

Newsletter No 7

December 2005

Emeritus Faculty

Australian National University



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Broadening the scope to a national Emeritus Faculty

The proposal for a change of the name of the ANU Emeritus Faculty and to broaden its scope nationally was discussed at the Faculty's annual general meeting on December 7.

The original proposal was that the name of the Faculty be changed from: Australian National University Emeritus Faculty (ANUEF); to Australian Universities National Emeritus Faculty (AUNEF)

The proposal was put by Barry Ninham (Committee member responsible for "Outreach") and seconded by Peter Stewart (Committee member responsible for "The Future")

Barry Ninham spoke to his motion that the name of the ANU Emeritus Faculty be changed to the Australian Universities National Emeritus Faculty. He explained that since the motion had been circulated (the required 14 days before the AGM) there had been some feedback from members and from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education).

As a result of the feedback the motion had been modified.

The aim of creating a national body for retired university staff remained the same, but such a body would be created with a separate constitution in which the ANU Emeritus Faculty would be the first Chapter.

The new body would be incorporated with the ACT Registrar of Incorporated Societies, the usual insurances would be taken out, and the body would be promoted to all Australian Universities early in 2006 with the aim of its inaugural AGM being held in October.

Incoming chairman John Molony supported the concept saying that the ANUEF needed to break out of its isolation, that it fits the national charter of the ANU given to it by the Commonwealth Government in 1946, and that we should take the lead in initiating new concepts across the nation.

It was resolved that the concept as described above is supported in principle and that the new Committee is requested to investigate and pursue the concept and its objectives as discussed.

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One original motivation for the formation of an ANU Emeritus Faculty lay in the observation that a large amount of accumulated experience of retired members was not harnessed, and not easily accessible.

One role for the Faculty was envisaged to be as an independent commentator and facilitator. A website of members, that listed expertise and interests, members' availability for consultation, advice, expert opinion, both specifically and in the wider community, was seen to be useful.

The website is now complete, and the ANUEF has held one Conference on a matter of national importance (The Nelson Agenda).

It was proposed that the Emeritus Faculty would have more value and impact if it expanded to become a national organisation.

In plans for national forums sponsored by the Faculty in areas of national interest such as that proposed for Water and Energy, it may be desirable to have a broader community contributing.

Likewise for areas like science policy, CSIRO, commercialisation (to which national debate ANUEF has been invited to contribute in a leading role) it would be good to have a broader academic community on which to draw.

There is no inhibition within the present constitution to membership from outside the ANU. (See last paragraph of the Membership Guidelines below) And indeed the Faculty contains a number of such members, extra ANU and out-of-state, who contribute strongly.

However the present preamble, while welcoming such membership is specifically ANU focussed and perhaps more inward looking than it should be. Discussions with potential outside members indicated that there was enthusiasm for expansion of the Emeritus Faculty to become a national organisation. Further, these people seem happy that leadership of such an organisation should be initially vested in the

Australian National University, with the ultimate aim of a National Emeritus Faculty being formed in which the ANU Emeritus Faculty would be the first chapter.

Membership By Law

The following people are regarded as eligible for membership of the Emeritus Faculty:

Former Academic Staff: All former ANU academic staff members, either full-time, or part-time or holding fractional appointments, of two years standing or more: or a substantial period of time as a Research Assistant

Former Members of Council: All former members of the ANU Council

Former General Staff: All former general staff of the rank of ANU 8 or higher, who have served two years or more at that level

Visiting Fellows: All ANU Visiting Fellows or former Visiting Fellows who have retired from employment at another University, having been employed by a University for two years or more

Former staff of other universities and similar institutions: Applicants who come under this category must be brought to full Committee for eligibility as invited members to be determined.

Molony leads team

Secretary Giles Pickford opened the annual general meeting and called for nominations for the Chair. It was successfully moved by John Sandeman, seconded Peter Stewart, that John Molony be appointed as Chair

The following Office Bearers were agreed.

