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THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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Burst into print

This preamble to *Emeritus* is an appeal for more ANUEF Members' contributions to *Emeritus*: have you written a book recently, made an interesting discovery, had a new idea, travelled to a place unvisited or even over visited? If so other members are likely to be interested so please send your printable thoughts to the editor for possible publication at ian.mathews7@bigpond.com

Staff cuts and wage rises

In a budgetary statement to colleagues on July 3, the Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Ian Young AO, announced pay increases, staff cuts and voluntary early retirement for some academics.

He wrote:

Today I announced a package of measures addressing our budget challenges. The package is a comprehensive one that firstly looks to grow income for the University, and then seeks to make savings in a way that will enhance our academic excellence. You can read the full package at www.budgetsolutions.anu.edu.au.

I also announced an immediate pay increase of 2 per cent for all ANU staff which will be paid on 1 August and backdated to 1 July. A further 2 per cent increase will be paid in 2014. While our enterprise bargaining with staff and unions is ongoing and we will continue negotiations in good faith, you are overdue for a pay increase. Investing in the people that

make this institution great is essential to investing in our future, and I believe this is a timely and appropriate measure to recognise your ongoing contribution.

The package, drawn from the suggestions of staff and students, includes measures aimed at increasing revenue, realising substantial savings and investing in staff. The major measures in the package are:

- **A voluntary early retirement scheme open to academic and professional staff aged 55 and over.**

For academic staff, the retirement scheme aims to foster renewal of the academic workforce by enabling investment in outstanding early and mid-career young academic staff. There is no saving measure associated with the scheme for academic staff – it is an investment in the future.

For professional staff, the scheme aims to reduce the current workforce of 2,300 by 230 positions by the end of this year. There are more than 550 professional staff aged 55 and over who will be eligible for the scheme. The professional staff retirement scheme is accompanied by a major administrative overhaul to reduce duplication of roles and processes and a \$1 million fund for retraining, redeployment and change.

Revenue measures will include

- **A student recruitment drive to increase undergraduate student numbers by 11 per cent to 2,550 commencing students by 2015 and international coursework students by 1.5 per cent each year;**
 - **An increase in international student fees to bring ANU in line with other Group of Eight universities;**
 - **An increase in parking fees to mirror the cost of an annual bus fare; and**
 - **The introduction of an overhead charge for commercial accommodation providers on campus with the proviso the charge may not be passed on to students and other clients.**
- **An energy review and implementation of**
 - **a campus-wide energy reduction scheme, and**
 - **changes to purchasing and management of travel, computers, software, phones, cars, printing and publishing, and use of recruitment agencies.**

As a community we have chosen to approach this challenge as a catalyst for change, renewal and growth. We are committed to ensuring that ANU returns to a firm financial footing. Each and every member of the ANU community – staff, students and alumni – is rightly proud of the excellence in research and education for which we are renowned. This package will enable us to invest in that excellence, cementing the University's global position.

Professor Young announced earlier that the University Council had approved a package to address the ANU's budget challenges.

Preliminary commentary

Commentary by Chris Grange, Executive Director (Administration and Planning)

Three hundred and twenty seven submissions were lodged on the budget solutions website. The submissions varied from single one-line suggestions to submissions encompassing over

20 different ideas. The suggestions that were focussed on feedback with respect to how the process was conducted are not covered in this commentary. Some submissions were requests for more information and those are similarly not dealt with here, though most of the questions raised are addressed in my [speaking notes](#) which have been posted on the website. See a [breakdown of the University's total income and total expense](#).

In this commentary we have attempted to reference suggestions by their sequential number ([listed on with each submission on the suggestions page](#)) both as a check that we have broadly responded to each one but also for ease of reference for the author of each suggestion. Ultimately, we could not, in the time available, provide commentary on every individual suggestion and we recognise that we may have lost some of the granular detail of individual suggestions by aggregating suggestions into clusters.

The chief criteria being applied to the suggestions in this commentary is not whether they are a good suggestion in general – many are indeed good ideas. But in this case, the measures are whether the suggestion provides a continuing revenue increase or saving (net of the effort required to implement) and the timeframe within which that can be delivered.

After writing the first draft of this paper, I went back and read all the submissions again. My rereading confirmed how difficult it is to comment effectively on all the well thought out ideas that are contained in them. I hope that some of the commentary below is useful but I do accept that it falls well short of doing justice to the massive resource that the suggestions website has become.

Commentary is grouped in the following clusters:

- [Revenue](#)
- [Non-staff expenses](#)
- [Staffing](#)
- [Administration and systems](#)

Minister to look at funding

The new Higher Education Minister Kim Carr, has suggested a willingness to re-examine funding for the university sector, according to an ABC report

The report said that earlier this year the Federal Government announced it would whittle back its planned funding increases for the university sector to bankroll the school education changes proposed by David Gonski.

Senator Carr stressed there are budgetary constraints. "I'm not suggesting that I can produce some magic pudding where extra money will fall like pennies from heaven," he said. "What I am concerned to do is to ensure that the monies are available to improve the excellence of the system.

