



# SUAA Newsletter No. 4 March 2005

## From the President, SUAA

At the end of 2004 the Sydney University Arts Association again owes thanks to a wide range of supporters. Firstly our members, whose financial contribution and attendance at functions are the back-bone of all our activities. And there are many others whose support is vital to our continuing success. The Dean of Arts, Professor **Stephen Garton**, has been a constant friend, both in his personal involvement and through the financial contribution we continue to receive from the Faculty. The Head of the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, Professor **Richard Waterhouse**, has been particularly generous in subsidising a number of our events. The Director of Alumni Affairs, Mr **Mark Leary**, and his staff have also given us invaluable assistance. Again we owe a debt of gratitude to Mrs **Anne de Broglio**, of the Multimedia and Educational Technology in Arts Centre, for maintaining our website.

Throughout the year members of the Association's Committee have provided advice, administrative help, and plain hard work. Thanks go in particular to our new Secretary, Associate Professor **Rosemary Huisman**, our Treasurer, Associate Professor **Ross Steele**, and the Editors of our two publications: Emeritus Professor **Paul Crittenden** for our *Newsletter*, which reports on developments in the Faculty of Arts during the year; and Associate Professor **Geoffrey Little** for our journal, *Arts*, the twenty-sixth volume of which contains texts of our lectures and reports on other activities in 2004. It is with great regret that we learned in August of the sudden death of one of our Committee, Emeritus Professor **Bill Ritchie**, a former President of the Arts Association and a continuing Vice-President. We were also saddened to hear in June of the death of **Patricia Lahy**, Dean of the Faculty 1980-85 and a friend of the Association over many years.

## 2004 in review

Founded in 1953, the Arts Association celebrated its fifty-first year in 2004. In the first half of the year, Professors **Shane White** (History) and **Roger Benjamin** (Art History and Theory) gave Inaugural Lectures, while Professor **Elizabeth Webby** (Australian Studies) gave a Special Lecture, an opportunity for us to celebrate her appointment to the Order of Australia. There was a further Inaugural Lecture in second semester given by Professor **Elsbeth Probyn** (Gender Studies). Our other speakers were Mr **Robert Winter** (on his experience in the film

and television industries), Dr **David McKitterick** (Trinity College Cambridge), Professor **Ken Dutton** (University of Newcastle) and Dr **Denise Yim** (French Studies).

We also co-sponsored lectures by **Djon Mundine** (Queensland Art Gallery) in collaboration with the Power Institute Foundation for Art and Visual Culture, and by Professor **John Clark** (Art History and Theory) with the Friends of Sydney University Library, as well as the Todd Memorial Lecture given by Professor **Joseph Farrell** (University of Pennsylvania) for the Department of Classics. The Celtic Studies Foundation Christmas Concert marked the end of the year.

## Plans for 2005

We are planning a variety of functions for the year ahead. The program will open with a social function in late March at which the **Dean of Arts** will speak on recent changes to Faculty structures. We shall be collaborating with the Department of Classics in presenting in mid-April a lecture by Professor **Walther Ludwig** (University of Hamburg) on 'Astrology in Antiquity, the Renaissance and Today'. In May-June we are organising presentations by Associate Professor **Gay McAuley** (Performance Studies) and Professor **Ros Pesman** (History). The Association will also co-sponsor events during the year with the Friends of Fisher Library, the Power Institute Foundation for Art and Visual Culture, and the Celtic Studies Foundation. Details of these events, and others to be arranged later in 2005 (including, we hope, the long-awaited *Spring Drinks in the Quad*) as well as functions across the University related to the humanities, will be found in our publicity through mail-outs, e-mail messages, and on our web page.

A major aim of the Association in the coming year will be to increase our membership base and strengthen our financial position. Expenditure increased in 2004, with inevitably higher production costs for the journal and notably higher costs for venues (charged by the University even to its own voluntary organizations). I appeal to all friends of the Faculty of Arts to support the work of our Association through attendance at functions, by membership fees and donations, and when possible, through helping with the many practical tasks involved in running the organization. I have signalled my intention to resign as President during 2005-2006. Naturally, I am

most anxious to leave this office in the SUAA with the Association in a thriving and prosperous situation.

**Angus Martin, President SUAA.**

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### **Arts in 2004 – Dean's Report**

The end of 2004 sees the Arts Faculty with a changed composition, and in a very different situation, from twelve months ago. From the beginning of 2005 two significant developments will have given the Faculty a new shape. The first is the dissolution of the School of Society, Culture and Performance and the relocation of its component departments to the remaining three Schools. From 2005, Anthropology and Sociology will become departments in the School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, and Linguistics and Performance Studies will join the School of English, Art History, Film and Media. The second, and more momentous change is that the department of Music has left Arts to become part of the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. While the Faculty will lose a department of long duration and great distinction, all the parties involved in the arrangements saw the move as a significant step forward for teaching and research in music in the University. The amalgamation has been talked about for years, ever since the Conservatorium became part of the University. With the willingness of staff on both sides to embrace a new future together, the hope has finally been realised. Over the past two years the department has been sustained by a generous private donation. This support will enable it to move more easily into the Conservatorium. We wish staff and students the very best for the future.

