

Education graduate steers Crows to premiership win

Marijana Rajcic

AFLW Premiership Player, **Adelaide Football Club**

Health & Physical Education Teacher

Bachelor of Education, (Primary and Middle), 2012



(Image: Marijana (second row, far right) and her teammates after their 2019 premiership win)

Walking onto the grounds of the historic Adelaide Oval ushered in by an avalanche of screaming fans – a record-breaking 53,034 to be exact – was a dream come true for education graduate and Adelaide Crows defender, Marijana Rajcic, during March's AFLW premiership game against Carlton.

More so, playing a key role in winning that game, in front of the fifth-largest crowd at Adelaide Oval in AFL history including both the men and women's league, surrounded by her beloved team mates was certainly a special moment.

"It was phenomenal," she says.

"Playing in front of 53,000 people was a dream come true. To be out there on Adelaide Oval with that support – I get goosebumps every time I think about it."

"I have always dreamed of being a professional athlete."

Achieving such a pinnacle in professional sport didn't just happen overnight, however, with the 30-year-old experiencing a fruitful career as a soccer player spending six seasons with Adelaide United in the W-League and as captain in 2015.

Rajcic then made the switch to Aussie Rules to join the local SANFL Norwood team and becoming a premiership player in the inaugural SANFL Women's season where she was scouted for the national league.



(Image: Marijana in Chicago, USA with soccer pro Danny Colaprico). [Source](#)

Falling in love with the sport, she made her debut as number 32 in the Crow's tricolours against Western Bulldogs in Round Three of the 2018 Season – just missing out on winning the Crow's 2017 flag, having been part of the team for only a couple months – making this past premiership win even sweeter.

"My love of sport started off when I was a 9-year-old playing club basketball, with the dream of being an Opal one day," she explains. "Then when I made the switch to soccer that dream just changed to becoming a Matilda."

"Being a professional athlete and playing at the highest level possible, competing against the best, has always been my goal."

While Rajcic was always sports mad and dreamed of playing on Australia's most sacred and celebrated fields, she didn't have a clear idea of which direction to take, but knew her love of sport transcended a traditionally unsustainable professional athletic career.

Searching for a path, she harked back to about how much she looked up to – not only professional athletes – but her physical education teachers and the impact they had on her at school and how they fostered her own love of sport throughout her life.

"I thought about my PE teachers and how much fun they had daily playing and teaching sport," she says. "I loved how UniSA offered primary and middle teaching."

"If I can have any sort of impact on these kids for the better and give them the tools required to be successful, I will be happy."

"The next generation are going to shape what this world becomes."



(Image: Marijana at Innes National Park on the Yorke Peninsula, SA). [Source](#)

So started Rajcic's journey to becoming a Health and Physical Education teacher, in which she is a powerful role model for her school students, and has expertly balanced with her professional playing career for almost eight years now.

"I have been doing relief teaching the last couple years, as it allows me that extra bit of freedom to choose to work or not," she says.

"It's been really good. It gives me flexibility to be able to juggle my professional athletic career, still having time to go to the gym after school, and prepare for training with the Crows."

In addition to the personal fulfilment Rajcic's career as a teacher has given her, she also credits her time at university for other lessons she still holds valuable in her life.

"You are constantly learning in all aspects of life. Studying education has definitely helped with many aspects of professional life too. Helpful skills like public speaking, media experience, and networking have all majorly benefitted."

For now though, Rajcic is looking forward to heading overseas after a hard-earned successful footy season and then getting back to the AFLW Crows squad in pursuit of another premiership flag.



(Image: Marijana with soccer pro Katie Naughton at Wrigley Field in Chicago, USA). [Source](#)

When asked about the highlight of being a part of the team, Rajcic is overwhelmed with praise for her fellow teammates.

"I probably can't pick one thing, but I honestly love this team. We have something special amongst this playing group that is hard to even describe," she explains.

"I think we just love training and spending time together, because we just have so much fun."

"And we all just want to get better."

Not only is Rajcic guiding her students to a promising future, but is looking forward to a bright one with the Crows, proving the talented AFLW team are athletes of their own mettle.

UniSA is a proud premier partner of the Adelaide Football Club AFL and AFLW teams. This partnership provides UniSA student placement opportunities, a platform for sport and health research collaborations and the opportunity for the University to engage with the community.

For more information about our partnership visit unisa.edu.au/crows.



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One year of celebrations in Pridham Hall



This month marks the first anniversary of the official opening of [Pridham Hall](#).