Chair	John Molony
Deputy Chair	Peter Stewart
Treasurer	Peter Scardoni
Secretary	Giles Pickford

It was resolved that the allocation of portfolios be deferred until the first meeting in 2006, when all members might be present,

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and after the discussion on co-opting two new members had been held.

For more information, contact Secretary Giles Pickford m: 0411 186 199
post: PO Box 6050 O'Connor ACT 2602
e-mail: giles.pickford@bigpond.com

Emeritus Faculty Questionnaire – what we found out

The questionnaire returns from members, circulated a few months ago, have been received and analysed. The overall return (19 from 122 members) seemed low, but emeritus colleagues knowledgeable about these matters say that this is probably better than might be expected for such a survey instrument. The Committee thanks those members who did respond, and is grateful for the additional comments and suggestions offered by more than a few of the respondents.

Specific matters which arose out of the analysis include:

- an anticipated growing need for space within the Molony Rooms for individual emeriti to conduct their work, research, and pastimes, with liberal access to the facilities available therein
- likewise, a growing need for space for meetings organised by groups of members, or for sister organisations – Nature and Science Forum, Doctors for the Environment, perhaps the University of the Third Age
- a need to explore options related to the social and recreational interests of members
- a continuing interest in the Faculty's monthly lecture series, with associated social interactions – these provide a valuable means for keeping abreast with familiar areas or exposure to new ones, staying in contact with old friends and colleagues, making new acquaintances, and so on
- possible expansion of benefits and facilities made available by ANU – library and database access, email access, discounts or subsidies for professional meetings sponsored by ANU or its centres, and so on.

There was a pleasingly consistent view that Emeritus Faculty is a valuable resource and centre for many of its members, and that the Committee should 'keep up the good work', which we intend to do.

The matters outlined above, and others, will be grist for the organisational mill of the incoming Committee for 2006.

For more information, especially if you want to help, e-mail Peter Stewart
peter.stewart3@bigpond.com

Gift of paintings

Kate McNamara has generously donated three paintings by her mother, Marney Blattman, to the Emeritus Faculty of the Australian National University.

The chosen paintings were:

Universe 3
Snow Gums
Girl at Sunrise

The paintings were hanging on the walls of the Molony Room for the 6th Annual General Meeting and the members commented most favourably on them.

Green light to Carnegie Mellon

Carnegie Mellon University will be able to open its doors to students in 2006 following the passage of key legislative amendments by the Senate on December 9

The Senate passed amendments to the *Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment Act* and *Higher Education Support Act 2003*. These amendments enable a foreign university to establish campuses in Australia and offer education services to international and domestic students.

Announcing Parliament's agreement, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Alexander Downer, said the Carnegie Mellon would be the first foreign university to establish a presence in Australia.

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“It will initially open two ‘schools’ in Adelaide, a branch of the prestigious H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management and a branch of the innovative Entertainment Technology Centre (ETC),” he said

“It will welcome its first students March 2006 who will undertake postgraduate courses in public policy and management and information technology. The intake is expected to be a mixture of domestic students and international students from the Asia-Pacific region. About 50 domestic students are expected to enrol next year rising to up to 200 by 2009.

“The Australian Government will support enrolments at the University by allocating 20 annual scholarships through AusAID at a cost of \$8 million over four years. The University’s eligible domestic students will be able to access FEE-HELP, an Australian Government loan scheme.

“Carnegie Mellon is an outstanding educational institution, ranking 38th on the *Times Higher Education Supplement* ranking of the world’s top universities. It was ranked 1st by the *US News and World Report* magazine survey of graduate schools in information and technology management.

“The presence of Carnegie Mellon will contribute to Adelaide becoming a great education centre for the Asia Pacific region. It will also contribute to Australia’s global standing as a high quality education destination.”

Mr Downer said the initiative originated from discussions between himself, SA Premier Mike Rann and SA Economic Development Board Chairman Robert Champion de Crespigny.

