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Australian
National
University

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Apology

The editor apologises for the late production of *Emeritus* this month. University assignments were the reason but are not an excuse. Ian Mathews, editor

The Budget and Universities

In a comment on the Federal Budget, the Vice Chancellor says: "In the 2016/17 Budget, the Federal Government announced that full university fee deregulation will not be going ahead; implementation of reforms will be deferred until 2018, and released an [Options Paper](#) on higher education reform.

"There are a number of key budget measures and announcements that affect the higher education sector:

- Full fee deregulation is no longer being considered in its current form. The reform process has been delayed for 12 months with any further changes to come into effect from 1 January 2018. The 20 per cent Commonwealth Grant Scheme (CGS) cut that was announced in the 2014 Budget has been delayed with that timing.
- The efficiency dividend on CGS and related unlegislated measures are to be reversed and all withheld funds will be returned.
- Higher Education Participation Program (HEPP) funding will be cut by \$152 million, consisting of:
 - \$12 million to the [National Strategy for International Education](#)
 - \$40 million transferred to AIATSIS,
 - \$100 million in budget savings.
- The Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT) will close from 1 July 2016 but the Awards for Teaching Excellence, for Programs which enhance Learning, and Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning will continue.
- The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency will receive an additional \$10.1 million.

- The Quality Indicators of Learning and Teaching (QILT) student information website will receive \$8 million over the next four years.
- There is also an additional \$180.2 million for research support and research training programs, which was announced in National Innovation Statement.
- The [Academic Centres of Cyber Security Excellence](#) will receive \$3.5 million over four years.

“The Options Paper is open for comment until 25 July 2016, with a consultative process planned for the second half of the year, aiming for legislation into the Parliament in the first half of 2017. In the short-term there are some opportunities for us in the new spending announcements, but I remain concerned about the cuts projected for the sector.

“This is a budget released on the eve of a Federal Election campaign, so we'll be watching the Opposition's announcements - in detail as well. I will continue to work closely with our political leaders to ensure funding stability and a strong future for ANU”.

Budget media releases from ministers

Responsibly investing in education

<http://ministers.education.gov.au/birmingham/responsibly-investing-education>

The Government is continuing to provide record levels of financial assistance to State and Territory government schools and the non-government schools sector to support all Australian students. The Government's investment in education, training and child care will increase to more than \$41.8 billion in 2016-17.

Science in action to support the economy

<http://minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/pyne/media-releases/science-action-support-our-economy>

The 2016-17 Budget will commit vital funding to support science in action which will in turn support Australia's successfully transitioning economy.

2016 Foreign Affairs Budget

http://foreignminister.gov.au/releases/Pages/2016/jb_mr_160503.aspx?w=tb1CaGpkPX%2FIS0K%2Bg9ZKEq%3D%3D

ABC 2016-2019 funding

<http://about.abc.net.au/press-releases/abc-2016-2019-funding/>

The 2016-17 federal budget provides for indexed base funding to maintain the Corporation's core services and an additional \$41.4 million over three years for newsgathering initiatives.

Budget boost for the Great Barrier Reef to Antarctic

<http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/hunt/2016/mr20160503.html>

We recognise both its intrinsic value, and the contribution it makes to our transitioning economy, which is reliant on employment-intensive industries like tourism....

Delivering on mental health and enhanced support for veterans

http://minister.dva.gov.au/media_releases/2016/may/va035.htm

Statement by Dan Tehan MP Minister for Veterans' Affairs Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC

Minister for Defence – Budget 2016-17 – Defence Budget overview

<http://www.minister.defence.gov.au/2016/05/03/minister-for-defence-budget-2016-17-defence-budget-overview/>

The 2016 Defence Budget delivers on the Government's commitment to ensuring Australia's long-term security and economic prosperity.

A targeted welfare safety net

<http://christianporter.dss.gov.au/media-releases/ensuring-the-government-lives-within-its-means-a-targeted-welfare-safety-net>

The Government is committed to providing a strong safety net for Australia's most vulnerable, while improving the integrity of the welfare system....

Client contacts at Indigenous health organisations continue to increase (AIHW)

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/media-release-detail/?id=60129555152>

Australian Government-funded primary health care organisations saw around 435,000 individual clients through over 3.5 million episodes of care, an average of 8.2 episodes of care per client, in 2014-15, according to a report released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW). The report, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health organisations: Online services report-key results 2014-15 includes information from 278 organisations across Australia providing health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Getting on with building the Inland Rail | Minister for Finance

<http://www.financeminister.gov.au/media-release/2016/05/03/getting-building-inland-rail>

The Government is committing an additional \$594 million to get Inland Rail on track.

School of Music discussion paper

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Brian Schmidt AC, says in a recent blog, "As many people around ANU know, one of the first tasks I took on when I became Vice-Chancellor was to resolve the issues around the ANU School of Music, and to ensure a strong vibrant future for the school.

"I appointed Professor Andrew Podger AO to undertake a comprehensive community consultation about the School's future so that we would have the deep understanding we needed to make the best possible decisions.

"Professor Podger has ... released his Discussion Paper and I encourage all of you who are interested in music and our music school to take part in the next part of the consultation by responding to the questions the paper raises.

"One thing that is very clear from the first round of consultations is that there is a shared desire across our community to put the past behind us, and to re-establish enthusiasm for the School and its role at ANU, in Canberra and internationally.

"There is no one person or group of people responsible for the difficulties the School has had over many years but it is clear from the discussion paper that the University has not handled the challenges facing the School very well. I want to see us do better.

"Professor Podger also identifies that the School faces real financial challenges. Regardless of which option or options we pursue for the School in the future, the University will need to continue to provide strategic financial support to the School and we will need to also seek the support of the ACT Government and the Canberra community to help the School contribute to the life of the city.

"This discussion paper gives us all something very tangible to think about. Please do have your say on the options and the issues raised. I hope that the next stage of Professor Podger's work will help us find the right approach for our School, one that is both affordable

and consistent with the ANU vision of international excellence in education, a strong research focus and contribution to society.

[Download the Interim Discussion Paper](#) [pdf 1.14kb]

Submissions should address the core choices and issues highlighted in the conclusion, as well as the questions identified throughout the paper, indicating preferred directions, for the School. These should be emailed to somconsultations@anu.edu.au by 4 June 2016. Professor Podger will also be arranging meetings with selected individuals and groups in June, before preparing a final report.

BOOK REVIEW by Andrew Schuller

***The Art of Reading*, by Damon Young, 167pp. Melbourne University Press, 2016**

Young is a philosopher - prize-winning according to the blurb – and newspaper columnist similar, perhaps, to Alain de Botton and, on our own shores, John Armstrong, both of whom are concerned to encourage ordinary punters to apply the insights of the major philosophers to the business of leading a good life in the present day.

In *The Art of Reading* Young seems to be trying to examine the attitudes of philosophers to the question of how best to engage in one of the activities which can help us lead better lives – reading. The book contains a lot of potted philosophy but Young starts by describing his own entry into the world of reading. Sherlock Holmes was the first real book which liberated him from what he calls ‘his school’s banality and home’s atmosphere of violence’, freed him to enjoy a confusion of fact and fiction and, in allowing him to decide for himself how to react to words, permitted him to cock a snook at authority.

Then Young runs through a variety of attitudes to reading. For instance, the Turkish novelist Orhan Pamuk read as relief from boredom, Edith Wharton as a ‘cultivation and celebration of her growing personality’, Sartre because words helped him exercise authority over himself and de Beauvoir because she could exercise authority over the books - when she wasn’t there these books were silent. (Young picks up this point later when suggesting that a text is only half finished by the writer; to be complete it needs a reader. In a world in which books are no longer read they revert to being mere physical objects which are ‘lived in, eaten, buried, climbed upon, oxidised, but not read’)

Other instrumentalist arguments in favour of reading include its educational value and its contribution to psychological health and social connection. But it can also be an end in itself, an opportunity for experience.

Reading is easily justified but to practise it properly requires effort. This effort can in itself be pleasurable – ‘the pleasure of exertion of flexing psychological muscles’ Young calls it and quotes Hume in support. But it also involves the following virtues: curiosity, patience, courage, pride, temperance and justice, to each of which a chapter is devoted.

