



Spotlight falls on solar-cell's inventor

Solar cell chosen as brightest invention

Solar-cell inventor Professor Stuart Wenham has won the top prize at the 2009 Inventor of the Year Awards hosted by New South Innovations, UNSW's technology commercialisation company.

Wenham is a world-leading solar-cell inventor who heads the University's ARC Photovoltaic Centre of Excellence in the Engineering Faculty.

In a career spanning more than a quarter of a century, he has invented or co-invented eight suites of solar-cell technologies that have been licensed to manufacturers around the world.

More than 200 leaders from business, media and research organisations attended the awards evening on 25 April at UNSW's John Niland Scientia Building. The event was hosted by ABC Television's *New Inventors* presenter, James O'Loghlin.

"The standard of excellence among the finalists at these awards was first class and I'm humbled to have been chosen top inventor," Wenham said. "I think the focus of these awards upon successful commercialisation is encouraging to researchers who want to make a market impact for their innovation that goes a step beyond basic and applied research."

Eleven UNSW inventors were short-listed as finalists in four categories: biomedicine; science and engineering;

the environment; and information and communication technology. The winners of each category were nominees for the Inventor of the Year Award.

Professor Philip Hogg won the biomedicine inventor award for devising a drug known as GSAO that could stop tumours by "starving" them to death. The drug is in clinical trials with Cancer Research UK. Hogg heads the UNSW Cancer Research Centre.

Professor David Taubman won the information and communication technology inventor award for his compression software. Known as Kakadu™, it allows users to view an entire low-quality image or video while downloading only a tiny fraction of a massive file. Taubman heads the Telecommunications Research Group in the Faculty of Engineering.

Professor Veena Sahajwalla won the science and engineering inventor award for her injection technology that recycles steel from discarded car tyres ... Sahajwalla heads the Centre for Sustainable Materials Research and Technology in the Science Faculty. *

By Dan Gaffney

TV Watch the video on UNSWTV's Science and Technology channel at www.tv.unsw.edu.au

Brain power gets a boost

Research into child psychiatry and schizophrenia at UNSW has been boosted with the appointment of two prominent academics.

Professor Vaughan Carr takes up the newly established Chair of Schizophrenia, Epidemiology and Population Health in May. Carr is a leading expert in schizophrenia, with 30 years' experience in mental health research. He has been scientific director of the Schizophrenia Research Institute since 2004 and CEO since 2007. He has held numerous National Health and Medical Research Council and other research grants, and has more than 140 publications in a range of fields including schizophrenia, substance abuse, early psychosis, post-traumatic stress disorder and depression. He was previously Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Newcastle and Director of the Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research.

Also joining UNSW is Professor Rhoshel Lenroot, who will take up the newly established Chair of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (based at Prince of Wales Hospital). Lenroot is a leading expert in brain imaging of children and adolescents, with a focus on schizophrenia, autism and the trajectory of normal brain development. She was previously working as a Clinical Research Fellow at the National Institute of Mental Health in Maryland, USA. *

World Cup fever

UNSW's Football United has been invited to take part in the FIFA World Cup festivities in South Africa next year.

Football United is an initiative of Anne Bunde-Birouste from the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, which helps assist young refugees in their immigration and integration to Australia.

UNSW's team is one of only 32 invited to participate in the 2010 Football for Hope Festival, an official event of the FIFA World Cup.

Four girls and four boys from Football United will participate.



Aussie, Aussie, Aussie: One of the coaches of UNSW's Football United, Gode Migerano, with founder Anne Bunde-Birouste.