

ANU Emeritus Faculty

Chair's Report to the 2016 Annual General Meeting

Introduction

The ANU Emeritus Faculty can report that it has had another full and eventful year. As in years past, we have endeavoured to 1) contribute to the intellectual and cultural life of the University, 2) enhance the reputation of the University and its values and, in particular, 3) foster collegiality among our members. A strong emphasis on collegiality is what distinguishes our association and informs our activities. I can report that our membership has continued to increase. We are now a Faculty of over 250 members. Appropriately, we have continued to diversify our activities to meet the interests of our varied membership.

Collegiate Lunches

Adrian Gibbs was responsible for organizing collegiate lunches around a particular topic. He was ably assisted by Craig Reynolds and Fyfe Bygrave. Together they did an excellent job in creating an interesting mix of topics and speakers. A list of the topics of these lunches is as follows:

March 2: Prame Chopra and Larry Saha, "Climate Change: what do we know and why is it so contentious?"

April 6: Ken Taylor, "Preparing a World Heritage nomination for the Spice (Banda) Islands."

May 4: Fergus Thomson, "Queen's English v Vox Populi."

June 1: Craig Reynolds, "A Thai Policeman and his Magical World."

August 3: Professor Ken George, "Indonesian art and artists."

September 7: Dr Mark O'Connor, "Why Shakespeare should be translated and staged in modern English."

November 2: Professor Brian Schmidt, "The State of the Universe."

December 7: Fyfe Bygrave & Adrian Gibbs, "Celebration of the Nobel and Ignobel Prizes of 2016."

Monthly Lecture Series

Adrian Gibbs and Craig Reynolds organized our monthly lecture series. The series featured a diverse group of colleagues who were able to present exciting aspects of their research, confirming what we all know that research at the ANU is both remarkable and various.

February 17: Dr Michael Walsh, "Health implications of regaining or retaining Australian Languages."

March 16: Professor Kurt Lambeck, "Deformations of the Earth: from hours to eons: with particular focus on the interactions between ice sheets, oceans and the solid Earth."

April 20: Professor Robert Cribb, "The cultural history of the orang-utan."

May 17: Professor John Warhurst, "Current Australian Federal Politics."

August 17: Dr Robert Ward, "Gravitational Waves: The new astronomy."

September 21: Professor Ryszard Maleska, "Epigenetics and bees."

October 19: Dr John Hart, "Political Science, Prediction and the U.S. Presidential Election."

November 16: Professor Li Narangoa, "Chinggis Khan and Women."

University House Dinner

Last year we revived a previous tradition of holding a dinner for members of University House and so following this revival, we held another University House 'Winter' dinner on the 24th of June. We had an excellent turnout and will continue this tradition next year.

ANUEF Annual Lecture

Our Annual Emeritus Faculty Lecture was given at the Sir Roland Wilson Lecture Theatre on the 28th of July by Professor Geoffrey Crossick. Professor Crossick is Distinguished Professor of the Humanities in the School of Advanced Study of the University of London. He was Chief Executive of the Arts and Humanities Research Board from 2002–05, Warden of Goldsmiths College from 2005–10 and Vice-Chancellor of the University of London from 2010-12. He is Director of the Arts and Humanities Research Council's Cultural Value Project and author, with Patrycja Kaszynska, of the Report: Understanding the Value of Arts & Culture. In his lecture entitled 'Understanding the Value of Arts and Culture', Professor Crossick addressed the question: 'How should we understand the difference that arts and culture makes to individuals and to society?'

Symposium on Projects and Research of ANUEF Members:

Ian Keen organized our Projects Symposium on the 15th of June. This symposium is a rebranded version of our former "Research in Retirement Seminar" which we have now expanded to include members' projects, interests and activities as well as research. We had eight speakers on the day:

Eva Papp, "Lake George or Weereewa – An Unsurpassed Natural Archive"

Tony Eggleton, "The Green Cape Cannon Ball"

Julian Cribb, "Surviving the 21st Century"

Jenny Goldie, "Population and Adaptation"

James J. Fox, "On Rice Production and Brown Planthoppers: 30 Years of Policy Research in Indonesia"