Under Curiosity Young focuses on Borges and Hume, both of whom were gravely not trivially curious, Heidegger and Parmenides. Queen Elizabeth II as portrayed by Alan Bennett is chastised by Young for lack of Patience. Although she recognises that reading has made her more sympathetic to her subjects as people she finds Henry James too long-winded. Young asserts that, had she had more patience and persevered with James, she could have ‘witnessed a more crowded human reality’. On the other hand, Young would not bother with Dan Brown, who provides no such Jamesian psychological acumen or aesthetic ambition.

By way of his own early youthful experience engrossed in an adventure series with a stalwart ninja as its hero Young’s chapter on Courage urges readers not to shirk risk but to

deliberately chase texts that challenge easy resolutions and generate unease. Philosophers Aristotle, Dewey, Whitehead, Dionysius, the Areopagist and Sartre are called upon as witnesses.

In the chapter on Pride Young criticises those who engage in what he calls 'conceited reading'. Such readers appear to be those who feel so superior that they dismiss what they are reading without trying to understand the author's intention. Hume, Pascal, Whitehead and Nietzsche feature here.

Nor should the reader be too self-indulgent or intemperate. Young berates himself for his *akolasia*, an Aristotelian coinage for poorly-managed appetite. Aquinas called it bestiality. Here is a warning against too much reading. Both Schopenhauer and Nietzsche are quoted. The former thought that, while 'thinking is free and spontaneous', reading is 'slavish and plodding.' The latter argued that those who think chiefly with books barely think at all. This chapter contains a four-page discussion of A. J. Ayer and his *Language, Truth and Logic*. I quote the following passage at some length because it is a good example of Young's writing style:

Not all of *Language, Truth and Logic* is this punchy, but as a work of philosophy it is a lungful of clean air after weeks of incense.

This phrasing held my focus like a science fiction novel, but Ayer refused any comforts. This was not chiefly a matter of argument, but of mood, Ayer coaxed me away from covetous reverie, towards public facts and the language to recognise them. It was ontologically miserly, refusing all kinds of existence. While speculative philosophers rightly take issue with this approach, the consequences for my consciousness were immediate. I met with resistance: not dramatic tension to be easily resolved but the psychological force that pulled me away from fancy. I *could* have interpreted Ayer's words arbitrarily, or with whimsy, but it would have been nonsense – a waste of his labours and mine. The only way to make sense of *L, T and L* was to take it seriously as a portrait of reality; and, in doing so, overcome my own solipsism. Comprehension required passion for a foreign cosmos and fidelity to its specificity.

Contrast this with another quotation, this one from the chapter on Justice which rounds off the book, maybe because to treat what you are reading justly requires so many of the virtues discussed in earlier chapters. The chapter is largely focused on Virginia Woolf and, in particular, her unjust reading of Joyce's *Ulysses*.

Woolf ...lamented Joyce's pettiness and vulgarity – she liked his impressionism, but not his impressions. Now Woolf's wariness had become hostility. The novel began well, she noted in her diary but soon it was like watching 'a queasy undergraduate scratching his pimples'. Later that month she declared *Ulysses* irrelevant, and was grateful she was not obliged to write about it. It was too obscure. By September, Woolf had finished the novel, declaring it 'illiterate'. It was an undignified, pretentious work of infantile showing off....

There is another kind of reader's justice, which provides a broad literary ideal rather than a single kind of evenhandedness.

The first quotation starts with a nice metaphor but, by the time I had reached the end of the longer paragraph, I felt no guilt at giving up on Young's virtues of patience, pride, curiosity and courage. Each sentence is well crafted, but for effect rather than easy comprehension, at any rate for those at my level of sharpness of mind and learning. The second quotation starts with a quite long passage that is clear and informative but is followed by a sentence as opaque as the longer part of the first quotation. Much of the book is like this, too dense and allusive for my taste. I felt that the effort of unpacking each sentence was unlikely to yield sufficient enlightenment about either the art of reading or how to lead the good life. Others may be better placed to appreciate it.

Reviewers welcome

Books awaiting a reviewer include:

Geography, Power, Strategy and Defence Policy: Essays in Honour of Paul Dibb

Edited by: Desmond Ball and Sheryn Lee, ANU Press, 2016

ISBN (print \$38.00): 9781760460136 **ISBN (online):** 9781760460143

Citation URL: <http://press.anu.edu.au?p=346293>

Paul Dibb AM has had an extraordinary career. He enjoys an international scholarly reputation of the highest order, while at the same time he has done much distinguished public service. He was a pioneer in moving back and forth between posts in government departments, notably the Department of Defence, and academia. He began as a student of Soviet economic geography, and then spent nearly two decades in Australian Defence intelligence, including service as Head of the National Assessments Staff (NAS) in the Joint Intelligence Organisation (JIO) from 1974 to 1978, Deputy Director of JIO in 1978–80, Director of JIO in 1986–88, and Deputy Secretary of Defence (Strategy and Intelligence) in 1988–91, before becoming a Professor in the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre (SDSC) at The Australian National University (where he is now an Emeritus Professor). He has been quite happy to engage in vigorous public debate about important and controversial strategic and defence issues, giving him a high public profile.

The contributors include two former Chancellors of ANU, one a former Minister of Defence, and the other a former Secretary of the Department of Defence, a former Chief of the Defence Force (CDF), and other former senior officials, as well as academic specialists in geography, international relations, and strategic and defence studies.

