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# woroni

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14 – 27 August 2008

## Bomber parachutes in

Rudd appoints former opponent Kim 'Bomber' Beazley as new ANU Chancellor.



Anney Craft  
Anna Leacock  
News

Kim Beazley, former Labor politician and current Professor of Political Science and International Relations at the University of WA, has been named the new Chancellor of the Australian National University. Taking up the position in January 2009, Beazley will replace Dr Allan Hawke who was appointed Chancellor in 2006 for a three year term and was not interested in a second.

In an interview with *Woroni* at the opening of the new Hedley Bull Centre, Beazley said he was looking forward to his new role. Although he understands the role of Chancellor is largely ceremonial, quipping that "perhaps I need to be humble", he saw his role as a "great opportunity" to advocate the ANU. He sees his role as "emphasizing to the



"Thanks for the job fellas." Our new Chancellor with V-C Ian Chubb and Prime Minister Kevin Rudd at ANU last week **Tully Fletcher**

community the role of the ANU in offering expert scholarship in every conceivable national and international problem, from climate change to peace and disarmament." The breadth and quality of the scholarship at the ANU, Beazley said, made the ANU an "easy thing to advocate for."

When asked whether a move to Canberra was likely he responded, "I've been an expert commuter for twenty-seven

years," indicating that he will most likely remain in Perth during his appointment as Chancellor.

Beazley has always maintained a strong relationship with the tertiary sector. A Rhodes Scholar, he gained a Master of Philosophy at Oxford University, and before his political career tutored and lectured in politics at Perth's Murdoch University. Under Keating, he held the port-

folio of Employment, Education and Training, and is currently a professor of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Western Australia.

Vice-Chancellor Ian Chubb declared that Beazley will be "an outstanding asset" to the university. He added "[Beazley] has made a remarkable contribution to Australia through public office and is now set to continue that record in his role as Chancellor

of Australia's leading university."

Chubb emphasised that ANU will profit from Beazley's experience, intelligence and ongoing dedication to education and universities, also stressing the value of Beazley's connections in the business and bureaucratic sectors.

The appointment puts to rest ongoing speculation he would become Australia's next ambassador to Washington.

## Liberals slip one in ANUSA elections: the game is on...

Robert Wiblin  
Editor

Week three's Student Union elections saw the ANU Liberal Club (*SuperVision*) narrowly achieve success at the ballot box for the first time in years, but the Union remain very much in the hands

of the ANU Labor Students' Club (*Future*).

Nicky Vreugdenhil and Nick Field were elected from the *Future* ticket, while *SuperVision*'s Mitch Strachan was the last to achieve quota with some ten votes to spare. This year's elections were the most professional

**Continued Page 4**

Tully Fletcher  
Editor

Most of our readers probably don't care, but ANU Students' Association (ANUSA) elections are on in Week 5 and it's become the fiercest contest in years. Independent Kacey Lam will take on

Labor Right's Sham Sara in the electoral battle for the ANUSA Presidency. Both candidates are supported by full tickets competing for almost all ANUSA positions and it's now anyone's guess as to who'll take the undergraduate seat on University Council, the \$26,000 honorarium and the oversight of our Association.

Students will soon be overwhelmed by the sea of blue (the Labor Right/Independent 'Energize' ticket) and orange (the Independent 'reFresh' ticket) in Union Court as candidates attempt to pull undergraduates into the polling booth to vote.

The Liberals ('Shine '09') and  
**Continued Page 11**



woroni

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# Mandatory detention on risk only

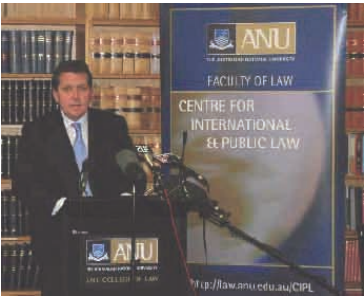
Immigration Minister dumps Howard's asylum-seeker policy at ANU lecture.

Anney Craft  
News

On Tuesday 29 July at the ANU College of Law the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Senator Chris Evans, announced significant changes to the way that Australia's system of immigration detention will operate.

Senator Evans referred to a new "risk-based approach" as fundamentally changing the premise underlying our detention policy. The onus of proof will be shifted, with the presumption now being that a person will remain in the community while their immigration status is resolved. They will only be detained if the need is clearly established. Senator Evans outlined those situations where mandatory detention will still apply as: when people first arrive (for the purposes of health, identity and security checks), when they pose an unacceptable health or security risk, or when they have repeatedly breached visa conditions.

Senator Evans, in justifying this new approach, said that "desperate people are not deterred by the threat of harsh punishment," and that the impact on detainee's mental and physical health caused by indefinite or arbitrary detention has been "severe." This also resulted in what Senator Evans referred to as "enormous



damage" to our international reputation.

Despite strongly criticizing the Howard Government's previous policies regarding immigration detention, Senator Evans was intent on emphasising a still-tough-on-border-control stance despite announcing these significant reforms. He insisted that mandatory detention must be considered an "essential component to strong border control," and that people will still be processed on Christmas Island as part of Australia's "Excision Zone."

The Excision Zone is an area legally outside Australia's migration zone. This means that these excised places are excluded from the application of the *Australian Migration Act 1958* (Cth). This partially abrogates Australia's obligations under the Refugee Conventions which have been implemented through this legislation. The purpose of the Excision Zone is, in Senator Evans words, to allow for the "non-statutory processing of persons."

Senator Evans said these

changes to immigration detention would allow Australia to "honour our international treaty obligations" and greater emphasis the "humane treatment of the individual." He announced the improvement of facilities on Christmas Island that will better accommodate children and families "in a community environment." Senator Evans also noted that greater access to legal and community services would be offered to those in detention there.

Simon Rice, the Director of Law Reform and Social Justice at the ANU, is supportive of the announced changes while holding some reservations as to whether these reforms go far enough. In an interview with *Woroni*, Rice noted that Australia has come under scrutiny in the past for its failure to comply with its international obligations in regards to unlawful non-citizens and asylum seekers.

Although the change to a risk-based approach to immigration detention is a step in the right direction, Rice notes that the maintenance of Australia's Excision Zones is disappointing and is not consistent with Australia's obligations under the Refugee Conventions. The insistence by Senator Evans to maintain a "tough" image is based on the continued fear of a potential "mass influx" of asylum seekers. This is the justification used by

Senator Evans to maintain the offshore processing facilities on Christmas Island.

Rice sees this as an expensive and logistically difficult response to a potential influx of asylum seekers. With a current detention population of 357 – which Senator Evans concedes is the lowest number since March 1997 – the management of unlawful non-citizens does not seem to pose any serious logistical issues.

Rice suggests that, with such a small number in detention, and with the majority of those detained there for a breach of visa conditions rather than unauthorised arrival by boat, it is conceivable that Australia use existing urban institutions rather than off-shore processing facilities like Christmas Island. This would allow for the easier and more cost-effective provision of legal and community services to those in detention, and would allow those in detention further protection under the *Refugee Conventions* (as implemented through our *Migration Act*).

Whether this shift to a "risk-based" system of detention is to be the only change or part of a continued process of reform to the immigration system is yet to be seen. Senator Evans referred to these reforms as "the beginning of a new approach" that introduced "new and more compassionate values to our detention policies."

# Researchers in white paper limbo

ANU, CSIRO await federal government white paper on science and research



Robert Wiblin  
Editor

The Federal Government has delayed by one month its *Review of the National Innovation System* which foreshadows a shakeup of science and research funding. The report should now be released in September.

The Federal Budget earlier this year included several new initiatives for environmental research but also some "inflation fighting" cuts from the razor gang, including a \$63 million cut to the CSIRO over the next four years. While postgraduate scholarships were doubled, funding for research into Nuclear Physics and Forestry were slashed – both

areas ANU specialises in. CSIRO Black Mountain Labs escaped the cuts, which mostly occurred in Victoria.

Former CSIRO divisional chief, Dr Max Whitten, lashed out at the cuts calling them "moronic" and demonstrative of "an airhead mentality" toward science – a reputation the Government will be eager to dodge in its white paper.

The "Commercial Ready" R&D program which "encourages the growth of innovative Australian companies" was also entirely cut at a saving of \$547 million. Senator Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, said that the closure of "Commercial Ready" was a hard decision but the Government believed it was supporting "too many projects that would have proceeded without funding assistance." The Government instead created a Clean Busi-

ness Australia initiative, a \$240 million industry fund-matching scheme for energy-and-water-efficient innovation and allocated

\$500 million to its much vaunted Green Car Innovation Fund.

Read more about science funding at [www.woroni.com.au](http://www.woroni.com.au)

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## Résumé09

Straight from the SA to the CV.

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# PM pays tribute

...and opens University's latest questionable architectural endeavour.



Charles Prestidge-King  
News

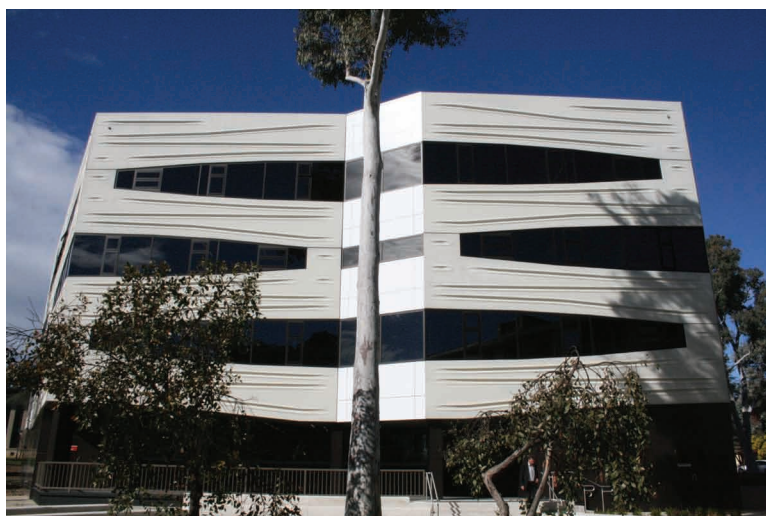
The Hedley Bull Centre – the new home for the Asia and Pacific College of Diplomacy – was opened on the 6th August by the Prime Minister, the Hon. Kevin Rudd MP. The building, which is attached to the H.C. Coombs building, houses a wide group of students and academics and is expected to become an important focal point for and international relations study at the Australian National University.

Hedley Bull, who is best remembered for his 1977 work *The Anarchical Society*, which has been widely translated and remains influential to this day, died in 1985 and was a Professor of International Relations at the ANU in the 1960s.

The Prime Minister spoke about the significance of Hedley Bull's legacy and stressed the importance of the study of international relations to Australia's future, singling out the ANU for praise.

"Anyone who is making a difference in international relations in Australia is doing it here," he said. ANU has done "great things in the past," and the Prime Minister said he was "confident for the future."

Prime Minister Rudd also spoke of an international commission on disarmament and non-proliferation that the Federal Government is helping create, with Gareth Evans appointed to its leadership. Designed to promote diplomatic solutions, the Prime Minister stressed the importance of dialogue, stating that "[in foreign affairs]...it is better to intelligently debate rather than



The new Hedley Bull Centre, inside and out Tully Fletcher

just letting things happen."

Rudd situated the ANU at the heart of this undertaking, stressing the "fundamental importance" of the Hedley Bull Centre. As proof of this commitment, the Federal Government provided \$3m of the \$17.5m total cost of the Centre.

Among the crowd of luminaries in attendance were the Chancellor-Elect, Professor Kim Beazley, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ian Chubb AC, the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Michael L'Estrange AO, and several prominent Ambassadors.

The design of the building, which staff had a large hand in, is intended to foster communication between faculty and students. It was designed to fit into

the "hexagon theme" of Coombs, and serves as a focus for some 300 Masters students and 70 PhD students, as well as faculty members.

When asked about the controversial "science fiction architecture," the Vice-Chancellor chuckled and said that he "like[d] it," mentioning that the building was designed to get the different departments to talk to each other. It aimed to change the "old-fashioned, pigeonhole disciplines" into something that encouraged communication and interdisciplinary dialogue.

In a brief interview afterwards, the Prime Minister said that it was "good to see decent buildings. This building represents the rebirth in the physical dimensions of universities."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

Tully Fletcher

### Rizvi defeated at ALP Conference

An ALP source has revealed that ANUSA President and Young Labor identity Jamila Rizvi was soundly defeated at the recent ACT Labor Conference when she put forward a motion to acknowledge and accept the 'post-

Voluntary Student Unionism' policy environment in the ACT Labor platform. After an overwhelming vote against Rizvi's motion, the ACT Labor Party remains committed to compulsory student unionism.

### Secret SRC motion pays NUS affiliation fees

At its most recent meeting the ANUSA Student Representative Council (SRC) overturned existing post-Voluntary Student Unionism policy and resolved to pay thousands of dollars in affiliation fees to the National Union of Students (NUS). NUS President Angus McFarland addressed the meeting and afterwards the three Labor Club Executive members – President Jamila Rizvi, Treasurer Alex Rafalowicz and Social Officer Sham Sara – convinced the Council that authority should be given to negotiate an NUS affiliation fee of up to \$3500. The Treasurer

told the meeting that profits from O-Week and Bush-Week would be used to provide the money. An SRC member commented that "The Executive is more interested in making NUS happy than getting the best deal for ANU undergraduates". The Executive told the SRC that the motion was justified on "national solidarity" lines.

Not all members of the Executive were in favour of the move.

After the motion was passed, the SRC resolved to keep the contents of the discussion secret retrospectively declared that part of the meeting *in camera*.

### Hall tariffs to rise (again)

Across University-owned Halls weekly room rental is proposed to rise by \$7.50 from \$149.50 per week to \$157.00 per week. The decision follows a University Accommodation Services (UAS) review of tariffs for 2009, which

involved student consultation. Students with meal plans in the catered Halls can expect to pay \$287.00 per week. Both rent and catering are proposed to rise in line with the current Consumer Price Index of 4.5%.

### Container Hall runs aground (for now)

Accommodation Services and University Council have put the proposed 'shipping container' Hall on hold until 2010. This decision followed receipt of a financial risk assessment which expressed concern that the new Hall may not be built in time for the first semester intake of stu-

dents, and thus risk losing income. *Woroni* understands that liability issues were also raised, as a consortium was the most likely option to manage the construction. The University still intends to construct 100 'containers' behind Ursula Hall in time for the 2009 academic year.

### College boy "got so smashed last night"

A resident of Daley Road enjoyed a typical Thursday night out at Mooseheads last night and got "maggoted." He started drinking rummies at college and said the night just "went from there."

Apparently he hardly remem-

bered getting home at "like 6am," but after "vomiting all over the bouncer" and getting thrown out of the Mooseheads establishment came "really close to getting some after some mad spade work."

# Yet another art theft on campus

Charles Prestidge-King  
News

The University has again been shocked by a major theft, with a \$25,000 painting by Australian impressionist Tom Roberts discovered missing in a recent audit. The painting, Road Near Goulburn River, was discovered missing from a function room on June 19. The painting may have

been missing for as long as two months, with the Australian Federal Police (AFP) report stating that the theft occurred between April 30 and June 18.

The painting, whilst distinctive, spans 56cm by 45cm and was stored in a little-used room, making it a relatively easy item to make off with.

The news comes three and a half years after the ANU suffered its most high-profile theft

from the Classics Museum. In late 2004, a number of Roman antiquities were stolen from the Museum, which lies within the A.D. Hope building. Pieces of jewellery, including cornelian stone earrings and gold necklaces, were taken.

Most significantly, a first-century bust that is thought to depict a relative of Augustus, possibly Livia, was taken. The item was thought to have been worth

up to \$250,000. Aside from their considerable monetary value, many of the items were used for the teaching both of university students and of the many school groups who toured the Museum.

The University took steps to ensure the security of the Museum, installing CCTV cameras and enhancing the area's security measures.

In the case of the Tom Roberts painting, however, the University



has so far ruled out any changes to security. A review of the theft is taking place in conjunction with the AFP.



# Liberals slip one in but Labor dominates

From Page 1

and extravagant for many years with banners, shirts and pamphleteers dominating Union Court even the week before the election. This resulted in a substantial 70% increase in turnout from last year with 1350 voters casting ballots.

With broad policy agreement on the problems in the Union the main point of difference between the two tickets related to the replacement of the Acton Supermarket with a 3 Mobile store last year, which sparked a substantial outcry amongst students fearing the loss of low drink and food prices. *SuperVision* wanted to roll back the policy of expanding the number of union outlets and lease more of the Union out to private operators to produce more price competition. Future on the other hand feared the profit margin of private opera-

tors would push up prices and questioned the ability of competition to keep prices down in a small market like the Union.

The large numbers of experienced and proactive Labor Club pollsters in Union Court, as well as a colourful presence played a large part in *Future* taking a strong 74% of the vote. Given the stigma attached to Liberal candidates on campus the Supermarket issue presented a rare opportunity that *SuperVision* candidates were eager to use. *SuperVision* was able to achieve success where other Liberal Club tickets have failed by selecting more moderate candidates and beginning campaigning early. *SuperVision*'s decision to send personal letters to most ANU residents was a new development in ANU student politics and aroused the ire of many students who are less than en-

thusiastic about the prospect of receiving letters during every campus campaign.

Questions were raised about where the lists of hall and college residents came from – one residence apparently handed out a full list of its residents on request. *SuperVision* claims the rest came from Facebook, but given the extent of the mailout, that is a claim not believed by all. Funding for the operation apparently came in large part from Michael Phillis's wealthy parents – suggesting he is not just the "brains of the team" as stated on *SuperVision*'s sloganistic campaign materials, but the wallet as well.

The outcome of the election is likely to have little to no impact on the actual running of the Union. Reports from involved students suggest that the General Manager maintains strong

control over the Union and that the Chair of the Board has rarely been able to dominate the decision making process or push through ideas the General Manager disagrees with. In addition, given their postgraduate candidate was elected unopposed the ANU Labor Students' Club will control six out of the nine seats on the board – enough to elect the next Union Board Chair with ease. Sources in the Labor Party rumour mill suggest that Annika Hutchins has been overlooked for next year's Union Chair position largely for internal factional reasons, with Byron Fay now slated to take over the role from ANU Labor Club President Chris Steel.

Almost all of *Future*'s campaign promises were already being investigated by the current board although many of the ideas from both teams might be

impossible in practice anyway. A Subway in the Union may fall into the exclusion zone of the Subway nearby in Civic; solar panels on the roof may be impossible to install due to problems with the Union's aging roof; and it may be difficult to organise kitchen sharing arrangements in the Union Refectory between private tenants.

However, with a dissenting voice on the Board, more information about the process by which the Union Board reaches decisions may become public. Mitch Strachan has already called a meeting of the Board for the first day in which he takes office. With interest in student politics apparently on the rise and Facebook an easy tool to spread information, Union Board meetings may for the first time in a while be attended by students without a political agenda.

## Student polities get pay rise

Chubb ups honoraria for ANUSA officers in post-VSU support package

Jo Harrison  
News

After a submission in response to VSU, the Vice-Chancellor's office of the ANU has approved an increase in the payment received by the ANU Student's Association Executive and the Editors of *Woroni* for their services.

The ANUSA President's honoraria has been raised to \$26 693, an increase of over \$10 000. The Vice-President's payment has been increased by a similar amount, and other members of the ANUSA executive have been granted significant raises. The *Woroni* budget has been increased by almost \$10 000,

including a raise in Editors' pay. Accountability measures will be taken, with summaries of Executive meetings published on the ANUSA website, and executive members expected to keep weekly task timesheets.

ANUSA President Jamila Rizvi told *Woroni* that the increases were requested and approved firstly in order to recognise the sacrifices in work and study hours made by those working over 10 hours a week for ANUSA, but also to ensure that those who wish to become involved in student representation in later years will be able to afford the extra time spent. When asked if she thought the quality of student government would decline without the increase, Ms Rizvi

maintained "I'd like to think it wouldn't, but if financial situation is preventing the best students running for positions and also preventing elected representatives from devoting the necessary time to their jobs, then that is certainly a possibility."

Along with the increases in honoraria, the ANUSA's submission to the university regarding VSU has resulted in the funding of two new publications, the *ANUSA Survival Guide* and the *ANUSA Alternative Course Guide*, and also an increase in the number of days legal and welfare officers are employed. However, some requests, such as increases in department funding and a textbook-loan scheme were rejected by the university.



Mitch Strachan (centre) gets campaigning in week two; all *Future* campaign material has been scrubbed from Facebook.

