Season's greetings to all our ALUMNI
Dear Alumni

Seasons Greetings from the Crawford School! We just had the end of year graduation ceremony for this year’s cohort of students with a great fun party afterwards. It was wonderful to see such a happy, successful and optimistic group of students heading off to the professional world – even as the global financial world looks so bleak.

2008 has been a good year for the School. A number of our recent hires have settled in very effectively: Professor Prasanna Gai a global finance specialist from the Bank of England, Professor Stephen Howes a distinguished World Bank economist who has been a key contributing author to the big Garnaut Review on Climate Change for the Australian Government, Associate Professor Paul Atkins a specialist in leadership working with Australian companies and government agencies, Dr Carolyn Hendriks a specialist on deliberative democracy and environmental policy and Dr Ben Hillman a specialist on local level politics and governance in China and Indonesia. All magnificent additions to the School’s line-up.

The other big development this year has been the establishment of the School’s Advisory Council. We have been very fortunate to attract such a distinguished group of leaders from the top levels of government, the corporate sector and the non-profit world. Click on this link to see the people involved http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/about_us/advisory_council/.

We will be expanding the Council with more international members as we move forward. The establishment of this group represents one more step in the School’s advancement and emergence as one of a small group of genuinely top-tier policy schools globally. Welcome affirmation of this came from a high-powered international review of our overall College, which found that the Crawford School is: “arguably already the leading policy school in the Asia-Pacific region and is on a clear track to be among the best in the world.”

We had a number of great alumni events happening this year. I was able to attend a very successful dinner in Canberra for Australian alumni featuring a dynamic after-dinner interaction with Warwick McKibbin on climate change and an amazingly happy night in Hanoi with a big turnout of alumni.

Step-by-step we are working out meaningful ways to connect with different branches of the School’s alumni community. My sense is we get a bit better at this each year, but are always looking for suggestions on how to enhance things.

Finally, and best of all, I’m very happy to report that the new building that is the centerpiece for our new headquarters is rapidly rising out of the ground. It is a truly spectacular complex we are creating - on the best site in all of Canberra – looking down on Lake Burley Griffin from Old Canberra House. We will be moving into our permanent new home this time next year. So, stay tuned for big celebrations on that front!

I trust all goes well in your lives. All of us here at the School look forward to keeping in touch with you, so do let us know if there are ways we can be of assistance to you.

With all good wishes,

Andrew Macintyre
Director, Crawford School
Publications

Crawford faculty continue to strengthen the School’s reputation by publishing in high-quality, peer-reviewed international journals. Publications in 2008 and soon forthcoming cover a wide range of topics. A snapshot of these include:

- Bennett, J (with J Rolfe), ‘The impact of offering two versus three alternatives in choice modeling experiments’, Ecological Economics
- Chapman, B (with M Tan), ‘The Australian university student financing system: The rationale for, and experience with, income contingent loans’, Journal of Educational Planning and Administration
- Golley, J (with R Tyers, Y Bu and I Brain), ‘China’s economic growth and its real exchange rate’, China Economic Journal
- Grafton, Q and M Ward, ‘Prices versus rationing: Marshallian surplus and mandatory water restrictions’, The Economic Record
- Hendriks, C (with L Carson), ‘Can the market help the forum? Negotiating the commercialization of deliberative democracy’.
- Hendriks, Y (with S Lee), ‘The presidency, regionalism and distributive politics in South Korea’, Comparative Political Studies
- McCarthy, J, ‘Shifting resource entitlements and governance during the Agrarian transition in Sumatra, Indonesia’, Journal of Legal Pluralism
- Song, L (with S Yu), ‘Comparative advantage and Australia-China bilateral trade’, Economic Papers

Grants and Awards

Crawford faculty members have also been active in winning prestigious awards and grants. For example:

- Sharon Bessell received funding from the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth to study the role of action research in facilitating children’s participation in community development.
- Bruce Chapman was appointed Sippanonda Distinguished Research Scholar, DPU Thailand, for “outstanding contributions to higher education financing in Thailand”.
- Satish Chand received a grant of nearly $A700,000 to study how land held under customary ownership is accessed for development in Melanesia.
- Luca Tacconi received a grant through the Australian Development Research Awards scheme funded by AusAID to support a global comparative study on the livelihood impacts of incentive payments for avoided deforestation.

