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Location map [http://www.anu.edu.au/emeritus/anef\\_location\\_map.html](http://www.anu.edu.au/emeritus/anef_location_map.html)

## Pathways past the precipice:

### Flourishing in a mega-threatened world

A report by a cross-disciplinary, roundtable discussion with 37 participants at ANU, hosted by the Emeritus Faculty in June, asks the question: “How will ANU and the Australian University Sector contribute to the mitigation of Existential Risk?”

The report, edited by Bob Douglas, reflects the conclusions of the group of academic leaders and students after a three-hour roundtable discussion, held on 27 June 2017. The discussion had been stimulated by the arguments in a book by Emeritus Faculty member, Julian Cribb, entitled “*Surviving the 21st-Century.*”

The discussion was chaired by Australia21 Director, Emeritus Professor Bob Douglas, using approaches developed by Australia21 and the publication has been supported by this body [www.australia21.org.au]. Australia21 is an independent public policy think tank that is committed to the development of new frameworks for understanding complex problems that are important to Australia’s future. For 15 years the group has been bringing together multidisciplinary groups of leading thinkers, researchers and policymakers to consider issues about Australia’s future ranging from climate and landscape, Australian society and economy, to the nation’s place in the world.

The report's Executive Summary states:

Humans are facing our greatest test in the million-year ascent of our kind. But this isn't a single challenge, like a famine or disease outbreak. It is a constellation of ten huge man-made threats, which are now coming together to imperil our stability and future existence.

Society often regards these ten risks as separate issues. In reality, they are deeply intertwined: each affects the others. This means they cannot be dealt with one at a time, but must be addressed in conjunction and at species level. They are:

- ecological collapse,
- resource depletion,
- weapons of mass destruction,
- global warming,
- global poisoning,
- food insecurity,
- population and urban expansion,
- pandemic disease,
- dangerous new technologies and
- self-delusion

A series of activities were discussed, some of which might feed into this scheme, and be pertinent to the evolving process. They included:

1. Appointment of an ANU working group to develop the case for an Australian Future Change Commission.
2. An audit across the ANU of education and research activities, that are pertinent to existential threats.
3. Development of proposals for cross-disciplinary "Synthesis Facilities" around existential challenges.
4. Development of undergraduate and postgraduate courses that cross disciplinary areas and build competencies to deal with Existential Threats.
5. Expansion of the university's role in the Future Earth Australia Initiative.

In the Vice Chancellor's recent blog, Professor Brian Schmidt AC writes, "And lastly 'thank you' to the Emeritus Faculty for sending me the report of a roundtable discussion convened by them in late June. The report includes input from 37 different groups across the ANU community. I encourage everyone to read the [report](#), which is called *Pathways past the Precipice: flourishing in a Mega-Threatened World. How will ANU and the Australian university sector contribute to the mitigation of existential risk?*

"The report makes a number of important recommendations, which I am currently considering. We know that Oxford and Cambridge Universities are taking this issue very seriously and there is little doubt that, as the National University, we could make an important contribution to the Australian response to these threats."

[To access the full report copy and paste link below.]

[https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/11559830/ANU%20Roundtable/J3015%20-%20Humans%20for%20Survival%20report\\_v5.pdf](https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/11559830/ANU%20Roundtable/J3015%20-%20Humans%20for%20Survival%20report_v5.pdf)

## **ANU apology after Human Rights Commission's survey results**

In a statement to ANU staff and students, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Brian Schmidt AC, said:

"I want to start by saying sorry. Sorry to any student, to any staff member, to any member of our alumni community who has experienced sexual harassment or sexual assault on our campus. One incident is more than we should accept.

"I also want to say sorry to any student, to any staff member, to any member of our alumni community who has not received what they needed from the University in dealing with sexual harassment or sexual assault. We must – and we will – do better.

"Every member of our community has a right to expect they will be safe in their place of study, their place of work, or – as this campus is for many – their home. And that they will have the support of the University when they disclose. And that we will make every effort to make sure our community understands consent. And that perpetrators will not be welcome in our community.

"Our first priority right now must be to support survivors and all those affected by sexual harassment or sexual assault. To every member of our community who is affected, and who is suffering because of it, I say to you, you do have our support. We know this will be a traumatic period for you. If you are affected, please reach out to the support services on offer. We've made sure there is extra counselling for both students and staff available on the campus, including the specialist services of the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre.

"This report gives us, for the first time, a real understanding of how sexual harassment and sexual assault affect university students. It is difficult reading. The stories told by survivors are shocking. The results are shocking. We should all be shocked. This level of sexual harassment and sexual assault is not acceptable in our universities, in our workplaces, in our city, or anywhere in our society.

"The shock must be met with action: action here at ANU, action across universities, and action across our entire community. And not something we do today but don't do tomorrow.

"To survivors and people affected by sexual assault and harassment, your voices and stories guide us to providing the right kinds of support, when you need it and where you need it. You are the catalyst of change.

"I pledge to the students and staff at ANU who are affected by sexual assault and harassment that we are acting, we will do more, and we will not cease until this stops happening in our community.

## **ANU Results**

"I'm going to talk about what the statistics tell us about ANU. But before I do, I want to remind everyone that each statistic is a person: a colleague, a classmate, a friend. We need to remember that what we are dealing with here affects people we all know.

