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of
The University of
Melbourne Inc.

THE MELBOURNE GRADUATE

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MISS STELLA LANGFORD

(1899-1974)



I am so pleased that the name Stella Langford is getting prominence of late. I wonder if people who see this name give more than a fleeting thought to the person who bore it. For almost a year I have had the privilege to delve into this marvellous woman's life. Stella Mary Langford has won me over and has become someone I have grown to respect, admire and to be very fond of. To find out anything about her however was not easy – she truly was and perhaps can still be considered an Australian Quiet Achiever.

Stella Mary Langford was born in North Carlton on the 1 January 1899, the oldest of three children of Ann Elizabeth and George Gerard Langford. I have not been able to find out which primary school she attended but she received her secondary education at University High School in Parkville. There is documentation that she received a scholarship and went to the University of Melbourne, where she studied English, French, German, Botany and Latin. She followed up her BA with a Diploma of Education and a Master of Arts. Education Department records show that she took up her first teaching position on the 1 January 1921 at Kerang High School. An extensive career in education followed at various schools, culminating as Head Mistress of Richmond Girls Secondary School on the 3 February 1959 – a position she held until her forced retirement due to ill health on the 20 February 1961.

After contacting, or at least attempting to contact the beneficiaries of Stella Mary Langford's Will, I was lucky to locate a former private student of Miss Langford, now living interstate, whose mother was a personal friend of hers and to whom she bequeathed a cedar chiffonier which is still in his possession. The following is an email received recently giving us an insight into his family's connection with Miss Langford.

Hello Francesca. I will attempt to answer your questions but as you are aware all this happened a very long time ago. I would estimate I first met Stella in 1960 and she gave me weekly private lessons in English Expression for approximately two years in her home (the single storey home). Stella had a successful career as an English teacher and was subsequently involved in either setting the syllabus or public examinations or both. You have to remember that at that time there were public examinations in Victoria meaning all students in Melbourne sat for the same exams at the same time in the Exhibition Buildings (except for a small number who sat the same exams in their schools). My mother maintained a friendship with Stella up to Stella's death. Stella was one of the early female students at Melbourne University either in her discipline or the university as a whole and she was immensely proud of being at MU. I remember her talking about swans on a lake where the Bailleau library is now sited (assuming it is still there).

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The Melbourne Graduate welcomes letters from readers and reserves the right to edit them for publication. Please keep word count to a maximum of 250 and address to The Editors, *The Melbourne Graduate*.

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RECIPROCAL CLUB

SALAYA PAVILION – THAILAND



Lobby and Foyer area



Situated on the top floor of Mahidol University International College, Salaya Campus, Nakornpathom, Thailand, the most academically challenging International College in Thailand, Salaya Pavilion Hotel and Training Center was founded in 1999 with the purpose of giving the students enrolled in the Travel Industry Management and the Business Administration Program diversity and an emphasis on a unique combination between theory and practice.

In terms of hotel services and facilities, a full-scale renovation was undertaken in early 2008, giving the Salaya Pavilion Hotel a fine and pleasant choice of stay with 43 rooms and suites under the greenery view of the Salaya campus. The hotel was opened to the public and features six different room types to suit all styles and budgets. All room types are spacious and very stylishly decorated with balconies, overlooking Salaya and Buddhamonthon, Thailand's largest Buddhist site.



Restaurant

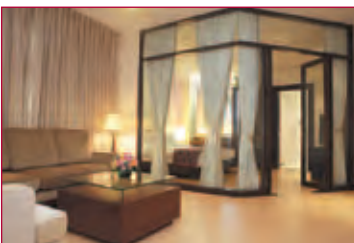
Staying at the Salaya Pavilion Hotel is also a fine dining experience not to be missed. The Salad Bar buffet and Western-style set lunch are great value and are situated in a contemporary Thai setting in the Herb Garden Restaurant. Refreshments and a la carte dining are also available in the relaxed and elegant Little Mango Bar.

The five function rooms accommodating up to 250 guests are located on the sixth floor and are the ideal venue for seminars, business meetings, conferences, exhibitions and parties. All rooms are fully equipped and offer broadband internet access. The team of highly motivated staff is always standing by to ensure smooth and trouble-free functions for valued customers.

