



Apply Now

Every State & Territory

Two fellowships in each of :

- New South Wales
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Victoria
- Western Australia

One fellowship in each of :

- ACT
- Tasmania
- Northern Territory

Target Industries

Food Trades

- Value adding to regional produce
- Commercial cookery

Primary Industries

- Cattle
- Climate Change
- Agriculture
- Horticulture
- Fisheries
- Forestry
- Aquaculture
- Land and water management technologies

Building and Construction Trades

- Conservation/restoration
- Painting and decorating
- Carpentry and joinery
- Masonry

Energy/Environment Industries

- Alternative energy systems
- Sustainable management systems

Engineering and Manufacturing Trades

- Mechanical / Toolmaking
- Airconditioning, refrigeration, lifts.
- Fabrication
- Marine
- Sheetmetal
- Automotive
- Furniture
- Glass and glazing

Innovation and Business / Printing Industry

- Printing production
- Lithography
- Ink technology
- Recycling and sustainability

Other high quality proposals from applicants will also be considered.

enhancing trades and artisan skills

International ISS Institute/ DEEWR Trades Fellowship



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment
and Workplace Relations

DEEWR the Sponsor

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations is the lead government agency providing national leadership in education and workplace training, transition to work and conditions and values in the workplace.

We work in collaboration with the states and territories and have offices and agencies throughout Australia and overseas allowing an active, national and client-focused approach to how we work with you.

We are committed to providing easy and informative access to our services and support programs and work directly with our clients and stakeholders to ensure expectations are met.



ISS Institute

Since 1990, the ISS Institute, an independent, national, innovative organisation, has provided opportunities for Australian industry and commerce, learning institutions and public authorities to gain best-in-the-world skills and experience in design, innovation, traditional and leading-edge technologies and management.

Our operations are directed towards bringing design, knowledge, traditional and leading-edge technologies to Australian business - new ways of thinking, new ways of producing for the local and global marketplace.

Closing Date

Applications to be received no later than 20th October 2008, 4pm at the ISS Institute office.

Benefiting Australia

- Providing opportunities for artisan/trades across Australia to provide high level skills and knowledge in their workplace and in their industry.
- Assisting in the reduction of skills shortages and deficiencies in key Australian industries.
- Encouraging innovative workplace solutions through traditional and leading-edge technology, design, management and leadership.
- Supporting leading-edge technologies as well as traditional skill areas in historic and contemporary contexts.
- Providing a mechanism whereby the skills, knowledge and attitudes acquired overseas are made available across Australia.
- Establishing contact with overseas industry, government agencies, professional associations and educational institutions with a view to ongoing communication and projects.
- Building intercultural exchange.

Funding the Fellowships

Thirteen fellowships are available.

Each successful applicant receives a maximum of \$10,000 towards overseas travel costs such as airfares, living allowance, accommodation and course fees.

Should costs exceed \$10,000 the recipient raises the additional funds.

Information Hotline

Whether you have had previous experience in preparing submissions and require more information, or never applied for any grant or fellowship before, we are here to assist you in the preparation of your submission where possible.

Phone 03 9882 0055

Fax 03 9882 9866

Email issi.ceo@pacific.net.au

www.issinstitute.org.au



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment
and Workplace Relations



Attach this

Application Form

to the front of your submission.

Do not retype.

Read Fellowship Guidelines & FAQ

This sets out the nature, scope and
criteria for the Fellowship Program.

Conditions of Entry?

The Selection Panel's decision is final
and binding and no correspondence
will be entered into. Application
evaluations will not be provided.

PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING

Closing Date

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20th October 2008, 4pm at the ISS
Institute office.

Mail Original and 3 copies to (all hard copies no CDs)

Carolynne Bourne AM, CEO
ISS Institute
Suite 101
685 Burke Road
Camberwell 3124
VICTORIA

We are Here to Help

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enhancing trades and artisan skills

International ISS Institute/ DEEWR Trades Fellowship

Type or print clearly please

1. Employer (Chair, CEO, Director, Manager) must sign and date this section

PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING

I endorse and support the applicant to fully participate in the overseas fellowship and
to the Fellow meeting his/her obligations upon return from the study program including:

- ✓ Ensuring the Report is written under ISS Institute Guidelines within 4 months of
returning from the overseas program.
- ✓ Promoting ISS Institute education/training activities which are an outcome of the
Fellowship program in the organisation's promotional material as appropriate.
- ✓ Providing a working environment in which the findings can be developed and implemented.

