



The Gift

UON philanthropy news

US\$20 million to fund new scholarship program

The Jack Ma Foundation has committed US\$20 million (A\$26.4 million) to fund a first-of-its-kind scholarship program at UON. This commitment is the largest in UON's history and honours a remarkable friendship between Chinese businessman Mr Jack Ma and Novocastrian Mr Ken Morley, who passed away in 2004.

The two men became friends after meeting whilst Ken and his family were on holiday in 1985, visiting Mr Ma's hometown of Hangzhou, China. Mr Ma says his friend taught him core values and a global view that guided his life and contributed to his success in business.

"I am very thankful for Australia and the time I spent there in my youth. The culture, the landscape and, most importantly, its people had a profound positive impact on my view of the world at that time," says Mr Ma, Executive Chairman and Founder of the Alibaba Group.

The generous commitment will establish the new Ma and Morley Scholarship Program at UON, honouring a great friendship and inspiring a new generation of globally aware and socially conscious Australian leaders.

"The Ma and Morley Scholarship Program will inspire, educate and cultivate tomorrow's leaders. The Alibaba Group was built by young people and we are committed to lifting up and empowering students so they can reach their dreams and ambitions," said Mr Ma.

Find out more about Mr Ma and Mr Morley's remarkable story and learn more about the Ma and Morley Scholarship Program: www.newcastle.edu.au/ma-morley

Photo: Professor Caroline McMillen, Vice-Chancellor, Mr Jack Ma, Founder of Alibaba Group, Ms Gladys Berejiklian, Premier of New South Wales, attend the Program announcement, 3 February 2017.



A message from the Director

Welcome to your first edition of The Gift for 2017! The year is well underway, and already we have lots of exciting news to share with you about the year ahead and how your support is having a great impact.

On the front page is the remarkable story of an unlikely friendship between two exceptional individuals: businessman Mr Jack Ma and Novocastrian Mr Ken Morley. In honour of their friendship, the Jack Ma Foundation's generous US\$20 million commitment – the largest in UON's history – will establish a new scholarship program to help many more students achieve their dreams of studying at university. What a wonderful gift!

In 2017, UON is delighted to reach the milestone of more than \$1 million to be awarded in scholarships, funded through the generosity of our donors and sponsors, all directly helping students and researchers.

As well as scholarships, your donations support life-changing research and community outreach. The recently-announced \$540,000 donation from Elderslee Foundation Australia Ltd (page 3) will advance UON's Senior Smiles program in the years to come, helping to improve aged-care residents' oral health and quality of life.

If you want to volunteer for a great cause this year, take a look at our exciting Larapinta Trail Challenge on page 5. The 65km, five-day trek aims to raise a minimum of \$100,000 in support of Indigenous students and for research into Indigenous community health issues. I hope you will consider joining or supporting our champions as they sweat for a great cause!

Like you, our team at UON is dedicated to helping our community flourish by investing in education and research. On page 3, you will meet Development Manager Rose Johns who shares what she does in her role and why. Rose shares some insight into her background and why she finds philanthropy so rewarding.

UON philanthropy is about investing in our community. We want to ensure that students who are most in need of support receive assistance and that lives in our community are improved by new research outcomes. You are an integral part of making this vision a reality. Thanks to your support, the year ahead promises great progress for UON students, researchers, and the community.

Please enjoy The Gift.

Rebecca Hazell
Director of Advancement

Donor feature

\$540,000 donation brightens smiles on the Central Coast

UON is thrilled to announce a generous \$540,000 donation from Elderslee Foundation Australia Ltd. The gift will advance UON's Senior Smiles, a community-outreach program that aims to improve oral health for older people living in residential aged-care facilities and ultimately enhance quality of life.

Mr Howard Oxley, Treasurer of the Elderslee Foundation says "The Foundation is especially looking to help the elderly and disadvantaged. We were impressed with the passion and organisation displayed by Janet Wallace and we look forward to working with the team over the next three years as we improve the lives of the elderly in our Central Coast community."

The program was created by Dr Janet Wallace and her team from UON's School of Health Sciences after identifying that residents of aged-care facilities are at high-risk of suffering from dental problems.

"Our research shows that, around Australia, residents in aged-care facilities are often only treated for oral health conditions when it becomes an emergency," explains Dr Wallace.

