



# ANU COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Staff Newsletter - Issue 18 - March 2008

## THE COLLEGE MOURNS THE PASSING OF DR BRIAN BROGAN



Brian Brogan passed away in Indonesia on Sunday 2nd March 2008 en route to a meeting in Jakarta on his latest research project.

Brian left school at an early age, worked at a variety of jobs and put himself through Melbourne University earning an Honours degree in Commerce. He was in the first cohort of teachers in the then new Economics Department of Monash University where he was a lecturer and senior lecturer until he took leave to come to Canberra. He worked for the then Prime Minister Gough Whitlam's staff where he was senior economic advisor until "The Dismissal". Brian was then appointed to the Chair in Economics at the University of Papua New Guinea and Dean of the Faculty.

He returned to Australia in 1987 and became Director of the Asia Program at the ANU's Centre for Development Studies and became Founding Director of the Graduate Studies in Development Administration and since 1994 has been a Visiting Fellow at the then National Graduate School of Management and now the ANU College of Business and Economics.

He worked in many countries and with many agencies in the area of public sector reform with special reference to fiscal management and social security reform. He was the Technical Director of AusAID's Regional Economic Policy Support Facility (REPSF), which promoted research on ASEAN Economic Integration. It was the success of REPSF that helped to restore Australia's reputation in the region, being described by one Secretary-General as "the jewel in AusAID's crown". He was currently involved in the China Australia Governance Program's project on funding social security for in-China migrant workers.

### BBA APPROVED

On 19 February 2008 the University Education Committee approved the College's proposal to introduce a new undergraduate degree as from 2009. The Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) will be available to both domestic and international students.

The University's new Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education) Professor Elizabeth Deane said, "The University welcomes this initiative from the ANU College of Business and Economics. The program has been developed in response to community needs and will provide graduates with a solid suite of vital management and leadership skills. It will complement our existing programs in a positive and useful way. We expect that this program will attract students who aspire to leadership positions in both the public and private sector".

Special thanks goes to the Associate Dean (Education), Alex Clarke, and to a number of members of the College Education Committee who contributed much time and energy to the development of the proposal. Each of the four Heads of School also contributed constructively to the proposal.

### DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF VIETNAM VISITS ANU

Professor Lawrence Cram (DVC) hosted a lunch on Monday 25 February for the high profile Vietnamese Government delegation, which included Professor Nguyen Thien Nhan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education and Training of Vietnam. The lunch was also attended by Professor Keith Houghton (Dean), Associate Professor Alex Clarke (Deputy Dean) and Professor Rod Tyers from the College.

The visit to Australia was sparked by Vietnam's recent strong economic growth which has resulted in a new focus on undertaking education reform. The Vietnamese Government is looking at the models and frameworks in other countries and is strongly encouraging partnerships at the institution-to-institution level.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### ACCOUNTING & BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEMS

#### Achievements in Information Systems

The International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS) was held in Montreal, Canada late last year. Sandy Behrens, an external PhD student submitted a paper entitled, "Information Systems Diversity: Metaphor, Meaning and Myth". There were over 700 submissions of which 10-15% were accepted. Sandy's paper was not only accepted but also nominated for best paper.

Another PhD student, Ahmed Imran was accepted for and attended the ICIS doctoral consortium. Only 40 out of the 83 nominations were accepted. A handful of candidates from outside North America were accepted; the nature of this conference was very competitive because each university could only nominate one candidate.



Sandy Behrens, Professor Shirley Gregory and Ahmed Imran

#### Bangladesh eGovernance capacity building

The ANU's National Centre for Information System Research (NCISR) secured the competitive Ausaid Public Service Linkage Program (PSLP) for the project "eGovernment capacity building through knowledge transfer and best practice development" in Bangladesh. The project is part of the ongoing PhD research by Mr Ahmed Imran of ABIS. The PSLP aims to improve



Handing over of the Record of Understanding between ANU and Ausaid

public sector capacity for governance and management and strengthen sustainable development-focused public sector bilateral and regional linkages. The one year project will be implemented in three phases which will include:

1. Development of knowledge among key decision makers and government officials for effective use of ICT.
2. Development and delivery of training packages to bridge the knowledge gap on eGovernment process and process re-engineering.
3. Develop strategies for the effective uptake of ICT and to support and encourage ongoing projects and championship in this area.