Since its doors opened, Pridham Hall has been a hive of activity for events over the past year, including Open Day, Orientation-Week, Pitch @ Palace, Campus Fairs, 2018 Alumni Awards, VC Cup, SA Challenge, and the Volleyball SA Schools Event.

Most importantly, the hall has seen a sea of ceremonial gowns, mortar hats, and smiling faces envelop the space twice a year to celebrate one of the most significant milestones in an individual's life: graduation.

To date more than 9,000 students have proudly walked across the stage to receive their parchment after hard-earned degrees, cheered on by 30,681 parents and loved ones.



(Image: Pridham Hall's stunning Chandelier from Hindley Street)

Thanks to the new facilities, UniSA has also been able to transform its approach to [sport and exercise](#), and provided a welcoming space for the wider city community.

Pridham Hall's sporting events have attracted 90,000 participants and spectators in the past year. 11 UniSA Sport clubs use Pridham Hall, benefiting from 2,118 hours of free court hire.

There have been 800 group fitness classes – including boxing, yoga, interval training, and aqua aerobics – which attracted more than 6,000 attendances, and 24,000 kilometres run on the treadmills.

Toes have been dipped more than 13,000 times into the swimming pool and 1,100 swimming lessons have been held, of which 300 were teaching water safety to UniSA international students.

The gym has also provided 1,100 supervised placement hours for Health Sciences students.



(Image: Onlookers searching for names on Pridham Hall's inverted Pyramid)

Amongst the hustle and bustle of the everyday life in Pridham Hall, lining the grand foyer are hundreds of names – including some of our community's most celebrated – [permanently embedded](#) in the DNA of Pridham Hall through the sculptural interpretations within the Inverted Pyramid and Chandelier, and around the swimming pool.

These words continue to be a talking point for visitors to the hall, with many guests stopping to read the names and words or to explore the kiosk with the stored voice recordings.

Your name can still be etched into the Jam Factory-designed [Chandelier](#), and impressive [Inverted Pyramid](#) in the main foyer, and names and words will be added on an annual basis. You can embed your name by making a tax deductible donation of \$1,000 (which can be paid in instalments) [here](#).

Pridham Hall has truly revitalised Adelaide's West End as the new heart of UniSA's City West Campus, revolutionising the way we gather and celebrate as a university community.

[Be part of it too.](#)

Pridham Hall Gallery



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A savvy brain for real estate and a Song for Mongolian culture

Dr Leo Yeung
Co-Founder, Cashmere Song Fashion Co Ltd
Founder, Maisson (Hong Kong) Commercial Property
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), International Business



Dr Leo Yeung has followed his heart, chased his family's dreams and cleverly cross-stitched his fashion, business and property industry experience to carve out a niche property company Maisson Commercial Property and fashion brand Cashmere Song all over the world.

Dr Yeung started his career in the fashion industry in the late 1980s, working in far flung cities across Asia, North America and Europe. In 1989 he settled in Hong Kong as Design Manager for Esprit Asia.

"As a student in Hong Kong in the early 80s there were few opportunities for students to get a university degree, but higher education had long been a dream for me" says Dr Yeung.

When Esprit Asia publicly-listed in 1991, Leo found an opportunity to further his education. He quit and enrolled in a Master's degree at Hong Kong Polytechnic University to explore the research topic 'Push and pull factor in China Economic' after Deng Xiao Ping's South China tour.



(Image: Dr Leo Yeung (centre) at his graduation)

His interest in furthering his education didn't end however, he says, "I saw an interview with a PhD candidate who had just graduated at the age of 80 – he regretted not finishing his PhD 20 or 30 years before so he had more time to contribute to society. His interview drove me to undertake my PhD at UniSA in International Business."

In the mid-90s, while studying, Dr Yeung was then invited to start up the Australian brand Jeanswest in China. He served as Director and General Manager for Jeanswest China from 1994, guiding the development of 1000 stores before the company publicly listed in 1996.

In the new millennium a serendipitous opportunity arose, leading to a career shift from fashion to commercial property.

"A renowned real estate company had invited our fashion brand to open a flagship store in one of their new shopping malls. I found the mall location good but the wrong trade mix," Dr Yeung says.

"I suggested brands for the real estate company and the shopping mall opened successfully. Then the CEO of the real estate company asked me to join them as the China Commercial Property Retail Head."

After a number of years leading teams in commercial property for different companies Dr Yeung started his own company – Maisson Commercial Property – an asset management company for commercial property development.

