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Major new building planned – input wanted

In an email to colleagues, Professor Paul Pickering, Dean of the College of Arts and Social Sciences, has invited anybody interested to a second architects' forum to discuss the new home for the Research School of Social Science (RSSH).

He writes, "As you know, the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences has an exciting opportunity to create a new home for the Research School of Social Science (RSSH) – the first building on campus built specifically for the social sciences since the HC Coombs Building was constructed in 1964. The collocation of staff across the eight Schools and Centres in RSSH will once again restore the interdisciplinary and collaborative innovation that lies at the heart of research and teaching in the social sciences.

"Our new home will be built on the site of the Pauline Griffin Building, which unfortunately cannot be retained. The existing structure, completed in 1972, is unable to be renovated to comply with modern building and workplace standards. Its design is referenced in the new building's plans, which pay homage to not just the Pauline Griffin Building, but to the buildings of that style and generation which were built on campus during a period of significant expansion for the University".

The first forum where the architects presented an overview of the building plans was held on February 19. The second will be held on **March 9** in the Sir Roland Wilson Theatre at 6pm. The forums give people the opportunity to ask questions and give feedback.

Diary dates

March 8 Tuesday 7pm "*Nights at the Opera*" at the Wesley Music Centre, National Circuit, Forrest. This is an ANU Emeritus Faculty Initiative featuring the films of the late Michael Grafton-Green and will be an exciting opportunity to view operas performed and recorded at the ANU School of Music between 1995 and 2004, and recently remastered to Blu-ray. Beginning with the 1995 *Così fan tutte* featuring Jaewoo Kim, Catherine Carby, Richard Anderson, Terry Den Dulk, Chris Steele and many others. More information from Colleen Rae-Gerrard at ribbonwood31@optusnet.com.au

More diary dates page 23

Please RSVP your attendance to rsvpdean.cass@anu.edu.au

For more information, email paul.pickering@anu.edu.au

Level 3, Beryl Rawson Building (Building 13)

[Input also wanted on the future of the ANU School of Music – see Page 9]

Professor Tanya Monro appointed to CSIRO Board

Professor Tanya Monro, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice President: Research and Innovation of the **University of South Australia**, has been appointed to the CSIRO Board.

Announcing her five-year appointment, the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Christopher Pyne, said Professor Monro's background as a highly regarded physicist and her experience in the higher education and research sectors would complement the expertise of the CSIRO Board.

"It is important that CSIRO, Australia's premier science research organisation, has board members who offer the right combination of skills, knowledge and expertise. Professor Monro will bring a valuable mix of skills to the CSIRO Board with her broad knowledge of innovation," Mr Pyne said. "Professor Monro is an experienced board member and chairperson whose membership on the Commonwealth Science Council and the South Australian Economic Development Board will be of great benefit to her role on the CSIRO Board."

Professor Monro also chairs the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research Group of the Australian Technology Network of Universities and the National Youth Science Forum Council.

For further information, visit www.csiro.au

Australia's Future in Research and Innovation

The Parliamentary Trade and Investment Growth Committee resumed public hearings in Canberra on March 3 as part of its *Inquiry into Australia's Future in Research and Innovation*. The Committee is investigating how the research and innovation sector can better assist in overcoming Australia's geographic, economic, and labour challenges, with a focus on commercialisation, including how technology imports and exports could be further facilitated.

The hearing is focusing on strengthening links between innovative ideas and the commercialisation of innovation with evidence from the Chief Scientist, the Innovation Australia Board, and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO).

Advice to the Government on matters relating to science, technology and innovation is provided by the Chief Scientist and will be complemented by the soon-to-be-created Innovation and Science Australia, which will be chaired by the chair of the Innovation Australia Board. Support for public sector spin-off and start-up companies will be provided by the new \$200 million Innovation Fund created under the National Innovation and Science Agenda and administered by the CSIRO.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr Ken O'Dowd MP, said, "It is important to create a framework in Australia that fosters innovation, encourages and facilitates the proving of innovative ideas, and enables successful commercialisation. The Committee has previously met with the Chief Scientist of Israel to discuss the very successful Israeli innovation/commercialisation framework and is interested to hear how Australia will

approach the same issues.”

“Innovation and Science Australia, when established, will be undertaking a review of the R&D Tax Incentive. Setting appropriate research and development tax incentives as well as providing support through CSIRO’s Innovation Fund for early-stage commercialisation will be pivotal to establishing successful Australian start-up companies and diversifying the Australian economy,” Mr O’Dowd said.

The Committee held its first public hearing in Canberra on February 25 and heard evidence from the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science about the National Innovation and Science Agenda, how it will boost Australia’s performance in research and innovation, and how the outcomes of the programs will be assessed. The Committee also heard evidence from the Department of Education and Training (DET) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Austrade. The DET is responsible for national policies and programs that support all levels of education and, in particular, in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) disciplines.

Mr O’Dowd said, “Improvements in STEM training and increasing the representation of women in STEM disciplines will be essential to providing a robust and sustainable workforce into the future.

“Encouraging multi-national corporations to base R&D facilities in Australia and invest in Australia’s innovation sector will also be important in developing Australia’s potential new businesses,” Mr O’Dowd said.

The Committee will hold additional hearings in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne in March.

More information is available at: www.apf.gov.au/ResearchandInnovation **For background information:** Please contact the committee secretariat: Phone: (02) 6277 2233 Email: jsctig@apf.gov.au

PM praises company’s innovation

Visiting a defence research company, CEA Technologies, in Canberra on February 29, the Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, said, in part, “Here, right here, in Canberra, here you have the best radar arrays being built in the world today.

“In the most competitive industry in defence, competing with the fastest, smartest companies in the world, these Australian innovators have created the best, most technologically sophisticated radars in the world. It is their example of innovation that should inspire us. It has inspired us as we put together the Defence White Paper and the investment plan, every page of which is focused on innovation.

“We recognise that for our Defence forces to be successful in defending Australia in the 21st century, they have to be at the cutting edge of technology. So the Defence White Paper is a paper about innovation. It is a plan for innovation and technology. We set out how we are going to encourage the new CEOs, the start-ups, the successors to this company that will be coming up with the new ideas of the future. We want to harness that Australian ingenuity.

“You see, for us to succeed in the 21st century, we have to transition from an economy that has built around a mining-construction boom, to a new economy. That is an economy based on innovation, on technology, on opening markets. It is a technology that is agile enough and an economy that is nimble enough to take advantage of these enormous opportunities. That’s the goal. So every aspect of our policy - defence, economy, innovation, every aspect of it, has to be focused on this. Will it drive innovation? Will it promote investment? Will it promote jobs? Will it promote our direction towards the new economy that secures our future? So I am thrilled to be here at CEA. This is 21st century Australia. This is our future.”

41 science projects rewarded

\$500,000 in National Science Week grants were announced on February 29 by the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Christopher Pyne. The 2016 National Science Week grants will support 41 projects in every state and territory around Australia.

Acting Questacon Director Kate Driver said that National Science Week is one of the world's largest celebrations of science. "As Australia's National Science and Technology Centre, Questacon is honoured to administer National Science Week. Last year more than 1.2 million Australians participated in over 1700 events around the country. We expect 2016 to be similar, if not bigger," Ms Driver said.

Now in its 20th year, National Science Week is a key part of the Australian Government's *Science for Australia's Future – Inspiring Australia* program and collaboration between the Australian Government, ABC Science, CSIRO and the Australian Science Teachers' Association. National Science Week is an opportunity for Australians to meet scientists, discuss the hot topics and celebrate cultural and economic impact of science on society.

"National Science Week events don't just happen at universities and museums, but in libraries, schools and community centres in small and regional towns across Australia," said Ms Driver.

A call for submissions for the 2016 Citizen Science project to run during National Science Week was announced by the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Christopher Pyne on 15 February.