**Think you can design something better than this ad?**

ANUSA is seeking designs for the 2009 Student Diary Front Cover Design Competition.

Entries must be to scale 145mm (w) x 210mm (h) and can be designs, drawings, photos ... anything creative! Due to ANUSA reception by 5pm Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August. The entries will be judged by a panel of ANUSA and other artistic people. Prizes tba.

## THE TRAPPIST PRIZE FOR SCHOLARSHIP

In a modern world dominated by the positivist publish or perish mentality, some academics strive against the odds to maintain careers of quiet contemplation – determined not to adulterate their ideas with the impurity implicit in the written word. Only the total lack of accountability within the University system stands between this victimised minority and annihilation.

*Woroni* will proudly recognise these oft-forgotten academic heroes with a new University prize named after the monks who take the notorious vow of silence:

### The Trappist Prize for Scholarship

But how to find these brave individuals who reject the burdensome dialectical system, if not in journals, books or lectures?

The ANU considerably provides a tool called ARIES, which allows you to search the publishing record of all ANU academics. We have so far located one scholar in the ANU College of Arts who has broken his vow only twice during ten years in academia and even then, only briefly to write inconsequential papers.

Do you know a scholar even more strict in their lingual chastity?

Find out for yourself: <https://aries.anu.edu.au/content/ASP/ANU-Login.asp>

And unlike them, don't keep it to yourself: [woroni@anu.edu.au](mailto:woroni@anu.edu.au).





## Ten things nobody told you about your Union

Robert Wiblin  
Editor

1. The front page of the Union website hasn't been updated since 2006, the mailing list page returns *Page not found* and they have no Facebook group.

2. Private tenants in the Union are not allowed to sell whatever they want – they have agreements that ensure they do not compete and sell the same goods.

3. Last year, board member Emma Joy Smith made an abortive attempt to cancel the Annual General Meeting after it became obvious that an angry mob of students opposing the closure of the *Acton Supermarket* would show up. They did, but it made no difference.

4. One Chair of the Union Board many years ago likened his relationship with the General Manager Rod to that between Minister Hacker and Humphrey in *Yes, Minister* and would send out *courageous decisions* that the General Manager disagreed with just before leaving the office

5. It is rumoured in Labor circles that board member Annika Hutchins has been looked over for the Union Board Chair position in favour of Byron Fay because she did not sign up to the correct Labor Party faction.

6. Union elections have in the past been won by Australian Democrats who managed to convince a crucial religious constituency that the Union's multi-faith prayer room would be closed unless they won the election.

7. Meetings involving actual students have no binding power over the board.

8. The constitution hasn't been edited since 1994 because it would require a majority of a meeting of over 100 people. It gives the Union Chair power to interpret the constitution as they will and mentions GSF fees which no longer exist.

9. You can buy \$2 Union leftovers from the fried goods store next to the UniBar after 3pm. There is always heaps there on Friday because there are no students to buy food at full price.

10. Any undergraduate can attend Union Board meetings, but no-one ever does! The meeting schedule is now published at [www.woroni.com.au](http://www.woroni.com.au) or from [anu-union.enquiries@anu.edu.au](mailto:anu-union.enquiries@anu.edu.au).



## Grammatically Speaking – ANU; You're the Best?

Scott Walker  
News

A new research project seeks to understand why many students who begin a language at the tertiary level do not stay for long.

Early this year, Vice-Chancellor Ian Chubb allocated \$50,000 in funding for a pilot study into why students continue or dis-

continue language study. The Investigating Student Retention in 20 ANU Language and Culture Programs project is being undertaken by the School of Language Studies (SLS) and the Centre for Educational Development and Academic Methods (CEDAM). The project team, which includes academic staff from 20 cross-College language and culture programs, including European, Middle-Eastern and Asian Studies, aims to improve the attractiveness of language studies at the University.

Continued at [woroni.com.au](http://woroni.com.au)

## "Powderfinger probably won't play at O-Week"

Will Glasgow  
News Editor

The *Energize* Students Association ticket has promised bands "of the calibre of Powderfinger" in its O-week line-up should it win office.

Unsure exactly which bands are of the calibre of Powderfin-

ger, *Woroni* conducted a search on the ARIA website and compiled the following list based on comparable domestic sales: *Crowded House*, Kylie Minogue, Silverchair, Delta Goodrem, Human Nature and AC/DC.

An excited *Woroni* asked *Energize's* presidential candidate, Sham Sara, to confirm this potential O-week '09 line-up as definite.

"No," he said.

**Energize promise smiles and hugs – and vitriol**

After years of frustration ANU students can finally follow the

ANUSA election on YouTube. The *Energize* ticket has uploaded a campaign video allowing would-be voters to relax and gather information the Gen-Y way.

The video's catchy tune ("a little bit of vitriol") and flashy editing reveals a political sophistication hitherto unheard of in ANUSA elections. It features the *Energize* candidates walking, smiling, hugging and inspiring. The team also demonstrates an impressive grasp of gratuitous posing and a competence in jumping.

Continued at [woroni.com.au](http://woroni.com.au)

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[www.merit.unimelb.edu.au/summer](http://www.merit.unimelb.edu.au/summer)

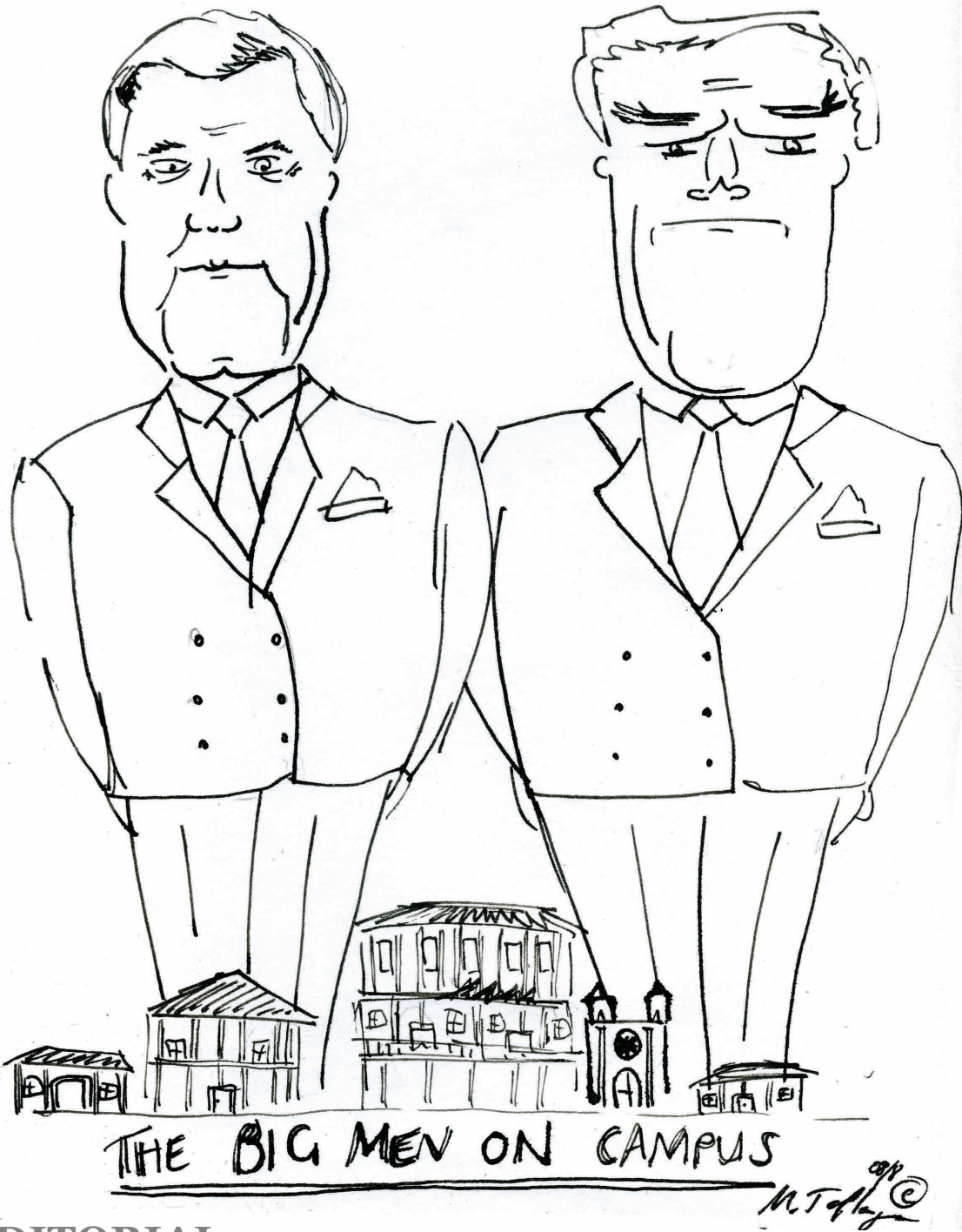
The Melbourne Engineering Research Institute (MERIT) supports engineering research for the benefit of society.



dream large







## EDITORIAL

### Kim the right choice

At first glance, the appointment of former Labor Opposition Leader Kim Beazley as the new ANU Chancellor may be seen as a 'jobs for the boys' manoeuvre. And so it may be, but at least this boy is qualified.

Even if our Prime Minister gave Kim the (albeit symbolic) leadership of our nation's finest tertiary institution to make up for stealing his job and passing him over for Governor-General, he's still an excellent choice to chair our University Council, sign degrees and make speeches. Beazley is a former Rhodes Scholar and Minister for Education, and a distinguished academic in his own right.

*Woroni* is disappointed that he won't be moving to Canberra, but excited that our new Chancellor will be such a substantive figurehead.

### ANUSA Elections – Vote, but not along ticket lines

The first thing to say about the forthcoming ANUSA elections is that every single nominee should be congratulated for putting their hand up to serve their peers in elected office. It's easy to be cynical about student

politicians but – by and large – most do a commendable job on our behalf. *Woroni* encourages all ANU undergraduates to acknowledge the candidates' spirit of volunteerism and public service by getting out to vote in those contests you know something about. If we don't put our collective minds to it we will not have competent candidates that truly represent our priorities, interests and views.

### “*Woroni* encourages all voters to ignore the tickets”

This said, *Woroni* encourages all voters to ignore the tickets. Running opposing tickets belies the claims to 'independence' that most tickets make. For those familiar with the leading candidates on each ticket, it's easy to distinguish the Labor Right, Labor Left, Socialist, Liberal and traditional 'Indie' tickets. They have all given themselves relatively lame or misleading names (as is the tradition) and *Woroni* regards this tradition, as most students do, as an insult to our intelligence. Ignore the tickets, and vote for the individual candidates whose plans and quali-

ties most deserve your support – there are plenty of them. Even the 'joke' ticket candidates are worthy of our consideration on individual merit.

The best possible outcome for our Association – and the undergraduate body as a whole – would be the election of a diverse group of students from different perspectives who are willing to challenge each other, hold each other to account, and

support each other when work needs to be done. If Hall and College residents' associations can function well with a collection of individuals nominating outside the structure of a ticket, so can ANUSA. Nothing would fall apart if the Executive contained individuals from different tickets. We'd probably have more debate, more discussion, and better outcomes.

So, ignore the flyers, coloured t-shirts and the spin; don't vote for your friends or along party/ticket lines. Vote for those individuals you believe will do their best on our behalf.

## LETTERS

### Why is it that critical acclaim always follows death?

It's almost as if, on some macabre whim, Heaven and Hell, replete with suitably wry smiles, have got together over a coffee at, naturally, the Gods and brainstormed how best to fructify the most wily and sinister con on the planet: How to bestow everlasting fame on the likes of Jeff Buckley, Kurt Cobain and Steve “Crikey that was sharp” Irwin whilst robbing survivors like Brendon Nelson, Corey Worthington and Shannon “What about me” Noll, of their richly deserved adoration.

Are we such a pack of dullards that it takes a staggering tragedy to appreciate true brilliance? Or is it some deep-seated I-wish-I'd-thought-of-that envy that motivates the greatness-after-death reflex? Maybe we're just too soft

to criticise the dead, afraid of being lumped into the same group as Germaine “too soon” Greer.

Heath Ledger has won the posthumous jackpot on the back of this phenomenon. Ledger, who, after all, pulls a total of zero absurdly long guns out of his pants, pales in comparison to Jack Nicholson's Joker. Reviewers may not have so happily glossed over this indictment had Ledger survived.

So bear a thought for the brilliance of those under-appreciated living greats. We should pay special attention to those stalwarts running for student election. Appreciate their energy, élan and well developed policy platforms while they're still in their political lifetime, because there won't be any 5-star reviews when their vision dies in the arse.

Yours,  
Adam Brereton and Ed Kus

### Comments from Woroni.com.au

#### Tom Swann:

Regards Robert Wiblin's article 'Abandon No Smoking Banned Wagon' your libertarian point is well made, and on selfish grounds I also stand to benefit from no smoking in public(ly-private) places. But I wonder if there isn't a case to be made here that this is one of those cases where enlightened self interest will want something that cannot be provided by market mechanisms. Note that not even Adam Smith thought the market could provide everything enlightened self interest would want. His moral argument for free markets at every step relies on market provision of things we independently view as good. If we can show cases where it can't, or doesn't, then there is a case for state action, be it provision or market intervention.

Now, doesn't the fact that before the bans etc, it was nigh impossible to find a venue (at least of the kind you and I would frequent) that was not choked with smoke, speak for the idea that it is slightly fanciful to think that market mechanisms will, in our present socio-cultural environment, produce relevant options in the relevant market categories of publicly-private venues? Or are you so committed to righteousness and infinite culpability of the ideally libertarian individual that, in a market where backlash of non-smoker (and smoking non-smoker sympathetics) is potentially never strong enough to generate commercially viable non-smoking options, it is for those who could not dissent loudly enough with their dollars,

simply tough titties?

I don't have to say that the state is responsible to deal with everyone's lifestyle diseases to urge that this would be a silly way to conduct public health policy. But I'm not sure you'd agree: “this research implies we should start organising cigarette subsidies.”

That is, if the primary obligation of government in health policy were to spend as little as possible on healthcare. Not to help its people be as healthy as possible? (*Health policy!*) Granted this is hardly what actual policy is aimed at; if it were, we'd see much more spent on preventative medicine, which not only works, but in many cases relative to its effects is stupidly cheaper. But this target is just what should be at issue. You obviously think of the 'nanny-state' in just such perjorative terms, and I am sympathetic to this. Then what *is* the primary obligation of the state in health? Or is it the burden of the insurance consumer in us all to bear?

#### Jake Zanoni:

As a member of the ALSF delegation to the 2006 NUS conference I'd like to stress that we did not chant “we're racist, we're sexist, we're homophobic.” That was the 2005 delegation. Bloody slanderous *Woroni*...

#### Tom:

Nice website. I very rarely read the hard copy of *Woroni*, I would love to see it replaced entirely by this online version. That would be extremely environmentally friendly. And the money that you save on printing could go to making a really top-notch website (although I like the minimalism of how it is at the moment).



# Socialism a red herring

Jamie Freestone  
Columnist

Comrades! Don your Che Guevara t-shirts, get ready to march, prepare your quotes about opiates and masses, get a bad haircut, criticise the system which pampered you, tell the workers what to believe, pretend Castro's political prisons don't exist, slaughter the kulaks and ignore 100 years of social science because it's time to get Marxist!

Wait a minute, where are all the socialists? Around campus I don't really see posters of clenched fists, or quotes from Lenin scrawled across walls. It has been ages since I saw anyone up on a soapbox yelling about Cuba and throwing pamphlets from the Fabian Society at me. And before people get pedantic and claim I have mixed up socialism with communism they should know this: Marxism, communism, socialism, Leninism, Maoism, Trotskyism, etcet-

era, are all ridiculous variations of what is essentially the most discredited idea of the last 150 years.

I am told, though, that a feud has sprung up among the two rival socialist organisations at ANU – the Socialist Alternative

like a warmly remembered stereotype which needs some people to reinforce it. I like to think that those in the Socialist Alternative are just benevolent people who have stepped up and volunteered to be the fools in a jauntily acted farce. So I thank them if

**“Wait a minute, where are all the socialists? Around campus I don't really see posters of clenched fists, or quotes from Lenin scrawled across walls”**

and Socialist Alliance. The dispute may centre on Hugo Chávez. I imagine the dispute is over how much of a tyrant he is, or at least I hope it is. Last I checked he was striving to extend his constitutionally enjoined limit of two terms as president. This was in between silencing non-government news sources and generally reverting to type as the latest Marxist autocrat aspirant.

I just find it quite funny that these ideas are still around. The campus communists are almost

that is the case and accept that it is perhaps de rigueur that even in 2008 we have wags that advocate centrally planned economies and tell you about it at club and society stalls; perhaps it is part of the rounded university experience.

Sadly though, I suspect the socialists are true believers. In which case I offer a bowdlerisation of an oft-quoted aphorism: if you are not a communist when you are 20, you've thankfully learnt some history; if you are still one at 50, you're teaching

history at ANU.

I should add, not entirely in jest, that some of my best friends (and at least one family member) are socialists and I prefer socialists to, say, people who picket outside abortion clinics or people who go to Summernats.

My problem is not that socialists are evil or dangerous or discourteous drivers, I simply find it incredible that people can still advocate the most comprehensively disproven method for improving social justice and alleviating economic inequality. Socialism has never worked (See 20th century history), it will never work (see economics) and there are good reasons (see psychology).

My theory is that the true reason there are still students signing up to the Socialist Alternative is that it is a strategy some adopt to assuage the guilt affluence which seems to suffuse the educated Western psyche. Some choose to suppress the knowledge of global inequality entirely; some adopt a conservative individualism which simply negates



the need for guilt. Others join groups or contribute to organisations which attempt to improve the situation. Socialism is one of these and though it may not always engage directly with global problems, the mere fact that one is fighting for social justice gives one the required effect. Safely ensconced in revolutionary activity, one can feel better about the hot showers, espresso coffees and university education that are provided by this rich capitalist economy. Well, whatever rocks your superego.

If you are a socialist, please take some time out of your utopian daydreams to write to us at *Woroni*; we are wondering where you have gone. Until then, workers of the world unite and read some decent political theory.

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# The Holy Touch Down Under



**Alessandro Antonello**  
Columnist

The Pope has come and gone from Sydney, having dispensed his wisdom to the thronged youth. Though the pilgrims did not molest me, nor I them, I still feel it necessary to offer perfunctory damnation of them because, well, there were so many and they bothered me on holiday in Melbourne. Despite my lack of regard for the pilgrims, the treatment of World Youth Day and the Pope in the media and the appointment of the first resident ambassador to the Holy See are actually two issues that need to be addressed.

The media's coverage of World Youth Day and the Pope was friv-

olous and without much merit.

The Australian media usually offers offer a jaundiced caricature of a monolithic and ominous Church which thinks only of aborted babies, or the short-fall in baby production owing to depraved homosexuals and flippant, self-interested modern women.

In contrast, the coverage for WYD was positively glowing, if ungainfully peppered with biblical-quotations-as-clichés. SBS's Auskar Surbakti treated viewers to his incisive analysis on papal movements: on the return flight to Rome, Auskar informed us that the Pope deigned to talk to journalists, a massive break with tradition, and wished a happy birthday to another journalist, another shocking gesture. Thank God I now know that. A SkyNews anchorman stated that it was 'hard to imagine' another visiting leader who has had such an impact on Australia. I think that comment was instructive on the size of his imagination rather than of the impact of the Pope.

This sickeningly polite coverage of the Pope's visit is just as bad, to my mind, as the frequently negative coverage of Catholic affairs. Despite my (or your) atheism, there are many avowed Catholics and influential Catholic leaders. Every time we pigeonhole them as the spawn of Satan intent on some misdeed

sador to the Holy See. Whatever the personal attributes of Fischer, I fail to see the pressing needed for a resident emissary. The Holy See offers little bi-lateral importance to Australia: Australians will always use our embassy in Rome, even if they happen to visit the Vatican. It is surely a waste of precious diplomatic resources to

not, in Greg Sheridan's words, 'a mature act of cosmopolitan sophistication'. The Holy See remains a slowly-run enterprise, which is inefficient and secretive. Despite its position at the hub of vast global intelligence networks—namely priests, nuns and brothers—that information is likely to be generally useless to a middle power like Australia concerned with Asia and the Pacific, rather than Latin America and Africa. Whatever the future relations of the Holy See with China, Australia will likely play a minimal role; given the pace of Vatican diplomacy, Kevin Rudd might no longer be Prime Minister when the Vatican resolves all their issues with China.