What’s happened at Crawford in 2008

Above from far left: Old Canberra House. The Hon Bob McMullan MP, Jenny Corbett and Peter Drysdale at the launch of Japan’s Future in East Asia and the Pacific, Mari Pangestu and Ligang Song (eds) on 9 April 2008. Dr Sharon Bessell.
What’s happened at Crawford in 2008

Trevor Swan Distinguished Lectures in Economics
The Crawford School, in collaboration with the College of Business and Economics, continues to support and organise a distinguished lecture series named in honour of the ANU’s Foundation Professor of Economics, Trevor Swan. In 2008, the Trevor Swan lectures were delivered by the Nobel Laureate in Economics Sir James Mirrlees of Cambridge University, Professor Jeffrey Williamson of Harvard University, Professor Richardanson of the University of California, Professor Nicholas Hanley of the University of Stirling, and Dr Martin Parkinson, Secretary of the Department of Climate Change in Australia.

Conferences, Workshops and Country Updates
Faculty members continue to be active in arranging a host of conferences, workshops and country updates that bring together scholars in Australia and the region to discuss central policy issues. Recent events have included a House of Representatives Conference to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the House Committee System at Parliament House, the East Asia Forum in Sydney (where guests included the Prime Minister Kevin Rudd), the China and the PNG and Pacific Updates, Comparative Experiences in Competition Policy Reform – Australia, Japan and East Asia, and Bicameralism – Australia in comparative context.

PhD students
The Crawford School is proud of its graduates and this year a large number of students successfully completing their doctoral theses during 2008. We would like to congratulate the following students:
- Scott Brenton, Alistair Davey, Thang Nam Do, Sophie Legras, Mariyono Joko, Ryo Ochiai, Albert Ofei-Mensah, Nazmun Ratna, Helen Scarborough, Sizhong Sun, Thi Bich Tran.

Prasanna Gai
Research Director
Prasanna.gai@anu.edu.au
Connecting with our Alumni

Australian Alumni

2008 has been an exciting year for the Crawford School. As we prepare for the graduation ceremony of the largest number of students in history of the Crawford School I would like to congratulate those students on all their hard work and on becoming Crawford School Alumni.

In 2009 we look forward to welcoming back continuing students and the largest group of new students we have ever seen. We are starting to burst at the seams a little and are waiting with great expectation for our beautiful new home at Old Canberra House. We expect to be moving in 2010.

The Annual Alumni & Friends Dinner in September was a great success and we again thank Professor Warwick McKibbin for his speech. We have done our best to contact alumni about the annual dinner, but if you were not contacted please make sure you have provided the School with up-to-date contact details.

The 2009 dinner will be held in September and the details will be put on the Crawford School events calendar in the New Year. See http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/events/calendar/

It was also a pleasure to meet so many alumni at the Vice Chancellor’s Summer Reception. This is always a great event, with over 800 ANU alumni registering and I am assured will be even bigger and better in November 2009.

A quick congratulations to the Crawford School debating team and their coach for a convincing victory over the College of Business and Economics and I sure am assured will be even bigger and better in November 2009.

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Chris Lawrance
Australasian Recruitment Manager
chris.lawrance@anu.edu.au

International Alumni

I can’t believe that Christmas is nearly here – only 8 sleeps to go! The years go by so quickly now. Today is a typical summer day in Canberra – sunny and hot with the prospect of a thunderstorm late in the day. I am sure you remember well days like this as you remember the ‘fluff’ which falls a few weeks before exam time and many other unique Australian/ANU experiences.

It has been another very rewarding year for the team. We are expecting over 130 new international students in Semester 1, 2009. About half of these students will be funded by AusAID. The largest cohorts still come from China, Indonesia and Vietnam, but it is very pleasing to see increasing numbers from Pakistan and the Philippines.

On the staff front, we were very sad when Juwita had to leave us last month. She has returned to Malaysia with her husband and family as her husband has recently completed his PhD thesis in economics from the ANU. Juwita will be greatly missed. Her place has been taken by Balkis Zakaria who is also from Malaysia and is fitting in very well. Balkis speaks three languages including Bahasa Indonesia which is very useful.