The Ministry of Science and Technology (MOSICT) will be the lead counterpart organization and Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security and Studies (BIPSS) will act as a third party organization for this program along with other relevant government bodies.

A copy of the signed Record of Understanding (ROU) between ANU and Ausaid was handed over to Mr S.M Wahiduzzam, Secretary and Ministry of MOSICT by Mr Ahmed Imran of ANU at Dhaka on 3 January 2008. Major General Muniruzzaman from BIPSS was present at the program initiation and strategy meeting.

The project will be led by Professor Shirley Gregor and will be assisted by other ANU academics and experts from different government and non government bodies in Australia. Part of the Australian expert team is also expected to visit Bangladesh in subsequent phases to deliver training to government officials.

## ECONOMICS

### Honours Scholarships Awarded

The School of Economics has made two new scholarships available for its honours students. The School is pleased to announce that William Young has been selected for the DEEWR Labour Economics Scholarship, and Kelly Neill has been awarded the Bob Gregory Scholarship for Applied Economics. Both scholarships are valued at \$10,000.

### Visit by Renmin University of China

The School received a visit by two senior academic staff from Renmin University in China on Thursday 24 January. Professor Martin Richardson (Head of School) and Professor Rod Tyers discussed the possibility of collaboration between the two areas with Professor Yang Ruilong (Dean, School of Economics) and Professor Xiaojun Wang (Vice Dean, School of Statistics).

## FINANCE & APPLIED STATISTICS

### Air Pollution: The Silent Killer

Air pollution is estimated to cause 2400 deaths annually in Australia with an associated cost to the community of \$17.2 billion. Dr Steven Roberts and Professor Michael Martin from the School of Finance and Applied Statistics have been working for the last few years on research that will improve understanding of the association between air pollution and mortality in Australia, thereby allowing government, public health authorities, and regulatory agencies to implement better air pollution standards and provide more informed advice to the public on the necessity of avoiding exposure to air pollutants. These two outcomes are particularly important given Australia's aging population and the fact that the elderly are among those most susceptible to harm from air pollution exposure.



Dr Steven Roberts

Professor Michael Martin

A particular focus of Roberts and Martin's research is statistical model selection in the context of models relating mortality to the levels of certain types of air pollution. In research published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology*, Roberts and Martin considered whether the standard model selection criterion Akaike's Information Criterion (AIC) was effective in assessing the linearity of the dose-response relationship between particulate matter air pollution and mortality. Such issues are important as even a mild departure from linearity in the assessed model for mortality can make a significant difference in projected outcomes.

In work currently under way for an ARC Discovery grant, Roberts and Martin are investigating the effect of the model selection process itself on projected outcomes and are developing new model selection procedures to address this issue.

### First School Undergraduate Merit Awarded

The School of Finance and Applied Statistics has introduced a new Undergraduate Merit Award for incoming first year students enrolled in a program that is primarily taught by the School. The students are selected on academic merit and ranked according to their UAI score. The School is pleased to announce that Rebecca Fan Jiang and Zehong Frank Wang are the first recipients for the merit award, which is valued at \$5,000.

### Alumni and Friends Reception in Singapore

The School of Finance and Applied Statistics together with the College is holding a reception for Alumni and Friends of the ANU in Singapore on 12 March 2008. The event will focus particularly on the actuarial profession and our important relationship with the National University of Singapore and our joint degree program in actuarial studies. A number of staff from the University will be attending including Professors Terry O'Neill and Keith Houghton. Participants will also include current joint degree program students, ANU alumni and members of the actuarial profession in Singapore.

## MANAGEMENT, MARKETING & INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

### Centrelink Internal Communication Delivery

Hugh Watson and Ed Russell recently completed a Review of Centrelink Authoring and Publishing for Internal Communication Delivery. The CEO sought information on the amount of resources that were committed to the publication and management of the content delivered through CentreNet, the Centrelink Intranet, and what minimum quality assurance mechanisms should exist.

