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Australian  
National  
University

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**Location map** [http://www.anu.edu.au/emeritus/anuef\\_location\\_map.html](http://www.anu.edu.au/emeritus/anuef_location_map.html)

## ANUEF plays host to incoming VC

Professor Brian Schmidt AC, who takes over as Vice Chancellor next year, addressed members of the Australian National University Emeritus Faculty last month.

ANUEF Chair James Fox writes:

It would be difficult to summarise our discussion with the new Vice Chancellor, Professor Schmidt. He spoke initially about his vision for the University. His vision is based on the recognition that things have slipped over the years and it is essential to concentrate on excellence. He showed a clear understanding of some of the difficulties he faces and is determined to learn more about the university as he proceeds. Questions to him were as varied as our Faculty. They included:

- The need for communication and collaboration across the university;
- Problems with library purchases and the need for library committees,
- Issues he will face in funding his efforts,
- Diversifying the student body,
- Attracting international students at the undergraduate level,
- Resolving problems with the Music School (which he indicated he was determined to do).

## Diary Dates

**November 18** at 4pm in the Molony Room. - Dr Nerilie Abram of the Research School of Earth Sciences will discuss "Antarctica's place in a warming world". Abstract page 16

**December 2** Nobels and IgNobels Fyfe Bygrave will lead the collegiate lunch on Wednesday, December 2, in our annual discussion of the latest Nobel Prizes. On page 17 is a list of the 2015 prize winners and topics.

Check the Events box on the ANUEF website, and report any errors to [adrian\\_j\\_gibbs@hotmail.com](mailto:adrian_j_gibbs@hotmail.com).

**More dates & details on pages 16-17**

He made clear that he wants to foster excellence -- especially among the junior faculty. He described the Emeritus Faculty as a resource that he wanted to call upon for mentoring.

As we were closing, I raised the issue of free parking because we have now been informed by the administration that free parking will be taken from us.

Most everyone thought it has been a good meeting and wished him well.

## **ANU celebrates Emeritus Professor Molony**



Image: Supplied.

The ANU community has honoured the founder of the ANU Emeritus Faculty, Emeritus Professor John Molony, marking the occasion on November 2 by erecting a bust of Professor Molony outside the Emeritus Facility on Balmain Crescent.

Professor Molony joined the ANU in 1964 as a Research Assistant in Medieval History in the School of General Studies. He went on to become Head of the Department of History and to hold the Manning Clark Chair of Australian History from 1982 until his retirement from the University in 1990.

Head of ANU School of History Professor Nicholas Brow said, "Not only has John Molony proved a remarkably diverse and accessible scholar of Australian and Italian history, he has

stirred the conscience of the university, not least in vigorously opposing the amalgamation of the ANU with the University of Canberra in 1989. He has done the same for the Canberra community, including in building, with his wife Denise, a coordinated, compassionate response to Indo-Chinese refugees."

Source: <http://www.anu.edu.au/news/all-news/anu-celebrates-emeritus-professor-molony>

### **Cuts and closures 'recommended'**

*The Canberra Times* Education Editor, Emma Macdonald, reported on November 4 that up to 40 academics "could be axed from the Australian National University's esteemed School of Culture, History and Language as it faces a budget deficit of \$1.5 million this year.

"An external review of the major languages teaching school within the College of Asia and the Pacific was completed in August and has recommended sweeping changes to governance, courses – including the Bachelor of Asian Studies – and the increasing use of online teaching for some languages."

The article reports that the review panel "made up of academics from Harvard, Duke, Hawaii and Macquarie" was still being assessed. An announcement is expected to be made on December 1.

For Ms Macdonald's full page 1 report, access [www.canberratimes.com.au](http://www.canberratimes.com.au) for November 4.

For a commentary titled "ANU needs a single vision" by Professor Andrew Walker, published in *The Canberra Times* comment lift-out access [www.canberratimes.com.au](http://www.canberratimes.com.au) for November 6, page 4.

### **Building on legacy of outgoing Chief Scientist**

The announcement of distinguished engineer, neuroscientist, entrepreneur and philanthropist, Dr Alan Finkel AO, as Australia's next Chief Scientist will ensure that the transformative role of science and research remains front-and-centre of the national agenda, according to Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson.

She said, "Dr Finkel's experience, industry background and expertise make him the ideal candidate to take the baton from outgoing Chief Scientist Professor Ian Chubb,"

Ms Robinson thanked Chief Scientist Professor Ian Chubb AC, former Vice-Chancellor of the ANU, for the indelible impact he had as Australia's national science and research ambassador.

"Professor Chubb's engaging presence, formidable intellect and relentless enthusiasm has transfixed policy makers and the public alike," she said.

"The setting of national science and research priorities and internationally benchmarking Australia's science and research capability are just a sample of his many achievements. We are all in his debt for the tenacity with which he has pursued his mission of having acknowledged science and research as the fundamental building blocks of national prosperity. He will go down in Australia's history as one of the great contributors to public life and we are very lucky to count him as one of our citizens," Ms Robinson concluded.

