

# EMERITUS

*The Australian National University Emeritus Faculty e-magazine*

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## **Senators call for oversight body on universities' sex-harm policies**

A Senate committee has recommended that the Commonwealth Government create an independent taskforce to oversee Australian universities' policies and practices to prevent and respond to sexual violence on campus and in residences.

The Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee report says the taskforce should provide 'an effective and accessible complaints process' and 'meaningful' accountability for both universities and residences if standards are not met. It should also provide transparency about which institutions are providing appropriate and effective responses and prevention initiatives.

Universities Australia has welcomed the committee's report, UA's Chief Executive, Catriona Jackson, calling it 'another important step in the ongoing work to address the societal issue of sexual harm'.

The proposal to establish a taskforce is one of 17 recommendations contained in the report into Current and Proposed Sexual Consent Laws in Australia, released this month after a wide-ranging inquiry. Several recommendations relate specifically to sex education and consent in the education sector.

The committee began its inquiry after it was asked by the Senate, on 29 November 2022, to examine a range of matters pertaining to consent laws.

Under the terms of reference, it was asked specifically to consider inconsistencies in consent laws across different jurisdictions; the operation of consent laws in each jurisdiction; any benefits of national harmonisation; how consent laws affected survivor experience of the justice system; the efficacy of jury directions about consent; and the impact of consent laws on consent education. It was also asked to consider the findings of relevant state or territory law reform commissions, reviews or other inquiries.

The committee was originally due to report on 30 June but was granted three extensions, allowing it to report on 14 September. It received 79 submissions, held public hearings in Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney, and an in-camera hearing in Brisbane.

Where tertiary education is concerned, the committee also recommended that Universities Australia conduct a second National Student Safety Survey and make the results public no later than 2025. It wants UA to conduct a survey of

this kind every three years to provide ‘ up-to-date and accurate information about sexual violence on campus’.

Ms Jackson said UA would undertake an appropriately redesigned survey next year, building on those conducted in 2016 and 2021, reflecting its members’ ‘unwavering commitment’ to reduce sexual harm.

Universities did not shy away from their responsibilities, she said, while noting that sexual harm was ‘prevalent everywhere – from university campuses to workplaces, pubs, clubs, homes and on public transport’.

‘As a sector, we have undertaken a significant amount of work to address and prevent sexual harm on campuses, including launching the world-first, sector-wide Respect.Now.Always. initiative,’ she said.

‘Australian universities took a leadership position by conducting the first student safety survey across the whole sector.

‘We are proud of our efforts to date, but we recognise there is much more we can do collectively.

### *Universities committed to tackling issue ‘head on’*

‘Our members are committed to continuing to run tailored and individual campus-based activities, building on the hundreds of initiatives already implemented to continue tackling this issue head on.’

In its report, the committee also recommended that the Commonwealth Government commission an independent review of the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency’s response to sexual violence on campuses.

During its inquiry, the committee noted that the Australian Bureau of Statistics *2021–22 Personal Safety Survey* estimated that 2.8 million people aged over 18 (14 per cent of the adult population) had experienced sexual violence (assault and/or threat) after the age of 15. One in five women and one in 20 men had experienced sexual assault.

In 2020 the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare found that sexual assault was a major health and welfare issue, with many victim-survivors suffering long-term effects that included physical injury, mental health impacts, and disruption to such everyday activities as eating and sleeping.

‘Submitters and witnesses remarked repeatedly that while legal reform and education are significant parts of the solution, transformative change to entrenched and pervasive views about respectful relationships and sexual consent will require a whole-of-society response,’ the committee said.

A full copy of the report is available at:

[https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal\\_and\\_Constitutional\\_Affairs/sexualcontentlaws/Report](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/sexualcontentlaws/Report) .

# Investment in science capabilities crucial to nation's future: Academy

It was crucial to the nation's future that Australia identify and invest in sovereign science capabilities, the President of the Australian Academy of Science, Professor Chennupati Jagadish, said after the Australian Government issued its draft National Science and Research Priorities on 7 September.

'We must focus and scale up our effort to build or maintain comparative advantage and to address scientific matters unique to Australia,' Professor Jagadish said.

'To be effective, priorities need us to make choices, unite Australian scientists, and concentrate resources around ambitious missions or grand challenges.'

The government has set down four draft priorities: to ensure a net-zero future and protect Australia's biodiversity, to support healthy and thriving communities, to enable a productive and innovative economy, and to build a stronger, more resilient nation. Interested parties are invited to comment on the four draft priorities by 29 September.

The draft priorities set out the 'what' and 'why' for Australia's science and research efforts over the next decade, the draft document says. 'They reflect input from a wide range of people and organisations engaged in Australian science and research. We want to know how we can further improve the draft priorities and how organisations and governments should implement them.'

## *'Robust' implementation plan imperative for priorities*

Professor Jagadish said the priorities aligned with some of the main challenges facing the nation, and cut across traditional disciplines.

'Setting these directions is a solid start,' he said. 'However, it is imperative that the final priorities be backed by a robust implementation plan that clarifies how the Australian scientific ecosystem — scientists, institutions, funders and enablers — will incorporate the new priorities in their work.'

'Previous science and research priorities were not effective because they were lacking in implementation, monitoring and evaluation and therefore did little to focus and scale up science in the identified areas.'

'It is important that these priorities are implemented through investment-led schemes across government, while leaving investigator-led schemes focused on the free pursuit of knowledge. We need both, and both can be achieved with a carefully designed implementation plan,' he said.

The Academy thanked the Chief Scientist, Dr Cathy Foley, for consulting widely in framing the priorities.

Professor Jagadish said the Academy looked forward to contributing to the forthcoming consultation.

# ACT government funds Canberra space research, development projects

The ACT Government will contribute \$1 million to establish an ACT space research and development partnering program and thus develop Canberra's role in the space industry, the Chief Minister, Andrew Barr, announced on 22 September.

He made the announcement when launching the ACT Space Update 2023, which is focussed on establishing Canberra as 'Australia's gateway to space' and which includes a plan to develop a Canberra Space Hub to act as a 'connection point' between research, industry and government.

The ACT's space program involves the ANU's Institute for Space (InSpace) and UNSW Canberra Space. The ACT's \$1 million contribution will be matched by SmartSat CRC, the consortium that has been funded by the Australian Government to develop expertise and technologies in advanced telecommunications and 'internet of things' (IoT) connectivity, intelligent satellite systems and the next generation of Earth observation data services.