Dr Yeung says that different businesses have their challenges. He sees fashion and design as a merging of art and science.



(Image: Dr Yeung speaking at a commercial property event)

"Property on the other hand is a complicated business," he says. "Once we design and build a shopping mall there are thousands of workers in the mall at different periods of time." Regulations on construction, fire safety, legal... Each day presents a new challenge – which I enjoy.

"Currently I am working on a theme park project based on designs that were originally made by a famous Chinese Kung Fu internet game, which I hope will help more kids feel happy in the environment"

In his spare time he is also supporting his wife's dream to lead her own high end fashion design business – Cashmere Song - which he co-manages.



(Image: Dr Yeung (right) with his wife, Song Hong at the 2018 Hong Kong Polytechnic University Fashion Show)

Dr Yeung's wife Song Hong had harboured a dream to run her own fashion label since graduating from the Inner Mongolia Design School in 1992. When she decided it was time to pursue her dream she enlisted her husband's support.

"We travelled to her home town to talk with the shepherds in the grasslands of Mongolia," he says. "The local people like a drink and they are hospitable and willing to share their experiences."

"We started to talk with people about their changes in living and the culture due to development in Mongolia. They enjoyed their life in grasslands where they have their own culture, generation to generation. City development has changed their living and their culture as well.

"One night, I walked with my wife under the moon, the grassland was so silent, and we came up with an idea to develop a fashion brand by using the cashmere that the shepherds crafted.



(Image: The Cashmere Song runway show at China Fashion Week)

"I put the Cashmere and her surname Song together as her namesake. We knew the brand should have Mongolian culture, using local materials but with international designs. And that's how the brand Cashmere Song started."

Originally the couple planned to open a small shop but this plan quickly changed from retail to wholesale to further sales that in turn help many in the Mongolian shepherd business. It now sells through showrooms in China, Hong Kong, New York and London.

When asked if he has plans to extend sales in Australia he says, "It is a great idea to have a wholesale showroom in Australia due to the different season in the southern hemisphere."

"The brand has limitations to sell cashmere in winter – but our buyers expect summer lines, so together we have developed new technologies by mixing silk and cashmere for Spring/Summer, and mixing cashmere with leather or fake fur for Fall/Winter."



(Image: Cashmere Song showroom in China)

With the high quality of the Inner Mongolia cashmere and Song Hong's design skills, the brand has won multiple awards and is now featured in more than 500 shops in Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, the United States & China.

Dr Yeung's business and family interests bring him great joy, which he hopes to share with others.

"Happiness is all we need, I hope my skills through our endeavours brings more happiness to the people who enjoy them," he says.

To learn more about Dr Yeung's businesses, visit Maisson (Hong Kong) Commercial Property and [Cashmere Song](#).

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Extending a helping hand around the world

Suzanne Caragianis

Managing Director, [SA Hand Therapy](#)

Certified Hand Therapist, Full Member AHTA

Bachelor of Applied Science, Occupational Therapy



The eyes might be the window to the soul, but our hands are the vital tools that allow our minds to act upon the world – to prosper, shape our environment, and in many parts of the world, survive.

Suzanne Caragianis became fascinated with hands in her first anatomy classes at the University of South Australia while studying a Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy). Her interest grew and hands became the focus of her over 33-year career, not only trailblazing hand therapy in South Australia, but also making a difference in places around the world needing it most.

"Hands are so complex and intricate, and so important in peoples everyday function and self-expression," she says.

"They are the tools with which we take care of ourselves, express ourselves, show joy and love. They enable us to create, build, design and communicate. It's not until someone has an injury or loses function that they realise the significance of their hands.

"If they are damaged it can affect our survival in certain parts of the world. Our communication, our ability to earn a living and care for ourselves and others."

After graduation, Suzanne followed her interest in hand therapy to the USA to work with Dr Harold Kleinert, one of the fathers of hand surgery.

He had a tremendous impact on her and it was here she also developed a strong desire to support the education of future therapists – especially fellow UniSA Alumni – influencing her own teaching and mentoring style over the past 25 years.



(Image: Suzanne (right) with her mentor and dear friend Dr Harold E. Kleinert (centre) and Dr Raja Sabapathy (left))

"My mentor Dr Kleinert told me, 'we have a responsibility to teach all that we know; choose students who you think can be better than you and enable them to be better than you in one way or another,'" she says.

On returning to Australia from the US, Suzanne worked to establish a practice that mirrored Dr Kleinert's values. Starting with a hand and occupational therapy consulting service in 1991, Suzanne's business evolved into the [SA Hand Therapy](#) practice.