It seems that certain members of our community need a reality check when it comes to Catholic affairs: as a basically godless society these days, the media need not be too ebullient, but it should neither be too condemnatory. I wasn't touched down under by His Holiness, but bully for those who were.

**"It is surely a waste of precious diplomatic resources to open a consulate for a city-state of 800 people – what trading opportunities can possibly exist in an enclave of 44 hectares?"**

toward our person, we embitter them. When we treat Catholic affairs like fairy floss, we equally demean and embitter them. The media should either cease its widespread coverage, or dedicate some time to even-handed or sympathetic reports.

The second issue is the appointment of Tim Fischer as Australia's first resident ambas-

open a consulate for a city-state of 800 people – what trading opportunities can possibly exist in an enclave of 44 hectares?

I am the first to admit that the politics of the Roman Curia piques my interest: the image of a few hundred old men tucked away in a centuries-old fortress in Rome is rather fascinating. However, the appointment is

# Feminism needs a makeover

**Marina Salas**  
ANUSA Sexuality Officer

The ageing face of feminism has had a makeover. It's not to say that women of our generation are trying to smooth the wrinkles of history altogether as we flounce into a new era of glamour, cosmetic surgery and hyper-materialism.

Those of us who hold within us a sacred acknowledgement

have my friends and – excuse the irony – fellow feminists.

But these days, even morality comes in a range of shades. If a guy in a bar dare utter the words 'show us your tits' I would throw him a right hook to the jaw. If the editors of *Peppercorn*, however, had approached me to request an image of my breasts on the cover of this term's edition of our undergraduate law students' magazine as a symbol of freedom and celebration of the feminine, not only would I have been flat-

ness.

Furthermore, it is an undergraduate publication and therefore has no bearing on the integrity of the faculty's staff or academic standards. What the scandal has exposed is the deep cleavage between second- and third-wave feminists and our respective ideologies.

One of the things that set us aside from our mothers' generation is our sexual nonchalance. We are no longer on the defensive. We grew up in schools that incorporate sexual education into the standard curriculum, where parties and even sleepovers were not uncommonly unisex, where we didn't need to be asked by a boy in order to go to the school dance.

Sex and our bodies are no longer frightening or taboo. Nothing is censored; frank sexual discussion and bi-curious exploration are quite the norm. A pair of breasts, sans nipple, on the front of a magazine aimed at young people reveals no more than what you'd expect to find inside *Woman's Day*, and I fail to see how this is any more offensive than the Interflora icon of a naked male.

In an age where swimsuits are made with less fabric than underwear, and radios are blasting songs lyrics crassly stripped of all

innuendo, sometimes it is hard to keep the cohorts together. Looking around at a generation of women who have sex younger and sport heels and handbags before they've hit puberty, it appears that a lot of us have jumped ship altogether. But what was considered sexist thirty years ago might now just be a celebration of sexual freedom.

A young woman walking through university in the summer, wearing a low-cut singlet top no higher than her bra line, would doubtfully cause even a murmur amongst onlookers. Exposing the top of her breasts is hardly a smear on her good name. I would challenge any professor walking by to stop her and tell her otherwise.

**"Looking around at a generation of women who have sex younger and sport heels and handbags before they hit puberty, it appears that alot of us have jumped ship altogether. "**

of the suffering and silencing of foremothers are not so easily seduced by the sexy glitz that beckons from shop windows and television screens. Confident, unreserved and by no means embittered, I have been screwing my nose up at fashion magazines and R&B clips since I entered my teens only a decade ago. And judging by the perceptive opinions of my ever-shifting female entourage at this time, so

tered but I would most certainly have obliged them. Having read the articles inside, it would be an honour.

The recent uproar over the provocative image on the front cover of *Peppercorn*'s latest issue has only served to make an indignant older generation of feminists look like spluttering old nuns preaching to the converted. This is a law students' magazine. We know about political correct-



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# Restau-rants

Our critics sample the finest food Daley Road has to offer.

Leah Ginnivan  
Tom Stayner  
Occasional Food Critics



Although the precincts of Manuka or Dickson are famed for their restaurants and cafe scenes, one dining destination is often overlooked: ANU's very own Daley Rd. Even on-campus students are relatively ignorant of what's on offer at the veritable smorgasbord of trendsetting eateries (save, perhaps, for a post-coital Weetbix from the Johns dining room). We decided to rectify our ignorance and sampled a meal at each of the catered halls. We bring the results to you, dear reader.

We began with breakfast at **Burgmann College** (casual meals \$10) at Daley Rd's westernmost tip. We noted with pleasure the lengthy dining room hours and a solid selection of juices and cereals.

On entering the airy dining hall we read with apprehension the customer feedback book. Comments included "Less fried food would be healthier!" and a troubling request to "please stop putting salt in the porridge".

Regulars at Burgmann, it seems, have learned to take the good with the bad. Long-running tensions continue over the yoghurt: the new kitchen boldly brews their own, to the dismay of the Greek yoghurt enthusiasts. Lunch often brings the bonanza of textures that make up the mutinous "Weird Salad", which contains substances as diverse as marshmallows, mandarin segments, mayonnaise and coconut. One regular diner quipped

that Burgmann had until recently embraced the recent trend towards "local food", only sourcing its ingredients from meals that have already been served in its own kitchen. In general, however, the food errs on the side of safety, with pastas, quiches, and steamed vegies the order of most days.

We opted for a simple dish of toast, mushrooms and hash browns. The cooked breakfast included poached eggs suspended in a primordial soup of their own cooking fluids. Whilst the hash browns were a triumph in early morning decadence, the fried mushrooms were undercooked and rubbery, despite their oily promise. Only white bread was available, and we discovered that one run through the temperamental toaster was insufficient but two reduced the flimsy bread to a charred mess.

Next stop was lunch at **John XXIII College** (\$8). Johns has a spacious, wood panelled dining area with gold-framed portraits of past Heads of Hall, and a welcome al fresco option in the sun-drenched courtyard. The service was prompt if a little impersonal, and we soon found a place at one of the tables. Apparently the food has taken an upward turn since a new chef, Winston, replaced the

long-serving Thierry. Atrocities such as Dog Food Monday – "put it in a can and you couldn't tell the difference" – lamb's fry, and a supposed 'fusion' of chicken Masala, teriyaki, satay, and goulash are now less frequently seen.

Lunch began with a warming tomato and herb soup, which was zesty but viscous, and with mysterious white lumps that were neither tomato nor herb. We followed with a Tandoori chicken which was stimulating if a little dry, and a slightly slimy spirali with sun-dried tomatoes. Unfortunately Johns' envied soft-drink dispenser is only available at dinner, so we settled for the standard chilled cordial in "yellow" or "red" flavour.

Although already sated, we just had to try Johns' make-your-own pizza facility. An impressive innovation, one can choose between a range of toppings on a tortilla base, then cook it under a grill. We happily left Johns, savouring our only slightly undercooked creation of tomato, marinated onion, fetta and gherkin.

Dinner was at **Ursula Hall** (\$10), which we arrived at shortly after 6pm. Ursies dining room is smaller than its Daley Rd competitors, with utilitarian décor, but not in the 'greatest happiness for the greatest number' sense, and is haunted by an all-but-empty trophy cabinet.

On the menu was barbeque chicken or beef, a vegetable curry, plus some steamed vegies and a panoramic salad bar. We opted for the "Indian-inspired" Tandoori vegetables. It was a shock to both the eyes and the palate, the sauce

a lurid orange colour and with a gritty consistency – perhaps created by the bold use of sand. The vegetables were brazenly served as a side-dish sans the orange sauce.

For dessert we tried the orange and almond cake – allegedly flavoursome when it was first served two days previously – and berry flavoured jelly. Although one fellow diner complained that it would be "better if it had vodka in it", we agreed that it was pretty hard to fuck up jelly, and was as such a high point of the meal.

We finished our meal with a cup of Lipton's Black Tea from one of the large plastic "glasses". Fellow diners told us the dearth of mugs was due to a long running power struggle between students and kitchen staff, one which has also claimed the toasted sandwich maker after a series of "fire incidents". Not reluctantly, we escaped the draughty and rapidly emptying dining room into the cold winter's night.

One diner at Johns told us he had heard the food at **Bruce Hall** was the "best on campus", so for our final foray into the Daley Rd culinary scene we decided to make a night of it – dressed up and brought along a versatile merlot for good measure. However, once we had taken in the cavernous dining room with its soaring ceilings and grand Leonard French originals, it soon became apparent we had grossly miscalculated the sophistication of the establishment. The lighting was of the ubiquitous fluorescent variety, the chairs purely functional, and the clientele informal and, on



our table at least, drunk.

Nevertheless, we decided to persevere. The self-service buffet eschewed the prison-kitchen/school cafeteria feel of the other establishments. We chose an amuse-gueule of spring rolls – the usual suspects of Asian greens imprisoned in their crisp pastry gaol – before moving on to the headline act of Burgundy Vegetables on a bed of white rice, a laudable Dhal, and Shepherd's Pie – lofty in taste but pedestrian in texture.

In general, though, the food was respectable, which is more than can be said for the company. Conversation topics on the round communal table swung loudly between the engineering quirks of the Batmobile, our fellow diners' drinking feats, and speculation on the nationality of children born in space.

Dessert was warmly commended by the regular diners, and included a well-pitched mousse. At \$5.50, the meal was a real bargain. We left satisfied – not to mention relieved to be escaping a rapidly degenerating food-fight situation.

All in all, our tour of ANU colleges' eating venues unearthed some interesting surprises but no real revelations. When compared to Canberra's more renowned eating precincts, the food on Daley Rd may leave you more inclined to spit than swallow.

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# Taking Ourselves Too Seriously: The Annual Event



**Gemma Nourse**  
Culture Editor

*Conflict of Interest Disclosure: Gemma Nourse is running for Education Officer on the Apathy ticket.*

So, it's that time of year again. It's kind of like a disease – an awful, contagious, inescapable disease – that contaminates every person that passes through campus. Who then pass it on to their friends. Unlike a nasty STI, however, there is no medicated ointment to rub all over this infection – you just have to bide your time and wait for the storm to pass. It's actually a little awkward. For everybody.

You, too, would have noticed by now the sudden festivities; brightly-coloured shirts, balloons everywhere, unusually friendly, approachable strangers

weirdly giving a shit about you and lots of suspiciously free barbeques. No price can be placed on your dignity, is all I'm sayin'.

I am, of course, referring to the most prestigious ANU Cultural Event of 2008: Student Elections. You know, because inventing imaginary awards and then naming a recipient is the kind of power that I wield 'round these here parts.

I'll be honest: I am so freakin' ready for this year's elections! I have been practically counting down the seconds til I can once again observe – from a safe distance – the scandals and cat fights that occur during these few weeks, and to see people justifying their being a-holes to each other as "in the name of politics". It's the best!

This special time of year, however, is but a tiny snapshot of a wider ANU culture that I like to call Taking Ourselves Too Seriously (TOTS). The way I see it, Canberra is a TOTSian's paradise. Literally tens of eager students flock to Canberra each year to attend university in the political capital of our nation.

Hell, I did. We go to Question Time as entertainment. We attended Rudd's Reply Speech last year for yuks. We work in the offices of parliamentarians for little to no pay because we get off on it. Let's face it: we're geeks. And when my friends back home say to me "why move to Canberra? That's where people go to die", I reply with "because I like roundabouts, straight lines and massive freakin' artificial lakes. Order makes me feel safe. I fear change".

This explains why ANU has such a high concentration of TOTSpeople. And they all want to be TOTSkin'g of the TOTScastle.

Let's reflect on the Student Elections of 2007. It was like an episode of Gladiators if the contestants were Charles Manson and Jack from The Shining battling it out using sticks with sharp things attached on each end and no safety wear. For those who were busy living under a rock, there were threatened law suits, smear campaigns, stacking of votes, dirty street fighting, high blood pressure and low blows.

The most striking realisation for me was that if you truly want to come off as the "good guys" in student elections, don't give your ticket a name that alludes to a certain party who a certain Dancing With The Stars legend headed. Please explain how this ever seemed like a good idea. I'll admit, however, that I was a little disappointed when I didn't see any One Campus campaign posters around depicting members of the ticket with the ANU flag draped across their shoulders as a homage to their roots.

In my opinion, the real heroes of campus are those individuals that band together to resist the TOTStabshment. A good example was the "joke ticket" of last year's elections, who managed to reaffirm my faith in student politics. I thoroughly enjoyed having a K-Rudd lookalike approach me to discuss the threat of the giant squid conquering the universe. That was fun. However, members of the resistance also appear in other, more unexpected places. I like the work of the Philosophy Club, for instance, who lure prospective beatniks in on Market

Day with their hand-made signs, Arabic shisha pipes and promises of cheap coffee. Keep fighting the good fight, comrades.

I'm expecting big things this year. If you're considering running for the Student Elections, here's a little checklist I have compiled to ensure that we'll only see the best candidates.

- o I love working myself into the ground.
- o I am motivated by a sometimes crippling fear of failure. [Rob: Check]
- o People often tell me to "lighten up".
- o I enjoy arranging my pens in order of least to most amount of ink left, and feel compelled to lock and re-lock my door seven times before I go to sleep at night.
- o I feel that everyone talks about me behind my back. Constantly.
- o I am not afraid to threaten the opposition with severe emotional, physical or political injury.
- o I am prepared to surrender my usual code of ethics if it means I have a better chance at winning.

Come on Student Elections 08. Give me your best shot.

## ANU Virtual Tip

Townie? Sick of signing in at [virtual.anu.edu.au](http://virtual.anu.edu.au)? No surprise – the website is rubbish.

But you can get around it. Instead next time you get to a paywall page on a journal article, just add [.virtual.anu.edu.au](http://virtual.anu.edu.au) to the base of the URL!

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Enter your details and bam – time saved!

## STOP!

Are you being asked to be a footsoldier on a student electoral ticket? Don't be a bloody idiot – find out who you're really running with first. Several dozen innocent first years are sweet-talked into running with tickets they know nothing about every year and often regret it the morning after they sign the forms.

Don't become a statistic.

## ANUSA Election Regulations

For the first time, this year's independent candidates and tickets are required to submit statements of

intention outlining their proposed expenditure, which will be updated each day of next week's campaign. These statements will be available on the *Woroni* and ANUSA websites from Wednesday 13 August.



Photography from ANU photagrahy student Jessie Adams. *Cars on Fire* (left), *Ciella* (right). Send your art to [woroni@anu.edu.au](mailto:woroni@anu.edu.au) for consideration.



# ANUSA elections: the game is on...

Kacey Lam, Sham Sara and Sébastien Willis compete for the ANUSA Presidency.

## From Page 1

Labor Left ('Give A Shit') will also run non-Executive tickets for seats on the Student Representative Council and Faculty Representative Council and all tickets (with the addition of the Socialist 'Left Focus') will compete for the four ANU delegates to the National Union of Students.

Kacey Lam, a current General Representative on the Students' Representative Council (SRC) and a leader in ReconciliaACT and The Oaktree Foundation, is running with Saskia Vervoorn (Vice-President), 'Yoda' Hiroshi Tamayo Del Solar (General Secretary), Andrew Masters (Treasurer), Tes Forshaw (Social Officer) and Andrew Chou (Education Officer).

Sham Sara, current Labor Club Vice-President, Johns Arts Representative and ANUSA Social Officer, is running with Tom Galvin (Vice-President), Michael Wright (General Secretary), John Birrell (Treasurer), Meg O'Connell (Social Officer) and Janet Mills (Education Officer).

And attempting to capitalise (or not?) on the general disregard for student politicians at ANU, joke ticket 'Apathy' will run third-year Sébastien Willis for President on a platform of not caring (much). Willis told *Woroni* that "students should be entitled to express their apathy. The silence of the 80% of students who don't vote shouldn't go unheard".

## The issues

The *reFresh* team are proposing to push for 'e-bricks' for all courses to lower material costs, open the new ANU Learning Communities to non-Hall and College residents, enhance ANUSA transparency and accountability to 'match any Australian business', expand the 'Brian's Bus' service to enhance campus safety, and lobby the ACT Government for more ACTION buses between ANU and

major Canberra centres.

The *Energize* team has put forward a self proclaimed 'ambitious policy agenda' for the Students' Association with key proposals including a "major national music festival for O-Week", the implementation of "new accounting and transparency mechanisms for the Association", advocacy for the full long-term funding of ANU clubs and societies by the University, a student loan scheme for textbooks and bricks in semester two, and ANUSA exam tutorials for all ANU courses.

Labor Left's *Give A Shit* ticket is campaigning on a platform of lobbying for "good quality, vibrant and affordable student housing on campus", ensuring that Faculty Representatives attend all first lectures to open communications, and lobbying for a 'Welfare Room' on campus

**"Whatever happens, this election promises to be the fiercest in years"**

with 'subsidised food' and cooking and laundry facilities.

The Liberals' *Shine '09* "believe in environmental accountability without the outlandish promises; in greater support for international students that isn't just the token efforts delivered by the International Students Department; in ending academic bias; and in the end of minority, bully and hack politics and the end of the popularity contest".

The Socialist *Left Focus* team told *Woroni* that "the fight for student income support and funding for education is linked to other struggles against the consequences of capitalism, like the campaigns to end the homophobic ban on same-sex marriage, to pull foreign troops out of Afghanistan, and to get rid of Rudd's WorkChoices-lite industrial relations laws." *Left Focus* promises to re-engage ANU stu-

dents in 'mass political activity'.

## Outcome uncertain

Though Sara's well oiled machine was tipped as an early favourite for victory, the *reFresh* team appear to be just as organised and professionally run. With so many competing candidates, the result has now become uncertain and overwhelming victory for either camp less likely.

Preference flows and the capacity of the main candidates to turn out their friends and supporters will be determinative.

When organising an ANUSA campaign, ticket convenors and Presidential hopefuls usually attempt to recruit as many popular candidates as they can from a broad cross-section of the University. Behind-the-scenes planning for ANUSA elections usually include rough calculations about which students will draw the most votes from the various

established student institutions and groups. True to form, *Energize* and *reFresh* are full of aspirants from the Halls and Colleges and well-connected Canberra locals.

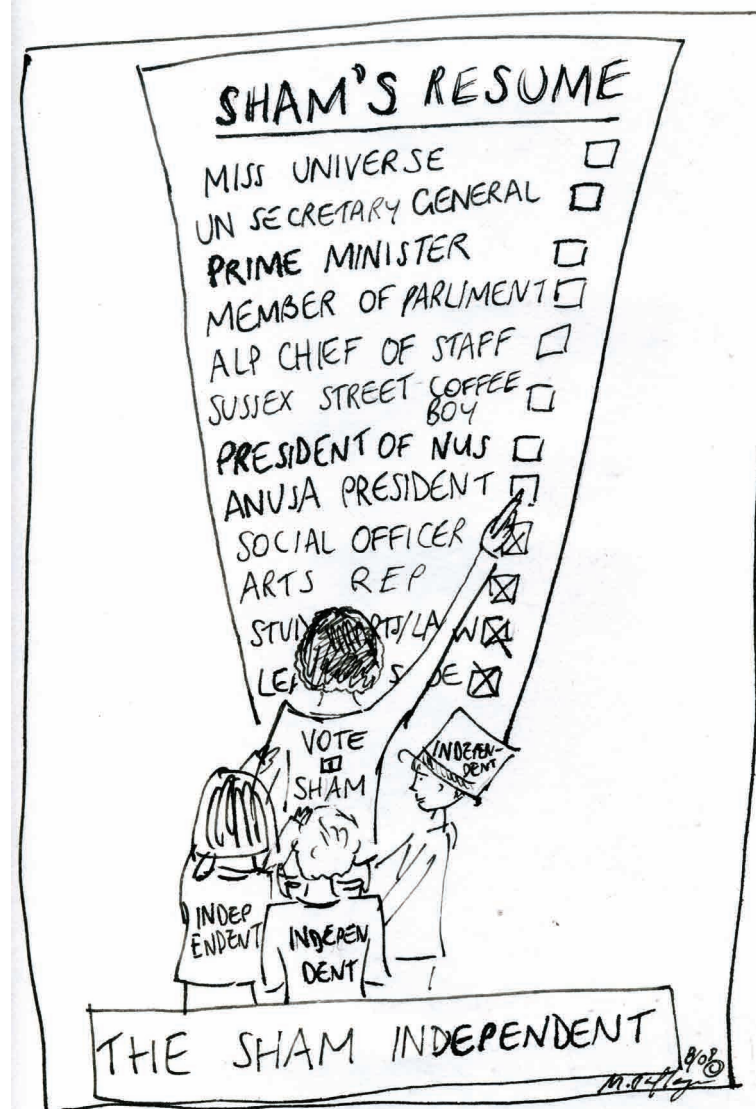
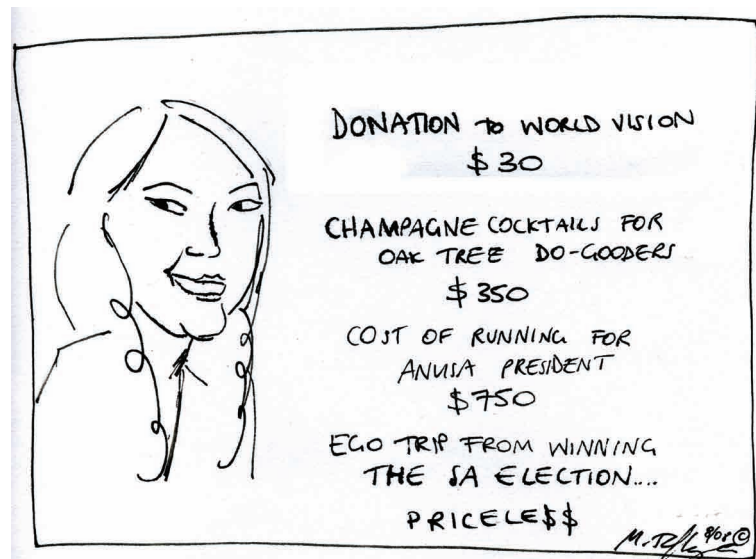
Though the contents of the backroom deals between tickets have not yet been revealed, *Woroni* has learned that Labor Left and the Liberals are likely to be directing preferences to the Independents ahead of Labor Right. Unless the vote is extremely close the usually low Liberal and Socialist votes will count for little, however Labor Left's preferences could have an impact if they campaign well.