Learning from agri-environment schemes in Australia

Investing in biodiversity and other ecosystem services on farms



Edited by Dean Ansell, Fiona Gibson, David Salt

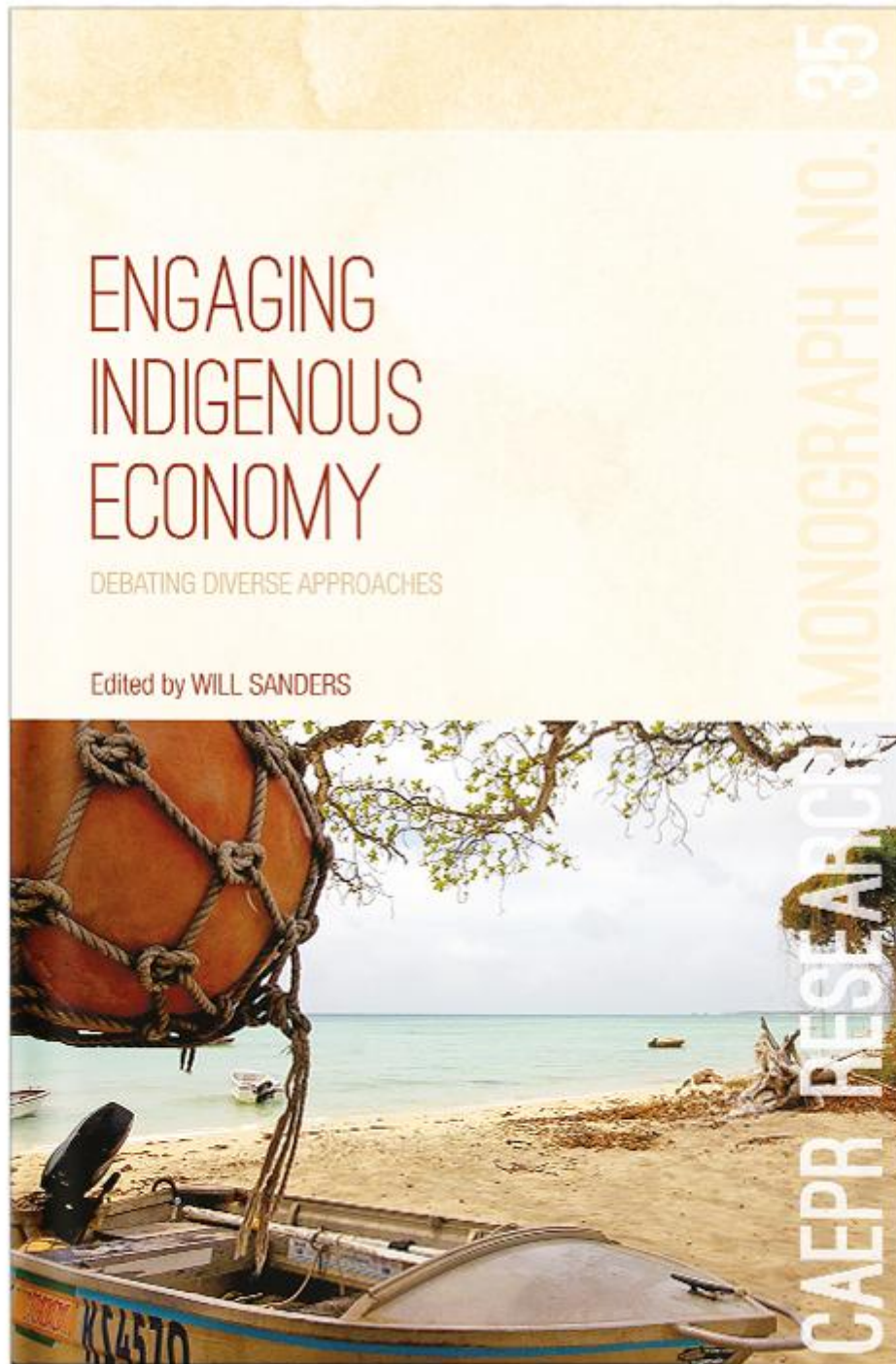
ISBN (print): 9781760460150

ISBN (online): 9781760460167

Publication date: May 2016

Imprint: ANU Press

Learning from agri-environment schemes in Australia is a book about the birds and the beef — more specifically it is about the billions of dollars that governments pay farmers around the world each year to protect and restore biodiversity. After more than two decades of these schemes in Australia, what have we learnt? Are we getting the most out of these investments, and how should we do things differently in the future? Involving contributions from ecologists, economists, social scientists, restoration practitioners and policymakers, this book provides short, engaging chapters that cover a wide spectrum of environmental, agricultural and social issues involved in agri-environment schemes.



Engaging Indigenous Economy: Debating diverse approaches published today! Download it for free here: <http://press.anu.edu.au?p=344543>

Several books are being reviewed, including *Forgotten Anzacs: the campaign in Greece, 1941*. This is a revised edition by Peter Ewer and is published by Scribe. Another is *The Forgotten People: Liberal and Conservative Approaches to Recognising Indigenous Peoples* by Damien Freeman and Shireen Morris; published by Melbourne University Press.

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.

Universities Australia welcomes new board directors

Universities Australia Chair Professor Barney Glover welcomed new and returning directors and thanked the outgoing board members for their contributions to Universities Australia.

Professor Margaret Gardner (Monash University) has been returned for another term and will be joined on the board by Professors John Dewar (La Trobe University), Jan Thomas (University of Southern Queensland) and Andrew Vann (Charles Sturt University).

Professors Jane den Hollander (Deakin University), Peter Lee FTSE (Southern Cross University) and Ian O'Connor (Griffith University) have now completed their terms.

Professor Dewar said it was an important time to be stepping on to the board. "I want to help ensure that Australia's universities continue to have a clear and strong voice about the value and benefits of higher education for Australia," he said.

[For a full list of the new board of directors visit the Universities Australia website](#)

Uni options paper key to resolving policy tug-of-war

An options paper on alternatives to full fee deregulation, a reduction in the size of funding cuts and a 12 month delay to the introduction of higher education changes has softened the blow to universities, according to Universities Australia.

However cuts worth a combined \$180 million to university programs that support disadvantaged students and teaching excellence are fresh blows. In a welcome move in the Budget, the Government has delayed the introduction of the proposed 20 per cent cut to January 1, 2018, and dropped the \$1.2 billion efficiency dividend on legislated programs.

In scrapping previous plans to fully deregulate student fees, the Government has also released an options paper on alternative policy changes to secure a financially sustainable higher education system.

"Education Minister Simon Birmingham has delivered on his 'no surprises' commitment by unveiling an options paper ahead of the election", said Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson.

"The paper provides a basis for discussion on the design of a higher education system that safeguards quality and is both equitable and affordable to students and taxpayers.

"The sector needs this process to resolve the long-running policy tug-of-war, with Budget constraints pulling in one direction and the need for high-quality, affordable university education system pulling in the other."

Throughout the consultation process, Universities Australia will continue to prosecute the case that a strong university sector underpins the nation's third largest export sector and is essential to the task of economic transition. It is also the architecture of the new knowledge economy.

The options paper offers a detailed summary of the key issues that need to be debated and we welcome the decision to appoint an expert advisory panel.

The Government's decision to delay the implementation of its proposed 20 per cent cut will bring some relief and certainty through to 2018. However, universities are deeply disappointed by Government

plans to abolish the Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) and cut \$152 million from the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships (HEPP) Program, which supports the most educationally disadvantaged students to succeed at university.

"Budget cuts to programs supporting disadvantaged students and encouraging innovative teaching and learning are counterproductive", Ms Robinson said. "The HEPP program has seen more students from low-income backgrounds start on the path to university education than ever before. Since 2010, the number of low SES students starting at university grew by a third with the support of this program."

The Office for Learning and Teaching was supported by modest funding which has been redirected to TEQSA, the body that oversees quality and standards in the sector, and enhancing the Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) website.

"While universities are pleased to see more resources for TEQSA and QILT, it should not be at the expense of the highly effective OLT. The abolition of the OLT will end a program that underpins teaching excellence and innovation and supports student retention," Ms Robinson said.

Universities Australia will work with its members to discuss the proposed options and develop a comprehensive response.

AT A GLANCE: KEY 2016 BUDGET MEASURES ON UNIVERSITY FUNDING

- 12 month delay to the introduction of higher education changes to 1 January 2018
- Removal of the efficiency dividend on legislated higher education programs (restoring \$1.2 billion)
- Full deregulation of student fees ruled out and a discussion paper released on possible policy options
- A cut to the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (\$152 million)
- Abolition of the Office of Teaching and Learning but retaining the teaching and learning awards (\$18 million)

Universities essential to economic transition: new campaign

A new stage of Keep it Clever advertising will be launched during the federal election campaign to highlight even more directly the essential role of universities in economic transition and new job creation. The new campaign was launched at the recent FUTUREPROOF 2016 conference in Sydney by Universities Australia Chair Professor Barney Glover.

With both major parties talking up the need for Australia to make an economic transition, the new campaign makes the point squarely that a strong university sector is needed to achieve it. It stresses the indispensable role that universities play in people's day-to-day lives, by telling the stories of university graduates and university research breakthroughs that save lives, create new businesses, and generate economic growth for Australia.

In his speech, Professor Glover noted that "the task (of economic transition) simply cannot be achieved without a strong university sector; one that produces a highly skilled workforce and generates new jobs and new industries to replace the ones that are disappearing.

"Some may assume that we are relaunching this campaign now because we aim to influence or sway voters or the election outcome. We are not. This may be a campaign in an election, but it is not an election campaign. Rather, we want to remind Australians - and all candidates and political parties - of the enormous contribution that universities make to almost every aspect of Australia's economic and social wellbeing."

Professor Glover said that many Australians would know that Australia's university researchers and graduates were responsible for inventions such as the Cochlear implant, contributed to the development of wifi at CSIRO, and developed the ground-breaking cervical cancer vaccine, Gardasil.

"But what may not be so top of mind is how a high-quality university system touches their lives in so many other ways," he said. "The highly-skilled teachers in their child's primary school classroom? Educated at a university. The doctor who treats their elderly parent? Educated at a university. The engineer who designed the bridge they drive over safely every day. The forensic scientist who helps solve crimes and makes their communities safer. The IT programmers who engineered the technology in their smart phone. The people who designed banking security systems to keep their money safe. The people who came up with GPS, who keep planes in the sky, and the plant scientists who are developing more drought-resistant crops. All university educated.'

Supporters can sign the Keep it Clever petition at keepitclever.com.au and follow the campaign via the hashtag #keepitclever.

Universities Australia welcomes Watt Review response

Universities Australia welcomes the commitment by the Minister for Education and Training, Senator Simon Birmingham to address all 28 recommendations from the [Review of Research Policy and Funding Arrangements](#), led by Dr Ian Watt AO.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson said the implementation of several major recommendations was already underway in a swift but considered manner.

The announcement coincided with the release of consultation papers seeking input on how to assess research engagement and impact, and options for restructuring the research block grants to encourage even greater partnerships and collaboration between university researchers and industry.

Productivity Commission recommends fairer copyright laws

The Productivity Commission's [draft report into Australia's Intellectual Property Arrangements](#), calls for the introduction of a broader "fair use" system of copyright. The report found that the current copyright system is weighted too much in favour of rights holders and a "fair use" system would deliver net benefits to Australia.