"The issue is: can we find a more effective way to spend the money that is already available?"

Senator Carr says he is also concerned about the rapid increase in the number of people going to university and wants to see more emphasis on quality rather than student numbers. "I'm very concerned that there has been a rapid growth in the number of people participating in universities and concerned to ensure that proper equity is maintained in the Australian education system. But at the same time, we have to also ensure that there are appropriate levels of quality in terms of the students that are entering the system."

The Government last year removed the cap on the number of funded places, which has led to students with a lower academic result enrolling according to the university sector.

Chief Executive of university peak body, Universities Australia, Belinda Robinson, says she is hopeful Senator Carr's comments are a sign the planned cuts will be reconsidered.

"Senator Carr has a proven track record around research and universities and certainly understands that the role that universities play in securing productivity for the nation and economic growth," she said.

"Universities are now in the planning phases for their own budgets for 2014, they are looking at every cost centre very carefully," she said.

In an earlier comment congratulating the re-installed Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, Ms Robinson said Universities Australia looked forward to working with him and his government on building a plan for revitalising Australian manufacturing, creating new jobs, new industries and economic diversity.

"Mr Rudd has acknowledged on many occasions the critical role that research, innovation and higher education need to play to secure a robust economy, industrial diversity and long-term national well-being" she said.,

"This vision, however, is incompatible with decisions taken by the Government over the past eight months to reduce the investment in universities and funding for students to the tune of almost \$4 billion. Achieving long-term national prosperity requires us to make a transition to a more diversified economy and industrial base. This cannot be achieved without a comprehensive national plan that is based on building our knowledge and innovation infrastructure.

"Universities Australia respects and supports the Prime Minister's commitment to improving the quality of school education but calls on the government to re-consider its approach to achieving its school education goals by reducing its investment in higher education. Cannibalising higher education to increase funding for schools only serves to downgrade Australia's total education system", Ms Robinson said.

"This government can be rightly proud of many of the decisions it has taken on education, she added, "But the announcements over the past 8 months to strip \$3.8 billion from the sector make no sense, are not supported by the Australian community, and undermine the Government's own policy agenda for higher education, so well received just two years ago."

She said Universities Australia urged the Government to review the higher education savings measures as a matter of urgency and as an important first step on the road to securing long-term national prosperity.

Research meeting

Australia's research and science community has called on all political leaders to put short-term politics aside and back a strategic national research policy to build a stronger, smarter nation

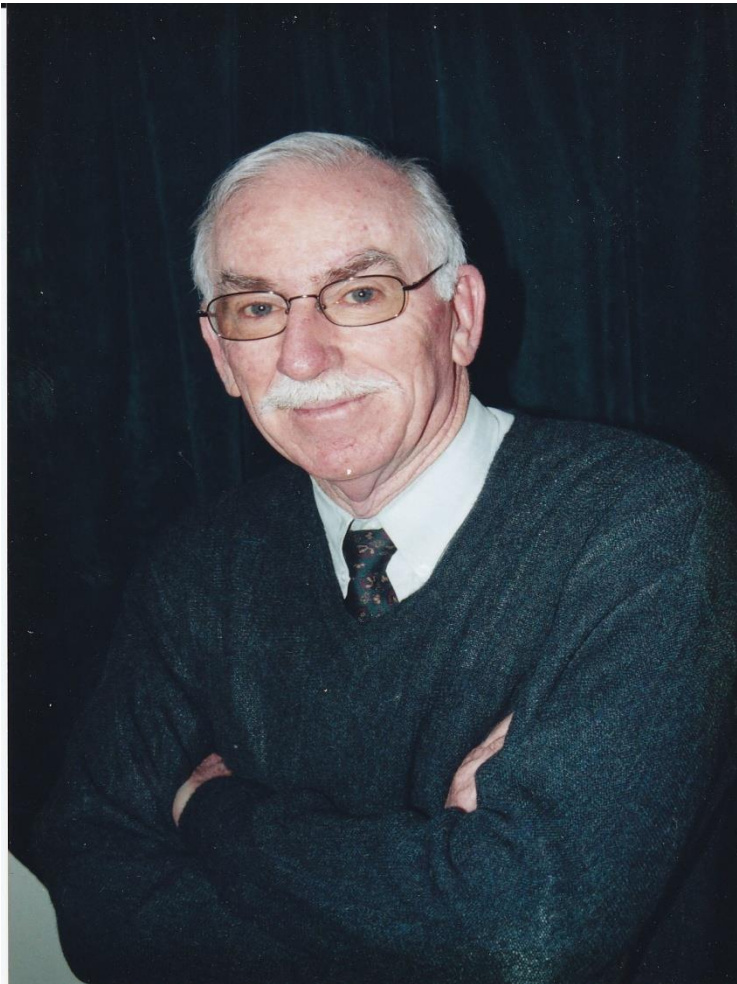
Among those attending the Research Alliance meeting on Monday, July 1 in Parliament House were:

Professor Brian Schmidt, Australian Nobel Laureate; Professor Les Field, Group of Eight Australia; Ms Belinda Robinson, Universities Australia; Professor Tony Peacock, Cooperative Research Centres Association; Dr Peter Laver, Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering; Professor Robert Williamson, Australian Academy of Science; Ms Catriona Jackson, Science and Technology Australia; Professor Brendan Crabb, Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes; Dr Enzo Porrello, Laboratory for Cardiac Regeneration (University of Queensland); and Dr Maggie Evans-Galea, Australian Early and Mid Career Researcher Forum.

