

Newsletter No 20

March 2009

## Emeritus Faculty

Australian National University



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### Access to scholarly materials

The Emeritus Faculty is being invited to trial part of the ANU's 'digital institutional repository' (DIG).

DIGs are 'open access' and allow scholarly materials to be downloadable over the Internet and, in particular, accessible to search engines such as Google. So ours will store, for example, preprints and summaries of works, lists of references, data, etc.

A meeting with Dr Markus Buchhorn, of the ANU Department of Information, is discussing, with interested parties including ANUEF, the range of materials which might be usefully stored in the DIG, how it will be arranged, how it will be searched, controlled, accessed, etc.

For more information, contact Nik Fominas by e-mail at [nik.fominas@anu.edu.au](mailto:nik.fominas@anu.edu.au)

### Reclaiming ANU's research agenda

Professor Mandy Thomas, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), has outlined the outcomes of the 2009 Retreat.

She writes, "ANU was established in 1946 by the Chifley Government with, in

contemporary language, 'a compact' with the nation. It is 63 years old and in a new era of 'nation building' the 'compact' must be both refreshed and consistent with the contemporary context; a dialogue we can undertake with confidence given the high standing and performance of the University.

"The overarching theme at the Leadership Retreat was that post-Bradley and post-Cutler (in the era of ERA), 2009 would be the year of 'quality and standards.' In addition to the recommendations included in these government reviews, discussion of the impact of the financial crisis and the increasingly competitive global environment led us to consider a number of important issues confronting the ANU.

"I am writing to you about a critical component of our new 'compact', the strategic reclaiming of the ANU research agenda - based on superlative quality and using evidence to validate our assertions. ANU must be able to address difficult and long-term research questions that apply strategic and long-term investment to them. It is why we exist. ...

"We spent much time discussing the Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS), the

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strategic use of our grant and the need to ensure a comprehensive approach to supporting the best researchers - the support of unarguable excellence. We focussed largely on the IAS because it is our major strategic advantage. We also discussed our concerns that the chronic under-funding of research projects by, say, the ARC, is leading us to use much of whatever discretionary funding we have available to underpin their choices and not ours.

“We discussed the desirability of ANU working to position itself according to its declared standards and 'values', during the 'year of quality and standards'. It is fair to say that if we leave the agenda to the public utterances of some in our sector, and to the typical inclination for levelling down that now seems a natural reflex within Australian higher education, we and the other research-intensive universities, and the nation, will get little benefit. We must be prepared to know real excellence when we see it, support it and provide evidence to validate our claims.

“We closed the Retreat with a proposal aimed at further enhancing our research performance and accentuating the value of the unique contribution ANU can make to the national research agenda. The proposal to be explored is to re-conceptualise how the IAS supports excellent researchers at ANU and how to link that to a suitable focus (with adequate flexibility) so that the infrastructure supporting our researchers remains world-class.

“Preliminary discussions across the university, and particularly at the Retreat, have indicated broad support for the idea of maximising the benefits of our grant through a new model for the IAS. The issue before us is how to achieve the desired outcome - support of excellence - in a way that is workable and in which the benefits far outweigh any disadvantages.

“We are now beginning to explore the way forward. It is important that it is clearly understood that the objective of this initiative is not to reduce staff numbers. It is about supporting the best researchers we have at

ANU, using internationally referenced standards of performance....”

Professor Thomas says she will be engaging in discussions on this development across the University over the coming months.

She goes on, “The following is the process which will be followed:

1. A Working Party has been established. The members of this group have been selected for the range of perspectives they will bring to bear on the issues at hand, not to represent any particular area. The members are Alan Carey, Peter Drysdale, Graham Farquhar, Debjani Ganguly, Keith Houghton, Brian Kennett and Dave Marsh.
2. This group will develop a discussion paper to be finalised by the end of March.
3. In the next few weeks staff will be invited to an all-staff meeting in Llewellyn Hall where I will present the principles that could be the basis of a 'New IAS'.
4. There will be consultations on the discussion paper with staff during April, with input from staff on the paper to be received by 30 April.
5. The penultimate version of the paper will be prepared in May for further discussion
6. The 'New IAS' final document to be sent to staff by 30 June.
7. If there is broad agreement to proceed, implementation of the new model will commence from 31 October 2009.

