

Professor of Practice L. Penny Rosenblum just returned to Tucson after a month in Australia and New Zealand. She spoke several times during a series of workshops sponsored by the Renwick Centre through the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children and presented full-day workshops on braille literacy for children with visual impairments in Sydney, Brisbane, and Melbourne. She made presentations about strategies for nondrivers and building children's social skills while in Melbourne and Sydney. Rosenblum delivered a keynote address during the Round Table on Information Access for People with Print Disabilities Conference in Brisbane. The conference brings together a wide cross-section of professionals from the Pacific Island countries. During her keynote, she spoke about the research being conducted through the [AnimalWatch Vi Suite](#) project at the UA.

Rosenblum met a variety of professionals working with children and adults with visual impairments. She said many of the challenges faced in the U.S. system are also faced in Australia (e.g., funding, when to introduce braille to a child losing vision, scheduling). Australians were anxious to learn about services in the U.S., especially technologies such as the iPad with a refreshable braille display, which is used by youth with visual impairments to gain access to classroom materials in the general education classroom. Her trip was not all work, as she also got to watch the Penguin Parade on Philip's Island, travel on the Great Ocean Road, feed a kangaroo, enjoy a view of the Sydney Opera House, walk over the Harbor bridge, and visit a Tasmanian devil sanctuary in Tasmania.



*Rosenblum on the Great Ocean Road
in Victoria, Australia*