

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL INTERNSHIPS PROGRAM



JUNE 2011 NEWSLETTER

## Director's Message

Welcome to the June 2011 issue of the ANIP Newsletter. For me, this newsletter marks 10 years as ANIP Director. It is also my last Newsletter as Director. Many readers will know of my plans to retire at the end of this year but effectively I will be finishing as Director at the end of Semester 1. I will then be taking some well-earned long service leave. For someone who planned to be at ANIP for only three years, I surprised myself by staying so long. The time has gone very quickly, too quickly in fact. It doesn't require much thought to work out why I stayed – I love the job. But it is now time to move on and do other things including spending more time with my young grandsons and hiking the trails and climbing the (modest) mountains I haven't got to yet.

After I retire as ANIP Director I will continue my association with the ANU as a Visiting Fellow in the College of Arts and Social Sciences so I hope to be able to make a contribution to the ANU for some years yet.

There have been many highlights during my time with ANIP but the standout has been the students. It has been an exceptional experience working with so many young, and occasionally not so young, motivated people. One of my most satisfying experiences over the past decade has been seeing how former Interns have gone on to establish successful careers in all walks of life, and how many of them have told me how important ANIP was in that process. Some of those successes are reported in this Newsletter.

I have met some wonderful people during my time with ANIP, too many to mention and thank here. At the risk of leaving some people out I do want to particularly thank those who have worked with me as ANIP Program Administrators: Irena Stevens, Christine McDonnell, Mee-Yeong Bushby and Cheryl Wilson. All of them have made significant contributions to ANIP and deserve particular recognition for putting up with me and my sometimes strange ways. I would also like to thank Peter Read who has made a valuable contribution to ANIP in a variety of ways over the past decade and has always been a source of sound advice.

ANIP is poised to go from strength to strength in the future. I am pleased to announce that the new Director will be Dr Neil Hamilton who joins ANIP with a distinguished career in public policy and advocacy. Most recently Dr Hamilton was Director of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) International Arctic Program based in Oslo, Norway. Prior to that he was Executive Director of the Forum for European-Australian Science and Technology Cooperation (FEAST) based at the ANU. Dr Hamilton commenced with ANIP in early May to ensure an adequate transition period. ANIP's credentials have also been boosted by the appointment of Dr Andrew Banfield to the position of Lecturer. Dr Banfield joins ANIP from the University of Calgary.

Well, that's it from me. It's been a great 10 years. ANIP has been an important part of my life. To current and former Interns, colleagues, internship hosts and friends of ANIP, thank you and all the best for the future

*Robert Campbell*



President of Senate-Senator John Hogg with Robert and Speaker House of Representatives-Harry Jenkins MP at Parliament Reception

## Vale - His Excellency Néstor Edgardo Stancanelli



It was with great sorrow that I learned of the passing of His Excellency Néstor Stancanelli in January this year. Néstor was a great friend of ANIP and the ANU and over the 9 years that I knew him he became a highly valued personal friend as well. I first met Néstor in 2002. I had taken up the position of ANIP Director a year earlier and thought it would be a good idea to revamp part of the Program to encourage our Interns to apply what they had learned in the classroom to real world public policy issues and expose them to the views and experience of prominent public policy practitioners. I spent a lot of time thinking about which prominent people might be prepared to speak to a small, but highly motivated, group of senior students.

In Semester 1, 2002 one of the ANIP Interns was from Argentina studying at the ANU. She mentioned to me that she recently had the opportunity to meet with the Argentine Ambassador and he had been very interested in her ANIP research project (which was about Argentina and Australia) and had offered to help where he could. It was suggested to me that I write to His Excellency to see if he might be interested in speaking to the Interns about diplomacy and international trade issues. I wrote a very formal letter to the Ambassador asking if he might be able to address our Interns and to my surprise he quickly agreed. On the appointed day and time I waited at the entrance to the Sir Roland Wilson Building where ANIP was based at the time, not totally sure if he would arrive and not knowing what he looked like. Right on time a distinguished gentleman looking exactly what I thought an ambassador should look like strode through the door. I took a punt: “Good morning Ambassador,” and so began a highly valued professional and personal relationship.

