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Australian
National
University

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Location map http://www.anu.edu.au/emeritus/anuef_location_map.html

Funding for ground-breaking research

Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham has announced the \$416.6 million in funding as part of the Australian Research Council's (ARC) National Competitive Grants Program.

Among 989 new research projects that will receive funding are:

- Building a new laser system for satellite tracking and mitigating the impacts of space debris,
- investigating how smart phones can assist people with a disability to navigate essential services, and
- developing high-performance batteries for electric vehicles.

The schemes for which projects have received funding include:

- **Discovery Projects** for funding commencing in 2017—\$234.7 million for 630 projects
- **Discovery Indigenous** for funding commencing in 2017—\$4.6 million for 11 projects
- **Discovery Early Career Researcher Award** for funding commencing in 2017—\$71.7 million for 200 projects
- **Future Fellowships** for funding commencing in 2016—\$77.0 million for 100 projects.
- **Linkage, Infrastructure, Equipment, and Facilities** for funding commencing in 2017—\$28.6 million for 48 projects

Mr Birmingham said the funding was a crucial investment in growing a smart Australia, driving innovation and delivering real outcomes that benefit all Australians. “This funding represents a significant investment in a wide variety of fundamental and applied research projects, growing Australia’s research capacity and infrastructure, and supporting the next generation of researchers,” he said.

Highlights include:

- \$117,000 to a Discovery Projects researcher at Queensland University of Technology, who will develop best practice solutions to improve the living environment of retirement villages and the quality of life for ageing Australians.
- \$187,222 for a Discovery Projects researcher at Curtin University of Technology to understand how people with a disability use smart phones to navigate the urban environment, for improving access to public space and essential services.
- \$652,000 for a Future Fellow at The University of Wollongong to develop innovative technologies for high-performance lithium-ion batteries for portable electronic devices, including electric vehicles.
- \$372,000 to an Early Career Researcher at the University of Adelaide to discover the genes for developing crops with enhanced salt tolerance.
- \$502,453 for infrastructure at **The Australian National University** to create a laser system for the first laser guide star for use in astronomy, satellite tracking and mitigation of the threat of space debris.

For more information, access: <http://www.arc.gov.au/november-2016-arc-major-grants-announcement>

Research funds help to secure Australia’s future prosperity

The \$416 million in Australian Research Council (ARC) grants announced on November 1 by Education Minister Simon Birmingham will help to secure future prosperity for Australia through world-class university research, says Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson.

“Such grants were a clear-sighted investment in research that would lead to new economic opportunities and health and medical breakthroughs,” she said.

“From projects that could save lives to those which tackle poverty, generate clean energy, reveal our human history or progress quantum computing, university research has real-world benefits for all Australians.

“These projects are led by some of Australia’s most outstanding researchers working on some of our biggest problems. It’s fantastic to see these exciting projects being nurtured in Australia’s world-class universities.”

The range of projects funded by the ARC include developing ways to improve the lives of ageing Australians, creating new high-performance lithium-ion batteries, and improving salt tolerance in crops.

More than 100 new Future Fellows and 200 Discovery Early Career Researcher Awards were also announced providing vital support for early and mid-career researchers.

“These fellowships and awards provide much needed certainty for early career researchers to secure their career pathways in the Australian university research

environment. This is crucial for sustaining our future research workforce needs.”

This year’s funding pool is \$59 million more than the \$357 million awarded in 2015. The number of grants has also increased from 899 to 989 since last year.

\$43m in ARC funding for ANU

Vice Chancellor Professor Brian Schmidt AC has congratulated all involved in gaining \$43 million in new ARC funding, in addition to five academics being awarded NHMRC fellowships.

“On behalf of the ANU community I offer my highest congratulations to all of the winners. They are highly competitive and receiving these honours further goes to show how well the work of ANU is regarded. I would also like to recognise the efforts of the people who were unsuccessful on this occasion. I know from personal experience how much it hurts not to get your grant up. Unfortunately, the nature of the grant process means there will always be more applicants than grants - but I urge you to persist for the next round.

He went on, “... I addressed the 15th National Conference of Emerging Researchers in Ageing (ERA), which was held at ANU for the first time. Ageing is an extremely important issue in Australia and ANU has a strong commitment to contributing to the best outcomes for older people. I would like to congratulate Professor Kaarin Anstey and the team at ANU and Monash University for bringing the Conference together and I thank the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research for supporting the ERA initiative.”

Respondents needed

Vice Chancellor Brian Schmidt wrote in his blog that he was shocked to find out that students had been assaulted and robbed on campus recently. “ANU is a small and close community and attacks like these are so rare that when they happen they hit the community hard,” he commented.

“As Vice-Chancellor it’s my job to ensure the safety of the ANU Community. There is no higher priority. And, while I was relieved to learn that people had been arrested in relation to the assaults, I want to once again remind staff, students and visitors to be mindful of their safety whilst moving around the campus, particularly at night.”

He advises everybody to follow his example and download the [ANUOK app](#) to have a way to report issues, but also to keep up to date with security matters. His advice is simple:

- Stick to lit pathways,
- Call ANU Security on 6125 2249 if you need an escort to your vehicle after dark.

The Vice Chancellor is also appealing for more people to respond to the Australian Human Rights Commission’s survey on sexual assault.

He writes, “At the beginning of this year I made a promise to this community that I will do my best to see sexual assault, rape, sexual abuse and unwanted sexual attention stamped out at ANU. This is why ANU, along with all the other Australian universities, agreed to support the Human Rights Commission’s national survey on sexual assault and harassment. This survey will provide the nation with a clear picture of what is going on at our campuses.

“Currently we do not have nearly enough responses from male and international students. If you are in this group and you have received an invitation to complete the Human Rights Commission survey please complete the survey. If we do not get enough responses, then we will be unable to report our results.”

ANUEF Committee 2017 - call for nominations

Jan O'Connor. Secretary of ANU Emeritus Faculty is calling for committee nominees.