Whatever happens, this election promises to be one of the fiercest in years. And the Association we elect next week will almost certainly be one of the most diverse in years.

Editorial Page 5



The Contenders: Kacey and Sham proved that there's no love lost when they took the stage at the International Ball last week



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## BBQ democracy heats up

News | Thursday 5th June 2008  
Tully Fletcher | Editor

It doesn't matter which cause, which group or which election pushing of agendas at our University is almost entirely a sausage.

Now the BBQs will be afire again, as the student establishment of tickets for the annual Union and Student Association

Full election coverage online at [www.woroni.com.au](http://www.woroni.com.au)

We couldn't possibly fit all the election news, views and intrigue into this already expanded hard copy edition of *Woroni* and most of you don't want the details anyway.

Readers can follow and comment on the election race, monitor the antics of the candidates and read the daily blog on the online edition of *Woroni*.

We'll also have photos of the Union Court brawl, a recording of the upcoming *Woroni* ANUSA Presidential Debate, interviews with key candidates and results from the Chancery tally room.

And, as readers requested, the website now also features a 'most commented' and 'most read' bar.



# ANUSA Executive Candidates

## ANUSA President



**Kacey LAM**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

Kacey Lam is a down-to-earth, 'too-honest-for-her-own-good', 3rd year BA student, majoring in Business Management and Development Studies. As an executive on numerous clubs and societies, Ambassador for the College of Arts, as well as extensive experience with on-campus living, Kacey knows the various challenges and rewards of university life. She believes in an empowered and proactive students' association. Her 'can-do' attitude allows her to stick to tight deadlines and her bubbly personality is often contagious. Kacey Lam is your typical student: always out of phone credit, loves coffee, can survive on minimal sleep and reports for Centrelink every fortnight.

## Vice-President



**Michael BREWER**  
*Apathy*

Born on Facebook in 2008, but now increasingly fond of the real world, Michael thought, like many, that campus life would soon include 50c drinks that could be consumed throughout a 36-hour, 24-degree, sunny day, while microchips downloaded knowledge directly from WebCT into our brains, scribes took down our every idea while we talked with our lecturers and new clothes were brought to us directly from the free Itrip Iskip delivery service with zero carbon emissions. Well, Michael is now wiser and promises not to promise anything so outlandish and if you want to make a suggestion, you'll probably find him at Degree.

## Treasurer



**John BIRRELL**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

As Treasurer I will implement a new, transparent approach to accounting and ensure the Grants Process is accessible for Clubs and Societies. I will work to keep party politics out of ANUSA, ensure that the effects of VSU are minimised and develop a more cohesive University community. I'm the best person for this job. I have extensive Student Representation experience and MYOB training. As President of the Interhall Sports Organization, I have overseen the transformation of the Interhall Sport accounts to make them more professional. As a *Woroni* Sub-Editor I've been part of a committed team to improve our newspaper.

## General Secretary



**Ilija BILIC**  
*Apathy*

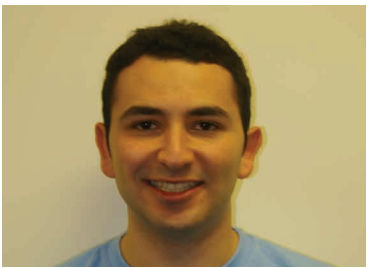
Comrade Bilić thought that he was running for the post of General Secretary of the Politburo. Having survived purge and counter-purge, he has steadily risen through the ranks of the Apathy party machine to become a leading apparatchik. If elected, he plans to introduce his own brand of Leninist-Marxist-Maoist-Stalinist-Djokovicist ideology, healthily irrigated with post-constructivist bullshit, to ANUSA, revolutionising the organisation.

## Social Officer



**Tes FORESHAW**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

Having worked with Melbourne's indie nightclub Gods 'Streetparty', sponsorship and event management are second to nature for Tes. She landed the job after naively agreeing to act as and subsequently pulling off the roles of Sponsorship Director and Logistics 'GoTo' for the 2006 MakePovertyHistory Concert featuring U2, PearlJam and more. Having worked under the mentorship of the BigDayOut big-guns... There is no event this girl can't handle. Tes' main concerns is to ensure safety at and after ANUSA social events. Tes will also ensure the safety of clubs and societies budgets by supporting activities with in-kind management and logistical support.



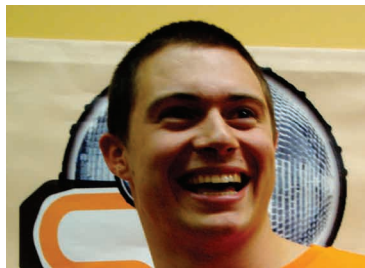
**Sham SARA**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

I want ANUSA to fulfill its enormous representative, social, welfare and advocacy potential. If elected President my major aim is to lead a group dedicated students to work towards implementing as many policy objectives as possible. I want to leave this Association in sound administrative shape for my successor. I'm currently on the ANUSA Executive as Social Officer, which means I have extensive knowledge of ANUSA's structure, events (having organised O-Week and Bush Week), whilst also serving as Chair of the Clubs & Societies Committee. My experience and dedication to student representation means I'm the best person for this job.



**Tom GALVIN**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

My name is Tom and I'm the Energize candidate for Vice-President. Over the past 18 months I have been heavily involved with ANUSA at various levels, including Law Faculty Representative, General Representative, O-Week Director and Bush Week Director, and through this experience I have developed a strong belief in the value of the ANUSA and its strong focus on education advocacy, student welfare and fostering a sense of campus community. In 2009 I want to see ANUSA represented by a group of talented, motivated and committed students who believe in the importance of a relevant and active Students' Association.



**Andrew MASTERS**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

Andrew Masters (or just Masters) was a sports rep on the Interhall Sports Committee and is currently serving out a term as administrator at Fenner. In this leadership role Masters manages the Fenner committee's \$80000 budget. Masters not only has the relevant experience and qualifications necessary to meet the challenge but has shown himself to be someone who gets involved. Proof can be shown in Masters' break dance attempt and subsequent knee dislocation. Masters does have a serious side, with his main aim to environmentally and ethically manage and spend the funds of the students and therefore ANUSA in 08.



**Hiroshi 'Yoda' TAMAYO DEL SOLAR**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

Yoda has been an active Faculty Representative for Asian Studies on ANUSA for the past two years and he enjoys being a part of the Student Association team. He enjoys living in Burgmann College and has been a first-year representative (WHIP) and International Representative in the past. One of his top policies is to improve the marketing of student support systems that ANUSA provides and reFreshing the whole image of ANUSA. Yoda is not only a pretty face as he holds 2nd dan black belt in Karate, plays drums, dances sexy and can actually speak like Star Wars Yoda.



**Meg O'CONNELL**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

The ANU is an assortment of diverse, spirited and animated individuals, pooled together to celebrate this unique stage of our lives. I want the opportunity to push boundaries and explore the range of possibilities open to us in getting to know each-other in this environment. If elected, O-Week 09 will have as the finale a major national music festival with bands of the calibre of Powderfinger! When University is reflected upon in years to come, it will not be particular courses or lecturers that stick in your mind, but the time skipping class or the reason for sleeping through it!



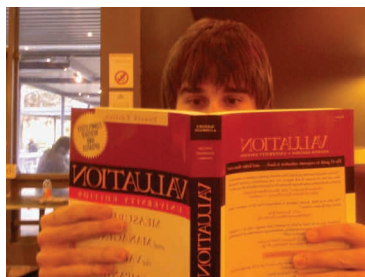
**Sébastien WILLIS**  
*Apathy*

Sébastien has never been moved to do anything significant his entire life, which is why he was chosen to lead Apathy. He has never organised a free bbq, nor done a preference deal, been involved in a leadership challenge, or engaged in factional infighting. He's not even enrolled to vote. He does however have one advantage: he doesn't care. Not about whether he wins or loses, not about how his CV will look after the campaign, not about whether his chances of succeeding in federal politics will be enhanced or not. So go on, vote Apathy. Or don't, Seb doesn't care.



**Saskia VERVORN**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

Saskia has previously served on ANUSA as an Arts faculty representative and has been involved with numerous areas of the university regarding student welfare and education. She stated that 'While I have staunch convictions, I have no interest in the political factions that dominate ANUSA. My resume is good enough already - I'm not interested in more padding. I'm running for VP out of a sincere desire to improve students' welfare.' Saskia also has no ties to the halls or colleges and as such believes she will be able to represent a balanced and honest outlook on all aspects of ANUSA.



**Will WITHERIDGE**  
*Apathy*

Will "Working Families" Witheridge only accepted to run as treasurer because he thought he wouldn't have to do anything campaign-related. He is however well qualified for the post having been at various stages of his life a working family, a single mum, a pensioner, a DINK, a dolebludger, a tax-dodger and a dodge viper. If elected, he will solve ANUSA's post-VSU funding problems by turning Daley Road into a tollway and by sequestering the hot air generated by the other campaigns and using it to power the ANUSA building.



**Michael WRIGHT**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

As General-Secretary I can represent students' interests, because I'm a team player, an outstanding administrator and someone who's not afraid to keep the bastards honest. As Treasurer of BRA and Policy Officer for UNYA, I possess the technical & administrative skills that will ensure ANUSA runs smoothly and efficiently. I've chaired the BRA House-Committee during the budgetary drafting process, and sat on the Grants & Affiliations Committee, demonstrating my capacity for fairness and impartiality. Finally, going into 3rd year Arts/Law, I naturally have no soul, and am sufficiently anally retentive to fulfil the General-Secretary's statutory and fiduciary obligations unflinchingly.



**Sam TURNBULL**  
*Apathy*

Sam signed up because it sounded like a good idea at the time. Soon after, it sounded like too much effort. Politics seems to lend itself to positive change, enthusiastic activism and other nauseating wank, although irreversible nomination for the job of Social Officer was not to be shouldered lightly, as all students take the act of getting bladdered incredibly seriously. These people often belong to the 80% each year who cannae be arsed voting and it is those that Sam so wishes to serve, holding true to a common ideal of indifference.



# Departments Woroni

## Education Officer



**Andrew CHOU**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

Andrew Chou or Chouy, as he is commonly referred to as, is a third year and current law faculty rep on ANUSA. Chou has also helped in the organisation and management of the Australian Law Students Association Conference. I guess all this sounds a bit boring but anyone who knows Chou, knows that while he likes to socialise and certainly isn't boring most of all he is passionate about his community. As such within the ANU education community Chou would implement a policy to allow all students to fill in mid-term evaluations... just in case you aren't liking your lecturer.



**Janet MILLS**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

Education policy is at the core of the services that ANUSA provides. I'm running for Education Officer because I am dedicated and highly qualified. I'm President of John XXIII Residents' Association, a General-Representative on ANUSA and have had involvement in various clubs and societies, including ReconciliACT. I have many plans for this, the first year that the Education Officer will serve on the ANUSA executive. As Education Officer I will co-ordinate the activities of the Faculty Representative Council and help facilitate FRC as a powerful voice for student interests. Energize has extensive education policy which I look forward to implementing!



**Gemma NOURSE**  
*Apathy*

Ms Nourse was born into the world at a very young age, and since then has made many mistakes. Some of these include accidentally performing a courtship dance for a Ukrainian woman named Irina, ingesting a crustacean whole under the pretence that they are more fibrous with the shell on, and believing that Bono is an alright bloke. If elected, Ms Nourse promises to educate every ANU student on how to overcome life's many obstacles, as well as to grant Pluto 'Planet' status once again.

## International Officer



**Samitha RAMANAYAKE**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

Samitha is a third year biotechnology student from Sri Lanka. He has been involved in the international portfolio at B&G since 2006, and as such wanted to give something back to the ANU international community. His highest concern is the well-being of all International students whether academic, social or otherwise.



**Marcus TAN**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

I am the International Students' Department collective endorsed candidate to run as your International Students' Officer. I am dynamic, outgoing and passionate about international issues. It would be truly my utmost pleasure to serve to ensure the welfare of international students is taken care of.

## Environment Officer



**Jack BRANDTMAN**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

As a visual arts student, Jack is passionate about reusable's and creativity. One of his pieces involved reusing a car tyre to create a fully working manual camera. He hopes to reFresh the collective and believes that his personal experiences will bring a different yet positive light to the group.



**Lorna CLARKE**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

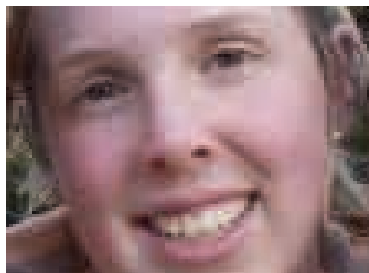
I'd like to use my previous experience as a General and Arts Faculty Representative to make ANU a greener campus. If elected, I'll work with ANU's coffee shops, the Union and ANUGreen to develop 'Green Events Guidelines' and a 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' campaign.

## Womens Officer



**Bec CLARKE**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

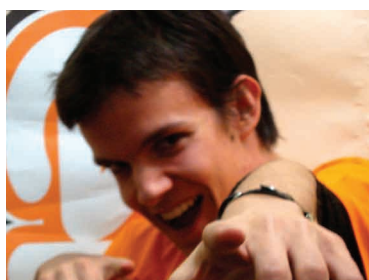
Bec Clarke believes that it is important to be an independent voice for all students and to represent women at all levels of the university. Whether in the middle of union court on a microphone showing the power of women or standing up for someone who has a harassment issue.



**Kate OTTREY**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

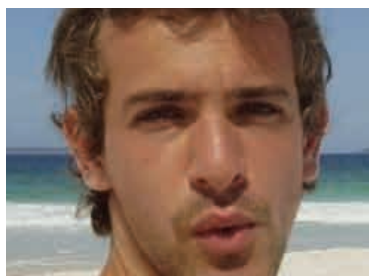
I'm a General-Representative and the 2009 ANUSA Diary Editor. I have pursued students' concerns regarding exchange and parking facilities. I am running for Women's Officer to promote safety on campus, women's health and rights. I intend to initiate professional development seminars for women and an inter-colligate body of Women's Officers.

## Sexuality Officer



**Hugh MOORE**  
*reFresh* (Independent)

Hugh Moore is running for sex(y)uality officer. He is an Arts/Asian Studies student. He has been involved with the Goodwill Society, Jelly babies and Sexuality Department, and is eager to challenge stereotypes and homophobia throughout campus, while promoting queer rights in general. All to bring the sexy back into ANUSA.



**Josef SALVAT**  
*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)

I'm a third year LLB student and am running because I believe that everyone has a sexuality, queer or straight – I feel passionately about it and it's an area ripe for improvement at ANU. When I'm not thinking about sex I'm writing music or teaching singing or avoiding work.

## Independent



**Anney CRAFT**  
Having written for *Woroni* in 2008, I want to keep up the momentum. If ANU is one of the best universities in Australia, then we deserve a newspaper that reflects that standard of scholarship. In 2009, I want to see greater student involvement in contributing to *Woroni* and content that appeals to the broader ANU community. I want to see more intelligent satire that addresses the issues that effect all ANU students. Rob, Charles and I bring unmatched experience and enthusiasm for making *Woroni* the newspaper that ANU deserves. With your vote, we can deliver.



**Charles PRESTIDGE-KING**  
If elected, I want *Woroni* to be a newspaper for the whole university and offer a total media service. We will seek to improve student journalism by increasing online content and instituting new ways of reporting, including pod and vodcasts. We want to reach the entire University Community giving readers a broad overview of the issues and events. We're full of ideas, and I believe that Anney, Rob and I have the vision, the drive, and importantly, the experience to take make *Woroni* even better. With your vote, we'll do just that.



**Robert WIBLIN**  
I am running to edit *Woroni* again because I love the changes we have made this year, as do most ANU students. Anney, Charles and I have a unified vision for making *Woroni* grow up. This includes making sure *Woroni* holds the University and student groups to account for what they are and aren't doing for the students at ANU. We want to do this in an informative but also entertaining way to ensure *Woroni* becomes an even better read. All effective clubs and societies draw on the experience of so-called 'immediate past presidents' – *Woroni* will thrive if we do the same.

## Scoop



**James DAWSON**  
James is the campus clown. You think you're funny? You're not. He is, and he can write- can he what? James is currently on the writing staff for *Woroni* and was the author of the IB Virgin series, although sees mega undeveloped potential for *Woroni*. He is a serious mooring fiend, wears caps a lot and has an abundant collection of ridiculous sneakers.

by Jess Lee



**Jess LEE**  
Jess has a Mos Def mastery of English verse. Not since the Wright Brothers paper-mached the first flying machine has anyone made paper so uplifting. On many separate occasions reading Jess Lee's writing has also been compared to viewing the Aurora on acid, communicating in tongues, leaving the womb, and saving an orphan. Al Gore has suggested that the Amazon's deforestation may be worth the hassle if it means just one more sheet of paper reaches Jess' desk. Jess Lee is well known around the ANU as one cool cat. She loves you all very much.

by James Dawson

## DISCLAIMER

Note that political affiliation listed is only for the tickets running and not the individuals themselves.

All statements presented here are as they were supplied by the candidates. *Woroni* has attempted to include all of the over one hundred candidates who submitted by the deadline but we apologise in advance for any errors in the compilation of this guide. For more information please visit the Facebook groups of the tickets or, better yet, the profiles of the individuals themselves.



# General Representatives

**Celia BOYLE**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm Celia. I'm a third year Asian-Studies/Law student who is a both Senior Resident and the Sexualuty Officer at John XXIII College. I believe in student unions and effective avunues for students to help others with services, information and support. This is why I want to be involved in ANUSA.

**Tani BURGE**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is a first year Asian Studies/Law student and if you want your voice to effect actual student-focused change around ANU cast your vote her way and you'll notice the difference. She is a Fenner ressie who wants to shake things up and get things done!

**Lauren CALLAHAN**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
As a rural Victorian, Fenner resident I was hoping that my first year law uni life was going to be the best. However, with an ANUSA that offers no support and rarely advocates on their behalf, what chance do rural students truly have of being able to SHINE in Canberra?

**Chanelle CARR-JANIF**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm a B&G resident and I would love to be part of ANUSA in 2009. I feel it is important that we have as much involvement and say in our student association as possible. I look forward to the challenge of being able to do just that!

**Jessica CHOU**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
Hello. I'm a Radford student, studying Commerce who is of Taiwanese background. I want to run for ANUSA because I think it is important that under represented groups on campus also get their chance to SHINE and add something to the conversation about the goings-on of Australia's greatest university!