“In addition to the formal consultation process outlined above, I am immediately available to talk to groups of staff in all Colleges about the principles of the 'New IAS'. Your College Managers will make arrangements for meetings over the coming weeks. An email address has been set up for input on the 'New IAS'. Please send any emails on the issue to [ias@anu.edu.au](mailto:ias@anu.edu.au)

## An appreciation

### VALE PETER KARMEL

**9 May 1922 – 30 December 2008**

**Emeritus Professor Peter Karmel AC,  
CBE. Chair, ANU Institute of the Arts  
February 1988 – October 2003**

*By Emeritus Professor David Williams AM,  
ANU Research School of Humanities  
(Director, School of Art. Institute of the Arts,  
Oct 1985-June 2006)*

When he retired as ANU Vice Chancellor in 1987, Professor Peter Karmel agreed to become the Executive Chair of the proposed Institute of the Arts. This was to be formed by the merger of the Canberra School of Music and the Canberra School of Art. On February 1, 1988, with Peter Karmel as Executive Chair and his former Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission colleague Robert Arthur as Institute Secretary, the Canberra Institute of the Arts CITA, was formed. Later Bob Arthur was succeeded by Ross Cornwell, Heather Karmel and Julie Gorrell as Institute Secretary/Business Managers.

From February 1988, Peter worked with the Music and Art School Directors, senior administration staff and an Institute Board, overseeing the successful merger of the two Schools and various academic developments including the introduction of new under-graduate and graduate degrees. In 1989, the Australian Centre of Arts and Technology ACAT was established and in the same year, CITA signed an Affiliation Agreement with the Australian National University. In 1992 CITA formally amalgamated with the University and in 2000, the University Council agreed to change the name of the Institute to the National Institute of the Arts NITA.

Peter's leadership was the lynch-pin in the success of these developments. He used his influence to ensure Institute representation at high level budget discussions and the inclusion of Institute membership on various senior level University committees. Peter

himself took on the Chair of the revived ANU Creative Arts Fellowship Committee. Later in the ANU anniversary year 1996, this Fellowship was renamed the ANU H.C Coombs Creative Arts Fellowship in honour of former ANU Chancellor Dr H.C.'Nugget' Coombs.

Peter also encouraged formal and informal teaching and research connections between the Institute, the Faculties and the Research Schools, and supported the development of combined degrees and study in cognate disciplines at all times taking care to ensure the integrity of the performance, practice and studio work of the visual arts and music students.

Peter was always interested in the progress of the students, the achievements of the teaching staff and what all those involved at the Institute were doing with their exhibitions and performances. Together with his wife, Lena, who deserves special mention, they rarely missed attending a music performance or an exhibition in the School of Art Gallery, the Drill Hall Gallery or Llewellyn Hall while Peter was Chair of the Institute.

In the ANU Jubilee Year 1996, Peter and Lena very generously endowed the Peter and Lena Karmel Anniversary Scholarship for outstanding graduating students each year in music and art. In December last year at the School of Art Graduate Exhibition, this prestigious 2008 Award was presented to young artist Richard Blackwell by daughter Rose Karmel.

The year 2001 marked the School of Art 25th Anniversary and a highlight of celebrations was the opening of the new Peter Karmel Building. The building accommodates the School of Music Jazz and Percussion Departments and new facilities for ACAT. On this special occasion, School of Music Director Nicolette Frailon and her staff organised an extended series of performances. All of them were attended by Peter and Lena.

Peter's cultural interests were not limited to the Institute and ANU activities. He chaired the Commonwealth Government arts policy and funding agency, the Australia Council

for the Arts 1974-1977. This brought him into contact with many of Australia's leading performing, visual and indigenous artists, musicians and writers. An important initiative during this time, was the joint study of the Australia Council and the Schools Commission to review education and the arts. For the first time, this brought together the two sectors to study the place of the arts in the education system, investigate the provision for arts training and examine opportunities for young Australians to access and participate in the arts. Another important committee chaired by Peter, looked at University research in the creative arts. That Committee's report, in 1998, developed performance indicators and weightings in the creative arts and foreshadowed Australian Research Council support in this area. As with numerous other inquiries and reports with which Peter was involved, he was a man ahead of his time.

