

EMERITUS

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The Budget: ‘Not only a real shame but a missed opportunity’

ANU Vice-Chancellor Professor Brian Schmidt AC recently wrote this article, published in *The Guardian*, on why the budget is bad news for universities and bad news for all Australians.

The 2021 federal budget just handed down is one of the biggest spending budgets in Australia's history, as it should be. The global pandemic economic shock is not yet over, and spending on infrastructure, vocational education, child and aged care, and mental health will help much of Australia get back on its feet.

But while the university sector is grateful for the funding we have, approximately \$10bn for higher education over 2021-22, this is not new money and there's been no increase to research block grants. There is nothing of note for our universities, except for \$1.1m to support industry PhDs and additional flexibility for student visa holders when it comes to working hours. This is not only a real shame but a missed opportunity; universities are vital to our future prosperity.

Australia's incurred debt, while large, is much smaller than we faced after the Second World War, and our country was able to grow from that position into the era of prosperity we have all grown accustomed to over the past several decades.

Growth and prosperity came from productivity-enhancing investments overseen by the Department of Postwar Reconstruction, led by H.C. "Nugget" Coombs, as well as the "populate or perish" immigration program. Major initiatives included the establishment of the "full-employment policy" as well as the creation of the Australian National University.

While the full-employment policy seems to be making a déjà vu-invoking return to the 2021 budget, immigration understandably doesn't feature due to border closures. Harder to understand is why the university sector has been left to bleed, given what most might expect to be its pivotal role in the future growth of the Australian economy.

In 2018 ANU made the decision to cap our total student numbers. We sacrificed the revenue growth that would have come through increasing them. In retrospect, this was very unfortunate timing. While we had one of the sector's healthiest balance sheets in 2019, missing a year's growth of student revenue meant the pandemic has hit us harder than anyone in the sector - we have racked up a deficit of nearly 15% of our budget in 2020. Sadly, one in 10 of our staff has now departed.

With Australia's borders closed for the foreseeable future, ANU is the canary in the coalmine. The cumulative effect of border closures on international student numbers will lead to other universities catching up with my university's budget woes this year and worse in the years beyond. This will have a crippling effect on Australia's post-pandemic recovery. Gone will be a large fraction of the nearly \$40bn of export income - the majority of which is not spent in universities, but in the broader Australian economy. Gone will be the large supply of skilled but relatively inexpensive labour. And gone will be the leading-edge research capacity our country needs to prosper post-pandemic, a significant fraction of which is supported by international student fee revenue.

It's absolutely imperative we open our national border and return our international students as soon as we safely can. Universities have plans in place to do this safely and are ready to act. We just need commitment from government to act on them.

It is easy to forget the importance of the research role of our universities, but Coombs' postwar reconstruction featured research universities for good reason. Research universities provide the underpinning knowledge to adapt to a rapidly changing world, whether it is a pandemic or climate change. Decades of university research have been vital to the success of the Covid response so far; retaining and building this capacity will help us survive the next pandemic.

There is no shortcut to expertise. We have to constantly grow and nurture it in our universities. New industries and ideas emerge from our campuses and graduates, and the economic spill-overs are large and important.

Of the highly developed nations of the world, Australia is unique in the required level of cross-subsidisation of university research by student fees because the true cost of research is far from covered by the direct funding from research grants. For example, for every dollar of government research grant money a university takes on, it must raise approximately 60 to 70 cents from its students to undertake the research. With the job-ready graduate program pairing domestic student fees to the average cost of delivery, and the collapse of overseas student income, something has got to give; that will be both the quality and quantity of research, and additional squeezing of what Australian students can expect to get out of their degrees.

This is not a recipe to increase our nation's productivity, nor is it going to allow us to grow Australia in the future through smart immigration. It is the antithesis of Coombs' genius that has served Australia so well since the 1940s.

We must ensure we have a university system designed for our nation's future, and not just rely on whatever emerges in the chaos from the pandemic-driven shock to our business model. Universities want to serve the nation through our education and research, but to do so we are going to need a helping hand to get to the other side of the pandemic. And when we get there, we are going to need a fit-for-purpose system that incentivises and supports the development of what Australia needs to shape our future.

BUDGET 2021

Universities seek national plan for safe return of international students

Federal Government Budget assumptions that Australia's borders will remain shut until mid-2022 pose very serious challenges for the nation's universities, according to Universities Australia's Chief Executive Catriona Jackson. She said, "Governments across all jurisdictions need to come together with universities to develop a robust plan for the safe return of international students. The plan would mean the careful quarantine of students from low-risk countries.

"The sector took a \$1.8 billion revenue hit last year. Universities Australia conservatively estimates at least another \$2 billion will be lost this year – against 2019 actual operating revenue.

"With assumptions around borders being shut until mid-2022 now baked into the Budget, the picture for universities will get worse. There will be significant flow-on effects for the nation's research capacity and jobs inside and outside universities. Australia's university sector cannot sustain these losses without serious damage to national productivity and the country's knowledge base."