Obituary

DARRELL TRYON 20 July 1942 – 15 May 2013

Darrell Tryon, Emeritus Professor at the Australian National University, died recently in Canberra, aged 70. His contributions to Pacific linguistics and language studies were diverse and prolific. Although best known for his pioneering work on languages of Vanuatu, the



Solomons and the Loyalty Islands, he did research on hundreds of languages in half a dozen areas of the Pacific islands and Australia and was a highly productive author, who wrote or co-authored 22 books, edited or co-edited another 18, and wrote over 100 articles and a stack of book reviews, as well as supervising some 30 doctoral theses.

There are many kinds of linguists. There are, for instance, theoreticians who sit in their armchairs and look for universal properties of language structure and language change. There are comparative-historical linguists, who sit in their armchairs and try to reconstruct the historical development of languages. Then there are those who gather primary data by fieldwork or from other sources. Among the gatherers

of primary data are those who undertake field surveys of some or all the languages of a region and those who do in-depth analysis and description of the grammars and lexicons of particular languages. And there are sociolinguists, who pay particular attention to the social contexts and functions of linguistic usages. Except for the first category, Darrell was all of these, in some measure: he did pioneering field surveys, in-depth descriptions, and both comparative-historical and sociolinguistic work.

A fluent speaker of French, he also maintained an abiding interest in French South Pacific affairs. In 2004 he was made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour by the French Government, in recognition of his contributions to French language and culture, especially in the Pacific, and for his work in fostering bilateral relations between Australia and France.

BEGINNINGS

Darrell was born and grew up in Christchurch, New Zealand. He completed a Bachelor's degree at the University of Canterbury in 1963, majoring in French and Classics, followed by an MA with 1st class honours in French in 1964. In his student days he was a useful cricketer and rugby player and later in life he continued to play golf (handicap 2) and tennis.

Darrell's first love at University was the French language, with a particular interest in 18th-century French literature. One might have expected him to go on to a career as a scholar of French language and literature but fate led him in another direction. During his undergraduate days he had spent time in New Caledonia, teaching English at the Polytechnic in Noumea. There he became fascinated by the diversity of indigenous languages spoken in New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands (about 27 languages in all) and decided to pursue a career in linguistics. Nevertheless, his mastery of the French language was to shape his career as a linguist and international bridge-builder. Much of his early research involved fieldwork on the languages of France's territories in the Pacific, where fluency in French was a great advantage.

EARLY CAREER

Darrell's career as a linguist can be roughly divided into three phases. In the first phase, between the mid 1960s and about 1980, he did a great deal of fieldwork, documenting many previously undescribed or little-described languages. When he entered the field, Melanesian linguistics was still in the age of discovery. More than 1000 languages are spoken in Melanesia, including the island of New Guinea, and about 300 in Island Melanesia (i.e. excluding New Guinea). In the 1960s many of these languages remained almost completely unknown. There was a crying need for fundamental research but only a handful of trained linguists worked in this vast domain.

In 1965 Darrell obtained a scholarship to do a PhD in linguistics in the Research School of Pacific Studies at the Australian National University, under Stephen Wurm, with the plan of doing descriptions of three languages of the Loyalty Islands: Dehu, lai and Nengone (the first two are nowadays spelt Drehu and Iaai). During that year and the next he did extended fieldwork in the Loyalties.

1967 brought several significant advances. First, he gained a wife and lifelong companion, when he married Gabrielle (Gaye) Dunn. Second, he completed his PhD thesis. Third, he published a Dehu-English dictionary, an English-Dehu dictionary and a short grammar of Nengone (followed in 1968 by grammars of Dehu and lai). Fourthly, he was appointed as a Research Fellow in Wurm's Linguistics Department. Staff recruited by Wurm famously had to have two essential requirements: be a specialist in a certain region or regions of the Pacific and be an indefatigable fieldworker. Darrell met these desiderata. He became the Department's chief specialist in Island Melanesian languages, working alongside Wurm (Papuan and Australian languages), Don Laycock (Papuan languages of the Sepik and Bougainville), Bert Voorhoeve (Papuan languages of Indonesia, chiefly in the western half of New Guinea) and Tom Dutton (Austronesian and Papuan languages of southeast New Guinea). He was to remain at the ANU for the rest of his career, apart from an 18-month period at James Cook University in 1972-73.