Turkish study awards

During the first visit to Australia by the Prime Minister of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Prime Minister John Howard announced the inaugural 10 higher education study awards for Turkey.

The awards are part of the Australian Government’s \$25 million Endeavour Program, an initiative under which high achieving students and scholars from around the world can study or undertake research in Australia and Australian scholars can undertake research overseas.

Both Prime Ministers agreed during Mr Howard’s visit to Turkey in April that at least two of the annual awards should focus on the shared experience of the Gallipoli campaign of 1915. In fact, three of the first batch of recipients are pursuing the Gallipoli related research.

The other areas of study include biological sciences, political science, medical studies, chemical sciences, business and management, civil engineering, architecture and building studies, and human society.

Five of the 2006 Endeavour Turkey awards will go to students and researchers from Turkey to undertake postgraduate study or research in Australia and five will be awarded to Australians to travel to and study in Turkey. The recipients of the Endeavour Postgraduate Awards will receive funding of up to A\$50,000 for the first year of a higher degree or for research towards a higher degree in their home country. The recipients of the Endeavour Research Fellowships will receive up to A\$25,000 to undertake research in the other nation.

The full list of awards is as follows:

From Turkey

Mr Gürol Baba (Political Science); Mr Murat Barsbay (Chemical Sciences); Dr Ibrahim Bora (Medical Studies); Miss Çiler Tosun (Architecture and Building); Dr Koray Velibeyoglu (Civil Engineering)

From Australia

Mr Ahmed Ali (Biological Sciences); Mr Fahri Benli (Business and Management); Mrs Jennifer Lawless (Human Society); Mr Sam Williams (Human Society); Mr Andrew Yip (Human Society)

Parliamentary Committees attract contributions

Since the last edition of this newsletter, there has been some interest expressed in the wide range of parliamentary inquiries which either have an immediate impact on university life or would benefit from an input from academics.

Because the Australian National University and its individual members present points of view, information and comment to such parliamentary committees, more are listed in this edition.

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

Teacher education inquiry

The House of Representatives Education Committee took evidence in Hobart on November 23 and at the Launceston Campus of the University of Tasmania on November 24 as part of its national inquiry into teacher education.

“Partnerships are an emerging focus of this inquiry,” said Committee Chair Mr Luke Hartsuyker MP. “We are keen to learn how the University, the Government, and the Teachers Registration Board work together with schools to address issues such as linking theory to practice. We would also like to hear about any impediments to building stronger partnerships.”

For more information, contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4573; for submissions visit inquiry website at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/evt/teachereduc/index.htm>.

AVCC gives evidence to Copyright Inquiry

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs held more public hearings examining the circumvention of protection measures

controlling access to copyright material under the Australia-USA Free Trade Agreement.

Among those who have given evidence are the Department of Parliamentary Services, the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, the **Australian Vice-Chancellors’ Committee**, the Australian Digital Alliance, and the Australian Libraries’ Copyright Committee.

Copyright owners commonly use electronic technological protection measures (TPMs) (regional coding on DVDs, encryption of software etc) to protect their product against copyright infringement. TPMs can be circumvented by a range of means. Under the Free Trade Agreement, Australia is required to implement a new liability scheme to introduce civil and criminal offences to prevent such circumvention.

In particular circumstances, exceptions to this liability scheme permitting TPM circumvention will be created. The Committee, chaired by Peter Slipper MP, held public hearings in Canberra on November 28 and December 5 to continue its examination of whether other exceptions should be considered.

For background information, including the full terms of reference, a background paper and copies of submissions contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 2358 or visit the inquiry website at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/laca/index.htm

Or 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/eneNewsCopyrightHome.nsf/Page/eNews_Issue_36_-_June_2005#3

ANU in group backing fusion reactor

Representatives of the Australian International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) Forum gave evidence at a public hearing on December 2 for a parliamentary inquiry investigating the strategic importance of Australia’s uranium resources. **Continued next page**

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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 has commenced its inquiry with a case study examining Australia's uranium industry.

