

EMERITUS

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ANU joins major health education partnership with UC and ACT government

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY and the University of Canberra will partner the ACT Health Directorate to improve the health and wellbeing of the Canberra community in expanded health precincts, research facilities and teaching. ANU is prepared to partner in a significant expansion of its facilities to create a shared capacity with Canberra Health Services and the University of Canberra.

Leaders from the ACT Health Directorate and Canberra Health Services met in November with leaders from Canberra's tertiary education and research sectors for the ACT Health Summit: *Research, Teaching and Training*, to agree on a clear path for working together on shared priorities. It was opened by the ACT Minister for Health and Wellbeing, Minister for Medical and Health Research and Minister for Higher Education, Meegan Fitzharris, who called for a new partnership, built on a shared determination to make the ACT a leading example of health system innovation and excellence.

As part of a new direction for the ACT health system, participants endorsed a vision for a renewed collaboration that will focus on:

- collaboration, complementary strengths, interdependency and synergy;
- research, education and through joint action to improve community health;
- the opportunity for improvement in patient care, innovation and excellence;
- attraction and retention of the needed workforce; and
- all to become leaders in the Australian health and healthcare landscape.

The following outcomes were agreed at the Summit:

1. All parties share the intention to work together in health research, education and on joint priority endeavours that will improve the health of both Canberrans and people in the surrounding regions of NSW.

(a) **The development of integrated research and education**

precincts. There is already a precinct at UC in Bruce, and ANU has a significant presence at the Canberra Hospital. ANU is prepared to partner in a significant expansion of its facilities to create a shared capacity with Canberra Health Services and the UC. These precincts will locate leading researchers and teaching staff on site at two of Canberra's public hospitals to facilitate research, teaching and innovation. The precincts will also facilitate the recruitment of leading clinicians who are active in cutting edge research and teaching, in addition to the highest standards of clinical care for patients.

- (b) **A diverse health research agenda** building on existing research strengths in population health, prevention, laboratory science, clinical research, implementation science, and health services research striving for positive local, national and international impact on health for people at all stages of life. Partners will also focus on co-design of programs that will include participation of researchers across multiple disciplines, primary care and specialist clinician researchers and the consumers of health care. Quality improvement research will be embedded within all areas of health care delivery. Summit participants agreed to collaborate to access funding opportunities where these benefit the ACT region and its community. This research effort will be supported by world-class infrastructure, including not just the precincts but also innovative IT systems, data analytics capability, and capability regarding IP and commercialisation practices. A commitment to improving health research governance, with the overall governance structure is to be settled over the next few months.
 - (c) **Tertiary education in the health professions.** Specifically, initiatives include:
 - High quality education of health professionals;
 - Excellence in interprofessional learning for all health graduates in the ACT;
 - Joint strategic appointments of clinical and administrative staff, encouraging transparency, clear expectations and line management.
 - (d) **Shared priority endeavours**, initially the Living lab project for Canberra, including health promotion, health service innovations, piloting new approaches to health service delivery and work across government to promote healthy lives and take opportunities to promote health across government and non-government services.
2. A new governance structure (or structures) to oversee the design and implementation of all of these initiatives.
- (a) **A high-level partnership board** will be chaired by the Director-General of the ACT Health Directorate, with membership including the Chief Executive Officer of Canberra Health Services and the Deans of Health from both ANU and the UC. The committee will report to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing and Minister for Medical and Health Research and the Vice Chancellors of the ANU and UC, with draft Terms of Reference, an agreed work plan and a meeting schedule to be developed.
 - (b) **Governance structures** that allow a diversity of research, shared processes for prioritising investment and infrastructure.

The communiqué issued after the meeting said, “The Summit demonstrated that the ACT is well positioned to draw upon the extensive local expertise and knowledge in the medical and health-research, education and training sectors. As the stewards of the ACT public health system, the ACT Health Directorate will lead the outcomes of the Summit and drive them forward in close collaboration with the ANU and UC”.

Action in Copyright Tribunal against Universities Australia

THE COPYRIGHT AGENCY lodged an action in the Copyright Tribunal on November 12 to determine the value of the copyright licences that Australian universities rely on to copy and share content.

In a statement to members, Copyright Agency CEO Adam Suckling said, “The action comes after a breakdown in commercial negotiations with Universities Australia, for a new licensing agreement, beginning in 2019. UA represents 39 Australian universities in these discussions.

“The Copyright Agency’s licence covers copyright material that is a core input into teaching at Australia’s 39 universities. It covers more than 10 million pages (digital and hard copy) annually – for the sector’s 1.4 million students, 60,000 academics and 70,000 professional staff.

“The annual cost of the university licence is currently \$32.5m, or 9 cents per student per day. The fee has been decreasing in real terms, given inflation, the rapid growth in student numbers and the fact there has been a huge increase in the platforms available for copying and sharing material. The current copyright fee represents 0.11% of total universities expenditure of \$28.6 billion (in 2016).