Peter and Lena were frequent visitors to the Adelaide Festival of Arts, while in Canberra they regularly attended Musica Viva, Australian Chamber Orchestra and Canberra Symphony Orchestra concerts and were keen supporters of local theatre, dance, and art house cinema.

Peter and Lena's arts and cultural interests were shared by other members of the Karmel family with daughter Pip a graduate of the South Australian School of Art in Adelaide and Jo's interests in ceramics taken up at the Canberra School of Art. In the next generation, Samuel is an ACAT graduate in electro acoustic music composition, Robbie successfully completed Honours in print media and drawing last year while Peter Hugh played a starring role with Canberra Rep's *Old Time Music Hall* in 2008 and this year he commences his second year in sculpture at the School of Art. No doubt there is more Karmel arts talent coming up in the future.

Another very tangible support for artists was Peter and Lena's art collection to which they regularly added new work quite frequently acquired from School of Art graduates. By any measure, the Karmel Art Collection is impressive with its focus predominantly on contemporary and emerging Australian artists. Peter and Lena built their collection

together and ensured their interests in a wide variety of artworks included painting, sculpture, ceramics, glass, prints, drawings and Peter's special interest in antimony and britannia metal jewel boxes. Visitors were always welcome to view the latest acquisitions and discuss possibilities for their placement on the already crowded walls and shelves of the Karmel's Yarralumla home.

Peter Karmel's death marks the end of an era. His time at the ANU Institute of the Arts was a special period for the development of art and music and all those who were privileged to work with him.

He retired in October 2003 after 15 very successful years as Executive Chair. It was the close of another chapter in an amazing life primarily focussed on economics, research and university administration. Peter's leadership inspired confidence and optimism. He was a man of good humour, calm, generous and very strategic in his advice which was always offered in a positive spirit.

With Peter, the Institute was well organised, enterprising, energetic and a happy workplace. The ANU Institute of the Arts was a national role model for the integration of art and music into the University sector. In admiration, many visitors looking at the operations would invariably note the central involvement of Peter Karmel.

It was a pleasure to work with Peter Karmel: a gentleman, a scholar and champion of the arts. We celebrate his life and work. To Lena and the Karmel family, all at the Schools of Art and Music express condolence.

Vale Peter Karmel.

## Obituary

**Dr. Joseph Jordens (1925 – 2008)**

**Pioneer of Indian Studies in Australia  
University of Melbourne 1961–1970  
Australian National University 1971 –  
1990**

*By Emeritus Professor Anthony H. Johns*

Dr. Joseph Teresa Florent Jordens was a friend and colleague of mine for 20 years, from 1970 – 1990, a period during which we each served terms as Dean of the Faculty of Asian Studies of the Australian National University. I was Dean at the time of his retirement (31 December 1990), and so presided over the farewell dinner held in his honour. He, being three years older than me, the occasion gave me cause to reflect, 'What you were, I am, what you are, I will be!' During these years we shared a warm collegiality, and endured together the fortunes and misfortunes of the Faculty of Asian Studies, and with it, on the local scene, what might be called the rise and fall of Asian Studies in Australia.

Jos, as friends and colleagues knew him, achieved international recognition for pioneering work on Indian cultural history illumined by a remarkable empathy for the spiritual traditions of Hinduism. He was born in Belgium in 1925, and his journey from the Flemish town of Kessel-lo to Australia for an academic career first at the University of Melbourne, and then at the Australian National University, was by way of an unconventional but profoundly enriching detour. On graduating from high school in 1943, he entered the Jesuit order.