The Committee has taken evidence from representatives of the Australian ITER Forum, a group of scientists and engineers advocating an Australian role in the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor. The Forum is comprised of scientists and engineers from the **Australian National University**, Flinders University, University of Canberra, University of Sydney, ANSTO and the Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering.

The ITER is intended to be the next-generation fusion test reactor. Currently, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, the European Union and the United States are cooperating to build the ITER under the auspices of the UN's International Atomic Energy Agency. It was announced last June that the US\$10 billion experimental fusion reactor will be built at Cadarache in France.

The Forum's submission (Submission no. 17) argues that the current ITER partners "see the development of fusion energy as being an essential strategy in a multifaceted long term world energy solution". It is argued that Australian participation in the ITER would generate benefits for Australian engineering and component manufacturing industries and increase Australia's standing in international science and engineering, as well as giving the nation access to a large range of technologies.

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 via email at ir.reps@aph.gov.au

Recognising migrant skills

The Joint Standing Committee on Migration has held public hearings nationally as part of its inquiry into skills recognition, upgrading and licensing.

The Committee said it was interested in hearing the views of organisations to see if the current processes by which migrants are assessed for entry to Australia under the skilled migration system are functioning efficiently, or need to be improved, according to Committee Chairman, Don Randall MP.

The Committee is looking at skills recognition not only for migrants, but also for those who come to Australia outside the skilled migration system, such as temporary residents needing skills assessment and Australian citizens returning to Australia with overseas qualifications.

In addition, the Committee is comparing Australia's overseas skills recognition arrangements with those of other major immigration countries and whether greater consistency in the recognition of qualifications might be achieved among Australian States and Territories. Further details on the inquiry can be obtained on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig/index.htm> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4560 or emailing jscm@aph.gov.au.

Feral pest research threatened

Research into the impact of pests on Australian agriculture, in which the ANU has been involved, was reportedly under a funding threat, according to media reports.

The Canberra Times of December 2 reported that the possible withdrawal of funds by the

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Murray-Darling Basin Commission from a research program into feral pests could see the program and the new Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre scrapped.

The parliamentary committee of inquiry into the impact of pest animals on agriculture has recommended a national approach to dealing with the pest animal problem for Australian agriculture.

The House of Representatives Agriculture Committee, which has released its report, *Taking Control: a national approach to pest animals*, recommends the establishment of a National Pest Animals and Weeds Committee. The proposed body would be an amalgamation of the current Vertebrate Pests Committee and Australian Weeds Committee.

Committee chairman Alby Schultz says, "When you have states and territories all doing their own thing, that makes it very difficult to control pest animals such as dogs, foxes, pigs, rabbits, goats, deer, donkeys, cane toads and camels, which are spread widely across the country.

"The proposed National Pest Animals and Weeds Committee will play a role in coordinating approaches across jurisdictions. Although the inquiry dealt with pest animals, not weeds, the committee felt it was appropriate that the same body deal with both issues. That is in keeping with the national biosecurity strategy that is currently being developed to improve Australia's response to pest animals and weeds."

The report contains 47 recommendations, including the establishment of a National Pest Animals Advisory Committee.

"The committee has recommended increased funding by all governments for pest animal control and eradication," Mr Schultz said. "In particular, the committee has been very concerned throughout this inquiry that there is simply not enough being done to deal with pest animals on government land, especially national parks. ...".

For more detail on the inquiry and copies of the report, contact: The House Agriculture Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 or access the full report by visiting the inquiry website at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/pestanimals/index.htm> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 or e-mailing aff.reps@aph.gov.au

Rural skills inquiry

The Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC) appeared before the House of Representatives Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Committee on December 7 in relation to its inquiry into rural skills training and research.

