

Newsletter No 6

September 2005

## Emeritus Faculty Australian National University



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### Honour for former VC

Former Vice Chancellor of the Australian National University Emeritus Professor Anthony Low, a Founding Member of the ANU Emeritus Faculty, was made an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO) earlier this year.

He was Professor of History 1973-83, Director of the Research School of Pacific Studies 1973-83, and Vice-Chancellor of the ANU 1975-82.

Among his many positions in a distinguished academic career he was President of Clare Hall, Cambridge University; Smuts Professor of History of the British Commonwealth, Cambridge University and developed a life-long interest in African history from his time in Uganda at Makerere University.

### ANU and Parliamentary Committees

With a Government majority in the Senate, parliamentary debate in that Chamber has little chance of producing unpredictable results. The parliamentary committee system is said to be under review to minimise non-government initiated inquiries. However, even government-initiated inquiries offer the opportunity for a broad range of views to be expressed. The Australian National University and its individual members frequently present points of view, information and comment to such parliamentary committees.

Several such committees are currently holding public hearings or have collated evidence from previous hearings, all of which is available. Here are some of the inquiries currently being held. Some are still accepting submissions.

### Australia's relations with Korea

The ANU's Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies has given evidence about Australia's relationship with the Republic of Korea, and developments on the Korean peninsula, at an inquiry by the Federal Parliament's Foreign Affairs Sub Committee. The Committee is reviewing the extent of the political, strategic, economic, social and cultural relationship, and is considering both the current situation and opportunities for the future.

The public hearing program, which began on August 31 and September 1 in Canberra, was due to continue with hearings in Sydney on Tuesday, September 20 and in Melbourne on Wednesday, September 21.

Among those who have already given evidence include the Ambassador of Korea; Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources; Department of Education Science and Training; Department of Communications, IT and the Arts; Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and

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Forestry; Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs; Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries.

On the second day there were two roundtable discussions: the first focusing on scientific exchanges between the Republic of Korea and Australia, and the second focusing on developments on the Korean peninsula. Submissions received by the Committee and transcripts of the public hearings are available on the Committee's website.

[www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/reports.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/reports.htm)

For all other inquiries, contact the Sub Committee Secretary, John Carter, on 02 6277 4306

### Australia's defence relationship with the US

The Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade held its final public hearing for the inquiry into Australia's defence relationship with the United States on September 9, at which it sought to address gaps in evidence to the inquiry identified in the Issues Paper, released in March 2005, and to seek comment on recent developments in the Asia Pacific region.

The *Security Treaty between Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America* (the ANZUS Treaty) which came into force on 29 April 1952 has operated for more than 50 years.

The evidence to the committee is overwhelmingly in favour of the alliance and the security that it provides for Australia. There was some discussion about the need to enhance the Treaty to more broadly reflect contemporary strategic requirements and of the dangers to Australia of being seen as a subordinate alliance partner.

The Issues Paper describes the material under consideration by the committee. In particular, the committee draws attention to alternative positions, and identifies where there are gaps in the evidence. At the

conclusion of each section, the committee summarises the views presented in the evidence, and discusses possible directions arising from these discussions.

The committee invited Professor William Tow of the Department of International Relations at the Research School of Pacific & Asian Studies, The Australian National University, to address any recent shifts in the strategic environment in the Asia Pacific region.

The committee website contains contact details and a link to the Issues Paper at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/usrelations/usindex.htm> For more information, phone the inquiry secretary, Dr Margot Kerley (02) 6277 4629 or e-mail at [jscfadt@aph.gov.au](mailto:jscfadt@aph.gov.au).

### Agricultural extension languishing in Australia

There needs to be a clarification of the role of universities in developing agricultural extension -- a service or system targeting the facilitation of change in rural and regional people and communities -- according to representatives from Land & Water Australia who gave evidence to the House Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in August.

The Committee is holding an inquiry into rural skills training and research. Land & Water Australia argues that there has been a "gradual disinvestment in the underlying extension profession, and the infrastructure that supports it".

It told the Committee that remaining advisors and new facilitators are often relatively young and lack significant experience. Most are on short term tenure, suffer from inadequate professional support, have poor training opportunities and limited career paths.