The 2016 Citizen Science project will enable any Australian with a computer and internet connection to help scientists and researchers with interesting small tasks like processing hundreds of thousands of photos or observations, or completing surveys that would otherwise take a research assistant many months, or even years. Last year's Citizen Science project, Galaxy Explorer, saw 27,000 Australians assist with the classification of 220,000 galaxies 3-4 billion light years away for the International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research in Western Australia.

National Science Week will be held from 13–21 August 2016. More information about National Science Week activities across Australia can be found on the National Science Week website: www.scienceweek.net.au.

The full list of recipient projects is available at:

<http://www.scienceweek.net.au/national-science-week-grant-recipients-for-2016/>

Research aimed at plastic reduction

The Australian Government will commit an immediate \$60,000 to kick-start urgent research into the best way to reduce plastic pollution in our oceans, reefs and waterways.

The funding, under the National Environmental Science Programme's (NESP) emerging priorities stream, will investigate the major sources of marine plastic waste around Australia and determine the most cost-effective options to reduce its volume.

Every one of our favourite beaches and fishing spots is open to contamination by plastic waste and research suggests the problem is growing.

Higher than expected levels of plastic contamination have been recorded around Australia, including Sydney Harbour.

Researchers have shown that plastic in the marine environment can have a density of up to 40,000 items per square kilometre.

The Australian Government is funding this research to encourage better waste management practices and improve water quality outcomes for Australia's marine environment.

It is essential that we better understand the impacts and sources of plastic waste and improve our management practices.

Unlocking this knowledge will support our efforts to protect Australia's unique marine ecosystems, including the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

The NESP's Marine Biodiversity Hub, in collaboration with the Tropical Water Quality Hub and other research partners, will deliver this research to guide a national approach for assessing current waste management practices and will offer support to local, state and territory governments to reduce the amount of plastic waste entering waterways.

The research will look at what the relationship is between debris in the marine environment and litter data from nearby sites and whether there are identifiable pathways through which litter moves into the marine environment.

It will also investigate whether particular investments in facilities, policies, or outreach would be effective in reducing litter on coasts and in oceans.

This research will also provide vital data and information to underpin the Commonwealth's revised marine debris threat-abatement plan, which is currently underway.

The Australian Government is committed to integrating science into decision-making as a key principle of good environmental policy.

The \$145 million National Environmental Science Programme focuses on collaborative, practical and applied research that informs on-ground action.

CSIRO replies to overseas critics

In an "international response" to the proposed CSIRO cuts to climate research CSIRO Chairman, David Thodey, wrote on February 19 to Professor Paul J. Durack, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, USA, and to Professor Anna Pirani, Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Italy. He wrote:

Dear Professor Durack and Professor Pirani,

Thank you for your letter dated 11 February 2016 in relation to Australian climate research.

Your letter is directed towards CSIRO's contribution to Australia's climate research activity and follows from strategic investment shifts that were announced recently within CSIRO. I am writing to respond on behalf of the Board of CSIRO, who in 2015 approved CSIRO's Strategy 2020. The overall aim of the Strategy is to significantly lift Australia's technology-enabled innovation and in order to meet our national challenges including improving our prosperity and sustainability.

We agree with you that there is no doubt that climate science is a research field in which Australia has made - and will continue to make - a very strong contribution to global knowledge and also that CSIRO has been a key player in this success. Australian research in the science fields of Environment/Ecology and Geosciences represents more than 5% of global output in these fields – reflecting a relative specialisation of Australian research of 1.5-fold as compared to the world average, for these fields.

Australia's research capability in this field excels and it should be noted that the research strength is distributed across universities and a number of governmental agencies - of which CSIRO is one contributor. CSIRO's scientific output in the relevant science fields represents approximately 17% of Australian scientific article output in these fields and involves extensive collaboration with both national and international research teams.

I want to be clear about what has been decided in relation to CSIRO's forward program. As you would appreciate – there has been quite a bit of speculation about the consequences of our strategic decisions. CSIRO has decided that CSIRO's Oceans & Atmosphere research is one of a number of areas across the whole organisation where we will be redirecting some of our work, specifically in our Oceans and Climate Dynamics and Earth Systems Assessment programs.

I want to reassure you that we do recognise the national and international importance of this particular field of research and we are committed to working with national and international partners to ensure that there is no break in atmospheric measurements at Cape Grim as a result of these changes. CSIRO will continue to operate the RV *Investigator* for the benefit of scientists from Australia and around the world as a state of the art research facility. Further, CSIRO has also committed to working with national and international partners to:

- Deliver on key contractual commitments, such as CSIRO's leadership of the Earth System Science and Climate Change Hub under the National Environmental Science Program (NESP) and our contributions to the Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS);
- Ensure Australia has access to a state of the art climate model to understand our changing climate and inform adaptation and mitigation decisions; and to
- Contribute to the international Argo floats program, which provides thousands of data-points for temperature and salinity of our ocean.

Over the coming weeks, CSIRO will be working with relevant institutions on detailed implementation and, where necessary, transitions plans to achieve these outcomes. We will also be going through detailed consultation with our people working in these areas to make sure we achieve the best possible outcome.

It is important to put CSIRO's recent announcement into a broader context. CSIRO has a central role to play in the translation of science and technology into products and services that benefit Australia and enhance national productivity. CSIRO is tasked with delivering science across many fields, and serving numerous stakeholders. Reflecting its 2020 strategy, CSIRO has decided to put greater emphasis on delivering technology-enabled innovation that will re-invigorate existing industries and create new ones. With finite resources, growth in some areas necessitates reductions in other areas.

Whilst CSIRO is reducing some of its climate change related investment, CSIRO will continue to employ over 300 scientists working on climate adaptation and mitigation research. We want to continue to make a meaningful contribution to solving the global challenge of environmental change, in collaboration with others including some of the signatories to your letter. CSIRO recognises that collaboration is critical, and we look forward to working with the national and global community to implement real solutions to the challenges of climate change.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss further.

Yours sincerely

David Thodey
CSIRO Chairman

Letters' "storm" to focus on CSIRO's climate cuts

ANUEF member Julian Cribb has appealed to ANUEF colleagues to mount a letters-to-the-editor "storm" as an alternative to rallies protesting about the CSIRO's decision to reduce its research on climate change.

While the *Canberra Times* is the most locally relevant to the ANUEF, the CSIRO, and federal politicians, the letter-writing campaign can embrace all publications that publish letters to the editor.

Julian Cribb argues, "The point is that demos are one thing, but politicians find them easy to ignore, as there is one almost every day in Canberra. However, a 'letters storm' indicates a level of public outrage and concern which they, converting it into political calculus, find very hard to ignore. Also it's in cold print and on the public record.

"So, if you want to keep the heat on (and bearing in mind the Senate Estimates is coming back for a second bite at Mr Marshall in a week or so, being profoundly dissatisfied with some of the answers they got), please put your views on the public record in the next 48 hours. Five minutes of your time to help rescue one of Australia's great icons isn't a lot to ask."

He advises letter writers:

- Up to 250 word, no more
- Strong focus on the national interest and other dimensions, not just on CSIRO
- Try to highlight aspects different to those already reported (eg land and water has been all but ignored; message this sends to young Australians about a science career)

For more information – and encouragement – contact

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Email: jcribb@grapevine.com.au Web: <http://juliancribb813.wix.com/jca1>

Skype: julian.cribb or Twitter <https://twitter.com/JulianCribb>

Bringing more trailblazing Australian research to global attention

Forty of Australia's major research institutions have joined a global initiative that will lift the visibility of the trailblazing discoveries made by Australia's 47,000 researchers, Universities Australia says.

By making available a unique 12 digit identifier for every researcher, the Open Researcher and Contributor ID, or ORCID, enables institutions and researchers to have their work tracked anywhere in the world. Along with the new Source IP patents database, the initiative will also make it easier for Australian industry to search for relevant researcher expertise.