But as it happens, Darrell's first major project as a Research Fellow was not in Melanesia but in northern Australia. He did extensive field research on languages of the Daly River area in Arnhem Land. From this work came two books, a short grammar of Maranunku (1971) and a 300-page overview, *The Daly Family Languages* (1974). The eminent Australianist, Mary Laughren, writes (email 17.5.13) that in addition to his work on the Daly languages '[Darrell] also contributed to the establishment of the bilingual education programs in the [Northern Territory] as a member of the Government's advisory committee on bilingual education set up to oversee the introduction of this program in the 1970s and he was also very much involved in the setting up of the School of Australian languages in Darwin, and post cyclone 1974, in Batchelor. In fact it was very much thanks to Darrell that I was appointed as research officer (linguist) to support the incipient Warlpiri language program at Yuendumu in 1975, as I was recruited with no specific field location in mind at the same time as the committee was due to meet in Darwin. Darrell had visited Yuendumu on his way to this meeting and reported that the people had forcefully told him that they needed a linguist.' His research in this area later led to him appearing as an expert witness for land claims during the Mabo era.

At some time during these early years, he spent time in Tahiti and the Marquesas, became proficient in Tahitian and found time to write a substantial primer of that language, *Conversational Tahitian*, published in 1970, later followed by an edition in French.

During 1969-70, Darrell embarked on an ambitious project in the New Hebrides (now Vanuatu). This was a survey and comparative study of the languages of the archipelago, in which he gathered 300-item wordlists for 170 languages and dialects and used these as the basis for a genealogical classification. In the course of this project Darrell visited many of the villages of Vanuatu to obtain wordlists, as well as drawing on materials gathered by others. Some results were presented at the First International Conference on Austronesian Linguistics in Honolulu in 1974. The full findings were laid out in a 500-page volume published in 1976, *New Hebrides Languages: an Internal Classification*, which contained all the wordlists and offered the first comprehensive family-tree classification of the Vanuatu languages. In later papers he focused on extensive social networks and dialect chaining as a problem for classifying Vanuatu languages.

In the mid-1970s Darrell began a similar project in the Solomon Islands. With the help of a geologist and long-time resident of the Solomons, Brian Hackman, he recorded wordlists for some 90 communalects, comprising over 60 distinct languages and 30 or so dialects of these. Again, this work involved travel to all parts of the Solomons, including the remote islands of Vanikoro and Utupua. Findings were reported in another 500-page tome published in 1983: *Solomon Islands Languages: an Internal Classification*. The two survey volumes remain standard reference works. Seldom a week goes by when I don't look up something in one or the other.

In the 1970s, Darrell also wrote a pedagogical manual on Bislama, the lingua franca of Vanuatu. It remains a steady seller to this day.

MID-CAREER YEARS

In the 1980s, while continuing to write about Vanuatu and Solomons' languages, Darrell entered a new phase of research and publishing. He had gained a taste for organising big team projects and used his organisational and entrepreneurial talents to direct or play a key role in several such enterprises, most of which took a decade or more to complete. From these came a succession of large volumes which he edited or co-edited and which appeared in the 1990s. One was a *Comparative Austronesian Dictionary* (1995), a five-volume monster that runs to over 3000 pages. It includes 1300-item word lists for each of 80

selected languages plus essays by specialists on these languages and on comparative topics, with introductory essays by Darrell. Another was the three-volume, 1600-page *Atlas of Languages of Intercultural Communication in the Pacific, Asia and the Americas* (edited with Stephen Wurm and Peter Mülhausler) published in 1997. Then there were two volumes that came out of an interdisciplinary collaborative project on Austronesian-speaking peoples based in the Research School of Pacific Studies. *Language Contact and Change in the Austronesian World* (co-edited with T.E. Dutton) appeared in 1994. *The Austronesians* (co-edited with J. Fox and P. Bellwood) appeared in 1995; this contained chapters by archaeologists, cultural anthropologists and geneticists as well as linguists.

Arts of Vanuatu (1996, co-edited with three other scholars) was a book of a different kind, which reflected Darrell's interests in art and material culture, as was *Identités en mutation dans le Pacifique* (1998, with Paul de Dekker). *Boundary Rider: Essays in Honour of Geoffrey O'Grady* (1997, co-edited with Michael Walsh) was a tribute to a pioneering Australianist. In another collaborative project, undertaken with Jean-Michel Charpentier, Darrell combined his interest in Pacific history with his interest in Bislama and other Pacific pidgins to research the social history and linguistic origins of these pidgins. Their book on this, called *Pacific Pidgins and Creoles*, many years in the making, finally appeared in 2004.

Another long-term enterprise, of a very different sort, was the Vanuatu Fieldworker Programme, based in the Vanuatu Cultural Centre in Port Vila. Every year the centre brought together men, and latterly women, from communities from all over Vanuatu to record traditions in various domains of culture. Darrell coordinated these workshops for some 30 years, with proceedings conducted in Bislama. He grew very fond of some of the regular participants and told me stories about them. The materials collected in this way were archived at the Cultural Centre in Port Vila.