The Jesuits have a distinguished tradition of scholarship in Indian Studies, and after two years novitiate and two years of preliminary study as part of his training, in 1947, Jos was enrolled in the Faculty of Oriental Studies of the renowned University of Louvain. In 1953, he was awarded his doctorate for the thesis entitled *The Idea of the Divine in the Bhagavad Gita*, with the commendation *maxima cum laude*. It was a sublime topic, devoted to one of the greatest classics of world religious literature. His

study, under the guidance of the renowned scholar of early Buddhism, Etienne Lamotte, involved a close analysis of the tradition out of which the *Gita* had grown, a tradition represented in the Vedas, Brahmanas and Upanishads and other expressions of philosophical Hinduism.

These studies were designed to prepare him for educational work and Christian witness in India. Thus after completing his doctorate, in 1953, he was sent to Mumbai (then Bombay) to complement his academic studies with a direct experience of Indian life and culture. India, with its bursting vitality, disorder and colour, after the grey skies and predictable orderliness of Belgium, was a new world, one in which he found inspiration.

He taught Sanskrit at a Jesuit college in Calcutta, he learned Hindi, he travelled to the foothills of the Himalayas, he explored some of the architectural wonders of various parts of India, and revelled in the variety and sheer physical vitality of Indian life. Then, in 1957, after 14 years as a Jesuit, he decided not to proceed to the final stage of membership of the order by ordination as a priest. He resigned and decided to pursue an academic career in Indian Studies, one for which he was more than amply qualified. He had studied the roots of Indian culture, and lived an intense life in India among Indians of diverse backgrounds. He had done so as a Jesuit, from the bottom up, in an independent India, not as a European administrator, from the top down.

To realise this ideal he came to Australia. In 1957; this choice might have been thought prompted either by inspiration or lunacy. But it was a time when Australians were becoming aware of their geographical position in a post-1945 world, and the then Menzies government was laying the foundations for what was later to be called 'Asian Literacy' as a national need. He made his decision for Melbourne. At first, having acquired a Diploma of Education (1959), for three years he taught French, German and Indian History at Melbourne Church of

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England Grammar School and Scotch College. But in 1961 he was appointed to the University of Melbourne as, in effect, founder of the first Department of Indian Studies at an Australian university. In assessing his qualifications, the academic bureaucracy had concerns as to whether it could recognise a doctorate awarded by the University of Louvain! In Melbourne, he established courses in ancient and traditional Indian culture, religion and philosophy. His work there culminated in an academic year as Visiting Professor in Indian Religions at the Department of Indian Studies of the University of Wisconsin (1968-69).

In the meantime, the Australia National University had added South Asia to its already existing programs in Chinese, Indonesian and Japanese Studies. In 1965, it made two professorial appointments, one a philologist, J. W. de Jong, a scholar in Buddhist philology, the other a historian, A. L. Basham, arguably at that time the greatest living historian of Classical India. In 1970, as Head of the Department of Asian Civilizations, Basham appointed Jos to extend the teaching of Indian history to the modern period. As a historian of Indian culture, Basham was deeply aware that Indian history was not that of the British Raj, but of the peoples of India, and of the living lines of continuity with their traditional cultures that were being transformed into a nation of the modern world, a task for which Jos with his classical training was uniquely qualified.

In the mid-sixties, for those concerned with the study of Asia, well might it be said 'Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive, but to be young was very heaven!' The promise and achievement of Australia in the field was such that in January 1971, thanks to the inspired support of the then Vice-Chancellor, Sir John Crawford, the ANU was host to the 28<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Oriental Studies, an event which attracted over a thousand scholars of Asia (and north Africa) from all over the world.

In Canberra, Jos worked with enthusiasm, developing new courses, among them an advanced-year unit in Indian History, 'From

the Mutiny to Independence', and taking part in the day-to-day chores of Faculty business. But he did not neglect research. The focus of his work was the transformations developing within Hinduism in response to the challenges of modernity. A major project was a biography of Swami Dayananda Sarasvati, founder of the Arya Samaj, an important and influential 19<sup>th</sup>-century Hindu reform movement. For a variety of reasons, this was no easy task. But, supported by an ANU Leverhulme Foundation Fellowship, Jos spent the long vacation of 1972-73 searching for primary material in libraries in North India, rediscovering some that had been thought lost, others that had been deliberately suppressed or even destroyed. The result was an important and original book: *Dayadanda Saraswati His life and Ideas*, published by OUP Delhi in 1979. A substantial as well as pioneering work, it was well reviewed, 'A fine intellectual portrait – revealing an impressive knowledge of Indian lore, philosophy and religious culture' as one reviewer put it. It established itself as a standard work. It was reprinted in paperback in 1997, and again elicited enthusiastic reviews. Jos continued his work in this field by a study of Swami Shradhananda, an early 20<sup>th</sup>-century leader of the movement, publishing a book 'on his life and his causes' in 1981.