### ***Hard times***

The changing shape of the Faculty reflects the desire of staff to rethink our situation in the face of the challenges of a volatile higher education world. The external environment is becoming distinctly chilly. It is all too evident that higher education reform over the last two decades has been geared towards making universities businesses, as well as institutions of scholarship and learning. Education is Australia's eighth largest export industry, and the University of Sydney is now listed in the top 250 Australian companies. Australian universities are very reliant on fee income for survival and as a consequence the amount of funding coming directly from Canberra is becoming an increasingly smaller fraction of university budgets as a whole. In 2005 the operating grant from Canberra will be no more than one fifth of the Sydney University budget, the rest coming from HECS, student fees, research income, and bequest and donation income. Fee income, however, is not distributed evenly across the University. It is overwhelmingly concentrated in business, commerce, and information technology disciplines. Our circumstances are much tighter than those found in many other disciplines.

### ***The Faculty response***

Even so, the Faculty has responded remarkably well to the challenge of the times. Over the last three years Arts has trebled its fee income, to a total of nearly \$9m in 2004.

The English department alone brought in well over \$1m, a significant achievement.

Reliance on fee income, however, has its risks. In 2004 there was a decided levelling off in fee income from both local and international sources. The predictions for 2005 are even more worrying. The bubble may have burst; if so, many universities and faculties will be financially exposed. One who lives by the market may also die by it, as some faculties may discover to their cost over the next few years.

The projected downturn will have an impact on Arts. Around a quarter of our income is derived from student fees, and although we are not as vulnerable as some faculties, any decrease in this funding source will have a major impact on our ability to sustain our current range of disciplines. The situation is made all the more difficult because of the government decision to phase out funding for over-enrolments. This means that over the next few years the Faculty will confront the twin challenges of lower government-funded student numbers and stagnant (or falling) fee income.

The prospect of bleaker times ahead has set the context for the decision to move from four Schools to three in the Faculty. We have also had to close some programs, such as Russian. Moreover other disciplines, notably Thai and Indonesian, are under threat due to declining enrolments and the difficulties the Faculty faces in supporting so many small areas in more financially constrained times.

### ***Faculty achievements***

Despite the bleak financial outlook, the increasing enthusiasm for what the Faculty offers, is heartening. In 2004 student preferences for Arts degrees at Sydney increased by nine percent, and as a consequence the UAI entry point for all our degrees rose, with the BA reaching an unprecedented high of 86.5. Since 2001 there has been an increase of 16.5 points for entry into the BA, a clear sign that demand is high. For 2005 preferences across the State have fallen but not nearly as much in Arts at Sydney as for some other faculties. Moreover the Faculty will be offering more places this year than in the previous two years, partly due to the decision to transfer places in Nursing and Rural Management to other Universities in return for more places in Pharmacy, Science, and Arts. This will lead to a welcome fall in the entry scores required for admission to the Faculty (83 for the BA in 2005). In 2005 a new combined degree, the Bachelor of Arts and Sciences, created in connection with these transferred places, will also be on offer for the first time. A three year generalist degree with foundation units in Arts, Science, Economics and Legal Studies, this degree is designed to open up opportunities for able students who have previously failed to gain entry into Arts and Science by the rising UAI scores of recent years. Thus we hope to sustain our twin goals of excellence and access.

While the higher education climate may be worsening, staff continue to achieve excellence against the odds. Twelve staff were promoted in 2004, in recognition of their outstanding teaching, research, and service, among

them **Penny Gay** who was promoted to a Personal Chair in English. The Faculty also received its second prestigious Federation Fellowship – in Philosophy again – one of only five such Fellowships in the Humanities since the scheme began three years ago. We look forward to Professor **Philip Pettit** of Princeton University joining us in 2005. The Faculty also achieved an excellent result in the ARC research grant schemes in 2004, obtaining 24 Discovery grants, five Linkage grants, and one Linkage Infrastructure grant. This is an extraordinary achievement, certainly the highest number of grants ever won by the Faculty. Added to this was the election to Fellowship in the Australian Academy of the Humanities of Dr **Lindsay Watson** and Associate Professor **Paul Redding**. There was also notable success in teaching awards, with Dr **Penny Russell** winning the Vice-Chancellor's Excellence in Research Supervision Award, and six staff – **Udo Borgert**, **Antonia Rubino**, **Nicholas Eckstein**, **Carole Cusack**, **Gaynor Macdonald** and **Rick Benitez** – earning Faculty teaching awards. In addition, **Sarah Colley** and **Nilwan Jiraratwatana** received Teaching Initiative Awards. Running against the tide of gloom, the achievements of staff and students give hope for the future.