She writes, "The Constitution of the ANU Emeritus Faculty provides that members elect a Committee of from five to twelve of its members at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee then elects its Office Bearers. The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Molony Room on Wednesday, 14 December 2016 at 5.00pm and will be followed by the ANUEF Christmas Party.

"I am now calling for nominations from financial members to serve on the ANUEF Committee. If you are unsure of your financial status as a member, please contact Di Riddell, the Membership Officer, at riddell.di@gmail.com

"The Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month except January. Meetings usually start at 2.00pm and finish by 3.30pm.

"If you are interested in nominating as a Committee Member, please let me know at this address: jantancress@gmail.com **Nominations close at 5.00pm on Wednesday, 23 November 2016.**"

Universities Australia welcomes advisory panel appointees

Federal Education Minister Simon Birmingham has appointed a four-member expert panel to sift through more than 1200 responses to the higher education options paper released on Budget night. The panel will work with the Government to develop a higher education policy plan for consideration by the Parliament by mid-2017.

The panel members are:

- Dr Michele Allan – Director of CSIRO, Chair of Meat & Livestock Australia and Chancellor of Charles Sturt University;
- Professor Peter Noonan – Mitchell Professorial Fellow at Victoria University and Member of the Expert Panel for the Review of Australian Higher Education (Bradley Review);
- Andrew Norton – Grattan Institute Higher Education Program Director and co-author of the Review of the Demand Driven Funding System; and
- Professor Sally Walker – Principal at Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and former Vice-Chancellor of Deakin University.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson commented, "Universities Australia has long advocated the appointment of an expert advisory panel to provide independent advice on the future of Australian higher education.

"Despite a tight timeframe, the depth of expertise on the panel and within the sector should assist in crafting a reform package that can be supported by both major parties.

"Achieving bipartisan support for a design that is financially sustainable, ensures affordability for students and taxpayers, assures quality and innovation, and better targets student support should be a key goal.

"Australia's world-class university system produces highly-skilled graduates to meet the workforce needs of the economy and sustains Australia's third largest export sector. It is a

vital part of Australia's innovation infrastructure.

"Universities Australia congratulates all members of the panel. We look forward to working with them to ensure our higher education system delivers on the expectations of students, employers and the broader community, and positions Australia for long-term economic and social prosperity."

'Important work' for Council for International Education

Universities Australia Chief Executive Belinda Robinson has been appointed to the new council advising the Federal Government on enhancing Australia's standing as a global leader in international education.

The group will advise on implementing the \$12 million National Strategy for International Education 2025. Worth \$19 billion a year to Australia, international education makes a major contribution to our national economy, diplomacy and the global standing of our world-class university system.

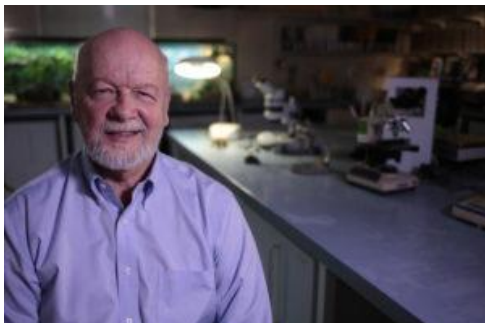
Ms Robinson said she looked forward to working with the other members of the council on sustaining Australia's international education sector amidst growing competition from other nations.

"International education is not just about the export income. It brings immeasurable benefits in international collaboration, student mobility, diversity, cultural and diplomatic relationships," she said.

"While it has been growing in recent years, international education will benefit further from a co-ordinated, national and strategic approach to oversee the next steps in that strategy. We cannot afford to be complacent about the significance of international education to our future economic growth, global engagement and collaboration.

"It is important that international education continues to develop – and to broaden its remit to students from an even wider range of countries."

ANU graduate awarded PM's Prize for Science



(Photo credit: Prime Minister's Prizes for Science/WildBear)

In 1971 Rick Shine (photo above) graduated at the ANU with a Bachelor of Science (Honours) (Zoology). Last month, as Professor Rick Shine

AM of Sydney University, he was awarded the 2016 Prime Minister's Prize for Science.

Northern Australia's snakes and lizards are more likely to survive the cane-toad invasion thanks to the work of Professor Richard Shine. Using behavioural conditioning, he and his team have successfully protected these native predators against toad invasion in WA.

He has created traps for cane toads, taught quolls and goannas that toads are 'bad,' and now plans to release small cane toads ahead of the invasion front, a counterintuitive 'genetic backburn' based on 'old school' ideas that his hero, Charles Darwin, would have recognised.

"Some people love model trains, some people love Picasso; for me, it's snakes," he says.

One of the world's most influential evolutionary ecologists and conservation biologists, Rick Shine was studying snakes on the Adelaide River floodplain near Darwin a decade ago when the cane toad invasion arrived at his study site. Marching west, this amphibian had fatally poisoned up to 95 per cent of goannas, freshwater crocodiles, and quolls within months of arriving. So the snake biologist transformed himself into a toad biologist, with a view to reducing cane toad numbers and impact.

First he and his team worked out how to stop cane toads from reproducing, exploiting the chemicals, or pheromones, that toad tadpoles use to find and kill the developing eggs of their competitors. Rick eliminated toad tadpoles by placing funnel-traps baited with the pheromones in spawning pools. His approach proved successful and has since been patented.

Then he devised a behavioural conditioning method to protect native predators that were dying from eating the toads. He found that quolls and lizards are discouraged from eating cane toads if the first one they eat is too small to poison and kill them. A single nausea-inducing meal discourages any further interest in the toxic toad.

By exposing these predators to small, non-lethal toads ahead of the main invasion front of larger, lethal toads, he and his team have successfully buffered goannas against cane toads. They have also reintroduced quolls into Kakadu National Park.

After the toad front passes and toads begin to breed, abundant small 'teacher toads' give the next generation of predators a chance to learn toad avoidance rather than die. This means a single generation of education can virtually eliminate cane toad impact on predators, in perpetuity.