Australian research organisations - including 36 universities, the Heart Research Institute, CSIRO, the Australian Research Council and the National Health and Medical Research Council - last night announced they have joined forces in a consortium to adopt the global ORCID system.

ORCID provides a unique number to a researcher, enabling them to maintain a consolidated record of all their research activity throughout their career.

"This is a tremendously important initiative for researchers and for the nation," said Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson.

"By bringing together a researcher's intellectual property - patents, research studies, publications and grants - into one place, regardless of where they're employed or where they live, the visibility and profile of their work is greatly elevated."

The Australian ORCID Consortium was launched in February at the **Australian National University** by Senator Zed Seselja, representing the Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham.

Ms Robinson said, "Universities Australia has been heavily involved in the development of this initiative because we recognise the importance of maximising the impact of Australian research. Australia's universities are seizing every opportunity to make their world-leading research and innovations more accessible to industry and the broader community, and adopting ORCID is a critical part of this effort".

The Australian Access Federation will provide support for the Australian ORCID Consortium to maximise the benefits of ORCID in Australia (<http://aaf.edu.au/orcid/>).

The establishment of the consortium was facilitated by Universities Australia, the Australian Research Council, the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Australasian Research Management Society, the Council of Australian University Librarians, the Council of Australian University Directors of Information Technology, the Australian National Data Service and the Australian Access Federation.

ORCID (<http://orcid.org/>) is a global not-for-profit organisation created in 2010, which solves the problem of name ambiguity in research by creating a registry with a unique identifier for each researcher.

***Respect. Now. Always.* University sector launches new campaign**

Australia's universities have launched a major new campaign to prevent sexual assault and harassment. The campaign - *Respect. Now. Always.* - highlights the determination of Australia's universities to ensure that students and staff are safe from sexual assault and sexual harassment.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson said the campaign built on long-standing work across the Australian university sector.

"Over many years, policies have been developed to prevent sexual assault and harassment and ensure that services are in place to support students when they disclose or report," she said. "But there is more that can be done, and this campaign is the next step to ensure that we keep improving and learning from best practice."

Ms Robinson said the campaign would raise awareness among university students and staff that sexual assault and harassment are unacceptable, and provide clear pathways of support for those who need it. "A key aim is to *educate* that sexual assault and harassment are unacceptable and *empower* those who have experienced sexual assault or harassment to seek help and support if they need it.

"The campaign seeks to prevent sexual assault and harassment by raising awareness, support students in need of help, and give bystanders the confidence to speak up. We all have a role to play to ensure our university communities are places of respect - now and always."

Universities Australia's lead Vice-Chancellor on equity and diversity, Professor Ian Jacobs, of UNSW Australia, said the potential reach of the campaign - with almost 1.3 million

university students in Australia - was profound. The initiative would signal a zero tolerance stance on sexual assault and harassment, and lift the visibility of support services.

"This ground-breaking work appears to be the first in the world where a national university sector has decided to work together on these issues on such a scale," he said. "It is a shared effort - to raise awareness, to seek more comprehensive data to inform our responses, to exchange best practice, and to commit to keep improving."

The campaign will also be an opportunity for the university sector to review the effectiveness of local policies, responses and support services to ensure they are best practice.

Working with partners including the Australian Human Rights Commission, the UNSW Australian Human Rights Centre and The Hunting Ground Australia Project Team, the sector has begun collaborative work to:

- Seek more comprehensive Australian data on sexual assault and harassment in universities through a national survey;
- Participate in a review and update of policies and procedures at universities to prevent sexual assault and harassment; and
- Share global best practice models for reporting incidents and supporting students who disclose sexual assault or harassment.

To learn more about the campaign, visit www.respectnowalways.edu.au

Consultations on the ANU School of Music

Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian Schmidt has announced a comprehensive community consultation on the ANU School of Music to find ways to strengthen the school, its academic excellence and deepen its engagement with the Canberra community.

He writes, "I have asked distinguished former public servant Professor Andrew Podger to run the consultations, which will include discussions with staff, students, alumni and the wider community. Professor Podger's consultations will be guided by three core principles: The School of Music should be committed to international excellence; it should be as relevant as possible to the community; and any changes must be affordable.

"As Vice-Chancellor, I have a strong commitment to the School of Music and believe music education plays an essential role in a great university such as ANU. The University community will be kept informed on how to take part, and I encourage everyone to contribute to the consultations and have a say on the future shape of the ANU School of Music. Further details on the consultations are available on my [VC blog page](#)."

The Terms of Reference for the School of Music Community Consultation, to be conducted over the first half of 2016, detail the Vice-Chancellor's intention of announcing his vision for the future for the School in the second half of 2016.

The Vice-Chancellor has appointed an eminent member of the ANU community, advised by two eminent music scholars and an eminent member of the arts community to undertake a community consultation of the ANU School of Music that will identify options for its future that ensure the University has a music school in keeping with its role and mission as the national university, and one that has regard to the role of ANU in the national capital. The consultation will involve a wide range of interested parties both within the University and amongst the Canberra community.

The community consultation will examine:

- Academic quality and direction of the School
- Role of the School in the ANU and wider community.
- Governance and sustainability

The community consultation will produce a report that presents the Vice-Chancellor and incoming Head of School with options for the future of the School that will help the School perform at an optimum level in keeping with the national and international standing of ANU, and identifies strategies to create a sustainable future for the School.

Members of the School of Music community, stakeholder groups and the wider Canberra music community will be invited to participate in the consultation. These will include:

- School of Music Staff
- School of Music Students
- The School of Music Foundation and Friends of the School of Music
- School of Music alumni and former staff
- ACT and national music organisations
- ACT and Federal Government representatives
- ANU campus community
- Members of the public will also be provided with an opportunity to participate

The Community Consultation will be completed with a report to the Vice-Chancellor by August 2016. It will be undertaken in two stages: first round of consultation meetings in February and March; a second round of consultation meetings in June and July following the release of a Discussion Paper by the beginning of May.

Roles and Responsibilities: Chair, Professor Andrew Podger AO; Expert Advisors: Emeritus Professor Larry Sitsky AM, Emeritus Professor John Painter AM, Ms Robin Hughes AO, Internal Advisor Associate Professor Royston Gustavson, Interim Head of the ANU School of Music, Executive Officer, Donna Webster.

Obituary

Donald Anthony Low, AO

**Born 22 June 1927, son of Canon Donald Philip and Dr Winifred Phoebe Low, in India.
Died Canberra, 12 February 2015**

By Deryck Schreuder: FAHA

Uganda Martyrs' Day, 2015

Had Donald Anthony Low (1927-2015) lived in an earlier era of the British Empire he might well have risen to be a great imperial proconsul, perhaps even Viceroy of India (or at least an African Governor).

Born to a British mission family in the beautiful Indian Hill Station of Nainital (his father ran the Bible Society, while his mother was a pioneer woman medical doctor), he was sent to that most prestigious of English Public Schools supplying officers in the British armed service colonial corps. This was '*Haileybury*', which had grown out of the historic *British India College* of 1806 (and later incorporating the *Imperial Services* and *United Services* Colleges), with its fierce motto of '*Fear God, Honour the King*'.

Not only could *Haileybury* claim Rudyard Kipling among its luminous alumni, but also an extraordinary number of military leaders, plus an astonishing 17 alumni having been awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery (and even 3 rarer George Cross winners). Many other

graduates became leaders in the imperial and colonial services as personifying the 'Thin Red Line' which ruled an Empire.

Anthony Low may have taken a civil road less travelled for 'Haileyburians' – as an academic leader (eminent professor and Vice-Chancellor), having excelled in history- but he proudly recognised his personal debt to his school as Council Member (1984-94), and later as Life Governor. With his commanding style and presence, upright bearing and voice of authority, he reflected an educational culture which championed strong leadership qualities involving the 'useful' life of service and academic achievement.