In 1982 he was elected Dean of the Faculty, and so became virtually a full-time administrator. He was to serve two three-year terms. He became Dean at a particularly difficult time. This was in the wake of the 1979 review of the Faculty, which involved a restructuring of its administrative organisation, requiring a disciplinary core to the degrees it offered, and the devising of ways in which the courses it offered might be integrated with those provided in other faculties. The changes were timely, but difficult to implement, and involved endless committee work. More seriously, they occurred at a time when financial pressures were beginning to bite. By 1975, it was already

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clear that the hopes for the future which in 1971 had seemed so bright would not be fulfilled. By 1985, the Faculty was virtually a disaster area. Jos had held the view that a compulsory age of retirement had the merit that it made possible the infusion of fresh blood and new developments. But now, the vacating of a post by retirement or resignation — and the timing of such events was by the very nature of the case arbitrary — meant that the position vacated was either disestablished or re-allocated to the strongest of competing interests elsewhere in the Faculties, in the light of what one might politely refer to *arbitrium popularis aurae* (the whim of popular favour). Educational priorities were subordinated to short-term tastes and fashions. Any consideration of the needs of a proper foundation for the study of the Humanities in an Asian cultural setting when determining priorities was *force majeure* abandoned.

As a result, staff morale was damaged, a damage exacerbated by the excesses of post-modernism, by an exaggerated sensitivity to 'political correctness' and by the fact that 'orientalist' had become a dirty word which, astutely directed, could destroy a career, and even a field of study. These factors led to tensions within and pressures from without the Faculty, resulting in rivalries, mutual distrust and bitterness. Jos worked calmly and valiantly to navigate these troubled waters, though the responsibilities he carried put him under great strain. It was a matter of deep sorrow as well as bewilderment to him that by the early 1990s, after his retirement, the South Asia program of the Faculty, which when he joined it in 1970, had six members, had been reduced to a solitary one.

It was a relief after two terms as Dean, during which he served the Faculty well, that he was able to return to research and devote himself to a major study of Gandhi's personal religion based on the 90 volumes of the Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi. I had the honour of chairing his valedictory lecture on this massive project on 14 November 1990. After seven years of work, the result, *Ghandi's Religion: A Homespun Shawl*, was published by Macmillan (St. Martin's Press, N.Y. in the U.S.) on 31

January 1998, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Gandhi's assassination.

This book was a fitting crown to Jos's career, bringing together all the themes and aspirations of his life. It was warmly received, one reviewer describing it as 'an outstanding exposition of how Gandhi, in his quite individualistic way, created a rich, religious "homespun shawl", which contained strands of Jain asceticism, the *sannyasin* ideal, love, *Advaita* and service to society'.

Jos's career was not without honour. He was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 1984, and in 2001 received the Belgian accolade of appointment as an Officer in the Order of Leopold for Academic Achievements in the Field of Indian Studies. He was, however, a person of extreme modesty. Few colleagues outside his field were aware of his language skills, in Sanskrit, and others of the classical languages of India, and the modern national language Hindi along with provincial languages such as Gujarati, or that as a doctoral student in 1953, he had conducted the public defence of his thesis in Latin. Neither were they aware of the quality of his work, or the significance of his contribution to Indian Studies in Australia.