Of two projects being funded under the research and development partnering program, the ANU Institute of Space and its partners will receive \$1.3 million for the Resilience Mission Project to develop OzFuel, a space-based sensor platform to help in bushfire prevention, detection, mitigation and resilience. At the moment fire management depends on an ageing array of foreign satellites that are not designed for monitoring Australian ecosystems and their fire risk. This project is designed to position Australia as a credible global provider of space-sourced environmental information.

UNSW Canberra and its partners will receive \$700,000 to develop a Smart Multi-modal Optical Surveillance System (SMOS) to help respond to the risks posed by an increasing number of space objects in low Earth orbit. This would develop and test a new capability to detect and identify objects in space. The project aims to overcome problems of imaging in space, including the challenges of tracking and capturing high-quality images of fast-moving objects.

'These projects highlight the capability of Canberra's space industry and our competitive advantages, which create the right environment for meaningful partnerships to thrive, helping businesses to create jobs and grow,' Mr Barr said.

Professor Anna Moore, Director of InSpace, said the institute was delighted to be working with its partners on projects 'that lift our sovereign manufacturing sector and solve some of society's greatest challenges, including climate change adaptation'.

Dr Ed Kruzins, Director of UNSW Canberra Space, said the funding announced for this research was important 'because operating in an extreme environment like space is complex and challenging, and artificial intelligence is key to making this a simpler and less risky task'.

# Breached planetary boundaries show ‘unwell’ Earth a risk to humanity

For the first time, six of the nine ‘planetary boundary’ processes that define a safe operating space for humanity are being exceeded, according to research published this month in the journal *Science Advances*.

The research by an international team of scientists provides a detailed outline of planetary resilience, and shows that six of the boundaries, from global warming to the biosphere and deforestation, from pollutants and plastic to nitrogen cycles and freshwater, are being ‘transgressed’, according to the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK). Pressure in all boundary processes is increasing, it says.

‘This update on planetary boundaries clearly depicts a patient that is unwell, as pressure on the planet increases and vital boundaries are being transgressed,’ said PIK director Johan Rockström, a co-author of the journal article.

‘We don’t know how long we can keep breaching these key boundaries before combined pressures lead to irreversible change and harm.’ he said.

The research covers the second major planetary boundaries update since the framework was introduced in 2009. It is the first to provide a complete check-up of all nine processes and systems that determine the stability and resilience of the planet.

While a boundary transgression is not equivalent to drastic changes happening overnight, it marks a critical threshold for increasing risk, researchers say.

‘We can think of Earth as a human body, and the planetary boundaries as blood pressure,’ according to lead author Katherine Richardson of the University of Copenhagen

‘Over 120/80 does not indicate a certain heart attack but it does raise the risk and, therefore, we work to reduce blood pressure. The boundary for ozone depletion, for example, while not transgressed globally, was headed for increasing regional transgressions. Though it still is exceeded today over Antarctica, it is now slowly recovering, thanks to global initiatives catalysed by the Montreal Protocol.’

Next to climate change, the integrity of the biosphere is the second pillar of stability for the planet, according to another author, Wolfgang Lucht, head of Potsdam’s department of Earth System Analysis.

‘As with climate, we are currently destabilising this pillar by taking out too much biomass, destroying too much habitat, deforesting too much land. Our research shows that mitigating global warming and saving a functional biosphere for the future should go hand in hand.’

The rising signs of dwindling planetary resilience, manifested by the transgression of planetary boundaries, brings Earth closer to tipping points, and closes the window to having any chance of holding the 1.5°C planetary climate boundary, Dr Rockström said.

‘At the same time, it is a true breakthrough that we now have a scientifically quantified safe space for humanity on Earth, providing a guide for action and the first full picture of our planet’s capacity to buffer stress,’ he said. ‘Having this knowledge at hand marks an important step for more systematic efforts to protect, recover and rebuild planetary resilience.’

More information is available at:

<https://www.pik-potsdam.de/en/output/infodesk/planetary-boundaries>

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## McAllister analyses party inquests and election outcomes

Professor Ian McAllister will speak on ‘Party Explanations for the 2022 Australian Election Result’ when he delivers the Emeritus Faculty lunchtime talk in the Molony Room from noon on Wednesday, 4 October.

Post-election reviews provide an opportunity for political parties to diagnose the reasons for their success or failure. Since 2019 the reviews conducted by the Labor and Liberal parties have been made public, and they provide an ideal opportunity to test their explanations against the evidence.

This talk identifies six explanations for the 2022 Australian federal election outcome and tests them using the 2022 Australian Election Study survey. Both reviews correctly identify the importance of leadership and the pandemic in shaping the election result but underplay the importance of independents and of climate change. Both reviews over-estimate changes in voting among women and immigrants. Overall, Professor McAllister will argue, the reviews are only partially accurate in explaining the election result.

Ian McAllister is Distinguished Professor of Political Science at the ANU, and from 1997 until 2004 was Director of the Research School of Social Sciences.

## Diary dates

### *Midsummer Night’s Dream at Canberra Theatre*

The Queensland Ballet will perform *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* in Liam Scarlett’s choreography at the Canberra Theatre from 25 to 28 October. Originally a co-production by Queensland Ballet and Royal New Zealand Ballet, the production recreates in dance Shakespeare’s tale of puckish mischief, perplexed lovers and hempen homespuns, with music by Felix Mendelssohn — his score for the play supplemented by music from the composer’s other works, with arrangements by Queensland Symphony Orchestra conductor Nigel Gaynor. The Canberra presentations will be performed to recorded music. Ticket prices range from \$85 to \$119, with an additional \$50 for those attending the opening night gala.

## *A century of Archibald portraits*

The National Portrait Gallery will show the Art Gallery of NSW's touring exhibition 'Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize', from 20 October to 28 January next. This exhibition celebrates 100 years of Australia's oldest and most prestigious award for portraiture. Arranged thematically, 'Archie 100' delves into the triumphs and controversies that have accompanied the prize, and honours the artists who have made it the most sought-after accolade in Australian art. The show brings together renowned portraits of identities and those of people whose names have today been forgotten. Some works have not been seen in public since first being exhibited in the Archibald Prize.

## *Exhibition of golden sporting moments extended*

The National Library has extended its exhibition 'Grit & Gold: Tales from a Sporting Nation', which will now run till 28 January. The exhibition uses books, magazines, paintings, drawings, photographs and memorabilia to recall the events that have brought Australians the pleasure of winning and pain of losing in sporting contests from the Olympics to tournaments and test series. Entry is free, and booking is not required. November.