**Stephen Garton, Dean**



### **Reflections on a movement of Music**

To the surprise of many, the department of Music is leaving the Faculty of Arts in 2005 to join the Conservatorium. In immediate terms the move has arisen from the need to find a new home in the wake of the decision to close down the School of Society, Culture and Performance. More generally it has its origins in the amalgamation of the Conservatorium with the University in 1989, a development that eventually made possible, in its own way, Donald Peart's vision half a century ago for a Faculty of Music in the University.

Three other pertinent factors have contributed to this outcome in recent years. First, the closure of the flagship Bachelor of Music degree in 2002, in favour of a combined degree with the Conservatorium, sounded a death knell for our separate existence. In the meantime, the department was the recipient of a generous private benefaction in the wake of the Connolly/Anderson documentary film *Facing the Music*. With this support, we have been able to make new appointments, reinvigorate our academic program, and welcome a growing number of researchers. With **Allan Marett** as chair, staff numbers have grown from five to ten in just two years. Thirdly, the new Dean of the Conservatorium, **Kim Walker**, is firmly committed not only to musical research but to the development of a humanities-based music program. In this situation, and with new young staff and increased musical opportunities for students, we are able to view our 'conjoined' future from a position of strength and optimism.

### **Bearing on Arts**

So far as Arts is concerned, much will continue as it was. For the next five years – then subject to review – a major in Music will be offered in the Faculty; also staff will stay

on at the Seymour Centre, contributing with colleagues in the Conservatorium to what we hope will be an expansion of on-campus music offerings to students across the University. Inevitably, many of us who have grown up in the musical culture of Sydney, with its different arrangements hitherto, will feel a degree of regret. Nor can I pretend that I have had an easy task in attempting to sustain the traditions of the department over the past fifteen years. With the cuts to university funding in this period the struggle has been relentless and often heart-breaking. But I believe that the new arrangements have the potential to develop a unified and genuinely world-class tertiary music program in the University such as Donald Peart hoped to see.

### **Looking back, looking forward**

At this significant stage in our history a brief reflection on the traditions of this small but distinguished department is in order. The Department of Music was established within the Faculty of Arts in 1947, the first music department in Australia to be set up within the context of the humanities, coming into being as a complement to the long-established and highly regarded NSW Conservatorium. The BMus degree was introduced in 1961 through the newly established Board of Studies. The degree would allow students to develop skills as performers, composers and/or musicologists, while taking Arts courses as an intrinsic part of their studies. The Arts component helped to produce an extraordinary diversity of student expertise and involvement over the years.

**Donald Peart**, the first Chair, left an enormous legacy in the variety of disciplines fostered within the department. This was a range accommodating medieval and renaissance music, the musical traditions of Indigenous Australia, Japan, and Indonesia, also avant-garde music along with the more orthodox studies of history, harmony, and counterpoint centred in the European tradition of the 18th and 19th centuries. Along with a firm belief in linking creativity and scholarship, he was committed to the idea that music does not exist until performed, while insisting that all department performance should be grounded in research. This sparked the development of many innovative and significant musical groups and societies. Music festivals, operas, weekly evening and lunchtime concerts have all continued as regular features in the department's calendar over the years.

From its inception in 1949, the *Pro Musica Society* of Sydney University pursued a policy of vigorous exploration in music. Performances of significant orchestral, choral, and chamber music gradually gave rise to groups such as *The Renaissance Players*, the *Sydney University Chamber Choir* – now *Sydney Chamber Choir* – the *Early Music Society* and the *Sydney University Symphony Orchestra*. *The Renaissance Players* is Australia's longest established professional early music group. They have been presenting performances of ancient music for more than thirty years under the inspired direction of their founder and long time teacher in the department, Associate Professor **Winsome Evans**. In addition to concerts they have recorded dozens of radio broadcasts, film and TV scores as well as releasing

numerous CDs of medieval secular songs, dances of Spain and France, and traditional Sephardic music.