Cobie Brinkman, "The First Primatology Text – Jean-Baptiste Audebert's "Histoire Naturelle des Singes et des Makis" and its Influence"

Colleen Grafton-Green, "Grand Opera at the School of Music"

J. Ferguson Thomson, "When you come to a fork in the road, take it"

Nights at the Opera

At the urging of Colleen Grafton-Green, we set out to do something new and different: to show all of the operas performed at the ANU School of Music between 1995 and 2004 that were filmed by the late Michael Grafton-Green and recently remastered to Blu-ray. Colleen made arrangements with the Wesley Music Centre to be able to use their facilities and excellent sound equipment. We called this series: "Nights at the Opera". Our first showing on the 8th of March was the 1995 production of Mozart's *Così fan tutte* featuring Jae-Woo Kim, Catherine Carby, Richard Anderson, Terry Den Dulk, and Christopher Steele. There was a fine evening turnout and Jae-Woo Kim came from Sydney for the screening.

The second show on the 26th of May was the 1996 ANU School of Music performance of Smetana's *The Bartered Bride* featuring Terry Den Dulk, Jae-Woo Kim and Vivien Munday, which is particularly memorable because it uses Canberra as its setting. Again we had a reasonable turnout for the performance.

Unfortunately, we have had to put further screenings of these operas at the Wesley Music Centre on hold pending advice on copyright issues from the University Legal Office.

Special Lectures

We held one special lecture this year on the 22nd of July. This was a book launch of *Don Luigi Sturzo: The Father of Social Democracy* by Professor John Molony. Fr Frank Brennan who is Professor of Law at the Australian Catholic University and Adjunct Professor at the ANU College of Law and National Centre for Indigenous Studies launched this book, with John Nethercote, Adjunct Professor at the Australian Catholic University as Master of Ceremonies.

Poets' Lunch

In keeping with a tradition begun by Giles Pickford, the Emeritus Faculty once again hosted the Poets' Lunch on the 2nd of December.

The Emeritus: The ANUEF e-magazine

Ian Mathews has continued to publish the *Emeritus* which is sent out to our membership. Eleven issues are published over the year. Vol. 7 No 1 appeared in February and Vol. 7 No 11 appeared in December this year. Copies of past editions of the *Emeritus* are available in the 'News' section of our web site at <http://www.anu.edu.au/emeritus/news.html>. This year Ian established a book review section in the *Emeritus*. Members are welcome to write reviews. A number of books are listed as available for review but others can be suggested.

Oral History Project

Peter Stewart has been in charge of our oral history project since 2008 and has recorded interviews with 38 members of our Faculty. All of these interviews are available at our website. They have been transferred to the University's Oral Archive and represent a considerable and invaluable portion of that historical archive. Peter has now decided to step down from these efforts and has given charge of the project to Fyfe Bygrave. Fyfe has been working closely

with Peter in this transition and has been supported by Nik Fominas who has provided the technical support on this project over many years. This year Fyfe has recorded interviews with 1) Prame Chopra and 2) Campbell MacKnight. Both of these interviews will be transferred to the University Archive and be available on our website in the coming weeks.

The John Molony History Prize

Each year the ANU Emeritus Faculty provides a \$500 'John Molony Prize' for 'the best PhD thesis, submitted in the School of History, as determined by a committee and informed by examiners' reports'. The prize for 2015 was shared between:

(1) Alessandro Antonello, "*The greening of Antarctica: environment, science and diplomacy, 1959 – 1980*" and (2) Laura Rademaker, "*Language and the mission: talking and translating on Groote Eylandt 1943-1973.*"

In previous years, we have paid for this prize from our current account. This year we transferred the necessary amount from our Education Fund to be able to underwrite this prize in perpetuity through the Endowment Fund.

East Coast Project

The East Coast Project has been a continuing research project connected with the Emeritus Faculty for many years. John Molony, the Chair and Initiator of this Project, has provided the following brief account of the work of the Project:

"The East Coast Project met each month in the Faculty premises. We maintained our principal interest in the pre-Cook period which led our research through to Dutch contact in 1606 and subsequent charting by them of almost all of the continent, including 1600 kilometres from Cape Leeuwin to Ceduna, as well as a southern section of Van Diemen's Land by Abel Tasman in 1642.