## *NGA highlights women who made it 'modern'*

Only a few weeks remain of the National Gallery of Australia's exhibition 'Know My Name: Making it Modern', which will close of 8 October. The exhibition features the work of women artists who made a notable contribution to Australian art in the 20<sup>th</sup> century — Ethel Spowers, Eveline Syme, Margaret Preston, Grace Cossington Smith, Clarice Beckett and Olive Cotton among them. The exhibition, the gallery says, is 'unified by their expressions of daily life, nature, still life and interior worlds of place, mind and imagination.'

## *Birdlife on the wing at CMAG*

Canberra artist Tom Buckland brings together his fascination with the natural world, fantasy and matters mechanical in the exhibition 'Bird Machine' at the Canberra Museum and Gallery. His hybrid installation celebrates the rowdy character of the cockatoo through pieces of do-it-yourself engineering and found objects, such as discarded street signs, wood, plastic, and broken repurposed electronics. The exhibition highlights our rapidly changing planet, where the machines of human industry continue to intrude on the natural world. Until 14 January.

## *Whitlam artworks on show at National Archives*

Works by John Olsen, Brett Whiteley, Lloyd Rees, John Coburn and Arthur Boyd are included in the travelling exhibition 'Dedicated to the Dedicated: Whitlam, the Arts and Democracy', at the National Archives of Australia until 29 October. The collection brings together artworks given to Gough and Margaret Whitlam in 1979 in recognition of their support for the arts in Australia. Free guided tours are available but bookings are required. They can

be made at [www.naa.gov.au/visit-us/events-and-exhibitions/dedicated-dedicated-whitlam-arts-and-democracy](http://www.naa.gov.au/visit-us/events-and-exhibitions/dedicated-dedicated-whitlam-arts-and-democracy).

## *Bell's Twelfth Night on stage*

Isabel Burton, Ursula Mills, Alfie Gledhill and Garth Holcombe have leading roles in the Bell Shakespeare production of *Twelfth Night* at the Canberra Theatre Centre from 13 to 21 October. A fresh retelling of Shakespeare's romantic comedy by Heather Fairbairn, this production is billed as 'a dark collision of hidden identities and unrequited love'. It features a new musical score by Sarah Blasko. Single ticket prices are from \$45 to \$110.

## *Meet the Author events*

**September 28:** Catharine Lumby will talk with Andrew Leigh about her new biography of Frank Moorhouse. T2, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**October 3, 6pm:** Chris Hammer will discuss his crime novel *The Seven* with Andrew Leigh. Jeff Popple will give the vote of thanks. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**October 5, 6pm:** David Marr will be in conversation with Frank Bongiorno about *Killing for Country: A Family Story*. Marr's book is a personal history of Australia's frontier wars, written after he learnt that his forebears served with the Native Police. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**October 9, 6pm:** Trent Dalton will be in conversation with Sally Pryor about his latest novel, *Lola in the Mirror*. Karen Viggers will give the vote of thanks. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**October 12, 6pm:** Melissa Lucashenko will talk about her new novel, *Edenglassie*, with Alex Sloan. The vote of thanks will be given by Lucy Neave. Manning Clark Auditorium, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**October 16, 6pm:** Isabelle Reineke will talk about her new book, *Courting Power: Law, Democracy and the Public Interest*, with Kim Rubenstein. John McMillan will give the vote of thanks. Manning Clark Auditorium, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**October 23, 6pm:** Robyn Davidson will talk about her memoir, *Unfinished Woman*, with Virginia Haussegger. Mark Pierce will give the vote of thanks. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**October 25, 6pm:** Kate Fullagar will talk to John Paul Janke about *Bennelong and Phillip: A Relationship Unravelling*. Mark McKenna will give the vote of thanks. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**November 2, 6pm:** Richard Flanagan will discuss his new book, *Question 7*, a blend of fiction and non-fiction, with Virginia Haussegger. Vote of thanks by Karen Viggers. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**November 7, 6pm:** Bryan Brown will talk with Alex Sloan about his new novel, *The Drowning*. Brett Yeats will give the vote of thanks. Cinema. Kambri Cultural Centre.



**November 8, 6pm:** Christos Tsiolkas will discuss his new novel, *In-between*, with Nigel Featherstone. Sally Pryor will give the vote of thanks. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**November 14, 6pm:** Wendy Harmer will talk about her memoir, *Lies my Mirror Told Me*, with Alex Sloan. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**November 20, 6pm:** Kate Ceberano will talk about her memoir, *Unsung*, with Alex Sloan. Vote of thanks by Kim Cunio. Kambri Cultural Centre.

**November 22, 6pm:** Clementine Ford will talk about her new book, *I Don't*, with Amy Remeikis. Virginia Haussegger will give the vote of thanks. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**4 December, 6pm:** Liz Hayes will discuss *I'm Liz Hayes: A Memoir*. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**6 February, 6pm:** Lisa Miller will talk about her new book, *Muster Dogs 2*. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**22 February, 6pm:** Karen Viggers will talk about her new non-fiction book, *Sidelines*. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

**27 February, 6pm:** Andrew Leigh will talk about his new book, *The Shortest History of Economics*. Cinema, Kambri Cultural Centre.

ANU/*Canberra Times* Meet the Author events are held in association with Harry Hartog Bookshop. Books are available for purchase before and after each event. Pre-event book signings will be available from 5.30pm and again after the event. Registration is required and can be made at Registrations at [anu.edu.au/events](http://anu.edu.au/events). In line with ANU's Covid policy, masks are no longer required. Enquiries to the convenor, Colin Steele, at [colin.steele@anu.edu.au](mailto:colin.steele@anu.edu.au).

The Symposium by University House wine bar (Shop 13, 152 University Avenue, Acton, next to the Kambri cultural centre) will be open for dining after Meet the Author events. No bookings necessary. Food and wine details at <https://unihouse.anu.edu.au/eat/symposium/>.