After *Haileybury*, Anthony Low went up to Oxford in 1945 as an undergraduate (Exeter College), interrupted by 18 months of National Service in the 17th Lancers. He later undertook a doctorate (D Phil).

Having become fascinated with African history at Oxford, not least through the strong influence of the already legendary Dame Margery Perham, he resolved to work in colonial Africa, not as member of the imperial administrative corps, but as a junior lecturer at the new Makerere University College in Kampala, Uganda. The young D.A. Low was soon to become one of its academic stars, plus developing a public profile as the East African Correspondent of *The Times*, of London (1952-58). Through local explorations in Bugandan history, he was indeed to become one of the pioneers of African history as a subject in its own right. His major studies of *Buganda and British Overrule 1900-1955* (1960), *Buganda in Modern History* (1970), plus a rich documentary collection under the title of *The Mind of Buganda* (1970), are still in use today, alongside chapters in *The Oxford History of East Africa* (1976), and a standard entry on 'The History of Uganda' in the 15th Edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

Here was to be a rich corpus of pioneering research and imaginative analysis of the famous and complex Bugandan Kingdoms. He gave attention to both the dynamics of power among the many chiefdoms as British 'over-rule', along with an analysis of the intricate roles of religion and culture in an African society where local values included the presence of both Islam and Christianity. The young academic's early research papers had followed traditional themes - '*British public opinion and the Ugandan Question*' (1954), '*The British and the Buganda*' (1956) - but that quite soon changed, to a greater internal focus on Africa and Africans: '*Religion and Society in Buganda*' (1957), '*The composition of the Buganda Lukiko*' (1959), '*Political Parties in Uganda, 1949-62*' (1962), and '*The Advent of Populism in Buganda*' (1964). His intellectual horizons also expanded boldly to recognise the era of change across the great continent with his notable paper on '*Studying the Transformation of Africa*' in the mid-1960s.

Having first approached African history from a metropolitan perspective of empire, he now began to give voice and agency to Africans and their own society. And as he came to see Africa from the inside, so too he reconceptualised his sense of Empire, which he now perceived as being significantly shaped by indigenous forces. In later reviewing the multi-volume *Oxford History of the British Empire*, he was to praise its range, but also to ask aloud why a much greater agency had not been given to the colonial peoples swept up within the Pax Britannica. In his own writings he evolved a general model of British colonial expansion, first through a key article – '*Lion Rampant*', in the *Journal of Commonwealth Political Studies*- which then grew into a major comparative imperial study of the same name (1973), along with a plethora of research papers on African imperialism.

My own favourite is '*War bands and Ground-Level Imperialism in Uganda, 1870-1900*', which he published from the ANU in 1975. He drew together his theory about tropical empire in his final monograph for Cambridge University Press half a century later in 2009: *Fabrication of Empire: The British and the Uganda Kingdoms, 1890-1902*. Uganda had become for him a remarkable laboratory in dissecting empire and history. The ideologies of conquest and rule were contextualised in relation to indigenous cultures- which included

traditional authorities and new social classes, ancient traditions and beliefs experiencing transformation. Within the local he had found the global.

The road from Africa to Asia in his scholarship was to be winding but relatively short. While in Uganda, and through his work as a stringer for *The Times*, he fortuitously came to know the famous Australian historian Professor W. K. Hancock, who was then leading a commission of inquiry and over the deposition of the Kabaka of the Buganda. Hancock was impressed with the young scholar and facilitated a research fellowship at the Australian National University (1959-64) of which he was a founder. From that base, Anthony Low then secured a major appointment at the innovative University of Sussex - as founding Dean of the School of African and Asian Studies. He then became Director of the Graduate School of Arts and Social Sciences at Sussex; which in turn placed him well to return to Australia in 1973 as Director of the ANU's new 'Research School of Pacific Studies' (RSPS). The significance of these professional movements amounted to more than a study in the remarkable empire-network of Commonwealth universities. In the Foreword to *Lion Rampant* (1974), he modestly traced his intellectual journey with an acknowledgement 'to Makerere College, Uganda, "which gave me the opportunity to develop an interest in Africa; to the Australian National University which enabled me to take an interest in India; and to the University of Sussex which allowed me to attempt to combine the two'.

He was of course to do more than that. He was never to engage in facile comparative essays, but rather to embed an awareness of patterns and practices within works of detailed research and analysis. His arrival in South Asian history was accordingly through issues and archives. Two edited volumes caught the academic explorer in action: *Soundings in Modern South Asian History* (1968), soon to be followed by *Government Archives in South Asia: a guide to national and state archives in Ceylon, India and Pakistan* (1969). Scholarly works followed around Anthony Low's fascination with imperial power and local social formations, traditional elites and the new nationalist forces. A collected volume of 1977 reflected his interest in a contested modernity - *Congress and the Raj: Facets of the Indian Struggle, 1917-47* - as did a significant paper the following year on the traditional elites of the sub-continent in an innovative collected volume on *People, Princes and Paramount Power: Society and Politics in the Indian Princely States*, edited by Robin Jeffrey (1978). Works of enduring significance were to be developed over the next few decades. The 'Centenary' of the Indian Congress movement was marked with a major collected volume of essays (1988), and with his finest South Asian monograph coming in the next decade: *Britain and Indian Nationalism: the Imprint of Ambiguity, 1929-42* (1997).

If historians can reasonably be divided into 'splitters' and 'clumpers', then Anthony Low was essentially a subtle 'splitter'. He wished to defy the inevitabilities sometimes given to writing about the past; and he also forensically dissected given forces - such as 'nationalists' and 'nationalism' - to reveal their complex underlying construction. 'Ambiguity' was a favourite word in pointing to the contingent and accidental (even ironic) in the turn of historical events. Above all, that 'the unwary have allowed themselves to be trapped into supposing that the processes of decolonisation turned principally upon imperialists' decisions...' For while that 'was often the surface appearance', it is 'an egregious error to suggest that this unfolded within some imperialist vacuum; worse that imperial rulers were always Olympian masters of their empire's fate'. ('Britain and India in the early 1930s', in *Imperialisms*, ed Deryck M Schreuder: Sydney 1991: p 134). From that perspective the mature scholar was also of course ready to paint on the broad canvas of 'European expansion' when appropriate, using his deep knowledge of Asia and Africa in synoptic volumes on *The Eclipse of Empire* (1996), and *The Egalitarian Moment: Asia and Africa, 1950-1980* (1997).

If the name of Anthony Low was alone associated with his formal 'CV' of publications, this would point alone to the formal part of a much larger 'informal empire' of personal influence and presence. Professor Robin Jeffrey - one of his luminous students - has well pointed out that Anthony Low perhaps had two 'families'. One was in the loving home of 'Belle' (Isabel Smalls, a nurse already working in Zanzibar when he did his east African researches,

and whom he married in September 1952) and their three children (two daughters and a son). The other was the huge cohort of graduate research students (possibly over 50) that he supervised and mentored, before they in turn made exceptional contributions to modern history – notably that of South Asia. He dedicated his 1997 study (on *Britain and Indian Nationalism*) in a cryptic way to ‘The Four Regiments’ – his affectionate recognition of his far-flung groupings of post-graduate students, the ‘Regiments of Sepoys’ - ‘In very deep gratitude... for all they have given me’. Others again had benefit of his exceptional generosity in reading draft papers, in commenting on whole book MSS, and in examiner’s reports on doctoral dissertations. He had a shrewd eye for talent and gave momentum to careers of distinction: for example, in 1980 he brought Ranajit Guha to a research fellowship at ANU, so providing a secure base for the flowering of the famed radical push of ‘Subaltern Studies’ in the literature of India and of imperial theory more generally.