"In all, 1,477 ANU students took part in the survey, one of the highest response rates in the country. For this I thank our students – institutions are only provided with findings for their institutions where there are enough responses to create a statistically valid sample. It is because our students were so generous with their time, so honest with their experiences that we know where we need to focus our efforts.

“The sector-wide results tell us that

- Students are more likely to be affected if they live in a residential college.
- The overwhelming majority don't report the harassment or assault.
- The overwhelming majority don't seek help.
- Men are also survivors of sexual assault and harassment.
- LGBTQI students, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and students with a disability suffer disproportionate levels of harassment and assault.

“At ANU the results tell us that

Of those ANU students who responded to the survey, at least 116 were sexually assaulted in 2016, 52 of those on the campus.

The sample size is too small for us to have been provided more detailed information that tells us whether students sought support, if they reported the assault, where the assault occurred and who the perpetrators were.

Of those ANU students who responded to the survey, 841 reported that they had experienced sexual harassment in 2016, 517 of them at the university (excluding public transport). While women were overwhelmingly those subject to harassment, 183 male students are included in this number. This is higher than the sector average. 59 per cent of those incidents involved someone known to the student.

In 74 per cent of those incidents, the perpetrator of the sexual harassment was another student and in five per cent per cent of incidents, a lecturer or a tutor; 82 per cent of harassment reports involved men as perpetrators.

At least 620 students witnessed sexual harassment at the University last year, which tells us we need to step up efforts in bystander intervention.

61 percent of those incidents of sexual harassment involved inappropriate staring or leering, sexually suggestive comments or jokes, and intrusive questions about private life.

The majority of these incidents - 65 per cent - occurred on the university campus, in a residential college or university facility.

At least 93 per cent of students who were subject to harassment did not seek support or assistance from the University. The reasons for not seeking support are overwhelmingly because students didn't think the matter was serious enough (71 per cent) or because they didn't think they needed help (58 per cent). The only positive is that only a tiny percentage - one per cent - were concerned that the University would not help.

ANU students are above the sector average when it comes to having knowledge about where to get assistance in the University, with 56 per cent knowing where to get help.

Our report is available on the ANU website.

### **ANU Response**

“The Human Rights Commission makes nine recommendations to Universities. We accept all of them and will fully implement all of them.

“The ANU student associations ANUSA and PARSAs have also made a series of recommendations to the University. The University accepts the majority of these recommendations. Many of them are related to work already in place or commencing at the University. The University will work with our students through the new Steering Committee on the other proposals they have made, including exploring a restorative justice process for the University.

## **ANU Key Actions**

“We have commissioned independent research consulting firm Rapid Context to undertake an independent review of all policies and procedures related to sexual assault and harassment. This review will consult with staff, students and survivors, and provide the University with a report in September 2017.

“We have appointed Donelle Wheeler, former diplomat and President of the Australian National Committee for UN Women as an independent chair of our campus-wide steering group for addressing sexism, sexual harassment and sexual assault on campus. Our group has a remit that covers our entire community of students and staff. That group will include students, professional and academic staff, senior leadership, residential college representatives and experts.

“ANU has long-term relationship with the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre and ACT Policing. That relationship has been extended to include a full-time presence of the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre on campus from August 7. Additional counselling has been put in place for staff and students in the meantime to deal with any additional demand as a result of the report.

“ANU will conduct a full audit its counselling services and provide additional services where needed. ANU will undertake a review of its residential colleges. It will invite affiliated residential colleges to participate in the review. Should any affiliated college opt not to participate, the University will commence review of the affiliation of that college with a view to determining if the affiliation will be revoked.

“ANU piloted a new evidence-based and age-appropriate consent training module with all incoming residential students in Semester 1, 2017. We are now working towards having all students complete consent training. So far, more than 2000 have completed the training.

“A sister module for staff goes live this week. It trains staff on dealing with disclosures of harassment and consent.

“The new ANU Strategic Plan for the first time articulates ANU values. The price of membership to our community is adherence to those values. All students and staff joining our community from 2018 will be advised of those values and the expected behaviour that is aligned with those values.

“The University launched a new website last month that is a repository for all information related to sexual assault and sexual harassment on campus. All students from Semester 2, 2017, receive direct communication making them aware of the values of the University and where to access information and support.”

## **Universities Australia’s campaign**

Speaking on behalf of university leaders, Universities Australia chair Professor Margaret Gardner, commented, “We began the *Respect. Now. Always.* campaign over a year ago to respond to calls to more actively combat sexual harassment and sexual assault in universities - and to help build more respectful and safer communities. At our request, the Australian Human Rights Commission surveyed our students so we could better understand what we needed to do.”

In apologising to victims among staff and students at all universities, she added, “We want to work with our students and staff to demand respectful and responsible behaviour in university communities, and in the wider society. We want universities to be places that work, strongly and actively, to prevent sexual assault and sexual harassment. Each of us has a role in this. Students, staff, and university leaders are together crucial to prevent sexual assault and sexual harassment...”

Universities Australia’s 10-point action plan can be found at [universitiesaustralia.edu.au/respectnowalways](http://universitiesaustralia.edu.au/respectnowalways)

**If you need support, help is available.**

- National university support line: 1800 572 224 (From 31 July to 30 November 2017)
- 1800 RESPECT: 1800 737 732
- Lifeline: 131114
- Beyond Blue: 1300 224 636

## **Human Rights Commission Report**

One in five (21%) students were sexually harassed in a university setting in 2016 and 1.6% of students were sexually assaulted in a university setting on at least one occasion in 2015 or 2016, according to a landmark report on sexual assault and sexual harassment at Australian universities released on August 1 by the Australian Human Rights Commission.