## Obituaries

### Harold Crouch

**18 July 1940–27 August 2023**

Emeritus Professor Harold Crouch, who died on 27 August, was an eminent scholar of Indonesian and Malaysian politics, and of Southeast Asia generally. The author of numerous works on the region, several of which are considered standard treatments of their subjects even decades after they were published, his career was marked by deep commitment to first-hand research. This included not only meticulous scouring of the written record, but also long periods living in the countries he was writing about, and interviewing the leading politicians, military officers, and others who were shaping their politics. A member of the Australian National University's Department of Political and

Social Change (formerly in the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, now in the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs) during the latter part of his career, he supervised many PhD students who have become prominent scholars of Indonesian, Malaysian and Southeast Asian politics in many countries around the world. As well as being an influential researcher, Harold's personal characteristics of integrity, modesty, and generosity also left a lasting impact on those he taught, mentored and worked with.

Harold's interest in the politics of Asian countries began at a relatively early age. He enrolled as an undergraduate at Melbourne University in 1958 and, by 1963, he was already in India, enrolled in a Master's degree at the University of Bombay (as it was then called), financed by a Government of India Scholarship under the Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme. Writing a thesis on the politics of the Indian trade union movement, he met and interviewed numerous labour movement leaders and activists and forged lasting friendships with several Indian academics (the thesis was published as a book in 1966 — almost a full decade before he completed his PhD).

Harold then switched focus to Indonesia. He moved to Jakarta, teaching in the political science department at the University of Indonesia as a volunteer between 1968 and 1971. Upon his return to Melbourne he enrolled as a PhD student at Monash University under the supervision of another renowned Australian expert of Indonesian politics, Herbert Feith. During his time in Jakarta, and while on subsequent visits in 1973 and 1975, he collected an enormous amount of material on the history of the Indonesian military and on the tumultuous and violent transition from the 'Guided Democracy' regime of President Sukarno to President Soeharto's authoritarian 'New Order' in 1965–1966. Witnessing first hand the early years of the New Order, he also interviewed many of the leading military and political figures of the time.

This material then became the basis for a monumental PhD, completed in 1975 and published, in significantly truncated form, as *The Army and Politics in Indonesia*, by Cornell University Press in 1978. Banned in Indonesia under Soeharto, this volume remains a standard work not only on the military's role in politics during the first decades of Indonesian independence, but also on the birth and early phase of the New Order regime, of which Harold was to remain a leading interpreter until it collapsed two decades later, in 1998. A 1979 article in the journal *World Politics*, 'Patrimonialism and Military Rule in Indonesia', which focused on the fusion of personal interest and public power under Soeharto, influenced not only future studies of Indonesia but also of other countries in Southeast Asia and beyond.

For much of the next 20 years Harold broadened his focus to incorporate studies of other Southeast Asian countries. While in Melbourne he met a fellow PhD student, the Malaysian historian Khasnor Johan, and they married in 1973. He moved with Khasnor to Malaysia in 1974, while finishing his PhD. He tutored for a while in the University of Malaya before taking up a senior lectureship at the National University of Malaysia (*Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia*) in 1976, where he was effectively the first to teach political science. He remained there until 1985, when he joined the ANU as a Senior Research Fellow (but he soon took extended leave, and went back to UKM during 1988–1990, returning to the ANU in 1991).

During his years in Malaysia, Harold not only produced important comparative analyses of Southeast Asian politics and political economy (notably the 1984 volume, *Domestic Political Structures and Regional Economic Cooperation in Southeast Asia*), he also followed Malaysian politics closely, eventually publishing another influential Cornell University Press volume, *Government and Society in Malaysia* (1996). In it, he argued that the ability of the ruling coalition, led by the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), to combine responsive and repressive policies helped to explain its remarkable political longevity.

His return to the ANU in 1991, meanwhile, was soon followed by growing signs of renewed political tension in Indonesia, and he moved to the forefront of analysis of the demise of the regime whose origins he had done so much to interpret decades earlier, and of subsequent efforts to construct a new democratic order. Eventually, he distilled much of this new research into another book, *Political Reform in Indonesia after Soeharto* (2010).

The final part of his career also saw Harold, with Khasnor, returning to Indonesia. In 2000–2001 he took leave from his position at the ANU to become the founding director of the Jakarta office of the International Crisis Group (at the invitation of the group's then head, Gareth Evans), initiating a period when the ICG produced a series of widely read and influential reports on the — once again — tumultuous and sometimes violent political transition Indonesia was experiencing. Later still, after retiring from the ANU in 2005, between 2008 and 2010 he worked as the director of the Aceh Research Training Institute (ARTI), an Australian-funded body in Banda Aceh that was established to help rebuild the research capability of Aceh's universities after the devastating losses caused by the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

Part of Harold's legacy is carried on by the large number of PhD students he supervised. During his years at the ANU, he attracted many students who wanted to research Indonesia or Malaysia. He instilled in them a commitment to on-the-ground research and trying to achieve a deep understanding of the motivations and perspectives of the people they wanted to study. Some of these former students, such as Jun Honna (Ritsumeikan) and Kikue Hamayotsu (Northern Illinois) have become noted scholars of Indonesia and/or Malaysia, while others have developed political or professional careers in their home countries. Harold's legacy also lives on in the ANU's very strong international reputation for research on Southeast Asian, especially Indonesian, politics. Two of his former supervisees (myself and Marcus Mietzner, a leading analyst of the Indonesian military, political parties and presidency, among other topics) continue Harold's work on contemporary Indonesia in the department to which he contributed so much, alongside two other Indonesia politics specialists (one of whom, Eve Warburton, also worked with Harold in ARTI).

Harold had a remarkable academic career, an impressive record of scholarship, and a formative intellectual impact on many. But his personal qualities were no less memorable. With a wry sense of humor and a self-deprecating and unpretentious personal style, Harold was wonderful company, and he inspired great affection among his students, colleagues, and others who encountered him. Those of us who were lucky enough to work closely with him learned a great deal from him, and not only about research and writing. He was a role

model of integrity and egalitarianism, eschewing any hint of the affectation that can sometimes afflict academic life, invariably favouring substance and accuracy over style and effect, and always treating others with warmth and fairness, no matter their background or status. Since his passing, his former colleagues have been inundated by messages from Indonesia politics specialists and others from around the world, recalling times early in their careers, or when they were students, when Harold gave generously of his time to listen to them and share his ideas, treating them with kindness and respect when he had little to gain personally from doing so.

Harold died after a long illness, during which he was cared for with great dedication by Khasnor, his wife of 50 years. He is survived not only by Khasnor, but also by four children and four grandchildren. Around the world, a large community of scholars and students are grateful for the intellectual and personal legacies he leaves, and mourn his passing.

