

QUADRIVIA

The HPRC Newsletter



May 2011

Head of School's Report

As first semester draws to a close final essays are being written and marked, exams have been prepared and soon the examination period will begin. Courses are then finalized, marks are submitted, and staff look forward to some research time in the mid-semester break, while preparing their course outlines and teaching for second semester. The School Manager, Head of School and the Director of Studies look nervously at student enrolment figures, monitor courses with low enrolments and scratch their heads about where to find enough money to finance casual staff positions. Then suddenly on Monday the 25th of July the cycle begins again and continues until the end of November, when second semester gets replaced by Summer Semester. And so it goes.

However, this first semester has not been normal. The School had its septennial review in April and is at present drafting its response to the thirty-seven review recommendations. There were also eleven commendations. These covered increased levels of collegiality, satisfaction with leadership of the School, the high levels of student satisfaction, the development of cross-disciplinary and team teaching, the strong research culture, the emphasis on mentoring in the RHD process, the School's positive and broad external engagement, and the generous support from the Friends of Antiquity. The Reviewers also praised the School's support for primary and secondary teaching through professional associations and continuing professional development, our successful undergraduate study tours, recruitment of younger capable women, and links with indigenous and equity groups. All-in-all we were quite chuffed by the positive response to our earnest endeavours.

My congratulations to the staff and students of the School. While the Head of School's position can sometimes be quite lonely and arduous, the position is merely as a representative of the larger group. It was personally satisfying to me as the third Head of School and the current Head since September 2008 that the Review was laudatory. Sure, the three reviewers found thirty-seven things in which to recommend changes, but none of them were huge and many of them were already in train anyway, or are UQ policies beyond the control of the School. What has given me the most pleasure is making new staffing appointments

and then to welcome them and mentor them during their initial years at UQ. I think the School can be quietly pleased with its progress and with the 'new blood', both staff and the continuing progression of undergraduate and postgraduate students who give meaning to it all.

First semester is also a personal marker for me as I am about to go on study leave for the next six months, leave actually delayed since 2009 because I agreed to spend time as Head of School for five years. I am looking forward to this research time and will proceed with projects relating to the Solomon Islands. In my absence, Dr Deborah Brown will become acting Head of School and Dr Neil Pembroke will take over as Director of Studies and Deputy Head of School. I am happy to see the School in such capable hands and look forward to returning to administrative duty in 2012, refreshed by uninterrupted academic research and hopefully with some new publications under my belt.

Prof. Clive Moore



Comings and Goings

On 1 June this year **Ms Brenda Alcorn** joins the HPRC admin team in the pivotal role of Senior Finance and HR Officer. She comes with a wealth of experience of UQ, having worked in a few different positions here since 2000, most recently as Finance Officer in the School of Social Work and Applied Human Sciences. I know you will join me in making her feel very welcome.



In the first weeks of June the office staff will also have the assistance of **Diana Dragisic** on Wednesdays and Fridays, and **Marilyn Barton** on Thursdays.



Dr Morris Low, at present in the School of Languages and Comparative Cultural Studies, will become an Associate Professor in HPRC from 1 July this year. He will take SSP during second semester and fully be present in the School

from 2012. The arrangements for the appointment were made by the Executive Dean Professor Nancy Wright.

Morris is Convener of the Asian Studies Major and has research interests which include history of Japanese science and technology, history of Australia-Japan relations, Japanese visual culture, and issues relating to identity. Morris has already participated in the School Meeting on Friday 20 May, when the Head of School welcomed Morris to the School and look forward with anticipation to his participation in all of our activities.



Dr Luca Asmonti arrived this month to take up his position as Post-Doctoral Fellow in the School, based in the Classics and Ancient History discipline. Luca's research area is the Greek culture of democracy and its translation into and use/misuse by Rome, through to and including contemporary ramifications. Luca can be found in Forgan Smith room E322 and his phone number is 3365 6797.



This coming month Studies in Religion will be hosting an RHD exchange student from Victoria University of Wellington. His name is **Alan Edwards** and he will be giving a paper in E319 on Thursday June 30 at 2pm (title TBA).



Thesis completions

Congratulations to all our graduate students who have completed their degrees, and the best of luck for the next stage of their careers!

Alexander ('Mac') Campbell (Philosophy, MPhil): 'Procedural fairness in a multicultural state.'