Ms Jackson noted that universities are pleased to see the Budget assumptions include small pilot programs for international students commencing in late 2021, gradually increasing from 2022. "These pilots will provide a useful proof of concept for a larger scale return of international students," she said. "University research and development will be critical in the short-term to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as building a prosperous and globally-competitive economy in the future.

"Universities warmly welcomed the extra \$1 billion in October's Budget for university research. The boost acknowledged the centrality of research to national recovery – it saved jobs and research capacity. The sector will continue to work with Government on long-term plans for research sustainability."

The peak body, representing the nation's 39 major universities, welcomed announcements in the Budget designed to increase skills of aged-care workers, undertake aged-care workforce planning, tackle gender-based violence and improve mental health resourcing. Ms Jackson said, "Universities are where the next generation of workers will learn their skills, whether in aged-care or mental health or violence prevention, and make life better for all Australians, whatever their background or circumstances."

Other Budget measures relevant to the higher education sector include:

- \$1.1 million over two years from 2020-21 to create new employment pathways for students and boost financial incentives for universities to enrol students in 'Industry PhDs.'
- A new \$54.2 million Global Science and Technology Diplomacy Fund to support strategically important science and technology collaborations with global partners.
- \$42.4 million over seven years to establish the Boosting the Next Generation of Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Program by co-funding scholarships for women in STEM in partnership with industry.
- Initiatives to support the delivery of primary care and the health workforce in rural and remote Australia.
- \$216.7 million over three years from 2021–22 to grow and upskill the aged-care workforce through additional nursing scholarships and places and related measures.
- \$27.8 million to increase the number of nurses, psychologists and allied health practitioners working in mental health settings through 280 scholarships and 350 clinical placements.
- A \$9 million cut over five years to the Quality Indicators for Learning and Teachers (QILT) suite of surveys.
- Funding for the Australian Awards for University Teaching and the Learning and Teaching Repository will end after the 2021 awards.
- Additional post-graduate scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait nurses and allied health professionals to undertake formal aged-care and dementia qualifications

More ANUEF activities planned

In a message to ANUEF members, Chair James Fox, says, "Over the past year, Covid-19 has severely restricted our activities. Even when the Covid situation improved, University regulations and protocols limited our ability to hold meetings and gatherings and, to some extent, they continue to do so. Our members are in a potentially vulnerable category.

"Initially our Executive Committee could only communicate through email but over the last several months, we have been able to meet again in the Molony Room. We have also begun to offer lectures on Zoom. Some of these have been reasonably successful; some less so.

"We are now planning to re-initiate more of our activities. We will try, within current constraints, to hold lectures in the Molony Room but continue to broadcast these lectures via Zoom. We also want to hold our Projects Symposium in July. University House is closed for the immediate future, but we are planning on holding an Emeritus dinner at the Commonwealth Club on July 29.

"In addition, we have been engaged in preparing material for the ANU's 75th Anniversary Celebration. Last year I passed on a request from Daniel Oakman, who is in charge of the

proposed website for the Anniversary Celebration, for short pieces of interest. We received a few submissions and sent them on to Daniel. As a result of that request, however, various members proposed writing longer accounts of activities at the ANU and we have received eight of these accounts so far. They can be found on the Projects page of our website under 'ANU Emeritus Faculty Personal Histories Project' Like our Oral Histories, these Personal Histories are archived on Open Access in the ANU Repository. The site is open and I know of more Personal Histories that are in preparation. Anyone wishing to write a Personal History should contact me at james.fox@anu.edu.au.

"We have also compiled a collection of the obituaries published in *Emeritus* and I have been able to add several dozen obituaries from different sources for other ANU staff members whose deaths occurred between 2000 and 2021. The current manuscript is approaching 400 pages but will need to be finalized soon. We plan to publish this collection electronically under the title, *Life Celebrations*.

"As the year progresses, we hope there will be more opportunities to get together but in the meantime, please let me know if you have any suggestions on future activities and how we might better meet your needs as a member."

An industry with legs: Australia's first edible insects roadmap

Australia can become a player in the billion-dollar global edible insect industry, producing nutritious, sustainable, and ethical products to support global food security, according to a new roadmap by the CSIRO.

Launched on April 29, *Edible insects: A roadmap for the strategic growth of an emerging Australian industry* lays out a comprehensive plan for the emerging industry, exploring the challenges, opportunities, cultural values, sustainability, and health outcomes of the edible insect industry in Australia.

Co-funded by CSIRO and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) through the Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR), the roadmap provides a framework within Australia for First Nations initiatives, start-ups, insect businesses, researchers, policy makers, and community members interested in engaging with the industry.

