



yacker

NEWSLETTER 44 FALL 2011

THE EDWARD A. CLARK CENTER FOR AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND STUDIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Pam Ryan Receives Order of Australia Medal

Dr. Pamela Ryan, a Clark Center research associate, has this fall been awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) to honor her service to Australia, her founding and leadership of an important global body, *Psychology Beyond Borders*, and her creation and leadership of *Issues Deliberation Australia*, located in Adelaide, and *Issues Deliberation America*, headquartered in Austin. Pam also co-founded and chairs the Silverton Foundation, which aids disadvantaged peoples in countries around the world. In 2002, she donated Silverton funds to endow the Pam Ryan Fund for Australian Studies at UT-Austin.

Yacker readers may recall the path-breaking national deliberative democracy polls that Pam, assisted by the Clark Center, mounted in Australia. One polled a cross-section of Australians about becoming a republic, another about issues pertaining to Aboriginal reconciliation, and a third about relations between Muslims and non-Muslims in Australia. In addition to many research reports, academic articles, and a book titled *Magic Carpet Flying*, Pam has produced feature-length documentary films stemming from two of the deliberative democracy polls. Her OAM is richly deserved.

ANZSANA & AAALS to Meet in Toronto

The next joint conference of the Australian and New Zealand Studies Assn. of North America and the American Association for Australian Literary Studies will be held at the Delta Chelsea Hotel in downtown Toronto, February 16-28, 2012. Half a dozen panels open to all conference participants will be convened by each association. Joint events will include a reception on Thursday evening, a conference dinner the following evening, and lunches featuring speakers on both conference days. The registration fee of \$125.00 (USD or CND) covers a year's association membership plus the reception and lunches. An additional fee (\$60) will be charged for the conference dinner. The Delta Chelsea Hotel offers a special room rate of CND\$99.00 plus tax per night if booked by January 17th: Tel.: 1-800-243-5732 or www.deltahotels.com/en/hotels/ontario/delta-chelsea. Information about the associations with conference updates, is at www.anzsana.net and www.australianliterature.org

Message from the Director

Consider a vast hot and largely arid land, in which most of the population lives in cities, the economy is based heavily on fossil fuels, water supplies are dwindling, extraction of shale gas and other natural treasures is booming, and renewable energy is an urgent need. Australia? Texas? Both actually. Their strikingly similar energy profiles and policy dilemmas are being studied by the Clark Center in collaboration with UT's Center for International Energy and Environmental Policy and the U.S. Studies Centre in Sydney. Last May, Cameron O'Reilly, a Fulbright Fellow at UT during 2009, and I led five UT engineers, geologists, and hydrologists to Sydney and Canberra to confer for a week with Australian energy specialists and inspect energy production sites near both cities. The project will continue when the UT centers host Australian specialists in Texas next May.

This energy project illustrates how the Clark Center takes its director along intellectual paths that diverge considerably from one's main interest - in my case the comparative study of political elites. I recall, for example, trying to grasp at least elementary aspects of international trade during a two-year project launched soon after the Center's creation in 1988. At about that time I also plunged into the thickets of Australian and American immigration trends and policy dilemmas, which have been the subjects of three successive Center studies conducted in collaboration with John Nieuwenhuysen and a score of immigration specialists in Australia and the U.S. (see page 3).

In 1998-99 Pam Ryan (see page 1) drew me into the constitutional intricacies of Australia becoming a republic, about which she and the Center mounted a deliberative democracy poll of 350 Australian voters at Old Parliament House in Canberra five weeks before the republic referendum. More recently, I spent a year working with American and Australian foreign and defence policy specialists on the Alliance's future. Along the way I've even dipped a toe into Australia's literary waters at the behest of Robert Ross when he edited *Antipodes* for the Center and UT colleagues like Don Graham. In another direction, I've gained rudiments of knowledge about Australia's flora and fauna through Center support of Robin Doughty's research (see page 3). I mention these travels not to tout intellectual agility (friends would say promiscuity), but to show that directing an interdisciplinary research Center is broadening and exciting.

Greg Flynn (gregflynn@rogers.com), who is program director for the upcoming ANZSANA conference in Toronto, reports a number of paper proposals by scholars who have not previously attended ANZSANA conferences. I hope we'll be able to show these new participants how robust the association is. Patty O'Brien, our newly installed president, from CANZ at Georgetown University, will chair the ANZSANA part of the Toronto conference. - John Higley

New Books from Center-Supported Research Projects

The Clark Center's main goal has been to foster research by UT and other North American scholars across a range of Australian and New Zealand topics, often with North American comparisons. Two such topics have been the study of Australian immigration policy and the natural environments of Australia and New Zealand. Books from both lines of research have appeared this autumn:

Immigration and the Financial Crisis: The United States and Australia Compared.
Edited by John Higley, John Neiuwenhuysen, and Stine Neerup. Cheltenham UK: Edward Elgar, 2011, 226 pp.