LATER CAREER

In the 15 or so years before his retirement in 2007 Darrell was heavily involved in university administration at ANU. For most of this time he was Convener of the School of Society and Environment and, for part of the time, Deputy Director of the Research School of Pacific Studies (later 'Pacific and Asian Studies'). He became a canny and effective operator in university politics.

Darrell's involvement in the wider work of the school strengthened his long-held interests in governance and social issues in the countries of the South Pacific (many of his more recent publications were in this area). He was much involved in fostering collaboration between Australian and French academic and cultural institutions. He was Constitutional Adviser to the Vanuatu Government and a member of the Councils of the University of New Caledonia and the French University of the Pacific in Tahiti. On one occasion he addressed the French National Assembly in Paris on scientific and cultural cooperation between Australia and France.

Now to a paradox. For anyone to sustain high productivity in research and writing year after year, decade after decade, it is not enough just to be intellectually curious. You have to be passionate to the point of being obsessive, and at times, single-minded to the point of being selfish. The paradox is that Darrell did not strike his colleagues as being like that. On the contrary he was laid back, calm, friendly, with an impish sense of humour (as Brij Lal wrote in a tribute, 'Darrell was a serious scholar but not a solemn one'), a man who liked to socialise, always had time for a chat and kept up a wide network of contacts, and who was also politically savvy – qualities that would have made him an excellent diplomat, a suitable ambassador to France or Indonesia but not necessarily a prolific scholar. Yet Darrell was

such a scholar. So I conclude that behind the laid-back exterior there was an inner Darrell who had these other qualities but managed them in an unobtrusive way.

I first met Darrell some 40 years ago but got to know him much better after I came to the ANU in 1990 to succeed Stephen Wurm as head of the Linguistics Department in RSPAS. Here, I was fortunate to have three experienced senior academics in the Department to advise me: Darrell, Tom Dutton and Malcolm Ross. Ironically, although I was Darrell's Head of Department for 17 years, he was also *my* boss for much of that time, in his capacity as Convener of the Division of Society and Environment in RSPAS and as Deputy Director of the School. I am grateful to him for wise counsel on matters ranging from handling temperamental support staff to obtaining School funds to run conferences. Our conversations often moved from academic matters to cricket, a game we both loved.

Darrell had been battling melanoma for some months, but the suddenness of his passing came as a shock to his wife, Gabrielle, their two children, Miles and Mary-Claire, and their four grandchildren and to his colleagues at the Australian National University and elsewhere. We will miss his friendship, enthusiasm, wisdom and sense of humour.

Andrew Pawley

Archaeology in the ACT

Canberra, at a mere 100 years old, doesn't seem to have enough antiquity to yield archaeological secrets. But that simplicity ignores where Canberra sits. What happened before the Federal bubble burst on this Limestone Plain is just one of the questions posed – and perhaps to be answered – at the ACT and Region Annual Australian Heritage Partnership Symposium 2013, '*A Centenary of Celebrating heritage*' - *Accessing, presenting and interpreting heritage places and their collections in Canberra and the region*, to be held on July 20 at the Sir Roland Wilson Building Theatre, ANU from 8.30am to 5pm

Doug Finlayson will address 'Geological heritage around Canberra – genesis of the Limestone Plains'. He writes, "Canberra is often described as being a city built in the landscape. But the question of how that landscape was formed is not often asked. To describe the genesis of the landscapes around Canberra requires us to delve into the geological history of the rocks across the region. Geology controls the landscapes we see today. The rocks around Canberra are up to 460 million years old and are part of a large geological province called the Lachlan Orogen that stretches from South Australia to the east coast.

"The GSA has identified over thirty geological heritage sites around Canberra that are used to illustrate the development of the region's landscapes. The limestones on Acton Peninsula are at one such site. These limestone outcrops led to the name Limestone Plains given to the region by early European settlers. Other geological heritage sites include outcrops of the Ainslie Volcanics, the Black Mountain Sandstone, and mudstones containing Silurian marine fossils at Woolshed Creek near the Canberra Airport. These outcrops tell us about a vastly different, turbulent tectonic environment for the region during its early geological history".

Sandra Whichelo and Brian Blundell address the ruins of the Riverview homestead, which dates back to the 1870s, and have stood for years on the banks of the Molonglo River as a reminder that there was life in Canberra before Federation. Brian Blundell and Sandra Whichelo (nee Shumack), along with the National Trust of Australia (ACT and Australian branches) and the Canberra Archaeological Society, have been urging the ACT government for more than five years to have this site and others in the Molonglo Valley conserved and acknowledged for their heritage value. Brian and Sandra will describe the stages in the

sometimes baffling but always interesting process that led to what promises to be a pleasing outcome for Riverview.

Papers will also address *Women in Aboriginal history in the ACT* by Shane Mortimer; the consequences of federation by Anne Forrest; nominating Canberra for the National Heritage List by Ed Wensing; and a session on “where’s the fun in Canberra”.