"Australia is a hard place to make a living; the soils are poor, the rains are infrequent and it is the cold-blooded animals that can wait out the bad times," he says. "The creatures like snakes and lizards that dominate our ecosystems, they're the ones we have to focus on, they're the ones we need to understand if we want to keep Australia's ecosystems functioning."

Rick joins his brother John in receiving the PM's Prize for Science. John Shine, who was at the ANU from 1978 to 1987 in various positions, received the 2010 Prime Minister's Prize for Science for his leadership in biomedical research. John also helped Rick in his early exploration of reptiles.

"I was the kid who brought bluetongue lizards to school," Rick says.

"When my big brother learnt to drive, he took me out into the bush where I could capture snakes and bring them home."

"The Prime Minister's Prize for Science is an incredible recognition of the value of basic, simple science; it's the kind of thing that Charles Darwin did when he wandered around the world. You go out into the bush and you see what the animals are doing, there's nothing more sophisticated than a notebook involved," Rick says.

Richard Shine is a Professor of Biology with the School of Life and Environmental Sciences at The University of Sydney. He is an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow. He has been awarded every major prize for natural history science in Australia and is the only person ever to win Australian Museum Eureka Prizes in three categories.

For details of recipients of the PM's Awards for Science, access:

<http://www.scienceinpublic.com.au/prime-ministers-prize>

Women in Research citation for water scientist

Influential work in water modelling has earned a CSIRO and ANU researcher a ranking among the leading early-mid career, highly-cited women researchers in Australia. The inaugural Thomson Reuters' Women in Research Citation Awards recognises the achievements of 12 early to mid-career women researchers in Australia, based on Web of Science Core Collection publication and citation data. The citations recognise, in particular, influential papers contributing to research across all domains of science, social science and humanities.

Ms Jin Teng was recognised for her work investigating climate impact on water, including water availability, floods and droughts through CSIRO Land and Water.

Currently Ms Teng (right) is also a part-time PhD scholar at Fenner School of Environment & Society, Australian National University.

Ms Teng said water was fascinating to study. "Without it life simply couldn't exist, too much of it can destroy everything on its path. My research is to help society to make informed decisions on how we can adjust our behaviour around issues related to water, so that we can preserve the earth for future generations.



"Working at CSIRO had provided enormous opportunity to advance my research", she added. "Being mentored by world-renowned scientists, working in a multi-disciplinary team and learning from everyone around me, attending international conferences and workshops, having access to every scientific journal and best possible computational facilities, having opportunities to pursue further education and training...all of these are extremely valuable for a research career," she said.

Australia-India Council grants

Grants funded by the Australia-India Council include three for the ANU out of a total of 19: Those for the ANU are: "The challenge of policy reform: Australia and India" - \$65,000; the Australia-India Policy Forum - \$50,000; and the 2016 K.R.Narayanan Oration - \$6,000.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Julie Bishop, announced the grants for 2016-17. Grants worth \$630,000 have been awarded. Each year the Council awards grants to high-quality

projects which bolster links between Australia and India by building and enhancing relationships across public policy, education, science, sport, and arts and culture.

A full list of successful grant recipients is available on the [Australia-India Council](#) website.

Chancellor to give inaugural Anthony Low Lecture

The inaugural Anthony Low Commonwealth Lecture, "*Commonwealth Diplomacy and the End of Apartheid*" will be given by the Chancellor of the Australian National University, Professor Gareth Evans AC QC, on Thursday, November 17 from 5.30pm - 7pm followed by light refreshments in Lecture Theatre 1, Hedley Bull Building. This is a free event open to the public but registration is advised on <http://bit.ly/2edmbPM>

This inaugural lecture is in honour of former ANU Vice-Chancellor and great Commonwealth of Nations scholar, the late Professor Anthony Low. It describes what remains one of the Commonwealth's proudest achievements: its role in hastening the end of apartheid in South Africa. The lecture will focus — from an insider's perspective — on the central part in that enterprise played from the beginning by Australia, at both Head of Government and Foreign Minister level.

Professor Evans was a member of the Australian Parliament for 21 years, and a Cabinet Minister for 13 including as Foreign Minister from 1988–96; from 2000–09 he was President of the Brussels-based International Crisis Group. He has written or edited, solely or jointly, twelve books, including *Australia's Foreign Relations* (1995), *The Responsibility to Protect: Ending Mass Atrocity Crimes Once and for All* (2008), *Inside the Hawke Keating Government: A Cabinet Diary* (2014) and *Nuclear Weapons: The State of Play* (2015).

Professor Donald Anthony Low AO (1927–2015) was Vice Chancellor of the Australian National University from 1975–1982. A distinguished scholar and renowned student mentor his work spanned modern African, Asian and Commonwealth of Nations history. In East Africa and the Indian sub-continent he pioneered research into regional indigenous political history and was Founding Dean of the School of African and Asian Studies and a founder of the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University (1964–1972). Other distinguished posts included Director in the Research School of Pacific Studies, ANU (1973–1975), Smuts Professor of the History of the British Commonwealth, (1983–94) and President of Clare Hall, (1987–1994), Cambridge, UK, Chairman, Commonwealth Round Table Moot, UK (1992–94) and Founding Convenor, CRTA Canberra, 2002. His numerous publications include: (ed.) *Soundings in Modern South Asian History* (1968), *Buganda in Modern History* (1971), *Lion Rampant* (1973), *Constitutional Heads and Political Crises* (1988), *The Egalitarian Moment 1950–80* (1996), *Fabrication of Empire: The British and the Uganda Kingdoms, 1890–1902* (2009).

For more information email: bellschool@anu.edu.au

Book shelf

Population Ageing and Australia's Future

Edited by Hal Kendig, Peter McDonald, and John Piggott

ISBN (print – rrp \$45): 9781760460662 **ISBN (online - free):** 9781760460679

Citation URL: <http://press.anu.edu.au/node/2121>

This volume provides evidence from many of Australia's leading scholars from a range of social science disciplines to support policies that address challenges presented by Australia's ageing population. It builds on presentations made to the 2014 Symposium of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia.