CSIRO researcher and report co-author, Dr Rocio Ponce Reyes, said the global edible insect industry was growing fast. "The worldwide edible insect market is expected to reach \$A1.4 billion in value by 2023. Europe and the United States of America lead the western world market, with more than 400 edible-insect-related businesses in operation," she said. "Insects have high-value nutritional profiles, and are rich in protein, omega-3 fatty acids, iron, zinc, folic acid and vitamins B12, C and E. They are also complementary to our existing diets because they are a healthy, environmentally friendly, and a rich source of alternative proteins."

More than 2,100 insect species are currently eaten by two billion people from 130 countries, including 60 native insect species traditionally consumed by First Nations Peoples in Australia. Iconic Australian species include witjuti (also known as witchetty) grubs, bogong moths, honey pot ants and green tree ants.

CSIRO entomologist and report co-author, Dr Bryan Lessard, said the report highlighted the importance of supporting and promoting First Nations-led enterprises. "The roadmap draws on the expertise of Australian and international scientists, Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander peoples, insect farmers, food-processing industry leaders and chefs, to set out the challenges and opportunities presented by one of the world's richest sources of protein and other micronutrients," Dr Lessard said.

"Australia has a high diversity of native insects. Working with First Nations enterprises, many species have the potential to be sustainably harvested or grown in low impact farms, to be turned into new and delicious Australian foods for us and our pets. Commercial insect farming is considered to have a low environmental footprint, requiring minimal feed, water, energy, and land resources – factors of importance to the modern health and ethically-conscious consumer," he said.

The roadmap also sets out challenges to overcome, including scalability, consumer appetite, and research opportunities, and provides options to tackle them, including new products, innovations to farming and collaboration. CSIRO has developed the roadmap as part of a broader piece of research investigating alternative protein sources, through its developing Future Protein Mission.

CSIRO's Future Protein Lead Professor Michelle Colgrave said the mission was focused on helping Australia capture high-growth global protein markets to grow Australia's protein industry by \$10 billion over five years, in line with the Australian Government's goal to lift farm-gate output to \$100 billion by 2030.

"With the global population set to reach 9.7 billion by 2050, we will need to meet this demand for sustainable protein production by exploring diversified sources," Professor Colgrave said. "Alternative protein industries can play an important role in Australia, contributing to regional and national prosperity. At CSIRO, we're researching plant-based protein, traditional protein sources, and emerging protein industries including edible insects."

The roadmap is available in English and Spanish, allowing connections between Australia and Latin America, such as Mexico, where eating insects is more widespread. It provides guidance for Spanish-speaking countries on how to develop their local industries.

Chair of the Insect Protein Association of Australia, Ms Olympia Yarger, said: "This roadmap provides meaningful steps forward for the guidance of new research and investment priorities that will enable insects to become a more sustainable and high-value part of the modern Australian diet."

Edible insects: A roadmap for the strategic growth of an emerging Australian industry is available in English and Spanish at: <https://research.csiro.au/edibleinsects/>

Professor John Dewar elected next chair of Universities Australia

La Trobe University Vice-Chancellor and President Professor John Dewar AO has been elected the next Chair of Universities Australia. He is currently a Deputy Chair of Universities Australia and will succeed The University of Queensland Vice-Chancellor Professor Deborah Terry AO in the role from 25 May 2021.

Professor Terry, welcoming the election of Professor Dewar as the incoming Chair of the sector's peak body, said, "John Dewar is an excellent choice. He brings unrivalled knowledge and leadership to this crucial role at a pivotal time for the university sector. He will be an outstanding advocate for the sector, as we work to play the fullest part in national recovery."

Professor Dewar, in thanking Professor Terry for her steadfast leadership of Universities Australia during a challenging two years, said, "We were particularly

fortunate to have Debbie Terry at the helm. In such challenging times, she has been a compelling and powerful advocate for universities, their staff and students during a period of major upheaval. She has overseen the sector's response to bushfires, drought, global pandemic, lockdowns and border closures."

Professor Dewar is an internationally-known family law specialist and researcher. He is a graduate of the University of Oxford, where he was also a Fellow of Hertford College from 1990 to 1995. He taught at the Universities of Lancaster and Warwick in the UK and worked for the London law firms Allen & Overy and Farrer & Co. He came to Australia in 1995 and held senior leadership positions at Griffith University and The University of Melbourne, where he was Provost, before taking up the position of Vice-Chancellor of La Trobe University in 2012.

The full Universities Australia Board from May 25 will include new members:

Professor Attila Brungs, Vice-Chancellor and President, University of Technology Sydney; and

Professor Duncan Maskell, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Melbourne.

Reappointed or continuing members are:

Professor John Dewar AO (Chair), Vice-Chancellor and President, La Trobe University.

Professor Steve Chapman, Vice-Chancellor and President, Edith Cowan University.

Professor David Lloyd, Vice-Chancellor and President, University of South Australia.

Professor Geraldine Mackenzie, Vice-Chancellor, University of Southern Queensland.

Professor Brian Schmidt AC, Vice-Chancellor, The Australian National University.