SA Hand Therapy now has five practices around the state and a number of dedicated hand and upper limb therapists, including their resident therapy dog [Cooper](#), specialising in accident, injury, arthritis, nerve & congenital conditions.

"I wanted to establish a hand therapy centre of excellence in Australia that offered best practice, teaching and mentoring to students as well as doing collaborative research," she says.

"Now we have five sites, a team of amazing talented therapists and two business partners, Michael Janetzki and Jordan Lefmann."

Suzanne also teaches professional groups and GP's about complex hand trauma and injuries, diagnosis and treatment. This passion for educating others in hand therapy – particularly in high risk areas – has also led to deep ties with the Indian and Bhutanese therapeutic communities.



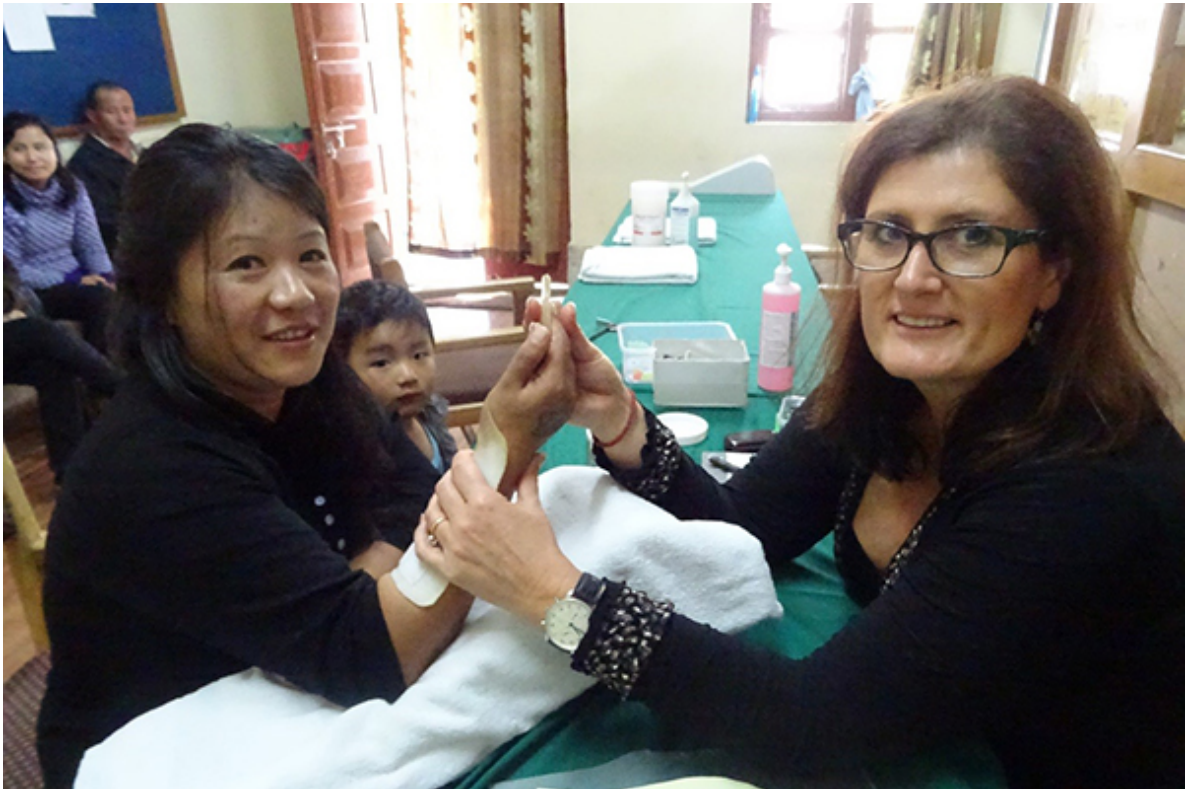
(Image: Suzanne in front of Taksang Monastery, or the tiger's nest, in Paro, Bhutan)

"My medical missionary work in Bhutan began 10 years ago after several years of teaching in India with my dear friend and colleague Dr Raja Sabapathy, who was at the time the President of the Indian Hand Surgery Society," she says.

"I visited Bhutan and discovered high rates of hand and upper limb injuries and burns from subsistence farming and cooking over an open fire. There was also a high incidence of congenital deformities and children's injuries.