The material is in four parts:

- Perspectives on Ageing
- Population Ageing: Global, regional and Australian perspectives
- Improving Health and Wellbeing
- Responses by Government and Families/Individuals

Glenn Withers, President, ASSA, comments. *'The Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia sees this volume as a major contribution to improving our understanding of Australia's population ageing. Social science research in this area truly underpins our ability as a nation to manage such demographic change, and its consequences for the economy and society. Such knowledge helps ensure that our citizens can live even better lives.'*

Deep Crustal Seismic Reflection Profiling: Australia 1978–2015

by: B.L.N. Kennett, E. Saygin, T. Fomin, R. Blewett

ISBN (print – rrp \$80): 9781760460846 **ISBN (online - free):** 9781760460853

Co-published with Geoscience Australia. First Edition 2013.

Citation URL: <http://press.anu.edu.au?p=249881>

Deep Crustal Seismic Reflection Profiling: Australia 1978–2015 presents the full suite of reflection profiles penetrating the whole crust carried in Australia by Geoscience Australia and various partners.

The set of reflection data comprises over 16,000 km of coverage across the whole continent, and provides an insight into the variations in crustal architecture in the varied geological domains. Each reflection profile is presented at approximately true scale with up to 220 km of profile per page and overlap between pages. Each reflection section is accompanied by a geological strip map showing the configuration of the line superimposed on 1:1M geology. The compilation includes a suite of large-scale reflection transects groups of 1,000 km or more that link across major geological provinces, and an extensive bibliography of reports and relevant publications.

The Lion that Didn't Roar: Can the Kimberley Process Stop the Blood Diamonds Trade?

By Nigel Davidson

ISBN (print – rrp \$40): 9781760460259 **ISBN (online - free):** 9781760460266

Citation URL: <http://press.anu.edu.au/node/2043>

In 2017 it will be Australia's turn to chair the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KP), an international organisation set up to regulate the trade in diamonds.

Diamonds are a symbol of love, purchased to celebrate marriage, and it is therefore deeply ironic that the diamond trade has become linked with warfare and human rights violations committed in African producer countries such as Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo and, more recently, Zimbabwe and Angola.

In their quest for diamonds, or by using diamonds to purchase weapons, armed groups in these countries have engaged in recruiting child soldiers, amputating limbs, and committing rape and murder. In response to the problem, the international community, non-governmental organisations and key industry players such as De Beers combined forces to create the Kimberley Process in 2002. The KP uses an export certificate system to distinguish the legitimate rough diamond trade from so-called 'blood diamonds', which are also known as 'conflict diamonds'.

This book considers the extent to which the KP, supported by other agencies at the international and national levels, has been effective in achieving its mandate. In so doing, it presents an original model derived from the domain of regulatory theory, the Dual Networked Pyramid, as a means of describing the operation of the system and suggesting possible improvements that might be made to it.

Nigel Davidson spoke with 936 ABC Hobart about what Australia can do to help stop blood diamonds. Listen to the full interview [here](#).

Party Rules? Dilemmas of political party regulation in Australia

Edited by: Anika Gauja and Marian Sawyer

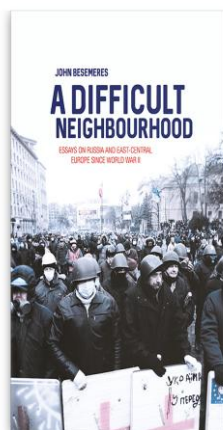
ISBN (print – rrp \$38): 9781760460761 **ISBN (online free):** 9781760460778

Citation URL: <http://press.anu.edu.au/node/2109>

Trust in political parties has never been lower, but we have more and more of them, to the point where voters need magnifying sheets to read ballot papers. What is the relationship between party regulation and the nature of our democracy? How is it that parties have been able to gather so many public resources yet with so little scrutiny of their affairs? This is the first book on party regulation in Australia. It covers a wide range of issues, from party donations to candidate selection, from expectations of parties in a representative democracy to the reluctance to regulate and the role of the courts where legislators fear to tread.

'Professor George Williams AO comments, "The regulation of political parties is one of the most important, but unexplored areas of Australian electoral policy. This important book fills that gap in providing a stimulating and insightful analysis of the pitfalls and potential solutions in this area."

***A Difficult Neighbourhood:
Essays on Russia and East-Central Europe since World War II***



By John Besemeres

ISBN (print – rrp \$55): 9781760460600 **ISBN (online - free):** 9781760460617

Citation URL: <http://press.anu.edu.au/node/2065>

Through a series of essays on key events in recent years in Russia, the western ex-republics of the USSR and the countries of the one-time Warsaw Pact, John Besemeres seeks to illuminate the domestic politics of the most important states, as well as Moscow's relations with all of them. At the outset, he takes some backward glances at the violent suppression of national life in the 'bloodlands' of Europe during World War II by the Stalinist and Nazi regimes, which helps to explain much about the region's dynamics since. His concern throughout is that a large area of Europe with a combined population well in excess of Russia's could again be consigned by the West to Moscow's care, not this time by more and less malign forms of collusion, but by distracted negligence or incomprehension.

This publication was awarded a Centre for European Studies Publication Prize in 2015. The prize covers the cost of professional copy-editing.

Also Innovators: How one computer salesman contributed to the digital revolution

By [Christopher B. Yardley](#)

ISBN (print – rrp \$48): 9781760460549 **ISBN (online - free):** 9781760460556

Citation URL: <http://press.anu.edu.au/node/2054>

'Thank you for your order, Mr Mainframe Customer. The cost is £5 million and the lead-time for manufacture will be two years. In the meantime you will have to build a special computer centre to our specification. For our part, our project team will help you recruit and train potential programmers and we shall advise on how you might use the system.'

How different from today when the customer will want to see a specific application running before he puts a hand in his/her pocket. Chris Yardley lived the changes as a computer salesman and tells his story of a career living and working in five countries. Warts and all. The ecstasies, the heartbreaks and idiocies of major corporations.

