

From the Head of School



Welcome to the first edition of what will become a regular School of Social Science Newsletter. It appears at a particularly auspicious time, with one of the School's most eminent scholars – Emeritus Professor John Western – having been recognised this week in the Queen's Birthday honours list for his contribution to higher education and, in particular, to the discipline of sociology. He has become a Member (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia. John spearheaded the development of sociology in Australia and has, subsequently, helped to lay the groundwork for the growth of sociology in South East Asia. He has graduated over 50 doctoral students, and many more masters students, a significant number of whom have gone on to make their marks in academic - and wider public – life, both in Australia and abroad. A tribute to John is included in this newsletter.

The School commenced the year with Marie Hobman in the role of Acting School Manager. We thank Marie for her efforts during the time she was with the School, and welcome back Heather Dixon to the role of School Manager following her secondment to the (former) School of Geography, Planning and Architecture. We've seen a number of changes in staffing (reported later in this newsletter) – including the secondment of members of the academic staff to the Institute for Social Science Research. With Professor Mark Western as Director of the Institute, the School – and Institute - will have much to gain over future years through strong collaborative endeavours. Mark is conscious of the depth of research (and other) skills in the School and is seeking to build large-scale project work - with members of the School as active participants. Similarly, the

School will gain enormously from the presence, in the ISSR, of scholars of the calibre of Professors Bill Martin and Lorraine Mazzerolle, and Associate Professor Maria Zadoroznyj (who will have a half time role in the School).

Success has come recently to Professor Janeen Baxter who has been made an Australian Professorial Fellow, and to Professor Zlatko Skrbis who has been elevated to the position of Dean, Graduate Studies. Professor David Trigger was nominated by many staff for the role of Deputy Head of School and has kindly agreed to accept that role. David has made a major contribution to the growth of anthropology and will, no doubt, put his considerable energies into School matters. I very much welcome his on-going support.

Finally, we welcome the new Director of the University of Queensland Archaeology Services Unit (UQASU), Dr Andrew Sneddon. Andrew commenced duties on 1 June this year and has a strong vision for the Unit. The School thanks Dr Jon Prangnell for his careful guidance of the Unit during the last decade and wishes both Andrew and Jon the best in their combined efforts to elevate the presence of UQASU within Queensland and, indeed, Australia.

- Professor Geoff Lawrence,
Head of School.

A Tribute to Emeritus Professor John Stuart Western



For over four decades John Western has helped to shape the academic discipline of sociology in Australia and the Asia-Pacific, pursuing and encouraging research which has had far-reaching impacts. He has, at the same time, influenced the direction of socially-

oriented, evidenced-based, public policy in Australia and has informed governments on issues ranging from Cyclone Tracy, to the cessation of logging on Fraser Island, to the role and impact of care-givers in Australia. John completed undergraduate and masters degrees in psychology/social psychology at the University of Melbourne in the mid-to-late 1950s, undertaking doctoral studies in sociology at Columbia University where he was awarded his PhD in 1962. He subsequently taught at Columbia and the Australian National University before becoming Senior Lecturer/Reader in Political Sociology - in the University of Queensland's Department of Government - in 1966. In 1970 John was appointed as the first Professor of Sociology at UQ, a position he held until he retired. He was made Professor Emeritus, in 1996.

John has gained millions of dollars of funding for studies into areas such as class structure and social inequality, delinquency and criminality, and quality of life. He has published over 50 authored, co-authored and co-edited books and monographs together with over 150 book chapters and journal articles. His books *The Mass Media in Australia* (1971, second edition 1983) and *Social Inequality in Australian Society* (1983) were groundbreaking, while his co-edited *A Sociology of Australian Society* (1988, with a third edition in 2000) was adopted as the standard introductory text in sociology in most Australian universities for more than a decade after its initial publication. More recently John has co-authored *Understanding Youth Crime: an Australian Study* (2003) and is currently completing another book on social inequality.

He has been a visiting researcher at the

Tavistock Institute of Human Relations, London, and at both the University of Ottawa and the National University of Singapore. He was President of The Australian Sociological Association (TASA) and its predecessor the Sociological Association of Australia and New Zealand (SAANZ). For his services to the development of the social sciences he was made a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia in 1984, and for his international and influential work on sociology was elected to the Swiss Academy of Development in 1989. This week he received an AM in Queen's Honours list for his services to education and, in particular, to sociology.