I first met Anthony Low in 1976 when I was a young Visiting Fellow in the Research School in Social Sciences and writing my study of *The Scramble for Southern Africa* (Cambridge, 1980). It was suggested that I make an appointment to meet the Vice-Chancellor, something which gave me some apprehension- until I heard that it was none other than a ‘Professor D A Low’. I duly presented myself on top floor of the executive building where I was genially welcomed by an elegant and imposing, grey-suited figure, with deeply resonant voice and aura of authority. We certainly ‘talked empire’, but also the challenges being faced by universities in the turbulent decade on campuses throughout the Western world of the 1970. He was then engaged in both healing such staff and student divisions while also calling for the University to ‘get its house in order’ in an era of increasing Government oversight.

As a Haileybury graduate he boldly led from the front, being personally highly visible on campus, and directly engaged with the University community open meetings, faculty lunches and public speeches. He promoted external reviews towards ‘a new order’ at ANU, and coupled this with the initiation of new research centres. (The Innovation Building at ANU was rightly to carry his name). Morale lifted and institutional confidence revived. He extended that service to the region when he became a member of the Council of the new University of Papua New Guinea. Many staff proudly saw him as very much a ‘university man’, with strong academic values and who challenged Government. But the public tide was also eventually to turn towards a new utilitarianism in national policy. As the historians of ANU have commented: increasingly Anthony Low’s ‘international perspective and networks were less valuable than they might have been in earlier decades, when the University was seeking to make its mark in the academic world. Now it was more important to know how the system worked in nearby government departments and in Parliament House on the other side of the lake’ (S G Foster and Margaret M Varghese, *The Making of the Australian National University*: pp 305-6: Canberra 1990).

At the end of the traditional seven-year vice-chancellor term of office at ANU, Anthony Low was elected to the ‘Smuts Chair in Commonwealth History’ at Cambridge University (1983-94) - a vacancy created by the unexpected death of the famous imperial and Indian scholar, Professor Eric Stokes. Anthony Low accordingly missed the ‘Dawkins Revolution’ in higher education which brought ‘massification’ to the Australian ‘system’. Instead, he could again entirely devote his creative talents to research leadership in overseas history at Cambridge, while also becoming the President of a famous graduate institution, ‘Clare Hall’ (1987-1994). That was to be his last formal appointment. With Belle and family he then retired to Canberra and continued research and writing. He became a Member of the Order of Australia in 2005. In 2009 many of us gathered in University House to celebrate the publication of *Fabrication of Empire* from Cambridge University Press.

Anthony Low was legendary for acts of surprising kindness. Mine came in 1997. I was then deeply involved as a Vice-Chancellor in university challenges when I suddenly received a copy of his latest book, with this typical inscription:

*'Deryck - With warm regards and a symbol that there is life after death for Vice-Chancellors!
- Anthony '*

While we have said farewell to Anthony Low, the scholarly works of 'D A Low' will long exist to inform and engage all those of us wish to know more intimately about Africa, India and 'Empire' in modern history.

Author's Permission to republish this obituary, which first appeared in the AHA Bulletin

Students come from 200 countries

Almost half a million international students from nearly two hundred countries studied in Australia in 2015, demonstrating Australia's strong global-competitiveness in education, according to a statement by Senator Richard Colbeck, Minister for Tourism and International Education, Minister Assisting the Minister for Trade and Investment. "Australia's ranking in the global student community remains strong, with the 2015 figures representing growth of 10 per cent on student numbers compared to 2014," he said.

Chinese students continue to flock to Australia with 136,097 students last year – up 13.3 per cent on the previous year. China contributed 27.3 per cent of all international students in Australia, the highest of any nationality, with India second, contributing 10.8 per cent.

"These figures prove that international education is one of the five super-growth sectors – it's one of our top services exports and it's supporting our economy as we transition to a more diversified economy," the minister said and went on, "International education delivered nearly \$20 billion to the Australian economy in 2015, confirming the importance of the sector to Australia's growing knowledge economy.

"Australia offers high-quality education services, teaching, learning and research, and we have world-leading tuition-protection arrangements, which is why 498,155 international students chose to enrol across all Australian education sectors in 2015."

"Nationalities in the top ten countries – China, India, Vietnam, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Brazil, Thailand, Nepal, Indonesia and Hong Kong – together contributed just over two thirds, 66.2 per cent of total international student numbers.

He said the Government's reforms had cut regulatory costs for institutions by \$48.2 million a year, allowing Australian universities, vocational education and training providers, English language providers and schools "to focus on their core business of providing high quality education to students".

Details of the latest international education figures for 2015 are available at:
<https://internationaleducation.gov.au/research/international-student-data/pages/default.aspx>

Australia Council awards 2016

The 2016 Australia Council awards will honour eight distinguished Australian artists who have made an exceptional contribution to the arts over many years.

Now in its second year, the Australia Council Awards ceremony will be held in Sydney on Thursday, 10 March. These prestigious national awards combine long-standing lifetime and outstanding achievement awards in music, literature, community arts and cultural development, visual arts, theatre, dance, and emerging and experimental arts.

The 2016 Australia Council Award recipients are:

- David Malouf AO (NSW) – Australia Council Award for Lifetime Achievement in Literature
- Brett Dean (Vic) – Don Banks Music Award
- Richard Bell (Qld) – Australia Council Visual Arts Award
- Kelli McCluskey (WA) – Australia Council Emerging & Experimental Arts Award
- Lucy Guerin (Vic) – Australia Council Dance Award
- Yaron Lifschitz (Qld) – Australia Council Theatre Award
- Lily Shearer (NSW) – Ros Bower Award (Community Arts and Cultural Development)
- Nathan Stoneham (Qld) – Kirk Robson Award (Community Arts and Cultural Development)

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Julie Bishop, has announced the launch of the Australian Government's new strategy to further promote gender equality and the importance of constructively engaging women in society.

The strategy emphasises that empowering women and girls is critical to supporting economic growth, poverty reduction, development and security, particularly in the region. The strategy, the first of its kind, will, according to the minister, drive progress in three key areas: ending violence against women and girls; women's economic empowerment; and women's participation in leadership and peacebuilding.

Australia will highlight these priorities through its bilateral, regional and multilateral engagement, as well as in its aid and economic diplomacy agendas. The work of the Ambassador for Women and Girls is also central in pursuing this agenda.

This strategy builds on the Government's efforts to prioritise gender equality across Australia's foreign affairs and aid efforts. "Since 2014, we have established a \$50 million Gender Equality Fund and set an ambitious target requiring that 80 per cent of Australian aid perform effectively in promoting gender equality," Ms Bishop said.

Federal Court appointment

Formerly studying at the ANU, Ms Natalie Charlesworth has been appointed to the Federal Court of Australia in the Adelaide registry from 1 March.

She graduated from the Australian National University with a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice in 2002, from the University of South Australia with a Bachelor of Arts (Journalism) in 1991, and the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Laws with First Class Honours in 2001.

Ms Charlesworth commenced her legal career in 2002 as an associate to the Hon Justice John Mansfield AM of the Federal Court. She has been a solicitor and senior solicitor in the South Australian Crown Solicitor's Office, a solicitor and researcher to the then South Australian Solicitor-General, Mr Christopher Kourakis SC, and a senior associate with Kelly & Co Lawyers prior to signing the Bar roll in 2007 and entering into private practice as a barrister.

Book review

Practice and policy

Mark Moran *Serious Whitefella Stuff: When solutions became the problem in Indigenous Affairs*, Melbourne University Press, xii + 224 pages, paper, \$27.99.