We have again held alumni dinners in various countries of the world. Altogether, we held dinners in 8 countries: Cambodia, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Laos, Mongolia, South Korea and Vietnam. The alumni dinner in Vietnam was particularly noteworthy as our Vice-Chancellor, Ian Chubb, attended and presented Dr Vo Tri Thanh with a plaque in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Vietnamese economy. Some of you may remember Thanh. He was a former Helen Hughes prize winner and gained his PhD degree in 1998.

You can check the website if you want to read more about any of these events. You may even see a photo of yourself there if you attended one of the dinners. Reunions with our alumni are an important part of our activities and I hope to meet many more of you next time. So, please remember to give us your contact details or update them through the online form, or email me at: billie.headon@anu.edu.au. I would love to hear from you from time to time.

We also now have alumni representatives in 10 countries: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, Philippines, Samoa, Tonga, Uganda, Vanuatu and Vietnam. If you would like to be a representative for your country, please let us know. We can guarantee that there will not be much work involved!!

On behalf of Ngan, Ida, Balkis and myself, let me wish you all the best for 2009 and we hope to see you somewhere sometime in 2009!

Billie Headon
Director, Student Recruitment, Scholarships and Alumni
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Vietnam Alumni Function

Upon returning from four months of sabbatical leave at the Johns Hopkins University Bologna Centre in Italy earlier this year, I went to Hanoi and attended a most enjoyable ANU alumni gathering of some 140 ANU graduates. The Vice Chancellor hosted the gathering, and Vo Tri Thanh was given a special award for his contribution to economic policy research in Vietnam. The Vice Chancellor also signed an MOU with the State Bank of Vietnam whereby selected staff of the State Bank will be studying in the IDEF program starting in 2009. This will provide much-needed capacity building for the Bank.

For those of you who came to our conference in April this year on “Globalization and the Mekong economies”, you may be interested to know that the papers (taking into account your comments and contributions) are being edited into a book by myself, Ben Bingham and Matt Davies of the IMF. The book will be published by Edward Elgar and co. in the UK some time in 2009.

I plan to run more conferences on the Mekong economies in 2009/2010 and hope to be able to invite more of our alumni to participate. Meanwhile, I wish you all a very happy and successful new year.

Suiwah Leung
Senior Lecturer
Graduate Studies in International and Development Economics
Suiwah.leung@anu.edu.au

Above: Dr Vo Tri Thanh, ANU Vice Chancellor Ian Chubb with 1997 graduates Dr Ngo Huy Duc, Mr Dinh Van Toan and Mr Do Xuan Truong at Alumni function in Hanoi.
Education Policy

As Suwah Leung mentioned in her last letter I’ve taken over the responsibility of being Education Director at Crawford while she is on study leave. Alison Cumming-Thom has also taken on wider responsibilities in coordinating academic skills teaching. We have been focusing introducing more flexibility on how, and when, courses are delivered to students. We have been recording more lectures, so that students can access them for revision, or from off campus.

Several new young staff have also joined Crawford and are keen to try more innovative teaching methods. These moves are also part of an effort to integrate teaching across programs so that students doing economics, for example, can also do public policy or environment management courses, and vice versa.

Those of you who remember the cramped conditions in the Crawford Building will be pleased to hear that construction of our new building began this year and we are due to move in 2010. The site is behind Old Canberra House, overlooking the lake. It should be a much more comfortable and elegant place to learn in.

We are also continuing to develop the School’s website, so I hope you will drop in now and then to see what we are up to. The address is http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/

Policy and Governance Program

Student numbers were again up in 2008. The Policy and Governance Program now contains the largest number of students enrolled in the many graduate degrees managed by the Crawford School. The 2008 figure for enrolments is a very healthy 282, plus an additional 27 PhD students. The spread between international and domestic students is getting closer, with 102 international students compared to 180 Australian students. Other Crawford Programs tend to have a majority of international students and the Policy and Governance Program welcomes the steady increase in interest from international students and institutions.