Dr Finkel, an engineering graduate from **Monash University** and a neuroscience research fellow at the **Australian National University**, has a long and distinguished career that includes:

- Establishing a successful business, Axon Instruments, where he commercialised electronic and robotic instruments and software for use in cellular neuroscience, genomics and drug discovery.
- Founding science publication *Cosmos* and environmental publication *G: The Green Lifestyle*. He is also a patron of the Australian Science Media Centre.
- Leading a secondary school science program (STELR) running in nearly 400 secondary schools.
- Holding the current Presidency of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and the Chancellorship of Monash University.

### **\$1.5b for research at universities**

More than \$1.5 billion will be available over four years to support Australia's world-class university researchers following the introduction of new laws into Parliament on October 22, the Minister for Education and Training, Simon Birmingham, has announced.

He said the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2015 would guarantee \$1,538.9 million for research programs funded through the Australian Research Council (ARC) from 2015 through to 2019.

"Up to \$748.3 million in ARC grants will be available in the 2017-18 financial year, while up to \$739.6 million will be available in 2018-19. This legislation secures funding for the Future Fellowships program."

Senator Birmingham said the new legislation also honoured Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's commitment to NZ Prime Minister John Key in Auckland recently to extend Australia's student loans scheme to New Zealand citizens who have been long-term residents of this country since childhood.

"If the Bill is passed this year, an estimated 2,600 New Zealanders will be eligible for loans to help them study at university, or for higher level vocational education and training qualifications, in 2016," Senator Birmingham said.

The Bill follows legislation currently before the Parliament which allows data sharing between Australia and New Zealand to support the Australian Government's requirement for anyone who moves overseas to continue to pay back their Australian student loan just as they would if they lived in Australia.

The Bill will also make Torrens University Australia eligible for research block grant funding, placing it on an equal footing for research funding as other Australian private universities, and recognise Ballarat University's name change to Federation University.

### **Funding for research projects**

Expanding Australia's capability to observe the universe, establishing an advanced DNA identification and forensics facility, and improving ore deposits discovery and recovery are some of the new research projects that will commence following the announcement of Australian Government funding on November 2.



Minister for Education and Training, Senator Simon Birmingham announced the funding in Adelaide as part of the Australian Research Council's (ARC) Major Grants Announcement. The \$37.9 million was awarded for 54 new research projects under the *ARC Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities* funding (LIEF) scheme, which provides researchers with the tools they require to undertake their research.

Senator Birmingham said an important feature of the LIEF scheme is collaboration. He said, "This scheme fosters collaboration through its support of the cooperative use of international or national research facilities. A total of 54 new LIEF research projects will commence next year with a total of 72 collaborating organisations and industry partners from across the globe. These collaborating organisations will contribute a further \$52 million in cash and in-kind, further strengthening Australia's research linkages with industry, business and international researchers."

**The Australian National University** has won more than \$44 million for 83 projects in the latest Australian Research Council (ARC) funding round, winning more funding than any other university.

In the latest ARC funding announced by Education Minister Simon Birmingham, ANU won 21 Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards (DECRA) worth more than \$7.5 million, 60 Discovery Projects worth more than \$23.6 million, and two Linkage Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) grants worth \$13 million.

The LIEF grants highlight the University's national leadership on major projects, with \$3 million for the National Computational Infrastructure, which is based at ANU, and \$10 million for the International Ocean Discovery Project (IODP), which explores the global ocean changes and the formation of the Earth's crust.

ANU Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Margaret Harding said the funding underlined the University's role as a national institution with world-class research.

"The latest ARC round is an excellent outcome for ANU and will help ensure our researchers can continue to work on the key issues facing the nation and the world," Professor Harding said.

"The University is particularly proud of its success rate for the prestigious Discovery Program, which reinforces the depth and breadth of our research and our role as an intellectual resource for the nation. We are especially pleased to see such a strong cohort of early career researchers awarded DECRA."

Professor Richard Arculus from the ANU Research School of Earth Sciences is the biggest winner, receiving LIEF funding of \$2 million a year for five years for the IODP.

"This is wonderful news. The IODP is the world's largest collaborative earth science research endeavour," Professor Arculus said. "This grant enables ANU to continue to perform a leadership role for the nation and gives our scientists the opportunity to play critical roles in research into some of the most important global issues."

Chemist Professor Michael Sherburn won \$804,000 in the Discovery Program for his research into faster and more efficient ways to create organic molecules, which he hopes will lead to new and better medicines.

In the Discovery Early Career Researcher Award scheme, Dr Sophie Lewis, who has been named the joint ACT [Tall Poppy of the Year](#), won \$390,000 for a project to study rainfall extremes in Australia.

Dr John Carty was one of seven DECRA awardees in the humanities and social sciences, awarded \$380,009 for a project examining Aboriginal desert art.

Other examples of some of the 54 projects funded include:

- \$1,000,000 to researchers at **Curtin University of Technology** to build a second phase of the Murchison Widefield Array in Western Australia, which will double the number of antennas in the array and the maximum baseline length, and boost our all-sky survey capabilities
- \$250,000 for researchers at The **University of Adelaide** to establish an advanced DNA identification and forensics facility that will deliver outcomes such as improved pest and threatened species identification, as well as missing person and disaster victim identification
- \$600,000 to researchers at the **University of Tasmania** for a new state-of-the-art field emission electron microprobe that will establish new research strengths in the field of earth and materials science and may improve efficiencies of discovery and recovery of ore deposits.

For more information about the funding visit [ARC Funding Announcements](#) or the [ARC website](#).