Peart's founding of the Australian branch of the *International Society for Contemporary Music* in 1956 was a further indication of his commitment to an already well-established creative/scholarly ethos. Other Heads of Department such as the revered **Sir Peter Platt**, who became Professor of Music in 1975, continued to expand the ideals of the founding Professor, fostering a department engaged in inquiry and innovation in the fields of composition, performance, and musicology. In 1976, Professor Platt, with the composer the late **Ian Fredericks**, set up the electronic music studio, *SUESS*. The following year, Platt, with musical directors **Vincent Plush** and **Stewart Challender**, was responsible for the establishment of the *Seymour Group* for the performance of new music. With major composers **Peter Sculthorpe** and **Eric Gross** also on the staff of the department, and the arrival in 1990 of myself, **Anne Boyd** as Professor and Chair, many young and talented composition students flourished. It was my joy, following in the steps of Donald Peart and Peter Platt, to establish early in my tenure a PhD in composition and a few years later, the (short-lived) combined degree, the BA/BMus.

Western historical research received a boost with the creation of the *Musicological Society of Australia* in the department under Peart's patronage (1963). From its first meeting the Society embraced research in both western and non-western music, an association that became a vital characteristic of Australian scholarship when the Society later expanded into a national body. A recent President of the Musicological Society, Associate Professor **Nicholas Routley**, is also the Director of the *Sydney Chamber Choir*. Traditions of historical research have been upheld in the department by the well-published and highly acclaimed work of musicologists, Professor **Richard Charteris** and Dr **Graham Hardie**.

The department has long been engaged in studies of ethnomusicology, particularly in the areas of Australian Aboriginal, Japanese, and Javanese music. Professor **Allan Marett** (following the studies of **Alice Moyle** and **Trevor Jones**) has played a major role in this field for more than twenty years. The establishment of a student gamelan group, initially led by **Iwan Natapraja**, was followed by the formation of *Kyai Kebo Giro* in 1992 by **Sarah Weiss**. Based in the Old Darlington School, this group became a focus for ethnomusicology programs as well as a performance ensemble. Through its students the department of Music has produced an impressive list of alumni, a musical 'Who's Who' extending across many countries and fields, from teaching and research in all areas of education through to film, radio and journalism, music administration, full-time composition, and performance. I have every confidence that these traditions will be given the opportunity to continue to flourish within a new Faculty of Music – indeed any other outcome is unthinkable!

Our deep gratitude goes to colleagues within the Faculty of Arts who have given us such wonderful support across

the life of the department. We will continue to count upon your support for our expanded musical activities, study, and research within the University of Sydney both on the main campus and in the beautiful and historic Greenway building in Macquarie Street.

**Anne Boyd,**  
**Professor of Music**

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## Faculty Schools in 2004

**School of English, Art History, Film and Media**  
**Head: Associate Professor Adrian Mitchell**

### Departments

Art History and Theory  
English  
Australian Literature  
Linguistics  
Performance Studies  
Studies in Religion  
Australian Studies Program  
Medieval Studies Program  
Arts Informatics Program  
Media & Communications Program

### *Honours, awards, achievements*

Professor **Elizabeth Webby** (Australian Literature) was awarded an AM in the Australia Day honours in 2004. **Penny Gay** has been promoted to a Personal Chair in English; Associate Professor **Geraldine Barnes** (English) was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities; Dr **Jennifer Milam** (Art History and Theory) won a Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Award; and **Danielle Malek**, a PhD graduate in Celtic Studies, was this year awarded a Sir John Monash Fellowship to Harvard. Congratulations to all concerned. Professor **Roger Benjamin** (Art History and Theory) is also to be congratulated for winning the Robert Motherwell Book Award – presented by the Dedalus Foundation in the USA – for his book *Orientalist Aesthetics: Art, Colonialism and French North Africa 1880-1930*. Roger is the first Australian to have won this prestigious award. Congratulations too to **Sue Woolfe**, a teacher in the Creative Writing programme, who has been awarded an Established Writers' grant by the Australian Literature Board. Her most recent novel, *The Secret Cure*, came out at the end of 2003. Associate Professor **Catharine Lumby**, director of Media and Communications, has been regularly at the centre of media attention especially for her work for the National Rugby League – her report and recommendations were presented to the NRL near the end of 2004.

Postgraduate research activity continues to flourish with the School winning 46.5% of the Australian Postgraduate Awards and University Postgraduate Awards in the Faculty of Arts for 2005. There was an increase too in the number of staff who have been awarded Australia Research Council grants in various categories for the coming year. The School hopes to build on this success with the recent appointment of a Research Project Manager to assist staff in drawing up grant applications.

### ***Staff changes, an enlarged School***

Dr **Mary Mackay** retired from the department of Art History and Theory at the end of the year, and Mr **David Brooks** from the department of English early in 2005. Also Dr **Antonina Harbus** has left English to take up an appointment at Macquarie University, and Dr **Ivor Indyk** has recently resigned from English/ Australian Literature to take up the new Whitlam Chair in Writing and Social Research at the University of Western Sydney. There are compensating gains: Dr **Chris Chesher** has become the new Director of Arts Informatics, and **Christine Crowe** will transfer into that program on a fulltime basis. Dr **Susan Thomas** has commenced as the lecturer in University English, Dr **Richard Smith** as a Sesqui lecturer in Film Studies, and Dr **Marc Brennan** in Media and Communications. Dr **Steve Maras** is also due to take up an appointment soon in Media and Communications.

