

ARTS research news & events

Number 2, Autumn 2003

*This newsletter is produced by the Faculty of Arts at the University of Wollongong
Enquiries should be addressed to June Aspley email: june@uow.edu.au*

Welcome to Professor John Patterson – Acting Dean of Faculty of Arts

A warm welcome is extended to Professor John Patterson who joins the Faculty as our Acting Dean while the search goes on for a new Dean.

At an informal lunchtime meeting with Faculty staff on Wednesday 16th April, John advised he was looking forward to the role of Acting Dean and to working with the Faculty to ensure we continue to move forward with our various strategies and objectives for teaching and research. John will be in the Faculty on Thursday and Fridays and appointments can be made via Lynell Ratcliffe. The advertisement for the Arts Dean position was placed in the *Australian* on 16th April.

We wish John best wishes during his time with Arts and trust that the additional workload will not keep him away from too many Body Pump classes.

Congratulations to successful grant recipients

The Faculty of Arts and The Institute of Social Change & Critical Inquiry (ISCCI) extends congratulations to the following people who were successful in their bids for various grant funding. These include:

Associate Professor **Andrew Wells** (CAPSTRANS), ARC Discovery Grant of \$185,000 for his project “Selling their Souls: Between bound and free labour – imperial capital and the late colonial state in Asia and Australia”;

Associate Professor **Brian Martin**, ARC Discovery Grant of \$90,000 for his project “Theory and action for opposing political repression”;

Professor **John Bern**, NHMRC/UoW Near Miss Grant of \$15,000 for the project “Social, cultural and organizational factors in the provision of primary health services to remote Aborigines”.

The following Faculty staff were successful in their bids for Strategic Research Development Grants (SRDG), or “Start Up grants”:

Dr **Fiona Borthwick**, \$5,500 for her project “Accessing the Social: The Senses and Social Theory”;

Dr **David Mercer**, \$7,509 for the project “Authority and Hybrid-Expertise in EMF/RF Litigation and Regulation”;

Dr **Brian Yecies**, \$10,000 for his project “Prohibiting Policies: Korean Sound Cinema Under Japanese Rule, 1931-1935”.

Congratulations also to the following people who gained Strategic Research Development Grants, “New Researcher Grants” for 2003:

Questions regarding research matters in the Faculty of Arts should be addressed to:
Associate Professor Adrian Vickers, Associate Dean (Research & Graduate Studies) and/or
Associate Professor Susan Dodds, Acting Director, Institute of Social Change & Critical Inquiry and/or
Robyn Foster, Faculty of Arts Postgraduate Support Officer or
June Aspley, Faculty Research Project Officer

Dr **Charles Hawksley**, \$2,500 for his project “PNG – Australia relations under the new Somare government”;

Dr **George Matheson**, \$2,365 for his project “Saturday newspapers on work and family life”;

Dr **Tim Scrase**, \$2,490 for his project “Consuming Exotica: The Marketing of Asian Artisanal Crafts in Australia”;

Dr **Brian Yecies**, \$2,497 for the project “The Coming of Sound to the Australian Cinema, 1927-1932”.

Congratulations also to Associate Professors **Paul Sharrad & John McQuilton**, and to Dr **Catriona Elder** who were advised recently of their success in obtaining grant funding from the ARC and DEST Linkage-International Research Awards to the value of \$45,000. Paul, John and Catriona will be working with Professor K. Gundapuneni, Professor C. Indra, and Dr P. G. Reddy on the project: *Connections/Disconnections: Australia-India comparative studies*

DEST Annual Publication Collection

The deadline for the Department of Education Science and Training (DEST) Collection of 2002 publications was 17th April 2003 and all publications submitted to June Aspley have been processed and originals returned to the author.

In 2002 Faculty produced the following publications:

- 1 x A1 (authored research book)
- 1 x A2 (authored book other)
- 1 x A3 (edited book)
- 1 x A4 (revision/new edition)
- 21 x B (book chapter)
- 22 x C1 (article in scholarly refereed journal)
- 1 x C2 (other contribution to a refereed journal)
- 13 x C3 (non-refereed articles)

- 14 x C4 (letter or note, includes book reviews)
 - 3 x E1 (full written conference paper – refereed proceedings)
 - 1 x E2 (full written paper – non-refereed proceedings)
 - 1 x E3 (extract of conference paper)
 - 1 x E4 (edited volume of conference proceedings)
 - 1 x K4 (general report – industry)
 - 4 x K5 (general report – government)
- A full list of 2002 publications will be available via the ISCCI website in the near future.

