

UNSW@ADFA

Alumni Newsletter

Issue 1, 2001

Welcome

Welcome to the first newsletter from the Alumni Office of University College at the Australian Defence Force Academy. This will be the first of a series of Newsletters designed to keep you in touch with the College, the Academy and your fellow Alumni. On the back of the Newsletter you will find a contact form. We would appreciate your help in keeping in touch so if your details have changed, or you know of other alumni who would like to receive news and other invitations, please fill in the form and return it to:

Alumni Office
University College
Australian Defence Force Academy
Canberra ACT 2600

Or email alumni@adfa.edu.au

What's New ??

Lieutenant James Watson - Rhodes Scholar

James Watson has been awarded the University College's first Rhodes Scholarship. An ADFA graduate, James is currently serving as a troop commander with the Australian Army in Darwin. He intends to use his Australia at Large Rhodes Scholarship to look at ways in which the Department of Defence can help conserve Australia's natural environment.

"In particular, I want to look at how the Defence Department can contribute to native title and conservation. We have so much land that we use for training but we could manage it better and utilise it for conservation purposes as well as training. In some cases Defence-owned bushland could be opened to the public, like National Parks," said James. In 1999 James won the University Medal in Geography for his undergraduate work at University College.

"Spending three years at Oxford will be an amazing opportunity to learn environmental management techniques. I'm sure it will give me the skills I need to help the Defence Force develop appropriate land management strategies," he said.

This is the fifth time in five years that a UNSW graduate has won a Rhodes Scholarship but this is the first from the University College.
(Uniken 1/2001 March 2001)

New Degree – Bachelor of Technology in Aviation

A new degree has been developed at University College at the Australian Defence Force Academy. The Bachelor of Technology in Aviation is for prospective RAAF pilots, and will ensure that they get up into the skies as soon as possible, with most of their classroom component completed in only two years. The last year of training will be spent doing hands-on training with aircraft at Tamworth, NSW, and Pearce, WA, together with an academic project.

Air Force Training Command has worked closely with the School of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering over the last three years to achieve a balance between academic study and the more vocational flying training.

There are nine students in the first intake of the degree in 2001.

Farewell Sally Phillips

Sally Phillips, Director of Student Administration at ADFA retired on 29 March 2001 after 24 years service, at ADFA and the Royal Military College (RMC) before that.

In a first for University College staff, she was awarded a CDF commendation at a full ADFA parade. Ms Phillips commenced work with the University of New South Wales, RMC in 1977 in the Faculty of Military Studies, as a Graduate Assistant, advancing to Assistant Registrar shortly thereafter. In 1986 she was appointed as Deputy College Secretary (Academic) at University College, later to become known as Director, Student Administration.

Ms Phillips' greatest contribution during her time at ADFA was her commitment to the students, both as individuals and as a collective body, and her personal concern for their welfare that has extended from recruitment to graduation. All graduates of ADFA will remember Ms Phillips and wish her well in her retirement.

What's On

University College Lecture 2001

The University College Lecture 2001 will be given by renowned Australian historian Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Blainey at 5.30pm on **Monday 21 May 2001** in Adams Hall (Assembly Hall) at ADFA. The title of the lecture will be "Eureka, Glenrowan, Gallipoli and Singapore: what lesson should be learned?". You are all welcome to attend.

Art Exhibitions

Following the recent exhibition of paintings by Keely Fielding, entitled "A small white boat", there will be at least three more art exhibitions at ADFA this year. The exhibitions are held in the Academy Library and are organised by Jeff Doyle from the School of Language Literature and Communication.

From April 20 to the end of May, Greg Battye will present an exhibition of multimedia (digital laser photography) entitled "War Stories". Greg is a well-respected and widely known photographer, whose work has been collected by the National Gallery. He lectures in media at the University of Canberra.

Mid year (early July) there will be an exhibition of various art forms (paintings, drawings etc) titled "Resistance" held in conjunction with the EACLALS International Conference. This will be a 'big' show - 30-40 paintings including works by Ken Unsworth, Arthur Boyd, Peter Daly, Keely Fielding, Anna Eggert, Dennis Trew, Terry Eichler, George Gittoes, and hopefully several important new Aboriginal artists and local artists.

Towards the end of the year (September) there will be an in-house exhibition of the photography and other visuals by the Centre for Media Resources staff. This will include works by photographer Nigel Pearson and David Paterson and possibly cinematographic material.