<http://www.humanrights.gov.au/news/media-releases/new-data-shows-widespread-sexual-assault-and-sexual-harassment-australian>

## **Universities Australia opposes new legislation**

Universities Australia has told the Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee that it cannot support the Government's *Higher Education Support Legislation Amendment (A More Sustainable, Responsive and Transparent Higher Education System) Bill 2017*. The Committee is due to report on the legislation on August 9.

In its opening statement to the committee's inquiry into the legislation, Universities Australia told Senators it is "...the peak body representing Australia's 39 comprehensive universities, including two private not-for-profit universities." Many of Universities Australia members, and other groups of universities, have provided individual submissions to the committee and some have already given evidence.

The statement went on:

"UA's core business is, working in partnership with the Government and the Parliament more broadly, to ensure that the policy, regulatory and fiscal framework supports a strong, vibrant, responsive, innovative and internationally competitive university system: a system that serves its students and the nation.

"All universities operate on a not-for-profit basis. Every dollar that comes in to a university is invested in the university. Universities do not generate dividends, nor do they exist as vehicles for generating financial wealth for shareholders. As Professor Ian Jacobs, Vice Chancellor of the University of NSW, observed recently, universities are servants of their communities. They exist to deliver public goods most directly in the form of higher education and research. Through this they contribute to social cohesion, economic advancement, industrial and economic diversification, regional development, business innovation and the solutions to some of our most confounding problems.

"Underpinning every successful nation is a strong higher education and research system. Australia's university system is one of the best in the world. It educates more than 1.3 million students each year, employs over 120,000 staff, and supports a further 40,000 jobs. The sector contributes over \$2 billion each year to Australia's regional economies, and sustains in excess of 14,000 regional jobs. It delivers three quarters of the value – currently \$22.4 billion - of Australia's highly successful international education sector and is responsible for the high esteem in which Australia is held as a destination of choice for international students.

“But higher education is worth more than dollars. Against a background of economic and technological change, increasing global competition, and a threat of widening disparity in opportunity - including between regional and metropolitan areas - university education is a way to bridge the gaps, shape our future and transform lives.

“Australia cannot be an innovation nation without strong universities. Without adequate, sustainable and predictable funding, universities cannot open their doors to properly support, or provide the quality of education expected by all those with the requisite ability to complete a university education. They cannot undertake the world-leading research that saves lives and transforms industries or assures Australia’s successful transition to a very different technology-based future where lifelong learning, upskilling and re-skilling are the new norms.

“Neither this Bill, nor its 2015 predecessor, are policy reforms. They are budget savings measures and should be discussed and debated as such – honestly and transparently. The primary purpose of this Bill is not to strengthen the university system, to provide a better experience for students, to drive a national innovation agenda, to put universities on a more sustainable footing or to improve Australia’s international competitiveness as a provider of international education. It is to deliver a \$2.8 billion saving to the Federal budget.

“One component of the Bill, the efficiency dividend, will reduce total base funding to universities by around \$330 million a year by 2021 (in 2018 dollars). This is the equivalent of removing one university from the system.

“When it comes to budget repair, the sector has more than contributed its fair share. Since 2011, universities and their students have contributed \$3.9 billion to rein in the federal budget deficit. It is important to note that this \$3.9 billion budget repair effort is in addition to \$3.7 billion, currently held in the Education Investment Fund for university infrastructure, the Government has announced will be ‘repurposed’.

“While the Bill contains a number of positive measures – support for HEPPP, expanding the demand driven system to sub-bachelor places and incentives for more work placements - the majority of our members are strongly of the view that these do not outweigh the negative impact that the cuts to public investment, and the increase in students fees, will have on students, research and regional communities.

“For this reason, the consensus view of the sector is to oppose the passage of the Bill.

“Much has been said about the ‘rivers of gold’ flowing to universities as a consequence of the introduction of the demand driven system and the surpluses that universities hold, in justifying a \$2.8 billion cut to the sector. To be clear, this increase in public funding has been driven by enrolment growth associated with the introduction of the demand driven system – a policy initiative supported by both major parties. Far from delivering untold riches to universities, enrolment growth means expenditure growth as existing programs, services and infrastructure are expanded to meet the increased load.

“To claim that the demand driven system is unaffordable because it has done precisely what it was meant to do, that is, increase participation from disadvantaged groups and increase the number of graduates to meet future labour market projections, is curious to say the least. Even with the growth in enrolments, it is a fact that both as a share of government outlays and as a share of GDP, public investment in higher education is falling. Public funding for tertiary education as a proportion of GDP dropped from 1.2 per cent in 1995 to 0.7 per cent.

“In relation to surpluses, those universities that do post a surplus – and not all do - reinvest these into teaching and research. This reinvestment is lumpy, often non-discretionary and varies substantially from year to year. To point to surpluses as a rationale for reducing funding is to misunderstand the fundamentals of good governance and sound financial practice. Just under half of all universities are either operating a deficit or are on slim operating margins of less than 5 per cent.

“A number of State Auditors-General have recently expressed concern in relation to the financial health of some universities. The NSW Audit office, for example, has at the top of its list of financial risk for universities, the ‘potential impact of government policy changes’.

