It’s hard to believe that we have reached the end of Autumn semester. Most academic staff have finalised their marking and many are now either taking a period of annual leave or making the most of the opportunity to spend some concentrated time on their research.

We are fortunate to be welcoming new members of staff to our ranks during June and July. Dr Robyn North has joined the Social Work team from the University of Coventry in the UK and Dr Laura Schatz has come to UWS from the University of Waterloo in Canada to take up the School’s postdoctoral fellowship in Geography and Urban Studies. Dr Kate Huppatz from the University of Sydney is a new lecturer in Sociology and Dr Emma Waterton comes to the Heritage and Tourism group from Keele University in the UK. I’m sure all new staff have been made feel very welcome and they are settling in well.

As we welcome Robyn, Laura, Kate and Emma we farewell our colleague Meg Smith who is retiring after 28 years at UWS. Meg has been a valuable member of staff who has made a strong and sustained contribution to the University during her time here, most recently in the role of Head of Program and before that Associate Head of School. On behalf of the School, I thank Meg for her service to the University and wish her all the very best in whatever ‘post-retirement career’ she chooses to pursue.

As everyone knows I will be taking six months study leave from the 1st of July. I hope that Spring semester is less hectic but no less successful than Autumn has been and I look forward to seeing everyone again in 2011.

Deborah

Introducing Dr Robyn North

Dr Robyn North
Lecturer in Social Work

I’m Victorian-born and grew up in Adelaide where I worked for a number of years in the areas of Health, Housing and Welfare. It was during this time that I did my social work degree and returned to the public sector working in women’s health and Human Services policy. In 2004, I resigned from government to take up full-time PhD study, as well as doing co-teaching and research assistant work in a gendered violence research group at the University of South Australia. My PhD, which I completed last year examined family relationships and theories relating to intimacy and heterosexuality.

Wanting to gain more teaching and research experience, I headed to the UK in early 2007 and worked at the University of Warwick and Coventry University, both located in the West Midlands. Teaching on Masters and Undergraduate social work programs in England has been really rewarding and I continue to have links with several UK Universities. I have just completed some research with the University of Warwick (sexual abuse
Introducing Dr Robyn North (cont from page 1)

and domestic violence) and am in the process of writing this up for co-publication, not to mention sole publishing from my own PhD research. I guess balancing teaching and research remains one of academia’s ongoing challenges!

Congratulations to...

Selda on her wedding on Saturday 5th June.

And congratulations to both Sharyn McGee on reaching 25 Years of Service and Sheridan Linnell on reaching 5 Years of Service.

Sustainability research

Robyn Bushell and Bruce Simmons from School of Natural Sciences undertook an AusIndustry funded project for the development of a sustainability capacity building program for small businesses for the Macarthur Regional Councils (MACROC).

The UWS team also undertook an evaluation of the program known as Symmetry. They were invited to present the findings to a Symmetry Networking Dinner and the launch of the Macarthur Sustainable business Awards at Campbelltown on 27 May 2010.

Pictured - Robyn Bushell and Bruce Simmons are pictured with Mr Imam Ali, Economic Development Officer MACROC, Mr Bill Parker, Symmetry project officer and Ms Fionn Taylor AusIndustry NS State Office

Violence, danger, security and the night-time economy

Stephen Tomsen presented ‘Violence, danger, security and the night-time economy’ at the Australian Institute of Criminology on Tuesday 15th June. A copy of the presentation in PDF and audio format can be downloaded from the AIC site http://www.aic.gov.au/events/

Success in grants round

We had a good result in the last University grants round. Eight School members are investigators on the following successful applications.

International Research Initiatives Scheme

Collaborative Housing Innovations in Australian Cities: International Lessons - $7,500

Congratulations to Kevin Dunn, Deborah Stevenson, Rae Duffy and Emma Power.

Partnership Grant

Effects of the NSWPS counter-

radicalisation Community Engagement Model - $19,979

Congratulations to Michael Kennedy, Selda Dagistanli, Kevin Dunn, Sanja Milivojevic and Stephen Tomsen.

Partner Organisation - NSW Police Service. Partner Contribution $20,000

ARC Linkage

‘Rethinking multiculturalism/reassessing multicultural education’ $316,384

Congratulations to Kevin Dunn, Megan Watkins and Greg Noble.

June Seminar

The June seminar ‘Power and State in neo-liberal Society’ by Raewyn Connell was well attended at Bankstown. The next seminar is planned for Monday 2nd August.