For more information and to register, access www.cas.asn.au

Current Affairs

Freedom of Information report

Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus QC has received a report on freedom of information laws by Dr Allan Hawke AC which reviews the operation of the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* and the *Australian Information Commissioner Act 2010* and the extent to which those laws, and related laws, provide an effective framework for access to government information.

Dr Hawke was asked to consult on aspects of Freedom of Information such as:

- The effectiveness of the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner
- The appropriateness of existing FOI exemptions
- The role of fees and charges, and
- minimising regulatory burdens and the cost of FOI.

Eighty-one submissions were made to the review.

Who do you think you are?

New national guidelines to make it simpler for people to establish or change their sex or gender in personal records held by Australian Government departments and agencies came into operation from 1 July.

The Guidelines standardise the evidence required to change gender identity and support the introduction of protections for intersex, transgender and gender diverse people in anti-discrimination legislation.

Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus QC said, “Transgender and intersex people in Australia face many issues trying to ensure the gender status on their personal records matches the gender they live and how they are recognised by the community. ... We recognise individuals may identify, and be recognised within the community, as a gender other than the gender they were assigned at birth or during infancy, or as an indeterminate gender,”

The Australian Government Sex and Gender Recognition Guidelines will support a clear and consistent way for people who are intersex, transgender and gender diverse to establish or change their gender identity on personal records they hold with the Australian Government.

Increased consistency in the way the Australian Government collects and records gender under the Guidelines will strengthen Australia’s identity security system, the integrity of agency records and the accuracy of individual personal records, in line with the Australian Government’s approach to identity security.

A copy of the guidelines is available at www.ag.gov.au/genderrecognition

Parliamentary Reports

Report seeks a dementia friendly future

The House of Representatives Health and Ageing Committee, in its report *Thinking ahead*, has called for greater awareness of dementia and more action towards a dementia friendly future by considering how early or timely diagnosis of dementia could help to improve the lives of people with dementia, as well as the lives of their family and carers.

Chair of the committee, Jill Hall MP, said the stigma associated with dementia remained a significant barrier to achieving better rates of early diagnosis. Many people still believe that dementia is a natural part of ageing, and that nothing can be done to delay the onset or slow progression...

“The committee has called for a national awareness campaign to help dispel the myths about dementia and encourage people experiencing relevant symptoms to seek a full assessment.”

Other issues discussed in the report include the barriers to achieving a timely diagnosis of dementia; the complex pathways that exist for people seeking treatment and support; and the need to promote preventative steps towards better brain health.

The committee’s report is on the Committee’s website www.aph.gov.au/dementia.

Intellectual Property Laws advisory report

The House of Representatives Social Policy and Legal Affairs Committee released its Advisory Report on June 19 on the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Bill 2013. The Committee recommended passing the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Bill 2013.

The report is available at www.aph.gov.au/spla. Printed copies will not be available.

Biodiversity and climate change inquiry final report

The Climate Change, Environment and the Arts Committee today presented the final report of its inquiry into Australia’s biodiversity in a changing climate on June 17.

Key recommendations include:

- the development of national environmental accounts
- the development of a central national database that stores scientifically accredited information
- longer funding cycles for data collection to allow a proper baseline to be developed so that long run assessments of climate change effects can be made
- continued progress with the National Plan for Environmental Information
- the development of a sustainable funding model for the Atlas of Living Australia
- a review of how natural resource management bodies are funded and supported to improve their standards, consistency and quality.

Committee Chair Tony Zappia said, “Australia is one of 17 ‘mega-diverse’ countries and has 15 national biodiversity hotspots. The fact that climate change is occurring is well documented. But its effect on Australia’s environment and its biodiversity is unknown beyond the models and theories that are being used to make informed projections.

“Climate change effects will vary greatly across species. Some will benefit but some will reduce in numbers, perhaps to extinction. A lot of work is being done on data collection to help us make decisions about the environmental effects of climate change. But it needs to be better coordinated. Also, climate change and the environment’s response to it will continue over decades. Funding cycles need to be longer to build up a baseline so that we can monitor long run effects.”

A minority report from Ms Nola Marino MP is attached to the committee’s report.

The final report is available from <http://www.aph.gov.au/ccbio>.

Visions for Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Federal parliament’s National Capital and External Territories Committee tabled its report on June 28 about its visit to the Indian Ocean Territories in October 2012.

The report makes twenty-five recommendations concerning matters of governance, economic development, environmental management and a range of local issues. The report recommends that the Australian Government formulate a vision or strategic plan, in direct consultation with the island communities, including:

- Better governance and administrative arrangements
- A greater degree of administrative autonomy
- A commitment to the funding and implementation of existing strategies
- A focus on the needs and aspirations of the island communities.

The report also recommends, as a matter of urgency, that the Australian Government commit sufficient funds to give effect to the recommendations of the Expert Working Group on Christmas Island, which identified a range of threats to the island’s unique ecology.