“The explosion of digital content has radically changed the way universities provide educational content to students. The educational statutory licence, which Copyright Agency administers, provides access to an enormous amount of material, including material that is printed, digitally stored and communicated to students across multiple digital platforms.

Licence fees support the Australian educational publishing industry to continue to produce high-quality educational material. Not paying a fair rate undermines the ability of publishers, authors and artists to invest innovate and develop more Australian content.

“We’ll be asking the Tribunal to assess the value of these licences in the digital age; the best method of pricing the licence, and to revisit the ways we monitor how much material is being accessed under the licence. There are much

better ways of capturing usage than the current approach – such as via the provision of full digital records – that would ensure accurate payments to copyright creators, including academics in Australian universities.

“We will also be asking the Tribunal to rule on the interim rate that UA should pay in licence fees until such times as the Tribunal makes a ruling. We want to ensure that we are in a position to provide members with continuity of payment during the proceedings. This actual interim rate and associated terms are subject to the Tribunal’s decision.

“Recent simplification amendments to the Copyright Act provided an opportunity for the Copyright Agency to simplify and enhance the licensing arrangements with UA but, unfortunately, UA has not engaged in discussions. Our action in the Copyright Tribunal will redefine the value of copyright material to the higher education sector in the digital age.”

Awards for Excellence in Literary Translation

TWO ANUEF MEMBERS, Kevin Windle and James Grieve, have been named as joint winners of the Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators (AUSIT) 2018 Award for Excellence in Literary Translation.

In letters of congratulation, the national president of AUSIT, Dr Rocco Loiacono, wrote, “This award is in recognition of the outstanding nature of the entire body of your work in literary translation.”

‘Freedom of speech’ summit at ANU

FREEDOM OF SPEECH has become a topic of significant interest in sections of the community. It has increasingly been examined by media outlets as an issue of interest and concern, particularly as it relates to universities. The surrounding public debate has lacked nuance, and conflates freedom of speech with academic freedom while excluding discussion of academic autonomy and integrity. The ANU is hosting a free “Summit on Academic Freedom and Academic Autonomy”. Its key themes will be explored, including:

- The relationship between Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech: How should universities protect academic autonomy?
- Who decides what research is conducted?
- Perspectives from outside the academy.
- What threatens academic freedom?
- The future of research and a commitment to academic freedom.

The keynote address will be delivered by Professor Glyn Davis AC, followed by a reception at the Australian Centre on China in the World, 188 Fellows Lane, ANU on **Tuesday, 4 December at 5pm**. The summit will continue on **Wednesday, 5 December from 8.30am to 4.30pm**, at The Hall, University House, 1 Balmain Crescent, ANU.

THE PROGRAM: TUESDAY 4 AND WEDNESDAY 5 DECEMBER 2018

Tuesday 4 December at the Auditorium, China in the World, Building #188, Fellows Lane

5pm: Keynote Address and Reception.

- Introduction and welcome: Professor Mike Calford, ANU Provost.
- Keynote address: Distinguished Professor Glyn Davis AC,
- Panel discussion with Professor Jacqueline Lo, ANU Academic Board Chair; Professor Glyn Davis AC,
- Ms Jane O’Dwyer, ANU Vice-President (Engagement & Corporate Affairs).

Wednesday 5 December at The Hall, University House, 1 Balmain Crescent

8.30am Introduction and welcome

- ANU Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian P. Schmidt AC.

8.35am Welcome address

- ANU Chancellor Professor Gareth Evans AC QC.

8.50am Scene setting by Professor Mike Calford, ANU Provost

9am The relationship between Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech

- Freedom of speech and academic freedom are different, though related, concepts. However, in debate inside

and outside universities, they are often conflated. What is the relationship between the two, and what does that mean for universities?

- Chair: ANU Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian P. Schmidt AC.
- Panellists: Mr Gary Humphries, Former ACT Senator and Chief Minister, Professor Dianne Nicol, University of Tasmania; Professor Adrienne Stone, University of Melbourne; Ms Eleanor Kay, ANU student.
- This program may be subject to change.

10.15am Morning tea

10.30am How should universities protect academic autonomy?

- Universities are designed to be places of robust critical inquiry, where we advance humankind through the exploration of new ideas, revisiting old ideas and challenging norms. However, universities do not operate separate from our wider society, and are heavily reliant on funding from government, students, industry, philanthropic interests and foundations. They are also amongst our most heavily regulated institutions. How do universities maintain their autonomy and the autonomy of their academic community in an increasingly tight financial and regulatory environment?
- Chair: Professor Jacqueline Lo, ANU Academic Board Chair.
- Panellists: ANU Chancellor Professor Gareth Evans AC QC, Emeritus Professor Stephen Crump, University of Tasmania; Mr Matthew Lesh, Institute of Public Affairs; Professor Carmen Lawrence, University of Western Australia.

11.45am Who decides what research is conducted?

- Research takes place in a complex environment of ideas, ethics, funding, institutional history, accepted truth and societal expectations. Decisions about what research is conducted are made at the intersection of this complexity. How do we decide what is researched, and do those decisions dampen academic freedom?
- Chair: Professor Keith Nugent, incoming ANU Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation).
- Panellists: Dr Jacqui Hoepner, ANU Centre for Public Awareness of Science; Dr Martin Williams, Monash University; Dr Nigel Strauss, Deakin University.