Over the past eight years, Senior Smiles has made significant contributions to the Central Coast



Meet the team Rose Johns Development Manager

My job, in a nutshell: To build relationships with people and businesses who generously desire to support life-changing projects aligned with their values.

Favourite part of the job: Meeting generous and inspiring people who give up their time and money to make a difference. After 13 years working in the not-for-profit sector, I am now proud to work for a university that leads the way in their commitment to equity and excellence in education and research.

One day I'd love to: Head to Africa with my family to volunteer at a rescue facility or animal orphanage. I love animals and am passionate about protecting them.

"Our team identifies oral health issues among aged-care residents and fast-tracks their treatment."

Dr Wallace



community through student placement, oral health prevention, intervention, treatment, and referral pathways. The generous \$540,000 donation – made in instalments over three years – will allow Dr Wallace's team to appoint qualified dental hygienists and oral health therapists in five major aged-care facilities on the Central Coast.

"Our team proactively identifies issues in aged-care residents' oral health and fast-tracks their treatment for specialist attention before problems become severe," says Dr Wallace.

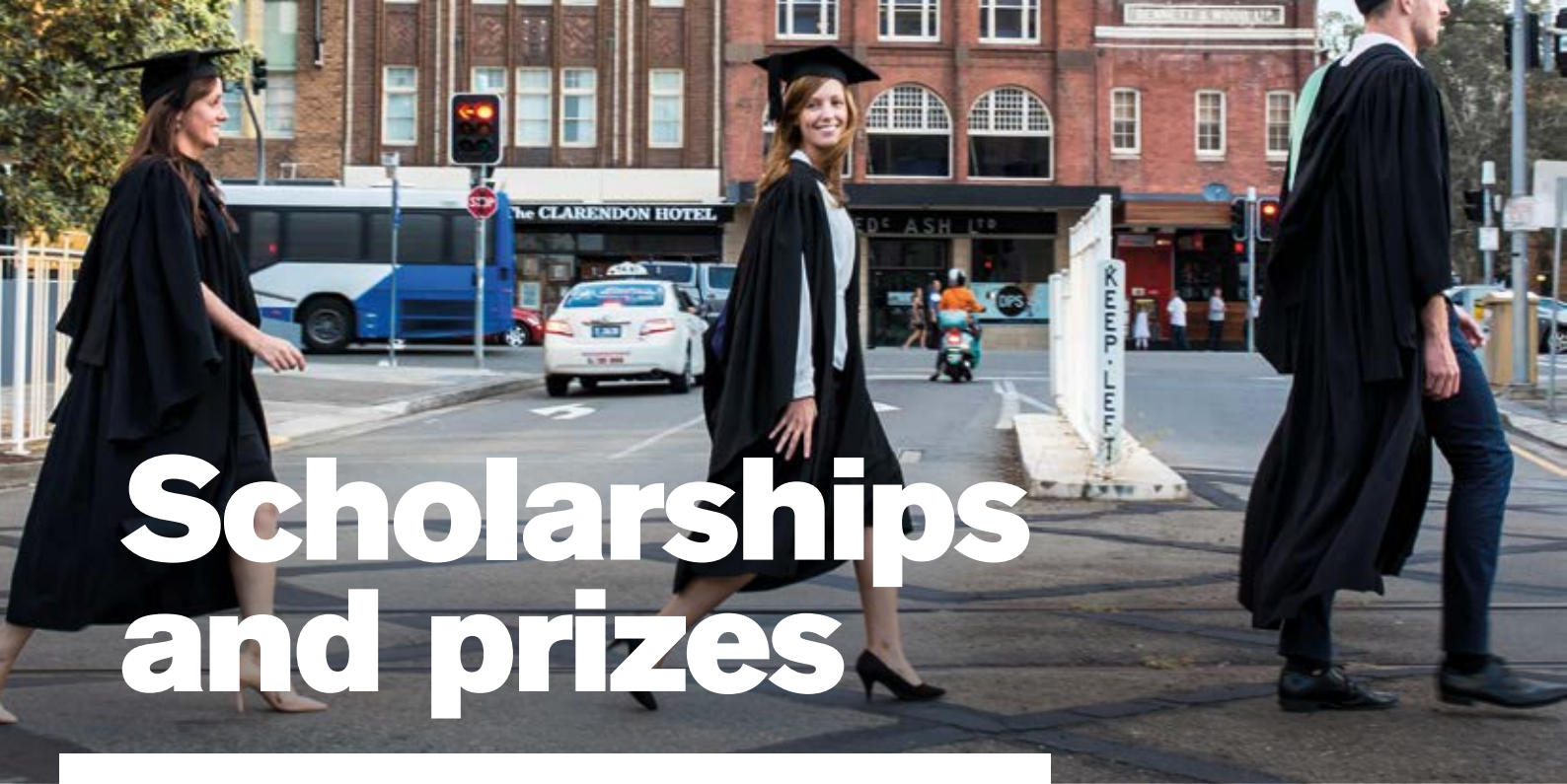
"Going forward, I am committed to ensuring the Senior Smiles program will be implemented in all residential aged-care facilities Australia-wide to provide a preventive focus for all residents, and to develop those really important pathways to specialist dental care."