2010 Seminar Series

Location/Time: School meeting rooms via video link
Bankstown (1.1.30) Kingswood (P.G.26)
1st Monday of each month from 1 - 2.30 pm

Contacts:
Prof Stephen Tomsen (Convenor) s.tomsen@uws.edu.au
RSVP Bianca Humphreys b.humphreys@uws.edu.au
Upcoming events

Critical Criminology Conference

1st - 2nd July 2010
University of Sydney, Faculty of Law, New Law School Building, Main Campus, Camperdown.
For further info see www.uws.edu.au/social_sciences/soss/events

Writing for Publication

Friday 23rd July 2010
1.30 - 3.30
Assoc Professor Carol Tosone from New York University, Silver School of Social Work will be presenting an afternoon seminar on Writing for Publication.
For further info contact Justine O’Sullivan j.osullivan@uws.edu.au

The Future of Humanity...

A War of the World, or the End of War?
Can a Nonviolent Strategy of Conflict Resolution Be Effective in Ending the Global War on Terrorism?
Internationally Renowned Fulbright Scholar Professor Charles P Webel, University of New York Prague will be speaking on July 12th 2010 4.00pm – 4.45pm
Playhouse Theatre
Free Entry Includes light refreshments
For further information or contact Dr Debbie Horsfall d.horsfall@uws.edu.au

NZ Geographical Society Conference 2010
Kevin Dunn, Rae Dufty and Emma Power are heading off to the IAG Conference in July.
Rae is organising the session ‘Assembling Economic Geographies’ and Emma is presenting ‘Domestication, embodiment and homemaking’. Kevin will also be presenting, on behalf of Deborah, Awais and Adam, “Religious belief across ‘Post-secular’ Sydney: the multiple trends in (de)secularisation; Australian Heads of Geography Program
Kevin Dunn will also be representing the School at the Australian Heads of Geography Program Meeting, and on a panel reporting on the Federal Government’s aims to develop nationally agreed standard Learning Outcomes for Geography majors at Universities (this is a pilot for all majors).

Postgraduate retreat
The next postgrad retreat will be held on 22nd - 23rd July.

When: 4-6 November 2010
Where: Parramatta Campus of the University of Western Sydney

For further information see http://www.humanrightseducationconference2010.com.au
Social Work, Welfare and Therapy Studies (SWWAT) TAR group news and events

In the first half of 2010 the Social Work, Welfare and Therapy Studies TAR group has held monthly seminars geared to offer practitioners, students and other academics an insight into the work encompassed by these courses and their staff.

This series continues with Assoc Professor Carol Tosone from New York University, Silver School of Social Work presenting an afternoon seminar (1.30-3.30) on Friday 23rd July 2010 on “writing for publication”.

Associate Professor Tosone has an extensive editorial and publication history, from: reporting strategies around working with adolescents caught up in the events of September 11th 2001; offering a critique of developments in brief psychoanalytic interventions; describing the enhancement of curriculum delivery through the use of student generated training videos; and teaching social work practitioners to utilise technologies in growing interdisciplinary collaboration.

If you would like some further information about attending this session on writing for publication utilising Carol Tosone’s extensive editorial experiences, please contact Justine O’Sullivan to rsvp: j.osullivan@uws.edu.au

Justine here: I am keen to let you all know some ‘vital statistix’ about the Field Education course of the Bachelor of Social Work.

The BSW 3rd years, in the first half of this year, have contributed 29,000 hours to working in 71 different agencies from across Western and Southern Sydney in which these students were placed. The other side of that statistic is that 71 workers in the very busy welfare sector of Western and Southern Sydney have supported 29,000 hours of learning for our students! Many of those workers themselves rely on their team mates to assist in the student placement learning process, so if each of those workers was supported by a team of 4 that would translate to more than 280 people observing and nurturing the students’ drive to learn about social work practice in the real world.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to each and every one of those workers who have taken time to support student learning!

Farewell Meg

Staff gathered at the X-Lounge to farewell Meg Smith on Wednesday 23rd June. Meg is a long serving staff member who has held many positions and seen many changes in her 28 years at UWS.

We would all like to wish Meg the very best in her ‘retirement’.

Staff travel

Reza Hasmath travelled to Melbourne from 1-2 June 2010 to conduct preliminary investigation for ethnic minority in the corporation project, and assess feasibility of potential ARC linkage grant.

Natalie Bolzan travelled to Halifax, Canada from 3-15 June 2010 to present at the “Pathways to Resilience II: Social Ecology of Resilience” conference with Fran Gale.

Fran Gale travelled to Halifax, Canada from 3-15 June 2010 to present at the “Pathways to Resilience II: Social Ecology of Resilience” conference with Natalie Bolzan.