His career was not a planned one. In a growing industry, opportunities presented themselves and Chris believes he grasped every one presented. Having written his story, he has had every chapter verified by at least one person who features in that narrative. His respondents have universally endorsed the facts with comments such as ‘Wow, I’d forgotten most of that’. ‘You have a fantastic memory.’ ‘I never knew before the full facts of what happened.’ ‘How have you remembered all the circumstances?’ ‘It really is a people business.’

This is the only book that has followed a computer sales career over almost 50 years.

Have your say

Inquiry into freedom of speech – including academic freedom

The Attorney-General, Senator George Brandis, has asked the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights to inquire and report on two issues relating to freedom of speech in Australia.

The first is whether the operation of Part IIA of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cth) (including ss. 18C and 18D) imposes unreasonable restrictions on freedom of speech.

The second, related, matter is whether the complaints-handling procedures of the Australian Human Rights Commission should be reformed. The reference has been made under s. 7(c) of the *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011* (Cth).

Among other things, the Committee will examine whether the existing processes of the Commission are sufficient to ensure that trivial or vexatious complaints to the Commission, and complaints which have no reasonable prospects of success, are identified and dismissed at an early stage. It will also examine ways to ensure that complaints are dealt with in an open and transparent way, without unreasonable delay, and in a manner which ensures those subject to complaints are afforded natural justice.

The review of provisions of Part IIA of the *Racial Discrimination Act* was recommended by the Australian Law Reform Commission in its Report on Traditional Rights and Freedoms – Encroachments by Commonwealth Laws, released earlier this year. The review of the Commission’s complaints-handling procedure was invited by the Commission itself.

Senator Brandis said, “It is important that Australia strikes the right balance between laws which protect social harmony and mutual respect, and the fundamental democratic value of freedom of speech. The purpose of the inquiry is to ensure that we have that balance right. Equally, it is important that the machinery for human rights protection in Australia operates in such a way as to ensure procedural fairness, and that it cannot be used as a vehicle for vexatious complaints.

“I encourage all interested groups to put their views before the inquiry in a constructive and mutually respectful discussion. I have asked the Committee to report by February 28 2017.”

The Terms of Reference

To inquire, and report to the Parliament by 28 February 2017, on the following matters:

1. Whether the operation of Part IIA of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cth) imposes unreasonable restrictions upon freedom of speech, and in particular whether, and if so how, ss. 18C and 18D should be reformed.

2. Whether the handling of complaints made to the Australian Human Rights Commission ("the Commission") under the *Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986* (Cth) should be reformed, in particular, in relation to:

a. the appropriate treatment of:

i. trivial or vexatious complaints; and

ii. complaints which have no reasonable prospect of ultimate success;

b. ensuring that persons who are the subject of such complaints are afforded natural justice;

c. ensuring that such complaints are dealt with in an open and transparent manner;

d. ensuring that such complaints are dealt with without unreasonable delay;

e. ensuring that such complaints are dealt with fairly and without unreasonable cost being incurred either by the Commission or by persons who are the subject of such complaints;

f. the relationship between the Commission's complaint-handling processes and applications to the Court arising from the same facts.

3. Whether the practice of soliciting complaints to the Commission (whether by officers of the Commission or by third parties) has had an adverse impact upon freedom of speech or constituted an abuse of the powers and functions of the Commission, and whether any such practice should be prohibited or limited.

4. Whether the operation of the Commission should be otherwise reformed in order better to protect freedom of speech and, if so, what those reforms should be.

The Committee is asked, in particular, to consider the recommendations of the Australian Law Reform Commission in its *Final Report on Traditional Rights and Freedoms – Encroachments by Commonwealth Laws* [ALRC Report 129 – December 2015], in particular Chapter 4 – "Freedom of Speech".

In this reference, "freedom of speech" includes, but is not limited to, freedom of public discussion, freedom of conscience, academic freedom, artistic freedom, freedom of religious worship and freedom of the press.

For more information or to make a submission access:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Human_Rights or to contact the Committee Secretariat:

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights
PO Box 6100, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

Phone: 02 6277 3823

Fax: 02 6277 5767

human.rights@aph.gov.au

Australian Human Rights Commission statement

There has been considerable public interest in the Commission's complaint handling processes under the *Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986*. There has been particular interest in the Commission's handling of complaints under the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975*.

In relation to the recent QUT case, it is a matter of public record that the Commission terminated this matter in August 2015. The Commission has had no role in the subsequent law suit in the Federal Circuit Court.

At no stage does the Commission initiate or prosecute a complaint. If the Commission receives a complaint in writing alleging a discriminatory act, the Act provides that the Commission must investigate the facts and attempt to conciliate the matter.

The Commission's focus is on resolving disputes so parties can avoid court proceedings. Of complaints where conciliation was attempted, 76% were successfully resolved in 2015-16.

Only 3% of complaints finalised by the Commission were lodged in court. For example, of the over 80 complaints finalised under the racial hatred provisions of the Racial Discrimination Act last year, only one proceeded to court at the initiation of the complainant.

In the 2015-16 reporting year the average time it took the Commission to finalise a complaint was 3.8 months. In that same reporting year, 94% of surveyed parties were satisfied with the Commission's service.

The Commission has no judicial powers, and it makes no legally binding determinations as to whether unlawful acts have occurred. The Commission has no statutory power to prevent a complainant proceeding to court once the Commission terminates the complaint.

The Commission has provided advice to successive governments and Attorneys-General on amendments to the *Australian Human Rights Commission Act*. In particular, the Commission has asked for amendments to streamline the process by raising the threshold for accepting complaints.

For more information access: <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/>

Taxation of debt and equity: Exposure draft legislation

Minister for Revenue and Financial Services, Kelly O'Dwyer has released Exposure Draft legislation and explanatory material to provide greater certainty in relation to integrity rules regarding the taxation of debt and equity. The Exposure Draft legislation and Explanatory Memorandum are available on the Treasury website. Submissions will close on **21 November**, 2016.