Name (First) _____ Surname _____

Print clearly please

Title eg CEO, Director _____

Employers signature _____ **Date** _____

2. Applicant's Personal Details

Name (Surname) _____

Name (First) _____

Your Occupation e.g Tiler, Landscape Gardener _____

Business Name _____

Title e.g. Owner, Manager, Head Stonemason _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Mobile _____ Email _____

Residential Address _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Mobile _____ Email _____

Date of Birth (optional) _____ Male _____ Female _____

enhancing trades and artisan skills

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4. Aim of the Fellowship Program

See example following

- 1) To become skilled in a wide range of decorative painting techniques both traditional and innovative.
- 2) To become skilled in aesthetics, understanding colour craft, colour theory and colour harmony and the ways in which we use pigments (powdered), colorant and dyes to achieve a desired look or finish.
- 3) To establish a fundamental understanding of the working properties of all decorative painting mediums, their chemical properties and their particular application.

5. Qualifications

Applicants may be experts in their field, but have no formal qualifications. Applicants may have qualifications, but have moved into other occupations. Therein, this section is not part of the Key Selection Criteria.

Attach your CV and list any courses/qualifications.

6. Membership Professional Organisations

Include in your CV.

Respond to Each of the Following Sections

on attached sheets:

7. Describe the skills and knowledge gaps in detail (that is expand Section 2).
8. If known, state where the education/training can be acquired.
9. Identify and list the benefits to Australia of skilling our workforce in the areas of training as indicated in this application.
10. List the benefits to your professional and personal development.
11. Validating you Skill Gaps
Attach a minimum of three **Letters of Support**. The purpose is for those in your industry/occupation in a senior executive position to endorse the skill and knowledge gaps (skill deficiencies) as listed in your application in Sections 2 and 7 - note these letters are not personal recommendations.
Please find attached letters from the following people/organisations:
 - [] You must include a letter from the 'Industry Skills Council/s' appropriate to your industry.
 - [] Peak industry body for example MBA, VECCHI
 - [] Firms, government agencies and/or professional associations

If you are unsure as to how to proceed, call us, we can provide with you Industry Skills Council/s' contact details and may be able to link you with industry or government contacts for your Letters of Support.

**Applicant's
Signature** _____

Date _____

Overseas Fellowship Guidelines



Who can Apply?

- Fellowships are open to self-employed, or those working in public or private organisations, professional and tradespeople depending on the specific fellowship on offer. Please refer to the Fellowship Application Forms for further information.

Does funding come with the Fellowship?

- Yes. Each Fellowship has a specific amount of funds which is towards costs incurred in the overseas study program such as airfares, living allowances and approved course or conference fees.

How do I apply?

- Check the industry sector/s and occupations listed in the various Fellowship Application Forms on offer to make sure you are eligible. Complete all sections on the Form.
- Print out and fill in the Application Form and attach as a front cover to your supporting material.
- Entries will not be returned. As entries are not returned, please only include copies of original material such as photographs.

Will you assist me in preparing my submission?

- Whether you have had previous experience in preparing submissions and require more information, or have never applied for any grant or fellowship before, we are here to advise and assist you where possible in the preparation of your submission as part of our Mentoring Program.

Will you assist me with the Fellowship program, if I win one?

- Yes. ISS Institute has a Mentoring Program specifically for Fellows. We aim to assist where possible at every stage of the Fellowship Program.
- A **Work Plan** sets out the steps and the requirements from when you are awarded your Fellowship to the completion of your Report when you return from overseas.
- Fellows have access to ISS' networks here and overseas. Where you go and what you do is negotiated with ISS Institute. ISS may provide introductions and/or letters of support to assist in securing meetings with key individuals/firms.
- Each Fellows' itinerary must be completed and approved by ISS Institute prior to departure and for signing off on the 'Agreement'.

What happens if I change my employment circumstances should I be awarded a Fellowship?

Fellowships are awarded to individuals, and the Fellowship travels with you whatever your employment situation. If you are employed in an organisation, then you are strongly advised that you arrange for your employer to support you throughout the Fellowship Program. Should you change from one employer to another once you have been awarded a Fellowship, then the employer who initially supported your application is to be acknowledged in your final report; they will also receive a copy of the report.

I have applied for a Fellowship and was not successful. Can I apply again?

- Yes. You are welcome to apply again. Whilst you may not gain a Fellowship in one year, you may in another.

Can I apply for more than one Fellowship?

- Yes. If the skill gaps identified and the selection criteria are fulfilled, you may submit an application for each Fellowship.