He is survived by Ann-Mari, his wife of 46 years, their children, one sadly pre-deceasing them, and grandchildren. Along with them, we, his friends and erstwhile colleagues miss him and farewell him, while wishing him well on a new journey with that marvellous Sanskrit invocation and prayer,

*Shantih Shantih Shantih*

## Indian Ocean Territories under review

Federal Parliament's External Territories Committee has begun a new inquiry investigating the changing economic environment on Australia's Indian Ocean Territories of Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

The inquiry will look at: communication services such as broadband internet, digital

television and mobile telephony; transport services and costs including passenger and freight transport; Commonwealth Government services and programs; operation of businesses in the region; cost and availability of housing; and the impact of climate change.

Submissions accepted, preferably by email [jscncet@aph.gov.au](mailto:jscncet@aph.gov.au), until 27 March or by post to: The Committee Secretary, Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories, PO Box 6021, Parliament House, CANBERRA ACT 2600.

Details about the inquiry, including how to make a submission, can be obtained from the committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet/index.htm> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4355 or emailing.

### Remote community stores inquiry

The operation of local community stores in remote Indigenous communities is the focus of an inquiry by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs.

The Committee, which closed submissions on February 20, scheduled two public meetings. The first was held in Canberra on February 5 and a second is scheduled for Torres Strait and Queensland on 30 March - 3 April.

Further details on the inquiry, including the terms of reference are on the Committee's website at [www.aph.gov.au/atsia](http://www.aph.gov.au/atsia) or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4559 or emailing [atsia.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:atsia.reps@aph.gov.au).

### Pay equity policy

The National Foundation for Australian Women is calling for a pay equity policy from the federal government in its submission to the House of Representatives Employment and Workplace Relations Committee's inquiry into pay equity and associated issues related to increasing female participation in

the workforce. The NFAW argue that "pay equity is a human right".

The National Foundation for Australian Women appeared before the Committee on February 12

The Committee welcomes more submissions to the inquiry.

Details on the inquiry, including the terms of reference and background documents can be obtained on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/ewr>, or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4162 or emailing [ewr.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:ewr.reps@aph.gov.au).

### Report on uni research training

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Innovation released in December its final report into research training and research workforce issues in Australian universities.

*Building Australia's Research Capacity* makes 38 recommendations in several key areas.

A suite of recommendations designed to assist research training students includes increasing the value and length of the Australian Postgraduate Award stipend, which will see students lifted above the poverty line.

The report is available on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/isi/research/report.htm> For more information contact the Committee Secretary on 02 6277 4594 or [isi.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:isi.reps@aph.gov.au)

### Financial crisis and regional Australia

The House of Representatives Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

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Committee are inquiring into the impact of the global financial crisis on regional Australia.

Submissions will be received until **March 27** and can be e-mailed to [itrdlg.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:itrdlg.reps@aph.gov.au) or sent to the committee at Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 More information and advice on making submissions, is at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/itrdlg/index.htm>

### Emissions trading scheme inquiry

The House of Representatives Economics Committee is examining the choice of emissions trading as the central policy to reduce Australia's carbon pollution.

The committee will focus on how Australia can make the transition to a lower carbon economy both efficiently and economically.

The committee says it is keen to hear from industry, peak associations, academia, government departments, the scientific community and individuals and will accept submissions until **March 20**, preferably by email [economics.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:economics.reps@aph.gov.au),

For more information access [www.aph.gov.au/economics](http://www.aph.gov.au/economics) or phone the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4209

### Human rights education

The February edition of the Australian Human Rights Commission Education Update reports it has produced a range of resources to assist in educating young Australians around such issues as:

- \* 'Bringing them home' education module (CD Rom)
- \* 'Bringing them home' (DVD)
- \* 'Us Taken-Away Kids' magazine
- \* 'Track the History' poster

All of these resources are suitable for use in upper primary and secondary classrooms.

It says that while most resources would be more suited to use in studies of Society and Environment (and related

subjects), there are also activities that could be used through integrated learning programs in English, Health, The Arts and Technology.

The education module has been linked to the curriculum in each state and territory (<http://www.humanrights.gov.au/education/curriculum.html#bth> ).