Throughout we continued our research on the Dieppe charts and have concluded that, although the east coast was charted, albeit roughly, in the early years of the 16th century we have not substantiated that with other contemporary evidence whether written or in the form of artefacts. We will continue to pursue our research into these matters."

The publication last month of John Molony's *Captain James Cook Claiming the Great South Land* is a small testimony to the large measure of collegiality among those members of the Emeritus Faculty who make up the East Coast Project.

ANU Press Summations Series

The ANU Press established a publication series intended to allow senior academics at the ANU and in particular Emeritus Faculty "to re-address their own work and present the best of this work with retrospective insight". The Press is eager to receive manuscripts that present collected works of long-standing (including previously published papers) by ANU academics. Anyone interested in preparing a manuscript can contact me (james.fox@anu.edu.au) for information.

The Garden and its Plinth and Molony Bust

This year we changed the plaque on the plinth of the Molony bust to acknowledge Ante Dabro who created the bust and donated it to the Emeritus Faculty. Again, we are thankful to Ante Dabro for his generosity. We have also embarked on the establishment of a new garden around the bust and in front of the Molony Building. Di Riddell and Verna Rosling have taken charge of overseeing this project which will be carried out for us by the University. Here we acknowledge the support of George Abraham of Campus Services, Gardens and Grounds.

Information Technology Services for the Emeritus Faculty

Nik Fominas has served the Emeritus Faculty unstintingly as its IT technical consultant and all-round problem solver for most of the Faculty's existence. He has now, however, decided to retire but continues to advise us on how we need to proceed into the future. As a result, Fyfe Bygrave has initiated discussions with the University's IT Services who have agreed to provide the support we will need. Various aspects of the agreement are still being discussed, as well as work on an eventual upgrade to our website. The prognosis is positive but the transition will require considerable work on our part in the coming year.

Emeritus Faculty New Members 2016

As of December 2016, the ANU Emeritus Faculty has 257 members. New members for this year are as follows:

Gino Moliterno	School of Art & Literature
Peter Jackson	Thai Studies, CAP
Maria Vidovic	JCSMR
Glenn Withers	Economics
Colin Groves	School of Archaeology & Anthropology
John Hart	Political Science
Suiwah Leung	Economics, Crawford School
Jonathon Unger	China Studies, CAP
Anita Chan	China Studies, CAP
Elizabeth Minchin	Classics
Robert Tyson	International Relations (Russia and the Middle East)
Hugh Tyndale-Biscoe	Zoology and CSIRO Wildlife
John Foster	Earth Sciences
Robert Miller	International Studies, Bell School

Deaths and Obituaries

The following colleagues have died during the year: Des Ball, Howard Bradbury, Jack Caldwell, Godfrey Linge, John Mulvaney, Igor de Rachewiltz and Soepomo Soerjohoedojo.

There is a lag in the appearance of obituaries, which are published in the *Emeritus* and then kept as a semi-official University archive. Obituaries for the following colleagues appeared in the *Emeritus* this year: Donald Anthony Low, Jack Caldwell, Douglas Henry Kelly, Soepomo Soerjohoedojo and Godfrey Linge. Other obituaries are in preparation.

Special Thanks

I want to thank and congratulate all the members of our Committee who have worked hard to make our activities possible and engaging: Jan O'Connor, Larry Saha, Adrian Gibbs, Fyfe Bygrave, Prame Chopra, Di Riddell, Verna Rosling, Craig Reynolds, Peter Scardoni, Brian Lees, and Judith Caton. In particular, I would like to thank Prame Chopra for repairing the plinth and redoing the plaque for the Molony bust; Adrian Gibbs and Craig Reynolds for their concerted efforts in arranging our lectures and luncheon discussions; Jan O'Connor for her able and diligent work as our Secretary; Peter Stewart for his superb contribution in establishing and conducting the Oral History Project, Fyfe Bygrave for taking over the Oral History Project, Nik Fominas for his continuing work in keeping us technologically functioning; Ian Mathews for his work on the *Emeritus*; Di Riddell for keeping our membership records intact and up-to-date; and Michael Cardew-Hall for his understanding and continuing strong support of the Emeritus Faculty.

James J. Fox
ANUEF Chair
11 December 2016