"At the time there were only four orthopaedic surgeons in Bhutan, no plastic surgeons or any hand surgery unless it was basic salvage procedures or amputation of a limb or finger.

"There were also no Occupational Therapists and the physiotherapy clinic at the main hospital in the capital, Thimphu, had no hand therapy or splinting service or training."



(Image: Medical Missionary Work in Bhutan)

After her first therapy training trip, Suzanne realised the country needed a formal hand therapy clinic to improve recovery for the injured. She set about establishing [Helping Hands in Bhutan](#) to facilitate training for medical professionals and therapists.

She also began fundraising to set up the clinic with the right mix of surgical equipment and trainers.

"Part of the program consisted of a continuing education course to teach doctors, surgeons, and therapists about hand and upper limb anatomy and basic hand rehabilitation in Bhutan," she says.

"In order to get the Royal Government of Bhutan to sponsor and recognise the program, I developed a specialist course and a way of examining attendees so they would champion participants.



(Image: Suzanne and her team in Bhutan on their 2018 trip)

Another enjoyable part of the project has been involving other medical experts in her work, she says, "My friend Dr Philip Griffin – an Adelaide Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon – offered to work with me on the trips to teach basic hand surgery skills so we could role model a collaborative team of surgeon's and therapist's.

"University of South Australia Dean of Research (Health Sciences), [Professor Susan Hillier](#), even assisted in running one of the courses. It's still talked about many years later!

"Several years ago Dr Griffin and I also approached [Interplast Australia and New Zealand](#) to get involved and extend the program. They accepted and have extended the plastic and reconstructive and hand surgery work, sending teams of surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and hand therapists twice a year."

Suzanne and her project partners have now raised more than \$200,000 for the initiative and have established two hand therapy centres in Bhutan.



(Image: Medical Missionary Work in Bhutan)

Through this work a number of Bhutanese surgeons and doctors have also been sponsored to broaden their medical knowledge base and attend international conferences.

"I continue to sponsor training in Bhutan and support our hand therapy clinics there. Overall my goal for this work is to develop a sustainable hand program in Bhutan where we enable the Bhutanese medical work force to treat and rehabilitate people who have sustained trauma or have been born with a disability," she says.

"My next goal is to sponsor the training of an Occupational Therapist at UniSA to help establish OT services in Bhutan."

For more information on Suzanne's incredible work and career visit www.sahandtherapy.com.au.



(Image: Medical Missionary Work in Bhutan)

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Cancer should be scared...



At the University of South Australia we have cancer in our sights and are coming after it with everything we have. You, too, can join the fight. By donating to the UniSA Fight Against Cancer fund, together we can continue to bring our world-leading discoveries and treatments to patients sooner so we can save lives faster.

There are more than 300 world-class cancer researchers working in the UniSA Cancer Research Institute building, and dozens of research projects underway within the laboratories. Many are close to helping real patients and simply need the funding to make that happen.

A team of world-leading prostate cancer investigators, led by Professor Doug Brooks, has tracked not only how the cancer cells talk to each other, but also how they send out beacons filled with their basic needs to aid in its spread.

Professor Brooks' team has used this knowledge to create new diagnostic tools for prostate cancer and other common cancers, as well as using this communication pathway to create targeted treatments.

With high accuracy, his team has created a prostate cancer test that can tell us if the cancer will be aggressive or not so that the very best treatment option can be prescribed.

Here is an exclusive look at what is in the sights of UniSA's brightest cancer researchers, as they fast-track their laboratory breakthroughs to help the patients who need it most.