Australia's current copyright exceptions are "too narrow and prescriptive, do not reflect the way people actually consume and use content in the digital world and are insufficiently flexible to account for new legitimate uses of copyright material", the report stated.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson said, "The draft report's recommendations are sensible, practical and will bring Australia's intellectual property arrangements into the 21st century",

The report acknowledges the important work that Australian universities are doing to make their own intellectual property (IP) more accessible to Australians and Australian businesses. Every Australian university has listed its patents on IP Australia's Source IP site, making it a comprehensive searchable source of Australia's university-held patents. Easy Access IP has been adopted by seven Australian universities and allows businesses to access IP quickly and for free, under a one page agreement.

In summary, the Productivity Commission report:

- recommends the Australian Government amend the *Copyright Act 1968* to introduce a broad, principles-based fair use exception which was advocated in Universities Australia's submission

to the Productivity Commission's Inquiry. This approach was recommended by the Australian Law Reform Commission in its 2014 report [Copyright and the Digital Economy](#);

- recommends the Government expand the "safe harbour" copyright shield for online service providers (which could include universities);
- supports increasing the degree of inventiveness required for a patent;
- supports the ongoing work of Governments and universities to release research under open access arrangements;
- recognises that universities should have flexibility to decide how best to make IP available to the public; and
- recommends against the adoption of 'use it or lose it' provisions for patents, and proposes that new measures like Easy Access and Source IP be given further time to work before additional provisions are considered.

National strategy a step in the right direction

The National Strategy for International Education 2025 released recently is a step in the right direction, members of the former Coordinating Council for International Education have said. Sector and industry members of the council, who were consulted in the early stages of the strategy's development, are pleased to see the release of Australia's first whole-of-sector international education strategy.

They said the success of the strategy would ultimately be judged by the quality of implementation - and the Government now needed to put it into action.

Phil Honeywood, CEO of the International Education Association of Australia (IEAA) said, "Given that international education is now worth \$19.6 billion a year to the Australian economy, it now requires the level of attention that the nation's third largest export sector should attract. The sector provides far more than just an economic boost. Research collaboration, two-way student mobility and student services such as accommodation and employment skills are all vital and require greater national coordinated effort. These 'soft diplomacy' benefits are often overlooked."

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson said, "For too long, international education has fallen between the cracks of different ministers and departments. The fact that both government and industry representatives were willing to take a whole-of-sector approach in framing the strategy is to be commended.

"As the implementation of the strategy and the associated Austrade roadmap initiatives will be dependent on the formation of a new Coordinating Council, we look forward to the members of this Council being announced at the earliest opportunity. This should, ideally, occur before the pending election so that the sector can see tangible progress being made."

Council for International Education

The new Council for International Education, launched last month, will work with Government and the sector more broadly to implement the National Strategy for International Education 2025 – realising the ambitions outlined in this policy document, the marketing roadmap Australian International Education 2025 and Australia's alumni program.

The following people from the industry are members of the inaugural Council for International Education:

- Brett Blacker, CEO, English Australia
- Tim Beresford, Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Macquarie University
- Rod Camm, Chief Executive Officer, ACPET
- Claire Field, Principal, Claire Field and Associates
- Phil Honeywood, Chief Executive Officer, International Education Association of Australia
- Jenny Lambert, Director, Employment, Education and Training ACCI
- President of CISA (rotating membership, currently Nina Khairina)
- Simon Maddocks, Vice-Chancellor, Charles Darwin University
- Belinda Robinson, Chief Executive, Universities Australia
- Helen Zimmerman, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer, Navitas

Australia's universities deepen links with Singapore

The Australian Government and the Government of Singapore will undertake a range of initiatives to broaden and deepen cooperation - including on education and innovation. Australia and Singapore are long-term education partners. According to the Australian Alumni Singapore, more than 130,000 Singaporeans have graduated from Australian universities, including Dr Tony Tan, President of the Republic of Singapore.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson welcomed the growth in the number of Australian qualifications recognised by Singapore. "We look forward to continuing to expand this list, in recognition of the depth and breadth of excellence in all Australia's universities. A new process to allow Australian universities to make a case to use the term 'university' in Singapore is particularly pleasing and will enhance recognition of Australia's high quality institutions."

The further work on mutual recognition of professional engineers and accountants will facilitate greater workforce mobility and promote stronger ties. Australia and Singapore are also establishing a professional services framework to support mutual recognition of professional qualifications into the future.

The announcement of Singapore as the location of the final 'landing pad' for market-ready start-ups completes this initiative, joining Shanghai, Berlin, San Francisco and Tel-Aviv.

"Australian universities are developing the next generation of entrepreneurs and these landing pads will help them to identify partners, customers and investors, and find opportunities to reach global markets," she said.

A Memorandum of Understanding on tourism cooperation between the Australian Government and the Singapore Tourism Board will grow tourist numbers for both countries.

A reciprocal Work and Holiday visa program, with up to 500 visa places per year, supports young people from Australia and Singapore to undertake short term work and study.

Agreement has also been reached on a tailored multi-year visa arrangement to facilitate travel and entry of Singapore nationals who are pre-vetted by the Singapore government.

Singapore and Australia will also promote further cooperation on education, including that arrangements be developed to allow Australian providers to now use the name 'University' for their Singaporean campuses. Singapore has also agreed to recognise Juris Doctor, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy degrees from agreed universities. A process for the mutual recognition of other professional qualifications will also begin with engineering and accounting as priorities.

More than 700 Australian students will study and undertake internships in Singapore in the first three years of the New Colombo Plan (2014-16). Singapore and Australia have agreed a pilot internship program which will aim to give 100 Singaporeans studying in Australia more internship opportunities with leading Australian companies. There will also be improved arrangements for recognition of Australian tertiary qualifications in Singapore.

The agreement also provides opportunities for Singaporean students to gain work experience in Australia.

Australia will be seeking to include similar agreements in other trade arrangements to enhance our opportunities to grow international education - further building on the National Strategy for International Education 2025 released last week.

Caesar had a rat for tea or was it Brutus?

At the ANUEF Collegiate lunch May 4, while Fergus Thomson encouraged us all to participate in the class war of bemoaning changes to the English language, someone wrote on the whiteboard:

Caesar had a rat for tea

Brutus had some jam.

Curiously I wondered, is this really intended to be Latin?

Caesar ad arat forte, Brutus ad sum iam?

Or perhaps *Caesar ad errat forte, Brutus adsum iam?*

Or *Caesar aderat forte, Brutus adsum iam?*

The words of Carl Orff's Carmina Burana came back to me from the 1970s: '*Iam iam cedant tristia! Estas redit, nunc recedit. Hyemis sevitia*'. For your edification (an intentional malapropism), this translates as 'sadness is now at an end! Summer returns, now withdraw the rigours of winter.'ⁱ The Canberra Choral Society enthusiastically rendered the first line as '*yum yum kaydant*'!

Iam, I recall from high school Latin in about 1960 as meaning 'now'. My Latin dictionaryⁱⁱ gave me 'to be present' for *assum* (= *adsum*) because *ad sum* makes no sense in Latin. *Ad erat* or *ad errat* also make no sense for the same reason: prepositions such as *ad* should be followed by nouns and not by verbs such as *sum* (I am) or *errat* (he wanders or strays or is mistaken) or *erat*. *Erat* is not in my dictionary as a verb but it could be an obscure conjugation – and that, by the way, is not an intentional malapropism! What about *aderat*? Not in my dictionary. *Aderrat*? He wanders or travels **to** somewhere.

Forte I thought would clearly mean 'strong' or 'brave', but perhaps not. My dictionary offers 'by chance' as another possible meaning.

At this stage I abandoned my Latin dictionary and Google came to the rescue. According to multiple online sourcesⁱⁱⁱ the original rhyme appears to be:

Caesar ad sum iam forte,

Brutus et erat,

Caesar sic in omnibus,

Brutus sic in at.

In casual English this gives us: *Caesar 'ad some jam for tea, Brutus 'et a rat, Caesar sick in omnibus, Brutus sick in 'at.* And in standard English it translates to:

Caesar had some jam for tea,

Brutus ate a rat.

Caesar was sick on the bus,

Brutus vomited into his hat.

You may notice I have been purposefully unclear in the heading to this short humoresque (yes, another intentional malapropism): Caesar had a rat for tea or was it Brutus? Was it Brutus that Caesar^{iv} had for tea, ie was Brutus the rat? Or was it Brutus who ate the rat?