Other human rights education resources for teachers, which are free to download at <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/education/resources/index.html>. For more information please join our mailing list or contact us at [education@humanrights.gov.au](mailto:education@humanrights.gov.au)

The Australian Human Rights Commission has updated the online *Face the Facts* education resources, which aim to provide students with a stronger understanding of issues concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, migrants and multiculturalism, asylum seekers and refugees. The Human Rights Day education resources are available online at: [http://humanrights.gov.au/education/hr\\_day/](http://humanrights.gov.au/education/hr_day/)

### Human rights in Asia and the Pacific

The parliamentary Human Right Sub-Committee met recently with human rights groups to discuss protecting human rights in Asia and the Pacific.

The absence of a regional mechanism in the Asia-Pacific to prevent and redress human rights violations makes this area a natural focus for the Committee's examination of human rights mechanisms. There is still an opportunity to contribute to this inquiry, as the Committee will continue to accept submissions.

For more details, visit the Committee's website: [http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfad/asia\\_pacific\\_hr/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfad/asia_pacific_hr/index.htm). Or contact the Sub-Committee Secretary, Samantha Mannette, on 02 6277 2313 or [jscfadt@aph.gov.au](mailto:jscfadt@aph.gov.au).

### Audiovisual Library of International Law

The United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) has launched an "Audiovisual Library of International Law" at <http://www.un.org/law/avl/> the website has three main parts: the Historic Archives; the Lecture Series; the Research Library.

The Audiovisual Library aims to provide free, scholarly resources to students and practitioners around the world, particularly in regions where there are few resources for the study of international law.

For more information call the United Nations Information Centre for Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific, Level 1, 7 National Circuit, Barton, ACT 2600. Tel: 61-2 6273 8200 Fax: 61- 2 6273 8206. Email: [unic@un.org.au](mailto:unic@un.org.au)

### Adapting farming to climate change

The House of Representatives Primary Industries and Resources Committee has commenced a new inquiry into the role of government in assisting Australian farmers to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The focus of the inquiry will be on innovation and adaptation at the enterprise level, on the ground, and the role of government and research organisations in supporting this.

The Committee will inquire into and report on the role of government in:

- Augmenting the shift towards farming practices which promote resilience in the farm sector in the face of climate change;
- Promoting research, extension and training which assists the farm sector to better adapt to climate change.
- The role of rural research and development in assisting farmers to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Submissions are due by **March 20**, although the Committee would appreciate that submissions be sent as early as possible. The Committee would prefer submissions to be sent electronically to

[pir.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:pir.reps@aph.gov.au) For more information call the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 4500, email [pir.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:pir.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/pir>

### Program nurtures future botanists

Six students from around Australia have graduated from the Student's Volunteer Botanical Internship Program, after spending seven weeks gaining practical scientific skills and experience at CSIRO Plant Industry in Canberra.

The program is run annually by the Centre for Plant Biodiversity Research, a joint venture between CSIRO Plant Industry and the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG). More than 240 students have completed the Program since it started in 1993.

For more information, call Bronwyn Collins (02) 6246 5133

### Darwin's Armada

Professor Mandy Thomas, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research), launched Iain McCalman's book *Darwin's Armada: How four voyagers to Australasia won the battle for evolution & changed the world* on February 25. In the accompanying public lecture the author discussed and read some extracts from his book, which explores the lives of Charles Darwin, Joseph Hooker, Thomas Huxley and Alfred Wallace, four young amateur naturalists from Britain who voyaged to the Southern Hemisphere in search of adventure and scientific fame.

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## ANUEF Lecture Series for 2009

**18 March** - Brij Lal, *'Fiji: Islands of Turmoil.'*

**15 April** - Neville Fletcher *'Clouds, Rain and Rainmaking - the Possibilities for Australia'*

**20 May** - Tony Kevin - *'Exploring diplomacy as a culture'*

**17 June** - Mark O'Connor - *'Why Australia should cap its population growth'*

**15 July** - Alan Roberts, - *'Thoughts on the Bicentenary of the Rum Rebellion of 1808'*

**19 August** - Maev O'Collins *'From Place of Exile to Homeland: The Magic of Islands'*

**16 September** – Stjepan Marcelja – *'The data, the denial and the future of the planet'*

**21 October** - Hans Kuhn *'Rape in a Major Key'*

**18 November** - Peter Stanley *'Reflections of a Military-Social Historian'*

As we have filled the whole year already, we will insert other lectures into the series as required. Please put these dates into your diary and if you want to give one, or know of a friend who would give one, please let the Events Officer, Ian Buckley, know: [ibuckley@cybermac.com.au](mailto:ibuckley@cybermac.com.au)