A census of Centrelink publishers was conducted along with interviews of key staff and senior SES officers. A report has been delivered providing a full analysis of the resources committed and the quality assurance mechanisms in place as well as recommendations covering governance arrangements, roles and responsibilities, quality assurance, resources and publishing models.

### ACT Angel Investors Conference

MMIB was co-sponsor of an event which formed part of the Australian Association of Angel Investors (AAAI) Conference. David Malloch of ACT Capital Angels conducted a Conference Seminar in the NGS Lecture Theatre at Sir Roland Wilson Building on Thursday 14 February. A light breakfast and morning tea were provided for the 60 participants.

### ANU Tsinghua Graduation

On Thursday 20 December 2007, the third intake of Tsinghua students graduated. A celebration dinner in Ruby Chinese Restaurant followed the graduation.



Celebrating

## RESEARCH OFFICE

### 2008 ARC Grants

The Australian Research Council's largest funding round for the year has just come to a close. Last year's Discovery Projects round saw just over \$300 million awarded nationwide to some 878 projects. The current round saw the submission of 13 applications from the ANU College of Business and Economics with funds requested totalling \$4.9 million. CBE staff are also involved in a further 5 externally administered applications. This represents an increase from past years in application numbers by the College. We extend best wishes to all applicants for the success of their proposals.

### Appointment of Associate Dean (Research Training)

The College is pleased to announce that Professor Farshid Vahid has accepted the role of Associate Dean (Research Training). Professor Vahid takes up this role immediately and will be working closely with the Deputy Dean and the Associate Dean (Research).

### PhD Workshop

The PhD Workshop and Information Session held on the February 29 was a great success. Presenters included Professor Tom Smith, Dr Margaret Kiley and PhD supervisors who joined in the panel discussion.



Bin Yu and Meif Qian



Ochini Madanayake and Janet Lee

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### Public Holidays for 2008

Details for Public Holidays in the ACT for 2008 are available at:

[http://info.anu.edu.au/hr/HR\\_Help/HR\\_Forum/2008/\\_public\\_holidays\\_2008.pdf](http://info.anu.edu.au/hr/HR_Help/HR_Forum/2008/_public_holidays_2008.pdf)

### Pay Process for Casual Staff

This process is particularly useful for casual staff needing to submit completed timesheets for signature in their local area:

- A University Casual Timesheet is completed for the fortnight ending
- Timesheet signed by staff member, providing: name, University ID and Employment Record Number
- Supervisor to confirm hours worked
- Delegate to sign off on timesheet
  - Schools: the Head of School is the appropriate delegate
  - College Office staff: the manager of the local working area or the General Manager is the appropriate delegate.
- Timesheet to be sent to College HR to enter in times as appropriate.

For Pay Schedule and Cut-Off Dates: [http://info.anu.edu.au/hr/Salaries\\_and\\_Conditions/\\_\\_\\_HR\\_Practitioners\\_at\\_ANU/Pay\\_Cut\\_Offs/2008.asp](http://info.anu.edu.au/hr/Salaries_and_Conditions/___HR_Practitioners_at_ANU/Pay_Cut_Offs/2008.asp)

### Mentors for Indigenous Trainees

The University is seeking Mentors for Indigenous Trainees from staff who may be able to provide mentoring to trainees under the Indigenous Traineeship Program (ITP) from July 2008 for 12 months. Your investment would be:

- 5 days in April 2008 for 'Indigenous Mentoring Training' provided by Indigenous Success Australia
- 1 hour per week for 12 weeks (from July)
- 1 hour per fortnight (or as required) for remainder of year

For further information, contact the Senior Consultant, Indigenous Employment: [lindsay.stanford@anu.edu.au](mailto:lindsay.stanford@anu.edu.au)

### Staff Appointments and Changes

#### New Staff :

- Georgia Foster, Manager, Finance and Business Services
- Susanna Ho, Reader and Associate Professor, ABIS
- Maria Tatarow, School Administrator, ECO
- Aaron Bruhn, Lecturer, FAS
- Peter Vouzas, Associate Lecturer, FAS
- Alessandra Capezio, Lecturer, MMIB
- Tanya Hammond, Associate Lecturer, MMIB
- Lin Cui, Lecturer, MMIB.