Are there information sessions held for application preparation?

- Yes. Most Fellowships have scheduled information sessions (bookings are essential).

Are there targeted Industries and occupations connected to the Fellowships?

- Yes. Each Fellowship specifies the targeted industries and occupations. Please refer to the specific Fellowship Application Forms for further information.
- However, you may have knowledge of skill gaps and deficiencies that we are not aware of, so ring and talk to us.

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Overseas Fellowship Guidelines



What can be included in the overseas program?

- The fellow's study program may be a course of study, visits to, or placement in a firm, or with an individual, educational institutions, professional associations and/or government agencies.

What are the Conditions of Entry?

- The Selection Panel's decision is final and binding and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Application evaluations will not be provided.
- Winners will be awarded their Fellowship at a formal presentation held each year.

How long am I overseas?

- It is for a 2 to 3 week period. Longer periods may receive special consideration. Fellowships must be undertaken within twelve months of being advised in writing that their submission has been successful.

Can I keep what I learn overseas, or do I have to share with others?

- Fellowship winners must pass on what has been learnt overseas through written and oral reports. These are prepared under the guidelines provided by ISS Institute. Also Fellows conduct at least one activity within six months of return. It doesn't matter if you have never written a report or taught before, we work with you step-by-step, and if you have experience teaching, we will seek to further enhance your capabilities.

What is involved in the selection process?

- All submissions will be evaluated.
- A short list of applicants will be interviewed by the Selection Panel. The panel members may include the sponsor/s, ISS Institute and industry representatives as appropriate.
- Interviews may be conducted in person or by phonelink.
- The winners and the unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing by ISS Institute.

Is there an eligibility and selection criteria?

- Yes. The applicant must demonstrate a commitment to innovative solutions, learning and sharing their skills and knowledge with others.
- Applications must address each of the areas set out and provide clear evidence of:

Skills and Knowledge The skills and knowledge targeted in the fellow's study program are unavailable in accredited Australian TAFE or university courses.

Workplace Practice Demonstrated commitment to innovation, technology and leadership and/or teaching excellence. Significant, proven and on-going expertise in their field of endeavour. Participate in established networks related to his/her area of work.

Employer Support For those in an employment situation, support from the employer for the applicant to fully participate in the fellowship program and the employer's commitment to the Fellow's obligations upon return from the study program is advised.

Communication and Presentation Oral and written skills; presentation in keeping with the ISS Institute's aims and outcomes. Capacity to undertake education and training activities with a diverse range of clients on completion of the study program. Previous teaching experience is not required.

Who owns the intellectual property and copyright?

- The ISS Institute 'Agreement' specifies intellectual property and copyright ownership will be applied to the fellowship winner.

Can I change my overseas program after I have signed the Fellowship Agreement?

- The program must be approved and cannot be altered without the consent of the awarding bodies.

When can I apply and when do applications close?

- Applications are called for at various times of the year. Please see individual Fellowship Application Forms and deadlines.

Can I get a Fellowship to gain work experience overseas eg an internship, or for furthering my studies such as a PhD?

- No.

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Celebrating Australian Talent

17th ISS Institute Fellowship Awards



ISS Board members and 2007 Fellowship winners

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- 2 Hands on Lime
Bob Bennett MBE
- 3 Experience Italy
Luisa Fazio
- 4/5 Fellowship winners
- 6 Expression of interest
- 7 Sponsors

On 21st November 2007, seventeen Fellowships were awarded to talented Australians. They were awarded with the generous support and funding by the Commonwealth and Victorian governments, The Pratt Foundation and educational institutions.

Since 1991, ISS Institute has awarded 143 Fellowships to 152 individuals with 19 of these being to international Fellows. They are experts in their field from diverse industries across occupational sectors and from trades and professional fields including nano-technology, aquaculture, building and construction, engineering, boat building, heritage, fashion and textiles, casting technologies, musical instruments, food, sustainability and energy.

Ms Noel Waite, AO, ISS Chairman and MC introduced the speakers - Sir James Gobbo AC, CVO, ISS' Patron in Chief; Mr Sam Lipski AM, Chief Executive, The Pratt Foundation; Ms Patricia Neden, Deputy Secretary, Office of Training and Tertiary Education, Victorian Government.