The ILC's submission (no. 50 on the committee website) points to complex issues that need to be addressed in appropriate training, education and extension packages for Indigenous land owners. These include:

- Remote location of many groups who require training and education;
- Limited numbers of students;
- Limited number of skilled trainers who are also able to deliver programs in a culturally appropriate manner;
- English is a second or third language of some Indigenous land owners;
- Need of many indigenous students to stay in their local area;
- Lack of access to resources including equipment required for training purposes, computers, the internet and local libraries; and,
- Ownership of Indigenous land through community organisation, therefore different governance and managerial regimes.

Further details about the inquiry, including terms of reference and submissions, can be obtained from the committee's website at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/primind/ruralskills/> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4500 or emailing Aff.reps@aph.gov.au.

Indigenous employment opportunities

The House of Representatives Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Committee is continuing its inquiry into Indigenous employment.

Interested persons and organisations wishing to make submissions are encouraged to contact the secretariat if they wish to participate in the inquiry.

Further details on the inquiry, including the complete terms of reference, background documents, and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/atsia/indigenousemployment/index.htm> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4559 or emailing atsia.reps@aph.gov.au.

Review of UNESCO - Convention Against Doping in Sport

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, held a public hearing on November 28 to examine the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Convention Against Doping in Sport.

Under the Convention Australia would commit itself to the principles embodied in the World Anti-doping Code. Australia was instrumental in drafting the code, which works in conjunction with four international standards to harmonise anti-doping frameworks across all sports in all countries. The aim of the international standards is to align the technical and operational elements of countries' anti-doping programs.

Among the many obligations under the Convention, the principles embodied in the World Anti-doping Code include: adoption of anti-doping measures through legislation, regulation, policies or administrative practices; restriction of the availability of prohibited substances or methods to athletes, including taking measures against trafficking; facilitating doping controls, and supporting national testing programs.

More information about the inquiry is available on the Committee's website: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/9november2005/tor.htm>

Prisoner Transfer Agreement with Hong Kong

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, held a public hearing on December 5 to examine an Agreement concerning the transfer of sentenced persons with the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.

The Agreement allows a sentenced person to serve out their sentence in the prison of the other Party provided they have community ties to that country. Sentenced persons may be transferred if they, the Australian Government and the Hong Kong Government all give their informed consent. Where the prisoner was sentenced under the laws of an Australian State or Territory, the State or Territory government enforcing the sentence must also agree to the transfer.

To be eligible, the prisoner's sentence must be final and not subject to any appeal, the prisoners must have a right to reside in the receiving jurisdiction and the prisoner must have at least one year of their sentence remaining, although this final requirement can be waived by agreement of both Governments.

The Committee will also hear evidence in relation to four other treaties:

- Amendments to the Statute of the Hague Conference on International Law,
- Protocol and Amendments to the Universal Postal Union, Annex G:
- Settlement Disputes to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and
- Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investments Agreement with Turkey.

International Whaling Convention

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, (December) tabled *Report 69* on December 5, which includes support for Amendments to the Schedule to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling.

The Amendments will continue the international moratorium on commercial whaling established under the Convention for the Regulation of Whaling. Australia has been an advocate of whale conservation measures since 1979 with the closure of the last Australian shore-based whaling operation.

In addition, Australia's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) currently provides a higher level of protection for whales than is provided under the Convention and prohibits killing, injury or interfering with whales in Australian waters.

The Committee received evidence that under the latest Japan Antarctic Research Program-JARPA II, Japan will more than double its harvest of minke whales from 440-harvested last season to 935 this season from Antarctic waters and another 10 fin whales annually over the course of the two-year duration of JARPA II.

In addition to the above treaty action, *Report 69: Treaties tabled on 13 September and 11 October 2005* outlines the Committee's review and recommendation that binding treaty action be taken in relation to the **Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child** on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

Report 69 is available on the Committee's website:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/11october2005/report.htm> or by contacting the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4002.

