

Learning on the job

Working it out

IQ follows graduates into the workplace

Name: Adam Trevarthen.
Job: Systems analyst and programmer with Pillar Administration in Coniston. I am responsible for developing and maintaining a variety of information systems.

Age: 22.
Graduated from: University of Wollongong in 2005.

Qualifications: Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology (Business Information Systems and E-Commerce), Honours, Class 1. University medallist - Faculty of Informatics.

Hours: 9am-5pm, five days a week (however, usually more at my own discretion).

Best part of your job: Working with and learning from experienced, high-calibre and friendly colleagues on a wide variety of projects. This has allowed me to apply and expand my skills. My team undertakes an assortment of projects and is responsible for many different applications, including development of new applications, maintenance and enhancement of existing applications. This has given me experience in a broad range of



For systems analyst and programmer Adam Trevarthen learning didn't stop once he graduated from university. Picture: HANK van STUIVENBERG

development environments and the opportunity for heavy involvement and leading roles in projects, thus exposing me to the management and human side of the IT industry also. Working for a company that is a leader in its field, it is a fast-paced environment where there is rarely a dull day.

Worst part: The occasional frustration when an application you're developing decides not to co-

operate with you. The upside is that these moments are always followed shortly after by a refreshing "light bulb" moment that brings it back into line.

Scariest part: Anytime I re-organise my desk.

Best experience: Being given the opportunity to assume the lead development role on a major project.

What did you want to be when you were a kid? Professional sports

player for Australia - soccer or rugby league.

Are you doing what you really want now? For this stage of my career, yes.

What do you want to be doing in five years? Managing a strong team.

How did you land your job? I was offered a position in a graduate program mid-way through my third year of university studies (of a four-year degree) by my current employer, Pillar Administration. They held an information session at UOW seeking candidates for graduate positions. After the interview process I was fortunate to be one of two students selected for a position. Upon completing my degree, I accepted their offer to move to full-time employment.

Advice for young students: Take a positive approach to your studies and endeavours in life. While times may seem tough, others have gone before you and others are there with you now. It is achievable. The hard work and sacrifices you make now will pay dividends in the long run.

Do you need a particular kind of personality to succeed? Just be yourself.

What role did the university careers service play in finding your job? They assisted by organising and promoting the Pillar information day at the university. They advertised the session and the offer of graduate positions which enticed me to attend.

Student view

What are you doing to address climate change?



Daniel Truong, English language and Master of Finance, University of Wollongong.

I think global warming will have some effect in my country, Vietnam. I think we should not use individual cars. I often take the train or the bus to uni.



Jason Mak, third-year medical science, UOW.

I always turn lights and appliances off when I'm not using them. I catch the train when I'm going to uni and I subscribe to Jackgreen Energy. They guarantee they get their energy from green sources. And I've found the cost is exactly the same.



Jenny Eskelinen, second-year exercise science, UOW.

I always walk from home in central Wollongong to uni five days a week, plus I ride my bike to work in Balgownie.



Danielle Brown, third-year marketing, UOW.

I'm not hosing the garden and I put a bucket in the shower to catch the cold water which I put on the garden. We also compost and recycle. And we are planning on going to the Live Earth concert, a concert at Aussie Stadium, Sydney in July to raise awareness of climate change.



Clare Kilkelly, third-year commerce, UOW.

I'm very conservative with using lights and energy and always turning off lights and dripping taps. I always tell people who are over-using water and lights to stop it. Even people at uni are leaving taps dripping.



Sai Ruthirakumar, fourth-year medical science, UOW.

I don't drive to uni as much as I only live down the road, and I walk more in general. I am concerned we live in an area where we need transport a lot. I drive mostly if I have to go elsewhere but if public transport was more accessible, frequent and punctual, I would use it more.

Get some chips with your beer



Katina Michael will discuss voluntary microchipping at Five Islands Brewery.

The next Uni in the Brewery session will look at why there are thousands of people volunteering to be injected with microchip implants for monitoring applications and location tracking.

Presented by Dr Katina Michael and Dr MG Michael from the Faculty of Informatics, issues of ownership, accessibility, property, safety, accuracy, trust and privacy will be addressed.

In 1948 the first ENIAC computer took up 139sqm of floor space.

Today, the same computer power can fit inside a chip the size of a grain of rice and can be injected into the human body.

Today, there are thousands of people who subscribe to VeriChip services, voluntary subjects being injected with tiny transponders implanted in the subdermal layer of the skin.

Humancentric tracking and monitoring applications based on technologies such as radio-frequency identification are now even being fitted to passports, and have some civil libertarians questioning whether they will soon be implanted into every citizen under the guise of national security.

It is this potential for mandatory consignment, once seen as a far-fetched conspiracy theory, that has some researchers debating the ethical implications behind chip implants for anything other than diagnostic medical purposes or corrective medical treatment.

One international group known as the transhumanist movement, welcome advances in technology as a way to extend life, and hope that eventually humans can do away with the flesh altogether. Another group made up by some members of the Christian faith

believe that chip implants may well be the mark of the beast. There are still other groups such as privacy advocates who oppose the implantation of chips into humans because they believe it is in breach of basic human rights.

UOW



When: Tomorrow, 5.30-6.30pm
Where: Five Islands Brewery, eastern end of Crown St, Wollongong.
Cost: Free.

Noticeboard

FREEBIES

Tomorrow

Uni in the Brewery: The Rise of Homo Electricus, 5.30-6.30pm, Five Islands Brewery.

CHEAP THRILLS

Tuesday

Tightarse Tuesday, \$2 chip rolls, \$3 Heineken, 3.30-6.30pm, UniBar.

Wednesday

□ Illawarra Poets' Breakfast, 7am, South Coast Writers' Centre, upstairs, Wollongong Town Hall, featuring performance poetry, \$2.

□ Foreplay, \$2 beer/wine \$3 spirits, 5-6pm, UniBar.

Thursday

Rastawookie + Ras Gong Guerillas + The Zenith Process, UniBar,

\$8/\$10 tickets from UniShop and Redback music.

Friday

Friday slide, smooth sounds and a happy hour, 4.30pm, UniBar.

Sunday

PCYC Sublime under-18 dance party, Shellharbour Workers' Club, 6pm-9.30pm, \$11/\$12, www.myspace.com/sublimeu18

Monday

UniBar poker and \$2 bingo, 4.30pm, plus happy hour, 5-6pm.

MOVIES

Tomorrow

Wild Hogs and Hollywoodland, UniMovies, UniHall, \$5.

Today, tomorrow

The Lives of Others, (German with

English subtitles). A Stasi officer assigned to spy on a celebrity couple becomes obsessed with their lives, 10am, 2.15pm, 7pm Gala, Warrawong.

OPPORTUNITIES

School reunions

□ Mt Kuring-gai Public School is celebrating 50 years of education with a reunion on May 19, 11am-3pm. Call Jo, 9457 9808.

□ Ex-students of Oak Flats High are trying to locate classmates for a 20-year reunion of the 1988 Year 10 class. Website: www.oakflatshighreunion1988.info
Noticeboard deadline is Friday: education@illawarramercury.com.au.



Wild Hogs is showing at the UniMovies this week.