News from the Centre for Canadian-Australian Studies



Gerry Turcotte has just been awarded one the prestigious Canada Council Public Diplomacy Grants of \$11,000 to produce the book, *Border Crossings*, based on his Photographic Installation at the Wollongong City Gallery last year. The publisher, Brandl & Schlesinger, will release the volume at the end of the year.

Five Islands Press have also accepted his new collection of poetry, *hauntings*, for publication and possible release in June of this year.

The University of Wollongong Press will shortly be publishing a new book by Margaret Atwood, based on her talk at the Wollongong City Gallery, produced by the Centre for Canadian-Australian Studies.

The Centre was one of only two groups on campus to be awarded the full funding of \$6000 from the University Internationalisation Committee for the Performing the Nation Research project scheduled for late June, a cross-institutional initiative between the University of British Columbia, University of Western Ontario and University of Wollongong.

The Centre has also been successful in its bid to host a Canadian Studies Academic Fellow, awarded by the International Council for Canadian Studies. Dr Debra Dudek, from the University of Manitoba, will be a Visiting Teaching/Research Fellow in the English Studies Program. Her salary, living expenses, and travel are paid for by the Department of Foreign Affairs. This is a very prestigious program, and the CCAS is the first Australian Institution to win one of these awards, which are bid for against a world wide field. The value of the award is in the order of \$20,000 Canadian. This, coupled with the Youth International Internship Program award, which has funded Marly Ohlsson's work here with the Centre (valued at over \$15,000), means that the Centre has a strong track record now of attracting overseas interest from both young and established scholars.



Congratulations to two of our Postgraduates

Congratulations are extended to **Wendy Pearson**, a PhD candidate with the English program, who has recently been awarded the Science Fiction Research Association (SFRA) Graduate Essay Prize for her paper "*Homotopia? Or, What's Behind a Prefix?*" (voted best paper by a graduate student presented at the SFRA annual conference in 2002).

Congratulations also to **Robyn Morris**, PhD candidate with English who, in December 2002, was awarded a Association for Canadian Studies in Australia and New Zealand (ACSANZ) Travel Award to the value of \$2800 towards her travel to Canada in June 2003.

The ACSANZ offers up to three grants each year for post-graduate students wishing to undertake a short research trip to Canada. An amount up to \$2800 Australian is available for each grant for travel to and within Canada and for sustenance en route.

Forthcoming Seminars:



During the next few weeks or so a number of seminars are being held across the Faculty. These include:

2nd May (10.30 am Rm 19.2043): History & Politics seminar with Assoc. Prof. **Andrew Wells** (CAPSTRANS) presenting his paper: "Bonded Labour at the periphery: an analysis of extremities of empire"

8th May (4.30 pm Rm 19.1003) The second seminar of the 2003 ISCCI Seminar Series will be held on Thursday 8th May at 4.30 pm in Room 19.1003 when **Professor Brij Lal**, Professor of Pacific and Asian Studies at ANU will present his paper entitled 'Heartbreak Islands: Reflections on Fiji in Transition.'

Fiji is a paradox and a pity. A paradox because this island nation endowed with wonderful natural resources, a talented and multi-ethnic population with an enviable literacy rate, a sophisticated (but now crumbling) infrastructure is tragically prone to self-inflicted wounds with crippling consequences. One for a country is bad enough, but three in thirteen years staggers the imagination. And a pity because there is no resolution in sight of the country's deep-seated problems as its leaders dither and the country drifts divided. The battle lines are clearly drawn in a deadly zero-sum game in which the nationalists threaten violent retribution if their agenda for

political control is marginalised in mainstream political discourse. Compounding Fiji's problem is a marked lack of political will to exorcise the country of the demons that terrorise its soul.