Land & Water Australia's submission (no. 89 on the committee website) provides an insight into achieving landscape-scale adoption of more sustainable land management practices through research and development, extension, and education and

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training. Its suggested strategy would need to address a number of key issues in a coordinated and integrated manner, such as the clarification of the role of universities.

Further details about the inquiry, including terms of reference and submissions, are on the committee's inquiry website at [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/ralskills/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/ralskills/index.htm) or contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 e-mail: [Aff.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:Aff.reps@aph.gov.au)

### Inquiry into the impact of pest animals on agriculture

The House of Representatives Agriculture Committee has been holding public hearings as part of its inquiry into the impact on agriculture of pest animals in Australia.

The Pest Animal Control Cooperative Research Centre is currently in year six of its seven-year term. Its membership comprises CSIRO, the Universities of Adelaide, Sydney, Western Australia and the **Australian National University**, the Agriculture Protection Board and the Department of Conservation and Land Management in Western Australia.

The Pest Animal Control CRC works to develop practical, cost-effective and socially acceptable products to reduce the damage caused by pest animals. In the past three years, it has developed new approaches for baiting foxes, wild dogs and feral pigs and taken on a research program for carp control.

In its submission (no. 33 on the inquiry website), the Pest Animal Control CRC lists the European rabbit, European red fox, wild dog, feral pig and mouse as pest animals of national significance.

Further details about the inquiry, including terms of reference and submissions, are on the committee's website at [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/) or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 or e-mailing [aff.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:aff.reps@aph.gov.au)

### The strategic importance of Australia's uranium resources

Representatives of the Australian Nuclear Association, the Australian Government's Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency and prominent opponents of nuclear power were scheduled to attend a public hearing on September 16 in Sydney for a parliamentary inquiry investigating the strategic importance of Australia's uranium resources.

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Industry and Resources is conducting hearings to gather evidence for its inquiry into the development of the non-fossil fuel energy industry in Australia. The Committee will receive evidence from organisations and individuals holding strongly contrasting views on the future of Australia's uranium industry, including the Australian Nuclear Forum, Compass Resources, Dr Helen Caldicott and former General Manager of the Australian Atomic Energy Commission, Mr Keith Alder.

The inquiry is examining the global demand for Australia's uranium resources, the strategic importance of these resources and the potential implications for global greenhouse gas emission reductions from the further development and export of Australia's uranium resources.

Submissions to the inquiry are available on the Committee's web site: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/isr/uranium/subs.htm> For more information, contact the Inquiry Secretary on: (02) 6277 4609 or by –email: [ir.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:ir.reps@aph.gov.au)

### Commercialising Australia's innovations

Ways in which two Australian government organisations associated with research encourage the development and adoption of Australian innovation were the focus of a public hearing in Canberra on September 12.

The public hearing is the eighth for the

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current inquiry by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Science and Innovation on ways to commercialise technological innovation.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) submission provides information on its research funding programs, including those specifically intended to support innovative health and medical research with commercialisation potential.

The Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) submission emphasises the importance of establishing appropriate linkages between research producers and the end users, providing examples of successful commercial linkages which ANSTO has developed with a number of industry partners. The submission has information on ANSTO's research programs and commercialisation teams.

For more details, including the terms of reference, membership of the Committee and advice on making submissions go to the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/scin/pathways/> or contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4150 or e-mail [scin.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:scin.reps@aph.gov.au)

## Review of Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, held a public hearing on September 12 to examine the Treaty on Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia. Acceding to the treaty will allow Australia to participate in the East Asia Summit which was established in November 2004 by ASEAN States in addition to Japan, Korea and China.

The Australian Government reversed an earlier decision to sign the treaty which involves a non-aggression element. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Alexander Downer, has told the Committee that it is important that the Treaty does not affect Australia's existing treaty commitments

including ANZUS and the Five Power Defence Arrangements.

For more information about the inquiry go to the Committee's website: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/>  
For background contact Committee Secretary Gillian Gould (02) 6277 4642

## Up, up and away with USA

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties' *Report 67* tabled on September 12, includes a recommendation that Australia ratify an agreement that allows for continued cooperation between Australia and the USA on scientific balloon flights. Since the previous agreement expired in 2002, the CSIRO in conjunction with NASA have continued to collaborate on scientific balloon flights through a non-legally binding agreement.