Pedro Guedes (History, PhD): 'Iron in building, 1750-1855: Innovation and cultural resistance.'

Timothy Hamlyn Domestic (Classics, MPhil): 'Pontifex Optimus Maximus: The Office of Pontifex Maximus from the Middle Republic to Caesar.'

Christopher Mallan (Classics, MPhil): 'The Portrayal of Women in Cassius Dio's *Roman History*.'



Recent publications

Christopher Salisbury, "Mr Speaker, I withdraw...": standards of (mis)behaviour in the Queensland, Western Australian and Commonwealth Parliaments compared via online Hansard', *Australasian Parliamentary Review*, Autumn 2011, Vol. 26(1), 166-177.

Virginia Thorley has two new publications: one has been published ahead of print in *Midwifery*, with e-publication completed on 16 March. It is titled 'Human Milk Banking in the Volunteer Sector: Policy Development and Actuality in 1970s Australia.' The second is a chapter in a Demeter Press book just launched in Toronto, Canada: *The 21st Century Motherhood Movement* and Virginia's chapter was on 'Middle-class Mothers as Agents of Change: The Australian Breastfeeding Association'. She spoke on this topic at the recent 'Mothers on the Margins' conference at UQ.

Michael Lattke, *The Odes of Solomon: Greek-Coptic-Syriac with German Translation* (Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, 2011).

Congratulations also to **Christine Winter**, whose co-edited volume *National Socialism in Oceania* (Peter Lang, 2010) has been very well received. An excerpt from the most recent review by Oliver Haag, in *Reviews in Australian Studies*, Vol 5, No 1 (2011): "*National Socialism in Oceania* breaks new ground... Without exception, all the chapters are of a high quality, establishing new knowledge and providing a reliable reference point for future studies. The translations from German are flawless and the style is coherent and fluid. The inclusion of different right-wing movements and national contexts has proven to be of great advantage to understanding the intricate mechanisms of Nazi influence on a highly heterogeneous region. The consideration of individual reminiscences – particularly the inclusion of an Indigenous viewpoint – has contributed to a methodologically fresh approach. *National Socialism in Oceania* can be considered a landmark study for students and researchers alike."



Saints and Skeletons at UQ

On Saturday the 14th of May, the R. D. Milns Antiquities Museum and the Mercy Heritage Centre presented a public lecture entitled "Saints and Skeletons: Roman Catholic Relics from the Mercy Heritage Centre." Held at the University of Queensland's St Lucia campus, the talk was part of the National Archaeology Week celebrations for 2011.

The lecture was well attended by around 50 people, including staff, students and the general public and a repeat date is being discussed for sometime in September. The

Mercy Heritage Centre at All Hallows School, Fortitude valley, holds an impressive collection of Roman Catholic reliquaries, including one housing the partial skeleton of a 49-73 year old man, who died c. 199 AD. Associated with these remains is a piece of Roman glass, embedded in plaster, which was originally part of a catacomb wall, probably in Rome.

The first lecture, presented by Peter Connell (Director of the Mercy Heritage Centre), discussed the history and importance of relics and reliquaries, followed by a discussion of the Roman relics of an unknown saint housed in the Centre's collection. Unfortunately, virtually nothing is known of the Saint's identity, but an archaeological examination of his remains at the University of Queensland was able to provide some details of his sex, age and physical condition. The second lecture by Dr Sonia Puttock and James Donaldson discussed the importance of Roman catacombs to early Christians and the ancient origins of the unknown Saint, pieced together by the evidence which has survived.

The key piece in this discussion was the distinctive 2nd – 3rd century Roman glass, embedded in plaster, which suggests the original burial was made in a catacomb. Such burial complexes were heavily utilised by early Christians from the 1st – 5th centuries AD and are often associated with saints and martyrs. Religious persecution of Christians during this period was widespread and the lecture attempted to reconstruct the life and times of the individual in order to bring the 2000 year old bones to life. Overall, the talk was well received and offered a glimpse into the fascinating world of relics and reliquaries, as well as the lives of ancient Christians (*see pictures in attached supplement*).

