dr Sean Tweedy is Chief Investigator on the International Paralympic Athletics Classification Project, which aims to develop a new, evidence-based method of classification to replace the current methods which are based principally on clinical judgment.

The first of the project’s two stages has been completed and will be implemented internationally for all Paralympic meets immediately after the 2012 London Paralympic Games.

“This first stage aimed to develop objective, valid methods for determining which athletes are eligible for Paralympic athletics,” Dr Sean Tweedy said.

“The second stage is currently underway and aims to provide an objective means of ensuring that the athletes who succeed in Paralympic sport will not be those who are less disabled than others, but those who have the best physiological and psychological attributes and have enhanced them to best effect.

“As each sport at the Paralympic Games requires different skills and competencies, the impact of impairment on the performance of the athletes varies. That’s why each sport has its own unique classification rules.”

Dr Tweedy has a major interest in the challenge of classification in Paralympic sport and has been classifying internationally since 1993. He is now the Head of Classification for Paralympic Athletics.

HMS inaugural Alumni awards ceremony

This year, the School of Human Movement Studies (HMS) celebrated the inaugural HMS Alumnus and Young Alumnus of the Year awards.

The Alumnus of the Year was won by Dr Jean Calder AC, who was recognised for her work in the Middle East as a specialist in assisting disabled children in Lebanon, Egypt and more recently in the Gaza Strip. Her contribution to children’s lives over many years has influenced policy and practice in several regions in the Middle East.

Dr Calder graduated from what was known as The Department of Physical Education in 1957 (became the School of Human Movement Studies in the 1970’s) and later worked at HMS. Her sister Clarice Barker accepted the award on her behalf, saying Jean was incredibly happy and humbled to have been nominated the 2012 HMS Alumnus of the Year.

The HMS Young Alumnus of the Year was awarded to Dr Kellie Pritchard-Peschek. Dr Pritchard-Peschek completed her Bachelor of Applied Science (HMS Exercise Science) degree in 2005 and went on work as a Sport Scientist in Physiology at the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS).

Indigenous Youth Sports Program set to sizzle again in 2013

Continuing the success of the Indigenous Youth Sports Program, The University of Queensland will again be looking to whet the appetites of young Indigenous people for academic life in January 2013.

The program runs from 14-18 January 2013 and provides an opportunity for school students to be exposed to university in the hope of encouraging more young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to choose tertiary study when they finish school.

The program is aimed at students aged 10-16 years of age living within the Greater Brisbane area, who will be bought together with the aim of using sport as a vehicle to give them the confidence to look at university study as a future option.

Current university students who are interested in volunteering as mentors for the week are encouraged to contact Dr Alison Nelson via email Alison.Nelson@uiih.org.au

CRExPAH researcher wins Best New Investigator

Centre for Research on Exercise, Physical Activity and Health (CRExPAH) researcher Dr Tina Skinner won the John Sutton award for Best New investigator - Exercise and Sports Science at the 1012 Austrian Conference of Science and Medicine in sport for her presentation Does training status influence peak caffeine levels following caffeine ingestion? (coauthors D. Jenkins, J. Coombes, M. Leveritt, D. Taaffe).

This research indicated that endurance-trained athletes experiences lower and earlier peak serum caffeine concentrations compared to untrained active males.
Life after Olympic career

While some Olympic athletes excel in their transition into life beyond elite sport others experience difficulties, a new University of Queensland study has found.

Dr Steven Rynne, from the School of Human Movement Studies, together with colleagues from Switzerland and Great Britain, were chosen by the International Olympics Council’s (IOC’s) Olympic Studies Centre Research Grant Programme to conduct the study titled ‘Preparing Olympic Athletes for Lives Outside of Elite Sport: Towards Best Practice’.

“Much has been made of the Olympic ideals and the kinds of people that become Olympians, but few studies had examined this from a socio-cultural perspective with regard to what and how athletes learn on their path to and during their Olympic careers,” Dr Rynne said.