### 'Game-changing' investment needed

Universities will call for a 'game-changing' national investment strategy in wealth-generating research and innovation - arguing it is vital to the economic transformation that both sides of politics say Australia must make.

Universities Australia says in a media release dated October 7, "As we enter an era of change on a scale not seen since the industrial revolution, there is an urgent need to invest now in research, skills and ingenuity to transform our industries - and create and fill the jobs of the future. Yet Australia is the only OECD country without a national research and innovation plan".

The call for a bold new research and innovation investment is the centrepiece of **Keep It Clever** - the university sector's pre-election policy blueprint, released on October 7.

The statement notes the ambitious targets set by competitors - including China (on a path to become the world's greatest investor in research within the decade), South Korea (which plans to invest five per cent of GDP in R&D by 2020) and the UK (which is investing A\$3 billion in industry-university collaboration).

With 40 per cent of existing jobs tipped to disappear within two decades, university education and research - and stronger collaboration between industry and university researchers - will be vital to generate new jobs, new industries and new sources of income for Australia.

**Keep it Clever** also includes early data from new Deloitte research that confirms how crucial the university sector is to Australia's prosperity. It finds:

- **University education** added an estimated **\$140 billion** to Australia's economy in 2014. Australia's GDP is around 8.5 per cent higher due to the impact of university education on productivity.

- The value of the stock of knowledge generated by **university research** was estimated at **\$160 billion** in 2014. This is equivalent to almost 10 per cent of GDP and exceeds the entire value of Australia's mining industry.
- **3.8 million new skilled graduates** will be needed for the knowledge economy over the next decade.

**Keep it Clever** notes Australia has dropped from sixth place to second last (24th out of 25) of the advanced economies for the share of GDP invested in tertiary education. In 1995, public investment was 1.2 per cent of GDP; in 2011, it was 0.74 per cent. This is well below the OECD average of 1.13 per cent.

Launching the statement, Universities Australia Chair Professor Barney Glover said, "With our country embarking on a dramatic transition, universities will be the engine of Australia's innovation, future growth and prosperity.

"Australia is in the early stages of a period of seismic change; change at a pace and magnitude not seen since the industrial revolution," he said.

"To remain competitive and indeed grow our competitive advantage, we must invest properly in research, innovation, skills and critically in research infrastructure. We face a stark choice. We either make this investment or we fall behind those that do."

The full policy statement is available at [keepitclever.com.au](http://keepitclever.com.au).

### **Uni research a major driver of productivity and prosperity: report**

A national productivity windfall generated by university research has delivered economic benefits to Australia worth a third of the growth in average living standards over the past 30 years.

The productivity gains – worth an estimated \$10 billion each year over the past three decades – illustrate the crucial role of university research breakthroughs in transforming and modernising Australia's economy.

The new modelling and analysis is one of the key findings of the full Deloitte Access Economics latest report, [The importance of universities to Australia's prosperity](#), launched on October 28..

The \$10 billion productivity boost is in addition to the \$25 billion that universities contribute to the Australian economy (directly and indirectly) and \$12 billion from international education annually.

The report also finds that the Australian economy's demand for university graduates is increasing, as is the calibre of education they require in the 21st century knowledge economy. It projects that demand for university qualifications will grow by 34 per cent in the decade to 2025, with an additional 342,000 graduates a year needed to fuel the knowledge economy.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson said the report's compelling findings are further proof of the vital role that universities play in driving economic growth and prosperity.

The report helped to inform Universities Australia's pre-election blueprint, [Keep it Clever](#), released earlier this month, but also includes new figures that have not previously been released.

You can access the full Deloitte Access Economics report at: [www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au](http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au)

## **Congratulations to Australia's global scholars**

Universities Australia congratulates more than 2,800 Australian students who will be supported to study overseas next year under the Endeavour Mobility Grants program.

Australia's first International Education Minister, Senator Richard Colbeck, announced the recipients of the grants for 2016 in which 2,870 students from universities and VET institutions will share in \$8.3 million in funding to support them studying overseas next year.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson said these students will embark on an experience of a lifetime. She took the opportunity to welcome Senator Colbeck to the international education sector.

"This inaugural Ministry is an explicit acknowledgment by the Government of the importance of the international education sector to Australian society, our economy and our engagement with the world," Ms Robinson said.

"International education supports over 130,000 jobs and contributes \$18 billion in export revenue annually. It is Australia's third largest export and largest services sector export. It also builds cultural diversity domestically and forges strong and lasting links internationally

"We look forward to working with Senator Colbeck as we finalise national plans for the future of Australian international education," Ms Robinson said.

Read more about Endeavour Mobility Grants at:

<http://internationaleducation.gov.au/endeavourmobility>

## **OBITUARY**

### **John Jude Eddy**

**6 March 1933 – 7 November 2011**

By [John N. Molony](#) and [Douglas Hassall](#)

Fr John Jude Eddy, Jesuit priest and historian, died in Canberra on November 7, 2011, aged 78. Father Eddy was in his 62nd year as a member of the Society of Jesus and in the 49th year of his priesthood. Born on March 6, 1933 at Cottesloe, Western Australia, he was educated at St Louis' School in Perth, Xavier College in Melbourne, Loyola College at Watsonia, Campion Hall at Kew, the University of Melbourne (where he lectured in History in the 1960s) and Campion Hall at Oxford University.