## New Deputy Chair

Angela Giblin has taken leave of absence for the Faculty in order to go overseas. She did not stand again as Deputy Chair at the AGM. The Committee decided at its February Meeting to invite Dr Mike Rickard, geologist, to take the position of Deputy Chair. He has accepted.

## The Eastern Australian Project

A number of members of the Faculty have embarked on a project to verify the chronicles of the Voyage of Captain James Cook to Australia in 1770 and the mapping he produced.

Someone once said that people who set out to write history are taking on one of the riskiest activities known to humanity, and that they require an unusual amount of courage. Here is a report from John Molony.

## The Eastern Australian Project

A number of members of the Faculty, including the Chair, John Molony, Keith Crook, Nick Fominas and Peter Fuller have embarked on a project to examine the early development of Eastern Australia, or New South Wales as it was subsequently named by the British Admiralty.

They decided to begin with the Journal of Captain James Cook, which was written during his epic voyage when he charted the eastern coastline of New Holland in 1770.

Due to the kindness of Dr Marie-Louise Ayres, Curator of Manuscripts, National Library of Australia, and with the assistance of Graeme Powell, former Curator of Manuscripts at the NLA, John Molony was permitted to spend some time reading Cook's manuscript Journal held by the Library. In reply to John's letter thanking Marie-Louise, she graciously answered,

"Absolutely our pleasure. I am so delighted that you were able to have a 'chat' with the Captain!"

While there are many copies of the Journal, nothing can replace reading the original. One among many examples suffices to illustrate the point. The manuscript makes it plain that, passing closely by Sydney Heads, beyond which Cook judged there to be 'a safe harbour', he nonetheless refrained from naming it. However, he left a space to do so later. In that space the words 'Port Jackson' were inserted in Cook's hand, but in different ink. When he made that insertion, and many others of that nature, is uncertain and the question arises as to whether it was done at the express order of the Admiralty after his return home. Such matters need further probing.

It is clear that the Project is its infancy, but it does open up the likelihood of much further research followed by possible publications. Any member of the Faculty interested in participating may contact [john.molony@anu.edu.au](mailto:john.molony@anu.edu.au)

### The 2009 Kioloa Excursion

The Annual Excursion to Kioloa is one of the most enjoyable activities put on by the Faculty. People who have taken part return each year for more.

The next excursion will be on 6-8 November and there is no need to book yet. But please put it in your diaries because it is possible that we may run out of rooms in 2009.

### 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Faculty

The Chancellor of the ANU launched the ANU Emeritus Faculty on 8 June 2000 in the Common Room at University House.

Your Committee is working on ideas for our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 8 June 2010. Any ideas are welcome.

### Incorporation

The ANUEF was incorporated under the ACT Associations Ordinance on 2 February 2009. We express our gratitude to Peter Stewart and Peter Scardoni who took carriage of this project from the start.

### Your benefits

**1. Library borrowing rights (including access to e-journals)** for financial members with a membership card. Also **access to e-journals** in the ANU Library System is available through the computers in the Molony Room, Fellows Lane Cottage, Fellows Lane, ANU.

**2.** The right to buy a staff parking permit at the student rate, or packs of one-day parking scratchies which entitle members to park all day in **Permit Parking** spots at ANU for a few dollars a day, and the right to park in the designated parking areas in the Fellows Lane Cottage car park, and in adjacent car parking spots if the membership card is displayed 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.

**3.** The right to be posted **ANU Reporter** if the member wishes.

**4.** An ability to get staff discounts from **PCTech** and purchase certain products (eg. software) at Academic/Education pricing from appropriate outlets.

**5.** The right to use **University House Library** facilities.

**6.** \$2 tickets many concerts given by the **Canberra School of Music**.

**ANUEF Newsletter out again in July**