Professor Margaret Shiel AO, Vice-Chancellor, Queensland University of Technology.

Ms Catriona Jackson, Chief Executive, Universities Australia.

Obituary

Don Hardman

17 July 1933 – 28 October 2020

Donald Hardman passed peacefully at Goodwin House, Ainslie on 28 October, 2020. He specifically requested no funeral and no wake and wanted to give his body to the ANU for medical research, but in the year of Covid that was not possible.

Don Hardman was born on the July 17, 1933 in Little Lever, Lancashire, England. The eldest son of Carrie and Robert, with one sister and one brother. His father was a butcher. He did well at school and sports and got a scholarship to study at Bolton Public School. Some of his athletic records remained unbroken and could still be seen the wall of the Sports Hall in 1975.

He married Johanna van den Bergh in 1956 and had daughters Judy (1960) and Wendy (1962) and son David (1967). He started his career as a medical technologist in hospitals in Lancashire from 1951 to 1954. In 1954-56 he was in National Service in charge of blood transfusions but spent most of his time training for athletics to represent the army. He narrowly missed out on a spot in the English team for the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne. From 1956 to 1957 he was a medical technologist in London hospitals. In 1957 he was awarded an Associateship of the Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences (B.Sc. Equivalent).

From 1957 to 1964 he was a Science Experimental Officer at the Institute of Animal Physiology, Cambridge. In 1964 he was awarded a Fellowship of the Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences (M.Sc. Equivalent). His thesis was titled "*A comparative study of the albumin/globulin ratios*". In 1964 the family moved to Canberra. He was offered the position of Head Technical Officer at the John Curtin School of Medical Research at The Australian National University. In 1967 he was appointed Business and Technical Manager, the Research School of Biological Sciences ANU. In 1974 he completed a BA (Admin) at the Canberra College of Advanced Education (now the University of Canberra).

In 1981 he was seconded to Central Administration, at ANU to review purchasing and stores' policy. Following interaction with D.A.S. and discussion with users, he proposed the integration of purchasing activities. This was accepted and integrated. His high-profile involvement with Facilities and Services (previously called Buildings and Grounds) began in 1986. In one decade, he moved from Deputy Head of Building and Grounds to Head of Building and Grounds and finally Director of Facilities and Services. During that period, he made significant contributions to the ANU including the concrete traffic control spheres, still affectionately known as "*Don's Balls*".

He was the convenor of a Vice-Chancellor's committee (1982) to investigate the provision of photographic and illustrative services on campus. The report was generated, accepted and implemented. In 1983 he took part in the Public Service interchange scheme for six months, which was in the Department of Science and Technology. They had the task of reviewing administration and scope of bi-lateral agreements, particularly in Japan. Again, the recommendations were adopted. He was invited by the Department of Science and Technology, to extend for a further six months. He retired from his 30-year career at the ANU in 1996.

His other activities included part time lecturer in Biological Sciences at the Canberra Institute of Technology and part-time tutor at the Canberra College of Advanced Education. He was appointed by Sir Hugh Ennor, then Director of the John Curtin School of Medical Research and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University, to serve on the Advisory Committee for Biology courses conducted by the NSW Department of Technical Education. He continued to serve in this capacity until 1978, when he was invited to be a member of the Course Advisory Committee for Biology and Pathology Technicians course at the Bruce TAFE. He was subsequently elected Chairman of that Committee.

In 1970 he was invited to Japan by Hitachi Ltd. to inspect electron microscopes and other scientific equipment. Among other overseas visits he was invited by the British Department of Trade and Industry in 1972, to discuss the latest developments in the field with senior management. In 1973, with another ANU representative, he visited Japan, the United States, England, and Holland. Visits were made to scientific equipment manufacturers, and discussions were held with design engineers and application scientists. The purpose of the visit was to evaluate current developments in electron microscopy and to examine other new equipment trends. In 1975 he revisited major confirming and supply houses in the UK under the auspices of the Department of Trade and Industry. Germany and Holland were also

visited. In 1980 he visited North America to evaluate software for stores and purchasing systems, and attended the Financial Systems Software Conference in New Orleans. Visits were also made to users of systems in Denver, Atlanta, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

He was a member the supervisory committee of the ANU University Credit Society. Then, in 1983, he was appointed Director of the Credit Society. In that year he was also elected President of the Administrative and Allied Officers Association. Various, he was Chairman of the Canberra Olympic Gymnastics Committee, becoming its President. He qualified as a National Judge of Men's Gymnastics and was a member of the organising committee Pacific Alliance Championships involving gymnasts, coaches and officials from USA, Canada, China, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand. In 1983 he was competition Director of the Australian Men's Championships then the Senior National Championships. He maintained his great interest in sport. He ensured his children continued this interest.

In his personal life he enjoyed a coast house at South Durras and family overseas trips. He also got a lot of pleasure out of his involvement in the University of the Third Age. He joined the jazz appreciation group and continued weekly meetings until he moved into the nursing home. He always encouraged his children to do their best, seek education for the sake of learning, be good community members, to contribute, and be honest.