With the move from four to three Schools in the Faculty, the School of English, Art History, Film and Media is the new home for Performance Studies and Linguistics. We welcome colleagues from these departments and look forward to the new opportunities in teaching and research that can be generated in our enlarged School.

### ***PG programs and other activities***

The postgraduate programs in the School continue to thrive, especially in Creative Writing, Professional Communication, and Media Practice. Two new programs have been approved at Masters level, in Film Studies (Master of Film and Digital Image in conjunction with the Sydney College of the Arts), and in Media and Communications (Master of Strategic Public Relations). Plans are afoot to develop other new postgraduate degrees.

The School continues to do well in all spheres of activity – in research publication, postgraduate research supervision, and attracting international students including Study Abroad candidates. Undergraduate enrolments are holding up very well. The department of English has been particularly successful in its fee-based programs, earning over a million dollars for the Faculty. Groups of students come from Japan for intensive courses in Australian Studies, and we have a live lecture exchange also with Japan, which is attracting interest from a consortium of Japanese universities. We are also looking into delivering courses to selected areas in rural NSW, making use of the same technology: the main difficulty here is to find receiving studios that are open after business hours!

### ***Resource issues***

The School continues to be under-resourced in terms of both academic and administrative staff, but that is undoubtedly the experience of all the Schools. Unhappily, the Woolley building is becoming more and more rundown, in marked contrast to the impressive refurbishment of some of the other major Arts buildings. The pressure on room availability for teaching and research needs has also become intense. This is an ongoing concern for **Elizabeth Connor**, the School Administration Manager, not least in trying to arrange congenial and collegial groupings for academic staff. One recent

triumph was to find good rooms for all the staff in Media and Communications on level 1 of the Mills Building: they now have a ‘home’ at last.

### ***Conferences, seminars, visitors***

The School was associated with a number of conferences and seminars throughout the year. In June it combined with the Sydney Film Festival to arrange a visit by **Ross McElwee**, a renowned documentary filmmaker from the USA, to our Film program. In July, it supported the Centre for Medieval Studies in hosting a symposium on medieval and early modern music from the Iberian peninsula. A performance by the St. Laurence Chamber Choir of some of this music, from two sixteenth-century manuscripts acquired by Special Collections in the Fisher Library, was especially impressive. As a result, a commercial CD is to be made, with financial assistance from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor **June Sinclair**. There was support too for the department of Studies in Religion in running a conference entitled “The Buddha of Suburbia”. The School also sponsored the visit of Professor **Catherine Gallagher**, from the USA, to a symposium in the department of English

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## **School of Philosophical & Historical Inquiry**

**Head: Professor Richard Waterhouse**

### Departments

Anthropology  
Classics and Ancient History  
Archaeology  
Gender Studies  
History  
Philosophy  
Sociology and Social Policy  
Centre for Time  
European Studies Program  
Museum Studies Program  
Social Sciences Program

### ***Awards, achievements***

In the Australia Research Council round of grants in 2004, the School was successful in obtaining fifteen Discovery Grants, one Linkage Grant and one postdoctoral fellowship, the highest number of grants won by any School or Department in the University, with a total value of more than \$4.7 million. The School also enjoyed success in securing postdoctoral fellowships in the University’s annual Sesqui round. Twelve fellowships were awarded across the institution, two of them to SOPHI departments. In 2005 **David Pritchard** will be taking up his fellowship in Classics and Ancient History while **Uriah Kriegel** will be joining the Philosophy department.

A number of academic staff in SOPHI were recognised for their academic achievements in 2004. **Kirsten McKenzie**, whose book, *Scandal in the Colonies*, compared scandals in early Sydney and Cape Town, was awarded the Max Crawford Medal by the Australian Academy of the Humanities. In addition, two members of the School, **Paul Redding** (Philosophy) and **Lindsay Watson** (Classics and Ancient History), were elected fellows of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

### ***Recent appointments, staff changes***

The School made a number of outstanding academic appointments in 2003-04. Fresh from postgraduate studies at Harvard, and with a book contract with Harvard University Press already secured, Dr **Chris Hilliard**, an historian of modern English culture joined the History department in mid-2004. An outstanding young philosopher, Dr **Nick Smith**, previously a staff member at the Victoria University in Wellington, will be joining the Philosophy department at the beginning of 2005. Dr **Martin Gibbs**, who has already published extensively in Australian Historical and Maritime Archaeology, will be joining the Archaeology department in early 2005. Finally Dr **Alastair Blanshard** will be joining the department of Classics and Ancient History at the beginning of 2005. We also look forward to welcoming the new Professor of Classical Archaeology, **Margaret Miller**, and the second Professor of Classics, **Eric Csapo**, in mid-2005.