Other recommendations include: developing an economic strategy for the territories reconsidering the granting of new mining leases within the context of funding environmental programs; implementing strategies for the development of tourism; facilitating the reopening of the Christmas Island Casino; upgrading mobile telephone services; improving road funding; and reviewing freight services. In addition, the report makes a number of recommendations affecting local issues on the islands.

The report is on the committee’s webpage at http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=ncet/regaustr10-11/report.htm or by contacting the secretariat on (02) 6277 4355, or by email at jscncet@aph.gov.au

Protection for vulnerable witnesses and victims

Legislation to protect vulnerable witnesses and victims in Commonwealth criminal proceedings has been passed by the Parliament.

Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus QC said, "Prosecutions for human trafficking and slavery rely heavily on witness testimony, so it is vital that we have measures to assist victims to give their best possible evidence to the court,"

The legislation will minimise the risk of re-traumatisation of victims when giving evidence by providing appropriate support and protection by various video links. The Crimes Legislation Amendment Bill will extend support to witnesses in Commonwealth criminal proceedings who are vulnerable due to the nature of the offence, or who have different needs due to a particular characteristic, such as age, cultural background or a disability.

"The protections will apply automatically to victims of human trafficking, slavery and slavery-like offences, including forced marriage, in recognition of the extreme forms of trauma and exploitation they have experienced," Mr Dreyfus said

Amendments to the Bill remove references to wrist X-rays as a prescribed age determination procedure, and confirm that the onus of proof in establishing age in people smuggling prosecutions lies with the prosecution.

Cyber-Safety Committee presents final report

Parliament's Cyber-Safety Committee has called for a wide ranging inquiry into how Indigenous Australians are accessing and using the internet, in the report of its inquiry into Issues Surrounding Cyber-Safety for Indigenous Australians which has been tabled in Parliament.

Submissions to the inquiry also identified an urgent need to raise digital literacy among Indigenous Elders and other seniors to help them to manage mobile enabled cyber-bullying and other threats in remote communities.

For further information on the inquiry visit the committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/cybersafety-indigenous or phone the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4202.

Improving amenity in the Central National Area

The National Capital Committee's report into the provision of amenity within the Parliamentary Triangle makes recommendations focused upon finding ways to improve amenity for workers and visitors in these areas. The committee has recommended the development of a strategy for the provision of amenity within the Central National Area, incorporating:

- Provision of retail services
- Provision of parking
- Provision of access by public transport, including a 'park and ride' facility
- Provision of childcare
- Timelines for development
- Development responsibilities

Committee Chair, Senator Louise Pratt, stated that: "In the past, the lack of amenity has been a justification for free parking in the Central National Area. With the decision to implement pay parking on National Land from July 2014, the committee believes that the Commonwealth has an obligation to provide better services to the large number of workers and visitors who travel to these precincts every day."

Copies of the report can be obtained from the committee's webpage at http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=ncet/amenity/report.htm or by contacting the secretariat on (02) 6277 4355, or by email at jscncet@aph.gov.au

Human Rights Sub-Committee recommends supply chain review

The Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade report, *The Trading Lives: Modern Day Human Trafficking*, recommends that the Australian Government investigate anti-trafficking and anti-slavery mechanisms appropriate for Australia with a view to creating a greater awareness of forced labour in global supply chains.

The report recommends that:

- the Australian Government continue to use international mechanisms including, but not limited to, the United Nations Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review to combat people trafficking;
- the Australian Government further investigate the establishment of a federal compensation scheme for victims of slavery and trafficking in persons;
- suspected victims of trafficking be provided an initial automatic reflection period of 45 days with two further extensions of 45 days if required;
- the Department of Immigration and Citizenship develop a fact sheet to provide visa applicants appropriate information on their rights as part of the visa application process; and
- the Australian Government negotiate re-funding of contracts for non-government organisations one year ahead of the contract's conclusion; and
- More broadly, to make it as difficult as possible to access child abuse material online, the Australian Government utilise the UK Internet Watch Foundation's URL list to block access to child abuse sites in Australia.

The report is available online at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/jfadt>

For further information: contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 6277 2313, via email at jscfadt@aph.gov.au

Troubled Waters: Crimes at sea report tabled

The House of Representatives Social Policy and Legal Affairs Committee report *Troubled Waters: Inquiry into the arrangements surrounding crimes committed at sea* has been tabled in Parliament.

The report notes that the cruising industry is growing globally. It is anticipated that by 2020, 1 million Australians will take a cruise annually. Despite the number of Australians involved in the cruise industry, there has been confusion around the extent to which Australia can enforce safety measures and crime response protocols on cruise ships.

The committee has made eleven recommendations to Government including:

- Distributing mandatory safety information brochures to all passengers as they board cruise vessels in Australian ports;
- Providing information about cruise ship safety on the government's Smartraveller website;
- Introducing a mandatory reporting system for all crimes committed on vessels, in order for vessels to access Australian ports;

- Requiring protocols around crime scene preservation for all vessels, as a condition of access to Australian ports;
- Through the International Maritime Organisation, Australia to lobby for global use of CCTV, man-over-board detection systems, mandatory reporting of alleged crimes and a mandated responsible service of alcohol code;
- More actively pursuing cruise passenger safety and crime prevention strategies within international fora including the International Maritime Organisation; and
- Establish a regular review of the police National Protocols for reporting Crimes at Sea.