Reviewed by Barry Hindess

On the surface, this looks as if it should be an important book but it is disappointing on close inspection. A foreword by Noel Pearson tells us 'If you want to help, you should read *Serious Whitefella Stuff*', while the back cover promises a book that examines, not the rarefied process of *policy*, but rather what happens at the level of *practice*. A passing comment in the first chapter informs us that the 'whitefella stuff' of the book's title refers to the busyness of 'community leaders, employees and volunteers working for Indigenous and other local organisations who attend to their work and to each other. There are eight chapters, all but two telling stories, as Moran describes them, about interactions between policy outsiders (frontline workers) and local indigenous leaders, six of them by Moran, with one each by Alyson Wright and Paul Memmot. Most of the stories in this book are set in Queensland, sometimes with excursions into the neighbouring Northern Territory, where Alyson Wright's story is set, leaving readers to wonder whether similar tales might unfold in other states. There are several useful (but, unfortunately, rather small) maps but no index or list of acronyms. Like other acronyms, for example, 'DOGIT', meaning 'Deed of Grant in Trust', is explained, clearly and carefully, the first time it appears but not later, where the lack of explanation is simply irritating.

Careful readers of this book will get a good sense of what frontline workers have to put up with as they struggle to negotiate the demands of their superiors and the needs of the communities in which they work and, more importantly, they will get a sense of the difficulties indigenous communities have to confront in their dealings with state and commonwealth governments.

Two stories, by Moran himself, focus on housing. They suggest that, like Pearson, Moran favours the development of private ownership within indigenous communities. These chapters and passages elsewhere also suggest that Moran endorses Pearson's notion of a Radical Centre. While this is difficult to outline in a few words, Pearson offers a neat summary in his comments on the Cape York Agenda, which is neither Left nor Right but 'at the Radical Centre, with its mixture of individual choice, societal norms, capabilities and incentivised pathways' (p. xi). Unkind readers, like this reviewer, might read this as an indigenous affairs version of the social-democratic Third Way, that is, as a recasting of earlier indigenous objectives in the language of neo-liberalism. Unfortunately, rather than defend or elaborate on this perspective, Moran seems content to let it lie where it can be read between the lines by those who care to look.

Practice is the concern of Moran's most important arguments, to be found in the opening and closing chapters. One that is clearly dear to Moran's heart is that, while many Australian universities offer qualifications to prepare students for international development practice, there should be something similar to prepare students for practice in indigenous affairs. This argument would be more persuasive if it were clear that the lessons of preparation for international development practice could not also be applied in indigenous affairs and if we knew more about the utility of such qualifications in practice.

However, Moran's central concern is the disjunction between *policy*, as formulated by policy-makers in Canberra and various state capitals, and the *practice* of frontline workers. Unfortunately, while the title of the final chapter 'Why Practice Triumphs over Policy in Indigenous Affairs' indicates the importance he attaches to relations between policy and

practice, it is not easy to identify just what he means by *practice*. *Practice* is not simply a matter of policy implementation since, as Moran portrays them, frontline workers usually have to work in a complex environment, cooperating with local community leaders while negotiating overlapping and sometimes conflicting policy objectives, often with cumbersome reporting criteria and inflexible timetables. The difficulty here is compounded by the odd reference to 'what actually works or doesn't work in practice', a formulation which clearly suggests that what frontline workers' actually do in practice will not always work.

I suspect that what Moran means by 'practice triumphs over policy' is something like the following. When policy seems to work, this reflects not so much the merits of the policy concerned, but rather the ability of frontline workers 'to reinterpret and represent their local adaptations as expressions of policy, [thereby] allowing policy-makers to see their practice as policy successes' (p.190). This point could have been the beginning of a useful critique of faddish support for evidence-based policy. Unfortunately, as with his views on the Radical Centre, Moran seems content to let this point lie to be picked up, or not, by his readers.

Reviews welcome

If you have read a new book recently or revisited an old one that could do with a reappraisal, send your review to *Emeritus* for the membership to read. In general, reviews will be about 1,000 words but this limit is flexible depending on the book and the persuasiveness of the reviewer – and competing content in *Emeritus*.

If you wish to add your name to a "Reviewer's Register", please send an email to the editor of *Emeritus* at <mailto:ian.mathews7@bigpond.com?subject=Reviewer's Register> noting your areas of academic study and other interests which, of course, may be far removed from academia.

Matters of possible interest

Sometimes there is just not enough space for everything but there's always a link to somewhere else. The following snippets might be of interest – use the links to read more.

Synroc: ANU innovation increases technology readiness for waste treatment plant - ANSTO

<http://www.ansto.gov.au/AboutANSTO/MediaCentre/News/ACS088269>

Synroc, an Australian innovation to store nuclear waste, has moved to apply its research knowledge into a detailed engineering project that will see it deliver a fully integrated processing plant.

The story of Synroc began in 1979, when it was invented by an **Australian National University** researcher, the late Professor Ted Ringwood and scientists at ANSTO, as a synthetic waste form to immobilise the by-products of nuclear reactions.

Neutron instrument Dingo captures the life of dinosaurs and other early creatures frozen in stone - ANSTO

<http://www.ansto.gov.au/AboutANSTO/MediaCentre/News/ACS089013>

New perspectives on paleontological samples are being opened up by non-invasive neutron radiography and tomography on ANSTO's "Dingo" instrument, which reveal surprising compositional and textual information.

2016 Defence White Paper | Prime Minister of Australia

<http://www.pm.gov.au/media/2016-02-25/joint-media-release-2016-defence-white-paper>

The 2016 Defence White Paper is "a comprehensive and responsible long-term plan to ensure Australia's national security. It is the culmination of detailed analysis of Australia's strategic environment, defence priorities and objectives, and the capabilities required to achieve these outcomes". For the first time, the White Paper released on February 25 by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Defence Minister Marise Payne fully aligns strategy, capability and resources to make the Australian Defence Force (ADF) more capable, agile and potent.

Solved! First distance to a 'fast radio burst' - CSIRO

<http://www.csiro.au/en/News/News-releases/2016/Solved-First-distance-to-a-fast-radio-burst>

For the first time a team of scientists has tracked down the location of a fast radio burst (FRB), confirming that these short but spectacular flashes of radio waves originate in the distant universe.

'Footprints' offer clues to solve zinc supply hole - CSIRO

<http://www.csiro.au/en/News/News-releases/2016/Footprints-offer-clues-to-solve-zinc-supply-hole>

Geologists have found evidence of mineral 'footprints' that may point to undiscovered, high-grade zinc deposits hiding underneath known deposits in the Northern Territory's prospective McArthur Basin.

ANU students, staff and official guests ring in the new academic year

Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian Schmidt, Education Minister Simon Birmingham, Australian of the Year David Morrison; 2009 Australian of the Year Professor Mick Dodson and student leaders have welcomed new students to ANU. *On Campus* invites you to

» [read more](#)

Excellence Losing Weight capsules | Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

<http://www.tga.gov.au/alert/excellence-losing-weight-capsules>

Excellence Losing Weight capsules pose a serious risk to your health and should not be taken

Half Quite tablets | Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA)

<http://www.tga.gov.au/alert/half-quite-tablets>

Half Quite tablets pose a serious risk to your health and should not be taken.

Have your say

Parliamentary Committees and other inquiries welcome submissions 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.

Safeguarding older Australians: Law Reform Commission inquiry

The Attorney-General, Senator George Brandis, has asked the Australian Law Reform Commission to conduct an inquiry into laws and frameworks to safeguard older Australians from abuse. This inquiry will assist the Government in identifying best practices for protecting older Australians while promoting respect for their rights and preferences. The ALRC has been asked to report by May 2017.

Senator Brandis said, “The Government is appalled by reports of the levels of elder abuse within our communities. As the World Health Organisation identified, effective responses and prevention measures are less developed than for family violence and child abuse. This adds to the inquiry currently being conducted by Ms Susan Ryan AO, the Age and Disability Discrimination Commissioner, into employment discrimination against older Australians and Australians with a disability”.