1.15pm Lunch time address [To be confirmed]

2.30pm What threatens academic freedom?

- A decline in trust of expertise, contested ideas of truth, students demanding speakers not be heard, provocateurs demanding an unchallenged platform for their ideas, public and peer judgements on the legitimacy of research and its interpretation, academic freedom constrained by universities in search of marketing slogans, allegations of foreign influence, and public judgments on what and how universities teach. Is academic freedom really under attack and what does the threat really look like?
- Chair: Ms Jane O'Dwyer, ANU Vice-President (Engagement & Corporate Affairs).
- Panellists: Ms Helen Trinca, Managing Editor, *The Australian*; Dr Miriam Bankovsky, La Trobe University; Professor Amin Saikal, Director, ANU Centre for Arab & Islamic Studies; Professor John Fitzgerald, Swinburne University of Technology.

4pm Final talk and summit wrap up: The future of research and a commitment to academic freedom

- Summary by Professor Mike Calford, ANU Provost.
- Closing address by ANU Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian P. Schmidt AC.
- This program may be subject to change.

‘How to think, not what to think’

A CULTURE OF LIVELY DEBATE and the vigorous contest of ideas is strongly in evidence on Australian university campuses, according to a statement issued by Universities Australia on November 14. It was commenting on Education Minister Dan Tehan’s review of academic freedom and freedom of expression. The minister’s review comes a week after the nation’s Vice-Chancellors restated their commitment once again to those enduring principles.

“Between them, Australia’s universities have more than 100 policies, codes and agreements that support free intellectual inquiry,” Universities Australia Chair Professor Margaret Gardner said, and went on, “In this context, it is unclear what issue the Government is seeking to address. Australian universities have been on the public record through the ages affirming our longstanding commitment to informed evidence-based discussion and vigorous debate.

“Australian universities teach students how to think, not what to think — and we teach them to engage both with ideas they agree with and those they don’t agree with. As we reaffirmed only a week ago, we educate the next generation to engage with ideas, challenge themselves and others, and to do so using evidence and courtesy.”

“University staff and students should be free to teach, learn, debate and research without political interference.”

Professor Gardner noted some recent assertions in media reporting had mischaracterised academic freedom and downplayed the robust state of debate on university campuses.

“Some commentators on free speech at Australian universities have been very wide of the mark — jumping to the wrong conclusions or selectively quoting from university policies and codes,” she said. “These same conclusions would not meet the threshold test of academic inquiry — informed by evidence and facts. They are made by advocates who appear to want Government to override university autonomy with heavy-handed external regulation and red tape. Despite these incorrect assertions, a wide range of opinions are freely expressed on campus — in the context of Australian law and university codes of conduct.”

Young researchers reap benefit from Australian-German grants

AUSTRALIAN AND GERMAN university researchers will develop 3D bone implants and low-cost ways to detect dental disease, thanks to new grants worth nearly \$2.7 million awarded to early career researchers from around 30 Australian universities. They will partner with German researchers on 71 different projects under the Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme.

The program fosters closer research collaboration between Australia and Germany — and has awarded nearly \$12 million in grants for 316 projects since 2015. The grant scheme is a partnership between Universities Australia and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) — the largest funding organisation for international academic co-operation in the world.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Catriona Jackson said the bilateral scheme helped both nations to build global research partnerships and solve major challenges in our countries. “The connections that are forged between these researchers — at the very early stages of their careers — can lead to new knowledge and products down the line,” Ms Jackson said.

Australian researchers receive up to \$25,000 for travel and living expenses to support their research work. Many of the projects have continued, receiving larger funding grants from organisations including the Australian Research Council and from international funding bodies.

“Having more than 70 projects funded this year is a testament to the quality of the research projects involved,” Ms Jackson said. “Australia leverages more funds through this German program than the US and the UK.”

The scheme is funded with \$1.34 million contributed by Australian universities and \$1.5 million from DAAD in 2018. The Australian Government’s Enabling Growth and Innovation Program provides \$250,000 to cover the administration of the scheme over two years.

Further information on the program is available at: <https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/global-engagement/>

A guide for gender equality in top university appointments

A NEW GUIDE, developed by the Universities Australia Executive Women’s Group, titled *Sponsorship: Creating Career Opportunities for Women in Higher Education*, tackles the under-representation of women in senior university leadership.

Universities Australia says the new resource outlines how senior leaders can actively create opportunities to develop the skills and careers of their staff towards gender equality in senior leadership roles in universities.

Universities Australia’s Chief Executive Catriona Jackson said of the guide, “It really highlights that career development is a core leadership responsibility and that sponsorship is a powerful tool that can accelerate career progression, especially for women. We congratulate UAEW on producing another high-quality practical resource to help university leaders maximise these opportunities to develop the careers of their staff.”