At work he was known as Don Hardman, a hard man but always fair.

Judy Sedger and Peter Scardoni

Twenty K.R. Narayanan Orations: Essays by Eminent Persons on the Rapidly Transforming Indian Economy

Edited by: [Raghbendra Jha](#)

ISBN (print – rrp \$70.00): 9781760464349

ISBN (online): 9781760464356 ANU Press

DOI:

<http://doi.org/10.22459/TKRNO.2021>

The Australia South Asia Research Centre (ASARC) was established in 1994 at The Australian National University (ANU). Apart from its research and doctoral training activities, ASARC also needed a public forum with a global reach to involve the best minds working on economic development in India as well as to honour its founder, Dr K.R. Narayanan, President of the Republic of India. The K.R. Narayanan Oration series was developed in response to these twin needs.

The first oration was held in 1994 and the latest (the 20th) was held in 2018. The first 10 orations were published by ANU Press in 2006. This new edition updates the volume to include all 20 orations delivered

so far and provides an updated introduction. All these orations have been delivered by leading academics, scientists and policymakers deeply involved in the transformation of the Indian economy.

This collection of the Narayanan Orations is thus at once both an expert account of key aspects of the economic development process in India and a peek into India's potential in the future. As such, the publication of this volume marks a watershed in the intellectual debate on India's economic reforms program and should be welcomed by all those interested in the economic development of the country.

China Story Yearbook 2020: Crisis

Edited by: [Jane Golley](#), [Linda Jaivin](#), Sharon Strange

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ANU Press

DOI: <http://doi.org/10.22459/CSY.2021>

Co-publisher:

[Australian Centre on China in the World](#)

The year 2020 was marked by a series of rolling crises. The Australian wildfires at the start of the year were a catastrophic sign of the global climate crisis. Xi

Jinping's announcement in September that the People's Republic of China would become carbon neutral by 2060 could help alleviate the crisis, but China has to fix its coal problem first. The big story was, of course, the global COVID-19 pandemic. Appearing to originate in a Wuhan wet market, by year's end the pandemic had claimed nearly 2 million lives worldwide, put whole countries into lockdown, and sent economies around the world tumbling into recession. China itself successfully suppressed the disease at home and recorded positive economic growth for the year — proving, at least according to the

Chinese Communist Party, the ‘superiority of the socialist system’. Not everyone was convinced, with persistent questions about the CCP’s initial cover up of the outbreak, and how the lack of transparency helped it become a pandemic in the first place.

The *China Story Yearbook 2020: Crisis* surveys the multiple crises of the year of the Metal Rat, including the catastrophic mid-year floods that sparked fears about the stability of the Three Gorges Dam. It looks at how Chinese women fared through the pandemic, from the rise in domestic violence to portraits of female

Scribe’s Winter-Summer offerings

Scribe has published its [July – December 2021 Catalogue](#) . Among its offering are the books mentioned below

AUSTRALIAN NON-FICTION

In [God Save the Queen](#), Dennis Altman, an avowed republican, investigates the unexpected durability and potential benefits of constitutional monarchies. This is the first book to look at constitutional monarchies globally, and is particularly relevant given the pro-democracy movement in Thailand and recent scandals around the British and Spanish royal families.

[Old Vintage Melbourne](#) is an enchanting collection of annotated historical images and contemporary photographs, revealing the change and development that Melbourne has experienced over the years. Adapted from **Chris Macheras’** popular [‘Old Vintage Melbourne’](#) Instagram account, this book invites you to reminisce about and cherish the important heritage of the city of Melbourne.

Jeff Sparrow’s unexpected and optimistic polemic [Crimes Against Nature](#) uses fresh

sacrifice on the medical front line to the trolling of a famous dancer for being childless. It also examines the downward-spiralling Sino-Australian relationship, the difficult ‘co-morbidities’ of China’s relations with the US, the end of ‘One Country, Two Systems’ in Hong Kong, the simmering border conflict with India, and the rise of pandemic-related anti-Chinese racism. The Yearbook also explores the responses to crisis of, among others, Daoists, Buddhists, and humourists — because when all else fails, there’s always philosophy, prayer, and laughter.

material to offer a very different take on the most important issue of our times. It takes the familiar narrative about global warming — the one in which we are all to blame — and inverts it, to show how, again and again, pollution and ecological devastation have been imposed on the population without our consent and (often) against our will.

Once hailed as the ‘Bradman of Rugby’, **David Campese** thrilled spectators both in Australia and overseas with his footloose, crazy-brave style of free running. **James Curran’s** lively biography, [Campese](#), tells the story of his rise from humble beginnings to the very top of a global sport.