The Attorney-General also released the report by the [Australian Institute of Family Studies](#) (AIFS) which was commissioned by the Government to conduct a scoping study of elder abuse in Australia. The report provides valuable insight into the nature and breadth of this issue, which is expected to rise as the population continues to age. It is a symptom of attitudes which fail to respect and recognise the rights of older Australians to make decisions, to live self-determined lives, to live with dignity and live free from exploitation, violence and abuse.

The terms of reference for the ALRC inquiry include:

- existing Commonwealth laws and frameworks which seek to safeguard and protect older persons from misuse or abuse by formal and informal carers, supporters, representatives and others.
These should include, but not be limited to, regulation of:
- financial institutions
- superannuation
- social security
- living and care arrangements, and
- health
- the interaction and relationship of these laws with state and territory laws.

In undertaking this reference, the ALRC should identify and model best-practice legal frameworks. The ALRC should also have regard to other inquiries and reviews that it considers relevant. In conducting this inquiry, the ALRC should specifically consider best practice laws, as well as legal frameworks including, but not limited to, the National Disability Insurance Scheme and the Aged Care framework, which promote and support older people’s ability to participate equally in their community and access services and advice; protect against misuse or advantage taken of informal and formal supporter or representative roles.

In undertaking this reference, the ALRC should identify and consult relevant stakeholders, including Commonwealth departments and agencies, state and territory governments, key non-government stakeholders, including advocacy and policy organisations and service providers, the Age Discrimination Commissioner and the Aged Care Complaints Commissioner.

Chronic Disease inquiry continues

In 2007, 46 per cent of South Australians had been diagnosed with at least one chronic disease, with at least 15 percent of the population being diagnosed with two or more conditions. Evidence from more recent studies suggests that two-thirds of South Australians suffering from chronic disease have two or more chronic conditions.

On March 4, the House of Representatives Health Committee will conduct a public hearing in Adelaide as part of its Inquiry into Chronic Disease Prevention and Management in Primary Health Care. The Committee will hear from the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, the Australian General Practice Network, South Australian Primary Health Networks, the Improvement Foundation, the Australian Health Promotion Association, Flinders University Human Behaviour and Health Research Unit and the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Steve Irons MP, Chair of the Committee said: 'The Committee will visit Adelaide to hear about the delivery of chronic disease care and prevention services in urban, rural and remote settings in South Australia. Programs such as OPAL (Obesity Prevention and Lifestyle) have delivered good outcomes in South Australia, and the Committee will hear more about similar programs, such as the Northern Wellbeing: Living Well with Serious Illness program, and how general practice and other providers promote and manage such programs.'

'The promotion of chronic disease prevention programs is important to managing the lifestyle factors that can lead to avoidable conditions in later life. The programs the Committee will hear about are essential to ensuring that the future burden of these conditions is realised and reduced, Mr Irons said.

A program and further information about the inquiry is available at:

www.aph.gov.au/chronicdisease

Inquiry information: contact the committee secretariat on: (02) 6277 4145 or visit the committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/health.

Access to arts and news in rural and regional Australia

Access to the arts, news and other services in rural and regional communities were under the spotlight when the National Rural Health Alliance and ACT Government appeared before the House of Representatives [Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts](#) for its inquiry into broadcasting, online content and live production to rural and regional Australia.

Among the witnesses was the National Rural Health Alliance, a peak body for 36 national organisations working to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in rural and remote Australia, highlighting the value of the arts to people in such communities.

The ACT Government also appeared before the Committee to discuss the importance of local content and community broadcasting, and the provision of timely, accurate and consistent information by local media to the community during emergencies.

The committee will continue to gather evidence from key stakeholders, community members, and media and broadcasting organisations at public hearings over the coming months.

For further background information on the inquiry and Committee, please visit the Committee website www.aph.gov.au/communications or contact the secretariat: (02) 6277 4386 or communications.reps@aph.gov.au

ANU gives evidence to Indigenous education inquiry

The Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs is inquiring into what educational options have met with the most success for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in an effort to find out what works best, what has failed and what we can do better in Indigenous education.

On February 25 the Committee heard from staff and students from the ANU's Tjabal Higher Education Centre. On February 26 the Committee held a hearing in Adelaide with students and staff from The Wiltja School. Wiltja is a multi-campus secondary school where Anangu students from the APY Lands and 20 remote communities across South Australia board at a residence in Adelaide and attend local mainstream schools.

Further information on the inquiry, including a link to the Committee's e-newsletter, containing updates about the Inquiry and its future work program, can be found on the inquiry website at www.aph.gov.au/educationalopportunities.

For background information, and advice on making submissions, contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4559 or indigenousaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au

Asia Pacific Forum at death penalty inquiry

The Human Rights Sub-Committee of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade held a public hearing in Canberra on March 1 as part of its inquiry into Australia's advocacy for the abolition of the death penalty. The Sub-Committee heard evidence from the Asia Pacific Forum of Human Rights Institutions, a coalition of 22 national human rights institutions in the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific. The committee heard also from Together Against the Death Penalty (*Ensemble Contre la Peine de Mort* – ECPM), a Paris-based organisation that undertakes research, liaises with other civil society organisations and advocates in support of worldwide abolition of the death penalty. In addition it took evidence from Parliamentarians for Global Action, an international organisation with membership comprising like-minded parliamentarians from around the world. The PGA advocates on a range of matters including human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

The Sub-Committee's inquiry is reviewing how Australia currently engages internationally to promote abolition of the death penalty and further steps Australia could take to advocate for worldwide abolition. While there has been a global trend toward abolition, more than half the world's countries are yet to sign up to the protocol and in some countries the use of capital punishment appears to be increasing.

Information on the progress of the inquiry to date, including submissions and transcripts, are available on the website: www.aph.gov.au/deathpenalty. For all other inquiries, contact the Committee Secretary on (02) 6277 4629.

WA Professor gives evidence on transport connectivity

Professor Peter Newman AO, the John Curtin Distinguished Professor of Sustainability at Curtin University, was the first witness to appear before the [Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities](#) for its [inquiry into increased transport connectivity and economic activity](#).

Committee Chairman John Alexander MP said Professor Newman has devoted his career to sustainable transport and urban design and is perfectly placed to begin investigations into transport connectivity.

“Professor Newman’s most recent publication examines the use of private investment to fund urban rail networks,” Mr Alexander said. “The discussion paper looks how rail and land developments add value in cities, and argues that such developments can lead to travel-time saving, increased land values, concentration of economic activity and development, and environmental efficiencies.”

Mr Alexander said exploring funding mechanisms for major transport infrastructure will be a key focus for this inquiry.

The inquiry is examining the likely impact of increased transport connectivity on property values and property-related tax revenues, options for the use of value-capture mechanisms to sustainably fund transport infrastructure, the role of government in establishing sustainable value-capture funding mechanisms, international experiences with capturing the value of high speed rail infrastructure, and the impact of high speed rail on urban and regional development.

More information on the Inquiry, including the full [terms of reference](#) and [how to prepare a submission](#) can be obtained from the Committee’s website at www.apf.gov.au/itc or from the Secretariat on (02) 6277 2352.

Background information: Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 2352 or itc.reps@apf.gov.au or visit the [Committee’s webpage](#).

National Capital Authority talks about future plans for Canberra

The review of the [National Capital Plan](#), the Capital Metro light rail project and the future of Floriade are still current topics being examined by the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories Committee

For inquiry information: Contact the secretariat for the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories on (02) 6277 4355 or http://www.apf.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/National_Capital_and_External_Territories/NCA_Biannual_Public_Briefings

Make a date – or several

Diary Dates on the website

ANUEF relies on 'Google Calendar' for events listing on the ANUEF website (<http://www.anu.edu.au/emeritus/>). 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. 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 when the required information is available, and the most immediate events will appear in *Emeritus*. So, please, check out the Events box on the ANUEF website, and report any errors to anuef.events@gmail.com

Unless otherwise stated, all events are in the Molony Room (see directions below). Collegiate lunch discussions are on the first Wednesday of the month (noon for 12.30 start), and public lectures (4 - 5pm) usually, but not always, on the third Wednesday of the month.