1 (from <http://www.classical.net/music/comp.lst/works/orff-cb/carmlyr.php>)

2 The Latin dictionary I currently use is *Langenscheidt's Pocket Latin Dictionary* by S A Handford and M Herberg, 1966. The Latin dictionary I had at high school, still in my possession for largely sentimental reasons, is *A Latin Dictionary* by C G Gepp and A E Haigh, published in 1922. It had many owners before me but sadly it sat on a shelf in the sun for a long time, the paper yellowed and the text size shrank. I had to buy a new one even though the old one is much more interesting.

The name Haigh, incidentally, reminds me of the word 'haig', while I am thinking of old books and looking at my old Latin dictionary. Ever had the luxury of a haig for breakfast? If you can find it, read *A Little Silver Trumpet* by L. T. Meade, first published by Hodder and Stoughton in 1885. Meade was a prolific writer of children's books from 1861 to 1919, five years after her death. My grandfather gave me the book when I was 10 and I loved it.

3 For example:

<http://forum.wordreference.com/threads/caesar-sic-in-omnibus-nonsense-rhyme.2239792/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dog_Latin

http://m.heraldscotland.com/opinion/13411213.Who_said_Latin_is_no_joke/

All this talk of tea and jam is making me hungry. I think I'll head down to my local takeaway shop and buy a Caesar salad. An appropriate thought to end with.

Shirley Pipitone

6 May 2016

CSIRO behind world's largest telescope

Technology developed by CSIRO will sit at the heart of one of the world's biggest science projects, following an agreement with China's leading astronomical research organisation.

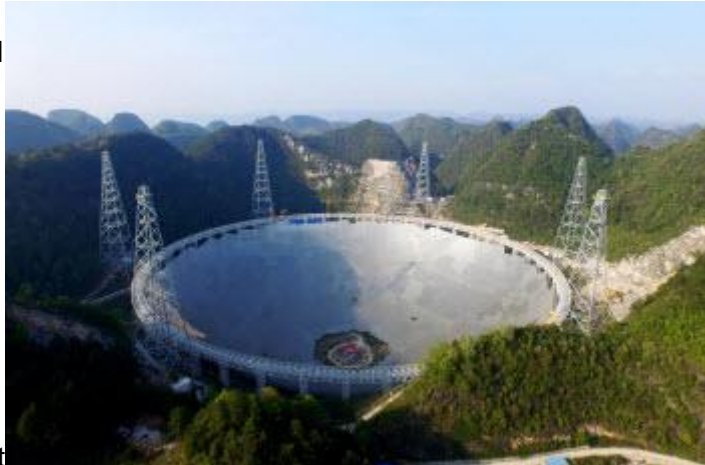
The National Astronomical Observatories of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (NAOC) has teamed up with CSIRO engineers in the development of the world's largest single dish telescope – the 500 metre Aperture Spherical Telescope (FAST).

With a diameter of half a kilometre wide, FAST will dwarf the current largest single-dish telescope, the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. It will also be one of the most sensitive, able to receive weaker and more distant radio signals, helping to explore the nature, origins and evolution of the universe.

The telescope's 19-beam receiver, a key component, is being designed and built in Australia by CSIRO engineers.

RIGHT: The FAST complex in China.

CSIRO Chief Executive Dr Larry Marshall said the project was a great example of Australia's innovative technology being delivered on the world stage.



"Global collaboration is an integral part of CSIRO's Strategy 2020, as it maps out our desire to deliver science, technology and innovation to new customers and markets, while also delivering benefit back to Australia," Dr Marshall said.

"This is a really exciting project and builds on 40 years of CSIRO collaboration with Chinese industry and research organisations."

Most radio telescopes use receivers that can only see one piece of sky at a time, but CSIRO has designed receivers with many separate, simultaneous beams, making it practical for FAST to search a large portion of the sky for faint and hidden galaxies.

"The powerful receiver we've created for FAST is the result of our long history developing cutting-edge astronomy technology to receive and amplify radio waves from space," Acting Director CSIRO Astronomy and Space Science, Dr Douglas Bock said.

"Extending our technology and collaboration to China and working on what will become the world's largest radio telescope really cements our position as a global R&D leader in this space."

Professor Rendong Nan from NAOC said the state-of-the-art instrument would help astronomers to expand their understanding of the universe.

"FAST will make it possible for us to look for a range of extremely interesting and exotic objects, like detecting thousands of new pulsars in our galaxy, and possibly the first radio pulsar in other galaxies," he said.

Gates Foundation gives research grant to CSIRO

Australian scientists will be field testing their ground-breaking breath markers for malaria, thanks to a \$1.4 million research grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Over the next

18 months, a CSIRO research team will be leading collaborative validation trials in locations with high malaria incidence including Malawi, Bangladesh, Sabah province in Malaysia and Sudan.

This next stage of development follows on from the discovery last year by scientists at the CSIRO, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute and the Australian National University, where the research identified distinctive chemicals that can be detected in the breath of patients infected with malaria.

"Our initial research really opened our eyes to the potential for a new test, because the chemicals that we found in the breath of patients could be detected at the very early stages of infection," Research Group Leader at CSIRO Dr Stephen Trowell said.

"Thanks to this new funding from the Gates Foundation, we can now test the accuracy and effectiveness of the breath markers under real world conditions.

"If this phase of the research pans out, we intend to move onto developing a simple, painless and cheap breath test to help identify people who have malaria but don't know it.



"This would enable better targeting of treatments to stop transmission of the disease."

The current research trial will bring together expertise across a range of scientific and medical disciplines, along with extensive knowledge of the unique challenges faced in specific geographical zones.

The main collaborators are CSIRO, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, Menzies School of Health Research (with their collaborators in Bangladesh, Malaysia and Sudan) and Washington University in St. Louis, USA (with their collaborators in Malawi).

The validation trials involve asking people with suspected malaria to provide a breath sample, in addition to normal testing and treatment that they receive at health clinics.

Some 'control' patients who are not suspected to have malaria will also be asked to donate a breath sample for comparison.

All the chemicals present in the breath will be stabilised in special sample tubes and transported to Canberra or St. Louis for chemical and statistical analysis.

Emerging mosquito borne diseases such as the Zika virus are in the news a lot these days, but malaria continues to make hundreds of millions of people sick and accounts for up to half a million fatalities each year.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is continuing to invest in new interventions including highly sensitive diagnostic tools, the development of a simple breath test for malaria could play a significant role in future disease eradication campaigns.

This grant follows recent investment by the foundation in CSIRO research for the development of high yielding sorghum and cowpea hybrids, and improved productivity of rice and sorghum in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

CSIRO helps business to make the most of science

CSIRO has launched a new business advisory service to help Australian and international businesses make the right science and technology investments for the future. To mark the launch, CSIRO Futures has released a report on how businesses can prepare for an uncertain future.

The Australia 2030: navigating our uncertain future report outlines four scenarios for Australia's future and identifies growth opportunities under each. It also presents a framework to guide business planning and investment in research and development. **Report available [HERE](#)**

The service will be delivered by CSIRO's advisory and foresight group CSIRO Futures, led by James Deverell. Mr Deverell has 20 years of experience delivering technology strategy projects for both government and Global 2000 commercial clients across four continents.

"Science and technology are rapidly reshaping industries around the world and creating new opportunities. Australian companies will need to grasp these opportunities if they want to remain competitive," Mr Deverell said. "We work with our clients to help them understand what these opportunities mean for their business and develop strategies to take advantage of them."

CSIRO Futures is a key element of CSIRO's Strategy 2020 goal of being an innovation catalyst for the nation and is an example of using our science to help business and communities address major challenges. CSIRO has been researching megatrends for a number of years but this new approach will put that into practice by working with industry to explain how they can set their businesses up for the opportunities and challenges these megatrends might present.

The next stage of this work will be to develop specific roadmaps for Australia's key industry sectors including METS (mining equipment, technology and services); advanced manufacturing; medical technologies and pharmaceuticals; oil, gas and energy resources; and food and agribusiness.

Download report [HERE](#)

Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission to combat criminal and national security threats

The Government has established a new criminal intelligence and information agency following the passage of the Australian Crime Commission Amendment (National Policing Information) Bill 2015 through the Parliament.

The legislation creates a new Commonwealth law enforcement and criminal intelligence agency – to be known as the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission. It will focus on targeting emerging criminal and national security threats, and bring CrimTrac and the Australian Crime Commission (ACC) together under one banner.