**Carole CHOW**

*Shine09* (Liberals)

**Lizzy COAD**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is in an epic quest to procrastinate life away, has travelled to faraway lands, but nowadays she has stated that "with the uni lifestyle I'm no longer privy to such luxuries; thus I turn my attention to the glamorous life of a GenRep... my refreshing new way of life."

**Andy DONALDSON**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
As an involved Fenner student I'll represent everyone on campus as we make a stand for everybody. So many students feel aggravated that the ANUSA they hope for is never met because politics and CV building gets in the way. It's time for students from the silent majority to SHINE.

**AI ENGLAND**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm AI from Ursies! I want my Hall to have a say in what goes on at this University's peak student body. I want to see wireless access extended to Daley Road and the ANU printing quota protected for the benefit of all students.

**Elouise FOWLER**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm Elouise, I'm in my second year doing a BA majoring in Political-Science and Security Studies. I live at Burgmann, but I'm originally from Sydney. I'd love to be elected because I'm committed to making university life more enjoyable and ex-

iting, as well as advocating for students' welfare and rights.

**GIVE A SHIT (Young Labor Left) COLLECTIVE STATEMENT**

General Representatives – Will MUD-FORD, Kavitha BURGE, Simon HUKIN, Scott WALKER, Melanie TULLOCH, Lisa JUDGE, Jasmin LOGG-SCARVELL, Mark DEHLSN, Julia COLLIN, Ben LYONS, Erin RIKUS, Lucy SWINNEN, Matt BYRNE

In 2009 Young Labor Left will keep the progressive voice alive on campus and inside ANUSA.

In a post-VSU environment, ANUSA is struggling to remain relevant to students' lives. ANUSA is top-heavy, inward looking and incestuous. When was the last time you went to an ANUSA meeting? When were you last asked by one of your representatives what you give a shit about?

Over the last two years the gap has grown between the Executive and the student body. We want to bridge this gap. We are focused on electing representatives who are engaged with student life and students' needs. Young Labor Left candidates give a shit!

That's why, over the past few weeks, we ran our Give A Shit? survey. We found that while 82% of students know what ANUSA is, only 35% know what it does. 83% said they think student representation is important but only 12% have attended an ANUSA meeting. We support campaigns to make ANUSA relevant to all students, so they can access the services it provides.

Young Labor Left will represent the diversity of the undergraduate population. Our candidates are locals as well as residents of the halls and colleges. Our candidates are committed to grassroots campaigning to achieve social justice for ANU students, and the wider ACT community. We want to see advocacy on issues that the students determine are important.

Vote for Young Labor Left because we give a shit about;

- A Students' Association that is accountable and accessible to all students,
- Student driven campaigns, policy and initiatives,
- Rebuilding education activism on campus,
- Fighting for vibrant and affordable on campus accommodation for all students
- Putting students before university profits,
- Sticking it to the University and standing up for students,
- The 31% of ANU students who struggle to make ends meet,
- The 25% of ANU students who struggle to find housing,
- The 73% of ANU students whose employment interferes with their study

We will ensure ANUSA provides important services like advocacy, free welfare and legal support, the second hand bookshop, a welfare room, student run op-shop and more. Young Labor Left gives a shit about making sure the ANU is more than just a degree factory.

Young Labor Left gives a shit about issues important to all students, not just elected representatives and their friends.

Our survey also showed that students are concerned about the quality of their education, VSU, the cost of university (HECS, living costs, textbooks fees), working long hours, student poverty, the age of independence in Centrelink, and accommodation.

Vote for Young Labor Left because we give a shit about what you give a shit about.

**Mariam HAFIZ**

*Shine09* (Liberals)

I want to make uni a brighter and more colourful place; full of smiles and rainbows for all, so that every student can SHINE. As a proud CGGS girl with an interest in other cultures, I believe that I can add a substantive input to the representation of students.

**Georgie HANNAM**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I chose to get involved in ANUSA to fully experience university life. It's been a treat to work alongside such an enthusiastic, inspiring bunch of people. I want you all to benefit from an o-week music festival & much more! I may be small, but I have a big voice.

**Jamaal HASANJEE**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is a second year Arts student majoring in English and Linguistics. He's not just a handsome face or a token red headed Pakistani on the ticket but will contribute to the building of a strong college culture- particularly through bar nights, interhall interaction and reFreshing social events.

**Kate HUMPHREYS**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is a first year Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science student. Currently living on campus she is the first year representative on Ursula Hall resident's committee. Kate is highly involved in many aspects of college and university life and would relish the opportunity to partake in ANUSA.

**Bernie JAMES**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is a Malaysian 'chindian' (= of chinese + Indian origin) medical science student. She lived in Saudi Arabia for twelve years and as such is passionate about all things international. Bernie has also been involved in ReconciliACT and as such can represent a wide group of uni students.

**LEFT FOCUS (Socialists) COLLECTIVE STATEMENT**

Left Focus is a group of activists, committed to building a fighting student movement.

Rising food, housing and petrol prices have pushed more students into poverty. The Rudd Government has neither increased support for student incomes, nor overturned Howard's anti-student union legislation (VSU). As a result student unions across the country are going bankrupt, seriously damaging students' ability to fight back collectively.

The fight for student income support and funding for education is linked to other struggles against the consequences of capitalism, like the campaigns to end the homophobic ban on same-sex marriage, to pull foreign troops out of Afghanistan, and to get rid of Rudd's Work-Choices-lite industrial relations laws.

We can only achieve our goals by involving students in mass political activity. In the past, greater student say in universities, the end of the Vietnam War, the achievement of more rights for Aborigines, women, gays and lesbians, better pay and conditions for white and blue collar workers all resulted from mass movements and not by waiting for liberation from on high.

If you like what Left Focus stands for — don't just vote for us! Email left.focus@gmail.com, come talk to us, and help us build a fighting alternative.

**Frank LIU**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is a tutor (or senior resident) at Burgmann College, and studying commerce. He is a little bit eccentric but forever lovable and willing to lend a hand to anyone that needs it. His interest is particularly

in supporting international students. He just wants people to refresh their outlook; on the association.

**Horace MAK**

*Shine09* (Liberals)

**Alice MCBURNEY**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...grew up in an environment of change (from Australia, to Bali, Germany and Brunei) and she's "lovin it." She wants to refresh uni life, reflecting the diversity key to her life changing times. She will be a pro-active student advocate for all people and issues in 2009.

**Duncan MCDONALD**

*Shine09* (Liberals)

**Bel MILLER**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
Hi I'm Bel! I have been involved in the law students' society, the Union Board and interhall arts this year. I want to be involved in ANUSA because I believe in all the good things that student representation has to offer.

**Supriya NARAYAN**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I thought it was time to put debit credit calculations aside and become part of a truly representative group! Energize interacts with individuals who strive to make ideas into opportunities to be pursued by all. I'm proud to be taking on a challenge for 'ENERGIZE 2009'!

**Daniel NGUYEN**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is a second year finance/law student and a local. He's just like any ANU student, who needs their particular coffee (skinny white chocolate mocha). He loves partying and music festivals. He wants to organise bigger and better ANU events – which will make UC events seem like child splay.

**George OBER**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
I'm an Eddies graduate doing Japanese, French and Arabic and I believe I will make a positive contribution as I connect and interact with lots of students. Most feel disconnected from ANUSA and I hope to use my outgoingness to reconnect students and get them to SHINE at ANU!

**Michael O'TOOLE (Strawberry)**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
Hi I'm Michael but most people call me Strawberry. I'm the Arts Representative at Fenner Hall and the Treasurer of the Social Interhall Committee. I want ANUSA to help facilitate Interhall social events in light of the new halls and liquor policy.

**Tom PHELAN**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
I'm a PhB Science student I understand the pressures of trying to reach your utmost potential at uni. ANUSA need to make life easier for students, not harder. We need to stop intruding on students and make a stand not for the most popular kid in the class but those that want to SHINE academically.

**Laura POULTER**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is a second year Science student. She has been living at Burgmann for the past two years and has been heavily involved in Charities committees, planning social events and inter-hall sporting events. Being a local and a college student Laura is able to have both interests at heart.

**Nick PRESTON**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm a second year Science/Actuarial student from Canberra. I love the ANU and I believe in a progressive Students' Association that cares for every student as well as the world around us. I'm active in many aspects of campus life and am keen to represent ANU students.

**Duncan RAGG**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
Duncan is not just a cheeky smile. He is also an active member of the Arts community, and has played an extensive role in the formation of the University Theatre Society. His involvement as a Gen Rep on ANUSA will focus on greater integration of college and non-college students.

**Mim RIZVI**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
Hi, I'm Mim Rizvi. I'm in first year studying Arts/Visual Arts, majoring in painting. If elected as a Gen Rep I will work hard to get more students involved in ANU events. Especially the Art, Music, International students and students living on campus. Then we can all party together!

**Xinyu RU**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
Hey. I'm a Chinese Economics/Law student who is living at Burgmann but used to live at Fenner. I'm running for ANUSA because I think my background and my involvement in various groups on campus can add SHINE to the conversation on the whole range of issues that ANUSA discusses.

**Pavan SAMTANI**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
ANUSA stands as the independent voice wishing to make a difference in the lives of students at our university. My participation and work with Energize allows me to be involved with this great association. With a Finance major and an international background, this spells for an exciting prospect. Vote Energize!

**Steph SMYTHE**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
I'm a first year Bruce Hall ressie having moved to Canberra from Hobart. I'm studying International Relations and German and want students of Bruce Hall and other halls/colleges on campus to feel represented in ANUSA. Give everyone the chance to SHINE in 09!

**Bec TAYLOR**

*reFresh (Independent)*  
...s current life consists of playing music and organising social events. She stated that "while I want to continue these things, more importantly, I want to see more ANUSA social events. I want more college/Canberran events. I want more ANU wide Fun! Don't stop the music – refresh it."

**Vrinda TIWARI**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
My name is Vrinda and I currently reside at Burgmann College on campus. I'm originally from Griffith in country NSW. I am really excited about planning awesome O-Week and Bush Week events for 09' and being on the Energize team which has some great ideas for next year!

**Alsha TOOTH**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
As a former Fenner resident and especially as a Science geek I meet students all the time who have no idea what ANUSA even is. I want to know when did ANUSA become an exclusive gang made up of Labor voting law students? I'm running because everyone deserves to SHINE!



# ANUSA ELECTIONS 2008

**Isharna WALSH**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
Hey I'm Sharni. Please vote for me so my mum thinks I have friends...Also, I'll do a really great job as a gen-rep! I want to be involved in organizing social events, helping ANUSA be all it can be and engage with Canberra residents!

**Dan WANG**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
Hi. I am a second year actuarial student. I'm also the executive vice president in the Chinese Students and Scholars' Association. Since an increasing number of Chinese students are studying here, I seek the opportunity to be able to better represent them amongst the Chinese society and let them SHINE.

**Heather WEBB**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
Hi! My name Heather Webb and I'm a second year Arts/Law student. Having been an Arts Faculty Rep on ANUSA this year, as well as President of the Social Inter-hall Committee, I want to continue my involvement in student representation as an ANUSA Gen Rep in 2009.

**Duncan WEBBER**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm running for ANUSA because I think the best way to enact change is to do it yourself. I want a Students association that involves students and looks after them! I'm in my second year of Arts/Law and have lived both on and off campus.

**Chenney XU**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
I'm in second year commerce living at B&G and I have various roles in the Chinese Students' and Scholars Association. I'm a member of SHINE 09 because I would like to better communicate the ideas of international students in ANU and act on behalf of them as we work together to improve ANU for everybody.

**Claudia YASUKAWA**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is a first year rep, or 'whip', at Burgmann this year; and is interested in integrating college events to be as inclusive as possible. This inclusiveness extends to all sectors of the university; including; the disabled, Indigenous, people from other colleges and within the college.

**Zoe ZELLER**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
...is a second year Economics/Asian Studies student and ANU connoisseur. She has worked at the ANU gym and has enjoyed organising events for ANU women's group, and salsa for harmony day. She's a 'towny' and would like to improve use of carpark facilities and bus routes to ANU.

## Faculty Representatives

### Arts

**Rosie BOLLARD**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
Hi! I'm Rosie Bollard, a fun-sized student running for Arts Fac Rep. I love both studying arts (French and politics) and experiencing the great works of our performance and visual arts students. Such a diverse faculty must be responsive to the student voice through strong student representation – that's me!

**Simon HUKIN & Lisa JUDGE**

*Young Labor Left*  
Young Labor Left gives a shit about representing every student of every college within the Arts Faculty. Simon would like to see all the Arts represented and overcome the disenfranchisement of Fine Arts and Music students. Lisa will fight for class representatives in all courses and meet with them regularly to ensure no Arts student is left behind. Simon gives a shit about course cuts and the degradation of the Arts Faculty at the hands of more commercial faculties. Lisa gives a shit about the distinct and intimate nature of an Arts degree.

**Tilly SOUTH**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm studying Arts/Music majoring in Flute and Spanish and I live at Burton and Garran Hall. Next year I hope to represent arts students in all courses and also more specifically students of the school of languages and school of music, and the challenges these departments face.

**Sal WITHNEL & Rachael BARROWMAN**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
Sal Withnel and Rachael Barrowman are second year students at ANU. Sal's major is International Relations and Rachael's Art history and Curatorship. They are quoted as saying 'therefore Sal is an opinionated alcoholic and Rachael is a judgmental and eccentric one.' Both believe in harsher punishments for parole violators, and world peace (no... but seriously). Part of their vision for world peace includes bridging the gap between arts students and 'arts' students. Combining their alcoholic traits they will provide a more student centred dialogue on courses and lecturers. reFreshing classes; so no one needs to fall asleep in class again.

### Asian Studies

**Steph CAMERON**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm Steph, currently living at Ursies and originally from Wodonga, Victoria. I'm a second year doing an Asian Studies (Japanese)/Law degree. As an Asian Studies Fac Rep I'd like to create an Asian Studies common room, promote anonymous

marking and improve the asian studies website amongst other things. Vote Energize!

**Alicia QIAN & Huw POHLNER**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
Alicia Qian studies Asian studies/Law and besides being known for her role as class rep for Individual Society in Asia she's most known for; impromptu counselling services and eating more than two hippos, and three horses (and talking faster than them put together). Huw, a third-year PhD (Asian Studies) student is secretary of the Australia-China Youth Association and recently returned from a Beijing exchange. He loves spending time around the BPB and looks forward to providing regular consultation sessions to inform students of the changes in curriculum and providing course feedback prior to enrolment- to make it easier on you.

**Kate WALTON**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm a third year Asian Studies student majoring in Indonesian and Contemporary Asian-Societies. I've also been studying Japanese and Vietnamese, and next year I'll be undertaking my Honours year. I have a wide range of experiences in the faculty and think I would make a valuable contribution as Faculty Representative.

### IT/Engineering

**Lang CHEN & Rebecca GARNER**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
Lang and Rebecca are Engineering students; who definitely believe in the free bbq. Rebecca is the one with the whip in the relationship but Lang has extensive experience in "socialising." While they both believe in a good bbq- both also want more opportunities for graduates in overseas or local internships and exchanges. Even if just looking for a free snag and drink swing your vote their way, and that'll happen as well. If that's not convincing enough Lang's been heard telling people "our faculty have mad people and more students should take notice... we'll take over the world one day!"

**Basilia SETHU**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
My name is Basilia Sethu and I'm currently in my 2nd year of an Engineering/Science degree. I am running as the Engineering/IT faculty representative as I hope to ensure student needs are continually being met in addition to advocating on behalf of students within the faculty.

**Richard THOMAS**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
When Lagrangian equations and Kirch-

hoff's Law can't solve your engineering problems, let fourth year engineering/commerce student Richard Thomas be your go to man to the engineering faculty. He will voice your opinion and help first years with exam tutorials!

### Law

**Harry LEHMANN & Rachel CHEN**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
Harry Lehmann, a fourth year, and Rachel Chen, a third year are running for law faculty rep not out of the kindest of their heart or because they like long nights helping to organise but because they believe that they can truly make a difference within the law school. This would be achieved through regular office hours for your representatives to gain your feedback and help with any issues. Both Lehmann and Chen would also lobby the law school to broaden their range of tutorial times... so the least amount of people would have the least clashes.

**Michael JONES**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm running for the position of Law Faculty Rep because I have serious concerns about some of the Law Schools latest policies. For the past two years I have served as a Gen Rep and have also had some additional experience in advocacy as President of the Burgmann Residents' Association.

**Sam THORPE**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
Hi I'm Sam Thorpe and I'm running for Law Faculty Representative. Law is hard enough without having to deal with administrative problems caused by the faculty. I want to make sure that page counts aren't introduced and that compulsory courses never again get split different streams.

**Scott WALKER & Ben LYONS**

*Give A Shit* (Young Labor Left)  
Young Labor Left gives a shit about preserving the integrity of your degree and the College of Law. Scott will hold the law school to the promises it has made regarding the co-existence of the LLB and the Juris Doctor. Ben will fight for a refurbishment of the law school's dilapidated tutorial facilities. Scott gives a shit about creating and enforcing consistency of teaching practices including online delivery and lecture taping. Ben gives a shit about more dynamic and interesting classes that don't start at 9am on a Friday – so he starts going.

### Science

**Justin BEWSHER & Vivek GUPTA**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
Since escaping his original home of Tasmania, Justin has experienced many hilarious and sexual times at Uni, however nowadays he believes that his energy and

zest for good times would be best utilised keeping the Science Faculty in check. Justin's main interest is also in fencing and as such is not a science nerd! While Vivek would embrace the science nerd cliché he just isn't- most likely seen more on a basketball court, soccer field or just chatting to people around campus he too is passionate about 'making the science fac all that it can be.'

**Alice REYNOLDS**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
All I've ever wanted to do in life was be your science faculty representative Lover and believer in science I study psychology and law Caring and considerate of your feelings Excels at pondering the scientific aspects of life

**Ruth SIMPSON**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I have been enjoying the ANU life since 2006, studying Bc Psyc/Bc Science. I am proudly born and bred a Canberran and can't wait to work hard to make uni life better! I am also nervously anticipating the Canberra Raiders finals run (don't hold that against me, everyone needs hope!)

### Eco/Comm

**Seng BENG**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm Seng Beng and am studying Law/Economics. Being the president of MSO last year was awesome, and I'm ready to serve the students of ANU once more! My vigor for serving you as Faculty Rep stems from my love of all things Eco/Comm, including pesky graphs and Milton Friedman.

**Alex HYMNH & Kevin KONG**

*reFresh* (Independent)  
Alex Hymnh is a first year Actuarial studies/Finance student, while Kevin Kong is studying Actuarial/Commce. This basically means that they aren't both just good with numbers but can relate to each area of the economics/commerce faculty. Both have been involved in AFEC this year and look to expand these roles, for example taking over the world. They both would like to use AFEC as the main port of call for the students and would like to strengthen relationships with ANUSA and AFEC by providing practical tips and services, where available, to AFEC.

**Liv KAYE**

*Energize* (Labor Right/Independent)  
I'm a International Business student and am running for Faculty of Economics and Commerce representative. I firmly believe that the needs of students are currently being ignored and hope to create a more effective avenue for students to voice their opinions and improve various aspects of the faculty.

Michael GALLUZZO, Andrew CHOU, Bec TAYLOR, Kacey LAM

The National Union of Students is the national advocacy body for University students on issues such as welfare and education. In 'your average student' language, NUS is like a 'Students' Association' for Australia. The candidates from the reFresh team are Michael Galluzzo, Bec Taylor, Andrew Chou and Kacey Lam. Each member of the team bring different experiences and opinions to the table, and as such will be able to best represent your diverse views on a national level. These NUS candidates will not sit with any faction and are looking forward to working together in developing a joint strategy so that not only will the ANU be of influence when voting, but will also be perceived in the best light possible (ie the cool cat of universities). All the reFresh candidates are willing and more than capable of voting by their morals and truly serve the people in which they have been elected to represent, as opposed to a binding faction. "We will not vote for you purely because you are Kevin Rudd, we will vote along the lines of what's right for our university."

# NUS Delegates

**Jessica ADELAN**

*Shine09* (Liberal Club)  
I want to change NUS and make it fully accountable. I don't understand how any student from the top university in the country can sit idly by and watch our reputation being sullied by incompetent Delegates. We now have the chance for NUS to SHINE! Vote for substance: not popularity.

**Candice BURCH**

*Shine09* (Liberal Club)  
I want people to be proud of the Delegates that we send from this great university. This can only be done if we act as a solid group of concerned individuals who understand the students' verve. My time at Fenner has solidly given me the yearning to SHINE for ANU.