Diary Dates

Don't forget that details of all events are available in the ANUEF website calendar; scroll down its "dates" page to find all events that have been arranged, and scroll down each item to see the abstract.

March 8 Tuesday 7pm "*Nights at the Opera*" at the Wesley Music Centre, National Circuit, Forrest. This is an ANU Emeritus Faculty Initiative featuring the films of the late Michael Grafton-Green and will be an exciting opportunity to view operas performed and recorded at the ANU School of Music between 1995 and 2004, and recently remastered to Blu-ray. The event begins with the 1995 *Così fan tutte* featuring Jaewoo Kim, Catherine Carby, Richard Anderson, Terry Den Dulk, Chris Steele and many others. Further information from Colleen Rae-Gerrard at ribbonwood31@optusnet.com.au

March 16 Lecture (4.00pm). Professor Kurt Lambeck "Deformations of the Earth: from hours to eons: with particular focus on the interactions between ice sheets, oceans and the solid Earth."

March 16 (6.00 pm) the Australian Institute of International Affairs ACT Branch and the Commonwealth Round Table in Australia are co-hosting a presentation by Dr Lachlan Strahan (First Assistant Secretary, Multilateral Policy Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) on the subject *Does the Commonwealth Matter?* The venue will be the AIIA Conference Centre, Stephen House, 32 Thesiger Court, Deakin.

April 6 Collegiate lunch -Fergus Thomson was to lead the Collegiate lunch discussion but has been forced to postpone for one month, so we seek a speaker and topic for that date. Any suggestions to ANUEF.events@gmail.com

April 20 Lecture 4pm. Professor Robert Cribb "The cultural history of the orang-utan"

June 1 Collegiate lunch - TBA

June/July monthly lectures replaced by major events

June 15 Symposium - Research in Retirement Projects (organiser: Ian Keen)

June 24 Annual Dinner in University House Great Hall (organiser: Jim Fox) Annual Lecture(s) - (organisers: Jim Fox, Larry Saha, Colin Steele.

Meet the authors and language forum

For details of Colin Steele's "Meet the Authors" series go to

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

and for details of Mandy Scott's language forum meetings go to:

http://actbilingual.weebly.com/uploads/4/4/9/1/4491774/languages_forum_update_february_2016.pdf

ANUEF Planning session

Minutes of the February 3, 2016 collegiate lunch planning session (please respond to #5):

The events were grouped as:

1) Monthly lectures usually held on the third Wednesday of the month at 4pm. The aim in the past two years was to invite speakers from among the leading ANU/Canberra academics. It was suggested that in 2016 these lectures would be only in February-May and in August-November, as other events (see below) are planned for the mid-winter months. The speakers for February and March are already agreed, and advertised. Six other slots are unfilled - two other speakers (Richard Jeffersen [Innovation] and Ryszard Maleska [Epigenetics]) have agreed to talk but no dates yet decided.

2) Major mid-winter Events:

a) The ANUEF Annual Lecturer(s) will be invited and dated by Jim Fox, Larry Saha and Colin Steele.

b) The ANUEF Annual Dinner in University House Great Hall will be organised by Jim Fox and Jan O'Connor.

c) The Annual Symposium of ANUEF members' projects will be organised by Ian Keen.

3) Collegiate lunch discussions. These are for more topical subjects with lively audience participation, and are therefore organised at shorter notice. It was noted that these were important as they fostered collegiality. Prame Chopra and Larry Saha offered to talk at the March 2 lunch.

4) New events suggested by members.

a) Colleen Rae-Gerrard and Angela Giblin are keen to promote more musical events for the Faculty, and this was warmly supported. A showing of operas recorded by the late Michael Grafton-Green between 1995 and 2004 at the Canberra School of Music is planned, and the first showing is on March 8. More details above in Diary Dates.

b) Ian Mathews, who produces "Emeritus", proposed that that publication should include book reviews written by Faculty members. This proposal was warmly supported. Some books already seek reviewers. Ian suggested a reviewers list be established. Jim Fox pointed to ePress publications as ripe for review.

c) Bob Douglas suggested that the ANUEF become associated with The Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy (CAPaD - <http://canberra-alliance.org.au/>). This proposal was warmly supported.

d) Mandy Scott promotes language-related activities in the Canberra region, and it was agreed that updates on such activities are available on: (http://actbilingual.weebly.com/uploads/4/4/9/1/4491774/languages_forum_update_february_2016.pdf)

5) Volunteers are sought to join email-connected groups to help with:

a) Lectures and collegiate lunch Discussions - known members are Fyfe Bygrave, Jim Fox, Adrian Gibbs (Events secretary), Ian Keen, Di Riddell, Larry Saha, Colin Steele, Elizabeth Truswell;

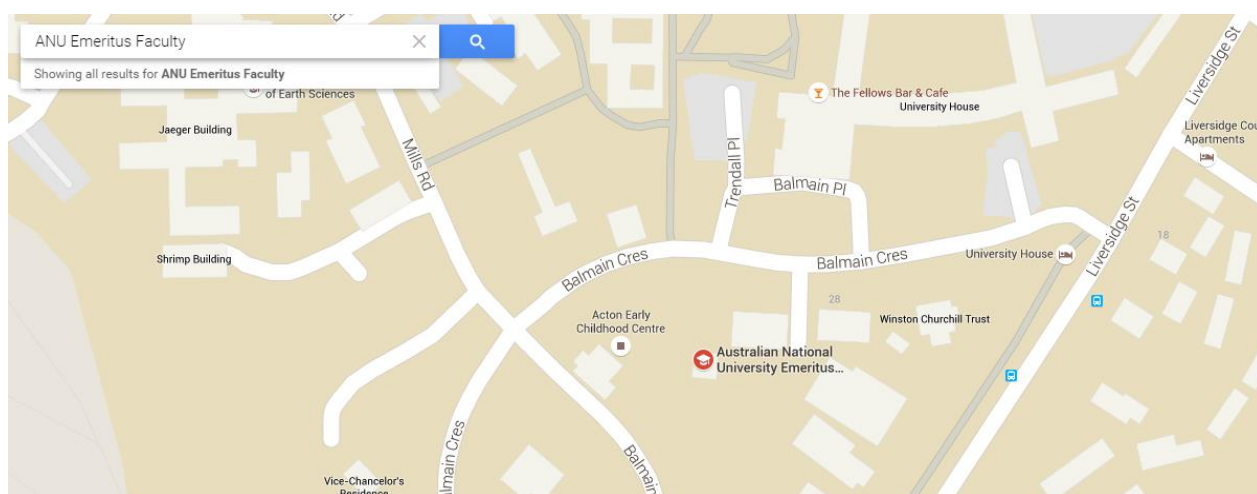
b) *Emeritus* editor Ian Mathews (ian.mathews7@bigpond.com) seeks sub-editors to help with proof-reading the monthly journal, and also book reviewers for its new activity. Volunteering to join these groups will not be onerous, and the more of us involved, the broader will be the sources of inspiration for our activities.

[Volunteers to help with *Emeritus* greedily accepted so far include Kevin Windle and Ailsa Solley. Book reviewers include Barry Hindess and Paul Gatenby.]

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>



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 or Tel: 6247 3341

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.

Supporters of **ANU Archives** can find updated news on the ANU website at <http://www.archives.anu.edu.au/news-and-events-1>

The next edition of *Emeritus*, the ANUEF Newsletter, will be published in April, 2016.