'Sink or Swim' for Norfolk Island

The Federal Parliament's External Territories Committee has tabled *Norfolk Island Financial Sustainability: The Challenge – Sink or Swim*

The report finds that serious challenges impede Norfolk Island's long-term financial sustainability. Norfolk Island is raising insufficient revenue to match the escalating demands on government expenditure. The Island faces the pressures of an increasingly ageing population and the associated costs of its remoteness. Norfolk Island's economy is also precariously dependent on tourism, in an era of increasing global competitiveness.

The Committee noted that a comparison of Norfolk Island benefits with those paid to other Australians leaves ordinary Norfolk Islanders well short:

The Committee has recommended the only option left for the people of Norfolk Island: incorporation into the taxation and welfare systems of the Commonwealth. According to the Department of Workplace Relations, an estimated 200 Norfolk Islanders would be eligible for a range of welfare benefits.

The Island would also benefit from the Commonwealth's assistance in the upgrade and maintenance of some sadly depreciating public infrastructure for which the Norfolk Island Government has never found enough money.

The Committee Chairman, Senator Ross Lightfoot, said "the Committee is of the view that all Australian citizens, irrespective of where they choose to reside in the nation, deserve competent government administration and service delivery to a standard no less than can be expected in any similar jurisdictions in other States or Territories of the Commonwealth."

The full report can be found at the Committee's website at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet/norfolkgovpart2/report.htm>

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For more information, contact the committee secretariat on telephone (02) 6277 4355 or access the report on the Committee's website at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet/index.htm>

University commercialisation at innovations' inquiry

Access to so-called third stream funding to support university commercialisation activities and the emergence of electronic technology as a significant element of the innovation process were among the topics raised at a public hearing in Canberra on December 5.

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Science and Innovation is inquiring into pathways for technological innovation to commercialisation.

Representatives from the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST), and the Australian Research Council (ARC) provided information on their innovation support programs, including the CRC Program and the ARC Linkages Project Scheme.

Discussions with DEST and ARC addressed issues regarding third stream funding for Australian universities and business and entrepreneur skill development for primary, secondary and tertiary students.

These discussions were aimed at helping the Committee identify some of the challenges encountered by universities, publicly funded research agencies and ICT businesses attempting to support the commercialisation of innovative technologies.

Also appearing were representatives from the Commonwealth Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (DCITA). DCITA's submission for the inquiry highlights the importance of information and communication technology (ICT) as a source of innovation and productivity growth and the contribution of ICT to the innovation process. It also outlines

government support for the ICT industry, including programs such as ICT Incubators Program and the ICT Centre of Excellence – National ICT Australia Ltd (NICTA).

At an earlier hearing on November 28, Committee heard from the Federal Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources (DITR) and IP Australia. Both are part of the Industry, Tourism and Resources portfolio.

DITR's submission provides information on its innovation support programs, including the R&D Tax Concessions and the Industry Action Agendas. It also addresses a selection of issues faced by specific industry sectors and an overview of the Australian IP system, including major changes that have been introduced to the system to align it more closely with the systems of international trading partners.

IP Australia is the federal government agency for granting rights in patents, trade marks and designs, and also contributes to the development of Australian and international IP systems.

IP Australia addressed issues about the cost and length of time associated with the patent application process and maintenance and enforcement for those seeking to protect IP through the formal registration process.

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

Business and climate change

While the United Nations Climate Change Conference was being held in Montreal from November 28 to December 9, a side-event on Business Strategies for Climate Change was held by Environment Business Australia titled **Continued next page**

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Options and choices to combat climate change.

Environment Business Australia (EBA) is advocating a 'War Council' approach with governments, business, science, capital markets and community leaders all working together to protect the environment which underpins prosperity, quality of life, security and economic stability.

An 'enabling framework' which includes government policy tools and levers; industry technological innovation; marketplace signals and capital flows; and changes to society's consumption and production patterns will require an enabling framework linking the Kyoto Protocol with the Asia Pacific Climate Partnership and a 'toolbox' approach.