Situated in the heart of Nakornpathom, a small lovely province of about 56 kilometres from Bangkok, Salaya Pavilion Hotel and Training Center has access to many main streets in town as well as local attractions including the largest pagoda in Thailand, a riverside market behind the temple, elephant ground and zoo, an orchid farm, the Thai Human Imagery Museum and the Thai Farmer's Lifestyle Museum. Guests can enjoy the sights and relax their senses amidst the tranquil atmosphere and diverse attractions surrounding the hotel.

With all the functions, facilities and charming environment at Salaya Pavilion Hotel and Training Center, we have earned a reputation among the students for providing genuine hands-on experiences in the four main departments of the hotel which include Front Office, Housekeeping, Food & Beverage and Kitchen. Throughout the internship period, trainees are given full training in all aspects of hospitality by the professional team of Salaya Pavilion. The curriculum is sophisticated and designed to allow trainees an opportunity to apply their knowledge and the skills to work effectively in a highly competitive and diverse environment in an increasingly globalized world. Consequently, those graduating from Salaya Pavilion are welcomed in many world-class service industry sectors, locally and internationally.

Grand Junior Suite



Apart from being a hotel training centre, Salaya Pavilion also provides courses in table manners, cooking and other related hospitality courses at national and international levels. The "table manners" course focuses mainly on Western table manners and related etiquettes. The "cooking class"

(Continued Page 6)

Superior Room



RESIDENTS

Sheldon Johnston



A Sydneysider, Sheldon comes to Melbourne to study a Master of International Politics. He is a graduate of the Australian National University with Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degrees, majoring in European studies. Over many years

Sheldon has gained broad expertise as a financial analyst in Sydney and London, working for ABN-AMRO, ANZ Bank, Commonwealth Bank and GE, specialising in leasing, structured finance and profitability analysis. In between work & study he has utterly destroyed three passports while backpacking five continents, where he developed his passion for international affairs. A guitarist, qualified audio engineer and all-round music 'tragic', he possesses a huge CD collection, has published hundreds of music reviews, and looks forward to enjoying Melbourne's live music scene. A devoted follower of rugby league and a one-eyed Cronulla Sharks fan, he has also been known to strap on the AFL boots from time to time.

Kevin K M Hong



Kevin, also known as Kyung Moo, is originally from Seoul, Korea. He moved to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia when he was six, graduated from International School of Kuala Lumpur before moving to the US to complete his bachelor's degree at Boston University. He has worked

at various international companies such as Oracle and Andersen Consulting, and also has deep exposures in broadcasting, advertising and venture capital business. Currently his main residence is in Jakarta, Indonesia where he is running his own business in the coal and natural resources industry. Kevin decided that it was time to upgrade his education so decided to join MBS in May 2009. He is an avid golfer and always looking forward to meeting new friends on and off the golf course.

Prof. Syed Kamal-ud-Din



Professor Syed Kamal-ud-Din is from Quetta, Pakistan. Since August 25, 2003 he has been working as the National Project Coordinator in National Education Assessment System (NEAS), Ministry of Education, Islamabad. He

is the recipient of Best Teacher Educator Gold Medal awarded by Government of Balochistan, Education Department in 1999. Ministry of Education, Government of Pakistan also awarded him a Gold Medal as a successful Project Administrator of NEAS in April 2009. Kamal's

range of interest is travelling, visiting of historical places, attending social events. Now he is enrolled in Assessment Research Centre (ARC), University of Melbourne as PhD student in assessment. He has conducted many research studies on female education carried out in Balochistan sponsored by UNESCO, Asian Development Bank and other Government and private organizations.

Jens Feuerlein



Jens is an MBA candidate at the Sauder School of Business in Vancouver, Canada, and currently on exchange at Melbourne Business School. He grew up in Switzerland where he obtained a masters degree in mechanical engineering with a focus on lightweight

constructions. During his employment with Oerlikon Space AG, Jens worked for 5 years as a project manager for space applications serving customers like ESA, NASA and BMW, establishing and improving the manufacturing process for high-end, high-tech products made from carbon/glass fibers for space applications. After his promotion to process manager, he was responsible for achieving highest process demands in the space industry. He came up with an idea on how to manufacture carbon / glass fiber products more efficiently, flexible and less costly and has turned this idea into success during the MBA program with two successful participations in business plan contest and pitches to venture capitalists and business angles. In his spare time, Jens has crossed the Himalayas by mountain-bike. As a snow-and kite boarding instructor, he has travelled all over the world for the best spots. Speaking five different languages has helped him to overcome language and culture barriers during his travels.