At 15, he obtained the highest pass in the West Australian State Leaving Examination. Being too young to enter university, he attended Xavier College in Melbourne where his academic performance topped that state. He entered the Society of Jesus and after completing his early religious studies, he enrolled at the University of Melbourne, where he received a number of accolades.

At Oxford, he came into contact with many leading public intellectuals of the day, including Martin D'Arcy SJ and Philip Caraman SJ. His keen intellect combined with unstinting application led to the successful completion of his Oxford Doctor of Philosophy thesis which was published by Clarendon Press in 1969 as *Britain and the Australian Colonies 1818-1831: The Technique of Government*. This became his best-known published work, being a thorough study of British Colonial Office administration and policy.

He also had papers published in history and politics journals as well as articles and reviews in other periodicals.

After completing his Jesuit tertianship at St Beuno's in Wales, in 1968, he came to Canberra where he was associated with the Dominican House, Blackfriars, and was appointed a research fellow in history in the Institute of Advanced Studies at the Australian National



University; later senior fellow until 1988. In that year he was elected a fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

From 1992 to 1994 he again lectured in history at ANU, where he taught courses on Australian and British history.

Fr Frank Brennan SJ noted in his homily at the requiem mass in St Christopher's Cathedral, Canberra, on November 11, 2011, that John Eddy was "very proud of the course he designed at the ANU entitled 'The Peopling of Australia since 1788'".

A former Australian history and immigration policy student said of him, "He was always most helpful and considerate to students and his knowledge of the subject was exhaustive. I considered him a very special person; I think we all did."

Fr. Eddy was a supervisor and examiner of many doctoral theses.

In 1972 he was a founder of the Jesuit community at Xavier House in Yarralumla and in 1989 he became its fourth superior, until succeeded in 2008 by Fr Brennan. Although he undertook the directorship of the Australian Institute of Jesuit Studies in 1989, Fr Eddy remained a mentor to many postgraduates and to undergraduate students, a priest to the people of Canberra and the confidant and consoler of individuals from all walks of life who sought his counsel in their difficulties of many kinds.

He was instrumental in the foundation of the Georgetown University Center of Australian and New Zealand Studies in Washington D.C. where he was a consultant, professor and director from 1995 to 1998. Soon after his death the center noted that, without his tireless advocacy to obtain funding from the Australian government, "it would not exist".

He served on the councils of St Ignatius' College Riverview and St Aloysius' College in Sydney. He was a chaplain of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem and he supported the St Thomas More Society Catholic Lawyers Guild and the work of the Newman Society. In 2009 he assisted as secretary at the Apostolic Nunciature in Canberra.

John Eddy was a gregarious and extensively travelled person, with an exceptionally wide range of friends and contacts throughout the world. His learning, perspicacity, discernment and great tact enabled him to achieve positive outcomes for significant projects and causes. He had a strong commitment to social justice and a particular concern about the treatment of people seeking asylum in Australia. He maintained a practical and pastoral outreach to immigrants, and to marginalised persons and groups, including prisoners and needy people.

Equally, much like the semi-fabled Jesuits of the 17th and 18th centuries who moved with ease among the mighty in Europe, Fr. Eddy was, both in Canberra and as Professor at the Georgetown University Center, a greatly valued adviser and consultant, whose counsel was frequently sought by prime ministers and other national leaders, by ministers of state and other parliamentarians. Forthright and courageous, he voiced inconvenient truths, especially when Governments, of whatever hue, did not want them heard. In such contexts, he sought to persuade his hearers to seek the good, the true and the beautiful. His Oxford studies on the British Colonial Office noted that its policy had constantly emphasised the conciliation of native peoples and that "relations with aborigines be always governed by 'amity and kindness'".

Those qualities were always present in his relations with the first people of Australia, the Aborigines.

In private life, although by no means a bon vivant, he enjoyed good fare and conversation and he was always pleasing company, as well as an ever welcoming host at Xavier House. Consistent with a venerable Jesuit tradition, he delighted in the arts, especially music, and particularly the opera and song.

He enjoyed cinema and theatre, as well as military bands such as that of the Royal Military College at Duntroon. He was the son of a commonwealth public servant and A.I.F. returned

soldier, Lieutenant William Eddy, who also served as a captain in the Australian Army during World War II, and of Mary Crosse, both deceased.

John Eddy was the much loved uncle of the children and grandchildren of his sister Margot and the late John Traill of the Sydney Bar. After the latter's premature death in 1983, Fr Eddy ably fulfilled the roles of family head and counsellor and as 'in-house' baptiser.

In his deeply moving eulogy after the requiem, Professor Pierre Ryckmans spoke of him as "priest and friend".

He is survived by his sister Margot Traill of Sydney, one nephew, and five nieces and their families.

**Original publication:** *Canberra Times*, 15 December 2011, p 12

**Additional Resources** [Trove search](#)

**Citation details:** John N. Molony and Douglas Hassall, 'Eddy, John Jude (1933–2011)', *Obituaries Australia*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://oa.anu.edu.au/obituary/eddy-john-jude-14205/text25217>, accessed 8 September 2015.