The nation's law enforcement agencies will be able to use a single data entry point to feed in and out of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission IT capabilities where research, operational data and intelligence will ultimately provide a big data view of law enforcement information including imminent threats. Information gathered by frontline law enforcement officers will be available to intelligence officers monitoring the National Criminal Target List, creating a round the clock Australia-wide intelligence sharing network.

Last August, the Federal Government announced \$9.8 million over two years from the Confiscated Assets Account to pilot a new National Criminal Intelligence System which will strengthen information and intelligence sharing across law enforcement agencies and jurisdictions. That work is under way.

Mr Chris Dawson APM, the current Chief Executive Officer of the ACC will lead the new agency. The Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission will be operational from 1 July 2016.

Death of Romaldo Giurgola AO

The President of the Senate, Senator Stephen Parry, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Tony Smith MP, have paid tribute to Romaldo (Aldo) Giurgola AO, architect of Australia's Parliament House, who died in Canberra on 16 May.

As senior partner of Mitchell/Giurgola & Thorp Architects, he was the principal design architect for Australia's Parliament House from its inception in 1980 until 1999. Since its opening, Parliament House has become not only an iconic building but a place for all Australians. As Mr Giurgola himself remarked, 'an architect gives form to a building, and people give that building their own meaning'.

The Presiding Officers said, "We acknowledge Mr Giurgola not only as an exceptional architect of Parliament House but one who, along with a great team of architects, helped to make the Australian Parliament House the iconic symbol of democracy that it has become."

Mr Giurgola's career began in Italy, continued in the USA, and culminated in Australia. He also had a distinguished academic career, including serving as head of the department of architecture at the Columbia University, New York. Mr Giurgola made Canberra his home, becoming a citizen in 2000. In 2010 his contribution to the federal capital was commemorated by his inclusion in the Australian Capital Territory's Honour Walk.

After his official retirement Mr Giurgola continued to work as a consultant, most notably as design architect for St Patrick's Cathedral in Parramatta, NSW. Mr Giurgola was made an Officer of the Order of Australia; he also received the Royal Australian Institute of Architects Gold Medal, the Gold Medal of the American Institute of Architects, the Australian Centenary Medal and the Sir Zelman Cowen Award for Public Buildings.

Pre-election appointments

The Australian Human Rights Commission has welcomed the Attorney-General's announcement of three new appointments to the Age, Disability and Human Rights portfolios.

Former Cabinet minister Dr Kay Patterson will become the Age Discrimination Commissioner; Mr Alastair McEwin will become the Disability Discrimination Commissioner; and Susan Ryan, who is currently the Commissioner for both Age and Disability Discrimination, will step down in August. Edward Santow will become Human Rights Commissioner. The position was vacated by Liberal candidate Tim Wilson in February.

Dr Patterson is currently the Commissioner of the National Mental Health Commission. She is also a psychologist and advocate for older Australians.

Mr McEwin's experience include CEO of People with Disability Australia and manager of the Australian Centre for Disability Law. As Human Rights Commissioner, Mr Santow is currently CEO of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre.

Chronic Disease Inquiry Report Released

The [House of Representatives Health Committee](#) has released the [report](#) for its *Inquiry into Chronic Disease Prevention and Management in Primary Health Care*.

Chronic disease is a heavy burden on Australia's health care system, and on society as a whole, contributing to 90 per cent of the mortality rate in Australia. In 2014, seven million Australians, over a third of the population, had at least one chronic disease, with many suffering from multiple conditions. As a result of this challenge to the health care system, the Health Committee undertook a wide-ranging inquiry to consider best practice in preventing and managing chronic disease in Australia.

During the conduct of its inquiry, the Committee examined: prevention and management of chronic disease in Australia and internationally, funding models for chronic disease care, the emerging role of Primary Health Networks, the contribution of private health insurers, as well as the likely improvements to come from the Health Care Home trials announced by the Australian Government (commencing in 2017).

Key recommendations of the [report](#) are:

- Expanding performance indicators for Primary Health Networks to include more specific data, to be prioritised for research to inform targeted service provision.
- Investigating an expansion of the Medicare Benefits Schedule to allow for more allied health treatments per year, and to allow direct referral between allied health professionals and specialists in certain circumstances.
- Improving privacy restrictions related to clinician access to patient records.
- Expanding the current Practice Incentive Program to include breast, bowel and skin cancer screening and Integrated Health Checks.
- Continuing support and expansion of the My Health Record to support chronic disease prevention and management.
- Prioritising the development and implementation of the Health Care Home trials as part of a *Healthier Medicare*.

First steps: Committee tables Interim Report on Indigenous education

The [Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs](#) has tabled an [interim report](#) as part of its [Inquiry into Educational Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students](#).

Although the Committee did not have an opportunity to fulfil its planned hearing program, issues raised by the community were so significant that the Committee resolved to release interim findings and recommendations for the Minister's urgent consideration.

The [Interim Report](#) recommends that:

- ABSTUDY be overhauled and redesigned with the new system being fully operational by 30 June 2017
- the Government rectify the current gender imbalance in Commonwealth funding provided to Indigenous girls' and boys' programs, and ensure that future grants are gender equitable
- the Minister for Indigenous Affairs re-refer the inquiry to the Committee in the new Parliament so to ensure that the Committee may finish this vital work.

Further information on the inquiry, including a [full copy of the report](#) is available on the Committee website at www.aph.gov.au/educationalopportunities.

For further information contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4559 or indigenousaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au

Australia's Future in Research and Innovation

The Australian Parliament's [Trade and Investment Growth Committee](#) has released its report entitled *Inquiry into Australia's Future in Research and Innovation*. The Inquiry examined Australia's innovation system from the creation of ideas through research and innovative thinking, to the commercialisation of these ideas.

The report made six recommendations:

- Emerging industries should be identified where strategic research investment could enable Australia to become a world leader.
- There should be a review of overseas models of university-business collaboration to identify strategies which could be introduced in Australia.
- Initiatives introduced as part of the National Innovation and Science Agenda should be reviewed after three years of operation to determine their effectiveness and whether the programs should be expanded.
- If a patent box scheme is introduced, it should be subject to a sunset clause after three years of operation, in addition to a review.
- The Manufacturing Finance Corporation proposal should be reviewed.
- The Advanced Manufacturing Tax proposal should be reviewed.

The [report](#) is available from the [Committee's website](#).

Towards a world without the death penalty

The [Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade](#) has released the [report](#) for its [inquiry into Australia's advocacy for the abolition of the death penalty](#).

To improve Australia's advocacy efforts internationally, the report recommends the Australian Government develop, fund and implement a whole-of-government strategy that focusses efforts on retentionist countries in the Indo-Pacific region, as well as the United States of America.

Chair of the Human Rights Sub-Committee, Philip Ruddock MP said, "There is no place for the death penalty in the modern world. Encouraging more countries to abolish the death penalty would be a central aim of the strategy and, among countries retaining the death penalty for the time being, Australia should seek to reduce numbers of executions and reduce the range of crimes for which the death penalty can be imposed. Australia should take a special interest in death penalty cases where there are apparent shortcomings of due process or when the accused is a juvenile, pregnant, or likely suffering a mental illness."

Other recommendations in the [report](#) include:

- Basing Australia's advocacy approaches on the principles of human rights and on the view that executions amount to torture;
- Bringing together a regional coalition of like-minded countries to promote abolition;
- Seeking increased transparency and disclosure from certain countries regarding numbers of executions, the number of people under a sentence of death and the crimes committed;

- Establishing ongoing funding and resourcing to support the whole-of-government death penalty abolition strategy;
- Funding civil society organisations whose work relates to death penalty abolition;
- Utilising the influence of parliamentarians and others who oppose the death penalty;
- Formulating guidelines to be activated at a departmental level whenever Australians are at risk of the death penalty in an overseas jurisdiction; and
- Improving procedures to be followed by the Australian Federal Police when information is provided to an overseas jurisdiction, in circumstances which may subsequently expose a person to the death penalty.

The complete [report](#) and information about the inquiry, including submissions and public hearing transcripts, is available on the website: www.aph.gov.au/deathpenalty.

For more information, contact the Secretary on (02) 6277 2313.