Foong Hoh Yun



Foong was brought up in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and graduated from Monash University (Malaysian Campus) in 2005 with a Bachelor of Engineering Degree (Electrical & Computer Systems). During his undergraduate days, he spent a year in the Clayton campus. After graduation,

he worked briefly for Diamond Key International (an oil and gas company) before joining a financial advisory firm as a technical support engineer. He is now continuing his studies in RMIT pursuing Masters degree in Engineering (Network Systems). Foong likes to watch movies and he is passionate about fitness. He has been practising and teaching Goju-Ryu style Karate for many years. He has been to Melbourne many times and he loves living here.



– TWILIGHT LECTURE SERIES –

Mr Michael Thurston



Iraq has made much progress since the years of unremitting violence and turmoil after the US invasion to topple Saddam Hussein. The success of a recent US military “surge”, a growing public disgust with extremists, an election earlier this year whose outcome indicates a preference for

political moderation, evidence of reconstruction and other indicators of greater stability are all part of the new picture of Iraq now visible. Mr Thurston explained the changes under way, and explored the outlook towards Iraq of the new US administration under President Obama.

Mr Thurston shared his personal insights into Iraq today, including his experience in leading the Diyala South Embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team in Diyala province. He was in Diyala during a time of great upheaval and change for the people of the province and he spoke in detail about the role of the PRT, how the teams are made up, and the work the teams do on the ground with the people and community of Diyala.

Mr Thurston currently serves as the Consul-General in Melbourne. He is a 20 year veteran of the U.S. Foreign Service and a graduate of the University of Washington in Seattle, as well as the University of Washington, School of Law.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE AGM

At the Annual Meeting in May our President, the Honourable John Cain undertook to have all questions raised at the meeting responded to. The six questions were considered at the August meeting our Council and a submission prepared with the following recommendations.

Council agreed unanimously to accept these recommendations as follows:

1. Affirmed that canvassing support for those nominating in Council elections is a private matter for individuals concerned and Council has no capacity to intervene in such matters.
2. Affirmed that strategies are being investigated to improve communication with members in all areas of operation.
3. Affirmed initiatives in place to encourage new graduates to become members, including one year's free membership to all new graduates of the University of Melbourne.
4. Affirmed inclusion of evening functions in the calendar for the coming year.
5. Affirmed that a 'Letters to the Editor' page in The Melbourne Graduate is available for members' ideas and feedback.
6. Affirmed the investigation of strategies to improve the newsletter and new marketing initiatives, including the purchase of a colour printer.

– LUNCHEONS SPEAKERS –

AUGUST



Kenneth Park is Consultant Curator of Collections at Wesley College, Melbourne and a freelance art curator, presenter, fund-raiser, tour leader and writer. His strong professional interest in the arts and especially museums and places where history has happened,

along with a general interest in cultural and architectural history, has resulted in a longstanding association with Australians Studying Abroad, a tour company specializing in presenting cultural and educational tours all over the world. He lives by the motto that “life is a grand tour, so make the most of it” and his passions are many and include travel, food, wine, arts, architecture, history and “the good life”. Kenneth retains has a great affection for the University Of Melbourne, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) and Bachelor of Letters.

SEPTEMBER



Roscoe Howell spoke about the global iniquity of slavery saying it is defined as one person owning and totally controlling another. That there are an estimated twenty million slaves in the world today is a staggering statistic. Research shows this number is made up

of an estimated 2.4 million sex workers; 15 million debt-slaves where a debt can continue through four generations; child soldiers; and forced labour, where people are made to work on the land or factories. Roscoe is passionately committed to the abolition of this injustice and to restoring the dignity of all people. He noted the many agencies focussed on this goal and invited members who were moved by the plight of the people shown in his slides to participate in what is a global coalition to expose people trafficking and lead governments to action.

OCTOBER



Professor Gardner has had a prominent career as an academic and has served in executive positions with several Universities. Margaret Gardner is challenged but excited by the new initiatives introduced by both the Federal and State Governments. Issues such as

accreditation and quality of programs have her attention, as well as access for indigenous students and those in rural and regional areas. Questions include whether there is a need for additional universities and if there is a danger the expansion could in fact dilute the quality of courses. How to attract those for whom education has always been out of reach, and whether reaching out to secondary students is desirable, is another issue. Victoria, with its dual sector universities providing a plethora of courses from apprenticeships to PhDs, will be most affected by the current Government expansion initiatives. There are so many challenges and questions. It will take clear heads and cooperation between the various educational institutions to sort out the solutions.