UAEW Co-Chair Professor Kerri-Lee Krause said rather than putting the onus on staff to seek out development opportunities, it encourages senior leaders to draw on their power, networks and influence to create opportunities for more junior colleagues.

“Significant progress has been made in recent decades on the road towards gender equality in higher education, but there’s still a distance to travel,” she said. “This guide offers strategic advice and practical tips on how leaders can personally help to grow the number and proportion of women in senior leadership roles.”

UAEW Co-Chair Professor Marcia Devlin said the sponsorship resource is a how-to guide for leaders on how they can actively create opportunities to develop the careers of their staff. “It drills down into the responsibilities of leaders to be active sponsors. It’s not passively mentoring – it’s about nominating them for opportunities and picking up the phone on their behalf,” she said. “It’s about encouraging leaders to become personally invested in the success of their protégés, advocating for them, and leveraging their own reputational and social capital to help them. UAEW has developed a series of high-quality practical resources in recent years that draw on best practice in recruitment, mentorship and sponsorship, and highlight the need to tackle unconscious bias, to advance gender equality.”

Universities Australia fights new tax

UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA is pleading with the Senate and the House of Representatives to reject legislation imposing a new tax on universities. The proposed tax would levy universities for every student with access to a student loan and is the latest in a series of cuts inflicted on universities and their students over the past few years, it says.

A Senate enquiry into the Higher Education Support (Charges) Bill 2018 and the Higher Education Support Amendment (Cost Recovery) Bill 2018 has handed down its report.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Catriona Jackson said there should be a serious rethink by Government and the Senate in the context of the many other cuts to universities and students.

“Slapping a tax on student numbers is deeply misguided,” she said. “Universities are now being asked to pick up the tab for day-to-day administrative costs that are the normal responsibilities of Government. This legislation also empowers the Minister to ratchet up the tax at any time and to broaden the activities it applies to — without needing to seek permission from the Parliament,” she said.

Currently, more than 80 per cent of Australian university students access a Government student loan. Ms Jackson noted the latest million-dollar cash-grab is on top of multiple cuts to universities in recent years.

She went on, “This really is death by a thousand cuts. The Commonwealth Budget position is getting stronger by the day — and yet universities now face even more cuts. If Governments stop investing properly in a sector, as happened in vocational education over the past decade, it’s very hard to build it back up.”

She referred also to figures revealed in Deloitte’s Budget monitor which, she says, show a further \$10 billion improvement in the Budget bottom line this year, [which] “shows Parliament there’s no need to slap a new tax on universities. Billions of dollars in cuts — including the current funding freeze — have been inflicted on universities and their students in recent years.

Ms Jackson said, “Cuts to universities were really cuts to Australia’s future productivity and the smart, skilled workforce we need in a changing economy. The Government’s underlying Budget position is the best it has been since the global financial crisis — and is forecast to be in surplus as soon as next year. Universities have already been cut by billions — and this latest move to impose a new tax on universities to fund the routine administration of Government comes on top of those cuts.”

Cutting research red tape proposal finds support

A PARLIAMENTARY ENQUIRY has adopted key recommendations to help Australia’s researchers spend more of their time on life-changing research instead of paperwork.

[The House of Representatives Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training](#) has adopted key themes from [Universities Australia’s submission](#). These include less red tape, ensuring adequate funding and reaffirming the centrality of expert peer review.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Catriona Jackson said the committee had recognised the dedication of Australia’s researchers and made sensible suggestions to support their crucial work.

“Many of the recommendations are about helping researchers to get on with the job – making breakthroughs and forging new ideas and products that improve all our lives,” she said.

“If adopted, these particular recommendations would mean our researchers could spend more time in the lab and the field – and less time filling out lengthy grant applications. At the moment, researchers are overly burdened with continual applications and reporting which eats into the precious time they have available to chase cures, breakthroughs and insights. In any one year, Australia’s university researchers collectively spend more than five hundred working years on writing applications for just one of the major national grants schemes. This reduces the potential benefits that research can deliver for Australia and the world.”

The committee’s report also highlighted excessive reporting and regulation of research hampers the ability of Australian universities to deliver for the community.

“It’s also good to see the committee has reminded Government of the vital need for adequate support and funding for the full cost of Australia’s research effort,” Ms Jackson said. “The committee has also recognised our researchers are at the top of the game and are leading experts who should be trusted to deliver world-class outcomes for Australia. That’s why the committee reaffirms strongly that expert peer review must remain the arbiter by which research and its potential is judged and funded.”

Ms Jackson noted that if existing research grants were opened up to non-university researchers, there would need to be a commensurate increase in research funding from Government.

Universities Australia Higher Education Conference 2019: ‘Degrees of Change’ and the role of Universities

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN for the Universities Australia Higher Education Conference 2019 – to be held from February 27 to March 1 at the National Convention Centre, Canberra.

In a media statement Universities Australia says, “Universities are the world’s original disruptors. Their role as agents of change – in the lives of individuals, communities, nations and economies – is profound. The scale of the change being forged by our universities is vast – from the crucial incremental advance to the seismic shift that transforms knowledge in a field forever. And it’s the change forged in the lives of people through a university education that creates some of the biggest shifts of all, especially for those who are first in their families to pursue a degree.