ATO more responsive, but care needed

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has been commended on its consultative and responsive, yet careful, approach to technology innovation, in a report tabled recently by the [Tax and Revenue Committee](#). However, the Committee notes that there is still concern among tax practitioners about the operation of the ATO's IT systems and the move to new systems by the ATO.

The [first report](#) for the inquiry into the 2015 ATO Annual Report deals with the ATO's introduction of new technology, its relationships with tax professionals, its handling of disputes and debts, estimates of the tax gap and the cash economy, and draft public rulings.

Committee Chair, Bert van Manen MP, said that the Committee commended the careful approach of the ATO in its latest round of technology innovations in an effort to ensure a smooth transition.

Mr van Manen noted, "This year a new system using Standard Business Reporting is being used for business tax returns, but the old Electronic Lodgement System will remain in place as a backup at least until March 2017. However, the report suggests that the ATO should engage in broad education campaigns for individual taxpayers and for tax agents about the new technology."

One innovation is the ATO's use of new methodologies to gather evidence for its estimates of the cash economy, including observing live situations such as farmers' markets.

The [report](#) can be found on the Committee website: <http://www.aph.gov.au/taxrev>.

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

Report tabled on Great Barrier Reef regulation

Parliament's [Public Accounts Committee](#) has presented its [inquiry report](#) on three Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) reports relating to Great Barrier Reef permit regulation; Defence vehicle fleet replacement; and test and evaluation of Defence acquisitions.

Committee Chair, Ian Macfarlane MP, said the Committee was strongly concerned by the Auditor-General's finding that shortcomings in the regulatory processes and practices of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority had undermined the effectiveness of the permit system as a means of managing risks to the Marine Park. The Committee has recommended accelerated implementation of initiatives to address this matter."

"On Defence's medium and heavy vehicle fleet replacement program, the Committee has recommended that Defence ensure lessons learned from the failed first tender process for this area are embedded in standard operating procedures. The Committee has also recommended Defence improve its test and evaluation processes for major equipment acquisitions, noting that several past ANAO audits and external reviews had identified deficiencies in this area".

The Committee's [report](#) includes recommendations directed at:

- the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority to: appropriately accelerate its projected time frame for implementation of the audit recommendations; implement a more effective performance framework for this area; and report back to the Committee on its implementation of improvements to permit application assessment, compliance management and response to non-compliance
- the Department of Defence to: provide evidence that lessons learned from acquisitions have been firmly embedded in standard operating procedures; and report back to the Committee on coordination of test and evaluation across the department, improvements to performance reporting, and implementation of competency and training arrangements

The Committee's inquiries drew on three ANAO reports: *Australian Defence Force's Medium and Heavy Vehicle Fleet Replacement (Land 121 Phase 3B)*, Audit Report No. 52 (2014-15); *Regulation of Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Permits & Approvals*, Audit Report No. 3 (2015-16); and *Test & Evaluation of Major Defence Equipment Acquisitions*, Audit Report No. 9 (2015-16).

Copies of the report and further information about the inquiry can be accessed via the Committee's website at: www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa.

For information about the report: please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4615, email jcpaa@aph.gov.au, or visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa>

Committee reports on the Register of Environmental Organisations

The [House of Representatives Environment Committee](#) has presented its report into the Register of Environmental Organisations, a government scheme that enables eligible environmental organisations to receive tax-deductible donations. The report centres on the administration of the Register, and how the Register supports communities to take practical action to improve the environment. The Committee has identified some key areas of possible reform of the Register, including measures relating to:

- the operation of the Register;
- activities undertaken by organisations listed on the Register; and
- the integrity of the current regulatory framework for registered organisations.

The Committee acknowledges the high level of public interest in the inquiry, having received over 685 submissions and a significant volume of correspondence. A substantial portion of this evidence originated from organisations currently listed on the Register. In recognition of

this strong interest in the inquiry, the Committee undertook an extensive program of public hearings and site inspections around Australia, to hear firsthand about the range of environmental work being supported by the Register.

The Committee's report is accompanied by a dissenting report from the Labor members of the Committee, and additional comments from the Member for La Trobe, Mr Jason Wood MP.

A full copy of the [Committee's report](#) can be found on the [inquiry's website](#)

Committee recommends national surrogacy laws

In response to growing concerns about exploitation of surrogate mothers and children, a federal Parliamentary Committee has [recommended new national laws](#) to harmonise existing State and Territory surrogacy legislation.

The [Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs](#) report into [surrogacy](#) highlighted a range of challenging and complex ethical and legal issues that arise from the practice. While supporting the current ban on commercial surrogacy by Australian States and Territories, the Committee recommended that the Australian Government consider options for developing a streamlined legislative response to altruistic surrogacy.

The Committee found that differences in State and Territory surrogacy laws were a barrier for many Australians who sought to enter into altruistic surrogacy arrangements. While altruistic surrogacy is legal in Australia, it can be hard for intended parents to find suitable surrogates and different laws may not provide adequate protections for all parties.

The Committee recommended that the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) inquire into and develop a national model law on altruistic surrogacy to be presented to the Australian, State and Territory Governments for implementation. The Committee identified issues to be considered by the ALRC including the need for counselling, background checks, and independent legal advice for all parties, the transfer of parental responsibility, reimbursement for the surrogate and the need for a closed register of surrogates and intended parents.

The Committee also considered the issue of those who may seek to engage in offshore surrogacy arrangements, recommending that such arrangements be scrutinised by the Australian Government.

The Committee recommended that practices in key surrogacy destination countries be assessed to ensure consistency with the principles of the proposed national law. Where Australians have sought a passport for a child to return to Australia, the Committee recommended that an assessment to ensure that no Australian or international laws on surrogacy have been breached should be undertaken. Where breaches have occurred, the Committee recommended that the Minister for Immigration should be given the power to determine matters relating to the welfare of the child.

Further information on the inquiry, including a [full copy of the report](#) is available on the Committee website at www.aph.gov.au/surrogacy.

For more information contact the Secretariat: spla.reps@aph.gov.au | (02) 6277 2358 | www.aph.gov.au/spla

Anybody you know?

Four appointments to the federal courts include:

Mr Stephen Burley SC who commenced in the Sydney registry on 23 May, 2016. He will fill the vacancy left by the retirement of the Hon Justice Annabelle Bennett AO. Mr Burley graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Sydney in 1985 and Master of Laws from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 1989. He was called to the Bar in 1993 and appointed Senior Counsel in 2007.

Mr Shane Gill commenced on 16 May 2016 in the Canberra registry of the Family Court. Mr Gill graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the **Australian National University** in 1992. He was admitted to practice as a barrister in the High Court of Australia and a barrister and solicitor in the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory in 1992, and was called to the Bar in 2003. He is the President of the Australian Capital Territory Bar Association and a Director of the Australian Bar Association and the Law Council of Australia.

The Hon Deputy Chief Justice John Faulks and the Hon Justice Mary Finn will retire in the coming months.

Mr Alister McNab commenced in the Melbourne registry of the Federal Circuit Court on 18 May 2016. Mr McNab fills the vacancy in the Melbourne registry left by the death of Judge Dominica Whelan.

Mr McNab graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from Monash University in 1985. He was admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria in 1988 and signed the Bar Roll in 1990. His areas of practice are commercial law, discrimination law, employment and industrial law

Ms Brana Obradovic will commence in the Parramatta registry of the Federal Circuit Court on 30 May 2016. Ms Obradovic graduated with a Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Laws from the University of Technology Sydney in 1997 and Master of Laws (International Law) from the University of New South Wales in 2005. She was called to the Bar in 1998. Her areas of practice are bankruptcy, civil and human rights, discrimination, commercial law, equity law, family law, industrial and employment law, international law and workplace health and safety.

Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions

Ms Sarah McNaughton SC has been appointed the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions for a period of five years. She has 27 years' experience as a legal practitioner and has been a member of the NSW Bar since 1996 and was appointed Senior Council in 2011.

Ms McNaughton has appeared as both prosecution and defence counsel in a number of complex criminal trials and has specialist expertise in offences related to taxation, corporate crime, drug importation and terrorism. She has held a range of roles in private practice and with the Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

Ms McNaughton replaces Mr Bromwich who was recently appointed as a judge of the Federal Court of Australia.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TRIBUNAL

The Attorney-General has announced 76 reappointments and appointments to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

Mr John Cipolla and **Ms Kira Raif** have been reappointed as full-time senior members for five years. **Mr John Billings** has been reappointed as a full-time senior member for three years.