### **Australia Awards Hadi Soesastro Prize**

Mrs Wenny Sunarharum and Mr Rumayya have been awarded the 2015 Australia Awards Hadi Soesastro Prize. Professor Soesastro had strong links to the Australian National University where he was an Adjunct Professor.

Announcing the awardees, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Julie Bishop, said, "The Hadi Soesastro Prize honours one of Indonesia's most eminent thinkers, the late Professor Hadi Soesastro, who was a great friend of Australia. Professor Soesastro was an economist, academic and public intellectual who made major contributions to Asia-Pacific cooperation.

"The annual prize supports the work of Indonesian academics completing their doctorates in Australia with the aim of developing young leaders and promoting people-to-people and educational links between our two countries.

"Mrs Sunarharum and Mr Rumayya were awarded the prize for their contributions to food science and economic management respectively.

"The Australia Awards complements the New Colombo Plan in strengthening education cooperation and people-to-people links between Australia and Indonesia".

### **Federal Court Registrar reappointed**

Mr Warwick Graeme Soden OAM, who has a Bachelor of Legal Studies from Macquarie University and a Legal Practice Certificate from the **Australian National University**, has been reappointed as Federal Court Registrar for a further five years.

In announcing Mr Soden's reappointment, the Attorney-General, Senator George Brandis, said that his strong leadership "will be a continuing asset to the Federal Court, with his proven record in sound financial management pivotal to the delivery of the proposed shared corporate services for the Federal Court, Family Court of Australia and Federal Circuit Court from 1 July 2016".

As Registrar of the Court, Mr Soden has responsibility for assisting the Chief Justice with the effective and efficient operation of all aspects of the management and administration of the

Court. Mr Soden is closely involved with the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration, a body in which he became an Elected Life Member in 2001.

### **Reappointment to Australian Law Reform Commission**

The Government has reappointed **Professor Rosalind Croucher AM** as President of the Australian Law Reform Commission for another three years..

Professor Croucher is currently leading the ALRC's Review of Commonwealth Laws for Consistency with Traditional Rights, Freedoms and Privileges, which concludes in December 2015.

Before her appointment to the ALRC, Professor Croucher held various academic positions in law with the University of New South Wales, University of Sydney and Macquarie University. She has lectured and published extensively, principally in the fields of equity, trusts, property, inheritance and legal history. She earned her Professorship in 1999 and was Dean of Law at Macquarie University from 1999 until her appointment as a full-time member of the ALRC in February 2007. She was first appointed President of the ALRC in 2009.

### **Wind farms cultivate a new bureaucracy**

The Federal Government has appointed the National Wind Farm Commissioner along with members to the Independent Scientific Committee on Wind Turbines.

Mr Andrew Dyer has been appointed as the National Wind Farm Commissioner for a period of three years. His role will be to facilitate resolution of complaints from concerned community residents about, and to provide greater transparency on the operations of, wind farms. An annual report by the Commissioner will be made to the Australian Parliament.

A former Chairman of the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman Council, Mr Dyer has an extensive background as an executive, consultant and company director in a range of industries including the services, renewable energy and information technology sectors.

The Independent Scientific Committee on Wind Turbines has been established to build on the work of the National Health and Medical Research Council and provide advice on the science and monitoring of potential impacts of wind turbine sound on health and the environment. It will provide an Annual Report to the Australian Parliament.

It will be chaired by:

- **Adjunct Professor Jon Davy**, of RMIT and one of Australia's leading acoustics researchers. Other members of the Committee are:
- **Associate Professor Simon Carlile**, Head of the Auditory Neuroscience Laboratory, School of Medical Science, University of Sydney and Senior Director of Research at the Starkey Hearing Research Centre, University of California Berkeley, USA.
- **Clinical Professor David Hillman**, Department of Pulmonary Physiology and Sleep Medicine  
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Perth, WA.
- **Dr Kym Burgemeister**, Acoustics Associate Principal, Arup.

For more information and terms of reference, access:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/hunt/2015/mr20151009.html>

## **\$43 million to continue search for a cure to dementia**

Seventy-six researchers will share in \$43 million to support bold and innovative new ideas to not only tackle the impacts of dementia but to find ways of preventing and curing the debilitating disease, according to a joint statement by Minister for Health Sussan Ley and Minister for Education and Training Senator Simon Birmingham.

They announced the fellowships on October 19 as part of the Government's \$200 million commitment to dementia research and to ensure Australia remained at the forefront of international best practice.

Ms Ley said dementia was Australia's second leading cause of death and currently around 1.2 million Australians were involved in the care of someone with the disease.

"This \$43 million commitment, which builds on our \$35 million research announcement in August, is essential as the number of Australians with dementia is predicted to grow to over one million people in the next 40 years," Ms Ley said.

"While there is currently no cure for dementia, Australia is a world leader in dementia research and the Fellows announced today will no doubt make leaps and bounds in our understanding of how best to prevent, diagnose and treat this disease and how best to support people with dementia and their carers.

"These fellowships will ensure Australia's highly skilled, innovative research workforce continues to advance knowledge in dementia and how we can better support people with the disease, their carers and the millions of Australians impacted by the disease now and over the coming decades."

Ms Ley said the new Fellows would explore ideas such as new ways to understand the progression of dementia in the brain, the role of intense exercise in protecting the ageing brain, and ways to build resilience in the dementia care workforce.