**ENERGIZE (Labor Right/Independent)**

Alex RAFALOWICZ, Byron FAY, Anya AIDMAN, Hamish LESLIE  
We believe that ANUSA should pay an appropriate fee to affiliate with the National Union of Students, and that this fee should not be a disproportionate percentage of ANUSA's discretionary budgetary spending. We want NUS to work harder and provide tangible benefits through their services to affiliate campuses, and believe that NUS needs to be more accountable within their practices (no more NUS exec flight allowances!). We want to lobby NUS to once again invest in staff development for university legal and welfare officers, and invest in more research staff to assist campuses with information flow. NUS is the avenue for ANUSA to make its mark on a National level and make a difference for Australian University students.

**GIVE A SHIT (Young Labor Left)**

Julia COLLIN, Ben LYONS, Scott WALKER, Lisa JUDGE

The National Union of Students should be the national advocacy body for University students. Unfortunately the NUS is better known for its factionalism and nepotism, rather than for setting the national agenda. As delegates to the NUS annual conference, 'Young Labor Left' candidates will seek to end the rubbish and hackery that pervades the National Union. We believe that the NUS could be so much more. We believe that the NUS should be providing national leadership in Education and Welfare issues. We believe that the NUS should be able to coordinate effective national campaigns that aim to raise the profile of student issues on campus and in the community. We believe that the NUS should work with other organisations across the country to lobby governments about the issues that young people face in our communities everyday. We will; - Not participate in destructive, binding factions. - Coordinate with other like-minded delegates from around Australia to implement change, making the NUS transparent, visible and representative.

- Represent ANU Student's needs and interests at national conference and throughout the year.  
- Keep the NUS ACT branch accountable and force them to actively engage with all of us at ANU.

**LEFT FOCUS (Socialists)**

COLLECTIVE STATEMENT  
Llanon DAVIS, Natalie LAKOVSKA, Anton CU UNJIENG, Andrew LEARY  
See ticket statement for General Representatives (previous page)

**Duncan MCDONALD**

*Shine09* (Liberals)

**George OBER**

*Shine09* (Liberals)  
As an NUS Delegate I promise to act consciously and in the university's best interest as I act as a proud ambassador for what is the greatest university in Australia. With my head held high I'll act as a delegate that will SHINE the light for true advocacy for students.

**reFresh (Independent)**



# '90s Nostalgia

Sophie Duxson  
Culture

Perhaps one of the most defining aspects of our generation is our propensity to be nostalgic. Why do we, as 20-somethings with our whole lives ahead of us, revel in our pasts more than our respective elders? Just a preliminary search of Facebook uncovers a veritable embarrassment of groups paying homage to our oh-so-long-ago nineties childhoods. I counted 54 Facebook groups with titles like 'you know you're a nineties kid when...', 'I grew up in Australia in the nineties' and 'nineties kids rule the world'. That is not to mention the myriad of groups dedicated to the commercial cornerstones of our childhoods; 'all the martial arts I know I learnt from Power Rangers', 'admit it... you know the entire Fresh Prince of Bel Air "Rap"', 'Gumby is my homeboy' and 'when 100,000 people join this group, I'll name my first child

Optimus Prime'. Generation Y is more content reminiscing about Tazos, Tamagotchies and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles than it is contemplating its future. Are we unique in believing (arguably erroneously) that the olden days were all sweetness and light?

Maybe not. Nostalgia has always had a certain level of delusion about it. Perhaps the most extreme example of this is Ostalgie; the nostalgic phenomenon that fondly recalls the Soviet regime of East (Ost) Germany, the German Democratic Republic. Ostalgie reflects a certain wistfulness for simpler times, when cars were the size of cereal boxes and worked about as well, food ranged from bland to blander, décor was daggy and functional and crime was non-existent because of the rampant infiltration of an insidious secret police in every aspect of peoples lives. Ostalgie has prompted the emergence of East German style hotels, complete with 'Stasi suites', food stores that sell old GDR products like Spreewald

Gherkins and Vita Cola, 'Eau de Trabant', the perfume that recalls the coveted whiff of that symbolic East German car and even plans for a 107,000 square foot East German theme park, including border guards and bland regulation food. Ostalgie also reflects the disenfranchisement of East Germans, or Ossis,

**"I counted 54 Facebook groups with titles like 'you know you're a nineties kid when...', 'I grew up in Australia in the nineties' and 'nineties kids rule the world'"**

as they are derogatorily called by West Germans. The revival of interest in the old GDR has occurred largely in reaction to the huge Western German takeover that occurred after the fall of the Berlin Wall. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, East German culture, such as it was, was completely swept under the carpet in favour of gaudy Western capitalism. East Germans almost immediately lost their jobs, their self-respect, and con-

sequently their identity, as their skills and experience were rendered worthless in the new high tech, consumerist age of unified Germany. Ossis are weary of the commercial nature of, and lack of opportunities in, their new society and Ostalgie is the obvious counterpoint to that.

Is our obsession with the

nineties a result of a similar cultural weariness? Do we feel a loss of identity now that we can no longer identify ourselves as the Blue Power Ranger or Baby Spice? Do we really feel a void in our lives where Alex Mack used to be? I don't think so. It seems more likely that our generation is content to wallow in memories because confronting the reality of our futures is too difficult. The outlook for you and I is sobering and, as has been said countless



times before, the challenges facing us are greater than those any other generation has had to face. Escapism is the phenomena behind nostalgia. It is so much easier to reminisce about the apparent perfection of our childhoods than it is to consider a future where Captain Planet can't just swan in and liberate us from the clutches of Climate Change Man. But maybe we aren't just backward-looking dreamers, maybe we're realists. To save our own sanity, we hide in a world of fantasy, pretending to ourselves that when our children are kids, they'll run carelessly in the sprinklers on a hot summer's day and eat peanut butter and celery and watch *Sesame Street*, like we did. This is self-preservation, not delusion. The consequences of our active avoidance of the dilemmas we face are dire: but don't tell me that, I'm watching Mr Squiggle.

## Read about it now, before it's in



Tom Swann  
Columnist

Rumours have been circulating for some time now that our dearest capital, and home, is a federally funded institution or three shy of a creative wasteland. The jibe, sadly, has some teeth. But it is not entirely accurate.

My present excuse for such consolations is something called 'Carrols'. Whatever the name really means, it is the name of a house that was abandoned to suburbia with its utilities still connected, waiting to be discovered. Early this year a group of friends cleaned it up and turned it into a venue for whatever anyone they knew could be bothered to organise.

Apart from painting on the walls, and generally maxing out, Carrols is about 'noise': the catch-all name by which weird, marginal, experimental music self-assuredly knows itself. The stuff of late night public radio esoterica. On random nights throughout the year, Carrols be-

came a point of convergence for small crowds eager to drown in enormous walls of distortion, dodge bleeps, spaceout to psychedelic riffage, and introspect the angular rhythms of free jazz.

From the street all you can hear is a weird bassy swirling; at most can see are a few people, often not sure if they're at the right place. It's not even easy to find the way in, through the boarded window that hinges open. Climbing through, you enter what was once a room, walls now busted out, coloured lights coil around the exposed frame.

Through it, you see the kitchen, the planks of its floor exploded like a crater. The door inwards has to be lifted from its broken hinges; stuck next to it, a list of prudent rules in coloured pencil. "No parking outside. Please be discreet. No excessive drugs or alcohol." People playing badminton next to their cars under the powerlines perhaps have not heard the news.

In the next room, a lass in fluoro dreads and a very miniskirt finishes her painting of some melancholic urban creature, edged between other pieces of apocalyptic graffiti and stencil work. Nearby, beer bottles, an esky, some people chatting. Most are in the next room, or peering through the doorframe, towards the strobing plumes of smoke

and thickest noise emanating from within.

Speakers and laptops, microphones and cables, a cello and a drum kit and an amplifier stack. Figures dissolve into the red haze, against the walls, as their deep sound undulates.

Now, I am well partial to the sonically marginal. But the cynic in me has to point out that most of it was cooler for the fact that it was happening here and now than for what the noise actually was. In a sense, though, this misses the point. There was something refreshingly awesome about sitting and chatting with pensive strangers as we were collectively submerged.

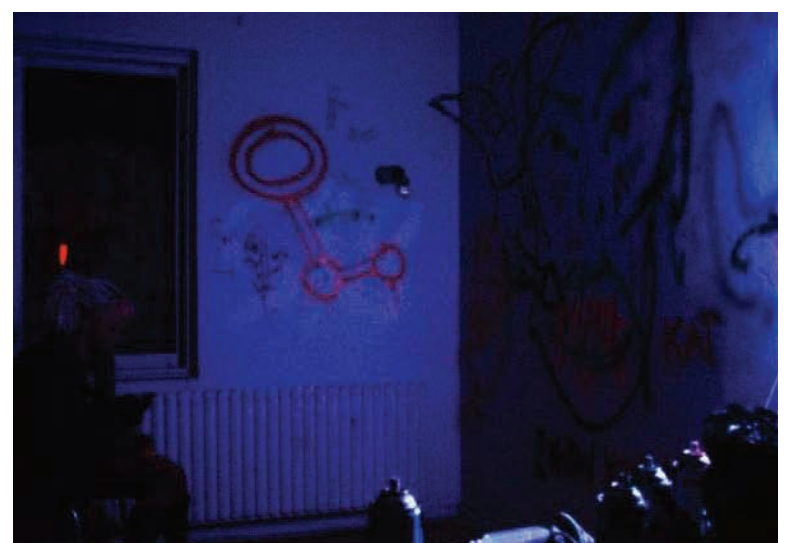
However, there was one genuine stand-out from the evening: local abstract jazz duo Spartak. Shoeb Ahmad on guitar, playing it in surely all the ways possible without strumming it, exploring feedbacks and fragile textures. Evan Dorrian on drums, building tentative shuffles and taps into thundering sets of almost robotic patterns, each collapsing under the pressure of his energy into the next. Their set was beautiful, and too short, and left the room vulnerably silent.

Spartak support at gigs, often at the Front (\$10), and run through Shoeb's label hello-square ([www.hellosquarerecordings.com](http://www.hellosquarerecordings.com)). Around these

gigs seems to be crystalising a small scene of enthusiasts of this excitingly edgy free jazz, heavy with electronics and textural exploration. Evan said it was "probably some of the most out-there music you can find in Canberra."

Then I reminded him about

Carrols, which in the mean time apparently draws crowds of a hundred or so curious for renowned Japanese noise artist Defektro. In the wake of that, the house looks to be taking some time off. Perhaps to rediscover its owner, and the electricity bill.





# Friday on My Wall at the School of Art



Emily Birks  
Art

Students in the Painting department of the Australian National University School of Art (SoA) have taken exhibiting their work into their own hands (or in this case, walls). Every Friday fortnight, they create an exhibition in the Foyer Gallery and corridor

of the painting department at the SoA.

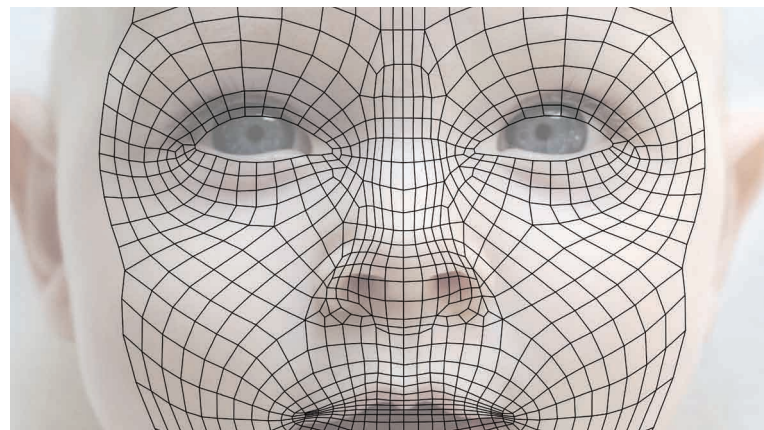
According to their website, the Friday on My Wall program was initiated as a 'spontaneous tribute to [American Expressionist artist] Robert Rauschenberg', following his death in May 2008. Exhibitions are themed, and allow the students to present their art among their peers', potentially bringing to light issues in contemporary art-making and culture that further develops their work.

Painting student and curator of exhibitions James Lieutenant commented that the Friday on My Wall program allows the Painting students a place to exhibit their work, and over the

year has been extremely popular, with exhibition size ranging from four to ten artists, depending on the theme. Alumni, post-graduates and local artists have also been offered the chance to participate.

Part of the success of the exhibitions is their ephemerality. The shows are hung at 1pm, open at 2pm and are closed 'before the cleaners arrive'. However, the exhibitions are open to the public, and the students welcome guests.

The next exhibition opens at 2pm on the 22nd of August. Go to the front of the SoA (near the Art Library) and head upstairs to the Painting department. For more information, visit the Fri-



day on my Wall website at [friday-onmywall.blogspot.com](http://friday-onmywall.blogspot.com)

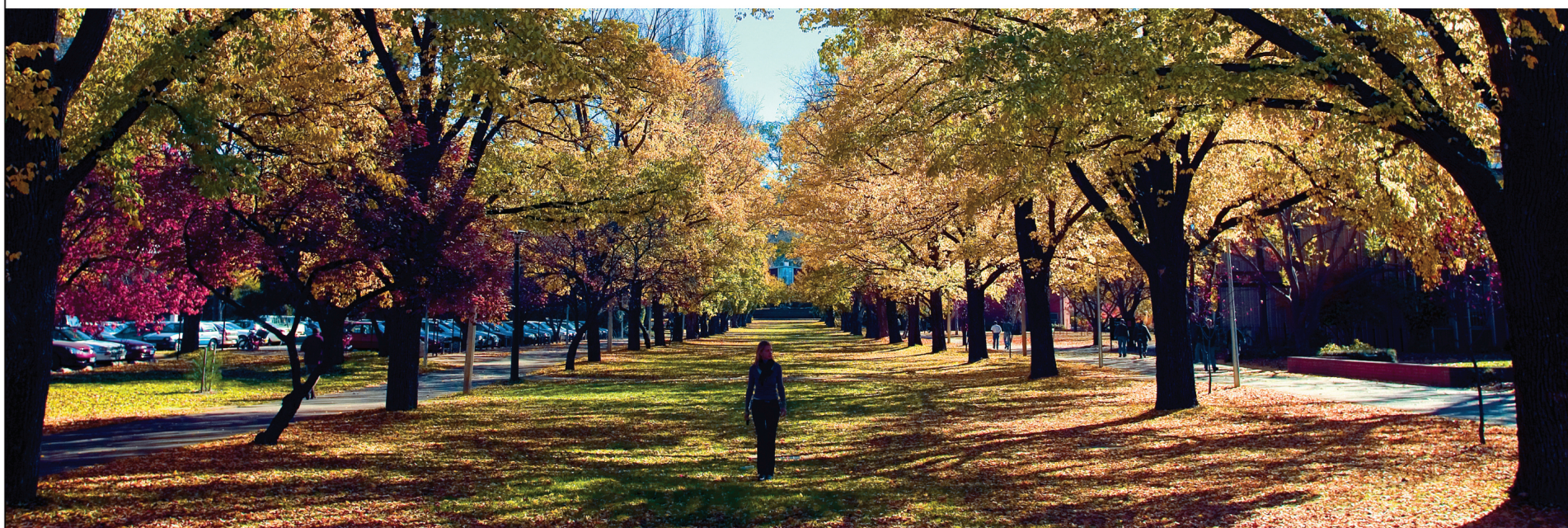
On a related note, this semester, we at *Woroni* would like to feature your creative works. Photography, painting, sculpture – you name it, we are interested

in showing your work in full colour! *Woroni* is a forum for representing the student body, and your talent is worth sharing. If you would like to see your art in *Woroni*, contact Emily at [woroni@anu.edu.au](mailto:woroni@anu.edu.au).



# ANU

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY



## THE ANU UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC JOURNAL

### Submit your work, or become an editor for The ANU Undergraduate Academic Journal

ANU is for the first time publishing a journal to showcase the best work produced by undergraduates across a range of fields. The journal will be written and edited by students through the ANU Rhetoric Learning Community and published at the end of second semester 2008.

Three \$1,500 Editorial internships are available. Deadline for applications is Thursday 21 August.

Students wishing to apply should send:

- A brief cover letter explaining their interest in the position
- A CV highlighting their area of academic interest including an academic transcript
- An example of writing or editorial experience

Written submissions and artwork are accepted from all fields of study and may be on any topic that can be understood by the ANU community. Work must be original, of a high standard and produced in the last 18 months while the student was completing an undergraduate degree (including honours). The recommended length is 1,000–3,000 words. Work will be reviewed by academics and editors as part of the selection process and amendments may be requested. If the work has previously been submitted for assessment it should be accompanied with a grade and the name of the lecturer.

Final submissions of work must be made on Monday the Monday 13 of October (first day of term four) – however we request that you contact us by Monday September 29th if you plan to submit work.

For further information on the ANU Rhetoric Learning Community and the Undergraduate Journal contact Coordinator Robert Wiblin on 0401242877.

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# Whitewashing *The Dark Knight*

Lyndsay Dean  
Film

*The Dark Knight*

★★★★☆

It's hard to work out whether the hype over the latest instalment in the Batman franchise is because *The Dark Knight* is a technically amazing film or because of Heath Ledger's untimely death. Maybe it's a little of column A, a little of column B but you can't help but wonder whether *Dark Knight* would have obtained so much media attention if it wasn't for Ledger. Would the press slam Christopher Nolan's latest franchise addition for poor narrative direction? Would they criticise anybody's acting?

If it was going to happen we'll never know for now their critical freedom has certainly been curtailed. I honestly don't think anyone would have the balls to judge this film harshly for risk of being the heartless bastard who denied Ledger his post-ultimate farewell. If David Stratton didn't do it, who will? Not me, that's for sure.

*The Dark Knight* takes off from where Nolan's 2005 *Batman Begins* ended. Gotham City's

underworld has been beat into submission by District Attorney Harvey Dent (Aaron Eckhart), leaving Bruce Wayne (Christian Bale) contemplating hanging up the avenger cape.

Further clouding Wayne's mind space is the fact that his childhood sweetheart, Rachel Dawes (Maggie Gyllenhaal replacing Katie Holmes, thank God) is involved with Dent. Thrown into the mix is The Joker (Heath Ledger), a psychopath intent on giving Gotham City the "class of criminal" it deserves. What follows is an intense, dark action film that leaves the door wide open for further, bleaker chapters.

Nolan's fascination with the darker psyche of his characters is evident as the film begins to interestingly position Batman as an anti-hero, reincarnating Batman as sacrificing crusader cast into shadow to protect the people he loves. Wayne's recognition of Gotham City's need for a tireless protector, and his resigned entry into the immoral underworld paints him as a sympathetic character who despite public scorn, is ultimately doing right. It's certainly a long way removed from the camp 1960s TV show.

While Nolan's set pieces (flipping semi-trailers, the Hong Kong break in, etc) are breathtaking, the first half of the film is let down by confusing plot points and almost impenetrable dialogue. While Michael Caine has always been hard to understand, audiences certainly miss something by not being able to follow Bale's or Gary Oldman's gruff mumble. Furthermore, the film's namesake is disappointingly flat.

'The Joker Show' is more reflective of reality, and what a show that would be for Ledger's Joker is rightly deserving of praise. His performance creates arguably one of Hollywood's most disturbing villains, aided by Nolan's opting for imagined horror, rather than showing the Joker's violence. The tics, the voice, the makeup is of nightmare grade for sure.

Ledger's Joker certainly steals the show, but if he was still alive would there be all this talk of an Oscar? Probably not. *The Dark Knight* isn't really of Oscar calibre, save perhaps a nod for the Zimmer/Newton Howard score. Is it right, therefore, to be giving Oscars away for an actor's robbed potential? We await next February with bated breath.



Heath Ledger as The Joker, but you already knew that

## Wanted wanting

Lyndsay Dean  
Film

*Wanted*

★★☆☆☆

If you're offended by highly stylised, yet nonetheless highly graphic violence, don't even bother reading this review. Put it down and walk away. Offended by foul language or gun worship? Squeamish about torture sequences or people purposely slashing each other open with knives? Then I suggest you follow suit and don't even try sussing out the likelihood of you appreciating this film, for without the aforementioned nasties *Wanted* would not function.