Because the Policy and Governance Program has the largest number of students enrolled, it also has the largest number of graduate courses for students to study. Forty eight POGO courses were taught in 2008 – about eight more than the previous year. This increase reflects the growth in student demand and also allows students a greater range of choice in electives.

There have been a number of staff movements and retirements this year. Dr Lan Tran has moved on from the Crawford School, accepting a well-deserved promotion as an administrative officer in the ANU’s School of Humanities. Lan has been replaced on a part-time basis by Elena Papankolakis who is working with Rachel McGrath-Kerr in the Sir Roland Wilson Building. Alison Cumming-Thom moved internally within the Crawford School to take greater responsibility for the School’s teaching and learning services. This is a great win for the School at large but something of a local loss to the Policy and Governance Program, which is in the process of hiring replacement staff to assist Mark Badger provide a wider range of academic skills help. Also retiring this year has been Professor Richard Mulgan who continues to teach on a part-time basis. Richard will be greatly missed by the Crawford community but it is wonderful to know that he is happy to help out when available.

However, new academic staff are also entering the picture. Dr Carolyn Hendriks joined the School early in 2008 and has taken responsibility for the core course on political institutions and the policy process, plus a new course on energy politics and policy. Dr Ben Chapman returned to the School from an overseas research posting and taught Governance and Institutions in the graduate diploma in public administration, and helped Professor Bruce Chapman with the Research Project. Scott Brenton found time while completing his PhD to teach Social Policy, Society and Change, also in the public administration graduate diploma. Dr Paul Atkins moved across campus from the Management School and began teaching a course on leadership in the masters degrees. Dr Leo Dohes arrived from the Australian public service to manage the School’s dedicated masters degree for the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research and to teach from time to time in other graduate courses.

John Uhr
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Peter Larmour
Education Director
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Below from left: View from Crawford grounds across the lake. Dr Carolyn Hendriks. Professor Paul Atkins
International and Development Economics Program

What an exciting time to be a student of economics! No doubt many of our IDEC alumni are working extra long hours, as economists here in Australia and around the world come to grips with this year’s financial and economic crisis. I am sorry that my home country is such a source of international turmoil. I am never going back there!

I sincerely hope that this annual newsletter of greetings and good wishes finds all of our many IDEC alumni to be enjoying life and work, be it here in Australia or back in your home country. Hopefully those who have returned overseas have taken a little bit of Australia back with them be it an Akubra hat, a cute koala or perhaps young children who have learnt to speak fluently in English, and hopefully still with a broad Aussie twang, including a hearty “g’day mate”!

The IDEC program has enjoyed another busy year, with continued student growth from many corners of the world, a few new faculty members and some changes to our program. Many of you will be interested to learn that QIE (Quantitative International Economics, not that you forgot the acronym!) will now become a valued elective from 2009, and thus will no longer be required. In its place as our third compulsory course, along with Masters Micro and Open Economy Macro, will be the Crawford School ‘flagship course’, Governments, Markets and Global Change. This newly re-structured course addresses questions of how to enhance productivity and economic growth, how to ensure the sustainability of natural resources, and how to design institutions to enable good governance. The course will be taught by a group of lecturers from the Crawford School, led by Professors MacIntyre, Bennett and myself. Along with the lecturing team, there will be case study teams of academic staff and scholars, who, with students from all three Crawford programs, will participate in multi-disciplinary groups to apply given theoretical frameworks to a series of research-driven policy or case studies. I believe this will be a rewarding and exciting initiative for all of us. I am looking forward to it!

I welcome Professor Kaliappa Kalirajan who will be joining the Crawford faculty next March. Many of you will know of Professor Kalirajan, who has been returning to the ANU each year for the past three years to teach an IDEC intensive trade course. He is a very popular teacher and a world-class scholar, and I am delighted that he will be taking up a position in the Crawford School on a more ongoing basis in 2009. However, I am sorry to report that Dr Timo Henckel has moved to another area of the University with a mission to pursue macroeconomics research at CaMa (Centre for Applied Macroeconomics). We wish him all the best!