I'm inspired by: People who use their positivity to make a meaningful difference in the world – such as UON donors, staff and researchers.

My friends and family would describe me as: Lover of animals, opinionated, family-focused, car-singer and travel-addict.

Do you have a question for Rose about giving through UON?

Send her an email:
rose.johns@newcastle.edu.au



Scholarships and prizes

Philanthropic support directly provides more than \$1 million in scholarships in 2017

Thanks to your support, UON now has more than \$1 million to be awarded in scholarships this year to assist our students and researchers. In 2017, around 170 dedicated and talented students are receiving support to excel in their studies.

“We’re delighted to reach this milestone of more than \$1 million of scholarships being funded through the philanthropic support of our donors. It’s hard to imagine how much these scholarships can mean for our students and researchers, these scholarships can and do change lives,” says Rebecca Hazell, Director of Advancement. “There is no question that university education transforms lives, our students often share with me just how much of an impact a scholarship has had and I’m so pleased

that through the generosity of donors this philanthropic support will continue to grow”.

Five ways your support helps scholars:

- 1 Assists with **travel costs** to and from university
- 2 Covers the cost of **educational resources**, such as textbooks and work placement uniforms
- 3 **Covers living costs while they study**
- 4 Contributes to **childcare costs**, if needed
- 5 **Instils self-belief and determination**

Coal & Allied and UON team up to support rural students

Coal & Allied Operations Pty Ltd and UON share a commitment to equity and educational sustainability in the Hunter. That’s why we’ve teamed up to give more rural students access to tertiary education.

With \$80,000 in scholarships for 2017, our strong partnership with Coal & Allied is helping to remove students’ financial and educational barriers to university. Eight scholarships are available to students from Singleton, Muswellbrook or the Upper Hunter, each awarding \$10,000 over two years of study.

As well as supporting students’ dreams of attending university, the partnership aims to invest in local talent and contribute to long-term sustainability and economic growth in the Hunter region.

The Coal & Allied Community Development Fund has proudly supported UON scholarships since 2006, supporting access to tertiary education for local students.

Charity challenge

Supporting Indigenous education and research

Ready to put your best foot forward in 2017? We're looking for 30 volunteer champions to embark on an impressive and worthwhile adventure from 15-19 August: a 65km, five-day trek along the magnificent Larapinta Trail in the Northern Territory.



Larapinta trekkers enjoy the stunning views.

The team will aim to raise over \$100,000 collectively, with 100% of donations supporting Indigenous students and research into Indigenous community health issues. When it comes to Indigenous education, UON is proud to lead the way. We have graduated around one third of the country's Indigenous doctors and have the largest number of Indigenous students of any Australian university.

The Larapinta Trail Challenge forms part of UON's commitment to excellence in Indigenous education,

equity and social justice. Currently, Indigenous Australians have a shorter life expectancy, are around five times more likely to die from diabetes and alcohol-related illnesses, and are severely under-represented in Australian universities. Together, we can change these statistics and improve lives.

Each champion is encouraged to raise a minimum of \$3,500 however some have set their sights on even bigger goals, garnering support from friends, family and the wider community for a great cause. Every dollar – and every step – counts!

To support our champions, please visit:
newcastle.edu.au/larapintachallenge

A proud Wiradjuri woman, Miss Kishaya Delaney is currently studying a Bachelor of Communication and Bachelor of Law (Honours) supported by the 2016 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scholarship.

"My amazing scholarship provides me the greatest support and ensures I'll be able to complete my degree and give back to my own community and culture."