Unfortunately there were also staff losses in 2004. Dr **Noel Weeks**, a member of the department of Classics and Ancient History for more than thirty years, retired at the end of 2004. He will continue his affiliation with the School as an honorary associate. Dr **Ed Aspinall**, a lecturer in History, will be leaving in mid-year to take up a position at the ANU. The School wishes him the best in his future career.

### ***A new shape***

From the beginning of 2005 SOPHI will expand to include the departments of Anthropology and Sociology as well as the teaching program operated by the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies (all formerly part of the School of Society, Culture and Performance). This will mean an addition of twenty academic staff to SOPHI and an increase of forty percent in student numbers. The School welcomes new colleagues from elsewhere in the Faculty and looks forward to enlarged opportunities for teaching and research.

### ***And new surroundings***

For eighteen months from early 2003, various departments in the School, together with the School administration team, moved out to temporary premises in the Institute and Old Teachers' College buildings to allow for the renovation of the West Quad, MacCallum and Brennan buildings. They returned to the refurbished quarters in mid-2004. Archaeology, Classics and Ancient History, Gender Studies, and History are now comfortably housed in rooms that are unrecognisable from the dilapidated state of the old buildings. But more restoration is in the pipeline: space in the East Quad, long occupied by Philosophy, is earmarked for reconstruction in 2006.

### ***Curriculum development***

Curriculum developments in 2004 were mostly focused in the area of postgraduate coursework. In 2005 new coursework units will be available in Archaeology, Classics and Ancient History, Gender Studies, History, and Philosophy. In the meantime, the innovative cross-disciplinary program in Ancient World Studies, drawing on the resources of a number of departments across the School, was introduced in 2004. Also a number of SOPHI

departments continued to participate in the postgraduate coursework program in Medical Humanities.

### ***Looking ahead***

2005 is likely to be a difficult year both for SOPHI and the Faculty as a whole. The School will need to identify areas of research strength, with a view to concentrating resources in them. It will also need to examine its teaching programs with the aim of developing more effective and less resource-consuming methods of delivery. Nevertheless, there is good reason to be confident that the extraordinary successes that the School enjoyed in 2004 will continue in 2005.

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### ***Classics and Ancient History***

2004 was an important and exciting year for classical studies at Sydney University, associated above all with the bringing together of Classics and Ancient History as a single department in the School. The task of overseeing this complex, demanding, and rewarding process rested with the recently appointed professor and chair of the new department, **Peter Wilson** (an Arts graduate from Sydney who has returned from a position at Oxford after fifteen years in the UK).

The happy union was celebrated in July with a party (funded by the School) and a guest lecture by the distinguished Sydney alumnus **Richard Hunter**, now Regius Professor of Greek at Cambridge. This year too the Kudos Foundation launched an independently funded (short-term) lectureship in Ancient Greek named in honour of the late Professor Kevin Lee. The Foundation is devoted to supporting teaching and research in Classics in Australia. (Kevin Lee, as many will know, was instrumental in its formation.) Dr **Emma Gee** – another distinguished graduate of Sydney and Cambridge - has been appointed to the position.

The further renewal of the area is signalled by two other new appointments: Dr **Alastair Blanshard** has just arrived, from Reading University, to take up a lectureship in Greek History. Alastair is a cultural historian whose research centres on Greek social life, including sexuality, masculinity, law, and imperialism. He is also interested in the scars left by the ancient past on the modern world, and is currently completing a book on the Heracles myth. We also look forward to welcoming a new Professor of Classics in mid-2005 (appointed in 2004): Professor **Eric Csapo**, currently at the University of Toronto. Eric's teaching interests lie in Greek and Roman literature and culture, especially Greek and Roman Drama; and he has particular research expertise in the history of the ancient theatre. His book *Theories of Mythology* (Blackwells) appeared recently and he is currently writing a book on Greek and Roman Comedy.

Among awards and achievements in 2004, **Lindsay Watson** was elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. **Peter Wilson** and **Eric Csapo** won a major ARC Discovery grant for five years

for the project 'Accounting for the Ancient Theatre: a new social and economic history of Classical Greek drama'. **Suzanne Macalister** won a Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award. And **Lindsay Watson** and **Pat Watson** received a teaching grant from the School to develop online postgraduate units in Latin and a new unit, 'Love and Sexuality in Ancient Rome', which will be offered as part of a new Ancient World Studies Postgraduate Program developed by the joint department.