This obituary draws on a tribute to Harold Crouch that was written by the late Jamie Mackie, Greg Fealy and myself on the occasion of Harold's retirement and published as a chapter in the 2010 ANU E-Press volume *Soeharto's New Order and Its Legacy: Essays in Honour of Harold Crouch*.

— Edward Aspinall



**Peter McCawley**  
**4 November 1944–24 July 2023**

Peter McCawley, who passed away recently, was a passionate and influential practitioner of economic development, a renowned scholar and thinker, and a generous friend and colleague to the many people in Australia and Asia fortunate to have known him. He was a major player in Australia's engagement with Asia, as a teacher, researcher, senior policy-maker and public intellectual. In important respects Indonesia was the centre of his world. His affection for, and commitment to, that country was a constant for over 50 years. He combined these intellectual and practical interests with a fierce commitment to social democracy in Australia and to overcoming poverty and inequality globally. At a personal level he was forthright, inspirational, engaging, totally unpretentious, loyal, occasionally argumentative if provoked, and deeply caring for those who needed a hand. In 2019 he was recognized for his many achievements with the appointment as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

After Peter graduated with a first class honours degree from the University of Queensland (UQ), Professor Heinz Arndt recruited him as his first PhD student to work on the Indonesian economy. These were heady and idealistic days. With Sir John Crawford's support, and with little prior knowledge of the country, Heinz had decided that the newly established Department of Economics in the then Research School of Pacific Studies at the ANU would focus heavily on Indonesia. This was an audacious — some at the time said even reckless — initiative in the late Soekarno era, given the country's political turmoil and economic collapse. But under the Soeharto regime from 1966, economics was to

occupy centre stage as the country re-engaged with the global community. Heinz had begun visiting Indonesia regularly and bravely established the *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies*. He then recruited PhD students to develop a base for serious scholarship on the country, sending them into the country for extended periods of fieldwork, to gain first-hand familiarity and in part because the secondary data base was very weak.

Peter took up the challenge with enthusiasm and was undeterred by the challenging research environment. With characteristic humour, in a short memoir written in 2018, he observed that:

‘In retrospect, the idea of sending a naïve neophyte into the field in Indonesia at that time was quite reckless. But this didn’t seem to worry Heinz. ... A total of 12 months difficult fieldwork followed in 1969 and 1970 in Jakarta. Jakarta was something of a huge *kampung* with very little electricity, few telephones, and almost no photocopy facilities. Fieldwork consisted of endless attempts to arrange interviews (I visited Professor Sadli’s office a total of 11 times before I was able to deliver a personal letter from Heinz) and much note-taking by hand in hot offices from official documents. ... By current standards, the whole activity was more akin to a study in bureaucratic anthropology than in modern economics.’

Peter’s description of his work was unduly modest. With persistence, an eye on the big picture, and forensic empirical work — all features of his subsequent career — he completed a fine dissertation on the Indonesian electricity industry, and published papers from it. The research set up a life-long interest in Asian economic development and public policy.

On graduation in 1972 Peter and family moved to Yogyakarta where he took up a position as visiting lecturer at Gadjah Mada University, funded by an Australian university exchange program. Refined, socially stratified and Javanese-speaking, Yogya was a very different world from chaotic, sprawling Jakarta. He threw himself into teaching, mainly in a newly established Masters program for young Indonesian academics sent from throughout the archipelago. He developed very close relations with the senior academics there. These included the agricultural economist Mubyarto (with whom he relished the opportunity to undertake field trips (‘masuk lapangan’) in rural and small-town Java); Dean (later Rector and Director General of Higher Education) Sukadji; and Boediono (later Vice President and much else, and with whom he edited a valuable collection of economics writings for Indonesian students).

In 1974 events in Canberra intervened. Peter’s close friend from UQ days, Bill Hayden, was appointed Federal Treasurer in the Whitlam Labor government, and he asked Peter to become his principal economic advisor. For Peter, this was an offer too good to refuse, and so the family (now with two young children) returned to Canberra. In some respects, given that government’s ambivalent approach to orthodox economics, this position was just as daunting a challenge as plunging into Jakarta fieldwork a few years earlier. Almost 20 years later he took on a similar position for another well-regarded Federal Treasurer, his close friend John Kerin. This was a further indication of the high regard for Peter’s economic credentials in the Labor Party and senior policy circles.

After the fall of the Whitlam government, in early 1976 Peter returned to his old department at the ANU as a faculty member. This was a research appointment, and it was to be the period of his greatest academic productivity. He embarked on various projects, mainly Indonesia-centred. The most important was his co-edited Oxford University Press volume, *The Indonesian Economy During the Soeharto Era* (1981), with his close colleague Anne Booth, the first major academic study of the economy under Soeharto in English. He also wrote several Surveys for *The Bulletin*, while for the World Bank Jakarta office he completed a major study on industrial licensing and regulation. This was one volume of a controversial but influential five-volume Bank study that never formally saw the light of day, but which was widely read at the time and anticipated the sweeping (and successful) economic policy reforms that were introduced during the 1980s. On campus, Peter re-energised Indonesian studies, with many collaborative research, teaching and public outreach activities, including with Jamie Mackie, who joined the faculty in 1978. In addition he began to publish actively on various aspects of national and global affairs in the quality national press.

At the end of the decade, Heinz Arndt retired and Peter took over and formalised what has been known ever since as the Indonesia Project. Assisted by Heinz and Jamie, he secured funding from the then Department of Foreign Affairs for a range of public affairs activities. Among these was the inaugural 'Indonesia Update' in 1983, considered by many to be a one-off event, but which became a major campus activity and is widely viewed as the most important public event of its kind outside Indonesia. Forty years later the event is in vigorous good health, featuring broad political and economic updates to attract a general audience, and various topical thematic issues of the day. Since 1988 a proceedings volume has been published annually. The update format has since been emulated by several other country-centred groups at the ANU.

It appeared at the time that this was to be Peter's life-long professional calling. However, events took a different course. With Heinz's departure departmental research interests began to change. Also, at that time the dynamic Helen Hughes was appointed to head the ANU's then Development Studies Centre, and Peter was attracted to Helen's mix of academic research and very active public policy engagement. They were part of a team that wrote the influential 1984 Jackson Review of Australian development assistance, which argued for a more analytical focus in the program. In some respects Peter was becoming somewhat less attracted to the quiet scholarly life of ANU's Coombs Building. In fact this was a very difficult period for him, both personally and professionally. Partly in response, he developed an interest in Buddhist philosophy and thinking which remained a part of his life.