“These ideas will be explored in our conference theme for 2019 – *Degrees of Change*. It brings together the most senior university leaders in the country with Government, policymakers, business, experts and researchers. It features a strong line-up of high-profile national and global speakers.

“With 39 universities, 1,100 delegates, 120+ speakers and dozens of valued partners attending, the Universities Australia Higher Education is the one event you shouldn’t miss in 2019. We hope to see you there.”

Early bird registrations close on 1 February 2019. More details at <https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/>

Robbing Peter to pay Paul: research cuts pay for regional unis

THE \$134.8 MILLION announced on November 12 for five regional universities hurt by the university funding freeze will be sourced from a raid on the nation’s research budget, according to a statement from Universities Australia.

Universities Australia Chief Executive Catriona Jackson said while money for regional universities was desperately needed, it was reckless to take research money out of every university. “With the federal Budget position growing stronger by the day, the Government should have found these funds from general revenue – not from slashing crucial research funds,” she said. “Australia has already fallen behind other advanced economies for the share of GDP spent on research – that should have loud alarm bells ringing for our future economic growth. Rather than pledging new funds for regional universities, Education Minister Dan Tehan has instead cut crucial research funds at all universities – including in the regions.”

Universities Australia understands funding has been cut from the Research Block Grants over the next few years. This is the foundational funding that enables universities to conduct world-class research and bid for competitive research grants.

“The five universities that have been promised money by the Government today would also be hit with that research cut,” Ms Jackson said.

The research raid follows revelations that former Education Minister Simon Birmingham vetoed 11 grants recommended for funding by expert reviewers and the Australian Research Council. Ms Jackson said, “It is folly to be undermining the nation’s future by raiding precious research funding when Australia already spends far less than our economic competitors in the region and the world. We should be investing strongly in both – university places to ensure Australians from all postcodes can have access to this life-changing opportunity and research that is changing lives. Universities are the backbone of Australia’s research capability – it makes no sense to cut into this source of the nation’s future wellbeing and prosperity.”

CSIRO invests \$35m in future of space and AI projects

CSIRO IS INVESTING \$35 million in research in Space Technology and Artificial Intelligence. The investment will include the development of advanced imaging of Earth from satellites, in addition to cutting-edge data science to support the growth of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology. The investment is part of CSIRO's Future Science Platforms (FSP) portfolio, aimed at dedicating research to new and emerging opportunities for Australia.

Space Technology and Artificial Intelligence join eight other areas of future science, including in the fields of health and energy. Space Technology will receive \$16 million to identify and develop the science to leapfrog traditional technologies and find new areas for Australian industry to work in. It will initially focus on advanced technologies for Earth observation, and then address challenges such as space-object tracking, resource utilisation in space, and developing manufacturing and life-support systems for missions to the Moon and Mars.

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning will receive \$19 million to target AI-driven solutions for areas including food security and quality, health and wellbeing, sustainable energy and resources, resilient and valuable environments, and Australian and regional security.

The primary research areas include platforms to improve prediction and understanding of complex data, platforms to enable trustworthy inferences and risk-based decisions, and data systems to enable ethical, robust and scalable AI.

Obituary

HELMUT H. E. LOOFS-WISSOWA

1927-2018

Helmut H E Loofs-Wissowa was born on the 25 September 1927, in Halle, Germany, (the birthplace of G. F. Händel), and grew up in Leipzig (the city of J. S. Bach). He died in Canberra, Australia, on 11 August 2018, just before his 91st birthday.

Helmut Loofs-Wissowa was educated at St Thomas School, Leipzig. While in Year 12, aged 17, Helmut was drafted into the German Army as an officer cadet in January, 1945, together with his fellow students, and sent off to the Eastern Front on foot to fight the advancing Russians. At the cessation of hostilities in May 1945, Helmut made his way back to Leipzig. Leipzig became part of the Russian zone soon after. Leipzig schools reopened in 1946 and Helmut finished high school studies in that year. Because there was no university entrance for the bourgeoisie under the Soviet system, Helmut, from a middle class family, had no chance of a university education in Leipzig.

In 1948, Helmut joined the French Foreign Legion and served in Indochina through the First Indochina War until 1954, serving generally in staff functions and as a war correspondent for the Army newspaper. He also combined his considerable drawing skills with his sharp sense of humour by drawing cartoons for the newspaper. While in this role he managed to avoid going to Dien Bien Phu just prior to the Viet Minh siege, which ended the war. He left Indochina and the Legion in 1954, the year that France withdrew from Indochina. He declined the chance of a military career in favour of an academic life.