The 16th Todd Memorial Lecture was given by Professor **Joseph Farrell**, University of Pennsylvania, in August 2004: 'The Author's Body and the (Im)materiality of the Classical Text'. The 15th Todd Lecture, 'The Bonds of Danger', given in 2002 by Professor **K. Coleman** of Harvard, will be published soon.

Finally, the annual Latin Summer School, kindly hosted by the Faculty of Arts and Centre for the Humanities and Social Sciences, celebrated its tenth year of operation in 2004. Open to anyone from the community, the Summer School has five levels – from beginners to advanced – and is taught by a range of volunteer tutors and lecturers. It continues to be the highlight of the year for many participants.

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### Philosophy

Three members of staff were awarded Discovery Grants in the ARC 2004 round. Dr **Peter Anstey** has a grant for work on the topic 'John Locke, Botany and Natural Kinds'. Professor **Huw Price** (Centre for Time) will be engaged in a project called 'Time and Perspective in the Quantum World' together with Dr **Guido Bacciagaluppi**, Institut d'Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et des Techniques, Paris, and **Dr Jenann Ismael**, University of Arizona, who has been offered a QEII fellowship. Among other things, the project will support seven international research workshops over five years, five in Sydney, two in Europe. The keynote speaker at the first workshop in mid-2005 will be Professor **A. J. Leggett** (Nobel Laureate in Physics, 2003). Professor Leggett will also deliver a public lecture as a Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Visitor during his visit to the University in July. The third recipient of a grant is Dr **Paul Redding** for a project entitled 'Idealism and the objectivity of norms: a neglected path from the Eighteenth Century'. In addition, **Paul Redding** this year was elected as a fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities; and Dr **Rick Benitez** was awarded a Faculty of Arts Teaching Excellence award. Dr **Nick Smith**, a University of Sydney graduate, is to take up a lectureship in 2005, moving from a position at Victoria University, Wellington. Also, Dr **Uriah Kriegel** will take up a postdoctoral fellowship.

Major publications in 2004 include Emeritus Professor David Armstrong's book, in the Cambridge Studies in Philosophy series, *Truth and Truthmakers*, Cambridge University Press, Dr **John Grumley**, *Agnes Heller: A Moralism in the Vortex of History*, (Pluto Press, London), and Dr **David Macarthur** and **Mario De Caro** (editors) *Naturalism in Question*, (Harvard University Press).

### School of Languages and Cultures

**Acting Head: Associate Professor Tim Fitzpatrick**

#### Departments

Arabic and Islamic Studies  
Asian Studies  
Chinese & Southeast Asian Studies  
French Studies  
Germanic Studies  
Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies  
Indian Sub-Continental Studies  
International and Comparative Literary Studies Program  
Italian Studies  
Japanese and Korean Studies  
Modern Greek  
Spanish Program

Professor **Anthony Stephens**, Head of School, retired at the end of August 2004, having guided the School through its first years. We wish him well. Professor **Hugh Clarke** (Japanese and Korean Studies) took over as acting Head for the remainder of the year. There were many achievements in teaching and research activities in 2004. But the School was especially concerned by the looming threat to programs in Indonesian Studies and Thai. Associate Professor **Tim Fitzpatrick** (Performance Studies) will be acting Head from January 2005.

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### Chinese and Southeast Asian Studies

The department is delighted to welcome two new specialists on modern and contemporary China to its staff, Dr **David Bray** and Dr **Eddy U**, and to celebrate the award of an ARC Discovery grant to Dr **Wang Yiyan** for her research on modern Chinese fiction.

Dr **Bray**, who comes to Sydney from Cambridge, works on urban governance and social space in contemporary China. His book *Social Space and Urban Governance in China: the Danwei System from Origins to Reform* (Stanford UP) is to appear this autumn. He is now working on 'community building' (*shequ jianshe*) and the transformation of urban space in contemporary China. Dr **U** comes from a position at Oxford; he has published in such journals as *Modern China* and *Comparative Studies of Society and History*. His research focuses on social institutions, social relations, and social consciousness in twentieth-century China. One of his projects looks at relations between state socialism and bureaucracy; another investigates how the category 'intellectual' (*zhishi fenzi*) has been variously constructed since the early Republican period. Dr **Wang's** ARC grant is for a project entitled 'From Local Stories to National Identity: Competing National Myths in Chinese Nativist Fiction'. A specialist on nationalism, localism, and gender representation in contemporary Chinese fiction, she is also interested in Chinese diaspora studies and Chinese artists in Australia. Her book *Narrating China: The Fictional World of Jia Pingwa* will be published by Routledge Curzon in 2005.