James Donaldson and Katee Dean



Promoting our research

Dolly MacKinnon has been busily beautifying the display cabinet outside her door with examples of research published by HPRC staff and postgraduates. She's convinced these collegial energies will generate 1) points in her workload document (under the obscure and often overlooked category "general good works"), 2) sufficient karma to materialise fairies that will mark the HIST1400 essays on her desk, and maybe even 3) the deep gratitude of her colleagues that might translate into all sorts of freebies further down the track.

Don't Disappoint Dolly! Any recent books, edited collections or anthologies that have your name on them should be sent along to her with all good speed. Postgraduate articles or publications especially sought.

UQ Medallists

Warm congratulations to those outstanding HPRC students recently announced as University medallists:

Rodney Manning, BA (Honours) - Philosophy
 Caitlin Prouatt, BA (Honours) - Classical Languages
 Rebecca Gidley, BA (Honours) - History
 Alexander Harper, BA (Honours) - Philosophy
 Ruth Constantine, BA (Honours) - History
 Alexandra Dellios, BA (Honours) - History



Centre for the Government of Queensland

Amid all the Michie Building chaos of boxes, removalists, sticky tape and wheelie bins the Centre, its staff and researchers have re-located to a temporary home in the Seddon Building: Prof. Peter Spearritt is in Rm S08 and Dr. Marion Stell (Project Co-ordinator) in Room S09.

In March one of the Centre's researchers, **Chris Salisbury**, travelled to Melbourne to interview the VC of the University of Melbourne, Prof. Glyn Davis, about his time as head of the Queensland Department of Premier and Cabinet in the late 1990s and early 2000s for his PhD research. He learnt all about the origins of the Beattie Government's 'Smart State' strategy and thus the channelling of so much public funding into university research centres such as UQ's Biosciences Precinct and IMB.



News from Denmark

During first semester **Dr David Pritchard** of HPRC and the Faculty's Cultural History Project has been a research fellow at the SAXO Institute at The University of Copenhagen. This has been made possible by his winning of a Visiting Scholarship Fellowship from the Danish Central Bank, which has provided an apartment in the historic Nyhavn ('New Harbour'), which is only a few minutes by foot from Amalienborg where our Princess Mary lives, and a project grant from the Nicholas Anthony Aroney Trust.

As the SAXO Institute includes some of Europe's leading Hellenists, including Professors Thomas Heine Nielsen and Vincent Gabrielsen, who was the Milns Visiting Professor at The University of Queensland last year, it has been the perfect place for David to complete his current book for Cambridge University Press on sport, democracy and war in classical Athens. He also found time to squeeze in

lectures for courses in Ancient History and Classical Archaeology, seminars and public lectures for the SAXO Institute, and a short visit to the Social-Science Research Centre of Berlin.

There are clearly many points of contact between the humanists of our two universities, and David, who, in spite of the shockingly cold weather, is planning to return to Copenhagen as soon as possible, cannot speak highly enough of its Humanities Faculty as a place of real opportunities for colleagues to spend sabbaticals and teaching exchanges and to find friendly and gifted collaborators for research projects and applications for external funding (*see pictures in attached supplement*).



European philosophy research group

Marguerite La Caze presented a paper 'Sincerity and Lying in Politics in Derrida and Arendt' for the workshop on 'Kantian Sincerity in Ethics, Politics and International Relations' at The European Consortium for Political Research joint sessions at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. She also presented a paper 'A taste of ashes; vengefulness and impossible reciprocity in Beauvoir' at the Nordic Society for phenomenology conference at the University of Iceland.



History in the Making

Monday June 6, 2011

All sessions held in Rooms E302 and E303,
Forgan Smith Building.

9.00 – 10:30am, Rm. E303

Gemma Burden (PhD Confirmation): 'Anthropology in Queensland, c. 1859-1926.'

Dr Melissa Bellanta: 'The Songs of Sentimental Blokes: Popular Performance and Australian Masculinities, 1900-1920.'

Sherrie Gavin (PhD Mid-Candidature): 'The Beginning of Boy Scout Masculinity in Australia.'

9.00 – 10.30am, Rm. E302

Dr Patrick Jory: 'Dangerous History: Writing the History of the Thai Monarchy.'

Professor Paul Turnbull: 'Reconstructing the conceptual evolution of the natural history of the human species, 1800 – 1840.'

Ana Stevenson (PhD Confirmation): 'The Woman-Slave Analogy: Rhetorical Foundations in American Culture, 1830-1900.'

