



Australian National University Chapter

Newsletter — Edition 1, 2008

President's Welcome

Dear fellow and prospective ANU Golden Key Members, welcome back to uni for 2008! Our Chapter Executive has already been busy this year, organising Clean-Up Australia Day and hosting social drinks at Kremlin Bar. But we have even bigger and better things planned for the year, including a careers forum later this semester, Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, and our annual trivia night. Our volunteer tutoring program will also kick off soon.

We're always keen to have new members on board our committee, so if you'd like to become more involved in Golden Key, or if you're keen to make a particular event happen this year, or if passionate about a particular community service program, just get in touch with me and we'll see what we can do. I encourage everyone to make the most of their membership this year by coming along to our events, as they're a great opportunity to meet other members and always a lot of fun!

To our prospective members, I suppose the question on your minds at the moment is: "Why should I join Golden Key?" By joining Golden Key, you have lifetime access to a network of 1.7 million exceptional people, as well as over \$400,000 in scholarships for everything from internships to graduate study, and also a wide-range of career resources. Not only that, you'll have the opportunity to attend conferences in the U.S. and across the Asia-Pacific region (see the article on the Asia-Pacific Conference in Christchurch in this issue!) and unique opportunities to make a difference in the university and wider community. At a chapter level, you also have the chance to enhance your personal and professional development through taking on a leadership role.

I look forward to meeting as many GK members as I can throughout the year, as for me, it's the amazing people that I've met and the friendships that I've formed through Golden Key that have been the highlight of my involvement with the society.

Shuyin Tang
President
goldenkeyanu@gmail.com



Golden Key ANU members Becky Olson, Catherine Pellegrino and Christian Dunk, ready to answer questions during Market Day 2008.

Golden Key Asia-Pacific Conference 2008

This year the Asia Pacific Golden Key Conference was held at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand. Six students from ANU, not to mention our esteemed advisors Selwyn Cornish and Nathan Asher, jumped at the opportunity to travel across the Tasman to experience the 2008 AP conference.

It is a commonly known fact that Australians like to pay out New Zealand and New Zealanders like there is no tomorrow. But I can safely say that all the ANU GK members who attended the conference in New Zealand really enjoyed the beauty of the country and friendliness of the people, not to mention the awesome fun adventure sports the country has to offer. The conference was commenced with a traditional Maori welcome ceremony and hangi feast. Many members of the local Maori community came to welcome us, which was a great honour, particularly as it gave us a taste of the rich Maori culture.

The conference was jam-packed full of insightful speakers and workshops. The keynote speaker, Dr John Tickell, gave an extremely entertaining and inspiring talk based on his book, 'Laughter, Sex, Vegetable and Fish: The 10 Secrets of Long Living People' – the title says

it all. There was also an excellent careers panel with representatives from KPMG, Sheffield and the Careers centre at the University of Canterbury. Jeff Lai and myself also presented a workshop entitled 'So you've got a committee, how do we manage them and organise great events?' This workshop was well received and well attended; even the Golden Key CEO, Alex Perwich, who travelled from the US to come to the conference, was there.

There were also a number of light-hearted events and socialising opportunities during the conference. Firstly, we had the famous Golden Key Networking Trivia Quiz – strategically timed at the beginning of the

conference, which gave us a chance to meet heaps of other Golden Key members from around the region. Later we had the hilarious Great Debate with the topic 'That New Zealand and Australia should unite to form one country'. I shall never forget Jeff's discussion of combining the kiwi and koala to form the 'kiwiala'. The whole conference was topped off by a Kiwiana Celebration gala dinner. The Kiwiana dinner was also the occasion where various awards were handed out. The ANU Chapter was awarded Gold Status for our contributions to our community and campus in 2007. To the great pride of our Chapter, our primary advisor of many years, Selwyn Cornish, was awarded the advisor of the year prize.

Overall the conference and trip to New Zealand was a great experience! All GK members are invited to attend conferences such as the Asia Pacific Conference (held annually in January/February) or the International Conference (to be held 31 July – 3 August 2008 in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA). I strongly recommend making an effort to attend a GK conference, they are extremely rewarding.

Madeleine Rowland



Members receive the 'Gold Chapter' certificate for ANUGK in New Zealand.



The conference commenced with a traditional Maori welcome ceremony

Networking? Is that what they call it these days?

At my first ever GK conference this past summer I was confronted with an aspect of GK that had really never entered my mind at all when joining. After settling into the first day of conference activities-meeting new people, learning more and more about GK and having some amazing speakers I realised that I had missed the entire point.

While we all might acknowledge that GK is a bit of a nerd love-in in the most figurative sense, people actually take this extremely literally. I soon became aware that many at the conference were searching for anything between short-term conference love and a long-term blossoming GK romance specifically because of the quality of GK members.