The latest film from Kazakhstan-born Timur Bekmambetov (*Day Watch*, *Night Watch*) is obviously targeted at the computer-game generation with its 360° CG blood spill and slow-motion capture. A strange mix of the Bourne and Matrix franchises with a bit of Fight Club thrown in for good measure, *Wanted* is gross visual assault that leaves you feeling an uneasy sense of

déjà vu. You know where it's going. You know what's going to happen. Maybe it's because most recent action films are based on the same formula, or maybe it's a glitch in the Matrix...

Loosely based on the Mark Millar comic saga of the same name, *Wanted* finds disenfranchised corporate-slave Wesley (James McAvoy) stuck in a job he hates, surrounded by people he hates. Abducted by the feisty Fox (Angelina Jolie) and taken to the headquarters of The Brotherhood, a stealth group of assassins to which his absent father belonged, Wesley is then brutally trained, honing his heightened abilities, with the sole purpose of hunting his father's killer.

While McAvoy may try and peddle the "thinky shit" that grounds the film, it's nothing that we haven't heard before in other, much more apt films. While pertinent questions are raised about information control by those in power *Wanted* shouldn't try and hide what it is – a big, dumb action film with the ability to laugh at itself. If nothing else it's the film's humour and technical cleverness that redeem it.

Bekmambetov's mix of CG and slow-motion is brilliant, as is the uncharacteristically toned-down Danny Elfman score and while McAvoy is obviously a surprising choice for an action role, he plays it solidly. Some sequences are show-stopping (killing 100 people in 10 seconds) although are closely followed by folly (looms that tell Fate and exploding rats). My biggest problem is not its utter implausibility but that *Wanted* only serves to play upon and promote the moral corruptness that plagues our generation. I endorse violence that serves a narrative purpose, but I don't think violence should be the only narrative.





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# Stereo blast from the past

Alessandro Moliterno

When a friend of mine asked me to write a music review for *Woroni*, I was suitably stoked to be informed that I could pick any albums that I liked. Being naturally a bit of a stick-in-the-mud musically speaking, I went back to two of my favourite albums from the seventies. This may seem a bit like flogging a dead horse, but then again I feel like people need to be reminded. If you haven't heard them, go out and buy them, if you already own them, pull them out and listen.

## Raw Power, Iggy & The Stooges, 1973, Columbia

If I was from another planet and somebody told me that rock & roll began and ended with Iggy & The Stooges, I'd believe them. I say this not to forsake any of the other bands and artists who shaped the history of music. But

seriously, if there was ever a band to epitomise the spirit of rock & roll it would be the Stooges.

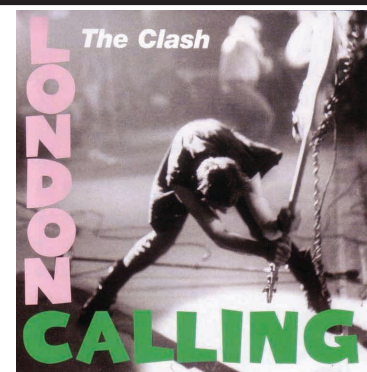
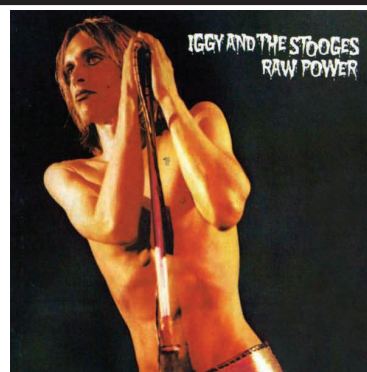
The album was the band's third, and like so many of the great albums of music history, nobody really liked it at the time. The band was dropped and soon afterwards broke up. Of course it's well known that the album would be an inspiration to the punk movement later on, but this really doesn't excuse the fact that people back then were quite stupid because, regardless of the album's historical significance, it's just plain old fantastic.

Like I said, the Stooges, and this album in particular, are pretty much the Platonic form of rock & roll. The album opens with the explosive and ever famous Search and Destroy, which features the wild distorted guitar licks accompanied by Iggy's ridiculous wailing that are repeated so very enjoyably through most of the album in tracks like Your Pretty Face Is Going to Hell, Raw Power

and Shake Appeal. Some of the slower tracks in the album such as Gimme Danger and I Need Somebody feature an acoustic guitar which adds to their menacing feeling. My personal favourite track, Penetration, combines the distorted guitar with a slower beat and lyrics that are downright creepy. The lyrics tend in one or more of three directions: power, explosions and sexual deviance. The album is almost over before it began, containing only eight tracks. Nevertheless, you shouldn't feel compelled to skip one.

## London Calling, The Clash, 1979, CBS

This is one you should all know. It features as number 8 on the Rolling Stone top 500 albums list. Anyone who heard this album for the first time in 1979 could have been forgiven for thinking it was a different band to that which released *The Clash* in '76. Though the earlier two albums are great



in their own right, they sound pretty rough in comparison. One thing that is apparent about this album, which could be considered either a weakness or a strength, and which differs from the first two albums, is that it doesn't have a distinct sound. It's an extremely eclectic album. The first track, London Calling is an effective example of well-managed tension. The same goes for Clampdown. Great riffs abound for example in the above two songs as well as Brand New Cadillac and Death or Glory. The group experimented with ska and reggae with Wrong 'Em Boyo, Revolution Rock and Rudie Can't Fail. The overly dramatic use of the piano in The Card

Cheat, the ballad-like acoustic guitar in Spanish Bombs and the haunting tone of Lost in the Supermarket add an element of romance to the overall sound. I can't end without mentioning a stunning writing debut for bassist Paul Simonon with the dark and menacing Guns of Brixton. Strummer's lyrics as usual reinforce the view that despite being a great musician, he talked a lot of crap. But that doesn't stop them from being enjoyable. The styles are varied and the sound quality is excellent, so nuts to the people who said punks couldn't play their instruments. *London Calling* is a testament to how far a band can develop in two years.

# Guitar for guitar's sake?

## Experiencing guitar festivals in Europe.



Bradley Kunda  
Music

The European summer offers an extraordinary range of opportunities for musicians to gather together and make music. This reporter spent six weeks traveling to three different guitar festivals in Bratislava (Slovakia), Córdoba (Spain) and Nikšić (Montenegro).

The International "Festival de Córdoba Guitarras 2008" is a cross-genre guitar festival that attracts some of the biggest names in the guitar world. Headliners this year included Chuck Berry, Tomatito, David Russell, Leo Brouwer, and Odair Assad, as well as countless others, not to mention the ANU's own Harold Gretton.

At the age of 82, the legendary Chuck Berry proved in his sold-out open-air concert that he can still rock like no one else. During the last song he started calling out: "I need twelve girls up on stage!" And when he got what he wanted, he asked for twelve

more! He boasts a larger-than-life stage presence. The audience was left truly satisfied when he sang "Johnny Be Good", accompanied by his family, which constitutes part of his band. Sadly, this reporter only saw the last quarter of an hour of this fantastic concert, because he instead decided to go and see the great classical guitarist David Russell play and was astonished at how such a renowned musical figure can play Couperin in exactly the same way as twentieth-century Latin-American music. In this reporter's opinion, the truly brilliant concerts were the flamenco shows by the great Cañizares and Tomatito, and the premiere of a new Leo Brouwer sonata by the Brazilian guitarist Odair Assad. Leo Brouwer is one of the most significant contributors to the guitar in the twentieth century. It was an inspiring thing to see this 69 year-old phenomenon conducting the Orquesta de Córdoba playing his own works.

The Festival de Córdoba is a must see for anyone traveling in Spain during July. The experience of the festival is unlike any other; the concerts start very late at night after everyone has had a decent siesta, the food is fantastic and the city of Córdoba is itself a marvel, boasting over a thousand years of history. It is necessary

to brush up on some Spanish, however, because nobody speaks English.

The International Guitar Festival of Nikšić in Montenegro was a very different experience, not least because it was so disorganized. However, while there seems to be no system or plan in place to achieve anything, the Montenegrins still manage to succeed in doing things and presenting a high-class line-up of performers. The festival must be credited with trying to push the guitar under the noses of the general public more than any other festival. In particular, the competition held as part of the festival has its final round broadcast live on prime-time satellite television, and viewers can vote by SMS for their favourite performance. While this sounds frightfully reminiscent of Australian Idol, it is a unique thing in the guitar world, and perhaps a positive thing for expanding the guitar's audience base.

Indeed, one of the great problems of guitar festivals in general is that they do not tend to attract the involvement of the wider public or even players of other instruments. While festivals offer an extraordinary opportunity to be immersed in everything to do with the instrument, they tend to be self-perpetuating institutions of exclusivity, where guitarists



play only for guitarists and where the same repertoire is constantly re-hashed in the same way. This is especially true of competitions; many students strive for the ideals of their teachers, and the guitar festivals and competitions offer an environment where many of these out-dated ideals are allowed to perpetuate. This rather gloomy vision is certainly not true of all festival concerts. Indeed, the last six weeks has seen some inspiring performances by some extraordinary players. The guitar has such a great capacity to make music that is accessible to so many people, however, and it is possible for Australia to contribute greatly to this vision, if only because it does not have the same subjective connection to the immensely rich history that is in Europe. For this reason, Australians may be more objective and therefore more open and willing to pioneer new musical frontiers.

Whether it is exploring new realms of guitar music, or merely guitar for guitar's sake, a European summer of guitar festivals is a fantastic way of being saturated

by the incredible versatility of this immensely popular instrument.

*Bradley Kunda won first prize in the International Guitar Competition "Festival de Córdoba" (Spain) and third prize as well as the audience prize in the Nikšić International Guitar Competition (Montenegro)*

## Brad's Pick

THE AUSTRALIAN GUITAR DUO  
Jacob Cordover and Rupert Boyd  
Friday August 22, 7:30pm  
Wesley Music Centre, 20 National Circuit, Forrest  
Adult \$25, Concession \$20, Student \$10 Tickets at the door

Fantastic duo playing from two of the ANU's brilliant guitar graduates currently on a world tour through Southern France, Granada and Barcelona (Spain), Darwin, Bendigo, Canberra and Melbourne (Australia)



# Note to readers: leave this one behind

**Jamie Freestone**  
Book Reviewer

Left Behind  
**Tim LaHaye**  
**Jerry Jenkins**

The Left Behind novels have sold 10,000,000 copies and are a cultural phenomenon. This is the first in a series of 13 books which have taken the Christian publishing industry to new heights. If you have not heard of them, the books describe a “post-Rapture” world where some of the world’s population disappear in an instant, transported to heaven. Those who are left behind are forced to survive in a world where the antichrist is taking control in a lead-up to the final battle for good and evil.

This is a terrible book and I have only read it because it vaguely relates to my research. Allow me to try and discourage readers from putting themselves through the Changi-like experience of absorbing Left Behind. It doesn’t matter who wrote it and it doesn’t matter what you believe.

I wouldn’t re-read this book if I knew doing so would cure cancer. If I was forced to give scores out of five, I would burn this book. Do not even pick it up, if you so much as read the blurb, not only will your literary soul go to hell, but people you know will actually get dumber. If you do believe in the rapture, stick to the New Testament; it’s superbly written and marginally less predictable than this excrement.

The characters are paper-thin mock-ups supposed to represent

liberal, secular America. They see the error of their ways and become born again Christians just in time to form the Tribulation Force to combat the rise of the new UN secretary general, who is in fact the antichrist. All elements of the book are poorly executed. The only redeemable feature is the inherently dramatic plot, which of course was written thousands of years ago by someone else.

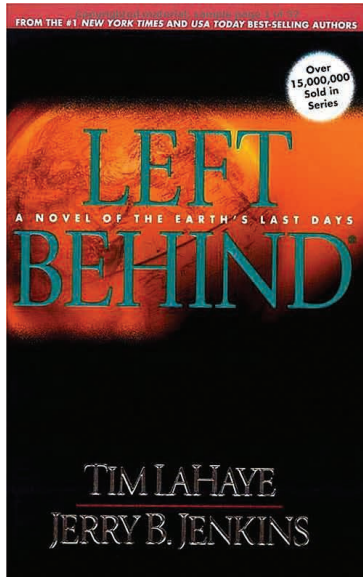
The most risible parts of the book are those which try and describe a flowering romance between two of the leads. Although, these sections may still serve a purpose: if a loved one has ingested something poisonous or overdosed on pills, you can read them the dialogue on page 373 to induce vomiting. I understand that certain sensibilities are being appealed to for the book’s primary readership, but the romance stuff is the most frigidly unsexy writing I’ve ever read. Were it not for the Zionism and pro-Americanism in the novel, I’d say it was chaste

**“...if a loved one has ingested something poisonous or overdosed on pills, you can read them the dialogue on page 373 to induce vomiting”**

enough to be published in Iran.

Along the way the authors take swipes at feminism, Jews, Californians, homosexuals, Britons, peace-keepers, Russians and liberal Christians. Some of the views espoused in this novel are so old, that the last time they were popular people’s grandparents had names like Adam and Eve.

To forgo the lush pleasures of



the great literature available to us in favour of this childish muck is a mortal sin. Yet one quote on the back cover says, “Even those who are not connoisseurs of fiction will be gripped by this novel.” What? Other than rigor mortis, I’m not sure what connoisseurs of fiction would be gripped by after putting themselves through this 500 page mind-snuff.

If there is to be an Armaged-

don scenario, I can only pray that the publishing firm responsible for unleashing this anthrax of a novel, is wiped out in a world-ending burst of fire and brimstone. And if the antichrist does walk among us and all he needs to do to gain a following is to produce something more convincing than this execrable dreck, than say your prayers because the end is nigh.

# The Lost Boys fixates on mediocrity

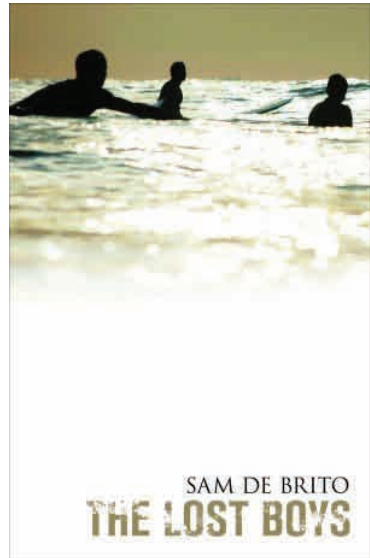
**Charles Prestidge-King**  
Moonlighting Book Reviewer

The Lost Boys  
**Sam de Brito**

“And Australians don’t much like the whole idea of adulthood. What they like, what they really do enjoy, is adolescence until death” – Michael Thomas, *Okker Chic*

More a collection of mildly amusing pub stories than an actual novel, *The Lost Boys* ought to be one of the many Australian books each year that sinks without trace. Not because it’s bad. It’s just not enough of a standout to justify the kind of publicity it’s been getting, nor indeed to justify its publication.

*The Lost Boys* is Sydney writer Sam de Brito’s (*All Men are Liars*) semi-autobiographical first novel, detailing the life of distinct un-hero Ned Jelli at various points, with his mates Kaspar, Chong, Scorps, and Grumble, pulling cones, getting on the rack, pulling chicks – more likely, watching porn – surfing, working odd jobs. Not growing up. We can empathise a little with Jelli, and his family condition and a dropkick stepdad are particularly well drawn out, but it’s hard to feel much compassion for the limited twerps that litter de Brito’s slightly-too-close-for-comfort Bondi – a point of friction that smarts throughout the entire book. De Brito’s got an honest, accurate writing style, but unfortunately the dynamics of the book don’t change much.



It follows well-worn paths and paints with very familiar colours. The narrative isn’t especially enthralling and the climax is, well, anticlimactic.

There are excellent moments here, and a few good quotes. The rest is mostly by-the-numbers ho-hummary; proper middle of the road drek. It could’ve been really great: the particular, assertive quality of language, the book’s honesty, the moments of hilarity, but without a cohesive, compelling narrative, this book feels like a bit of a waste of time. Ignoring that, de Brito’s insights into being a man are the stuff of bloke circles at barbecues; grubby, somewhat enjoyable trips to the coast and permanent marker daubings on the back of school chairs. Half-thoughts. Glib pronouncements, begging for counter-arguments. They’re the stuff of blogs, not novels. But listen: maybe I’m just feeling down – because for all of its failings, any man reading this book will empathise. And any woman might better understand men at their most mediocre.

# Postcards from a Post-Communist Theocracy

**An ANU honours graduate returns to her cultural roots and discovers a disfunctional illiberal culture.**

**Kalina Ślaska-Sapała**  
Foreign Correspondent

“What do you mean you don’t have a permanent registered address in Poland? How do you expect me to give you a new personal identification card? You mean you were never registered? Who are you, then?”

Amidst the interrogation about health care numbers and identification codes, the grumpy middle-aged bureaucrat in the Polish consulate asked me a pertinent question; a question I have been asking myself since my arrival at the newly renovated

Warsaw Airport two weeks ago.

I had not been back to Poland, the country of my mother, since its first month of entry into the European Union back in 2004. My hopes had been raised. “Things must have improved since they finally got around to redesigning the airport”, I thought. “It could easily pass for Zurich or Frankfurt.” The effect however, was short lived, and in the time since my arrival I have been experiencing the disturbing realities of a country still struggling – and indulging – in its socialist past, for whom capitalism is still a tentative and paradoxical experiment.

It is difficult to overestimate the effect of the last fifty years on Poland, of a totalitarian dystopia where being a student meant that you had to belong to ‘the Party’ in order to have any chance of gaining a decent job after graduating (and I thought going into public service meant selling my soul to the devil!). It was a country where to protest against censorship meant a neat disappearance from society, or indeed from the land of the living.

In a post-1989 world, things have changed – apparently. My generation was born in a country under martial law, but raised in a free Poland where there were

no queues for food or (obvious) control of the press. But long after the collapse of the Berlin Wall, the feeling of confinement remains. The people in power are the children of socialist Poland who have come to embody the very system they fought to overthrow.

Poland’s dive into capitalism has come a step – or a decade – before its middle-aged bureaucrats can catch up with the paperwork. The country is governed through surveillance and endless documentation. The fact that I do not have a personal ID card means that I do not exist as a Pole. Instead I am a tourist who

nonetheless understands the language, the culture, and the idiosyncrasies of past and present.

It seems that it is both Poland and I who are in limbo. I arrived as a whimsical Australian expat seeking to rediscover my Polish roots and dig up a romantic family history. What I have found here has managed to shock, horrify, but most of all amuse. Why are most Polish men in their 20s virgins? And why are they far sleazier than their Australian counterparts? In future issues of *Woroni* I will share with you the disconcerting experience of living in a post-communist theocracy.



# A rave review for Law Revue

**Woroni gives this year's ANU Law Revue two big thumbs up.**

Will Glasgow  
News Editor

This year's ANU Law Revue clocked in at one hour and fifty-five minutes, sweet relief for those who struggled through 2007's enormous three-hour production.

The show's hard-working Directors, Toby Halligan, Tim O'Sullivan and Nick Beresford-Wylie, told *Woroni* that the move to a sleeker production was recognition that the show had become bloated in recent years. It was a change much appreciated by their audience.

The music was superb, particularly the re-workings of three songs from Disney's *Aladdin*, "ALP" ("Prince Ali"), "Labor Nights" ("Arabian Nights") and "Rudd's New World" ("A Whole New World"). Joe Oppenheimer, the show's producer and one of next year's directors, deserves

credit for their coordination.

Other highlights included the silent film "ANU security" (edited by Josh Mead), and a brilliant sketch based on Super Mario, which travelled between stage and screen and back to stage. It was high-risk live theatre, but the payoff – with Leif Eldridge as Mario, jumping on turtles, dodging shells – made it a risk well worth taking.

Australia's new federal government also helped the show, with the new target contributing to the night's freshness. Tired Howard sketches were not missed.

Aside from ten unsold tickets to the Friday show, the three-night run was a sell-out.

Special mention goes to former *Woroni* Editor Toby Halligan, credited by the other directors as the show's main driving force. Well done.

*ANU Law Revue videos can be viewed at [www.woroni.com.au](http://www.woroni.com.au)*

# An International Ball

**Broadway themed Ball a hit for ISD, despite low budget**

Marcus Tan  
International Students Dept

Holding this year's International Ball was no easy feat for the International Students' Department (ISD). Granted, planning a ball for 350 people is never an easy task but it was doubly difficult for us this year as we had to work on a very much reduced budget compared to previous years. It is amazing what a difference a reduction of a few thousand makes.