UON staff giving week

Giving begins at home

In November 2016, our inaugural Staff Giving Week was an opportunity to thank all UON staff who donate to support dedicated and talented students and researchers. **Our staff are an essential part of the UON community and are dedicated to excellence and equity in education and research.**

More than 450 UON staff members attended the Staff Giving Week celebrations, where many heard from Ms Rebecca Northam, a Shaping Futures Scholarship recipient. Rebecca shared how the kindness of donors has allowed her to pursue her dream of tertiary education.

The week was a great success, leaving UON staff with a better understanding of the immense impact of their gifts as well as increasing staff payroll giving participation by 146%. The generous support of UON staff is helping to transform students' lives and contributing to innovative research that saves and improves lives. We look forward to hosting the next Staff Giving Week in June 2017.



Find out more about staff giving at newcastle.edu.au/staffgiving



159%

increase in donation value directed to UON funds through staff payroll giving



3.5

equivalent number of Shaping Futures Scholarships funded by staff payroll donors in 2017



>450 staff

attended 13 events as part of Staff Giving Week

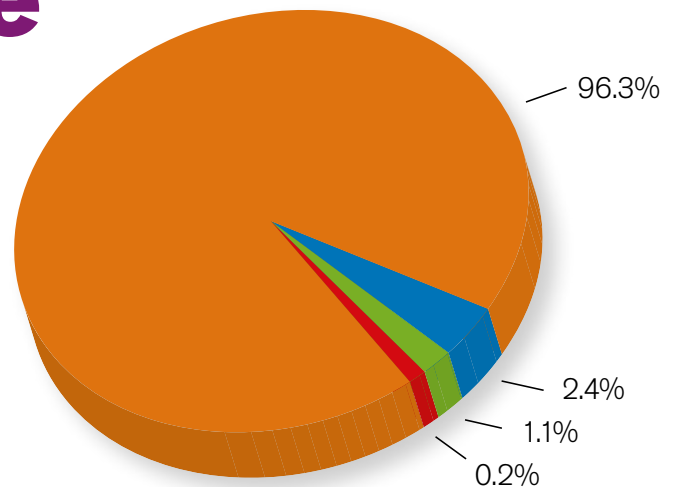
2016 End of Year Appeal update

Thank you for supporting the 2016 End of Year Appeal. Your donations raised a total of \$25,565 helping us to provide a total of 42 Shaping Futures Scholarships in 2017.

These scholarships will ease the financial burden for dedicated and talented students who are most in need of your support. This year, 577 students faced unique challenges to education and applied for extra help through the Shaping Futures Scholarship Fund. Your support helps to provide critical assistance to more students each year – thank you.

When you donate to UON Appeals, you can choose how your funds are allocated. Most donations to the 2016 End of Year Appeal were allocated to the Shaping Futures Scholarship Fund towards five additional scholarships.

Of the **\$25,565** received our supporters chose to allocate their donations to the following funds:



- Shaping Futures Scholarships Fund
- UON Endowment Fund
- UON Research and Discovery Fund
- Doherty Ellis Undergraduate Scholarships for ATSI Students



"Thank you to all the donors who have helped disadvantaged students through the Shaping Futures Scholarships Appeal. I feel so grateful to have played a part in supporting disadvantaged students by sharing my own story."

Daniel – Scholarship recipient

NeW Space nearing completion

The iconic NeW Space building is nearing its final stages of construction, expected to open its doors to the UON community for semester two 2017.

In December 2016, the construction team celebrated the removal of the tower crane – affectionately named Usain – marking an important final step in the building process. As the glass exterior takes shape, the interior is being outfitted with vibrant, technology-rich learning environments where students and staff can thrive.

Visit newcastle.edu.au/newspace to follow monthly construction updates and see the latest time-lapse photos of the construction.



Ma and Morley Scholarship Program announcement

February 2017



How to give:

MAIL YOUR CHEQUE TO:

UON Office of Alumni and Philanthropy
IDC Building, University Drive
Callaghan, NSW 2308

TELEPHONE:

Call us on: +61 2 4921 8612

EMAIL:

Contact us on: donate@newcastle.edu.au

DONATE ONLINE:

At our secure website:
newcastle.edu.au/donate

Tax deductibility: Donations of \$2 or more to the University of Newcastle may be eligible deductions for income tax purposes under the Income Tax Act 1997.
Privacy: The University of Newcastle complies with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998. Your personal information will be securely stored.