Open Day 1 September 2001

Each year, in conjunction with the five other tertiary institutions in Canberra, ADFA “opens its doors” to the public for the annual Open Day. Held early September each year, the Open Day is an opportunity for the Academy to showcase the many and varied academic and military activities that make ADFA unique. Don’t forget the Academy Production is on later that evening. The dates for performances have been set as 31 Aug, 01 Sep, 07 Sep, 08 Sep. This year’s production will be “Les Miserables”.

Your Thoughts

ABC documentary “The Academy”

Did you see the recent ABC documentary series called “The Academy” screened over five consecutive Tuesday nights in February and March ?

There has been both positive and adverse public commentary about The Academy. The program has been hugely watched around Australia. Loved it or hated it! Now's your chance - tell us what you thought of the series. Email alumni@adfa.edu.au.

Awards to Staff

ACT Book of the Year

Victorian Premier’s Literary Awards - the Nettie Palmer Prize for Non-Fiction,

Associate Professor Adrian Caesar in the School of Language, Literature and Communication in 2000 won the ACT Book of the Year Award for his book “The White” which explores the last days of Scott and Mawson in the 1912 Antarctic polar expedition. Associate Professor Caesar also won a major prize in the 2000 Victorian Premier’s Literary Awards - the Nettie Palmer Prize for Non-Fiction. "The White" is Associate Professor Caesar's fourth book of prose. He has also published two books of poetry, and is working on a new book “which will question the typical form that 20th century war literature takes”.

Spitfire Memorial Defence Fellowship

The Spitfire Memorial Defence Fellowship is an annual award established in 2000 to commemorate in a lasting and dynamic way, the significant contribution of the Spitfire and its Squadrons during World War II. The Fellowship is sponsored by the Spitfire Association and its corporate and private supporters, and is administered by UNSW.

The Selection Committee for the Fellowship made two awards in 2000 to commemorate the first year of the scheme: one to FLTLT Boyd Falconer from RAAF Pearce to support his project "Human Factors Awareness and Development in the Royal Australian Air Force" and the other to Dr Rik Heslehurst from the School of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering to support his project "Jet Fighter Design Evolution – Korean War to the Present"

Masayoshi Ohira Memorial Prize

Associate Professor Aurelia George Mulgan, School of Economics and Management, has been awarded the Masayoshi Ohira Memorial Prize for her book "The Politics of Agriculture in Japan". This prize is awarded annually for up to five outstanding published works on or relating to politics, economics, culture, science or technology in Japan. Usually one or two of the awards are made each year to non-Japanese authors.

Major Publications

“Centenary History of Defence”

The 7 volume “Centenary History of Defence” series, edited by Professor Peter Dennis and Lt Gen John Coates (ret) of the School of History, was launched by the Minister for Defence at the Avalon Air Show in February 2001. The series was supported by a substantial grant from the Department of Defence over a 9-year period. Volumes 1 and 2, “The Australian Army”, by Associate Professor Jeff Grey, School of History and “The Royal Australian Air Force” by Dr Alan Stephens, also of the School of History have been launched by the Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Peter Cosgrove and the Chief of Air Force, Air Marshal Errol McCormack respectively.

The remaining five volumes (“The Royal Australian Navy”, “Making the Australian Defence Force”, “The Department of Defence”, “Australian Defence: Sources and Statistics”, and “An Atlas of Australia’s Wars”) will be released between May and August this year.

The University Co-op Bookshop is offering a 20% discount when you order the complete set and signed copies of some volumes can be arranged. Contact to the Bookshop on (02) 6257 3467 or email adfa@coop-bookshop.com.au.

Land Mobilisation in Papua New Guinea

A recently published book entitled “Land Mobilisation in Papua New Guinea” is the result of a collaboration between Lieutenant L T Jones (who was an honours student in economics at ADFA in 1999 and was awarded a University Medal) and Reverend Associate Professor Paul McGavin from the School of Economics and Management. The book investigates the issue of creating economic incentives to achieve and sustain land mobilisation for agricultural use. The book is an edited and extended version of a thesis completed by Lieutenant Jones under Rev McGavin’s supervision.

Southern Trident – Strategy, History and the Rise of Australian Naval Power

Dr John Reeve of the School of History is co-author of the recently published book, “Southern Trident – Strategy, History and the Rise of Australian Naval Power”. The book is a collection of essays, the result of a joint initiative of the Royal Australian Navy and the School of History, designed to address the lack of naval historical studies within Australia by the establishment of the Osborne Fellowship.

Keeping in Touch

Please send us any information about yourself that you would like to share with your friends, colleagues and fellow graduates. Perhaps you have married, had children, had an interesting posting, a promotion or news of an amusing incident to share with your fellow alumni. Send us an email at alumni@adfa.edu.au.