In the meantime, funding cuts are posing problems for our programs in Southeast Asian Studies. We face a difficult future. At the same time, we are challenged to think positively by a small but enthusiastic cohort of potential

Honours students, some of them currently undertaking intensive study in a new (and innovative) program at an Indonesian university. As the study of Indonesian and Thai is generally acknowledged to be an area of prime importance, we hope that some way will be found to support it in the University.

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### French Studies

Professor **Margaret Sankey** has been awarded an ARC Discovery Grant in the 2004 round to work on the project 'The Baudin Legacy: A New History of the French Scientific Voyage to Australia (1800-1804)'. Her co-researchers are Jean Fornasiero, University of Adelaide, John West-Sooby, University of Adelaide, and Michel Jangoux, Université libre de Bruxelles. The French scientific expedition (1800-1804), commissioned by Bonaparte, is not given the recognition it deserves in Australian or French historiography. This interdisciplinary project will be the first to analyse the full range of material on the Baudin voyage and will cast new light on its role in the history of Pacific exploration, particularly in the areas of natural science and anthropology.

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### Hebrew, Biblical & Jewish Studies

**Suzanne Rutland**, who was promoted to Associate Professor in 2004, has been awarded an ARC/ Linkage grant for the project 'The political sociology of the Australian Jewish community' with fellow-researcher Emeritus Professor **Sol Encel** (UNSW). The project will examine the internal dynamics of the Jewish community, its institutional structure, responses to internal and external pressures, including terrorism, and its relations to the broader Australian society. Based in sociology and political theory, the study will also draw on historical sources. The aim is to develop an improved model for Jewish community leadership. Three community linkage partners are involved: the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, the Jewish Communal Appeal, and Isi Leibler who has a unique private archive in Jerusalem.

Major publications in 2004 include Dr **Shani Berrin's** book *The Peshar Nahum Scroll from Qumran. An Exegetical Study of 4Q169* (Brill). 4Q169 Peshar Nahum is an early biblical commentary with citations from the book of Nahum with interpretations that apply the text to the author's own time. The comments relate to theological concerns of the community, particularly in eschatology; they offer insight into a small ancient Jewish community and shed light on ancient Judaism and early Christianity.

During the year, Drs **Ian Young** and **Shani Berrin** were invited speakers to the Society of Biblical Literature in Texas, USA. Visiting scholars in 2004, mainly in association with Mandelbaum House, included **Gary Rendsburg**, Professor of Jewish Studies at Rutgers University, USA, and **Michael Stone**, Professor of Armenian Studies, Hebrew University, Jerusalem. Professor Stone's visit was sponsored by the Sir Zelman Cowen Universities Fund. Finally, staff this year made an

historic move from their old quarters in the East Quad to newly refurbished offices in the Brennan building.

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### Italian Studies

Professor **Nerida Newbiggin** has won an Australian Research Council Discovery Grant to continue research on public performance in fifteenth century Florence. Her research covers all kinds of public performance from welcoming a visiting Emperor in 1452 (who left in a huff) to carnival, jousting, and public executions. Florentines in this time became increasingly proud of their ability to stage major events, and kept extensive records. Nerida is currently working through a vast range of chronicles, government records and account books held in Florence in an attempt to understand the republic's enthusiasm for lavish spending on public display while also seeking to raise vast sums of money for an endless series of costly wars against hostile states.

#### In memoriam

Emeritus Professor **William Ritchie**, who held the chair of Greek from 1965 until his retirement in 1991, died in July 2004 aged 77. After graduating in classical Greek at Sydney in 1950, Bill took a doctorate at Cambridge, before returning to Sydney where he spent the whole of his academic career. He was a notable teacher, a painstaking scholar of Greek tragedy, especially the plays of Euripides, an influential figure in classical studies, and a dedicated member of the Faculty of Arts and of the SUAA. He served a term as President of our Association and was a Vice-President for many years to the time of his death. (See obituary by Dr **Suzanne MacAlister** in the *University News*, 17 September 2004)

Dr **Patricia Lahy**, senior lecturer in Psychology, Dean of Arts 1980-85, Pro-Vice-Chancellor 1987-91, and Student Ombudsman at the University 1994-99, died in May 2004 aged 75. Pat, who was Sydney's first woman dean, had remarkable administrative skills allied with great personal qualities. As expressed in the *University News* (18 June 2004) she was an eminently sane person, droll, astute, down-to-earth, unassuming, and unfailingly fair to all. Her contribution to the Faculty, the University of Sydney, and the University of Western Sydney 1987-91 (on behalf of the University of Sydney), was truly immense.

For the SUAA program in 2005, also the membership application form, see the Alumni website on the Faculty of Arts site: [www.arts.usyd.edu.au](http://www.arts.usyd.edu.au); or write to the Secretary, SUAA, Box 2, Holme Building AO9, The University of Sydney, NSW 2006.

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