INTERNATIONAL NON-FICTION

Tanya Talaga is a journalist, was selected as the 2018 Massey Lecturer, and is the award-winning author of *All Our Relations*. Her new book [Seven Fallen Feathers](#) delves into the history of Thunder Bay, Ontario, a small city that has come to manifest Canada’s long struggle

with human rights violations against Indigenous communities.

Bestselling science writer **Michael Brooks** takes readers on a fascinating journey through the history of civilisation, as he explains why maths is fundamental to our understanding of the world in [*The Art of More*](#). His journey covers ancient Egyptian priests to the Apollo astronauts, and Babylonian tax collectors to the MIT professor who invented juggling robots,

Award-winning author **Kate Moore** details **Elizabeth Packard's** incredible fight for freedom in [*The Woman They Could Not Silence*](#). Elizabeth Packard was an ordinary Victorian housewife and mother of six. That was, until the first Woman's Rights Convention was held in 1848, inspiring Elizabeth and many other women to dream of greater freedoms. She began voicing her opinions on politics and religion — opinions that her husband did not share. Incensed and deeply threatened by her growing independence, he had her declared 'slightly insane' and committed to an asylum. Fighting the stigma of her gender and her supposed madness, Elizabeth embarked on a ceaseless quest for justice. It not only challenged the medical science of the day and saved untold others from suffering her fate, it ultimately led to a giant leap forward in human rights the world over.

TRANSLATED FICTION

[*The Liquid Land*](#) is a brooding literary novel by Viennese author **Raphaela Edelbauer** about a town that doesn't want to be found, a countess who rules over the memories of an entire community, and a hole in the earth that threatens to drag them all into its depths. *The Liquid Land* is a dangerous novel, at once glittering nightmare and dark reality, from an extraordinary new literary voice.

[*Winter in Sokcho*](#) is an intimate and beautiful novel by French-Korean author

Elisa Shua Dusapin. It's winter in Sokcho, a tourist town on the border between South and North Korea. The cold slows everything down. Bodies are red and raw, the fish turn venomous, beyond the beach guns point out from the North's watchtowers. A young French Korean woman works as a receptionist in a tired guesthouse. One evening, an unexpected guest arrives: a French cartoonist determined to find inspiration in this desolate landscape.

MEMOIR

In [*Let's Talk About Hard Things*](#), **Anna Sale** — the host of cult podcast *Death, Sex & Money*, which tackles life's hard questions — takes her quest for more honest communication into her own life. Part treatise, part how-to, and part memoir, this book is candid, unflinching, and entertaining in its quest to make everyone more comfortable with the uncomfortable realities of life.

[*Fox and I*](#) is **Catherine Raven's** inspiring, moving, surprising, and often funny memoir about the transformative power of her unusual friendship with a wild fox — '*The tale of a human mind trained to be logical meeting and being touched by Nature and coming to realise a great truth. If Thoreau had read The Little Prince, he would have written this book.*' Yann Martel, Author of *Life of Pi*

[*Cop*](#) is the story of French journalist, **Valentin Gendrot**, who infiltrated the country's police force to reveal a culture of racism and violence in which officers act with impunity. He recounts the precarious working conditions, the suicide of a colleague, the racist remarks made by state agents, the blunders, the cover-ups, and the violence directed towards young black, Arab, and migrant men. Gendrot opens a door no one outside the police force has stepped through before.

[*Down and Out in England and Italy*](#) is a hilarious and poignant snapshot of life on the margins in modern day Britain.

Alberto Prunetti arrives in the UK, the twenty-something year old son of a Tuscan factory worker who has never left home before. With only broken English, his wits, and an obsession with the work of George Orwell to guide him, he sets about looking for a job and navigating his new home.

AUSTRALIAN FICTION

The latest novel from Prime Minister's Literary Award for Fiction shortlisted author **Laura Elizabeth Woollett**, [*The Newcomer*](#), is a thrilling crime novel based on a haunting true story. In a hotel room on a sleepy Pacific island, Judy Novak waits. And worries. It isn't the first time 29-year-old problem child Paulina has kept her mother waiting. But Judy can't ignore the island's jagged cliffs and towering pines — or the dread that Paulina has finally acted on her threats to take her own life.

In [*The Golden Book*](#), **Kate Ryan's** stunning debut, she asks profound questions about responsibility and blame, and, ultimately, about love. It's the 1980s, and in their small coastal town, Ali and her best friend, Jessie, are on the cusp. With 'The Golden Book', a journal of incantation and risk taking as their record, they begin to chafe at the restrictions put

Matters of possible interest

2021 Universities Australia Conference

Themed *A year of change: navigating a new world*, the 2021 Universities Australia conference will be held on June 2 and 3 at the National Convention Centre, Canberra. UA is offering both in-person and online options for attending the conference.

Full conference registration (in-person): \$1,495
virtual registration (online): \$695

This year's conference will be a welcome opportunity to catch up with, learn from, and share insights with colleagues in higher education.