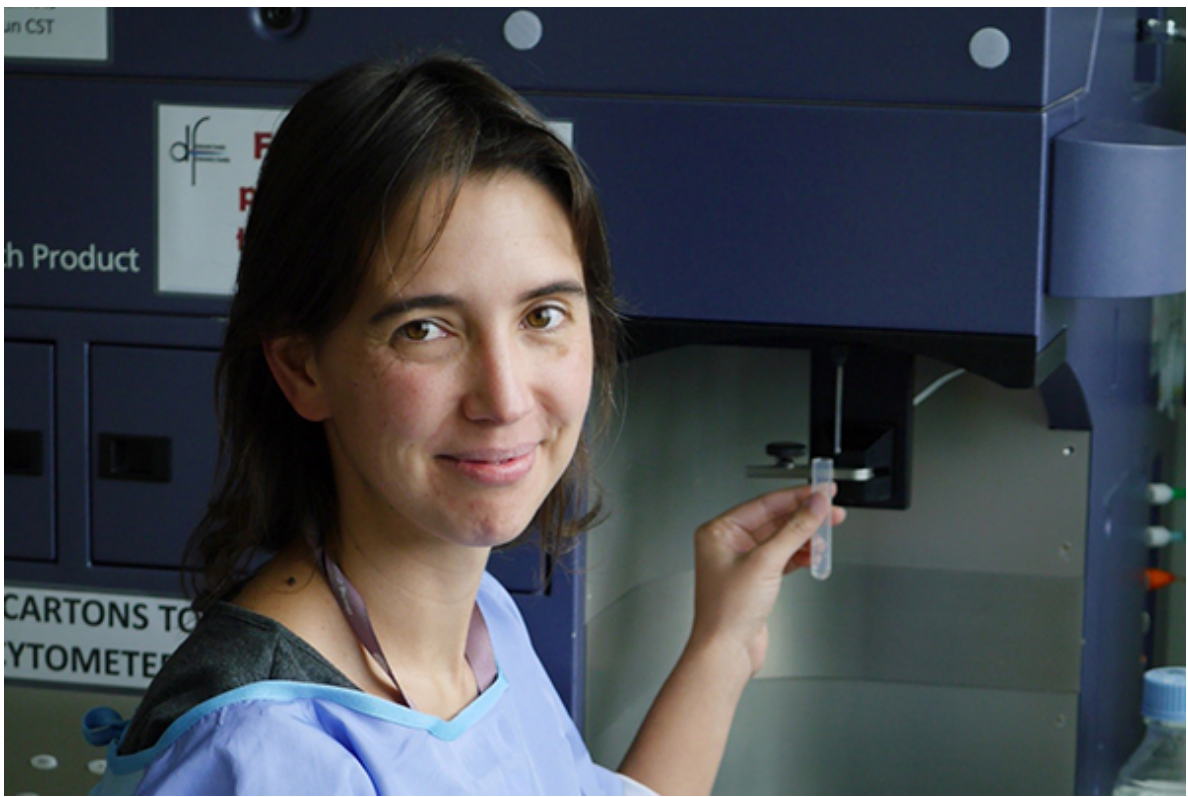
This video, which was filmed under a special microscope in UniSA's Cancer Research Institute, the remarkable way prostate cancer cells communicate and dispatch little beacons filled with their basic needs as they look to grow and spread.

Soon this research will be tested for its real world impact for prostate cancer sufferers, with a clinical trial scheduled to commence later this year.

Donations last year to the UniSA Fight Against Cancer fund helped purchase the very latest tissue staining technology (a Roche-Ventana Ultra Tissue Stainer) which is essential for high volume diagnostic analysis and is enabling the team to get to trials faster and help patients sooner.

Immunotherapy is also in the sights of other teams within the UniSA Cancer Research.

Dr Tessa Gargett and her team of researchers, led by Professor Michael Brown, are working within the Centre for Cancer Biology, housed in UniSA's Cancer Research Institute building, and in collaboration with the Cancer Clinical Trials Unit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.



(Image: Dr Tessa Gargett and her immunotherapy research)

They are one of only two teams in Australia conducting CAR T cell immunotherapy clinical trials in patients with difficult-to-treat solid cancers.

Dr Gargett's work as an early career researcher in immunotherapy is achieving significant impact for patients fighting these aggressive cancers. Soon her findings will be applied to treating children and adults with deadly brain cancers.

She is focusing her work on the highly aggressive glioblastoma and DIPG brain tumours, which are heartbreaking for families as currently very little can be done to save the young children and adults who are diagnosed with these cancers.

Once the safety of using this treatment on brain tumours is confirmed, the next step will be to trial the therapy on patients at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Sydney Children's Hospital Kids Cancer Centre in 2020 and to give hope to families faced with this deadly disease.

This time-lapse video (below) is an amazing demonstration of how effective her work is in killing melanoma cancer cells using immunotherapy. Here you can see super-powered T cells, called 'CAR' T cells, killing cancer cells.



These are just two examples of dozens of research projects underway within the laboratories of UniSA's Cancer Research Institute building, with many others close to helping real patients and simply needing the funding to make that happen.

100% of donations made to the UniSA Fight Against Cancer fund will support the very best minds and the most ground-breaking work in the field of cancer research.

Our work may be at a microscopic level, but it will have a huge impact. Help get our laboratory breakthroughs to patients faster so we can save lives sooner.

Donate now: www.unisa.edu.au/jointhefight.

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