Balloons are launched from the Alice Springs Balloon Launching Facility in cooperation with the National Scientific Balloon Facility (a NASA facility managed by the Physical Science Lab of New Mexico State University) and the School of Physics, Environmental and Mathematical Sciences at the University of New South Wales, Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) campus. Balloons are partially filled with helium and expand until they reach a float altitude of about 40 kilometres, which takes the balloon above 99.5 per cent of the Earth's atmosphere. When inflated, some balloons reach approximately the same size as the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Scientific findings of balloon launches from Alice Springs include the first gamma ray emission from a spinning neutron star, the discovery of a gamma ray annihilation line from a black hole at the galactic centre, observations of the supernova star which exploded in 1987 which have not been repeated since and high resolution images of the galactic centre. *Report 67* is available on the Committee's website: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/21june2005/report.htm> or by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4002.

## Sustainable Australian cities – making it happen

The future of Australian cities and regional centres lies in concerted national action, according to the report *Sustainable Cities* published by the House of Representatives Environment Committee.

Committee Chair, Dr Mal Washer, says that “Australia, as one of the most urbanised countries in the world, faces enormous challenges, with water shortages, transport congestion and high energy demands”. Australia creates 620kg of waste per capita each year, second only to the US. Australians are getting fatter and less physically active, with obesity costing the economy somewhere between \$680 million and \$1,239 million per year.

Australia’s water consumption is the highest per capita rate of water consumption in the world; higher than even the US.

Dr Washer says, “There is no doubt a number of Australian cities are in imminent danger of running out of water. We urgently need to substantially increase the amount of wastewater that is recycled. ...”

Among the report’s 32 recommendations are:

- the National Water Commission report on water options for all cities and regional centres;
- COAG fund a campaign on the benefits, economics and safety of using recycled water;
- the Federal Government boost funding for public transport;
- the Government review the FBT concession for car use and tariff rate on four-wheel drives.

To oversee Australia’s move towards sustainability, the committee recommends the establishment of an Australian Sustainability Commission and an Australian Sustainability Charter.

For more detail on the inquiry and copies of the report, contact: The House Environment Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4580 or access the full report by visiting the inquiry

website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/envi ron/cities/report.htm>

## Interim Report into Employment and Disability

The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission published on August 19 an Interim Report of the National Inquiry into Employment and Disability titled *'WORKability: People with Disability in the Open Workplace'*.

Dr Sev Ozdowski, Acting Disability Discrimination Commissioner, says the main aims of the inquiry, launched in March, are to identify the primary reasons for low participation and employment rates for people with disabilities, and to work towards practical, achievable solutions.

So far the inquiry has collected 133 written submissions, conducted five group consultations and published five Issues Papers for public comment.

Comments are welcomed on the Interim Report and Interim Recommendations, for incorporation into a final report which is due by the end of 2005. All submissions are due by September 30.

For information about the Inquiry, Issues Papers, current submissions, the full Interim Report and Interim Recommendations, or to make a new submission, visit the Inquiry website at: [www.humanrights.gov.au/disability\\_rights/employment\\_inquiry/index.htm](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/disability_rights/employment_inquiry/index.htm)

## Women concerned about industrial relations 'reforms'

A report, *What Women Want*, prepared from the deliberations of 64 national women's organisations, warns that women will be worse off under the Federal Government's industrial relations and income support payment agendas

Australian Democrats Leader, Senator Lyn Allison says the Government cannot ignore

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the message from this group of non-partisan women's groups, representing several million women.

"Church groups, business and professional women, public servants, female lawyers, the Guides, the YWCA, migrant women and the National Foundation of Women can't all be wrong," Senator Allison said. "Women are saying that the changes to IR will compound the harsh 'welfare to work' policies of this Government and impact most on women of working age."

She says that women are already the victims of big wage disparities between the sexes; have inadequate supports to assist women balance work and family; have no right to affordable and accessible childcare; paid maternity leave; or part-time jobs on return to work.