“There is a certain irony in the argument that says that declining university surpluses should be further eroded so that a Federal budget surplus might be achieved.

“A number of elements of the package, specifically performance-based funding and post-graduate scholarships, require substantially more thought and consultation with the sector, to achieve the policy objectives being sought. In relation to performance-based funding, the evidence of need is scant. Attrition rates have not changed markedly in recent years, retention is on par with the rest of the developed world and student satisfaction continues to climb. That said, universities are demonstrably committed to continuous improvement in meeting the needs of their students and will support a scheme that achieves this. However a punitive approach that disadvantages the very universities that support students most in need, is not that scheme.

“A package based on funding cuts and increases in fees will reduce the range, diversity and quality of universities’ offerings, driving the system to greater homogeneity as lowest cost modes of delivery are pursued. The case for how this benefits students has yet to be made. There is no doubt that universities in regional or outer metropolitan areas, as well as those institutions that do the heavy lifting on access and equity will be affected most.

“In summary, the majority of our Universities Australia members oppose the passage of the legislation in any form because:

- Students will pay more and receive less;
- It will result in less rather than more diversity as universities pursue lowest cost models;
- It does not deliver true reform;
- It will lead to large bureaucracies and administrative costs for government and universities without a commensurate benefit;
- It will lead to financial difficulties for many institutions and make higher education less accessible;
- It will cast a pall over the future of non-economically viable courses, campuses and student support services and will likely lead to staff reductions; and
- Will further increase the level of financial exposure of the sector to international education.”

### **Acting President of the Australian Law Reform Commission.**

Mr Robert Cornall AO has been appointed Acting President of the Australian Law Reform Commission for three months, commencing 30 July, 2017, while a recruitment process will be undertaken to fill the vacancy left by Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM.

Mr Cornall is a former Secretary of the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department, from 2000 to 2008. He was a Chair of the Defence Abuse Response Taskforce from 2014 to its conclusion in 2016. He was the Independent Reviewer of Adverse Security Assessments from 2015 to 2017. He is also an Officer of the Order of Australia for service to the community in developing public policy.

### **The Murphy Papers**

The President of the Senate, Senator Stephen Parry, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives Tony Smith MP, have made the Class A records of the Parliamentary

Commission of Inquiry into the conduct of former minister and High Court judge Lionel Keith Murphy publicly available – with a short delay for technical reasons.

Under the *Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry (Repeal) Act 1986*, the Commission's records are divided into two classes. The Class A records of the Commission contain material relating to the conduct of Lionel Keith Murphy and the Class B records contain material relating to the meaning of s.72 of the Constitution. The Class B records were made publicly available on 19 December 2016.

It was intended that the records would be tabled out of session and then published in electronic form on Monday, 24 July 2017, allowing time for, where possible and appropriate, advising persons named in the records, and the closest living relatives or legal representatives of deceased persons, of their forthcoming publication, and for the scanning of documents and redaction of personal information such as signatures and addresses.

As these undertakings are taking longer than expected, the President and the Speaker say there will be a short delay in the publication of the Class A records. A new release date will be announced in the near future.

### **Extreme El Niño events to stay, says CSIRO**

The frequency of extreme El Niño events is projected to increase for a further century after global mean temperature is stabilised at 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

Research published in *Nature Climate Change* by an international team shows that if warming was halted to the aspirational 1.5°C target from the Paris Agreement, the frequency of extreme El Niño events could continue to increase, due to a continuation of faster warming in the eastern equatorial Pacific.

CSIRO researcher and lead author Dr Guojian Wang said the growing risk of extreme El Niño events did not stabilise in a stabilised climate. "Currently the risk of extreme El Niño events is around five events per 100 years," Dr Wang said. "This doubles to approximately 10 events per 100 years by 2050, when our modelled emissions scenario (RCP 2.6) reaches a peak of 1.5°C warming. After this, as faster warming in the eastern equatorial Pacific persists, the risk of extreme El Niño continues upwards to about 14 events per 100 years by 2150. This result is unexpected and shows that future generations will experience greater climate risks associated with extreme El Niño events than seen at 1.5°C warming."

The research was based on five climate models that provided future scenarios past the year 2100. The models were run using the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's lowest emissions scenario (RCP2.6), which requires negative emissions late in the century.

Director of the Centre for Southern Hemisphere Oceans Research and report co-author, Dr Wenju Cai, said that this research continues important work on the impacts of climate change on the El Niño-Southern Oscillation which is a significant driver of global climate.

"The most severe previous extreme El Niño events occurred in 1982/83, 1997/98 and 2015/16, years associated with worldwide climate extremes," Dr Cai said.

"Extreme El Niño events occur when the usual El Niño Pacific rainfall centre is pushed eastward toward South America, sometimes up to 16,000 kilometres, causing massive changes in the climate. The further east the centre moves, the more extreme the El Niño.

"This pulls rainfall away from Australia bringing conditions that have commonly resulted in intense droughts across the nation. During such events, other countries like India, Ecuador, and China have experienced extreme events with serious socio-economic consequences."