Jane Mears travelled to Stockholm, Sweden from 14 June-15 July 2010 to participate in the International Research Seminar of the Foundation for International Studies on Social Security in Sigtuna from 16-18 June 2010 and then to Copenhagen for presenting at the Transforming Care Conference from 21-23 June 2010.

In the media

Sanja Milivojevic was guest speaker on 3CR Community Radio Melbourne.

‘Accent of Women’ aired on the 2nd June. Listen to the podcast at http://www.3cr.org.au/podcasts

ALTC Leadership Project

Sharyn McGee, Alphia Possamai-Inesedy and Awais Piracha attended the ‘ALTC Leadership Project: Developing Program Leader Networks and Resources to Enhance Learning and Teaching in Multicampus Universities’ on 8th June 2010.
Staff travel (cont from page 4)

Association Conference from 13-16 July 2010.

Russell Staiff will be travelling to Luang Prabang, Lao from 2 July-1 August 2010 to undertake field work with Robyn Bushell as part of research associated with their IRIS grant.

Amie Matthews will be travelling to Frankfurt, Germany from 1-18 July 2010 and will present at the International Sociological Association conference in Gothenburg Sweden from 11-17 July 2010.

Robyn Bushell will be travelling to Luang Prabang, Lao from 2 July-1 August to undertake field work with Russell Staiff as part of research associated with their IRIS grant. It is intended that this research will lead to a Discovery grant in the next round.

Rae Dufty will be travelling to Christchurch, New Zealand from 4-9 July to attend the biannual event held by the New Zealand Geographical Society Conference (together with the Institute of Australian Geographers) Selda Dagistanli will be travelling to Leicester, UK from 4-26 July to present at the British Society of Criminology international conference from 11-14 July with Sanja Milivojevic.

Sanja Milivojevic will be travelling to Leicester, UK from 10-26 July 2010 to present at the British Society of Criminology’s annual conference from 12-14 July.

Kevin Dunn will be travelling to Christchurch from 4-7 July to present at the 2010 NZ Geographical Society (with the Institute of Australian Geographers) Conference 2010. Kevin will also be attending the Heads of Geography Program meeting, as well as being a panellist on the National Curriculum Panel, on the Learning and Teaching Academic Standards project tasked with defining threshold learning outcomes for Geography majors and degree programs in Australia.

Emma Power will be travelling to Christchurch from 5-9 July 2010 to present at the Institute of Australian Geographers Annual Conference, which provides an essential networking opportunity to develop research collaborations,

Reza Hasmath will be travelling to Gothenburg, Sweden from 9-23 July to present two papers at the International Sociological Association World Congress from 11 -17 July.

Corazon Sinha will be travelling to Macau from 12-25 July to present at the Asia Pacific Tourism Association (APTA) Conference from 13-17 July.

Kevin Dunn will be travelling to Belfast and Newcastle, UK from 1-24 July to present at the 10th International conference on Diversity, and to establish links with Newcastle University.

Stephen Tomsen travelled to Canberra on 14-15 June following an invitation to present a research seminar to staff of the Association of Criminology who funded this travel.

Alphia Possamai-Inesedy will be travelling from 9-26 July to Gothenburg, Sweden to present at the International Sociological World Congress from 11th – 17th July where Alphia will also be organizer for two sessions, in addition to attending a research committee on women and society.

HDR Candidates’ Travel

Deborah Wilmore is travelling to Brisbane from 28 June-2 July to attend an ASCPRI Training course.

Adrian Lania is travelling to USA from 3-17 July to attend a training workshop on Dramatherapy at the First International School on Developmental Transformations at The Arts Therapy Institute in New York City.

Irena Veljanova will be travelling to the UK from 5 July-1 August, where she will be presenting at the 3rd Global Conference on Diasporas: Exploring Critical Issues in Oxford from 7-9 July, followed by presenting at the 10th International Conference on Diversity in Organisations, Communities & Nations to be held between 19-21 July in Belfast.

Zareen Shahid will be travelling to Brisbane from 7-12 July to present at the 2nd International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts & Responses conference at the University of Queensland from 8-10 July.

Jacqueline Nelson will be travelling to Belfast, Ireland from 7 July-9 August to present at the 2010 Diversity Conference from 19 – 21 July.

Rae Dufty will be travelling to Christchurch from 4-7 July to present at the 2010 NZ Geographical Society (with the Institute of Australian Geographers) Conference 2010. Kevin will also be attending the Heads of Geography Program meeting, as well as being a panellist on the National Curriculum Panel, on the Learning and Teaching Academic Standards project tasked with defining threshold learning outcomes for Geography majors and degree programs in Australia.

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