John has had a significant influence on the internationalisation of social science education. In creating the Master of Social Planning and Development degree at UQ some 30 years ago, John and colleagues recruited hundreds of Thai, Chinese, Malay and (more recently) Vietnamese students to the University. He also formed the Asia-Pacific Sociological Association and has remained an active member of that body.

His distinguished academic career has been paralleled by outstanding service and contributions to broader society. He was a Commissioner with the Criminal Justice Commission of Queensland from 1990 to 1993. He also provided research reports to Federal and State government bodies on such topics as public housing, homelessness, multiculturalism, and the 'meaning' and measurement of community strength/social capital. That he continues to research in these, and other, areas and remains a prolific writer, is an indication of his dedication to the discipline of sociology. It also demonstrates his capacity for creative and critical thought as a publicly-focused intellectual.

In all his efforts he has been strongly supported by his partner, Tasnee, and sons Bruce and Mark. We congratulate John for his recognition in this year's Queen's Honours list, acknowledge his outstanding contribution to the School of Social Science, and wish both John and Tasnee all the best for the future.

- Geoff Lawrence

NEW STAFF

Dr Andrew Sneddon



Andrew Sneddon started in the new role of Business Development Manager of the UQ Archaeological Services Unit last week. Andrew studied at the University of Queensland in the late 1980s and early 1990s, obtaining honours degrees in Classics and Ancient History and Law, before completing his PhD on the archaeology of prehistoric Cyprus at La Trobe University. Andrew has worked as a consultant in the heritage profession for almost ten years, specialising in Australian archaeology and the assessment and management of heritage places (including Angkor in Cambodia, Old Parliament House in Canberra and the Sydney Opera House). He has published on a range of subjects relating to heritage law and archaeology and has worked on a large number of Australian and international archaeological excavations.

Ms Janet Sypkens

Janet joined the School's General Staff Team in March this year with over 30 years experience working for CQU, the Department of Education and CSIRO. She now works as a Technical Lab Assistant in the Archaeology Labs. She is tasked with ensuring the labs run as smoothly as possible and organising and maintaining equipment and supplies.

When her children had grown up, Janet returned to university. She is currently enrolled in an Extended Major in Archaeology in the Bachelor of Arts program and plans to begin honours next year. Janet says about the university, "I enjoy the university environment and the company of people who like to explore new ideas".



Mr Mark Engelmann



Mark rejoins the School after a two and a half year absence. In that time Mark experienced the life of a police officer in the beautiful Whitsundays. After some soul searching he quit the 'job' and started his own business - an ongoing project.

Back in the School of Social Science, Mark is working closely with Heather on Engagement activities and HR issues. He is also providing administrative help to Trisch with regard to the Master of Social Science review. Mark is working on a casual basis and will generally be in his office (Rm 802) on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week.

2009 Jay Hall Lecture a Success!

Professor Marshall Weisler would like to thank all who attended the 3rd annual Hall lecture held 15th May, 2009 in celebration of Associate Professor Jay Hall's 30+ years at the helm of the Archaeology Program, School of Social Science. For just our 3rd year, attendance at the lecture (presented by Prof. Peter Hoscock, ANU) was estimated at nearly 150. The wine reception at the UQ Art Museum was enjoyed by all.

It was with great pleasure that Professor Weisler announced Professor Donald Grayson (University of Washington) had agreed to present the 4th Hall lecture. Professor Grayson is truly a world-renowned archaeologist who specialises in Quaternary paleoecology, zooarchaeology, historic biogeography, evolutionary ecology, North American prehistory (especially the Arid West), and the European Paleolithic. He is the leading figure in faunal studies with particular interest in the long term relationship of people to their environment, especially the causes and consequences of megafauna extinctions worldwide (of particular interest to Australia). He has authored countless influential books and fundamental articles. We look forward to his presentation in 2010.



*Top: Archaeology staff, postdocs and affiliates.
Above: Archaeology Alumni*

Archaeologist in Royal Company

Pictured is Andy Fairbairn (right) with colleagues from Germany and Japan meeting His Royal Highness Prince Makasa of Japan (second from left) at the annual conference of the Middle East Culture Center in Japan in Tokyo (March 2009). Andy was invited to speak at the conference on the subject of Hittite agricultural collapse.