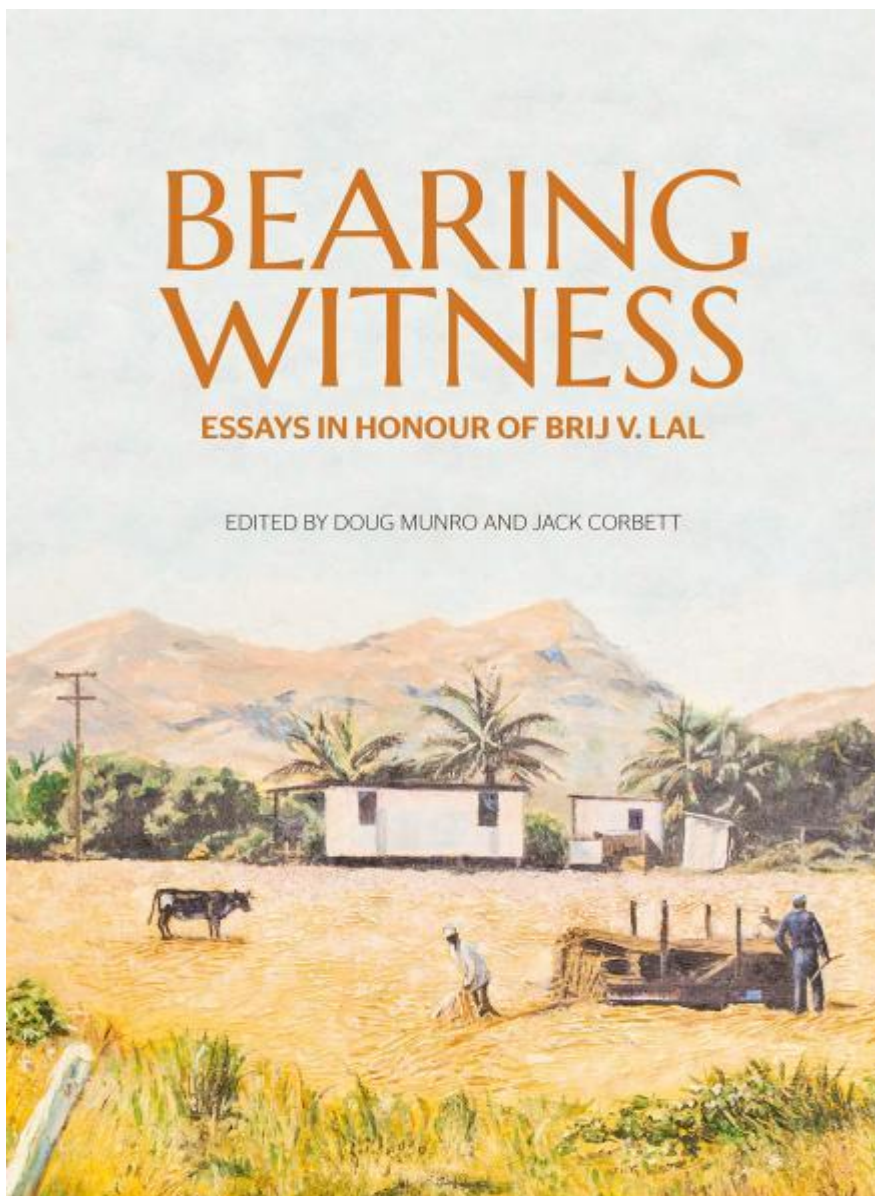
Dr Cai added that while previous research suggested that extreme La Niña events would double under a 4.5°C warming scenario, results here indicated that under a scenario of

climate stabilisation (i.e. 1.5°C warming) there was little or no change to these La Niña events.

The research was conducted by researchers at the Hobart-based Centre for Southern Hemisphere Oceans Research, an international collaboration between CSIRO, Qingdao National Laboratory for Marine Science and Technology, the University of New South Wales, and the University of Tasmania.

The National Environmental Science Programme's Earth System and Climate Change Hub co-funded this research.

### **Book Shelf**



***Bearing Witness: Essays in honour of Brij V. Lal***

Edited by: [Doug Munro](#), [Jack Corbett](#)

ISBN (print; rrp \$53.00): 9781760461218 ISBN (online free): 9781760461225

Published by ANU Press; DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.22459/BW.07.2017>

Series: [State, Society and Governance in Melanesia](#)

Clive Moore, of the University of Queensland, writes, "Brij V. Lal is a singular scholar. His work has spanned disciplines—from history to politics—and genres—from conventional monograph history, to participant history, political commentary, encyclopaedia, biography and fiction. Brij is without doubt the most eminent scholar Fiji has ever produced. He also remains the most significant public intellectual of his country, despite having been banned from entering it in 2009. He is also one of the leading Pacific historians of his generation, and an internationally recognised authority on the Indian diaspora. This Festschrift volume celebrates, reflects upon and extends the life and work of this colourful scholar. The essays, whose contributors are drawn from across the globe, do more than review Brij's work; they also probe his contribution to both scholarly and political life. This book will therefore serve as an invaluable guide for readers from all walks of life seeking to better situate and understand the impact of Brij's scholarly activism on Fiji and beyond."

Jacqueline Leckie, of the University of Otago, writes, "It is a pleasure to commend this collection of very different essays that celebrate, reflect upon and extend the life and work of a remarkable scholar. Although I have had, at times, a close association with Brij Lal's life and work, I have learned much from reading this book. It provokes further thought about the course of democracy in Fiji, and the very sorry state and future of Pacific history and the humanities in academia. Here is a timely assertion of the significance and major contribution that courageous scholars such as Brij have made to the study and public awareness of these areas of concern."