The National ISS Institute Overseas Fellow

Supported by DEST, Commonwealth Government

Karen O'Reilly Metal Fabricator and Welder. was invited to share her experiences as an ISS Fellow at the 17th Annual ISS Fellowship Awards, November 2007 at the RACV Club, Melbourne

Square pegs in round holes

!! Welcome distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen and fellows to this, the 17th ISS Institute Fellowship awards ceremony. I especially wish to congratulate the new fellows into the fold, as this day marks the first day of a very special path for you all. Carolynne once shared an observation with me: that ISS fellows are united in their characteristics with one being we are 'square-pegs-in-round-holes'. I have decided that this is a very important observation as it is telling of particular personal attributes that separate and distinguish you all from the 'ordinary'. Being a 'square-peg' is, of course, never the easy route. But, it is reflective of certain essential qualities that makes you, you. It's reflective of your life passions, observations, ability to question, courage to stand up for your beliefs and desire for improvement. It's one of the reasons that we are now honoring you here today.

I have been asked to briefly share with you, a little about my fellowship journey in the hope that those here may gain some insight into the importance of the work undertaken by the ISS and (at least one of) its fellows!

Two years ago I was working as a Metal Fabricator and Welder. Although a good job, there was little prospect for career development or advancement. Maybe due to certain stagnant and outdated social perceptions of the metal trades, there has (in Australia) traditionally been a lack of career development and pathways to 'Master artisan' for tradespeople - and I was looking for something

new. At the time of applying for my Fellowship I was employed by 'Skilled Engineering', now I'm teaching at Swinburne TAFE. I first began teaching welding one night a week at Victoria University (VU), and it was through VU that I discovered the existence of the International Specialised Skills Institute.

I was extremely impressed by the ISS's vision. It made me think more carefully about the many skills deficiencies (or skills gaps) in my area of work. I was so impressed to learn that this organisation gave fellowships to tradespeople, as I had never known of anyone offering these kinds of opportunities before.

In 2005, I was awarded the 'National ISS Institute Overseas Fellowship' for Victoria, sponsored by DEST, Commonwealth Government, to undertake a study program to gain a comprehensive understanding in Pipefitting as well as design, creativity, innovation and problem solving in engineering trades.

I have always been a creative person and have held the firm belief that engineering trades is an industry requiring highly creative and innovative skills - this is an area of some contention as it challenges traditional perceptions of trade engineering and what it means to be a good tradesperson.

For many years, although qualified as a 'Metal Fabricator and Welder', I'd worked on site in an area of my trade that was not taught to me as part of my formal apprenticeship training.

I'd made pipe work for the ANZAC Frigates in Williamstown and designed and installed stainless steel piping for beer production at CUB, now 'Fosters Group' in Abbotsford. Although this was the work I performed, the absence of its training was always painfully obvious, and it was from other tradesmen, I learned of a trade called 'pipefitting' that existed in other countries, but not here in Australia.

It is interesting to note that in response to this deficiency, tradespeople and industry have created what is essentially an unofficial 'sub-trade' of pipefitters out of necessity...

After much research, I eventually teamed up with both the WTIA as well as a man in the USA named Phil Campbell who is a senior training coordinator of the prestigious United Association of Journeymen and apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the USA and Canada (or 'UA'). Phil had also been responsible for building a brand new pipefitting training centre in Nevada USA, and invited me to visit the complex and as well as attend the UA's week long trainer-training program in Ann Arbor Michigan to meet with pipefitting trainers from across the USA and Canada.

When I finally arrived, I was overwhelmed by the magnitude and sophistication of the UA as an organisation. It has over 400 purpose built trade training centres throughout North America and approximately 330,000 members, 60% of who are pipefitters. The UA understand the importance and value of education and invest heavily in the quality of their training centres and staff.

It is only through these overseas fellowship opportunities that skills areas can be formally identified. For this reason, the ISS play a very important role in the improvement of quality training in this country. I am hopeful that one day, we too will be in a position to introduce such quality pipe training here...

And finally, I'd like to congratulate our new fellows, and leave you all with this final thought: The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary.

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The George Alexander Foundation/ISS Institute Fellow

Supported by The George Alexander Foundation

Warwick Johnston Engineer, was invited to share his experiences as an ISS Fellow at the 16th Annual ISS Fellowship Awards, December 2006 at RACV Club, Melbourne

A major landmark in your personal and professional life

¶ Permit me, if you will, to speak directly to the Fellows. You'll be privy to the conversation, of course, and I trust that you too will benefit from hearing these insights.

I will generalize for you my own personal experiences as a fellow, as an example of what is possible, with the hope that I may inspire you to excel and exceed that which I and other fellows have been able to achieve.

The impact of an ISS Institute fellowship upon your professional and personal life will be profound.

