MINUTES
Emeritus Faculty
The Australian National University

Minutes of the seventh meeting of the Committee of the Emeritus Faculty held on Wednesday 2 August 2000 at 4.00 pm in the Club Room, Cellar Bar, University House

E-mail Distribution: Allan.Barton@anu.edu.au, Rafe.DeCrespigny@anu.edu.au, Anthony.Low@anu.edu.au, molony@coombs.anu.edu.au, maevoc@coombs.anu.edu.au, pickford@dynamite.com.au, Beryl.Rawson@anu.edu.au, prstewart@telstra.easymail.com.au, annago@effect.net.au, Colin.Plowman@anu.edu.au, David.Hambly@anu.edu.au, rgw420@coombs.anu.edu.au

Present: John Molony (Provisional Chair), Beryl Rawson (Provisional Deputy Chair), Rafe De Crespigny (Provisional Treasurer), Peter Stewart, Colin Plowman, Giles Pickford (Provisional Secretary).

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Maev O'Collins, Anthony Low, David Hambly, Gerard Ward, Bob Gollan, Allan Barton and David Hambly.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the sixth meeting were confirmed.

3. Chair's Report

The Chair reported on discussions with Robin Stanton about the possibility of getting some kind of standing or official accreditation by the ANU. The approach might be that an Agenda Paper be produced for noting by Council. Rafe de Crespigny also mentioned that he had spoken with the Vice-Chancellor, and the Head of Public Affairs Division, and that an invitation might soon come from the Vice-Chancellor setting out the terms of a formal relationship between the ANU and its Emeritus Faculty. It was agreed that the Secretary should call on the Head of Public Affairs to assist in producing such a document, and suggest to him that an early draft should be given to the Chair and Treasurer for comment.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Summer Schools

The Chair reported on the Summer School for Humanities Teachers. There is an offer of collaboration from the Professor Iain McCalman and Caroline Turner of the HRC to assist in organising a summer school for History Teachers in the summer of 2001/2002. The Faculty needs to be ready to start work on this project early in 2001.

On the Science Summer School, the Chair reported that he, the Treasurer, Peter Stewart and Maurie Weidemann had attended a meeting with Robin Stanton, Tim Beckett, Michael Gore, John Dash and Stephen Pope to discuss the proposal. There had been

broad agreement about the value of the project, but it became clear that there needed to be an outside source of at least part of the funds required before any progress could be made.
(a) Operations would be managed by John Dash, who has done the job three times already: (b) shared accommodation would be offered by University House, with the option for single accommodation if the teacher concerned wished to pay the difference: and
(c) Tim Beckett would assist with the approach to DETYA for funding. In relation to the last point, the Committee was reminded that Don Anderson had suggested that the right person to approach in DETYA was Mary Johnston of the Quality Schooling Program.

4.2 Lecture Series

The Committee discussed progress in the following projects

(i) The Gordon Ada lecture had been attended by 30 people in the Scarth Room, with a number of them going on to the Christmas in July dinner in the Great Hall of University House. The event had been advertised to Members and Prospective Members only. The attendance was over 50% of the membership.

(ii) The John Molony Book Launch will be held on 16 August at 5.30 pm in the Drawing Room of University House. A notice has been sent out to Members and an attempt has been made to get the event into ANU Reporter and distributed through the ANU e-mail system. Neither of these has yet eventuated and the Secretary will follow through to make sure something happens soon. So far eleven acceptances have been received for this event.

(iii) Ben Selinger has been contacted by Peter Stewart. The Chair agreed to write to Professor Selinger formally inviting him to give a lecture in the Emeritus Faculty Lecture Series. However, the proposed date of 13 September is not suitable.

(iv) Mike Gore has accepted an invitation from the Secretary to speak on Wednesday 11 October at 5.30 pm in the Common Room at University House. No publicity has yet gone out as the Secretary is awaiting an abstract.

(v) Colin Steele has accepted an invitation from the Secretary to speak in March 2001 at a date to be decided.

The following projects remain outstanding, but they would both be in 2001, at dates after March.
'The Role of the AVCC', Stuart Hamilton
'Internationalisation', Lindy Hyam, IDP

4.3 Membership

Beryl Rawson and Giles Pickford had held a meeting of the proposed Membership Sub-Committee. David Hambly had been unwell and was an apology for the meeting. A paper containing recommendations was tabled and a copy is attached.

Beryl Rawson suggested that a Membership Sub-Committee should be established. Peter Stewart moved that the establishment of the Membership Sub Committee comprising Beryl Rawson, David Hambly and Giles Pickford, to advise the Committee, be ratified and this motion was passed.