Shortly thereafter Peter was offered the position of Deputy Director General of the then Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB, now DFAT Aid). This was a surprise for some of his friends. He had occasionally been a trenchant critic of the bureaucracy, but he approached his new work with great enthusiasm. He welcomed the opportunity to broaden his geographic interests, to learn more about the inner workings of the Canberra bureaucracy, and to inject greater analytical expertise into the work of the aid program. As with all his major assignments, he became a tireless public proselytizer for the work, in the process lifting the quality and public profile of development

assistance issues in Australia. In all, Peter was to spend a decade working for the agency, based in Canberra but with extensive international travel.

Sandwiched between two five-year stints was another appointment which was to become a central preoccupation of Peter's last three decades: from 1992 to 1996 he was appointed an executive director of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), representing Australia and seven other (mainly Pacific Island) countries. He was broadly familiar with the work of international development agencies, including occasional consultancies, but this opened up a new world for him, especially but not only for the developing countries he represented, and it was one that he greatly enjoyed.

Peter and the ADB were natural bedfellows. He liked the way the ADB operates and what it stands for: disbursing funds for 'practical development', building things, especially infrastructure (in some respects a case of his PhD revisited), its regional engagement, and its low-key modus operandi. In fact, he often contrasted the ADB operating style with that of the Washington-based institutions, which in his view tended to 'lecture' developing countries too much.

The affection was evidently mutual. In 2003 Peter was invited to take up the position of Dean (equivalent in rank to vice president) of the Tokyo-based ADB Institute, an institution designed to undertake longer-term teaching and research. He held this position, almost always occupied before and subsequently by a senior Japanese academic or Ministry of Finance official, for four years. His time in Tokyo reinforced his appreciation of Japan and its worldview, in particular its engagement with developing Asian countries. Although he travelled extensively and lived in several countries, Indonesia and Japan were the two countries with which he developed the strongest affinity.

His association with the ADB continued beyond his Tokyo term. On several occasions he was asked to lead the bank's replenishment of its concessional window, the Asian Development Fund. This was followed by an invitation to author the bank's official 50-year history, published as *Banking on the Future of Asia and the Pacific* (2017). He spent the better part of two years living in Manila, working very closely with then President Nakao, who on Peter's passing issued the following statement:

'I am so shocked and saddened by the sudden news that my friend Peter McCawley passed away. He made great contribution to the ADB ... How many hours did I spend with him to plan, prepare and compile this ADB history book of more than 500 pages. ... I really appreciate his writing talent and relentless efforts to make the book informative, insightful and interesting.'

In 'retirement' the wheel turned full circle back to Indonesia for Peter, with two research and publishing assignments. Both were by-products of the ADB history volume. By this time, he had returned as a visiting fellow (which had commenced earlier, in 2007) at his old ANU department, and when in Canberra he was an active participant in departmental and Indonesia Project activities.

The first project was a history of 50 years of the ADB in Indonesia. The second, which fully absorbed Peter for the best part of two years, was the official history of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Jakarta, published as *50 Years of CSIS: Ideas and Policy in Indonesia* (2021). The invitation

came from a friend and former student, the renowned Indonesian economist and former minister Mari Pangestu. Peter was familiar with the work of the CSIS but had never been particularly close to it. Here therefore was an opportunity to look inside and engage with many of its staff. He particularly enjoyed the interaction with some of its colourful, larger-than-life founders, Jusuf Wanandi and Harry Tjan. The volume gave voice to one of the most important and influential Indonesian think tanks.

So much for Peter's distinguished and varied professional life. It is best viewed through the prism of his background and personality. The only child of his fine parents Leo and Rena, he grew up in a comfortable if modest household in which politics and thinking about the state of the world featured prominently. Imbued with this spirit, Peter developed a strong social conscience and concern for the underdog. To quote from his memoir: 'I was worried by the huge gaps between rich and poor countries. They seemed to me then — as they still seem to me now — a key global issue.' This explains his life-long attachment to the Labor Party (warts and all, as he was the first to admit) and arguably, as a product of the Vietnam War protest generation, his decision to work on neighbouring Southeast Asian economies.

Outside his family and wide circle of friends, he read voraciously and enjoyed nothing more than a vigorous exchange of views over a simple but spicy meal, often accompanied by an equally robust shiraz. Discussions with Peter weren't always for the faint-hearted, but they were always stimulating, mostly instructive and never malicious (and if they ever got really heated, there would often be a friendly phone call the next day). In fact, he never hesitated to take forthright positions on controversial issues that he thought were being misunderstood. For example, he was annoyed when critics of Soeharto-era human rights abuses and Indonesia's troubled intervention in East Timor failed to recognise the dramatic improvements in Indonesian living standards over this period. More recently, he thought that critics of the fossil fuel industry overlooked developing Asia's acute 'energy poverty'.

Peter's reading interests were eclectic. Top of the list were Shakespeare (he read the entire works, and he could do a decent theatrical rendition of some of the plays, as son Patrick brilliantly reminded us at the funeral) and international development issues. On a daily basis he would immerse himself in international newspapers and in more recent years websites, and had little time left for TV and radio. Perhaps his favourite source was the Indonesian daily *Kompas*. As he had more time in later years, he would regularly distribute links of what he considered important pieces to a wide circle of friends, often with a pithy commentary. In fact, on occasion his comments would evoke a response from one of his extended circle of 'frenemies', which not infrequently would trigger vigorous, sometimes colourful 'debates' that might continue for days or even weeks. And then there was Wikipedia, which Peter took to with gusto. He especially enjoyed writing the entries for prominent Indonesians whom he felt had not received the international attention they deserved.

While Peter was 'Australian' in character and personality in most respects, his daughter Rachel reminded us at the funeral that there was one significant exception — a total lack of interest in sport! She also noted that there was one exception, the Olympic marathon, and his interest in this endeavour told us



quite a bit about Peter and his world view: the marathon is held only once every four years (so it is not too much of a distraction from other more important interests), the event symbolises one dimension of the human spirit and struggle, and the winner is invariably from a poor African country.