Another sad loss is the demise of our IMF (International Monetary Fund) program, and this week we said goodbye to most of the final intake of IMF scholars, with only two IMF scholars remaining to finish their studies in July 2009. This program will unfortunately cease due to loss of funding. It has been operating most successfully as part of the IDEC program for many years, first initiated by Associate Professor Suiwah Leung and Professor Patrick de Fontenay, producing some of the brightest and best young economists from Central Banks and finance institutions from all over the Asia-Pacific region. I am sure any IMF alumni reading my report will be sad to learn of the end of this rewarding scholarship program.

On a happier note, I have pleasure in announcing this year’s Helen Hughes prize winners for top academic results:

2008 HELEN HUGHES IDEC GRADUATE DIPLOMA PRIZE WINNERS:
Semester 1: Tufail Yousafzai from Pakistan
Semester 2: Elmira Mudarisova from Uzbekistan

2008 HELEN HUGHES IDEC MASTER PRIZE WINNERS:
Semester 1: LiLiya Gatina from Uzbekistan
Semester 2: Tuan Anh Phan from Vietnam

Sincere congratulations to all of the above. I am very proud of them, as I am of all of our graduating and continuing students this year. I am also very proud to have been awarded the CAP (College of Asia and the Pacific) ‘Teaching Excellence Award’ for 2008 – thank you to the students or staff members who initially nominated me for this award, whoever you are?

Finally, I encourage our valued alumni to continue to keep in contact with us, and let us know about your latest ventures. We miss you and truly hope that you are doing well. I thoroughly enjoyed connecting with many of you at the recent ANU alumni function in Hanoi, and I know many of you got together at another successful and happy alumni event held in Jakarta, in July. I wish I could have been there in Indonesia with you!

For another year, very best wishes to all our IDEC alumni, from myself and all the IDEC staff, for a happy, healthy and successful 2009.

Tom Kompas
IDEC Program Director
tom.kompas@anu.edu.au

Above: Tom Kompas with Souphaphone Saignaluth July 2008.
Elmira Mudarisova

Environmental Management and Development Program

2008 has been another exciting and rewarding year for the Environmental Management and Development program. We have seen a surge of interest in environmental studies, particularly among Australian students, and the program has introduced a new degree, the Master of Climate Change, which will be offered jointly with the Fenner School starting in 2009. This is the first degree of this kind in Australia and one of the first around the world. We have also started experimenting with online course offerings and the Graduate Certificate in EMd will be available online in 2009.

EMD staff have continued to achieve excellent research outputs including a number of publications in highly ranked journals, have organized several workshops and conferences – on themes such as water management, carbon trading, and deforestation and climate change – and have obtained several new grants. Two new grants on deforestation and climate change, which I have received from the Australian Research Council, the Australian Agency for International Development and the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, make available funding for several PhD scholarships and create one of the largest global congregations of researchers focusing on deforestation and climate change.

The high quality research we carry out in EMD is aimed at improving environmental management and feeds into our degrees, which aim to prepare students to leadership roles that we hope will also be used to benefit the environment and development processes. With that in mind, I urge you to recommend EMD to your colleagues and friends for the best place to study environmental management and development!

On behalf of the current staff and students of the Environmental Management and Development Program in the Crawford School, I wish you a happy festive season and a prosperous New Year.

A/Prof Luca Tacconi
Director, EMD Program
luca.tacconi@anu.edu.au

Congratulations to Crawford Prize Winners

It is our pleasure to congratulate the following Crawford students who received prizes in 2008:

- Elmira Mudarisova received the Helen Hughes Prize for Academic Excellence in the Graduate Diploma in International and Development Economics.
- Phan Anh Tuan received the Helen Hughes Prize for Academic Excellence in the Master of International and Development Economics.
- Kathryn Michie received the Elspeth Young Prize for Social Contribution for the student who has made the most valuable social contribution to the social fabric of the EMD student group in 2008.
- Sanzida Akhter received the Tiri Tiri Prize for Academic Excellence in the Master of Environmental Management and Development.
- Zahid Saleem received the Raymond Apthorpe Prize for Academic Excellence in the Master of Public Policy.
- Viti Fluriangy received the Raymond Apthorpe Prize for Academic Excellence in the Graduate Diploma in Public Administration.