“Where else can you find so many smart, like-minded individuals all in the one room? When you think about

it, it’s really not that silly”, remarked a current Graduate advisor to a GK committee at my incredulity, sharing that he met his wife through GK about ten years ago (she was also attending the conference with him). And they weren’t the only ones. There were a few other couples who had met and gotten married through GK there also. While comprehensive statistical data has not yet been gathered, I think it is safe to say that we have a serious trend on our hands.

But I think we should move away from the whole GK marriage talk. These are the more extreme cases of GK love after all. It was clear that most people were after a short and sweet conference dalliance. With genders slightly out of balance (more females than males), the female contingent at the conference, as we tend to do, shared data

on the eligibility and quality of male participants with view to later targeting them when perhaps slightly inebriated at one of the night time social functions. I’m not sure if any of this high level analysis went on among the males (I venture to say that it did not) but they certainly didn’t mind the attention one bit. By the second day, conference romances appeared to be blooming. And there were already some lovers’ trysts as some males appeared to have more than one lady “on the go” so to speak. I was an aptly positioned observer on the fourth floor at our accommodation (University Hall at the University of Canterbury), which later became known colloquially as the “Floor of Love” for the longing glances in the corridors, public displays of affection and general associated behaviour.

Most of the ANU contingent was shocked by this hidden underbelly of Golden Key. But when you think about it, it makes sense for the kind of people we are that if single, GK might be a good place to find someone. We did briefly discuss the possibility of GK networking evenings as a kind of classier veiled speed dating event but that hasn’t gone further as of yet. Nevertheless it remains a universal truth that the more GKANU members who participate in our variety of community and social based events on campus, the more chance you might have of forming new relationships- not necessarily of the romantic kind but friendships too. So in that spirit I say to you all, come along to our events this year, have fun and get to know your fellow GK members on campus. Go forth and socialise!

Luisa

VP (Social)

PS. If you have any ideas or suggestions for social events this year please contact us at goldenkeyanu@gmail.com.

Executive Profile

Hi, my name is Samantha and I was recently elected Golden Key Treasurer for 2008. I am currently in my third year of a combined Commerce and Arts degree at the ANU.

Having joined Golden Key last year, I decided to get involved in the Executive Committee not only because of the career and leadership opportunities that participation affords, but also because of the great social aspect of the committee. For example, I have recently returned from attending the Asia Pacific Regional Conference in Christchurch during which I was greatly impressed by the quality of the speakers and content, as well as the many amazing people I was able to meet.

I would encourage all members to get involved in Golden Key at the ANU, whether it be by attending events throughout the year or by volunteering to join our Executive in October. I can assure you that you will find the experience both challenging and extremely rewarding.

I look forward to meeting all of you at our upcoming events!



Volunteer Tutoring

This year the ANU Chapter of Golden Key (GK) will coordinate a volunteer tutoring program in collaboration with the ANU's Disability Services Centre (DSC), the International Student Office (ISO), the Academic Skills & Learning Centre (ASLC) and the Migrant Resource Centre of Canberra (MRCC).

To commence the program this year, we are trying to see who would like to be involved and become a volunteer tutor to their fellow students. We attempt to match GK mentors with ANU students who approach the DSC, ISO, ASLC & MRCC. The program's format consists of tutors and mentees meeting for about

an hour per week on areas of the mentee's choosing.

One of GK's objectives internationally is to promote literacy and education and this is your opportunity to contribute at a local level as well as something to mention on your CV.

Currently, we have a mentee requiring a tutor for the following subject: DART1002 - Introduction to Digital Image.

If you would like to be a volunteer tutor, please send us an email with your name, contact details, degree and majors to goldenkeyanu@gmail.com.

Catherine Pellegrino
Education Director

Upcoming Social Events

Thank you to all those who attended our first social event of the year at Kremlin Bar on Wednesday 12 March. It was great to see so many new faces—hopefully this trend can continue for the rest of the year! Our next social functions will be strongly linked to our intake of new members in 2008.

Week 4 (17–21 March 2008)

Information week for new members featuring the GK stall in Union Court on Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 March between 11:30am and 2:30pm.

This is followed by our Information Night on Tuesday 18 March in the Manning Clarke foyer from 6pm, with refreshments served afterwards.

Week 10 (12–16 May 2008)

Induction Ceremony for New Members at University House on Thursday May 15 at 6pm.

Week 13 (2–6 June 2008)

New Members' Dinner at University House on Wednesday June 4 at 6:30pm. Tickets on sale before the event, either at the Induction Ceremony or on campus (watch for details).

In between all of that, we're hoping to have another casual drinks event and to also go bowling together—both great chances for mixing and mingling and especially, yes, that dreaded word—networking! Stay tuned for more information.

Luisa

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Clean up Australia Day



ANU students, including GK members, enjoy a well-earned barbecue lunch after another successful Clean Up Australia Day.