Senator Birmingham said approximately 330,000 Australians were living with dementia, an extremely complex disease that required knowledge from across our research disciplines.

"Tackling dementia needs to be done with a cross-disciplinary focus utilising research skills in a range of areas including neuroscience, bioinformatics, and cultural, social and economic disciplines," Senator Birmingham said.

Senator Birmingham said the fellowships would contribute to the World Dementia Council's target of finding a cure or modifying therapy by 2025.

The announcement builds on the Government's approach to support and promote dementia research. In August, Minister Ley announced \$35.6 million for National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Dementia Research Team Grants and the establishment of the NHMRC National Institute for Dementia Research.

The Dementia Research Development Fellowships totalling more than \$43 million are jointly funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Research Council.

Major research funds include:

- **Dr Kristian Kempe, Monash University, \$601,940** Dr Kempe will seek to develop molecules that can transport drugs across the blood-brain barrier.
- **Dr Ashleigh Smith, University of South Australia, \$594,122** Dr Smith will seek to improve the understanding of the relationship between physical activity and good brain health...

- **Dr Sandra Garrido, University of Western Sydney, \$601,540** Dr Garrido will investigate whether music can alleviate depression and the personal factors and musical variables that shape emotional response.

Further information is available on the NHMRC website [www.nhmrc.gov.au](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au) and ARC website. [www.arc.gov.au](http://www.arc.gov.au)

And at <http://www.arc.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/43-million-continue-search-cure-dementia>

### **Developing a 21st century electronic health record system**

The Minister for Health, Sussan Ley, has announced the Committee that will oversee the rebooted personalised *My Health Record* system for patients and doctors.

Ms Robyn Kruk AM is the independent chair of the eHealth Implementation Taskforce Steering Committee responsible for the establishment of the Australian Commission for eHealth.

“A functioning national electronic medical records system is essential to ensure doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other healthcare providers across the country had instant access to the information needed to treat patients safely and efficiently without having to gamble on unknowns in their medical history,” Ms Ley said.

“As patients, we’ve all been in the situations where we’ve had to attend another GP surgery because we were out-of-town or couldn’t get an appointment with our regular doctor. It can be a time consuming and often frustrating experience for patients and doctors alike.”

In the 2015-16 Budget, the Government announced \$485 million for the redevelopment of the *My Health Record* system to strengthen and transform national digital health governance through an Australian Commission for eHealth.

Ms Ley said the Implementation Taskforce Steering Committee brings together clinicians, public and private healthcare service providers, consumers, health informatics and analytics specialists, technology innovators and people experienced in delivery of digital health services.

Ms Kruk will be assisted by the skills and expertise of Dr Steve Hambleton, Dr Ewen McPhee, Dr Chris Pearce, Mr Richard Royle, Dr Eileen Doyle, Ms Jan Donovan, Mr Peter Cooper, Mr Mike Walsh, Mr Stephen Moo and Mr Paul Madden.

“The Australian Commission for eHealth will simplify and streamline the current governance arrangements and will ensure better accountability, greater transparency and improve stakeholder engagement throughout.”

The Australian Commission for eHealth will also oversee the operation and evolution of national electronic health systems and will be the system operator of the *My Health Record* System.

Ms Ley said, “It’s important that all Australians are signed up to ensure we have a functioning system and trialling an opt-out model means we can do it carefully, methodically and ensure the appropriate protections are in place to give patients peace of mind. If automatic registration for a digital health record in the opt-out trials leads to higher participation in the *My Health Record* system, the Government will consider adopting opt-out on a national scale.”



The Health Legislation Amendment (eHealth) Bill 2015 was introduced to Parliament recently and includes the allowance of opt-out trials of the *My Health Record* system to be conducted.

For more information, access:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarelay2015-ley122.htm>

## Ensuring your super works for you

Superannuation organisations are concerned that the Tax Expenditures Statement overstates the tax concessions for super, according to a media release by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Tax and Revenue

The Statement attempts to measure the value of tax concessions received by taxpayers, or the revenue forgone by government. Its publication increases the transparency and scrutiny of tax exemptions.

The 2014 Statement provides that the cost of the tax concession for employer superannuation contributions is \$16.3 billion, and for superannuation entity earnings is \$13.4 billion.

If taxpayer behaviour and the effects of other government programs are taken into account, the estimates become \$15.6 billion and \$11.8 billion. This reflects taxpayers attempting to use their money in other tax effective ways.

Mercer Consulting and the SMSF Owners' Alliance appeared on October 21 at a public hearing into the Statement.

Some of the issues raised about how the Statement treats superannuation are:

- It does not consider the long run savings from reduced use of the means-tested pension.
- Many commentators incorrectly add together the superannuation figures in the Statement, which overstates their combined cost.
- The Statement uses an income tax benchmark, which gives a much higher tax expenditure than an expenditure tax benchmark (used in some other countries).

Committee Chair, Bert van Manen MP, said that the Statement's treatment of superannuation was an important issue in the inquiry.

"Many Australians have a major investment in superannuation. We need to make sure that we have the right information so that we can have the best policies for people to get the most out of their retirement," he said.

For information about the inquiry: please contact the committee secretariat by telephone (02) 6277 4821, e-mail [taxrev.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:taxrev.reps@aph.gov.au), or visit the committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/taxrev>.