Among the scheduled speakers at the conference are:

- the Hon Arthur Sinodinos AO, Australia's Ambassador to the United States;
- Professor Ngaire Woods, founding Dean of the Blavatnik School of Government and Professor of Global Economic Governance at Oxford University; and

on them by teachers, parents, each other. Then Jessie suffers a devastating accident, and both their lives are forever changed.

[*In Moonland*](#) is a portrait of three generations, each grappling with their own mortality. It is the long-awaited second novel from **Miles Allinson**, multi-award-winning author of *Fever of Animals*. Spanning the wild idealism of the '70s through to the fragile hope of the future, it is a novel about the struggle for transcendence and the reverberating effects of family bonds.

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Scribe may be accessed through your browser at <https://50ef4e4229fa8327e111-db83ee726903adf16eb6d21164a37c2d.ssl.cf4.rackcdn.com/Scribe-Catalogue-2021-July-December-rev-2.pdf>

- Danielle Wood, Chief Executive Officer at Grattan Institute.

For more information, download the prospectus or contact the Universities Australia events team on 02 6285 8100 or events@universitiesaustralia.edu.au.

ANU's 75th anniversary plans

The Australian National University marks the 75th anniversary of its founding on 1 August, 2021. A project called ANU75 will commemorate this anniversary, collecting stories and information from across campus that relate to the University's more recent history from the 1990s to the present day. To contribute or for more information contact Project Coordinator Dr Daniel Oakman, from the School of History at the ANU Research School of Social Sciences, ph. 6125 2722 or email Daniel.Oakman@anu.edu.au.

Diary Dates face-to-face events are in abeyance but occasional on-line events are arranged.

Craig Reynolds is coordinator of ANUEF's Events' Diary (creynolds697@gmail.com) also Craig.Reynolds@anu.edu.au).

May 27 Time: 5.30-7pm **The annual Anthony Low Commonwealth Lecture** will be delivered by the **Chancellor of the ANU and former Australian Foreign Minister, the Hon Julie Bishop**, who will address the issue of how to eliminate human trafficking and modern slavery in our 21st century world. The venue is **Building 188, Fellows Lane, ANU, Canberra**. The event will be held in concert with the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific. This is a free event open to the public. Due to COVID-19 restrictions numbers are limited. Registration is essential for attendance. Access the website www.asiapacific.anu.edu.au. Light refreshments will be held after the event. For more information: Hugh Craft, Convenor, Commonwealth Round Table in Australia, 0418 275 670

Meet the author

May 25 In an ANU/*Canberra Times* meet-the-author event from 6pm to 7pm, ABC China correspondent, **Bill Birtles**, will be in conversation with **Hugh White** on Bill's new book, *The Truth about China*, a compelling examination of Chinese-Australian relations. Cinema Kambri Cultural Centre ANU. Registrations at anu.edu.au/events.

June 16, 6pm-7pm. Venue: Cinema Cultural Centre Kambri, ANU: **Bri Lee**, best-selling and award-winning author of *Eggshell Skull*, will be in conversation with **Virginia Haussegger** on Bri's new book, *Who Gets to Be Smart: Privilege, Power and Knowledge*, a forensic and hard-hitting exploration of knowledge, power and privilege.

In 2018 Bri Lee's young friend Damian is awarded a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University. After a tour of Oxford and Rhodes House, Bri begins questioning her belief in a system she has previously revered. She learns the truth behind what Virginia Woolf described almost a century earlier as the 'stream of gold and silver' that flows through elite institutions

and dictates decisions about who is to be educated there. The question that forms in her mind drives the following two years of conversations and investigations: Who gets to be smart?

Interrogating the adage, 'knowledge is power', and calling institutional prejudice to account, Bri once again dives into her own privilege and presumptions to bring us the stark and confronting results. Far from offering any 'equality of opportunity', Australia's education system exacerbates social stratification. The questions Bri asks of politics and society have their answers laid bare in the responses to the Ramsay Centre for Western Civilisation, COVID-19, and the Black Lives Matter protests of 2020.

Virginia Haussegger AM, a passionate women's advocate and communication specialist, is the former Chair and Founding Director of the 50/50 by 2030 Foundation, at The University of Canberra, where she is an Adjunct Professor. The Foundation has a singular focus on improving the representation of women in leadership and key decision making roles across all levels of government and public administration.

Professor Kim Rubenstein, FAAL, FASSA, Co-Director 50/50 by 2030 Foundation, Faculty of Business Governance and Law, University of Canberra will give the vote of thanks. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, registration for this event is essential and social distancing must be adhered to. Guests must check in on arrival using the CBR Check-In app. This event is in association with Harry Hartog Bookshop and books will be available for purchase on the evening in the Cultural Centre foyer. Pre-event book signings will be available from 5.30pm, and again after the event until 7.30pm.

Catch up with the authors

For access to earlier Meet-the-Author conversations, access the ANU's Soundcloud website at: https://soundcloud.com/experience_anu then scroll down to a list of entries all beginning with the words "In conversation" followed by the name of the person.