Australia's tax rules classify financing arrangements as debt (with deductible interest) or equity according to their economic substance. They also contain integrity rules designed to prevent taxpayers from artificially splitting a single scheme into multiple schemes to achieve favourable tax outcomes.

These integrity rules have been seen to be uncertain and have created significant practical difficulties for taxpayers, according to the minister.

"The draft legislation provides greater certainty in relation to the integrity rules by implementing the Board of Taxation's recommendations to ensure that multiple schemes are treated as a single scheme only when this accurately reflects the economic and commercial substance of the schemes. The Board's recommendations were developed following extensive consultations with industry," she said.

"Consistent with the Board of Taxation's recommendations, examples of how the rules would work in practice are also set out in a draft legislative instrument supporting the Exposure

Draft legislation. The final legislation will apply prospectively from a day to be fixed by proclamation or six months after Royal Assent, whichever is later”.

Educational Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs has announced that its inquiry into educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from the 44th Parliament has been re-referred to the Committee for further inquiry and seeks submissions by **Friday, 25 November 2016**..

The Chair of the Committee, Ms Melissa Price MP said “the cessation of the 44th Parliament prevented the Committee from completing this important inquiry so it has been re-referred to the Committee for that purpose.”

“The aims of the inquiry are to identify the best opportunities and pathways we can give to Indigenous students to assist them to succeed in school, regardless of whether they live in a remote community or in a regional or urban centre.”

For advice on making submissions see the Committee’s website at www.aph.gov.au/indigenousaffairs or contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4559. Earlier submissions to the inquiry in the 44th Parliament remain valid. However further information can be submitted to the Committee by the date above.

Terms of Reference

The Committee will inquire into and report on key aspects of educational opportunities and outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students up to school leaving age, including but not limited to:

- access to, participation in and outcomes of pre-schooling
- the provision of boarding school education and its outcomes
- access to, participation in, and benefits of different school models for indigenous students in different parts of Australia
- engagement and achievement of students in remote areas
- impacts on, and support for, families and communities whose children experience different models of educational services
- best-practice models, both domestically and internationally, and
- comparisons of school models in the transition to further education and employment outcomes.

For background:

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs (02) 6277 4559
email: Indigenousaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au
www.aph.gov.au/indigenousaffairs

High-risk terrorists to face post-sentence preventative detention

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security has presented its advisory report on the Criminal Code Amendment (High-Risk Terrorist Offenders) Bill 2016. The Bill provides for the continued detention of high-risk terrorist offenders who are found by a Court to present an unacceptable risk to the community at the end of their prison sentence.

In its bipartisan report, the Committee recommended that the Bill be passed by Parliament and made 23 additional recommendations aimed at narrowing the scope of the Bill's application, clarifying operation of the regime and strengthening the reporting and oversight mechanisms.

The Committee's recommendations include:

- limiting the scope of the continuing detention order regime to exclude offenders convicted of treason and publishing recruitment advertisements,
- extending the time available to the Attorney-General to make an application for a continuing detention order from six months to 12 months prior to the end of an offender's sentence, and
- introducing a 10 year sunset clause, which is to be preceded by mandatory reviews of the legislation by the Independent National Security Legislation Monitor (INSLM) and the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security (PJCIS).

The Committee was specifically asked to consider the interaction of the proposed continuing detention order regime with control orders. The Committee has recommended that the Criminal Code be amended to make it explicit that a control order can be applied for and obtained while an individual is in prison, but that the controls imposed by that order would not apply until the person is released. Further consideration of the interaction between the two regimes, and any proposed improvements, will be considered during the mandatory reviews of the control order regime by INSLM and PJCIS to be completed in 2017 and 2018 respectively.

The Committee's report recognises that considerable work will be required following passage of the Bill to implement the regime. For this reason, the Committee has recommended that a clear implementation plan be provided to the Committee prior to the passage of the Bill. This plan is to be followed by a report from the Attorney-General on any outstanding implementation matters by 30 June 2017.

The full report can be accessed via the Committee's [website](#).

For background: Contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 2360 or email pjcis@aph.gov.au

A case of marriage exposure

Given the defeat of the same-sex plebiscite legislation, which the Government cites as essential to fulfil its election promise, the actual legislation to legalise same-sex marriages is clouded in the fog of politics. Last month, the Attorney-General issued an Exposure Draft of the Marriage Amendment (Same-Sex Marriage) Bill. Senator Brandis said, at the time, "The Exposure Draft will form the basis for ongoing consultation should the same-sex marriage plebiscite go ahead." However, with the plebiscite blocked, the exposure draft may gain a long life of its own.

The key features of the Exposure Draft are:

1. The definition of marriage would change: The definition of marriage in s 5 of the Marriage Act would be changed to replace "a man and a woman" with "two people".

2. The conditions for a valid marriage would stay the same: It will continue to be the case that a marriage would be void if, for example, the parties are in a 'prohibited relationship', consent was not real, or one or both parties are not of marriageable age.
3. Foreign same-sex marriages would be recognised in Australia: All valid marriage solemnised under the law of a foreign country, including same-sex marriages, would be recognised in Australia if they are consistent with Australian law. A foreign marriage would not be valid in Australia if the marriage would be unlawful in Australia, for example, if the parties are siblings, in a parent-child relationship, or are polygamous.
4. Existing protections for ministers of religion would be retained and strengthened: ministers of religion would be able to refuse to solemnise a marriage on the grounds that the marriage is not the union of a man and a woman, if that refusal conforms to the doctrines, tenets or beliefs of the minister's religion, or is necessary to avoid injury to the religious susceptibilities of adherents of the religion, or if (irrespective of the teachings of his or her church) the minister has a conscientious objection to same-sex marriage.
5. Marriage celebrants (including those who are not ministers of religion) would be able to refuse to marry a same-sex couple: In addition to the existing law whereby marriage celebrants are under no obligation to solemnise marriage, the Marriage Act would be amended to allow marriage celebrants who are not ministers of religion to refuse, on the basis of conscientious or religious beliefs, to solemnise a marriage on the grounds that the marriage is not the union of a man or a woman. Religious bodies and religious organisations would also be able to refuse to provide facilities, goods or services for the purpose of solemnisation of a same sex marriage, or for purposes reasonably incidental thereto, if the refusal conforms to the doctrines, tenets or beliefs of the religion, or is necessary to avoid injury to the religious susceptibilities of adherents to that religion.