To access *What Women Want* go to [www.nfaw.org/news\\_m\\_releases.htm](http://www.nfaw.org/news_m_releases.htm)  
For more information  
Senator Allison's office (03) 9416 1880 e-mail: [senator.allison@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.allison@aph.gov.au)  
Or call Raina Hunter (02) 6277 3200 or (08) 8232 7595

### Human rights reforms prelude to UN summit

A report - No 124 - by the Human Rights Sub-Committee of the Joint Standing Committee of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade on its Roundtable public hearing into Reform of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights was tabled before the United Nations Summit which the Prime Minister, John Howard, attended in New York on September 14-16.

The roundtable discussion in August included representatives from the United Nations, non-government organisations and legal and human rights experts. These discussions are part of the Sub-Committee's inquiry into the 2003-2004 Annual Report of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade focusing specifically on reform of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

One of the UN Secretary-General's proposals for the Summit was that member states replace the Commission on Human Rights with a smaller Human Rights Council.

The report is on the committee's website: [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/)  
For more information contact Sara Edson in the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4547

### 500 scholarships for Pakistani students

Australia will provide 500 fully funded scholarships over the next five years for Pakistani students to study at Australian universities, the Prime Minister, John Howard announced during the recent visit to Australia of the President of Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf.

Australia also signed several Memoranda of Understanding with Pakistan including one to provide some \$6.6 million over four years for Pakistani agricultural industry, one on counter-terrorism, another between the Australian Securities and Investment Corporation and its Pakistani counterpart to provide greater investor protection.

### Copyright law body abolished

The Copyright Law Review Committee has been abolished under new legislation. In existence since 1983, the committee comprised experts from universities and the private sector. It has conducted various reviews on copyright-related issues, being used as a mechanism for public consultation as well as expert advice.

The Federal Opposition says Government should be listening carefully to expert and consultative bodies, not shutting them down now that the digital revolution has raised a range of new challenges for copyright law. For more information, contact the Copyright Law Branch of the Attorney-General's Department on **(02) 6250 6324**.  
Other information available at: [www.ag.gov.au/agd/WWW/enewsCopyrightHome.nsf/Page/eNews\\_Issue\\_36\\_-\\_June\\_2005#3](http://www.ag.gov.au/agd/WWW/enewsCopyrightHome.nsf/Page/eNews_Issue_36_-_June_2005#3)

## Conferences and lectures

### Refugee conference seeks papers

An international refugee conference, *Hopes Fulfilled or Dreams Shattered*, to be held in Sydney from November 23-28, will include issues relating to Temporary Protection Visas and Bridging Visas.

Hosted by the Centre for Refugee Research, University of NSW in partnership with the Australian National Committee on Refugee Women (ANCORW) the organisers are seeking papers from refugees, community members, service providers, government personnel and academics who wish to present papers and facilitate workshops on a range of issues facing refugees and asylum seekers. The Centre for Refugee Research at the University of New South Wales is particularly interested in receiving papers from rural/regional Australia, youth and new and emerging refugee communities.

On day one a forum will provide a safe space for refugees to 'testify' to their experiences, in many different forms: song, poetry, dance or story telling titled *The Refugee Court of Testimonies*. Days 2 to 4 will be devoted to the formal conference proceedings and the last day will be devoted to a specialist forum on *Refugee Women at Risk*

For more information, or to download the conference brochure and registration form, go to the Centre for Refugee Research website [www.crr.unsw.edu.au](http://www.crr.unsw.edu.au) or the conference website [www.women-at-risk-resettlement.info](http://www.women-at-risk-resettlement.info) or email [info@women-at-risk-resettlement.info](mailto:info@women-at-risk-resettlement.info) Or call Linda Bartolomei, Senior Research Associate, Centre for Refugee Research, School of Social Work, University of NSW Ph: (02) 9385 1859

### Forced migration and human rights

The Sydney Centre for International and Global Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Sydney is hosting a one-day conference titled *Moving On - Forced Migration and Human Rights* in the auditorium of NSW Parliament House, Sydney on November 22. Topics include: terrorism and asylum, separated children, trafficking and slavery,

offshore processing of asylum claims, judicial interpretations of the refugee definition, and the confluence of international refugee and human rights law in expanding States' protection obligations.