Miss Stella Mary Langford

(From Page 1)

After more searching I had a very lovely meeting with the solicitor who drew up her Will and his wife who witnessed it. Both remembered her well and spoke kindly of her. Another person who remembers her well is a former Assistant Secretary of the Teachers' Union from 1941 till 1973. She and colleagues knew Stella as 'an astute investor'. She occasionally visited Stella in her lovely home in North Balwyn. Several people felt that it was her entrepreneurial skills that made her quite wealthy and able to leave a considerable legacy to friends, the local community of North Balwyn, the Lost Dogs Home, University High School and last but not least Graduate House. I have not been able to locate any surviving family.

There appears to be two stories why Stella Mary Langford bequeathed a large sum of money to Graduate House. One is noted down on page 56 of 'A short history of The Graduate Union of The University of Melbourne' and is as follows: "the first year chosen was, in fact, an entire decade – that of the 1920s. On this occasion, a graduate named Stella Langford was so impressed with the aims and ideals of the Graduate Union that she took Bill Berry (the first Secretary-Warden) aside and confided that she intended to make provision for the Graduate Union in her Will" the second story is that "Stella was passing Graduate House one very rainy day and was drenched. The Warden took her in, dried her off, gave her a cup of tea and an umbrella before sending her on her way again. She was so impressed by the kindness shown to her that she made provision for the Graduate Union in her Will which was used in the purchase of the three terraces named for her". It probably doesn't matter which is the real reason why she made such a wonderful and generous gift, to make learning and study easier for all who undertake to follow the path of knowledge.

Stella Mary Langford we all owe you a huge debt of gratitude – you were truly a woman of beneficence!

Francesca Folk-Scolaro, August 2009

SALAYA PAVILION – THAILAND

(From Page 3)

training covers various menus and unique recipes which clients may request. Along with the appropriate lectures, the various meals are served and attendees are given information with each course, until at the conclusion of the meal the napkin left unfolded on the side of the dinner plate. As well as learning table manners, students in the cooking class share the food they have prepared and cooked with their classmates and the executive chef in a magnificent banquet room which only the Salaya Pavilion Hotel and Training Centre can offer.

Salaya Pavilion and Mahidol University have extended the following invitation to Graduate Union Members.

'For your next visitation at Salaya Pavilion Hotel and Training Center, please glance through our website at www.salayapavilion.com or if Thailand is your next trip, we wish to invite you to our property at Mahidol University International College's building. Once the elevator takes you to the 6th floor, our young professional interns will be present to welcome you with their warm greeting of the Thai graceful "Wai" – Sawasdee'.



**CHRISTMAS – NEW YEAR
PERIOD**

**SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION
RATE**

FROM \$53.00 PER NIGHT (NO MEALS)

**BETWEEN 19 DECEMBER 2009 AND
17 JANUARY 2010**



**Chef's
PEAR & GINGER CHUTNEY**

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA

Ideal gift at \$6.00 from reception

— Testimonial from James Mulholland —

An unsolicited culinary accolade and hearty appreciation to Chef Robert for his Pear & Ginger Chutney - YUM!

I purchased a jar last Friday & it is almost gone - a delicious accompaniment for roast pork (hot & cold) and I'm sure for almost anything with which one cares to team it. I'll try cheese next. Apart from personal enjoyment a few jars will solve a few Christmas gift problems. Congratulations Chef Robert on an all-round winner!

Graduate House Research Scholarship



*The Chairman of The Graduate Union is pleased to announce
a new initiative which will commence in 2010.*

A Graduate House Research Scholarship will be made available to long-term residents of Graduate House which will provide financial assistance to a resident who is engaged in a research project in their chosen field.

The Graduate House Research Scholarship will be presented at the dinner following the Annual General Meeting. The successful applicant will give a short presentation at the dinner about their research project.

It is anticipated that recipients of the Graduate House Research Scholarship will form a prestigious alumni into the future.

London Celebrity Chefs Reunion Dinner

Bring together three talented chefs and a selection of fine wines in an elegant setting, and you have the London Celebrity Chefs Reunion Dinner.