Becoming a fellow is an entry into a club of people with some shared understanding. Although you all represent a broad cross-selection of society, covering different fields, backgrounds and specialities, together you are a group of people with one thing in common... a vision. A vision that has assisted you to identify a specific skills gap in Australia, a vision too of how that skills gap may be rectified, a vision of the benefits which this will bring to Australia.

This vision extends to the journey you're about to embark upon, a journey that you yourself have charted. At the commencement of this journey, you may feel some sense of anticipation, dread. For whatever your background, your present expertise, your specialisation... you are about to become Australia's leading specialist in a skill not yet found in this country. In this sense you are stepping into uncharted territory, and whatever

course you had plotted, you will find that the fellowship will take you to places and learnings beyond which you have presently imagined. I wish you great courage and also great enjoyment on this journey.

The greatest tool you will find at your disposal is the legitimacy brought to you by the ISS Institute fellowship. As Australia's future leading specialist and advocate in a given field, people within Australia will be calling you to ask for advice. Overseas you will find that the research and knowledge that you take with you, the insights into the Australian market and how it relates to world's best practise – this will be knowledge that international leaders are keen to learn. Because of this, you will find doors opened to you and specialists willing to share their expertise. In this way, the fellowship is the best possible formula for accelerated learning.

Your journey will all be enhanced by the support and wisdom of those who have made a similar journey before, those fellows of years past and particularly the excellent staff of the ISS Institute. So go overseas with confidence.

Personally, my journey involved the field of solar powered air conditioning. A field of increasing relevance, as the world awakens to the threat of climate change, a force likely to increase our air conditioning needs. Australia, a land of sun with significant need for air conditioning is very likely to benefit from mastery of this technology, through development and successful application. Yet the technology is

a mystery for most Australians, presently being developed in countries that may be cooler, but which have much higher energy prices. By identifying the skills gap, how it may be addressed, and the benefits which would result from this action, an ISS Institute Fellowship was born.

This saw me travel to Germany, Austria, Spain, Israel, and Singapore – along the way meeting with passionate and intelligent people, leaders in the field.

I was able to learn a lot from each encounter, but also pass on a growing wealth of information based upon my research to date and understanding of the Australian market. The fellowship opened up a door of legitimacy to my visits, and I was welcomed as someone with an interesting perspective – unique even amongst the professionals I visited – that of having a broad technology-independent market awareness.

Along the way, I met amazing people, experts in their field, and made some lifelong friends. In addition to professional benefits, I have benefited personally from the confidence associated with my achievements, for one cannot be thrust into a position of prominence and influence without learning some personal skills, including organization, logistics, communications, and international relations. I've been gratefully supported by people who believe in me, notably 'The George Alexander

Foundation', the ISS Institute, and, of course, my employer – a visionary in himself.

Since my trip, I've presented to the Australian and New Zealand Solar Energy Society, completed a report which has been well received, and been invited to speak at various other conferences. Opportunities have opened up, and I regularly receive calls asking my respected opinion. This fellowship has truly changed my life, as I hope that it changes yours. All of this is possible for you, for this fellowship is what you make of it.

Treat this ceremony, therefore, as a rite of passage, for you will find it to be a major landmark in your personal and professional life. The life you have led to this moment is over, your new life is now beginning. Whether your skills be related to the environment, technology, the arts, cuisine, or preserving our heritage, I wish that each one of you becomes influential, effective, and helps to bring skills to Australia for our national benefit, so that together we may create a rich vibrant future.

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ISS Institute / DEST Overseas Fellow

Sponsored by Commonwealth Government,
Department Education, Science and Training (DEST)

Athol Wark Chef/Consultant was invited to share his ISS Fellowship experiences at the 15th Annual ISS Fellowship Awards, December 2005 at Melbourne Town Hall

Journeys and Persistence

¶ I welcome you all to this the 15th ISS Institute Fellowship awards ceremony. I wish to pay tribute to all new inducted fellows, class of 2005, on a fantastic job and standard set. You have all been chosen for your passion and dedication to you chosen skills and fields of expertise to raise the bar of excellence even higher.

The journey has just begun for you all to achieve self-excellence and knowledge, and to put into place what you have committed yourselves to in your chosen fields.

In gaining these fellowships the journey will be rewarding and very fulfilling, mixed with a lot of emotion and passion as you continue to grapple with questions and answers that challenge your minds.

There will be moments of frustration as you stumble with ideas and directions, but may I assure you the rewards and the support of the ISS Institute management and Board are enormous in both technical expertise and solutions to your questions. There are no problems only solutions. The rewards are great ...