The keynote speaker is Dr Guy Goodwin-Gill, of the University of Oxford. He is currently a Senior Research Fellow at All Souls College at the University of Oxford, and previously the Professor of International Refugee Law at Oxford, the Professor of Asylum Law at the University of Amsterdam, and worked for over a decade for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Confirmed speakers include: Justice Tony North (Federal Court of Australia), Olivier Delarue (UNHCR), Assoc Prof Arthur Glass (UNSW), Assoc Prof Mary Crock (Sydney), Assoc Prof Susan Kneebone (Monash), Dr Pene Mathew (ANU), Dr Savitri Taylor (La Trobe), Dr Ben Saul (UNSW), Dr Jane McAdam (Sydney), JP Fonteyene (ANU) and Jennifer Burn (UTS).

Conference details at: [www.law.usyd.edu.au/scigl/](http://www.law.usyd.edu.au/scigl/) from 19 September. Information from Jennifer Hornitzky e-mail: [jenh@law.usyd.edu.au](mailto:jenh@law.usyd.edu.au) or Dr Jane McAdam [janem@law.usyd.edu.au](mailto:janem@law.usyd.edu.au) tel (02) 9351 0354)

### Future speakers in the ANUEF Lecture Series include:

**November 16:** Hans Kuhn on 'Sir Richard Baker and his Meditations and Disquisitions'

Sir Richard Baker, grandson of Henry VIII's Treasurer, a college mate of John Donne's at Oxford, MP, High Sheriff of Oxfordshire, spent the last ten years of his life (1635-1645) in Fleet Prison because as a guarantor for his wife's family, he lost all his property. During that time he wrote 14 books, among which his 'Chronicle of the Kings of England' was still popular in the 18th Century. But most of them were meditational, notably on the Psalms and the Lord's Prayer. Such books were for the 17th Century what novels were for the 20th, and they were translated into other languages, reaching Germany by way of the Netherlands.

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His spirit was akin to that of the Metaphysical Poets, and it is a shame that literary history tends to ignore such works (with the possible exception of Bunyan's 'Pilgrim's Progress').

Hans Kuhn was born in Switzerland, and has a PhD in Germanic Languages (with Indo-European). He has been a journalist, has taught in the US and was on the Swiss equivalent of the AVCC before coming to Australia in 1963. From 1965 – 1990 he was Professor of German, later Germanic Languages, at the ANU. Since then he spends roughly half the year here and in Europe.

**December 14:** Linda Botterill on 'Drought Policy in Australia'

In 1992 Commonwealth and State ministers for agriculture agreed on a National Drought Policy for Australia. In policy terms, it constituted a major paradigm shift from responding to drought as a natural disaster to recognising it as a normal feature of the Australian environment, to be managed by farmers along with the other risks inherent in agricultural businesses. Since the policy was introduced, billions of dollars have been provided in drought relief and political rhetoric and public debate surrounding this support suggest that there is still a strong tendency to regard drought in disaster terms. This lecture will discuss the National Drought Policy and the problems that have arisen in its implementation. It will also discuss the very low level of critical analysis that appears in public discussion of drought, including the over expenditure of large sums of public money that results from current policy settings.

Dr Linda Botterill is a Lecturer in Politics in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at UNSW@ADFA. Dr Botterill has extensive experience in public policy having worked in the Commonwealth public service, as a ministerial adviser and as a policy officer in two industry associations before undertaking her doctorate in political science at the ANU. Her research interests include the role of values in the rural policy development process, structural adjustment in the rural sector and drought policy. She is

co-editor of *Beyond Drought: People Policy and Perspectives* (CSIRO Publishing, 2003) and *From Disaster Response to Risk Management: Australia's National Drought Policy* (Springer, 2005). She has published in the *Australian Journal of Public Administration*, the *Australian Journal of Politics and History*, *Rural Society* and the *Journal of Public Policy* as well as co-writing opinion pieces on drought policy for *The Australian*, *The Weekly Times* and *The Australian Financial Review*.

This Lecture will be followed by the ANUEF Christmas Party.

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If you would like to give a talk please contact Pickford, ANUEF Secretary & Events  
Tel: 0411 186 199  
E-mail: [giles.pickford@bigpond.com](mailto:giles.pickford@bigpond.com)

### Engineers without Borders

*Barry Ninham writes:*

We've all heard of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), but how many of you know about Engineers Without Borders (EWB)?