10:30 - 11am: MORNING TEA (catered)

**HPRC COMMON ROOM,
E318 Forgan Smith Building**

11.00-12:30pm, Rm. E302

Bill Casey (MPhil Thesis Review): 'A range of options: an overview of the Queensland Rifle Association project 2009-2011.'

Rebecca Vonhoff (PhD Thesis Review): 'News from near and far: The German-language press in New South Wales before 1914.'

Gregory Hallam (MPhil Mid-Candidature): 'The Guard who was blown off the line: Colonel Charles Evans CMG, Commissioner for Queensland Railways 1911-18.'

12:30-1:30pm LUNCH (not catered)

1:30-3pm, Rm. E303

Wing Hin Kam (PhD Thesis Review): 'Christian Identity and Personal Success: Lin Zifeng (1892-1971) and his Public Career.'

Assoc. Prof. Chi-Kong Lai: 'The Business Practices of the Zhongshang Merchants' Groups.'

Tai Nguyen (MPhil Mid-Candidature): 'The New York Times: Perceptions of the China containment policy during the 1960s.'

1:30-3pm, Rm E302

Hollie Thomas, (PhD Confirmation) 'Peter Brown and the Importance of Rome in Anglo-Saxon Literature.'

Craig Barrett (PhD Thesis Review): 'Imagining Captivity: Prisoners of War of the Japanese in Australian History and Culture.'

Dr Andrew Bonnell: 'From Saxony to South Brisbane: the German-Australian socialist Hugo Kunze.'

3 – 3.30pm: AFTERNOON TEA (catered)

**HPRC COMMON ROOM,
E318 Forgan Smith Building**

PLENARY LECTURE: 3:30-4:30pm, Rm. E303

Emeritus Professor Bob Elson: 'Circumstance, contingency, and determinacy: Why did Kartosuwiryo start shooting?'



Online in the South Seas

In December 2010 **Dr Christine Winter** (HPRC post-doctoral fellow) and Professor Reinhard Wendt from the University in Hagen, Germany, recorded a video on German Diasporas in the South Seas, directed towards students and researchers in the field. The recording has now been published online: "Deutschsein in der Südsee", Kontinuität, Wandel, Brüche (Reinhard Wendt im Gespräch mit Christine Winter). See: http://www.fernuni-hagen.de/geschichte/aktuelles/lg3/video_mai2011.shtml



Professional Development

Training for Religious Studies Educators

Studies in Religion is offering a series of five sessions this year as part of the Professional Development of secondary teachers in South-East Queensland who teach the Board subject 'Studies of Religion' in their schools. Each session has run from 5pm – 9pm with a short break in between for a light meal. So far, two of those sessions have been completed - the first was on Judaism, and the second on Christianity. Rick Strelan has led them and they were both attended by about 20 teachers, many of whom attended both sessions.

The interest of the teachers has been in a greater and deeper understanding of the respective religious traditions rather than in any assistance in the actual teaching of these traditions in the class-room. They are, after all, qualified and experienced teachers!

Three further sessions will be run during Semester 2. Adam Bowles will take two of them - on Buddhism and Hinduism - and Roxanne Marcotte will take the session on Islam. Among the benefits, the sessions help provide a useful and necessary bridge between the secondary and tertiary teaching of Religious Studies. It's interesting (and probably regrettable) to note that only one State High School in Queensland offers Studies of Religion as a Board subject – the vast majority of schools who do offer it are private and mainly church-based.

Rick Strelan, Studies in Religion



End of Semester gatherings

The time has come to abandon all marking and convene at the Staff Club for the requisite '**end-of-semester**' drinks. A gathering today (2 June) has been planned from 4pm.

Here's hoping to see everyone there, and please feel free to invite others who may not populate our various email lists.

Also, all are invited to attend HPRC's **Research Achievement Celebration** on Wednesday 8th June, to acknowledge current staff publications and RHD students awarded in 2010. Among other things we will be saluting new books by Andrew Bonnell, Richard Hutch, Patrick Jory, Julian Lamont, David Prichard, Kriston Rennie, and Paul Turnbull.

All staff and RHD students are invited to attend:

Wednesday 8th June

(from 5pm)

**HPRC foyer area outside E318,
Level 3, Forgan Smith building**

Please R.S.V.P to hprc@uq.edu.au by Friday 3rd June.