Peter genuinely enjoyed the simple things in life. If he had a spare day in Jakarta he might be found wandering around its iconic port, Tanjung Priok, followed by a simple street meal in Glodok, the city's China town, where his open disposition and fluency in Bahasa Indonesia often attracted a local crowd. With friends he enjoyed vacations simply travelling around Java, observing the daily rhythm of life. Modern high-rise Asia had its place, but he worried that visitors who mainly frequent its fancy hotels and malls were getting a distorted picture of reality. In fact, as Ian Anderson has reminded us, visitors to the modern ADB facilities who arrived along Manila's main thoroughfare EDSA, ringed by high-rise buildings, would sometimes be taken by Peter on a tour of the nearby Pasig River to see life for the majority of Filipinos.

That is how his friends will remember him, as somebody who lived a full and generous life, who tried hard to make a difference, and was invariably available to help people and causes he felt were deserving of assistance.

— Hal Hill

For advice and comments in preparing this obituary, I thank Peter's family as well as colleagues Anne Booth, Howard Dick, Terry Hull, Sisira Jayasuriya, and Chris Manning.

## Items of note

### *Astronomers detect galaxy wrapped in cosmic 'ribbon'*

International astronomers using a radio telescope at the CSIRO's Murchison Radio Astronomy Observatory in Western Australia have revealed a galaxy wrapped in a cosmic 'ribbon'.

The discovery of a galaxy called NGC 4632, 56 million light years from Earth, was reported on 13 September in the *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*.

The research was led by Dr Nathan Deg and Dr Kristine Spekkens from Queen's University, Canada. The article was jointly authored by Dr Deg and the CSIRO's Professor Bärbel Koribalski,

NGC 4632 has been identified as a potential polar ring galaxy, which are among the most spectacular and mysterious types of galaxy in the Universe. The galaxy features a ring of gas that can only be seen at radio wavelengths. The ring is orbiting the galaxy at right angles to its spiral disk, like a parcel wrapped in a ribbon of cosmic gas, dust and stars.

'The findings suggest that one to three per cent of nearby galaxies may have gaseous polar rings, which is much higher than suggested by optical telescopes.

Polar ring galaxies might be more common than previously thought,' Dr Deg said.

'While this is not the first time astronomers have observed polar ring galaxies, NGC 4632 is the first observed with ASKAP and there may be many more to come.'

Professor Koribalski anticipated that in coming years ASKAP would reveal more than 200,000 hydrogen-rich galaxies, among them many with unusual features like those with polar rings.

## *More research expected to control bee pest*

Investment and effort into researching the varroa mite, the destructive parasite of honey bees, is expected to increase now that Australia has abandoned efforts to eradicate the imported pest and opted for management instead.

The mite infects honey bee colonies, feeding on pupae and the 'fat body' of adult bees — the equivalent of the insect's liver. They spread viruses, impair the bees' ability to fly and communicate, and make them more susceptible to pesticides, eventually causing a colony to collapse if left unmanaged.

Strict biosecurity measures kept Australia free of varroa mites until mid-2022, when the pest was detected on the central and northern coasts of NSW. Despite restrictions on movements and the culling of infected hives, the pest continued to spread to the point where increased detections over a greater area made eradication technically unfeasible.

The presence of the mite brings economic consequences for beekeepers, for agriculture generally and, ultimately, for consumers. Australian agriculture relies heavily on pollination by European honey bees, the bulk of which are thought to be feral. Because they are not managed by beekeepers, they won't receive anti-mite management, so will most likely disappear. Beekeeping and plant pollination costs can be expected to increase, potentially flowing on to shoppers.

Professor Sasha Mikheyev of the ANU's Research School of Biology told the ABC that with eradication off the table, the focus would turn to what could be done to minimise the pest's impact.

'We are at the flattening of the varroa curve and we have to get going to actually be prepared,' he told the broadcaster.

Professor Mikheyev said, in countries where the parasite had spread, wild bees had eventually developed a natural resistance. This genetic change could be used to create varroa-resistant bees.

'We actually have a chance to get a lot of information about our feral bees pre-varroa to understand how they change in response to varroa,' Professor Mikheyev said. 'We can actually take advantage of that natural experiment, which will take place out in the bush, and try to use that as a longer-term solution.'

## *\$128m funding boost for STEM courses*

The Federal Government has allocated \$128.5 million over four years to fund 4,000 extra Commonwealth-supported university places targeted at graduates in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) courses.

The additional places are designed to attract more students to train in engineering, mathematics, chemistry and physics and meet the needs of the AUKUS submarine program. Universities have been invited to apply for the additional places.

Of the 4,000 additional places, 800 will go to South Australian universities as part of the Cooperation Agreement to support the construction of the submarines in Adelaide.

This will increase the STEM workforce supply and develop the advanced technical skills needed to work on nation-changing projects.

‘We need more young Australians studying STEM subjects and developing the skills we need for the AUKUS program,’ the Minister for Education, Jason Clare, said when announcing the move on 1 September.

‘These additional university places will give more Australians a crack at a career in STEM.’

## *Demand for educated workforce continues*

Demand for university-educated workers across the nation’s economy continues to grow, according to figures contained in Jobs and Skills Australia’s September Labour Market Update.

More than 90 per cent of employment growth in the year to May 2023 was in occupations that require a post-school qualification, while the fastest-growing occupations all need a university degree.

The labour market update confirmed the importance of both the higher education and vocational education and training systems to providing a skilled workforce, Universities Australia’s Chief Executive, Catriona Jackson, said.

‘Nine out of 10 new jobs require a post-school qualification, while more than half of these need a university degree,’ she said.

‘Missing these targets will hit Australia socially, technologically and economically. Failing to educate enough university-trained workers will cost the economy \$7 billion by 2026.

‘This is why we need to facilitate greater engagement between universities and VET providers to ensure we can fulfil our shared role in delivering the skilled workers the nation needs.’

Substantial and sustainable government investment and stable policy settings were necessary to bring this about, she said. That, with the Australian Universities Accord, would be the means for government to give education providers the environment needed ‘to continue performing their vital functions for the benefit of all Australians’.

## Bookshelf

### *Southern Limestones under Western Eyes* *The Modern World Evolving in Southern Australia*

By Brian McGowran

ISBN (print): 9781760465872

ISBN (online): 9781760465889

September 2023, ANU Press

DOI: <http://doi.org/10.22459/SLWE.2023>

‘Natural philosophy’ — investigating what the earth and universe are made of and how things work — was a major preoccupation of the European Enlightenment in the 17th century, but it was another century for the parallel subject, ‘natural history’, to glimpse how the Earth, its geography and its richly diverse life came to be. Later, geology and biology became intertwined as biogeohistory, an ever-changing environmental theatre hosting an ever-changing evolutionary play.