There is undoubtedly cost, risk and complexity in change, but this needs to be compared against the foreseeable cost, risk and complexity of having a planet that is no longer 'fit for purpose' - an outcome that neither developed nor developing countries can afford.

For Further information see "Australia's choice - building on national prosperity" a background paper, available from www.environmentbusiness.com.au under the policy paper section. Or contact Fiona Wain on Ph: 514 207 8401 or E-mail: fiona.wain@hotmail.com

Inquiry into the future of Australia's oil supply.

The Senate's Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee will conduct the inquiry into Australia's future oil supply, with particular reference to:

- (a) projections of oil production and demand in Australia and globally and the implications for availability and pricing of transport fuels in Australia;
- (b) potential of new sources of oil and alternative transport fuels to meet a significant share of Australia's fuel demands, taking into account

- technological developments and environmental and economic costs;
- (c) flow-on economic and social impacts in Australia from continuing rises in the price of transport fuel and potential reductions in oil supply;
- (d) options for reducing Australia's transport fuel demands.

The committee is due to report by June 15 2006.

Conferences and lectures

A call for papers has been made by The Centre for Citizenship and Human Rights, Deakin University, in conjunction with Borderlands Co-operative & the International Association of Community Development (local network) for presentation at the *Community Development in a 'Global Risk Society'* conference, to be held from April 19 to 22, 2006.

The three day Melbourne conference is aimed at academics, researchers, community development practitioners and practitioner activists.

Organisers say that a number of social theorists are arguing that we now live in a global risk society where the identification of risk, risk assessment and risk management increasingly frame our everyday lives, often regardless of the objective reality of risk.

Risk society enjoins us to think about threats and opportunities and to take responsibility for what happens in the future. The construction of risk society has important implications for the practice of community development. Community development is brought in to service civil society and the state, in times of disaster, to legitimate state action, and as a risk management strategy that offers to combat xenophobia and racism. Community development projects themselves are increasingly required to implement the tools of risk assessment, such as audits and evaluations. Community development programs also provide sites for creative risk-taking.

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Deadline for submission of abstracts, workshops, speakers is January 15, 2006

For further details, see the website www.deakin.edu.au/cchr/cd or contact the conference secretariat, Anne OKeefe, Centre for Citizenship and Human Rights, Deakin University, Geelong campus. Phone: 03 5227 2113 E-mail: anne.okeefe@deakin.edu.au

Future speakers in the ANUEF Lecture Series include:

February 15, 2006 at 5.15 pm

Frank Fenner on *"The Global Eradication of Human Infectious Diseases: the examples of Smallpox and Poliomyelitis"*

There are several preconditions for the global eradication of an infectious disease of man, the most important being that there must be no animal host. The next is that there must be a good vaccine. These existed for both smallpox and poliomyelitis. Smallpox was eradicated globally in ten years of intensified effort, poliomyelitis has been eliminated from most countries but its global eradication is problematic.

Frank Fenner is a virologist who has been deeply involved in the Intensified Smallpox Eradication Program. He joined ANU in July 1949 and has been a Visiting Fellow in the John Curtin School of Medical Research since January 1980.

March 15, 2006 at 5.15 pm.

John Sandeman on *"What can we do about global warming?"*

Global warming due to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emission is now fact, and climate change models are improving in their prediction of the future impacts of various emission scenarios. I will briefly outline the predictions, discuss the available options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and make a case for urgent action on replacing coal and fossil oil with alternatives, indicating those options which provide immediate, as against longer term solutions.

John Sandeman was a member of the staff of the Department of Physics, ANU from 1966. He retired as Head in December 1993 and is now a Visiting Fellow. He is Chairman of the Council of the National Science Summer School since 1998 and was awarded the OAM in 2004 for services to education and the National Youth Science Forum.

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

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
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