EWB is well established internationally, is alive and growing in Australia, and now we have an ACT Chapter. The Chapter held an information night at the ANU in July. Speakers included Christine Vincent, Executive Officer RedR Australia (Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief); Ray Prowse, ACT Branch Chair of the Australian and New Zealand Solar Energy Society (ANZES); and Daniel Almagor, National President of Engineers Without Borders.

EWB works with disadvantaged communities to improve their quality of life through education and action on sustainable engineering projects. EWB is not just for engineers, a wide variety of skills is required for EWB to successfully meet its goals. Anyone can contribute their skills.

For more information:

[http://nieis.anu.edu.au/pdf/EWB\\_ACT\\_Information.pdf](http://nieis.anu.edu.au/pdf/EWB_ACT_Information.pdf) Or contact Edith Hamilton  
[edith.hamilton@anu.edu.au](mailto:edith.hamilton@anu.edu.au)  
[www.ewb-aus.org.au/act](http://www.ewb-aus.org.au/act)



## ANUEF Members' Benefits

1 Library borrowing rights for \$50 per annum which is far cheaper than what it costs ordinary members of Convocation.

2. Parking: the right to buy (i) A staff parking permit at the student rate, or (ii) Packs of one-day parking scratchies which entitle you to park all day in permit parking spots at ANU for a few dollars a day, and (iii) The right to park in the designated parking areas in the Fellows Lane Cottage car park, and in adjacent car parking spots if you display your membership card on the dash board.

Also, the right to apply for free parking for special events such as Conferring of Degrees Ceremonies and other high days. Members of the public are not entitled to these benefits. They have to park in designated pay-parking areas.

3. The right to be posted ANU Reporter

4. Staff discounts from PCTech.

5. The right to use University House Library.

6. \$2 tickets to concerts given by the Canberra School of Music. This does not apply to concerts provided by outside organisations in Llewellyn Hall.

If there are any other benefits that members would like ANUEF to pursue, please contact. Giles Pickford, ANUEF Secretary & Events  
Tel: 0411 186 199  
E-mail: [giles.pickford@bigpond.com](mailto:giles.pickford@bigpond.com)

### Obituary

#### **Timothy Ames Shopen**

**5 October 1936 — 6 June 2005**

Timothy Ames Shopen passed away on 6 June 2005 after a long struggle against cancer. He was born in Chicago on 5 October 1936 and was educated at Swarthmore College, where he obtained a B.A. (Greek Literature, 1959) and at the University of Michigan (M.A., English Language and Literature, 1962).

After leaving the University of Michigan, he was involved in various projects involving the

application of linguistics. His strong interest in teaching and applied linguistics was to remain with him for the rest of his life.

Tim worked with the Peace Corps (1964-1967), teaching and training teacher linguists, and then enrolled in a PhD program at the University of California, Los Angeles. His dissertation 'A Generative Theory of Ellipsis' earned him his Ph.D. in Linguistics in 1972.

After leaving UCLA, Tim was employed at Indiana University. While on leave from Indiana, he joined the staff of the Center for Applied Linguistics in Arlington, Virginia. It was at CAL that he conceived of the two major projects for which he will be most remembered in his discipline.

The first of these, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, was the development of teaching materials to make linguistics part of a general liberal arts curriculum. This resulted in four books, published by Winthrop under the auspices of CAL. The first two, *Languages and their Speakers* and its companion volume *Languages and their Status*, both published in 1979, contained sketches of eleven very different languages by experts in those languages. Tim co-authored the prototype chapter 'Maninka' with Charles Bird and circulated it to the other authors as a guide. Tim was particularly concerned with the question of what knowledge a speaker has to have, both linguistic and cultural, to use his or her language with native-speaker competence. A second set of volumes dealing with English, *Standards and Dialects in English* and *Styles and Variables in English*, was co-edited by Joseph M. Williams (1980). Tim contributed four chapters (one co-authored with Benji Wald). Some articles from all these books are still used in classes in Australian universities.

The second project was the production of a major guide for linguistic field workers. The resulting three-volume set *Language Typology and Syntactic Description* was published by Cambridge University Press under the auspices of CAL in 1985. It was an enormous success and is still a major resource for teaching and field work.