Public Lecture: Studies in Religion

Monday 30 May, 9 am: Library Conference Room, SS&H Library, Duhig Bldg.

Dr Mimi Hanida Abdul Mutalib (National University of Malaysia), 'Muslim Women Preachers in Malaysia'.

The social phenomenon of *dakwah*, or the activity of propagating Islamic values, is not new in Malaysia; the concept and the activity have been discussed openly since the 1970s. It began in an era when Malaysian society changed from looking towards the 'Western' way of living towards thinking about and organising Malaysian society around Islamic teachings. Since then, preaching Islamic religion, or *dakwah*, had been dominated by men in Malaysia. But today, the involvement of women in preaching Islamic religion is very encouraged, either in the public sphere or through media electronics.

The study of the challenges, obstacles, realities and the future possibilities of female *da'ies* is, therefore, crucially important. How, Why and What makes the participation of those women, not only as listener, but also as the preacher themselves will be the main discussion of this lecture seminar. We need to identify the strength of, and the limitation imposed on the modern female *da'ie*.

The research looks more specifically at gender issues, such as the support (or otherwise) Muslim women *da'ies* receive in areas like government, media broadcasters, NGOs, and their families. The research adds empirical data to the

debates surrounding, and often the denial of Muslim women's contribution to the public sphere in Muslim societies and, specifically, Malay culture. Hence, it presents a more rounded portrayal of Muslim women and provides a clearer and more complex picture of Muslim women's 'real' lives.

Dr Abdul Mutalib is a sociologist who received a Young Research Fellowship from the National University of Malaysia where she teaches. She is a visiting researcher for a short period with HPRC (mid April - mid July 2011).



Friends of Antiquity

Sunday Series Lecture: June 5

2 pm: Profs. Roger and Ann Scott (UQ): 'Etruscan Art at Tarquinia'

2.30 pm: Prof. Pauline Allen (ACU): 'The Letter in Christian Antiquity: key to episcopal crisis management'

Venue: Rm. 139, Goddard Building. (\$5 entry)



Philosophy Conference

Two members of the School will be speaking at next month's conference 'Beyond the Possible' dedicated to the memory of Richard Sylvan. It will be held at the University of Melbourne from 27-29 July 2011

Richard Sylvan (formerly Routley, 1935-1996) was an Australasian philosopher whose work continues to have a major impact in logic, metaphysics, environmental philosophy, and a number of other areas. **Dominic Hyde** is the first presenter of the conference with a paper, 'Richard Routley/Sylvan: a Systematic Philosopher', followed by **Roger Lamb** on 'The Last Man.'

For further details:

<http://sites.google.com/site/btpconference/home>



PhD Research in London

Thanks to financial support provided by the Sydney-based Oceania and Far East Region Chapter of the World Council of Hellenes Abroad (SAE) and the Australasian Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) of Brisbane, **Martyn Brown** was able to extend his European visit in March to include archives research in London.

Monies provided for accommodation and digitisation and photocopying charges helped Martyn investigate collective memory and the politics of the New Zealand-Greek wartime relationship at the Public Records Office, Imperial War Museum and Liddell Hart Centre for Military Archives. Topics he investigated included New Zealanders serving as liaison officers with Greek partisan movements in enemy occupied Greece, Greek, New Zealand army affiliation and possible 1942 incursion into Turkey and also the Battle of Rimini in Italy in 1944.

All of these have received minimal attention in New Zealand war historiography and almost nothing in the area of war commemoration. The support provided by the Greek bodies is especially significant as the areas under investigation are intertwined with the politics of the Greek Civil War and Greek armed Forces political mutinies on 1943 and 1944. By providing both material support and encouragement SAE and AHEPA are welcoming open discussion of a highly contentious and divisive time; one which is still vivid in living memory of many Greeks and New Zealanders.



Tom Curran

Last week the School received the very sad news that one of our recent PhD graduates, Dr Tom Curran, passed away suddenly early on Monday morning, 23 May.

Tom was a very keen and passionately committed researcher and writer, who was preparing his PhD dealing with Winston Churchill and the Dardanelles campaign for publication, having recently published an article based on his work in the *Australian Journal of Politics and History*. He will be much missed by those who knew him here, and our thoughts and sympathy are with his wife Maureen and the rest of the Curran family.

Andrew Bonnell (History)

