

Mid-February - March- early-April - 2008 News, SSS

Message from the Head of School

Dear colleagues,

I'd like to thank you all for the welcome you have given me as new Head of School. Ally left the School in a very strong position in human terms as well as financially, so I am endeavouring to follow in his footsteps of good management and care for the School.

This year will see a great deal of change. Internally, there are a number of new appointments, and a few more to come. I warmly welcome all the new students, the details of who they are is below. Also, this is the last newsletter that Sonya will be producing. She is resigning to join her family in Queensland. The School will be having a function to thank and farewell Sonya shortly, but in the meantime – thanks Sonya!

Externally, as part of the College of Arts and Social Sciences, the School is waiting to see what changes the two new appointments at the top will bring. We certainly welcome the appointments of Dr Toni Makkai as Dean of the College, and of Professor Joan Beaumont as Director of the Faculty of Arts. (Please note the new terminology – I think we will need to specify who we mean rather carefully for the next few months.) Watch this space...

John Warhurst Retires

The new academic year began on a sad note when, on February 29th, the School of Social Sciences marked the retirement of John Warhurst, Professor of Political Science since 1993. As well as the day on which John formally retired, it was also his birthday which, being a leap-year meant that John had reached the ripe old age of fifteen.

John Hart, the Convenor of Political Science, said that John Warhurst had been a wonderful colleague who had given so much not only to Political Science at ANU but also to the wider world beyond the University. "It was a record none of us could match," he said.

As the author or editor of seven books and countless articles during his time in the Department of Political Science, John's research output was prodigious. It was combined with a strong commitment to practical politics as well through the leading role that John had taken in the Australian Republican Movement – serving a two-year term as National Chair of the ARM – and in Catholic Social Justice where John has made, and continues to make an immense contribution.

In his remarks, John Hart also noted that John Warhurst was that rare breed of academic who combines a first-rate research output with being a widely respected and much appreciated teacher. He drew attention to the phenomenal range of courses that John Warhurst has taught in the field of Australian politics including innovative courses on lobbying in Australia and on the relationship between religion and politics in Australia. John's contribution to the teaching program here, said John Hart, "had given our students an opportunity to study aspects of Australian politics that they wouldn't have had anywhere in the country."

John Hart also talked about John's many contributions to the administration of the University but jokingly singled out as his most significant the decision in 1995 when Head of Department of Political Science to say 'no' to a former Vice-Chancellor who was trying to encourage the Political Science program to develop a staff exchange scheme with a university in Eritrea.

On a personal note, John Hart thanked John Warhurst for his friendship, collegiality and the hospitality that John and Joan Warhurst gave generously and enthusiastically. He said that he and his colleagues owed a great deal to John and that, through his writings and teaching and outside activities, he had put the Department of Political Science on the map and given it a high public profile. He concluded his remarks by suggesting that fifteen was too young an age to retire and that John Warhurst might want to reconsider.

For the record, Professor Warhurst declined to do so.

Please see attached photos.

Welcome to our New PhD Students

A gargantuan welcome to our new PhD Students that have started. They are:–

McAndrew Chua	History	Supervisor:	Ann Curthoys
Dan Gerritson	Pol Sci	Supervisor:	John Minns
Michael Leininger-Ogawa	Pol Sci	Supervisor:	David West
Sarah Maslin	Socy	Supervisor	Alastair Greig
Noemi Murphy	History	Supervisor:	Paul Burton
Tui Rakuita	Pol Phil	Supervisor:	David West
Sarah Spiller	Socy	Supervisor:	Alastair Greig

What's Been Happening.....

On the 19th March **Professor Richard Hartwig**, Professor of Political Science, Texas A&M University-Kingsville and a Visiting Fellow to the School delivered a

lecture entitled *Far Away & Long Ago: The Argentine Dirty War* as part of the ANU Public Lecture Series.

In February, **Andrew Hopkins** spent about ten days in the United Arab Emirates giving lectures about his work to sections of the UAE petroleum industry as well as to Emirates Airlines.

Sam Pietsch and **Emma Fleetwood** are the proud parents of a baby boy, Lochlain Pietsch, born at 6:30pm on Monday 17th March by emergency caesarean at Canberra Hospital, weighing 3.57kg (7pounds, 12 oz for the oldies :-)) and measuring 49 cm. Please see attached photos.

John Warhurst has been awarded an Adjunct Professorship in the School of Political and International Studies at Flinders University. He gave a seminar on 'Religion and the 2007 Australian Federal Election' at Flinders on 28 March. He also spoke on "The Rights of Small States and Territories in Australian Democracy" at the Weekend of Ideas on 29-30 March at Manning Clark House.

20/20 Summit - CASS Representatives

Marian Sawyer and **Amin Saikal** two members from the College of Arts and Social Sciences have been selected to be participants in the Government's 20/20 Summit in mid-April. Their summit topic areas are the *Future of Australian Governance* and *Australia's Future Security & Prosperity in a Rapidly Changing Region & World*, respectively.

ANU/UQ PhD Exchange Scholar Program

Robin Cameron has settled into the School of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Queensland. Robin will be researching his PhD at UQ for the semester. During his time there Robin will be tutoring in UQ's Introduction to International Relations course as well as presenting a seminar paper in their 'Security and Conflict Analysis' seminar series. While at UQ Robin will be mentored by Professor Roland Bleiker as well as have the opportunity to discuss his work with the staff and students of their International Studies program. If any PSIR PhD students are interested in obtaining more information about the ANU/UQ exchange scheme please contact Katrina Lee-Koo.

Reminder: DEWR Publications

Please remember to report your **2008** publications data to Tracy Deasey or Cath Phillips.

All publications not suitable for DEEWR may still be counted towards the FRAM collection and/or the Annual Report. Thank you.