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In 1975, Tim was appointed Senior Lecturer in the Department of Linguistics at ANU. With characteristic energy, he threw himself into the tasks of teaching and curriculum development in the new and youthful department. He was a very versatile teacher, teaching nearly every linguistics course in the Undergraduate Handbook at least once.

Tim's interest in pedagogy in general and bilingual education specifically was sustained throughout his career at ANU, and he gave generously of his time to participate in teacher training. The work he did in the area of language education included both a workshop training teachers in Nicaragua and a field trip to the Northern Territory involving work on language maintenance programs while on outside studies in 1986 as well as various lectures for literacy teaching programs at the Australian Catholic University and the University of Canberra. He was also active in outreach to primary schools, teaching children Warlpiri songs and about Warlpiri culture generally.

Tim was responsible for the introduction of Applied Linguistics into the curriculum of the Department of Linguistics, designing the early courses himself. The Applied Linguistics program which he initiated has since expanded to the point where a disciplinary major in Applied Linguistics is offered. A postgraduate program in Applied Linguistics was introduced in 1990. As the only staff member who could supervise theses in the area of applied linguistics from 1990 to 1993, Tim shouldered a heavy burden of supervision and served as Convener of the postgraduate Applied Linguistics program from 1990 to 1996.

Although Tim was always interested to learn, it is for his superb abilities as an editor that he will be most remembered by linguists who did not know him personally. His career at ANU was not entirely without publications stemming from his own research, however; some of the more important are 'Children's Acquisition of Warlpiri: Comprehension of Transitive Sentences' (with Edith Bavin) in the *Journal of Child Language* in 1985, 'Innovations and neutralizations in the Warlpiri Pronominal System' in the *Journal of*

*Linguistics* in 1987, and 'Indigenous Languages in Education,' in Pergamon Press' *The Encyclopedia of Languages and Linguistics*, edited by R.E. Asher and J.N.Y. Simpson (1994 ). In 1996, Tim signed a contract with Cambridge University Press to produce a revised edition of *Linguistic Typology and Syntactic Description* which would incorporate developments in our knowledge of morphosyntactic typology since the original edition.

Tim was an idealistic, enthusiastic and selfless colleague who was always ready to help others and a dedicated teacher who gave generously of his time to anyone who asked for his help. He served as Graduate Convener in Linguistics (1995 - 1996) and as Head of Department (1997 - 1998), a particularly difficult period as the Faculty of Arts was under severe financial pressure. In a sacrifice typical of his entire career, Tim took early retirement in order to assure the security of the positions of younger staff. After a period spent in Cairns, he moved back to Canberra and became a Visiting Fellow in the School of Language Studies in 2002, a position he retained until the end. He continued work on the new edition of *Linguistic Typology and Syntactic Description* as long as his health permitted, and had the satisfaction of securing the help of Matthew Dryer of the University of Buffalo to complete it and knowing that the project was in the last stages; the volumes are due to be published in 2006.

Besides language, Tim's other major passion was music, and he was an accomplished banjo player. Many of the ANU community will miss hearing Tim and his friends enlivening the lunch hour in their sessions playing and singing in Union Court.

Tim is survived by his wife, Gillian Alcock, and his sons Pablo, Martin, and Ellery.

**Cynthia Allen**  
**School of Language Studies**

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**Helen Ida Cumpston**  
**28 January 1910 —11 July 2005**

Born Helen Ida Dunbar on 28 January 1910 at Catamaran in southern Tasmania, Helen in later years recalled travelling north by boat to school in Hobart, the boat summoned to the appropriate pier as required. The daughter of school teachers, her superior intelligence and enthusiasm for learning must have been nurtured from her early years. At the Church of England Girls Grammar Collegiate School her progress was marked by awards in various disciplines and led to an outstanding record at the University of Tasmania while she supported herself financially by teaching French, Latin and History at her old school. In 1931 she graduated, the first woman to receive the LLB degree from that university, winning also the prize for the final-year student completing the best four-year course. But these were the Depression years and Tasmanian solicitors too were reluctant to hire females, so she turned to school-teaching in Launceston and in-service training at the University of Tasmania Library.

The year 1935 saw the beginning of her long association with Canberra when she became a clerk in the Public Service and completed a course at the National Library. By 1938 she was Senior Librarian in the then Department of Commerce and was also lecturing in modern history at the Canberra University College, which consisted in those days of only part-time students.