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***A Distinctive Voice in the Antipodes: Essays in Honour of Stephen A. Wild***

Edited by: [Kirsty Gillespie](#), [Sally Treloyn](#), [Don Niles](#)

ISBN (print rrp - \$75.00): 9781760461119 ISBN (online - free): 9781760461126

ANU Press; DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.22459/DVA.07.2017>

This volume of essays honours the life and work of Stephen A. Wild, one of Australia's leading ethnomusicologists. Born in Western Australia, Wild studied at Indiana University in the USA before returning to Australia to pursue a lifelong career with Indigenous Australian music. As researcher, teacher, and administrator, Wild's work has impacted generations of scholars around the world, leading him to be described as 'a great facilitator and a scholar who serves humanity through music' by Andrée Grau, Professor of the Anthropology of Dance at University of Roehampton, London.

Focusing on the music of Aboriginal Australia and the Pacific Islands, and the concerns of archiving and academia, the essays within are authored by peers, colleagues, and former students of Wild. Most of the authors are members of the Study Group on Music and Dance of Oceania of the International Council for Traditional Music, an organisation that has also played an important role in Wild's life and development as a scholar of international standing. Ranging in scope from the musicological to the anthropological—from technical musical analyses to observations of the sociocultural context of music—these essays reflect not only on the varied and cross-disciplinary nature of Wild's work, but on the many facets of ethnomusicology today.

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### ***China's New Sources of Economic Growth: Vol. 2***

*Human Capital, Innovation and Technological Change*

Edited by: [Ligang Song](#), [Ross Garnaut](#), Cai Fang, Lauren Johnston

ISBN (print rrp - \$75.00): 9781760461294 ISBN (online - free): 9781760461300

Published by ANU Press; DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.22459/CNSEG.07.2017>

Series: [China Update Series](#)

China's efforts in searching for new sources of growth are increasingly pressing given the persistence of the growth slowdown in recent years. This year's book elucidates key present macroeconomic challenges facing China's economy in 2017, and the impacts and readiness of human capital, innovation and technological change in affecting the development of China's economy. The book explores the development of human capital as the foundations of China's push into more advanced growth frontiers. It also explores the progress of productivity improvement in becoming the primary mechanism by which China can sustain economic growth, and explains the importance of China's human capital investments to success on this front. The book demonstrates that technical change is a major contributor to productivity growth; and that invention and innovation are increasingly driving technical change but so far lumpily across regions, sectors and invention motivations. Included are chapters providing an update on reform and macroeconomic development, educational inequality, the role of intangibles in determining China's economic growth, and China's progress in transitioning towards being an innovative country. The book also covers the regional dimension of innovation and technological progress by sector: in agricultural productivity, renewable energy and financial markets. Chapters on trade, investment, regional cooperation and foreign aid explore further the mechanisms through which technological change and innovative activities are emerging locally and internationally.

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### ***Ark of Civilisation: Refugee Scholars and Oxford University, 1930-45***

Edited by [Sally Crawford](#), [Katharina Ulmschneider](#) and [Jaś Elsner](#)

Oxford, 396 pp, £75.00, March, ISBN 978 0 19 968755 8

[This is an extract from a review in the July edition of the *London Review of Books* by [Stefan Collini](#) who teaches English at Cambridge. His most recent books are *Common Writing: Essays on Literary Culture and Public Debate* and *Speaking of Universities*]

Where would you have found, in 1940, 'the most elite university in the world in terms of the pool of scholars it contained'? The answer, according to the editors' introduction to *Ark of Civilisation: Refugee Scholars and Oxford University 1930-45*, isn't any of the great institutions that may come to mind, but Hutchinson Camp on the Isle of Man.

As the result of a slightly panicky policy of interning 'enemy aliens' after the fall of France, large numbers of refugee German scholars – most but not all of whom were Jewish – found themselves in this unlikely spot. They immediately set about giving lectures and conducting seminars. Activities for the week beginning 21 October 1940, for instance, included Dr Unger on 'Greek Philosophy: Plato (continued)', Mr Stadler on 'History of Medieval Culture (continued)', and Professor Marx, 'Study Group on Goethe'. The exiled journalist Rudolf Olden was also interned there, and 'in the exceptionally fine summer of 1940' delivered 'memorable political analyses on the Hutchinson Square lawns to audiences of 300-400'.

**Colin Steele** adds, "Ralph Elliott, the former master of University House, was interned on the Isle of Man, before going on to win the Sword of Honour at Sandhurst. When we were there last year in the Isle of Man, visiting family, we saw an interesting exhibition on female **World War II** detainees particular focused on **Port Erin**."

In his last book, *Chaucer's Landscapes and Other Essays*, Ralph Elliot includes a biographical chapter entitled, "A Kilted Kraut" in which he recounts his departure from his native Germany as a teenager, his crash course in English which led to his academic success at St Andrew's University and his internment on the Isle of Man and later in Canada before joining the British Army, first in the Aliens' Corps (later the Pioneer Corps) and then at Sandhurst.

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***ANU Undergraduate Research Journal: Volume Eight, 2016***

ISSN (print; rrp \$33.00): 1836-5531, ISSN (online - free): 1837-2872

Imprint: ANU eView; DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.22459/AURJ.08.2016>

ANU Undergraduate Research Journal

This ANU Undergraduate Research Journal presents outstanding essays taken from numerous ANU undergraduate essay submissions. The breadth and depth of the articles chosen for publication by the editorial team and reviewed by leading ANU academics demonstrates the quality and research potential of the undergraduate talent being nurtured at ANU across a diverse range of fields.