Recent Conversation: Peter van Onselen and Mark Kenny podcast now available on Meet the Author website – "How Good is Scott Morrison?" Access:

https://soundcloud.com/experience_anu/in-conversation-with-peter-van-onselen

At the National Library

A century of Australian advertising posters

The National Library of Australia has digitised its enormous collection of late 19th- and 20th century Australian advertising posters, which are now available to explore via [Trove](#) or through your browser. The collection features many iconic Australian brands and illustrators of the time, including Bushells, Ever Ready, James Northfield, Gert Sellheim and Norman Lindsay.

At the NGA

Exhibitions at the National Gallery of Australia

Until July 4, 2021: *Know My Name - Australian Women Artists 1900 to Now*; open & free. This exhibition showcases art made by women. It brings together more than 300 works, drawn from the Gallery's collection and other collections from across Australia.

Until 14 June 2021: *Botticelli to Van Gogh*: Masterpieces from the National Gallery, London. Ticketed. Spanning 450 years, *Botticelli to Van Gogh*: Masterpieces from the National Gallery, London presents 60 paintings by some of Europe's most revered artists. Exclusive to Canberra.

2021 National Indigenous Art Triennial; Free. The National Indigenous Art Triennial is the nation's first large-scale recurring exhibition dedicated to contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and artists.

Administration

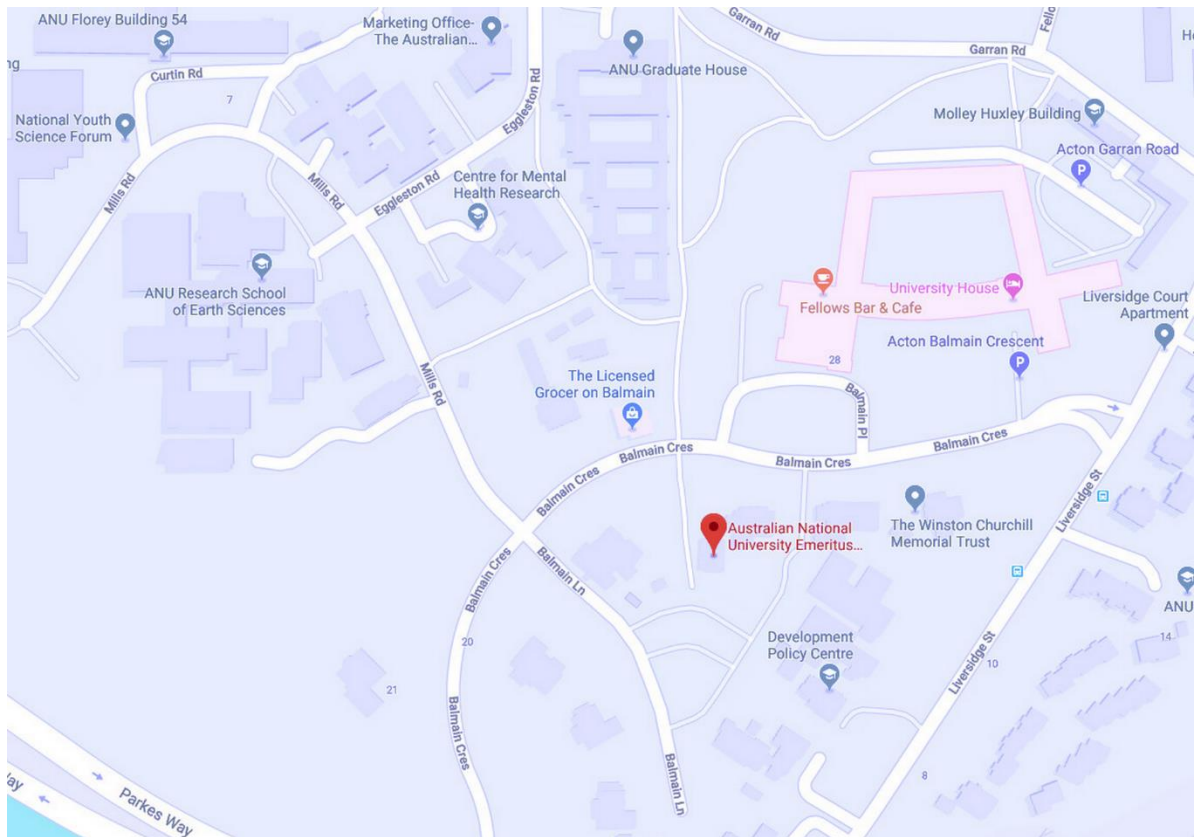
Arrangements for ANUEF room bookings

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

Finding the Molony Room

The Molony Room is at 24 Balmain Crescent, on the south side of Balmain Crescent almost opposite University House.

It is Building 1c on <https://tinyurl.com/yckuknbj> 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 e-magazine, will be published in June, 2021