It took roughly three months to get this show on the road. Three months of planning and seemingly endless discussions on what to do and how to go about achieving it. And suddenly, the day came.

The International Ball for 2008 was held at the National Convention Centre. As you entered the Royal Theatre, the first thing you would have seen would be the magnificent red and black canopy hanging from the ceiling, twinkling with fairy lights. Tables were lit by candles placed in tall dark iron holders standing on every table. Dominating the stage was a picture of a huge mask from "The Phantom of the Opera" which seemed to float eerily in the dim lighting and dark background.

I tilted my head to the side. "Guys, I am not sure if this is in keeping with the Broadway theme. It looks more like a vampire wedding to me."

"I am so getting this decorator to do my wedding for me," someone murmured.

The MCs for the night, Kacey Lam and Sham Sara kicked off the event by welcoming everyone present, especially the attending VIPs: Dr. Suhaimee from the Malaysian High Commission, Mr. Eric Pang, President of the National Liaison Committee and Ms. Zan Daroesman, the Academic Progress Officer from the International Students' Services. This was followed by a speech from Junde Li, the ISD President, who briefly touched on why the International Ball was started (so that students would save money by having to attend only ONE ball) before wishing everyone a wonderful time that night.

As always, the ISD committee gave the first performance of the night because "we will either set the bar for the others or be so bad, the rest of the night can only get better". Judging from the whoops and wolf-whistles heard when the guys wriggled their bums during the first salsa number; we managed to achieve the



former.

Lemoncoke, a Hong Kong students' band, performed 3 songs on behalf of the Hong Kong Students' Society (HKSS). It was a commendable performance, especially from their female lead singer (who was last year's ISD President), Winnie, for her rendition of Evanescence's "Bring Me to Life" and their lead guitarist. This was followed by another 2 singing performances by Emile Sebastian and the Toad Hall Choir.

"Perhaps? In Shanghai" was medley of 4 songs danced by 3 female students from the Chinese Students' and Scholars Association (CSSA). Most students from an ethnic Chinese background were almost immediately able to identify the strains of Teresa Teng's "Tian Mi Mi". Looking around the theatre, I smiled as I saw a number of students mouthing along to the song.

The CSSA earlier informed me that the performers wanted to evoke a 1940's Shanghai-nese feel. A friend later told me that they had managed to do that as he felt like a corrupt official out of an old Chinese movie, watching the dancers move gracefully across the stage in silky qipaos.

The show stealer of the night had to be the Malaysian Students' Organisation's (MSO) performance of Chicago's "Cell Block Tango". A male MSO committee member had described it to me a few days earlier as "so hot, I wish I were in it." It was a good performance; well-cho-

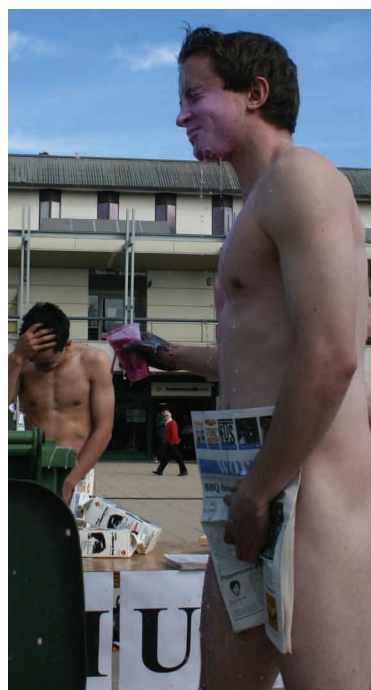
reographed with strong movements and good body language although one got the impression that the guys were only foils for the girls.

The participants for Best-Dressed were given props and songs from different musicals to prance to. The winners were Xin Yi Tan and Ren Kobayashi, who received an Enigma voucher each.

There was excitement in the air during the raffle draw as the top four prizes were an X-Box 360, a PlayStation 3, an Asus Eee PC and a return ticket from Malaysia Airlines. You could hardly differentiate the cheers of delight from the howls of disappointment as the MCs announced the raffles.

I don't remember what time International Ball ended. It doesn't matter anyway. All I remember is heading to UniPub for the after-party and being pounced on by screaming friends telling that it was great and how they loved every minute of it.

But then again, they may have been drunk.



## Scav Hunt Wrap

They could get into Parliament dressed as the Joker but couldn't buy a pregnancy test and coathanger?

Congratulations to the winners *cokmeatsandwich* (Bprem Parker, Oliver Davi and Shane Cowan) who take home \$500 and runners up Elliott Wise, Millie Weber and Byron Vickers who pocket \$250.

More photos and the full *Woroni* Scav list at [www.woroni.com.au](http://www.woroni.com.au)

**Left: A crowd pleasing vomit from the winners of this year's Scav Hunt Iron Gut Competition.**





### Ask Agapanthus



Dear Agapanthus,

Sadly, I remained in Canberra over the winter break. To compensate, I resigned myself to the weaknesses of the flesh and embarked on an affair with a friend of a friend. While he certainly prevented me dying of boredom, he lost all appeal the moment he opened his mouth. Frankly, the best thing about it was the fact I knew it wouldn't last forever – I'd go back to uni and he'd go back to whatever self-indulgent, pretentious, postmodernistic pit from whence he crawled. Yet imagine my surprise when he happened to be in my first tutorial! Unfortunately he noticed me before I could flee and I was obliged to pull up a pew beside him. The tute was extremely uncomfortable (he kept brushing his sweaty paw against my hand) and afterwards he even suggested we get a coffee! Agapanthus, how can I let this guy know that I was only using him for his body heat, and that I frankly never want to see him again?

Yours, Manipulative Winter Fling.

Dear MWF,

Firstly, I must congratulate you on the sticky mess you have embroiled yourself in, you dim-witted harpy. Everybody, surely, knows the first rule of sordid

Send your (short) events to [u4303222@anu.edu.au](mailto:u4303222@anu.edu.au) by 20<sup>th</sup> August.  
Inclusion is subject to editorial discretion

**johns xxiii play**  
"Black Comedy" By Peter Shaffer. 13 Aug – 16 Aug. \$20/\$15. The Street Theatre. Directed by Jeremy Perrott. Call (02)62471223

**national science week event**  
3 researchers present work and you vote on winner. Free food. Aug 21, 12.30-14.30 or 18.00-20.00 @ The Front, Lyneham. [cobi.smith@anu.edu.au](mailto:cobi.smith@anu.edu.au)

**falling petals**  
a darkly comic fable about the culture of disposable youth. Director: Jennifer Waldron. 14-16 Aug @ 20.00, ANU Arts Centre.

**art school ball**  
Theme: Alter Ego. Tickets: \$25.19.00, 15 Aug @ Great Hall, University House, ANU. [u4308956@anu.edu.au](mailto:u4308956@anu.edu.au)

**the red shoes**  
Jigsaw Theatre presents. The Street Theatre. 20 Aug – 6 Sep. (02)62476800. Tickets: \$12/\$15

**anusa elections**  
Mon Aug 18 – Fri Aug 22

**much ado about nothing**  
presented by Papermoon. 22 Aug – 6 Sep @ Main Theatre, ANU Arts Centre. \$20 student tickets available @ 13007373763

**IR public lecture**  
ANU International Relations Society presents **Strategy, Policy and Institutions: Time for a Re-Think**. Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy Lecture Theatre. Aug 18 @ 18:00

**australian science festival**  
<http://sciencefestival.com.au>  
Aug 16 – Aug 24.

flings in the small, incestuous pit of contemporary undergraduate ANU life: "date cross-faculty, or dwell in acrimony". It does not surprise me to learn that this boy "happened" to be in your class, and nor should it shock you. Since you are evidently too spineless to have hardened up and given Chumpsticks the "it's not you, it's me" chat prior to July 21st, you only have one option: disguise and subterfuge. One of my all-time favourites is the old chestnut I call "Identity Theft", which pretty much involves you denying, to his face, that you have ever had anything to do with him. Prominently wearing someone else's nametag, and sporting a stick-on moustache can assist (trust me), as can speaking in a thick accent when in his vicinity. If this particular approach fails, have you considered setting him up with a friend with a penchant for arseholes? I am sure lots of eligible girls out there are dying for a slice of Chumpkin pie.

If he still won't leave you alone, you may, sadly, have to turn to brutal honesty. Whilst you have missed the delicious possibilities of the introduction tutorial ("three things about my

partner include he studies Economics/Law, his favourite band is Kings of Leon and he bayed like a diseased wolf during our last night of fiery passion"), other options remain. For instance,

when your tutor makes a comment about the underwhelming performance of macroeconomic policy strictures, cough loudly while glaring at him and shout "I HEAR YOU SISTA". Good luck

in any case.

Love and Kisses,  
Agapanthus.

Please send in your questions to [woroni@anu.edu.au](mailto:woroni@anu.edu.au)

# Canberra y Quito Se Quieren



**Matt Teran**  
Canberra

Okay, find in your atlas the map of South America. Identify the sleek, size zero nation of Chile, then head upwards to the generous splodges of Peru and Columbia. Nestled between these two is the nation of Ecuador, who hangs off the equator like a damp t-shirt on a cold Canberra morning. Sweep down the eastern slopes of Mount Pichincha, and there you will find the city of Quito, the teaming capital where this Townie spent his mid-year holidays. It was my first visit and the first time my dad had returned to his homeland in 20 years. And while being pressed to 'comer más, comer más' by eighty different family members all keen to show off Ecuadorian produce and simultaneously attempting to dodge in broken Spanish questions regarding the whereabouts of my wife and children, my mind wandered. I imagined a corner café, a candlelit table for two, a crisp linen tablecloth and chipped dinner plates – the setting of Canberra and Quito's blind date.

Quito arrives late of course, displaying the same casual disregard for time that characterises his citizens. As Quito takes his seat, Canberra accesses her first impressions – he is a strange mix of bustling, haphazard, quiet and serene. As for his appearances,

he has clearly outgrown the valley in which he is nestled and is spilling out of it like an unsightly skinny jean induced muffin-top. Definitely not what she would usually go for. Quito too, is taken aback by Canberra's apparent aloofness, which he translates as signalling a particularly unmaternal demeanour. This could be a problem for his fiercely Catholic population for whom churning out adorable niños is practically a national past time. What will she do when she discovers that the children spilling onto his streets are comparable in number only to the vast herds of armed police, dogs and toothless women selling homemade jellies?

But as they place their orders and their meals arrive, they begin to develop a rapport. As she daintily picks at her meal, Canberra begins to find Quito's blatant and sometimes dubious patriotism quite alluring, as he brashly informs her that he is the home of the best natural mineral water in the world and the best coffee in the universe. She is also taken by his Latin American passion, particularly with regard to traffic. There is no need for traffic lights at intersections, Quito informs her. Simply beep your horn to let the world know you coming through and when others refuse to give way, curse them with a heat that could boil the contents of their radiator. As she throws her head back to laugh, Canberra suddenly becomes acutely aware of the starkness of her CUE dress, and wishes she had known when dressing for this date, as Quito clearly did, that fluoro ponchos with llamas on them are the height of cool.

The conversation begins to

loosen further after dinner when Quito convinces Canberra to try Chicha, a pale yellow fermented corn drink that, rightly or wrongly, transcends the polar twins of sweet and savoury. After a couple of glasses, Quito cannot hold his curiosity any longer. With a sly smile, he grills Canberra as to the location of her hilltop Christian monstrosity, showing her his enormous aluminium Virgen de Quito, and also asks her to explain her lack of mountains above three thousand feet. Canberra smiles and patiently informs Quito that the Christian monument competition raging between Latin American capitals has not extended to her shores. As for her mountains, Canberra lets her biting wit loose and declares that at least her ranges are not inactive volcanos that have been heard to rumble in the recent past. Quito laughs heartily and is secretly taken by this playful banter.

As the night draws to a close, they peck on the cheek and part with a mutual understanding that they may have stumbled across something special. Another date is planned. I foresee a bright future for this pair, both alike in dignity and both hesitantly keen to forge a very different tale of two cities. In fact, I would go as far to say that the chemistry between these two has re-established the credibility of the oh so troubled Paula Abdul. Yes, for if the second date leads to a third, and the third to a romance, then Paula was right – opposites, do indeed, attract. And if Paula is right about something, perhaps we should all be inspired to reconsider our core assumptions. At least think about it. For I am your townie. And I loves ya.



## ANUSA Welfare Officer FREE advice!

ANUSA employs a Welfare Officer, Bronwyn Evans, who is able to provide free information, advocacy and referral on a range of welfare related issues to students. Bronwyn has been with ANUSA for over 10 years, and is extremely experienced with student welfare issues. All support is provided in a student friendly environment and is confidential. So, if you are having financial or welfare problems, come in and speak to our Welfare Officer.

Bronwyn can provide information, applications and appeal assistance on Government Income Support Benefits provided by Centrelink, such as Youth Allowance, Austudy, Abstudy, disability support pensions, parenting payments and health care cards. Bronwyn can also provide financial assistance, such as an Emergency Loans, applications for the undergraduate loan scheme, budgeting and financial counselling, referrals to services within ANU and referrals to other welfare services.

The Welfare Officer is located in the ANUSA office in building No. 17a (above the Commonwealth Bank in the Concessions Bldg No.17). You can contact Bronwyn directly at [sa.welfare@anu.edu.au](mailto:sa.welfare@anu.edu.au)



## SPORT

## B&amp;G plays hard to win Inter-Hall softball

Hamish Leslie

Against the softballing might of Fenner Hall, a well disciplined B&G girls softball side secured a 10-2 victory, capping off a strong season of Inter-Hall softball.

Whether due to its historically greater cultural significance, its more accessible rule system, or its self promoting nature, Inter-Hall Rugby League has the tendency to overshadow the game of skill, strength and agility that is women's softball during second term. When Johns College find themselves relinquishing the revered Inter-Hall Sports Shield later this year to B&G or the "come from nowhere" rampaging Fenner Goats, the hapless Johns Sports reps (who will probably have been expelled from Johns by this point anyway) will sobbingly ask themselves: "Where did it all go wrong?" Well Johns... in a word: Softball. An evident failure by Johns (and other colleges) to take softball seriously provided B & G and Fenner with a window of Inter-Hall opportunity which they exploited by fielding highly

disciplined, competitive sides, the likes of which have not been seen for many a year.

From the early rounds it became clear that Fenner and B&G were the teams to beat in this year's competition with convincing wins over Burgmann, Johns, Bruce and Ursula Hall. Lacking the brainless competitive grunt of Johns, or the threat of social ostracism that not playing sport at Johns risks, the more academic colleges of Burgmann, Bruce and Ursula understandably struggled to get enough players

out early each Saturday morning. In a stroke of brilliance by the Bruce Hall sports reps, it was decided that chocolate muffins would be the reward for any girl who attended (they then had the problem of over-participation). Following the Bruce lead, Burgmann offered pancakes to entice people to attend the match.

The curtain raiser before the final gave the boys from Fenner and B&G the chance to strut their stuff (and dress in drag), proving that boys can handle softballs just as well as their female coun-

terparts. However the sizeable crowd were there to see the main fixture: The Fenner – B&G girls showdown.

Living up to its expectations, the final featured some sizzling softball, with both sides remaining scoreless after the first innings. B&G, however, managed to push the game out of Fenner's grasp in the third innings with some strong hitting and sneaky base-steals. The game ended 10-2 in B&G's favour. Johns- try taking softball seriously next year.



ANU snowsports showoffs take tumbles outside Chieffly during Bush Week ANU Snow Sports



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# University's best sportspeople honoured at annual Blues Awards

John Birrell  
Sport Editor

The annual ANU Blues Awards were held late last term at Purple Pickle Café with Vice Chancellor, Professor Ian Chubb in attendance.

The night is held to recognise exceptional sporting achievement by ANU students and the most successful club of the previous year. Before the presentation of awards Professor Chubb spoke of his last official meeting with Former Prime Minister John Howard before the latter's election loss late last year. According to Professor Chubb the conversation focused on Howard's tragic sporting career and his love of all things cricket. Apparently Shane Warne's spinning finger holds a special place in the former PM's heart! At the Awards the Vice-Chancellor said that, due to this experience, he would refrain from relaying his own sporting tragedies and instead spoke with passion about his love for the sporting culture of the ANU and University campuses generally.

Half and Full Blues were awarded to six students on the night for their outstanding performance in sports from Ultimate Disk to Rowing. Of par-

ticular note is William Thwaite who has represented Australia as part of the Men's Volleyball Team. Thwaite competed in the 2007 Commonwealth Volleyball Championships and will be moving to Europe to play in the lucrative and highly popular Swedish National League. In addition to Thwaite Full Blues were given to Robyn Selby-Smith for Rowing and Anthony Ricketts for Squash. Ricketts was also named as the ANU Sports Star for 2007.

Half Blues were awarded to Daniel James for Rogaining, Lucy Stevenson for Ultimate Disk and Katie Duncan for Rowing.

The ANU Boat Club took the two awards reserved for ANU Sports Clubs given out on the night. As previously noted in *Woroni* the Club has been extremely successful over the last few years and its membership has boomed. Due to their huge success and improvement in providing sporting services for students they were awarded both the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Most Improved and the Club of the Year Award.

The Awards showed the great depth and variety of talent we have at the ANU. This writer also feels it was a fantastic example of the work the Sport and Recreation Association does to ensure



Anthony Ricketts (I) received a Full Blue for squash and was named ANU Sports Star of the Year

sporting teams and clubs are supported in providing opportunities for ANU students.

## ANU success in Uni Games lead-up

Scotty Bolton & Kate Duncan  
Sport

The University Games may be the pinnacle of university sport but the preambles to this competition are the East and South Coast Challenges. The East Coast Challenge was held 6-9 July 2008 in Sydney. It featured 11 sports, and a 4 night Social Program. This year ANU only sent a Men's, Women's, and a mixed touch team to this event. However both Men's and Women's soccer competed down at the South Coast Challenge which is held from the 6 – 11 July in Melbourne.

At the East Coast Challenge, The Men's touch team played a strong game against Macquarie Uni in the playoff for the third. Winning 10-2 to take home the bronze medal after a tough week of competition. The Women's Team played the Gold medal final against SUCSG (Sydney Uni Cumberland Campus) but were narrowly defeated, taking away

the silver medal. The mixed team, although not performing quite as well as the other two ANU teams, played some very entertaining and unconventional touch and drew wide crowds to watch their games.

Universities competing in the touch competition included Sydney University Cumberland Campus (SUCSG), University of Technology Sydney (UTS), Macquarie University (MQU), Newcastle University (NCLE), University of Sydney (USYD), Australian College of Physical Education (ACPE), University of NSW (UNSW), University

of Wollongong (UOW). Many of these participating universities sent more than one team for some of the competitions.

At the South Challenge ANU were competing in both men's and women's soccer. Both Teams played beyond their best efforts to reach the bronze medal play off. Unfortunately both the men and women were unable to beat their opponents on the day and finished 4th.

After a good warm up both the Touch and Soccer Clubs are well placed to make an impact at the Australian University Games later in the year.



ANU Touch Footy came Third at UniGames

## Hall & College kids ready for round three

Scotty Bolton  
Sport

Term three, the longest term in the academic year, will also be the most intense and action packed term of the sporting calendar for Inter-Hall Sport. This term the boys and girls in residence will be competing in four regular seasonal sports and Inward Bound.

Soccer, played by both women and men, will be held over six weeks. The men's Aussie Rules Football Competition will be played on Sunday mornings starting in week one and running through to week six. The girls will be playing netball on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from week one through to week six. Later in the term there will be a volleyball gala competition held for both the boys and girls. This competition will be held on Sundays and span for the majority of the day.

Inward bound is (hopefully) back in term three. Due to unfortunate circumstances IB was postponed in semester one,

however it is scheduled to take place this term. Although not previously disclosed Inter-Hall Sports President John Birrell says that the reason that IB did not go ahead was due to objections of local Councils in the areas the event was to be held. Birrell has said that, pending approval of the two unnamed Council's Traffic Committees, IB will go ahead as planned on the 19th and 20th September. However, if this approval is not granted a Rogaine will replace IB this year and he and the IB Committee will continue to work for the prestigious event to continue next year.

By the end of this term *Woroni* is predicting that Johns and B&G, place first and second on the Inter-Hall ladder and will be in a good position in term four to fight it out for the Sports Shield. However, Fenner and Burgmann are chasing the leaders and will continue to fight until the end. This term will be a testing one and will more than likely decide which college will the inter-hall sporting competition, so get out and see how the action unfolds.