

UCSA PostGrad Newsletter 28th April 2008

Hi everyone,

Looking out of my office window, I see all the trees in the UCSA carpark turning the most beautiful shades of orange and yellow - autumn really is spectacular, and it's great to slot in a lunchtime walk while the weather's still mild.

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1. Social events:

As it gets chillier, our minds turn to ways of entertaining ourselves on those dark wintery nights...Quiz nights start again on May 8th (mark your calendar!) and they'll pretty much happen every fortnight throughout terms 2 and 3 - further details as they come to hand. And then there's the Postgrad Ball! It's on Friday the 8th of August this year, and we're giving you the opportunity to be part of the planning. We have three possible themes and we'd like you to vote for your favourite. They are.....

Arabian Nights - lots of sequins and glitter - and we could have belly dancers performing

or

Rock and Roll - lively music and fun costumes

or

Masquerade/Mardi Gras - huge scope here for colourful, creative costumes and masks!

The Ball will be held in the UCSA ballroom this year, and we look forward to a very special evening. So give the themes some thought, see what inspires you, and email me with your ideas by Wednesday 7th May.

2. IT Courses

A 'Word for Thesis Students' course will be run by IT in May. Dates are not confirmed yet but they plan to run the course from 12.10-1pm over a 2-3 day period...if these times are totally inappropriate please let me know of recommended times and dates. I will forward these to IT and they will do their best to accommodate your needs.

For details keep an eye out online at:

<http://www.icts.canterbury.ac.nz/training/index.shtml>

3. Careers and Employment Fair - 14 and 15 May:

This is a fantastic exhibition by recruiting organisations/employers exhibiting the range of employment opportunities available for graduates. The Fair runs over two days, is open to all University of Canterbury students and is held in the UCSA Building from 10am til 3.30pm. Wednesday the 14th of May is for Commerce, Arts, Law, Education and Science/IT Students, and on Thursday the 15th of May it's full focus on Engineering! Companies will be promoting the career opportunities they offer i.e. summer internships, vacation work, graduate recruitment and immediate vacancies. Educational institutions will also take this opportunity to promote further study. Postgrad Support and the Postgraduate Office will be running a joint stand on Wednesday, 14 May - so come and say 'hi' if you're passing!

4. Platform Arts Festival 21 May - 1 June:

A great range of performances and activities showcasing the Arts at Canterbury.
Check out the Platform website at: <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/platform/>

5. Arts Change Proposal:

You can view the updated proposal at:

http://www.arts.canterbury.ac.nz/CoA_DIP2008.pdf

Any consultation is now only regarding the school structure. If you would like to submit comments on this topic, or have any queries about the Arts Change Proposal, please contact the UCSA President, Michael Goldstein, at: president@ucsa.canterbury.ac.nz

6. Funding - Understanding Canada initiative

On April 1, 2008 the Canadian government announced the introduction of Student Mobility Support Program grants under the new Understanding Canada initiative. The grants, which are intended for higher learning institutions and organisations, support projects involving exchanges, study tours, internships and scholarships that aim to advance international students' understanding of Canada in areas of interest to Canada or shared policy challenges between Canada and, in this case, Australia or New Zealand. Projects that involve reciprocal elements are welcome. Applicants may request funding up to C\$10,000.

Applications should be sent to the Canadian High Commission, Canberra (attention Mr Tony McKittrick) so as to arrive by June 1, 2008. Results of this year's round will be announced on July 29, 2008.

Guidelines and application forms can be found at:

www.international.gc.ca/fac/studies-etudes/mobility-mobilite.aspx?lang=en
<<http://www.international.gc.ca/fac/studies-etudes/mobility-mobilite.aspx?lang=en>>

That's all for now - have a great week!

Cheers,
Marjorie

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