## Academies Australasia reduces reported revenue

ASIC has welcomed the decision by Academies Australasia Group Limited (Academies) to recognise revenue from tuition services over the period that the services are provided.

This follows ASIC raising concerns with Academies regarding the recognition of the majority of revenue from the provision of tuition services at the time of enrolling students in its' financial report for the year ended 30 June 2014.

Academies has elected to early adopt Australian Accounting Standard AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* in its 30 June 2015 financial report. This means it now recognises revenue over the period that tuition is provided rather than recognising most of the revenue when students are enrolled. This delays revenue recognition and increases the liability for unearned tuition income.

Revenue recognition continues to be an area of focus in ASIC's financial reporting surveillance program, as outlined in 15-139MR [Focus areas for 30 June 2015 financial reports](#).

## Have your say

Parliamentary Committees welcome submissions for their inquiries from members of the public. Committees set deadlines for submissions but are flexible, especially for those with knowledge of the wide range of topics being investigated.

### Older Australians Willing to Work: an inquiry

Earlier this year, the Human Rights Commission launched *Willing to Work: National Inquiry into Employment Discrimination Against Older Australians and Australians with Disability*. The National Inquiry is now open for submissions and conducting consultations. The submissions period opened on 26 June and **closes on Friday, 4 December 2015**.

To make a submission, visit: <https://www.humanrights.gov.au/willing-work-how-make-submission>.

The call for submissions follows the release of two Issues Papers.

- [Issues Paper: Employment discrimination against older Australians](#)
- [Issues Paper: Employment discrimination against Australians with disability](#)

Consultations are being conducted in every capital city and some regional centres. Consultations will take place from July to November 2015. For details access <https://www.humanrights.gov.au/willing-work-consultations> for a list of consultation locations and dates.

For further information visit the Willing website.

## The eyes have it

Staff at the John Curtin School are working to develop better eye tests. They are seeking volunteers with good eye health between 38 and 87 years of age.

**It is critically important that persons with known eye problems not volunteer for this study.**

If you are interested in being a participant please call Emilie, the study co-ordinator on 6125 3631 to receive additional information and/or to make an appointment in our Clinical Suite. Partners and other family members are also welcome. As a participant in our study you will

receive a number of standard eye tests the results of which will be forwarded to your nominated health professional.

If you have concerns about the conduct of the study you may contact the study Head (6125 4099), or Human Research Ethics staff of the ANU (6125 3427) or ACT Health (6174 7968)

### On the website

The ANU Emeritus Faculty's Oral History Project entry for the late **Professor Anthony Low** is now available on the Emeritus Faculty's website: [www.anu.edu.au/emergitus](http://www.anu.edu.au/emergitus)

*The Dismissal* meet the author event on 11 November is now live on the ANU website.

<http://www.anu.edu.au/events/anu-the-canberra-times-meet-the-author-event-the-dismissal>

ANU Emeritus Faculty's Oral History entry for **Professor James Fox** is now available on the ANUEF website: [www.anu.edu.au/emergitus](http://www.anu.edu.au/emergitus)- go to home page then to Oral History Project button.

### Make a date – or several

#### Diary Dates on the website

ANUEF now relies on the new 'Google Calendar' for events listing on the ANUEF website (<http://www.anu.edu.au/emergitus/>). We will only email information directly to you for special events, or when there is a late change. The Events Calendar on our website will be updated whenever new information becomes available. Thus, to summarise, all monthly collegiate lunches and public lectures (including abstracts) will be advertised on our website, the public lectures will also be advertised on the ANU Events billboard, and the most immediate events will appear in *Emeritus*. So, please, go check out the new Events box on the ANUEF website, and report any errors to [adrian\\_j\\_gibbs@hotmail.com](mailto:adrian_j_gibbs@hotmail.com).

ANUEF Events Update - Unless otherwise stated, all are in the Molony Room (see directions below), and collegiate lunch discussions are on the first Wednesday of the month (noon for 12.30 start), and public lectures (4 - 5pm) on the third Wednesday of the month. The Annual Lecture which will be in the Finkel Theatre of JCSMR.

### Diary Dates

**November** 18 at 4pm in the Molony Room. - Dr Nerilie Abram of the Research School of Earth Sciences will discuss "Antarctica's place in a warming world". **Abstract:** Antarctica plays a critical role in many aspects of Earth's climate system. However, climatic and environmental changes in the Antarctic region have only been monitored for a short number of decades, and in some cases the observed changes are either alarming or somewhat paradoxical compared to global warming changes elsewhere on the planet. This talk will be based around a case study of the James Ross Island ice core from the Antarctic Peninsula. The valuable records of temperature change, ice melt and atmospheric circulation patterns deduced from this ice core record will be discussed alongside their wider context for understanding how Antarctica is and will continue to change in a warming world.

**Nov 26, 5-8pm** Join ANU staff, students and alumni at the ANU School of Art precinct for a family-friendly end-of-year celebration. Details:  
<http://www.anu.edu.au/events/2015-anu-twilight-festival>

**Dec 2** Nobels and IgNobels - Fyfe Bygrave will lead the collegiate lunch on Wednesday, December 2, in our annual discussion of the latest Nobel Prizes. Below is a list of the 2015 prize winners and topics. Would members expert in any of these topics and willing to speak contact Fyfe (fyfelbygrave@grapevine.com.au). Time permitting, Adrian Gibbs will then introduce the 2015 IgNobel Prizes.