Professor Brij V. Lal, Head of Pacific and Asian History at the Australian National University, is widely considered the world's foremost historian of Fiji history and politics. He is an architect of Fiji's 1997 multiracial constitution. Recently he was awarded a Centenary Medal by the Governor General of Australia for his distinguished service to Australian society through his scholarship in the Humanities and Pacific Islands History.

ALL WELCOME

14th May (6pm): Faculty of Arts Inaugural Public Seminar “The Life & Legend of Ned Kelly”

Associate Professor **John McQuilton** will



present his long-standing research interest involving the life and legend of the Australian bush-ranger, Ned Kelly.

The latest film version of the story of Ned Kelly opened to decidedly mixed reviews, and letters to the editor, after its release in Australian cinemas. Some of the critics were outraged by the treatment of the Kelly story. There were allegations of ‘Americanisation’, notions that a young and rising Australian star had somehow betrayed his nation’s history and the usual laments from some that yet again Kelly was portrayed in an heroic light. The response to the film reflects one simple and curious fact: Ned Kelly has always provoked vigorous debate in Australian society. Was he a man more sinned against than sinning? Was he simply a brutal, murderous thug? And why

do Australians keep returning to the life and legend of a man who was hanged for murder in 1880?

This public seminar will be the first of a series of public seminars planned by the Faculty of Arts. We will be advertising the seminar extensively but we do hope that a number of our staff and postgraduate students will support this initiative by attending the seminar. Our thanks are extended to John McQuilton, who has very kindly offered to present the first in our series of public seminars.

ALL WELCOME

16th May: Identity & Cultural Difference Research Group host **Virginia Keft-Kennedy** and her paper “Good Vibrations: sex, ‘race’ and the body in 19th Century representations of belly dancing”.

16th May (10.30 am): History & Politics present **Damien Cahill** with his paper “The Radical Neo-liberal Movement in Australia”.

23rd May (10.30 am): History & Politics present **Alastair Davidson** (from Swinburne presenting visiting with CAPSTRANS) and his paper: “What has gone wrong with the Australian people?”.

23rd May (12.30 am): ICD/CCAS host **Professor Daniel Drache** (Professor of Political Science and Director, Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies, York University, Toronto) with his presentation: “Borders Permeable and Impermeable: Canada’s Immediate North American Dilemma”.

27th May (7pm) the Centre for Canadian-Australian Studies will be hosting an **Indigenous Literatures Night** at the Aboriginal Centre in Wollongong.

30th May: Identity & Cultural Difference welcome a paper from **Henri JeanJean** – title yet to be advised.



Publication 2003

Congratulations are extended to **Charles Hawksley** who, with co-editors Robyn Iredale and Stephen Castles, has just had published by Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd., the book “Migration in the Asia Pacific: Population, Settlement and Citizenship Issues”.

The book examines the overall trends and labour patterns of migrants, their relationship with the state, and the impacts they have on the societies in which they work and sometimes settle. The book adopts a multidisciplinary perspective which encompasses economics, history, politics, geography, and sociology, and presents a unique body of new empirical research that forms the basis of many of the chapters therein.

Research news items

Should you have any item of news relating to your research (i.e. forthcoming conference/seminar events and/or papers; recently published materials; invited visiting speakers etc.) please contact June (june@uow.edu.au or Ext 5581/4082) and your news item can be included in forthcoming editions of this Newsletter.

Competition for Newsletter name & logo

The Arts Research & Events newsletter needs a catchy name (and perhaps a logo?).

If you can think of a catch title for this newsletter (but please no expletives!!) please send your suggestion to June (email: june@uow.edu.au) - you could win a bottle of wine for your efforts as well as having the honour of your name being synonymous with research in the Arts Faculty for many years to come ...

Time is running out for this competition – June would like the Newsletter to have a name by Issue No.3. June does have a personal preference for the name ‘*Sisyphus*’ so if no suggestions for a Newsletter name are received by Friday, 16th May the name “Sisyphus” will go ahead. It must be noted that June can take no claim on the prize for this naming – Sisyphus was used quite a number of years ago for the STS postgraduate student newsletter. However the name seems so appropriate, June would like to see the name given another lease of life.

Distribution of newsletter:

The Arts Research newsletter is photocopied and distributed to all staff and postgraduate students in the Faculty of Arts. It is also available via the Arts and ISCCI website.