While ANU is widely appreciated for its scholarly production at the professional and post-graduate levels, less is known about the extent and the quality of research conducted by the almost ten thousand undergraduate students who represent more than half of the university's enrolments. As we believe that this substantial share of the ANU community deserves equal attention to their more senior colleagues, and that originality, commitment and entrepreneurship are qualities to be found across the whole academic body, we seek here to exhibit a snippet of this year's undergraduate production.

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***One Halal of a Story***

By Sam Dastyari

RRP Print \$29.99 RRP Ebook \$13.99

Published by: Melbourne University Publishing

The publisher writes "Sam Dastyari was born in Iran to student activists and arrived in Australia aged four. He has worked with Hawker Britton and served as General Secretary of New South Wales Labor. He was appointed to the Senate in 2013, promoted to the shadow outer ministry in 2016, and became the manager of opposition business in the Senate and spokesperson for consumer affairs. Sam Dastyari is currently a backbencher and lives in Sydney with his wife and two daughters.

"This is a window into Sam Dastyari's often bizarre world of politics, controversy, life adventures and multiculturalism in a Styrofoam box.

"This is the man who introduced Pauline Hanson to the halal snack pack and accountability to big banks. As in life, Sam Dastyari's memoir is unexpected and unorthodox. Sam brings his super-charged approach to life to his writing and the result is hilarious and sharp.

"Named Sahand by his hippy Iranian parents, he changed his name to Sam to fit in with his schoolmates. But Sam was always going to stand out. He joined the Labor Party when he was sixteen and was elected as a senator only thirteen years later.

“*One Halal of a Story* looks beyond the button-up suits and the sound bites into the soul of Canberra. It’s about how the most dangerous mosh pits are to be found among parents at the school nativity play. It’s about bank CEOs and whistleblowers. It’s about how to keep the peace with the neighbours when their front lawns are under siege from the media, thanks to your misdemeanour. *One Halal of a Story* is a no-holds-barred look at the good and bad of family, politics, and being Sam.”

**[Of possible interest – access the link or paste it in your browser](#)**

### **Consumer Ministers to consider retirement villages**

The issue of retirement villages will be discussed at an upcoming meeting of Consumer Affairs Ministers in Melbourne on 31 August 2017. The Ministers will consider the effectiveness of current legislation and enforcement arrangements covering the retirement village industry.

<http://mfm.ministers.treasury.gov.au/media-release/103-2017/>

### **Funding for Indigenous languages and art**

<https://www.arts.gov.au/departmental-news/funding-indigenous-languages-and-art>

The Government has announced more than \$10 million to help keep Indigenous arts and languages alive.

### **2000 year global temperature record based on environmental archives published - ANSTO**

<http://www.ansto.gov.au/AboutANSTO/MediaCentre/News/ACS157694>

A temperature record based on sediments from a lake in Tasmania collected by ANSTO environmental researcher Dr Krystyna Saunders is among the global, multiproxy dataset published recently.

### **Appointment of three new National Museum of Australia Council members**

[http://www.nma.gov.au/media/media\\_releases\\_by\\_year/2017/appointment-of-three-new-council-members](http://www.nma.gov.au/media/media_releases_by_year/2017/appointment-of-three-new-council-members)

The National Museum of Australia has welcomed three new federal government appointments to its governing Council.

### **TGA is consulting on changes to surgical mesh devices regulation**

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/mr-yr17-dept-dept012.htm>

Following a decision by the European Commission to implement a number of medical device reforms, including to up-classify all surgical mesh medical devices to Class III and to provide patient implant cards and consumer product information for all implantable medical devices, the TGA is looking at undertaking the same measures

## Diary Dates

ANUEF inquiries; Adrian Gibbs [adrian\\_j\\_gibbs@hotmail.com](mailto:adrian_j_gibbs@hotmail.com)

ANU Events 02 6125 4144 E: [events@anu.edu.au](mailto:events@anu.edu.au)

**August 16 Lecture 12.30 pm** Dr Adam Broinowski 'The Fukushima Nuclear Crisis: Responses to Neoliberal Disaster Management.'

**August 20** 9.00am-2.00pm Geoscience Australia's annual Open Day. This family-focused event provides a great opportunity to showcase Geoscience Australia's work to the public and to highlight the importance of geoscience in everyday life. Discover how industries such as agriculture rely on precise positioning technology, learn how satellite technology and a supercomputer have revolutionised our ability to monitor changes in the landscape, learn how scientists assess earthquake risk, and discover how critical mineral commodities are needed to make your smart phone work. Geoscience Australia's [Open Day](#) offers a wide range of free hands-on activities, science displays, talks, and fun for all ages. [National Science Week](#) (12-20 August 2017), is part of Australia's annual celebration of science.

**Where:** Geoscience Australia, Corner of Hindmarsh Drive and Jerrabomberra Avenue, Symonston ACT [[Link to directions](#)]

**More information** visit [www.ga.gov.au/open-day](http://www.ga.gov.au/open-day)

**August 30**, 6–7pm Sir Roland Wilson Building Professor Jean-Claude Guédon "Promoting Knowledge in the Age of Unreason: Toward the Internet of the Mind". ANU Emeritus Faculty Lecture in association with the National Scholarly Communication Forum and The Open Society Foundation.