This book examines immigration to the U.S. and Australia during harder economic times since the paralysis of financial firms and markets in New York and London in 2008. In these harder times, especially in the U.S., sustaining large-scale immigration, containing illegal immigration, and managing the economic and social integration of newly arrived immigrants are daunting tasks. Contributors, who include UT political scientists Gary Freeman, David Leal, and Stuart Tandler, as well as former UT sociologists Robert Cushing and Frank Bean, together with seven other American and Australian specialists, discuss how the financial crisis has altered the nexus of domestic labor markets and immigration, how public fears spurred by the harder times are affecting border protection and support for immigration, whether serious abrasions between foreign- and native-born populations are resulting, and the extent to which the politics of immigration is being transformed in both countries.

The Albatross and the Fish: Linked Lives in the Open Seas.

By Robin W. Doughty and Virginia Carmichael. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2011, with a Foreword by HRH Prince of Wales and an Introduction by John Croxall.

Almost a quarter of the world's albatross species breed on islands claimed by Australia and New Zealand and most of the remainder gain sustenance in the countries' offshore waters when migrating vast distances in and around the Southern Ocean. These seafoam are the most majestic and spectacular of Australian and New Zealand birds, but also among the most endangered. Robin Doughty, UT Professor Emeritus of Geography and the Environment, and Virginia Carmichael show how industrial fishing in the South Pacific, particularly long-line fishing and trawling, is killing tens of thousands of albatrosses each year. The birds swoop on baited hooks that stretch for miles behind vessels, or get entangled in trawl nets and wires set out by deep water fishing fleets. Doughty and Carmichael situate the plight of the albatross in the larger context of threats to the ocean commons, from industrial fishing to dumping chemicals, wastes and plastic trash into the open seas, and they canvas sustainable solutions for the iconic albatross and, indeed, the entire ocean ecosystem.

The Iris Milutinovic Collection in UT's Harry Ransom Center

During two weeks as a Harry Ransom Center Fellow and visitor to the Clark Center this past summer, Brenda Machosky, an Asst. Professor of English at Univ. of Hawaii West Oahu, reviewed collections of papers donated to the Ransom Center by the little-known, mid-twentieth century Australian writer Iris Milutinovic. Dr. Machosky found the bulk of Milutinovic's "publications" to have actually been ABC radio broadcasts in the 1950s and 1960s, along with some short stories and "slice of life" pieces, often published in women's magazines. However, in 1978, when she was in her 60's, Milutinovic published a well-received novel - *Talk English Carnt Ya?* - about the non-English-speaking immigrant experience in Australia. A Tasmanian, Milutinovic was born to Welsh and English parents, but her second marriage was to a Yugoslavian Serb. It was from his perspective and style of "broken English" that she wrote her 1978 novel.

Dr. Machosky also found in the collection two unpublished, basically autobiographical novels (one an extension of the other): *The Street of Seven Tongues* and *Not Far From Nowhere*. Looking for an Aboriginal voice in writers like Milutinovic, Dr. Machosky wanted to see if someone sensitive to the frustrating experiences of non-native English speakers was also sensitive to the original non-English speaking inhabitants of Australia. She found that, in the context of her time, when Aboriginal isolation and assimilation policies still prevailed, Milutinovic struggled with the "native question", as she termed it in a diary entry dated 31 December 1960: "Talked about native question, but all the talk resolves nothing at all. We all talk but do nothing at all" (box 3, folder 12).

Another Recent Visitor

Fergus Hanson, the Lowy Institute and 2011 Professional Fulbright Scholar to the U.S.

Other Publications

Circulations and Qualities of Political Elites. Special issue of *Comparative Sociology* 10 (2011) edited by John Higley.

John Higley and Jan Pakulski. "Do Elites Degenerate? American and British Elites Through Pareto's Lens." *Comparative Sociology* 10:949-967.

Yacker is published in the fall & spring by The Edward A. Clark Center for Australian and New Zealand Studies. Harry Ransom Center 3.137

The University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78713-7219

Telephone: 1-512-471-9607

Fax: 1-512-471-8869

email: yacker@www.utexas.edu

Website: www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cas/

This newsletter was not printed with state funds.