“From interviews with a number of retired Olympic athletes we found, while some athletes thrive in their respective sporting environments and move into other fields with fewer problems, others experienced forms of disorientation, depression and self-doubt when transitioning into lives beyond sport.

“It is important to consider who and what shapes the development of Olympians and how this can be improved to foster elite performance as well as adaptive behaviours beyond elite sport,” Dr Rynne said.

The findings of this research will provide direction for further research and possible intervention strategies which may help high performance sports coaches and practitioners better prepare their athletes for elite competition, as well as for life beyond sport.

2013 Australian Universities Rugby League team

The recent selection of third year Bachelor of Health, Sport and Physical Education student Liam Tyson to the Australian Universities Rugby League team is a reflection of the continuing partnership between The University of Queensland’s School of Human Movement Studies (UQHMS) and Wavell State High School.

Liam graduated from Wavell State High School (SHS) in 2009 and was a member of the school’s Rugby League Excellence program. He credits the skills he learnt during this program with his continued success, both on and off the field.

“My five years at Wavell State High School obviously had a huge impact on where I am today. The years I spent being part of the Rugby League School of Excellence program were crucial to my development on the field and I can attribute my selection in the Universities Rugby League team to the skills I learnt at Wavell,” said Liam.

However, Liam’s success and connection with UQHMS does not stop there, as Liam was also taught by Marc Brentnall who graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science (HMS – Education) in 2005.

“Having studied at HMS myself, I know the great sports science and education grounding experience Liam will be receiving,” he said. “I really enjoyed my time in the HMS department and feel it provide me with great knowledge for work in the education field as a Health and Physical Education (HPE) teacher and now in my coaching role with the Melbourne Storm.”

Leadership of the health, sport and physical education programs at Wavell SHS also provide evidence of UQHMS’s influence, with the current graduates serving as Deputy Principal and HPE Head of Department. As HPE Head Of Department, Michael Baker is heavily involved with the Rugby League School of Excellence program.

“We have had huge success with the Rugby School of Excellence at Wavell, and particularly with our focus for students “Winning On and Off the field”,” Michael said.

“I had such a great learning experience at UQ as the world-class education and aspirational nature of their courses has given me the knowledge, skills and confidence to manage a successful faculty,” he said.

The Wavell SHS program demonstrates the enormous potential that sport can play in the lives of young people and the capacity of schools to utilise students’ love and enthusiasm for Rugby League as a powerful source of motivation to achieve positive behaviour, attendance and academic outcomes. The HMS education team has taken advantage of this setting with a number of Liam’s HSPE peers undertaking their secondary school practicum at Wavell SHS.

UQ Researcher awarded top honour of the DAA

School of Human Movement Studies Associate Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics, Judy Bauer, has been awarded the prestigious Fellow of Dietitians Australia (DAA) status.

Associate Professor Bauer was presented the award at the DAA Annual General Meeting in Sydney recently, making her 8th Fellow to be appointed from the Association’s 4800 members.

Best known for her work in cancer nutrition and malnutrition, Associate Professor Bauer has been involved in developing evidence-based practice guidelines for dietitians in the nutritional management of cachexia, radiation therapy, malnutrition and most recently head and neck cancer.

“I am very honoured to receive the Fellow credential from the DAA and would like to acknowledge the contribution of many colleagues who continue to provide inspiration and support,” Associate Professor Bauer said.

A UQ science graduate, Associate Professor Bauer gained her PhD in 2003. She has published more than 70 scientific papers, two book chapters and has mentored other dietitians, including her students, who have since completed their PhD. As a principal/co-investigator she has attracted over $2.3M in competitive grant funding in the past 10 years.

She was the first allied health professional in Queensland to be awarded a Smart State Fellowship in 2005, and awarded an Outstanding Contribution award by DAA in 2007.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Are you retiring before July 2013?

We are looking for people to help us understand how use of time and activity patterns may change after retirement.

For more information on the project, contact Dr Nicola Burton on 07 3365 6282 or email: lifeafterwork@hms.uq.edu.au