**September 6** Collegiate Lunch. Dr Dorothy Horsfield "Russia in the wake of the Cold War; perceptions and prejudices". No Committee Meeting.

**September 15** 12.30-13.30 Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian Schmidt AC - title TBA. Followed by the September Committee Meeting

**September 20** Lecture 4pm Professor Barry Osmond - title TBA

**October 4** Collegiate Lunch Professor Terry Hull "Just Sex".

**October 18** Lecture 4 pm - TBA.

**October 31**, 6pm ANUEF Annual Lecture. Professor Glyn Davis, VC Melbourne University on his book '*New models for Australian universities*'. Sir Roland Wilson Lecture Theatre.

**November 1** Collegiate Lunch -

**November 15** Lecture 4pm Emeritus Professor Patrick De Deckker - title TBA

**December 6** Collegiate Lunch and Annual discussion of the Nobels/IgNobels/Breakthroughs Prizes

**December 13** AGM

## Meet the author

**Monday, 14 August**, 6.30pm, Molonglo Theatre, JG Crawford Building, Crawford School, 132 Lennox Crossing, ANU. ANU/*The Canberra Times* Meet the Author. Gail Kelly with her new book, *Live, Lead, Learn*. Free event. Moderated by Professor Helen Sullivan, Director, Crawford School of Public Policy. Bookings at [anu.edu.au/events](http://anu.edu.au/events) or 6125 4144. Pre-event book signings at 6.00pm.

**Wednesday, 20 September** 6pm –7 pm at Sir Roland Wilson Building. ANU/*The Canberra Times* Meet the Author event. **Stuart Kells** and **Colin Steele** will be in conversation on Stuart's new book *The Library. A Catalogue of Wonders*, "a love letter to libraries not just as mere collections of books, but as magical, fabled places." Libraries are filled with magic. From the Bodleian, the Folger and the Smithsonian to the fabled libraries of middle earth, Umberto Eco's medieval library labyrinth and libraries dreamed up by J.R.R. Tolkien, Jorge Luis Borges and Carlos Ruiz Zafón, Stuart Kells

explores the bookish places, real and fictitious, that continue to capture our imaginations. Research for this book included a world tour of famous libraries.

*The Library: A Catalogue of Wonders* is a fascinating and engaging exploration of libraries as places of beauty and wonder. The chapter, 'A Library With No Books', traces the sharing of stories-oral libraries in indigenous Australian cultures, It's a celebration of books as objects and an account of the deeply personal nature of these hallowed spaces by one of Australia's leading bibliophiles.

Stuart Kells is an author and book-trade historian. His 2015 book, *Penguin and the Lane Brothers*, won the Ashurst Business Literature Prize. An authority on rare books, he has written and published on many aspects of print culture and the book world. Stuart lives in Melbourne and is currently writing a book about Shakespeare's library.

Colin Steele, ANU Emeritus Fellow, was formerly ANU University Librarian and Assistant Librarian at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. He has visited many of the major libraries of the world, though not all covered in his book *Major Libraries of the World*. He is a Fellow of both the Australian and UK Library and Information Associations, as well as the Australian Academy of Humanities.

**Book signings will take place at 5.30pm before the conversation and then again after. This event is free.**

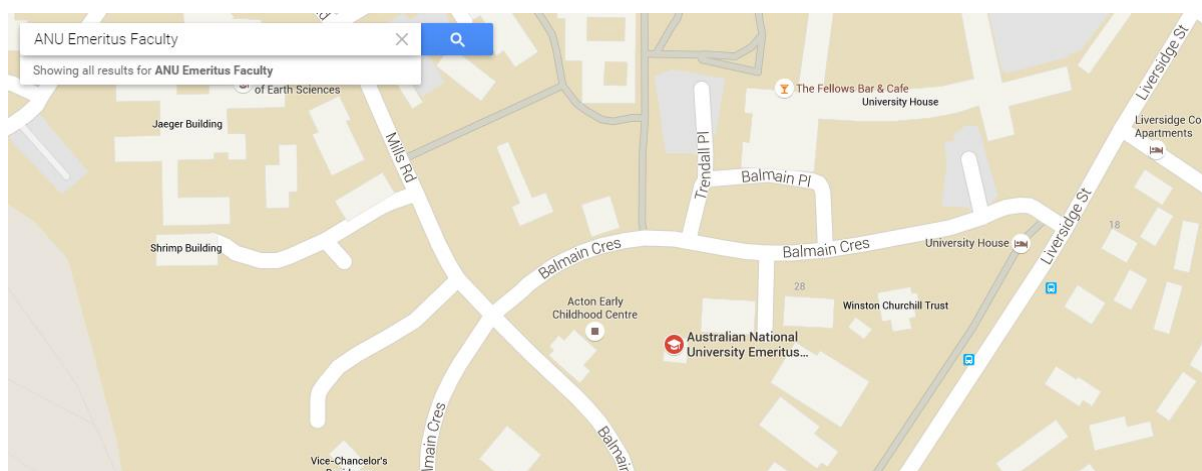
<http://www.anu.edu.au/events/stuart-kells-in-conversation-with-colin-steele>

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/stuarts-kells-in-conversation-with-colin-steele-tickets-36372045768>

## 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 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](mailto:jantancress@gmail.com) or Tel: 6247 3341

**The next edition of *Emeritus*, the ANUEF Newsletter, will be published in September, 2017**