The Committee then went on to discuss the proposed membership criteria. It was suggested that 'Criteria' be replaced by 'Guidelines' and some preamble added to the effect that guidelines would evolve over time. Re the criteria for former academic staff, questions were raised about full-time versus fractional, part-time and casual appointments. Re former Council members, questions were raised about the need for a minimum length of service. Re Visiting Fellows, it was agreed that the first category was unnecessary and that the second category needed clarification. In the course of discussion there was a strong view put forward by Colin Plowman that our earlier membership concept was more appropriate. That is, any person who wished to sign on to the Objectives of the Emeritus Faculty and assist in its programs should be admitted.

In the course of discussion it was pointed out that the criteria put forward by the Sub Committee would alter radically if the advertised concept of membership were changed. There would probably be no need for a Membership Sub Committee as, in the absence of any criteria or guidelines, the Secretary would admit any person to membership who signed on to the Objectives and who was not criminally insane.

In the end there was no resolution of these questions and the matter was listed for continued discussion at the next meeting. The Sub-Committee should meet as soon as possible to consider the suggestions put forward and the problems raised, and also to design a new draft of the Membership Application Form.

However, the Committee did resolve to admit to membership (categories yet to be determined) all those applicants asterisked on the Database. All of them meet the putative criteria put forward by the Membership Sub Committee, and therefore, even in the absence of any criteria, would unequivocally be eligible. The Committee decided to post acceptance of membership letters to all members admitted, the letter to be over the signature of the Chair.

There are still a few applicants left on the list who are not yet admitted. In most cases these are people where, because the membership application form does not seek dates of employment, and because the putative membership criteria impose a length of service bar, the eligibility of the applicant was not clear at the time. If it is decided that there is no length of service requirement, then all of these people will be admitted automatically. The Chair asked the Sub-Committee to consider which applicants on the queried list might be dealt with expeditiously.

5. Special General Meeting

The Committee resolved to hold a Special General Meeting of members on Wednesday 6 September at 5.00 pm, with members being invited to go on to Graduation Dinner in the Hall.

The nature of the Special General Meeting will be predominantly information exchange; as there is no Constitution to adopt yet, and no intention at this time to elect officers. Members at large could be canvassed as to their views on membership guidelines and a possible fundamental change of the concept of membership from the one which was the basis of their joining.

The Secretary reminded the Committee that in previous meetings there had been talk of holding the first AGM of the Faculty late in the year. Before we can hold an AGM there must be a clear official relationship with the ANU, a draft constitution, a call for nominations to hold office under the constitution, and a set of accounts covering the stewardship of the Provisional Committee.

6. Treasurer's Report

Rafe De Crespigny reported that it will not be possible to open a bank account until the Emeritus Faculty has the official written blessing of the ANU, or is incorporated and has an ABN.

There was some discussion about an invoice for the use of the Scarth Room for the Gordon Ada Lecture, for which there had been no admission fee raised. The Treasurer will take that matter back for re-consideration by University House, and advise the Committee at its next meeting about how The House will deal with requests for space without catering in future lectures.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 August at 4.00, pm in the Club Room of the Cellar Bar.

GP 5/8/00

Membership Criteria – Recommendations to the Committee of the Emeritus Faculty 2 August 2000.

The Provisional Chair will report on the group (David Hambly, Giles Pickford, Beryl Rawson) whom he invited to act as a Membership Sub-Committee.

Beryl Rawson and Giles Pickford met yesterday to look at a framework for admission to membership. David Hambly sent an apology, due to the 'flu.

The attached sheet is the membership database as it stands today.

Where a name has no annotation, it is a member admitted at our first meeting to discuss membership, held on 10 May 2000.

Where a name has an asterisk, it is recommended that the applicant be admitted today.

Where a name has a question mark, the Sub-Committee is still seeking further information and a recommendation will be made to the September meeting.

- CRITERIA

It is recommended to the Emeritus Faculty that the following criteria be applied routinely by the Membership Sub-Committee and that applicants be dealt with day to day under delegated authority. Where there is any doubt, the application should be brought to full Committee.

Former Academic Staff
All former ANU academic staff members of two (?) years standing, or more, are eligible.

Former Members of Council
All former members of the ANU Council who have served two full terms, or longer, are eligible. [A former Pro-Chancellor has been recommended]

Former General Staff
All former general staff of the rank of ANU 8 or higher, who have served two (?) years or more, are eligible.
[General staff already admitted or recommended include senior administrative or financial staff, an Assistant Vice- Chancellor, Head Technical Officers, and a Head of Student Counselling and Careers.]

Visiting Fellows
All ANU Visiting Fellows who have previously been employed at the ANU for more than two (?) years are eligible.
All ANU Visiting Fellows who have been VFs for more than two years at ANU or have previously been employed at another University for more than two (?) years are eligible.

Former Senior Staff of other Universities and Similar Institutions such as Hospitals, Libraries, CSIRO and the like
Applicants who come under this category must be brought to full Committee for consideration as Invited Members.