Penny’s Hill,  
23 January, 2016

Time: 10:30am – 3:00pm  
Date: Saturday 23 January, 2016  
Place: Penny’s Hill Winery,  
Willunga
• Ngangkirna, Miyurna! Naa marni Ngai nari David
  • Ladies and gentlemen, hello, my name is David

• Ngai yarta-nungku yaku, ngai kunturrkinthi taakanthi ngaityu wardli
  • I’m not originally from this country but I am proud to call this my home.

• Ngai pudlunthi naa-itya, ngai wangkanthi warra Kaurna meyurna, miipudlunthi ngaityu kuinyuntapin thi
  • And I’m telling you this in the language of the Kaurna people as a mark of respect.

• This event this morning is taking place on Kaurna land.

• The Kaurna people have performed ceremonies on this land for many centuries, and we pay respect to their living culture and the unique role they continue to play in the life of the Adelaide region.

• Good morning

• Welcome to Penny’s Hill and what is normally considered the decisive stage of the Tour Down Under,
the race that might not stop the nation like the
Melbourne Cup, but is pretty effective at slowing traffic
in and around the McLaren Vale.

This is a special day for us because it gives us an
opportunity to surround ourselves with partners,
friends, supporters, donors,

the people who’ve shaped our success and

those who are actively building our future.

It gives us a chance to thank you and also to put you in
the centre of the action at one of the world’s great bike
races.

You may know that I wasn’t always a fan of the lycra
legion,

but I did have my own major bike experience this time
last year.
Today you’re about to witness the fastest men on two wheels

but last year we helped break a Guinness World Record with the world’s longest bike.

We’ll be listed in the 2017 Guinness Book of World Records for a bike that was almost 42 metres long, weighed 2.5 tonnes and fit 20 riders.

We fell off it.

But, proving the power of persistence, we got back on, and rode the 100 metres necessary to beat the previous record.

So I have a real sense of what these young riders are doing as they fly past these windows in their 150+ kilometre ride.
Penny’s Hill, 23 January, 2016

• We have been moving fast ourselves this past year.

• On the eve of our 25th birthday we were named in the world’s top 50 universities under 50 years old by both Times Higher Education and Quacarelli Symonds
  
  o Number 38 by THE;
  
  o And Number 25 by QS.

• We also had fantastic results in the Excellence in Research Australia rankings,

• which rated 97 per cent of our research as world class or above.

• And we have just been named in the Times Higher Education Rankings for the top 200 of the world’s most international universities.

• We’re Number 57 in the world (the youngest university in the top 75);
• Number One in South Australia;

• Number 8 in Australia;

• Proving once more our ongoing commitment to global engagement, particularly through our teaching research and the international background of our academic staff.

• And while we celebrate our results, these were not overnight triumphs.

• They became possible because of the Chancellors and Vice Chancellors who nurtured this university for the past 25 years and made sure it had strong foundations.

• We particularly thank Professor Denise Bradley, and Professor Peter Hoj, both of whom have joined us today;

• And our former Chancellors Dr Basil Hetzel, David Klingberg and Dr Ian Gould.
Penny’s Hill, 23 January, 2016

- David and Ian are here today; unfortunately Basil isn’t well enough to make the trip.

- When we celebrate our 25th birthday this year we will be celebrating their achievements and we certainly hope they will enjoy our celebrations with us.

- Among the many events we have planned for 2016, our 25th Birthday Gala Dinner at the end of July is key.

- We look forward to seeing all of you there.

- We’ll be raising money for our 25th birthday scholarship funds and there are plenty of sponsorship opportunities available to help set our students,

- whether they’re the brightest or best, or simply those needing a little help,

- get the kind of help that makes such a huge difference in their lives and future prospects.
Penny’s Hill, 23 January, 2016

• And we’re pleased that our friends Swanbury Penglase Architects, Bio Innovation SA and Codan who have joined us today, have already organised their tables.

• It will be the social highlight of the year as we continue our strong growth.

• If any of you took part in Unijam a couple of years back you’ll know that many of our plans for progress came from expert advice sought from staff, students, alumni and interested observers from around the world.

• In May we’re going back to the well with Unijam 2: The Voyage Home, perhaps, or just Beyond.

• We’re going back to our very generous community of ideas-people to check on the progress we’ve made so far towards fulfilling our commitments in our Strategic Action Plan, Crossing the Horizon.
• Remember it was through Unijam 1 and the 38 hours we spent online with 8000 people in 50 countries that we got many of the ideas that informed our strategic action plan.

• And led to developments like saving Magill which had been slated for closure but will now become a focal point for education and enterprise; and

• the Great Hall – a completely new idea – that will become the heart of the university, our gathering place, and a resource for the whole community.

• Less than two years after it was suggested, it is, as we speak, rising out of the ground next door to the Jeffrey Smart building.

• The pilings are in and they’re preparing to pour the ground floor slab.
You’ll see a fly-through of the building later and you’ll also have the opportunity to make a permanent mark on it.

It’s on schedule to open late next year.

Our Health Innovation Building is rapidly taking shape across the road from Chancellery on North Terrace.

The ground floor slab has been poured and the columns to support the second floor are being erected.

When it is finished in early 2018 we expect its 14 storeys will cast a very large shadow over the billboard being put up next door.

We’re headed into the future with an exceptional management team and a new Chancellor with an impressive local and international corporate and industry CV.
Many of you will know Jim McDowell, perhaps as Chairman of the Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation,

perhaps from his years at British Aerospace and, after its merger with Marconi Electronic Systems, BAE Systems,

or from one of his many international postings in the United Kingdom, the United States, Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong and Saudi Arabia.

A lawyer and a native of Belfast in Northern Ireland, Jim is familiar with this university following a four year stint on our Council from 2007.

Post his corporate and industrial career, Jim is dividing his focus into three key areas:

- Education;
- Governance; and
- Family.
• We’re going to claim his attention on at least two of those.

• Please join me in welcoming to the UniSA family, our new Chancellor, Mr Jim McDowell.