In the event that the Parliament passes the Plebiscite Bill, the Government proposes the establishment of a Joint Select Committee to review and report on the Exposure Draft. The composition of the Committee would be as agreed by the Government, the Opposition, and Crossbench parties.

Senator Brandis added, "In all its dealings in this matter, the Government has acted in good faith to acknowledge the diverse and strongly held views of all participants. The Government recognises that it is important for Australians to know what the effect may be of voting 'yes' or 'no' at the plebiscite.

"The Government went to the 2016 Federal Election with a commitment to hold a plebiscite as soon as practicable. By introducing the *Plebiscite Bill* and this Exposure Draft, we are honouring the commitment we made to the Australian people."

Trade, copyright probed in TPP hearing

Details of trade and copyright in the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) were examined by the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties at a hearing in Canberra in October.

Committee Chair, Stuart Robert MP, says the Committee heard about a range of issues, reflecting the broad scope of the TPP. He said, "The TPP should create a level playing field

for trade and investment across the Asia Pacific, including major Australian trading partners like the United States, Japan and Singapore.

Witnesses included experts in Intellectual Property, copyright, and the information technology industry. The Committee also heard from the peak bodies of the mining industry, trade unions, food and grocery producers, the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, grain growers, and legal professionals.

Further information about the inquiry can be accessed via the Committee's website:
http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Treaties

Matters of possible interest - Access the websites to read more

\$3 million to preserve important national memories

[https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/\\$3-million-to-preserve-important-national-memories.aspx](https://www.attorneygeneral.gov.au/Mediareleases/Pages/2016/FourthQuarter/$3-million-to-preserve-important-national-memories.aspx)

The Federal Government is allocating \$3 million to initiate a National Archives of Australia project to digitise an extensive collection of Australia's important memories.

\$3.2 million to support Asia-Pacific industry and research collaboration

<http://minister.industry.gov.au/ministers/hunt/media-releases/32-million-support-asia-pacific-industry-and-research-collaboration>

The Federal Government will invest \$3.2 million, under the National Innovation and Science Agenda, to help Australian researchers and businesses collaborate with their counterparts in Asia-Pacific to develop new products and solutions.

Australians Make Healthier Choices with Health Star Ratings

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2016-gillespie009.htm?OpenDocument&mth=10&yr=2016>

More Australians are choosing healthier packaged foods, thanks to the Health Star Rating (HSR) system, according to new campaign evaluation research.

Invacare Birdie Lifter series of hoists |

<http://www.tga.gov.au/alert/invacare-birdie-lifter-series-hoists>

Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has recalled this hoist for product correction - risk of injury due to D-clip becoming damaged.

Active Total Knee Replacement System

<http://www.tga.gov.au/alert/active-total-knee-replacement-system>

Hazard alert - higher than expected revision rate when used without patella resurfacing

Vision and hearing impaired access for 'A History of the World in 100 Objects'

http://www.nma.gov.au/media/media_releases_by_year/current_year_-_2016/vision-and-hearing-impaired-access

For the first time in a major exhibition, the National Museum of Australia is offering a suite of special features for blind, vision and hearing-impaired visitors to the exhibition A History of the World in 100 Objects.

Launch of Nursing White Paper on Health and aged care reform

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2016-gillespie006.htm?OpenDocument&mth=10&yr=2016>

The Australian Government has acknowledged an important White Paper, prepared by the Australian College of Nursing, which details the role of nurses in future health and aged care reform.

Release of Life Insurance Code of Practice

<http://kmo.ministers.treasury.gov.au/media-release/090-2016/>

The Federal Government has welcomed the release by the Financial Services Council (FSC) of the Life Insurance Code of Practice (the Code), aimed at improving consumer outcomes.

Geoarchaeology reconstructs the history of an ancient Khmer city

<http://www.ansto.gov.au/AboutANSTO/MediaCentre/News/ACS107652>

Radiocarbon dating using accelerator mass spectrometry at ANSTO's Centre for Accelerator Science has helped reconstruct the history of an ancient Khmer archaeological site in Cambodia.

\$50 million for new Macquarie Island research station

<http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/frydenberg/media-releases/mr20161014.html>

Australia's science and research capacity will be boosted with the Federal Government set to spend up to \$50 million to build a new research station on Macquarie Island.

Therapeutic Goods Administration warning on Vigour 300 tablets

<http://www.tga.gov.au/alert/vigour-300-tablets>

Vigour 300 tablets pose a serious risk to health and should not be taken.

Animas Vibe insulin pumps faulty

<http://www.tga.gov.au/alert/animas-vibe-insulin-pumps>

Safety advisory - potential battery issues if compartment cracked.

Medtronic model 37751 recharger recalled

<http://www.tga.gov.au/alert/medtronic-model-37751-recharger-used-neurostimulators>

Recall for product correction - risk of loss of therapy due to the recharger not functioning

ASIC consults on 'sunsetting' class order about managed investment scheme

<http://www.asic.gov.au/about-asic/media-centre/find-a-media-release/2016-releases/16-346mr-asic-consults-on-sunsetting-class-order-about-managed-investment-scheme-buy-backs-and-updates-to-related-guidance/>

ASIC has released a consultation paper proposing to remake its class order on managed investment scheme buy-backs.

National Heritage Listing for Snowy Mountains Scheme

<http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/frydenberg/media-releases/mr20161014b.html>

The Snowy Mountains Scheme has become the 107th area to be added to the National Heritage List.

Conferring of Awards ceremonies

The Australian National University will be conducting *Conferring of Awards* ceremonies on December 13, 14, 15 and 16 2016 at Llewellyn Hall.