He chose to go to Karlsruhe, West Germany, where his sister still lived, with the intention to begin his tertiary studies in Germany, for which he was qualified by his German matriculation. He opted for Tübingen University, the cultural centre of the French zone of Germany, renowned for its Prehistoric Archaeology course, and began his studies while still on leave from the Army. At Tübingen he studied ancient oriental languages and scripts, including cuneiform, hieroglyphs and Sanskrit, as well as archaeology and prehistory. While still in Tübingen he was unexpectedly granted a scholarship to study in France by the French Ambassador to Germany, François-Poncet. This enabled him to continue his studies from the following year in Paris. Between 1955 and 1957 he studied at the Ecole des Langues Orientales, the Sorbonne, and at the Institut d'Ethnologie (Musée de l'homme), specialising in anthropology, archaeology, etc. George Coedès was professor at the Ecole des Langues Orientales at the time. Helmut graduated and received the Diplôme from the Ecole (equivalent to a Bachelor of Asian Studies at ANU). He studied Cambodian (major), Vietnamese, Classical Malay, geography, history, and archaeology. He supplemented his income by painting and selling picture postcards of Paris for sale to tourists.

On graduation, Helmut took a one year break before commencing his doctoral studies. As part of a small French expedition he went to Chilean Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego to investigate the origin of the "Indians" there, and to make a documentary film. Some of his finds of stone tools from kitchen middens – surprisingly similar to those from north-western Tasmania – are now in the Berne Historical Museum. He also wrote a book about the expedition.

With a German Government scholarship, Helmut then studied for his PhD at Berne and Fribourg universities (Anthropos Institute), Switzerland, which he obtained in 1960 with a thesis on practices in connection with fertility rites and the megalithic complex among the mountain tribes in south-eastern Indochina.

At the suggestion of Professor George Coedès, he applied for, and eventually was appointed to, the foundation lectureship in Oriental Civilizations at the newly founded Faculty of Oriental (later Asian) Studies at ANU in May 1961.

Teaching Years

Helmut commenced teaching about Oriental civilisations at a time when Asia was just a place on the way from Australia to Europe, and Australian students had little grasp of its geography and history. His lectures had to assume no prior knowledge of Asia among his students. In 1964 he was promoted to Senior Lecturer in Asian Civilisations at ANU.

In 1966, in addition to his normal teaching and research duties, Helmut took part in a major archaeological dig in Thailand. In association with Professor William Watson of London University, Helmut co-led the Thai-

British Archaeological Expedition to carry out excavations at the prehistoric site of Khok Charoen, Chai Badan district, Lopburi Province, central Thailand, between 1966 and 1970. This major Neolithic burial ground (c. 3500-4000 years old) produced many burials with complete pottery vessels, stone adzes and body ornaments placed with the dead. He returned from the digs with a mass of physical pottery finds to study and document at a later time. Both Helmut and Prof. Watson published papers on the findings at the time, but the full report on the dig would have to wait for some years.

Helmut was promoted to a Readership at ANU in 1970, and in 1976 became involved in a scientific controversy about the date at which bronze was first used by mankind in Eurasia. Bronze had been accepted as dated in China to the second millennium BCE, almost two millennia later than Pakistan and Mesopotamia, but finds in Non Nok Tha, north-eastern Thailand, included a few bronze items, which were, at that time, dated surprisingly to the third millennium BCE. Publications by others in 1967 therefore implied that bronze casting was first invented in Thailand. This early dating of bronze was later made even older through finds at Ban Chiang, NE Thailand, where painted pots in association with bronze were dated in 1969 to the fifth millennium BCE, or 7,000 years ago. This incredible finding was highly publicised in the popular press throughout the world in 1972. In 1973, another Thai-US study of the Ban Chiang material revised the dating of the bronze artefacts, a socketed spearhead, to 3,600 BCE, yet still older than the oldest bronze from China, Pakistan or Mesopotamia. This revised date was also widely publicised, including in Time magazine in 1976.

However, in 1976, Helmut presented a paper in Mexico reporting dating of the Ban Chiang pottery by the ANU to the second century BCE - a significant revision and indicative of the subjective nature of some of the dating methods involved. Nevertheless the date of 3,600 BCE continued to be quite widely accepted. Eventually further data from new sites showed that many of the bronzes claimed to be extremely old were not securely connected with the charcoal used to provide the carbon dates. Human burial turned out to be a major factor in disturbing soil layers, and in moving ancient charcoal into much younger contexts. Finally, in 1983, a further review of the data showed that many of the bronzes claimed to be extremely old were associated with a Ban Chiang pottery style from the second millennium BCE, and so much younger. Helmut presented the whole story in 1986 in a paper entitled "The rise and fall of early bronze in Thailand" to the XXXII Congress for Asian and South African Studies in Hamburg, later published in the Proceedings. A retraction of the earlier, more dramatic dating was published, but in an obscure journal of limited readership.

In addition to these research activities in Neolithic and Bronze Age Thailand, Helmut also published on nephrite ear ornaments in Vietnam and the Philippines, on large stone megalithic monuments in Southeast Asia, and on the massive bronze kettledrums ("Dong Son" drums) made in southern China and northern Vietnam around 2000 years ago.

During his career, Helmut was involved in various international bodies, including the International Round Table of Experts on the preservation of the Angkor monuments in 1990, and section convenor for two international conferences on archaeology. In 1989 he was appointed as Visiting Directeur d'Etudes, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris.