Always physically energetic, Helen enjoyed the bush and mountains around Canberra and it was presumably through bushwalking, skiing on Franklin, etc, that she met John Cumpston, son of the first Federal Director-General of Health and from 1935 a member of the then Department of External (now Foreign) Affairs. In May 1940 they married at St John's church in Canberra, the same church where on 15 July 2005 her family and friends paid tribute to her remarkable life.

These were the war years. John enlisted in late 1940 and until 1943 served with distinction in the Middle East, including at the siege of Tobruk.

Helen remained in Canberra with their twin children, Mary and Richard, and no doubt

faced with her usual equanimity the rigours of life in the small city the capital then was, while making strong lasting friendships. On his return to Canberra in 1943, John was posted to Brisbane to the South-west Pacific Allied Geographical Section. There was no question of Helen and the children not joining him. They returned to Canberra two years later when their second daughter Margaret was born and John resumed his career in External Affairs. From 1946 to 1957, Helen was a diplomat's wife, supporting her husband's postings, first in Chile, then in New Zealand and later in New Caledonia. By that time the family had grown to four, with the birth of their second son William, and Helen faced the inevitable problems associated with the education of diplomats' children.

In late 1957, back in Canberra, Helen embarked on another career, this time as an administrator at the Australian National University. Appointed as a Graduate Assistant in the office of the Registrar, then Ross Hohnen, in 1963, she held the position of Assistant Registrar until her retirement in 1975. In later years, Ross often recounted with glee his colleagues' reaction to the appointment of a 'blue stocking'. Her legal training proved invaluable in a period which saw more and more litigation. She played a role in the concentrated discussions leading up to the amalgamation of the Canberra University College and the Australian National University. She prepared the agenda for meetings of Council along with some of its committees and saw to the actions arising out of them, always quietly efficient and sensitive to the nuances of discussion. She oversaw the preparation of statutes and had responsibility for public relations, publications, ceremonial and policy regarding halls of residence and affiliated colleges. She always readily provided advice to her colleagues on the legal ramifications of proposed or past actions relating to academic staff and students. That advice was always tempered by a profound understanding of what a university was about.

Along with her fellow administrators, Helen lived through the turbulent period of student unrest in the 1970s, culminating in 1974 with the raid on the university telephone exchange and including occupation of the Chancery. **Continued next page**

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In August of that year, a group of students marched on the Chancery but, as recorded in *The Making of the Australian National University 1946-1996* by Foster and Varghese, 'only to find the doors locked and the Acting Registrar, the diminutive Helen Cumpston, barring their way'. A nice touch on this occasion was that, when Helen was unable to activate the 'bull roarer' to make her voice audible, one of the student ringleaders came forward, politely turned it on, then stepped back to the throng to allow her to continue the address in measured tones.

Unknown to any perhaps except the recipients, Helen continually exercised her compassion in practical support of her staff and colleagues in their hour of need, for instance, the casserole of food to the suddenly widowed father of young children, the constant hospital visits to the mother of a colleague.

On retirement from the University, she continued her association with the academic world through a temporary appointment as Assistant Secretary to the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee and also with the Churchill Trust.

She continued to exercise her formidable intellect by playing bridge regularly, keeping up her love of Classics as a member of the ANU Latin poetry reading group, assiduously researching when well into her nineties, attending University of the Third Age courses especially on Shakespeare. She herself ran a Greek drama group for the University of the Third Age on more than one occasion. This was coupled with extensive travel, particularly after her husband died in 1986, travel which inevitably included energetic pursuits such as walking tours in Europe, white water rafting in North America, tree-top walks and in Australia trips highlighting her love of Australian fauna, exemplified by her superb native gardens. In 2004, she characteristically celebrated her ninety-fourth birthday with a hot-air balloon ride over Canberra.

It was a long life, covering virtually the whole of the twentieth century and extending into the present. She combined brilliantly the

traditional role of marriage and family, during wartime and in different countries, with a successful career in a period when such was not always easy for a woman. Her four children achieved outstanding careers, helped undoubtedly by her continued support, which spread to her 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren and will continue to bear fruit. Her friends will always cherish her memory and be grateful she allowed them to savour such a wonderfully rich personality.

**Mollie Bouquet**

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