Graduate Union members and their guests had a feast to remember when Chris Smith, James Rew and our own Robert Goodman prepared a selection of signature dishes from the London restaurants in which they had previously worked. We were introduced to their talents with drinks and tasty canapes, which gave us a hint of what was to come. The four courses, Terrine of Pork, King Fish Confit, Medallions of Eye Fillet Steak and Strawberry Mille Feuille were beautifully presented and tasted superb. The meal was complimented by the wines, which were selected to accompany each course. John Vizard of Winefusion chatted to us about the nature and qualities of the wines and also entertained us with a mystery wine which turned out to be a Merlot. Martin Rule, our Catering and Conference Manager introduced each course and the mystery food, which was snails served on a spoon with the chef's own delicious Pear & Ginger Chutney

The dinner was a great success and those who had been involved in its presentation were warmly thanked. *Pru Sparks*



Companies offering discounts to Graduate Union Members
Australian Unity, Hertz, Pathfinder Coaching, Pickford
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Stella Langford Project Appeal Total : \$109,604.50

Donors since the August edition of The Melbourne Graduate: Miss E Carvosso, Dr B Craven,
Mr E Dickinson, Mr K Eppinger, Mr D Eyres, Miss E Ellis, Mr G Israel, Mr J Meehan, Miss G Northey,
Dr C Pawsey, Mr R Ritchie, Dr J Upjohn OAM



FROM THE HEAD OF COLLEGE

This year has certainly been full of activity with the Stella Langford redevelopment being in progress throughout the year. As with all building projects it seems, it has not been without its dramas, although overall the project has progressed pretty much on time and, after some unexpected expenses at the beginning, also on budget. There has been a great deal of interest in the deluxe apartments in the Stella Langford Wing and I anticipate these rooms will be very popular and taken up primarily by visiting academics and members.

Accommodation has been very good throughout the year with occupancy of more than 90% in most months. Conference and function patronage has increased substantially and there is hardly a day without a conference or function of some kind, often up to four going on at the same time. We have had some excellent speakers at the popular Monthly Luncheons and the Twilight Lectures and Wine Dinners have continued to attract members.

The special London Chefs Reunion Dinner attracted a large crowd and certainly lived up to expectations. Our Chef, Robert Goodman and his colleagues from London put on a wonderful dinner and a very enjoyable evening. Robert also conducted cooking classes again this year which were quite well attended. The Cooking Classes will continue in 2010 with some changes. They will now be bi-monthly with participants more 'hands on' and involved in the preparation process. The program and costs will be advertised in the monthly newsletter and expressions of interest will be requested so that numbers can be ascertained.

There have been many achievements over the year, too many to list. Many of you have commented on the addition of the Honour Boards in the Library which go back to the beginnings of the Graduate Union in 1911. As you can imagine, there was hours of research and I thank Lyn and her team of volunteers who spent a great deal of time on the project. Lately, you may have noticed the addition of a Donors Board in the foyer, which I believe is timely in view of the opening of the Stella Langford Wing. This Board lists all significant donors to the Graduate Union throughout its history. There have been many, many donors over the years and it would have been nice to have named them all. Unfortunately we had to make a decision about a cut-off as the Board would have been impossibly large if every donor had been included. I thank everyone who has given so generously.

The Stella Langford Wing is finished at last and will be officially opened early next year although we will be open for business by December this year. The car park will be available to members and guests from December also. Car park costs are available from reception and include annual, monthly and daily rates.

Again, I ask you to consider the Graduate Union when looking for a worthwhile cause to support. There are still naming rights available for apartments in the Stella Langford Building and the University Graduates Club and Graduate House is always striving to offer more facilities and services to our members and residents.

My very best wishes to you all for a joyful Christmas. I thank you most sincerely for your continued support and generosity during 2009 and look forward to a fruitful New Year 2010.

Eugene Spanti



To: The Graduate Union
220 Leicester Street
Carlton Vic 3053

*All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible
(gift under S20-25 of the ITAA 1997)*



Please send me information regarding Wills and Bequests to The Graduate Union

I/We would like to make a donation to **THE GRADUATE UNION ANNUAL APPEAL**
(Please select)

- Stella Langford Building Project
 - Naming Rights of Apartments (\$10,000 each) (8 left)
 - Naming Rights of Car Park Spaces (\$5,000 each)
- Building Fund - for the upkeep of the Graduate House Terraces
- Residents' Assistance Fund - to assist residents experiencing financial difficulties
- Residential Bursaries/Scholarship Program

Enclosed is my cheque/money order for \$..... or please debit this amount to my credit card account

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