In the mid-1970s Helmut persuaded the National Library of Australia to purchase the library of the late Professor George Coedès. It is now a central element in the Library's Asian collection.

In 1992 Helmut retired formally from University life, but not from studies.

In retirement

In 1993 Helmut was awarded the position of Commandeur des Palmes Académiques by the French Ministry of Education. Helmut also retained his links with the French community in Canberra, assisting the cultural attaché of the French Embassy, Albert Salon, in designing and supervising the construction of the Alliance Française centre in Turner, ACT, and being involved in the Anciens Combattants group of French ex-servicemen, in various roles, including President. He continued this association up until his death.

Once retired, Helmut had the time to work on the report of the finds from the 1966-1970 Khok Charoen (Hill of Prosperity) excavations. This involved several streams of activities, including the reassembly of about 150 burial pots from shards by his wife Sigrid, work carried out in various spare spaces around the ANU campus; drawing the pots in proper archaeological illustration form, together with about 270 pots from another related site; drawing all of the other finds from the excavations and burials; describing all of the pots; analysing all of the data; and finally assembling all of the material into a written report to be published by British Archaeological Report (BAR), Oxford. After many years of work and revisions and inclusion of other material, the Hill of Prosperity report was finally published by BAR in February 2017. The finished book contained about 450 pages and hundreds of illustrations.



While this work was proceeding, a book of his paintings and drawings from his service in Vietnam was self-published in 2009, entitled *A Peaceful Legionnaire*.

With the Hill of Prosperity report in print, Helmut set about working on a structured catalogue of all the pots and decorated shards found at Khok Charoen, utilising drawings prepared for the Hill of Prosperity report but presented in a different sequence. This project was done in association with John Crocker, editor of the above two books. Work progressed well, despite Helmut being distracted by health issues in early 2018, and was at the stage of a late draft, with only a few pages of text to be completed, when Helmut's health suddenly deteriorated rapidly and he died on 11 August 2018. A draft of the catalogue had been submitted to BAR for consideration in July 2018 and was accepted for publication in October 2018. It will go into print in early 2019.

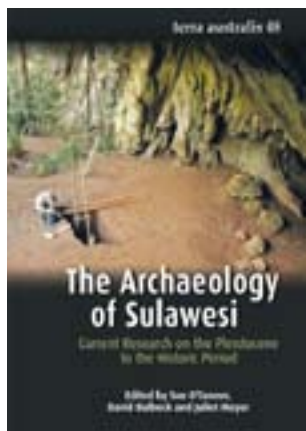
It will be seen from the above that Helmut never retired, and his scientific work was only brought to a halt by his sad death; he had other projects in mind and was yet to attack them. One of these was his ongoing interest in the tracking down and identification of rarer hominid life forms, to which he had devoted much time and research.

Apart from his devotion to his work and his very high and meticulous standards of scientific effort, due possibly to his early German and French training, Helmut is remembered as a man of great charm, learning and a rich sense of humour, and as a man of great humanity; his devotion to his students, particularly the more mature ones is well known and several saw him as a personal friend. Helmut may be seen as one of a small group of academics who entered the field later in life with a rich personal experience behind them and a more mature view of the world, as well as a European tradition of scholarship. This could only have occurred with a group of individuals who had undergone rich and varied wartime and post-war experiences, a situation unlikely to be repeated.

Helmut is survived by his wife Sigrid, his son Jean-Jacques, his daughter Mona, and grandchildren Zachary, Ulrike, Oskar and Adelynde.

By John Crocker

BOOKSHELF



The Archaeology of Sulawesi (Terra Australis 48): Current Research on the Pleistocene to the Historic Period

Edited by [Sue O'Connor](#), [David Bulbeck](#), [Juliet Meyer](#)

Published by: ANU Press

ISBN (print; rrp \$75.00): 9781760462567

ISBN (online - free): 9781760462574

DOI: <http://doi.org/10.22459/TA48.11.2018>

The central Indonesian island of Sulawesi has recently been hitting headlines with respect to its archaeology. It contains some of the oldest directly dated rock art in the world, and some of the oldest evidence for a hominin presence beyond the south-eastern limits of the Ice Age Asian continent. In this volume, scholars from Indonesia and Australia come together to present their research findings and views on a broad range of topics. From early periods, these include observations on Ice Age climate, life in caves and open sites, rock art, and the animals that humans exploited and lived alongside. The archaeology presented from later periods covers the rise of the Bugis kingdom, Chinese trade ceramics, and a range of site-based and regional topics from the Neolithic through to the arrival of Islam. This carefully edited volume is the first to be devoted entirely to the archaeology of the island of Sulawesi, and it lays down a baseline for significant future research.