ANU Emeritus Faculty members are cordially invited to participate in the academic processions for these ceremonies. Please register your intent to participate via the following web address:

https://anu.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_eWDolWSu1SAkYi9

You will be asked to select the ceremony (or ceremonies) you wish to attend. **Please note:** Registration will close on Friday 9 December at 5pm.

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

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

Please feel free to contact the Graduations Office (graduation.officer@anu.edu.au) – if you require any further information (or if you are unable to complete the registration form).

Deans, Directors and other members of the Chancellor's Party will be contacted separately about their participation.

Lost property

A navy and maroon Adidas jacket was left at the Emeritus Faculty after a talk, several weeks ago. It is at present on the bookshelves in the "Fred Ward room", first room on the right as you enter the ANUEF.

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

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

November 16 Lecture 4pm Professor Li Narangoa "Chinggis Khan and Women"

November 17 The inaugural Anthony Low Commonwealth Lecture, sponsored by the ANU and Commonwealth Round Table in Australia, will be given by the Chancellor, Professor Gareth Evans AC QC, in the ANU's Hedley Bull Lecture Theatre, 5.30pm-7pm. Open to the public; free but registration advised at: <http://bit.ly/2edmbPM>

December 1 The annual "Poets' Lunch" at 12.30pm until about 4.00pm, also in the Molony Room. The arrangements are the same as last year. Participants bring food (and drink) to share. If someone wants to come, please let David Walker know (dwalker@netspeed.com.au) so he can make sure there are enough books to go around.

December 7 Collegiate Lunch 12.30 - "Nobel-IgNobel Awards 2016" introduced again by Bygrave & Gibbs.

December 14 AGM

See the Calendar on the ANUEF Website for Abstracts. All events in the Molony Room unless otherwise stated

2017

March 1-3 Universities Australia Higher Education Conference, National Convention Centre, Canberra. Register before 3 February 2017 to secure the early bird rate. The theme of the 2017 conference is **Higher Education: Gen Next**. The conference will focus on the future shape of higher education against a backdrop of profound economic, industrial and technological change. The expectations of the next generation of students, the implications for university education and research, and the next generation of technology are topics to be explored throughout the two-day conference. For further information on the conference, visit the conference website or contact:

Arminia Seferovic, Events Manager, Universities Australia
at events@universitiesaustralia.edu.au or 02 6285 8116.

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>

Wednesday, November 9. Eat, Drink and be Literary, Julia Baird in conversation with Alex Sloan on Julia's new book *Victoria the Queen: The Woman who made the Modern World*. Great Hall, University House, 6.15 for 7.00pm.

Tuesday November 22, Stan Grant will be in conversation with Mick Dodson on Grant's new Quarterly Essay on *The Australian Dream: Blood, History and Belonging* at 6 PM in Llewellyn Hall. Stan Grant's essay is published in a year when the future of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia has made national and international headlines, following the Don Dale youth detention centre abuse scandal. This event is now bookable on the ANU events website. Book early as Stan drew 1000 people at our previous book event with him at Llewellyn Hall. The vote of thanks will be given by Professor Margaret Harding, DVC (Research), ANU. Now bookable on ANU Events.

Monday December 5, Paul Livingston, popularly known as his alter ego Flacco, will tell the inside story of The Doug Anthony All Stars, then and now. *D.A.A.S: Their Part in My Downfall* is a no-holds-barred true story behind the bad boys of Australian comedy. Manning Clark 2, 6 PM.

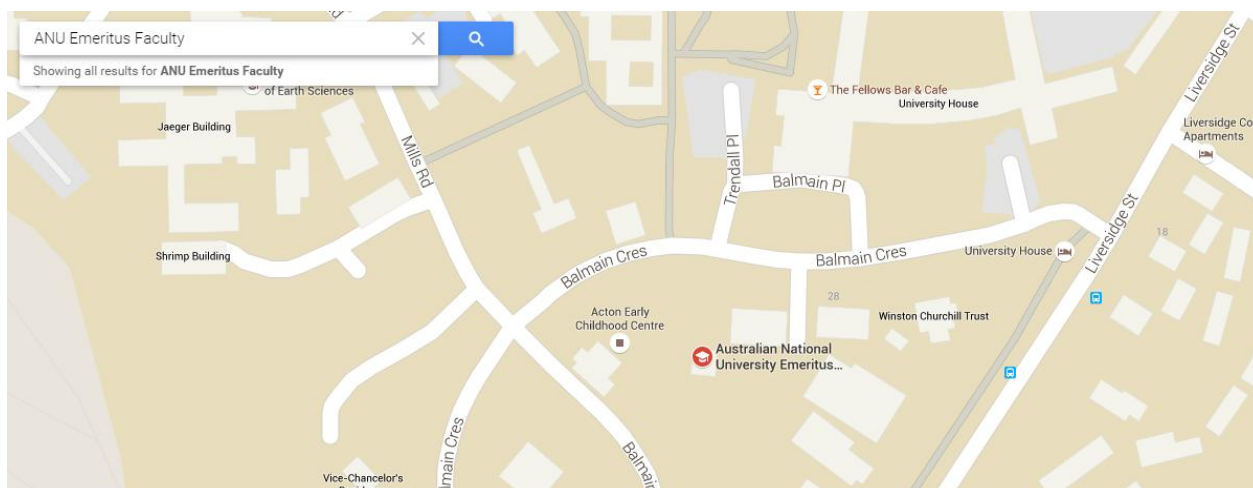
Thursday December 8, Troy Bramston will be in conversation with *The Australian's* Paul Kelly on *Paul Keating: the big-picture leader*, the first definitive biography of Paul Keating. The book has Paul Keating's cooperation and builds upon 100 interviews with key players and significant new archival research Paul Kelly has said "this is an indispensable insight into Keating's life - with fresh revelations". Manning Clark 2, 6 PM. Bookings: <http://www.anu.edu.au/events/paul-keating-the-big-picture-leader>

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 December, 2016