You will find you will gain in stature, strength and knowledge that you never knew you had, together with experiences and people you meet abroad, these will be life changing times and will change how you look on things again in the future.

The best advice is to enjoy yourself and have fun, you have done the hard work, the rest will follow, as

the fellowship is designed to fall into place with what you have done so far and questions you have put in place.

This class of 2005 ISS Institute Fellowship winners is your new network circle to draw strength from each other and to help each other in your journeys and will be a great part of your support mechanism. You will also have access to past fellows to draw on their experiences and how they managed their outcomes, so you will not be alone on this fantastic journey of education, and will be called on to mentor the 2006 Fellows and beyond.

I wish to share briefly my experience with you all as a ISS Institute Fellowship winner, as to what can be achieved through your chosen ISS Institute Fellowship.

I won the 'ISS Institute / DEST Overseas Fellowship' for the Northern Territory in 2004 to undertake an overseas study program to gain a comprehensive understanding in value adding to regional produce. In adapting regional products into a culinary uniqueness and a fusion of flavour using ancient produce with today's cookery methods and how to make native ingredients, viable and sustainable in today's marketplace as specified in my fellowship agreement.

My journey started in Alice Springs where I am based as an Executive Chef, CulinaryAmbassador, for the past 4 years.

The food I am creating has been a synthesis of my surroundings and my

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mentors teaching in this wonderful Industry of mine. Motivating me to experiment, with the myriad of gastronomic flavours, the use of freshest and best quality ingredients all play a pivotal role in my creations of "Wild Foods of Australia", living in Central Australia has hardened my resolve to succeed in my chosen field.

To find my outcomes to my fellowship, the journey took me to Miami, Johnson and Wales Culinary Academy in Florida, North Campus for 5 weeks where I introduced my recipes and experimented with grass roots culinary students. I was able to showcase my skills to these young, hungry for knowledge and uniqueness in food, group of students who wanted to leave no stone unturned. My findings were superseded as the result showed an unequivocal need for those skills and flavours to go global.

Washington DC beckoned next, with a visit to the Embassy of Australia, to do a showcase culinary demonstration to the US Botanical Society. It was their 100th year and I gave a lecture to a packed audience that was to take 1.5 hours but ran to 3 hours, with so much interest and enthusiasm shown and so many questions asked then answered.

A dinner at the Australian Embassy Homestead, of Deputy Chief of Staff, Peter Baxter, to host both sides of the US Congress members was held to again showcase the unique flavours of Australia and to help promote the Australian USA free trade agreement. An outstanding ovation was noted.

A Johnson and Wales F and B Summit was held in Providence, Rhode Island, where again these unique flavours were showcased.

The culmination of my USA taste down under was held at the Hotel Conrad Miami Hotel, whereby 250 invited guests dined on Blackened Wakha Pukha Dukha crusted Royal Tasmanian salmon with lemon myrtle hollandaise, pink grapefruit, Australian wild lime, coriander and gin sorbet. Culminating with wattleseed espresso ice-cream with sticky wattle seed balsamic syrup served with a shot of sambuca jelly, to mention a few items of the menu.

A TV show of South Florida today with Colin Hay (Men At Work) was another highlight and a proud moment to be an Australian and on an ISS Institute fellowship winner, being beamed live into people's lounge rooms.

On return to Central Australia, the NT awarded me a joint culinary Ambassador together with a great mentor, Chef and friend Jimmy Shu.

World Expo Japan 2005 was to be my next stop to showcase my "Wildfoods" selection reoperate on a world Asian stage, this was awesome and again so much learnt and motivation gained.

Hawaii the 25th Louis Vuitton Food, Wine and Film Festival was to be my most recent stage in October to showcase and capture the imagination of a tough culinary audience - 8

events in 10 days, a gruelling schedule but very rewarding.

The future looks bright and lots of work still to do.

These are just some of my experiences I have the pleasure to have shared with you and what commitment and passion can do for you.

ISS Institute is in this to build an economically strong Australia through delegates of its citizens - you and I are on this journey together.

May I leave you with two sayings that have summed it up for me in 2005.

1. " Leadership requires courage, do not follow where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail".
2. " Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence, talent will not, nothing is more common than unsuccessful men/women with talent.

Genius will not. Un-rewarded genius is almost a proverb.

Education will not. The world is full of educated derelicts.

Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent all powerful".

Good luck and a job well done to all of you. From behind the stove and years of cooking.