Information about the inquiry and the report is on the committee website www.aph.gov.au/crimesatsea

Repeating Higher education and international education report links

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=ee/reports.htm

or contact the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4573 or email ee.reps@aph.gov.au

Australian Education Bill 2012 advisory report

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=ee/reports.htm or contact the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4573 or email ee.reps@aph.gov.au

Awards ceremonies

The Australian National University will be conducting *Conferring of Awards* ceremonies on **July 17, 18 and 19, 2013** at Llewellyn Hall.

ANU Emeritus Faculty members are invited to participate in the academic processions for these ceremonies. ·Please register your intent to participate via the following web address: <http://students.anu.edu.au/graduation/emeritus-faculty-members.php>

You will be asked to select the ceremony (or ceremonies) you wish to attend, and the area that you will be representing. · A schedule for each ceremony is included on the website. Registration will close on Friday 12 July at 5pm.

It is the responsibility of each participant to provide their own academic dress. If a participant is unsure of the code of dress, the Examinations & Graduations Office (graduation.officer@anu.edu.au) may be consulted.

Assembly for all processions occurs near the Graduands' Robing Room; there will be signs on the day providing directions. · Registered participants are asked to assemble in this location, at least half an hour before the commencement of the ceremony.

Please feel free to contact–

If you require any further information (or if you are unable to complete the registration form) the Senior Graduations Officer – Emilia Ciampa Ph: (02) 6125 4648 graduation.officer@anu.edu.au

Diary dates

Wed July 31 – Launch of Kim Carr’s new book. Vote of thanks: Ian Chubb: Manning Clark 3 at 6pm.

Other firm dates for your 2013 diary are:

July 31 – Launch of Kim Carr’s new book (Manning Clark 3 at 6pm)

Aug 7 – Collegiate lunch TBA

Sept 3 –Lecture “Migration” Jeremy Harding (Manning Clark Lecture Theatre)

Sept 4 - Collegiate lunch TBA

Sept 18- Lecture – “Writing about the sex lives of Australians” Frank Bongiorno (ANUEF)

Oct 2 – Collegiate lunch TBA

Oct 3 – Lecture. “Dog days: Challenges facing Australia after the resources boom”. Ross Garnaut (Copland Theatre 6pm)

Oct 10/11 – Fenner Symposium “Population, resources and climate change” (Australian academy of Science)

Oct 15 – Lecture. “Future of Australian Higher Education” Simon Marginson (TBA).

Oct 16 –Lecture. “TBA” David Williams (ANUEF).

Nov 6 - Collegiate lunch TBA

Nov 20 – Lecture – “TBA” Larry Sitsky (ANUEF)

Dec 6 – Collegiate lunch TBA

Dec 18 – AGM and Christmas party (ANUEF)

Note that each of the Collegiate Lunches is organised in the month before it occurs, so that topical subjects can be chosen.

Additional dates

July 11 [From Ocean's Edge to Snowline](#) 6pm – 7:30pm at the Gallery, CSIRO Discovery Centre, North Science Rd, Acton ACT 2601 Free – no booking required.

An exhibition of landscape photography by Michael John Hood examining the various ecosystems of the ACT and surrounding areas. The grasslands, alpine bush, coastal forests and beaches of the South Coast are captured in monochrome images that aim to convey the diversity and beauty of the Australian wilderness. info.discovery@csiro.au or 02 6246 4646.

July 20; ACT and Region Annual Australian Heritage Partnership Symposium 2013 'A Centenary of Celebrating heritage' - *Accessing, presenting and interpreting heritage places and their collections in Canberra and the region.*

Sir Roland Wilson Building Theatre, Bldg 120, ANU campus; 8.30am to 5pm.

Enquiries to helen.cooke@anu.edu.au or phone 0408 443 243 registration form available at www.cas.asn.au [See preview report above]

ANUEF Room Bookings

Requests for booking the Molony Room should be addressed to Judith Caton via email, and these will be forwarded to the committee for approval, and then entered into the diary. A return email will be sent to the organisation confirming the booking. The diary will be held in the office rather than being left on the table in the meeting room. Conditions for the use of the premises will be emailed to users and a copy is on the ANUEF website.

Contact Judith Caton on judith.caton@anu.edu.au

What's On at the ANU?

What's On at ANU is a fortnightly email for staff and students that aims to highlight many of the interesting, enlightening and engaging public lectures, seminars and events happening around the university. All of these events are open to the public. Please check if reservations are needed.

For more information on any of the events listed, or to see a calendar of upcoming events, go to <http://billboard.anu.edu.au/events.asp>

Next edition of *Emeritus*, the ANUEF Newsletter, will be published in August 2013.