**Nobel Prizes 2015 - topics and winners.**

The Nobel Prize in **Physics** Takaaki Kajita and Arthur B. McDonald "for the discovery of neutrino oscillations, which shows that neutrinos have mass"

The Nobel Prize in **Chemistry** - Tomas Lindahl, Paul Modrich and Aziz Sançar "for mechanistic studies of DNA repair"

The Nobel Prize in **Physiology or Medicine** William C. Campbell and Satoshi Ōmura "for their discoveries concerning a novel therapy against infections caused by roundworm parasites"

Youyou Tu "for her discoveries concerning a novel therapy against Malaria"

The Nobel Prize in **Literature** Svetlana Alexievich "for her polyphonic writings, a monument to suffering and courage in our time"

The Nobel **Peace Prize** National Dialogue Quartet "for its decisive contribution to the building of a pluralistic democracy in Tunisia in the wake of the Jasmine Revolution of 2011"

The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in **Economic Sciences** in Memory of Alfred Nobel. Angus Deaton "for his analysis of consumption, poverty, and welfare"

**Dec 3** Poets' Lunch (noon until 5pm)

Unless otherwise stated, all ANUEF Events are in the Molony Room (Building 1c <http://www.anu.edu.au/maps#search=1c&show=11413>). Collegiate lunch discussions are on the first Wednesday of the month (noon for 12.30 start), and public lectures (4 - 5pm) on the third Wednesday of the month. All public lectures also advertised on the ANU Events board.

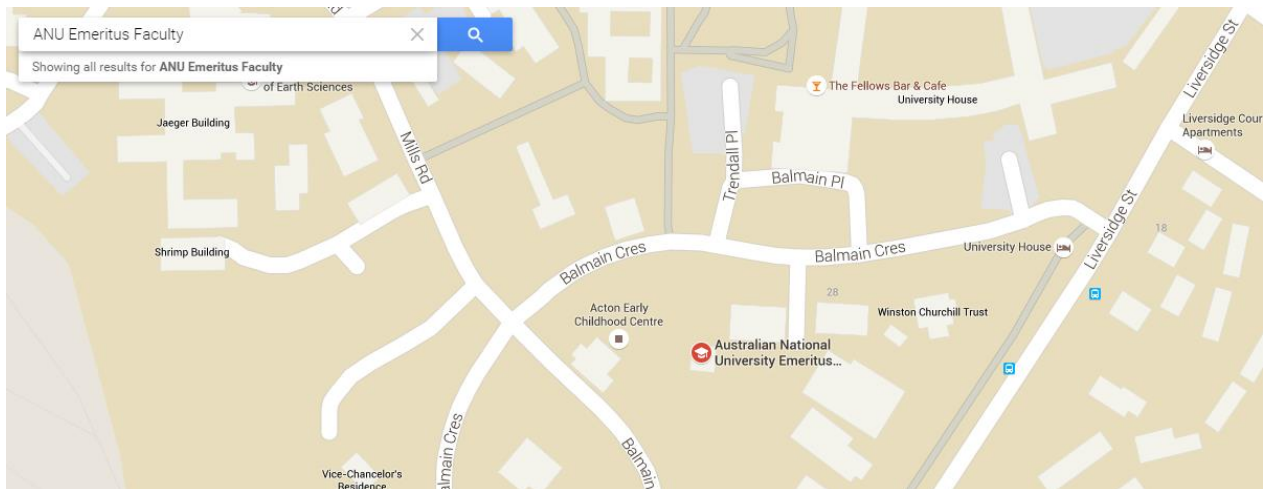
## Finding the Molony Room

The Molony Room is on the south side of Balmain Crescent almost opposite University House. It is building 1c on <http://campusmap.anu.edu.au/displaymap.asp?grid=cd32>, set back between No 22 Balmain Crescent, which is the Acton Early Childhood Centre, and No 26 Balmain Crescent, which is the Academy of the Social Sciences. There are four free car parking spaces reserved for ANUEF members visiting the Molony Room, they are in the Balmain Lane Car Park immediately south of the Molony Room.

The room is marked on:

<https://maps.google.com.au/maps?q=ANU+Emeritus+Faculty&hl=en&ll=-35.284925,149.117078&spn=0.003402,0.006947&sll=-31.203405,135.703125&sspn=59.04012,113.818359&t=h&hq=ANU+Emeritus+Faculty&z=17>

**See map next page**



## Meet the authors

**November 23**, University House literary dinner with Annabel Crabb

Other authors to be scheduled include Andrew Leigh, Peter Doherty

Bookings: ANU Events or 6125 8451

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Supporters of **ANU Archives** can find updated news on the ANU website at

<http://www.archives.anu.edu.au/news-and-events-1>

## Arrangements for ANUEF room bookings

Requests for booking the Molony Room should be addressed to Secretary of the ANU Emeritus Faculty Jan O'Connor at [jantancress@gmail.com](mailto:jantancress@gmail.com) or Tel: 62473341

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 is held in the office. Conditions for the use of the premises will be emailed to users and a copy is on the ANUEF website.

**The next edition of *Emeritus*, the ANUEF Newsletter, will be published in December, 2015.**