Mr Shahyar Roushan has been reappointed as a part-time senior member for three years.

The following members have been reappointed on a full-time basis for three years: Mr Antonio Dronjic, Mr Alan Dino Duri, Ms Alison Mercer, Mr Hugh Lindsay Sanderson, and Mr Christopher Jeremy Smolicz. Mr Sean Erik Baker has been reappointed as a part-time member for five years.

The following members have been reappointed on a part-time basis for three years: Ms Robyn Margaret Anderson, Dr William Appleton, Ms Michelle Diane Baulch, Ms Angela Therese Beckett, Ms Margret Bourke, Mr Alexander Reinhard Byers, Dr Niall Francis Cain, Mr Steven Cullimore, Ms Jean Cuthbert, Mr Bronte John Earl, Ms Kathryn Ann Edmonds, Mr Stavros Georgiadis, Dr Martin John Glasson, Dr Beverley Grehan, Ms Patricia Alida Hall, Ms Julia Ann Leonard, Ms Susan Georgina Lewis, Dr Geoffrey Markov, Ms Sally Mayne, Mr Paul Noonan, Dr Aruna Reddy, Ms Andrea Schiwy, Ms Wan Shum, Ms Rania Skaros, Ms Alison Smith, Ms Meenakshi Sripathy, Dr Bruce Albert Swanson, Dr Robin Taylor, and Ms Yvonne Mary Webb.

These members have been reappointed to the Tribunal commencing on 1 July 2016, except Dr Cain and Dr Grehan who will commence on 16 May 2016: Dr Denis Dragovic, Mr Theodore Tavoularis and Ms Adria Marissa Poljak have been appointed as full-time senior members for seven, five and three years, respectively. Ms Chelsea Rebelle Walsh has been appointed as a full-time senior member for three years. Ms Walsh was previously a part-time senior member of the Tribunal.

The following part-time senior members have been appointed: Ms April Christina Freeman and Mr John Sosso for seven years; Mr Peter Edward Nolan for five years, and Professor Michael John McGrowdie for three years.

The following full-time members have been appointed: Mr Clyde Campbell and Mr Peter Vlahos for seven years; Ms Angela Cranston, Ms Justine Clarke, Mr Jeffrey Robert Thomson and Ms Jennifer Cripps Watts for five years, and Ms Moira Brophy and Mr Mark Gordon Hyman for three years.

In addition, the following people have been appointed as part-time members for seven years: Mr Michael Bruce Hawkins, Ms Kate Juhasz, and Ms Saxon Rice.

The following people have been appointed as part-time members for five years: Ms Ann Barbara Brandon-Baker, Dr Louise Bygrave, Ms Mila Foster, Mr John Fitzsimons Godfrey, Dr Eric Knight, Mr Michael Manetta, Ms Jane Louise Marquard, Ms Adrienne Millbank, Mr Seamus Francis Rafferty, Mr James Edward Silva, and the Honourable Judith Mary Troeth AM.

The following people have been appointed as part-time members for three years: Ms Rhonda Ruth Bradley, Mr Marshal John Douglas, Ms Julie Dianne Forgan, Mr Paul Samuel Glass, Dr Heidi Gregory, Mr William Bruce Kennedy, and Dr Sofia Khan.

These appointments will commence on 30 May 2016, except Ms Walsh who will commence on 6 May 2016, Ms Clarke who will commence on 1 August 2016, Ms Brophy who will commence on 13 June 2016 and Mr Silva who will commence on 2 August 2016.

Thanks for the memories – an appeal

Richard Fox, *ANU Reporter* Editor/Corporate Communications Officer, is appealing for reports linked to the ANU's 70th anniversary. He writes: "It's almost time for another get-together, this time for the August edition of *ANU Reporter*. For this edition, we're looking at something a bit different. We are aiming to publish this edition on 1 August, the 70th anniversary of ANU being established by Federal Parliament. As such, we'd like a large section of the content to revolve around the 70th anniversary, whether it be pieces written by or are about influential people, features on policy/research areas that will shape the next 70 years or nuggets of information that very few people know about ANU".

If you have an idea for *ANU Reporter*, contact Richard on

Ph: 02 6125 4171 E richard.fox@anu.edu.au E-mail reporter@anu.edu.au

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.

"Nights at the Opera" 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 next performance is on:

Wednesday, May 25 when *'The Bartered Bride'* will be shown at 'Nights at the Opera' at the Wesley Centre at 7pm.

The series began with the 1995 *Così fan tutte* featuring Jaewoo Kim, Catherine Carby, Richard Anderson, Terry Den Dulk, Chris Steele and many others.

Future dates and further information from Colleen Rae-Gerrard at ribbonwood31@optusnet.com.au

June/July monthly lectures replaced by major events

June 1 Collegiate lunch - TBA

June 15 Symposium - Research in Retirement Projects (organiser: Ian Keen) You are invited to contribute a presentation on your current or recent research at the Projects Symposium (formerly "Research in Retirement") day. Please send a title and short abstract to Ian Keen at Ian.Keen@anu.edu.au. Thirty minutes will be allocated for each presentation. If you need slides please prepare a Powerpoint presentation.

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

For details of Colin Steele's "Meet the Authors" series go to <http://www.anu.edu.au/events/anu-the-canberra-times-meet-the-author-series>

May 30 In an ANU/*Canberra Times* meet the author event, Canberra author Daniel O'Malley will be in conversation with *Canberra Times* reviewer, Colin Steele, on O'Malley's new book *Stiletto*, the sequel to his debut bestseller *The Rook*. Haydon Allen lecture Theatre, ANU 6 PM. Bookings at anu.edu.au/events or call 6125 8415.

June 1 In an ANU/*Canberra Times* meet the author event, Tara Moss will be in conversation with Amanda Whitley, on Moss's new book *Speaking Out: A 21st century handbook for women and girls*, Manning Clark Centre Theatre 1 ANU .6pm Bookings at anu.edu.au/events or call 6125 8415.

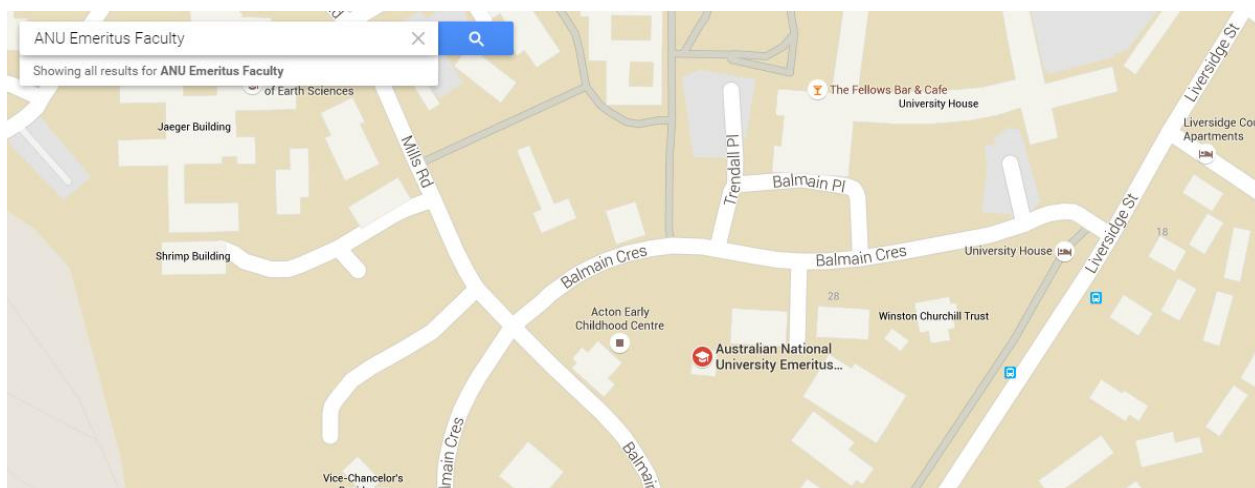
June 7 In an ANU/*Canberra Times* meet the author event Emeritus Professor Ian Lowe will be speaking on his new book, *The Lucky Country? Reinventing Australia*, Theatre 2, Manning Clark Centre, ANU, 6 PM. Bookings at anu.edu.au/events or call 6125 8415.

Meet the author inquiries: Colin Steele Ph: 02 6125 8983 or colin.steele@anu.edu.au

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 June, 2016.