#### Welcome Back:

- Lucy Agar, Student Administration returns from maternity leave.

#### Staff on leave:

- Alex Robson has taken a 12-month leave of absence to work as an Economic Advisor to the Shadow Treasurer the Hon Malcolm Turnbull.

#### Staff who have left:

- Helen Gilroy, Information Technology
- Sarah Barrow, Marketing and Development
- Rohan McCarthy, Marketing and Development
- Creina Day, ECO
- Zann Miranda, ECO
- Petra Fleischer, FAS.

#### ABIS

The School of Accounting and Business Information Systems has sought approval to advertise and fill two further senior positions. The School is seeking to appoint two highly research active scholars in any field of accounting at levels E (professor) or D (associate professor). The College has approved the request. Approval from Chancery is expected shortly. The school has proposed a selection committee which includes both the current Head of School, Professor Kerry Jacobs, and the incoming Professor of Accounting, Baljit Sidhu. Baljit is currently Professor of Accounting at the University of New South Wales. The School will be calling for expressions of interest to be part of the liaison committee for this important round of appointments.

#### MMIB

The School of Management Marketing and International Business has recently completed a round of advertising of a Chair in Management. The selection sub-committee has met and a tentative short list has been drawn up. Subject to agreement of Chancery, interviews will proceed as quickly as possible. Details of any short-listed candidates will be made available to members of the School at the appropriate point. The School looks forward to making an important appointment or appointments no later than mid-2008.

For HR queries please contact the College HR Office ([cbe.hr@anu.edu.au](mailto:cbe.hr@anu.edu.au))

## NEXT COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

7 March 2008

The next College Advisory Board Meeting will be held on Friday 7 March 2008 at 4pm. in Lecture Theatre 1, HW Arndt Building. Apologies and enquiries to the College General Manager.

Following the meeting, refreshments will be provided in the Faculty Suite and Seminar Room, First Floor, H.W. Arndt Building at 5pm. All staff are welcome to attend the refreshment.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT WELCOME

The College recently welcomed the semester 1 cohort of new international students comprising a total of 428 students from 33 different countries. The welcome address was given by The Dean.

There was a large turnout of students and staff for both the International Undergraduate and the Postgraduate Welcome. Guest representatives from the Royal Thai and Indonesian Embassies and the High Commissions of Singapore and Malaysia were present to meet students from their respective countries.



Students attending the International Welcome

## CBE IN THE NEWS

CBE Academics have appeared in different outlets of media, both nationally and internationally through radio, television and online media.

Professor Steve Dowrick, ECO appeared in 11 articles both nationally and internationally. The outlets included WIN Canberra, 2GB radio in Sydney, and Centre Daily in the USA, where Professor Dowrick was mentioned in regards to the Australian government announcing the review of national innovation system and tax breaks.

Mr Andrew Hughes, MMIB was mentioned in five articles including: 'Use of Celebrities in the US Presidential campaign' appearing in Today Tonight discussing the use of celebrities in the US Presidential campaign, and provided past examples of where celebrities had been successful in campaigns as well as 'Media-savvy Sea Shepherd on top in PR war' regarding Japanese whalers.

Other media mentions include:

Dr Rod Tyers, ECO – Treasurer must watch labor costs

Professor Warwick McKibbin, CAMA – Greenhouse cuts

Fred Argy – Golden opportunity to tackle neglected projects

Dr Michael O'Donnell and Alessandra Capezio, MMIB – Their research conducting CEO pay.

The College has access to a media monitoring service, for copies or transcripts of the above articles, or if you have received coverage and we missed it, please contact Jane McIntyre in the Marketing and Development Office.

**DEADLINE FOR CONTENT FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER EDITION IS: MONDAY 31 MARCH**

Please forward your news items to Garmisch P S. Aguilar (Garmisch.Aguilar@anu.edu.au) for inclusion in the College's next newsletter.