Peter Bellwood
Emeritus Professor
The Australian National University

Nurses of Australia: The Illustrated Story

By Deborah Burrows

From the First Nation's caregivers who healed, birthed and nursed for millennia to the untrained and ill-equipped convict men and women who cared for the sick in the fledgling colony of New South Wales, nursing has been practised in Australia since the beginning. Author Deborah Burrows, Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward FACN (Chief Executive Officer, Australian College of Nursing) and Marni Tuala (New South Wales Director and Deputy President, Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives) were at the National Library of Australia launch on November 20 of this new book providing insight into one of Australia's most trusted professions: nursing.



MATTERS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

– access website or paste in browser

Lower earning power for UK male graduates

More than 130,000 men are enrolling in UK university courses each year that leave them worse off in future earnings early in their careers than non-graduates, a new report has revealed. Male students studying one of seven university subjects – creative arts, English, philosophy, agriculture, communications, psychology and languages – earn less at the age of 29, on average, than their peers who opted to avoid higher education altogether, the [Institute for Fiscal Studies](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/university-subjects-students-graduates-courses-degrees-higher-education-sam-gyimah-ifs-a8651046.html) (IFS) research concluded.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/university-subjects-students-graduates-courses-degrees-higher-education-sam-gyimah-ifs-a8651046.html>

APRA launches review of capital requirements for private health insurers

The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) has commenced a review of the capital standards for private health insurers to ensure they remain sufficient to protect policy-holders.

<https://www.apra.gov.au/media-centre/media-releases/apra-launches-review-capital-requirements-private-health-insurers>

Comment wanted on new food-processing aids

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) has called for submissions on an application seeking to permit a new processing aid: the enzyme triacylglycerol lipase is derived from a genetically modified strain of the fungus *Trichoderma reesei*. The applicant is seeking permission to use the enzyme as a processing aid in baking and other cereal-based processes. Another enzyme (lysophospholipase) on which comment is sought breaks down lysophospholipids in starch, which change the filtration rate and clarity of the starch hydrolysates (syrops).

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/Call-for-submissions-on-application-for-new-processing-aid-.aspx>

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/media/Pages/Call-for-submissions-on-new-processing-aid-to-produce-syrups.aspx>

Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2018-2020

Antimicrobial resistance, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, and Aged Care are among the second set of Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) priorities for 2018-2020

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2018-hunt151.htm>

More savings for Australians with diabetes

More than 600,000 Australians with diabetes will benefit from cheaper access to products that help them manage their diabetes following the Australian Government's improvements to the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS).

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2018-hunt152.htm>

Australia's first National Rare Diseases Framework

The Australian Government is taking more action to support people battling rare conditions by developing Australia's first National Rare Diseases Framework and Action Plan. <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-media-rel-yr2018-hunt156.htm>

Australian Antarctic Division: Lasering the secrets of super-cooled clouds

An intense green laser beam will soon be probing the atmosphere above Antarctica to infiltrate the secrets of super-cooled clouds.

<http://www.antarctica.gov.au/news/2018/lasering-the-secrets-of-super-cooled-clouds>

Report sheds new light on opioid harm in Australia

A new report from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) shows that deaths involving opioids have nearly doubled in a decade, but remain lower than the peak in the late 1990s.

<https://www.aihw.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/2018/november/report-sheds-new-light-on-opioid-harm-in-australia>

DIARY DATES

ANUEF inquiries; to Craig Reynolds (creynolds697@gmail.com / Craig.Reynolds@anu.edu.au)
or ANU Events (02 6125 4144 / events@anu.edu.au)

5 December, Noon for 12.30: Collegiate lunch, Fyfe Bygrave, Nobel prizes 2018

6 December, 12.30pm to 4pm: Poet's Lunch

Molony Room

No charge, but please bring food and wine to share. We publish a book of the poems, which is available at the lunch (one free copy to those attending, \$5 for additional copies). Please let us know if you are coming (dwalker@netspeed.com.au) so we can make sure we have enough books.

12 December, 5pm: ANUEF annual general meeting

The meeting will be followed by the ANUEF Christmas Party.

25 to 27 June 2019: Asia Pacific Conference on Human Evolution (APCHE)

Griffith University, Brisbane

APCHE aims to bring together experts working on all aspects of human evolution in the broader Asian and Pacific regions. The conference will run for three days of general sessions including papers on palaeoanthropology, biological anthropology, archaeology, genomics and palaeogenomics, primatology, as well as the disciplines engaged in understanding the environment and site-specific contexts of human evolution, human behaviour and art.

For further information access website or email apche@griffith.edu.au

ANU/Canberra Times Meet the Author events

Further details and registrations available at <http://www.anu.edu.au/events/anu-the-canberra-times-meet-the-author-series> or 6125 4144.

December 9, 7pm: Chat 10, looks 3

Llewellyn Hall

Annabel Crabb and Leigh Sales are bringing their podcast series, <http://www.chat10looks3.com/> live to the Llewellyn Hall.

ADMINISTRATION

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

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

FINDING THE MOLONY ROOM

The Molony Room is on the south side of Balmain Crescent almost opposite University House. It is building 1c on <https://tinyurl.com/yckuknbnj> 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://tinyurl.com/y7gsyqgh>



The next edition of Emeritus, the ANUEF Newsletter, will be published in Feb 2019.