In *Southern Limestones under Western Eyes*, Brian McGowran recounts the history of biogeohistory itself: the ever-changing perceptions of rocks, fossils and landscapes, from the late 1600s to the present. McGowran’s focus is southern Australia, the north shore of the dying Australo-Antarctic Gulf, in an era bracketed by the extinction of dinosaurs and the emergence of humans.

### *Resisting Indonesia’s Culture of Impunity* *Aceh’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission*

Edited by Jess Melvin, Sri Lestari, Wahyuningroem and Annie Pohlman

ISBN (print): 9781760465834

ISBN (online): 9781760465841

August 2023. ANU Press

DOI: <http://doi.org/10.22459/RICI.2023>

This book examines the role of Indonesia’s first truth and reconciliation commission — the Aceh Truth and Reconciliation Commission, or KKR Aceh — in investigating and redressing the human rights violations committed during three decades of separatist conflict (1976–2005) in the province of Aceh. KKR Aceh was founded in late 2016 under the 2005 peace deal between the Indonesian government and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM). It has since faced many challenges. The editors of this volume set out to amplify the role of civil society actors, including non-government organisations and other humanitarian groups, in the KKR Aceh and in transitional justice in Indonesia. Each chapter has been written by a team of authors, predominantly commissioners and KKR Aceh staff, members of key civil society organisations, and academics. The editors scrutinise the KKR Aceh from the inside and analyse the establishment and operation of what is perhaps the only genuine state-sponsored attempt to implement transitional justice in Indonesia today.

## *Subjects and Aliens*

*Histories of Nationality, Law and Belonging in Australia and New Zealand*

Edited by Kate Bagnall and Peter Prince

ISBN (print): 9781760465858

ISBN (online): 9781760465865

August 2023. ANU Press

DOI: <http://doi.org/10.22459/SA.2023>

*Subjects and Aliens* confronts the history of belonging in Australia and New Zealand, countries in which race has often been more important than the law in determining who is considered ‘one of us’. Each chapter highlights the experiences of people who negotiated laws and policies relating to nationality and citizenship rights in 20th-century Australasia, including Chinese Australians enlisting during the First World War, Dalmatian gum-diggers turned farmers in New Zealand, Indians in 1920s Australia arguing for their citizenship rights, and Australian women who lost their nationality after marrying non-British subjects.

The book also considers how the legal belonging, and accompanying rights and protections of First Nations people has been denied, despite the High Court of Australia’s assertion in the landmark *Love & Thoms* case of 2020 that Aboriginal people have never been considered ‘aliens’ or ‘foreigners’ since 1788. This volume shows how people who legally belonged were denied rights and protections as citizens through the actions of those who created, administered and interpreted the law across the 20th century, and how the legal ramifications of those actions can still be felt today.

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## *Administration*

### **Arrangements for ANUEF room bookings**

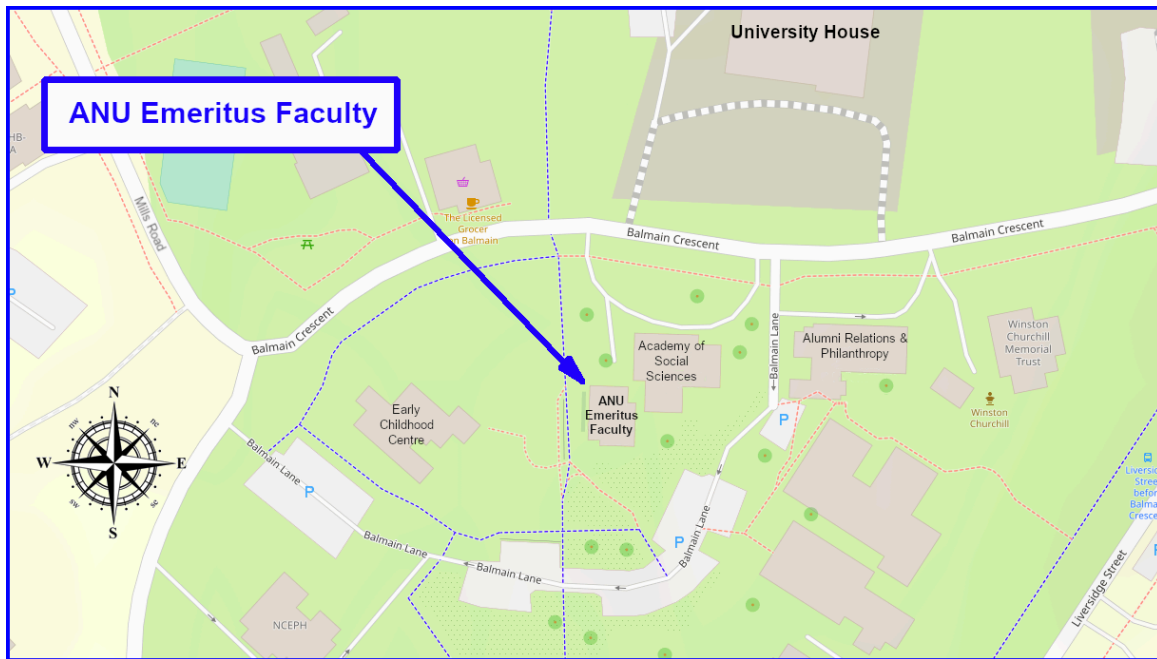
Requests to book the Molony Room should be addressed to the Secretary of the ANU Emeritus Faculty, Jan O’Connor, at [jantancess@gmail.com](mailto:jantancess@gmail.com) or 6247 3341.

### **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 22 Balmain Crescent (the Acton Early Childhood Centre) and 26 Balmain Crescent (the Academy of the Social Sciences). 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>



## *Editorial*

**Editor:** Peter Fuller  
**Mobile:** 0416-02.12.06  
**Email:** [wordsnpix@netspeed.com.au](mailto:wordsnpix@netspeed.com.au)

**Assistant Editor:** Kevin Windle  
**Email:** [Kevin.Windle@anu.edu.au](mailto:Kevin.Windle@anu.edu.au)

**Postal Address:**  
ANU Emeritus Faculty, PO Box 6050,  
O'Connor ACT 2602  
**Web:** [emeritus.anu.edu.au](http://emeritus.anu.edu.au)  
**Meetings venue:** ANUEF Office,  
Molony Room, ANU,  
24 Balmain Crescent,  
Acton, ACT 2600

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