Archaeology Staff, Students and Graduates in Italy and Turkey

School of Social Science archaeologists are heading into the field this winter to take advantage of the northern summer field season and will be strengthening UQ's research linkages with Italy and Turkey. Andy Fairbairn is excavating at Pompeii with his long-time collaborator Dr Steven Ellis (University of Cincinnati, USA) and then is moving on to the prehistoric site of Kaman Kalehoyuk (pictured right) in Turkey where he is leading an ARC funded investigation between ancient agriculture and climate change in the



Hittite Empire (c. 1700 – 1200 BC). Andy will be running a research fieldschool with students and graduates from UQ, including Rohan Fenwick (PhD Archaeology), Kirsten Bradley (Honours graduate 2008), Reiner Man-

tei, Nathan Wright, Xavier Carah (all graduating from the BA in 2009), before moving on to work at Neolithic (c. 7000 BC) Boncuklu. Kirsten and Xavier will also be working at Boncuklu with Nathan and Rainer heading off to Chalcolithic/Neolithic (c. 7000 – 3000 BC) Domuztepe. Students will be taking part in excavations and developing new Honours and PhD projects with collaborators from Turkey, Japan and the UK, including the hosts of the Kaman field school, The Middle East Culture Center in Japan.

Africa Dig

UQ Postdoctoral Fellow Jessica Thompson will be in Malawi in August and South Africa in September – November of this year. While in Malawi she will be making preliminary preparations for a field project she hopes to have up and running by 2010. The project is designed to address several key issues in the origins of modern behavioural complexity, and will provide plenty of opportunity for UQ student involvement. While in South Africa Jessica will be a Visiting Researcher at Iziko: South African Museums of Cape Town and the University of Cape Town. She will be collecting data on fossil assemblages from Blombos Cave and Die Kelders Cave 1, both in the Western Cape. These data will be used to under-



stand the relative import of 'hunted' versus 'collected' animal resources during the Middle Stone Age of South Africa. These aspects of subsistence likely influenced ancient human social organisation, but have not been examined in any detail in Africa, where the origins of modern behaviour are thought to lie.

Left: Jessica Thompson excavating Middle Stone Age deposits at Pinnacle Point Cave 13B in South Africa.

RHD Graduates

Congratulations to the following students on the completion of their PhDs and subsequent graduations:

Evelyn Ybarzabal
"Engaging Gender in Public Transport Planning"

Barbara Ashford
"Making a mark: an ethnography of dealing in Australian Indigenous art in the global market"

Maarten Rothengatter
"Taxing taxis: limits and possibilities in regulating the tax compliance behaviour of marginalised taxi workers - an Australian case study"

UQ hosts legal eagles for Indigenous people & law workshop



Above: The Honourable Justice Roslyn Atkinson; Professor David Trigger, Discipline Head Anthropology and Deputy Head, School of Social Science; and Mr Michael Williams, The Director of the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit.

Queensland judicial officers have participated in a workshop concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the law in Queensland held recently at UQ.

Convenors Professor David Trigger, of the School of Social Science, and Michael Williams, Director of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit, said the work-

shop aimed to share knowledge of Indigenous culture, and how Indigenous people experienced the judicial system.

For the entire story go to: <http://www.uq.edu.au/news/index.html?article=18433>.

Staff Snippets

- Heather has recently obtained her PADI Open water diving certification. She has since logged 16 dives in exotic locations such as the Maldives and Stradbroke Island.
- Alex Broom, formerly of the School and now at University of Sydney, was married on Saturday, May 30, 2009 to Lucy Wilson.
- Geoff Lawrence has been re-appointed for a three year period by Federal Minister Penny Wong to the Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) of the Lake Eyre Basin Ministerial Forum. The SAP provides regular advice to State and Federal ministers on sustainability and governance issues relating to the Basin.
- Congratulations to Annie Ross who won the Bruce Veitch Award for Excellence in Indigenous Engagement 2008. This was awarded at the Australian Archaeological Association conference in Noosa, Dec, 2008.

Please remember the newsletter needs your ideas and submissions to survive. For any contributions see Mark Engelmann; Rm 802, Michie; x57516; email: m.engelmann@uq.edu.au.