Néstor devoted considerable time to working with ANIP Interns. His regular seminar presentations were highly prized and always well attended. For many of our Interns it was their first exposure to real world diplomacy and their first encounter with an ambassador. He inspired many of them to forge careers in diplomacy and related areas. Néstor generously offered to meet with students working on diplomacy and trade projects to discuss their research. I remember that the Interns were never quite sure whether or not they should take him up on his offer and contact him. I always encouraged them to do so and he always gave his time generously to the students.

Néstor’s contribution to ANU went well beyond his work with ANIP. He sponsored concerts at the School of Music, art exhibitions and facilitated student exchanges. He also facilitated academic exchanges between the ANU and Argentine tertiary institutions. Perhaps his most lasting contribution to the ANU was his support for the sculpture “Arch of the Sun” by Argentine artist Lucia Pacenza. “Arch of the Sun” was unveiled by Néstor in 2003 and stands in the ANU International Sculpture Park. For his work with the ANU Néstor was awarded the Degree of Doctor of Laws in 2003. He was immensely proud of that honour and he continued to work with and for the ANU on his return to Buenos Aires.

Néstor was a distinguished diplomat. Throughout his career he held many diplomatic and trade negotiation posts. For seven years he was Argentine Ambassador to Australia and from 2004 to 2005 he was Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Australia. On his return to Argentina, Néstor was appointed to the important post of Deputy Secretary of International Negotiations. He worked tirelessly to improve the multilateral trade system and to free up trade flows between countries. He saw very clearly that freer trade was a way out of the poverty experienced by many developing countries. For those of us who worked for decades on the same issue he was an inspiration – he not only believed it, he did it and helped to achieve real reform.

I will always remember Néstor for his professionalism, commitment, wisdom, sense of humour and above all else, his friendship and guidance. He is greatly missed.

Robert Campbell



Néstor with Robert after receiving his Doctor of Laws

## Where are they now?

### Teresa Comacchio



I was an ANIP intern during my last semester of study at the ANU, in early 2008, and what a fantastic way to finish my degree! I was placed in the office of Senator Nigel Scullion from the Northern Territory. Being a proud Northern Territorian myself, I assumed I would have the opportunity to write about some subject close to home. Instead, I

found myself researching sheep. Sheep rear ends, to be more specific. At the time, sheep mulesing was a hot topic in agricultural affairs, and as the Senator was then the Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, I found myself meeting with industry representatives, agricultural scientists, academics, lobbyists and politicians to discuss the issue. The Australian wool industry had been considering its options for effective prevention and management of flyblown sheep, in response to international pressure from anti-mulesing campaigners who were threatening Australia's biggest importers of wool.

Immediately following ANIP, I worked temporarily for "the Nige", continuing some of my work in his portfolio. I then joined the Canberra office of Ernst & Young as a management consultant. In a lot of ways, the work is similar to what I did during my ANIP internship - I meet stakeholders, understand the scope of the issues,

gather data, analyse it and then work through possible solutions with clients. In Canberra, my clients have been government agencies. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is one of my favourite clients. During the internship I gained an appreciation of the complexities of agricultural industries and its export markets, and I continue to take an interest in that field. I now work in Ernst & Young's Sydney office, working for clients in the financial services sector.

I have many fond memories of my time in ANIP, and am grateful for the lasting friendships I made whilst in the program. I still keep in contact with "the Nige" and his staffers, and became close friends with other interns.

On New Year's Eve, some former interns and I were wine tasting in the Barossa Valley and realised Sophie Mirabella MP was standing nearby. Since our friend Janice was an intern in her office and returned home to New York following ANIP, we decided to say hello on her behalf. Sophie didn't seem too concerned about being accosted whilst on holiday to talk politics with slightly tipsy former ANIP interns!

A big thank you to Rob for the hard work and generous time he gave to ANIP during his time as Director. It is a worthwhile program that offers valuable experiences for students, and I'd highly recommend it. All the best for the future, Rob

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### Jennifer Robinson



Julian Assange and Jennifer outside Court

One of the leading members of Wikileaks founder Julian Assange's legal team is Jennifer Robinson. Jennifer has been a regular media spokesperson on behalf of Mr Assange in relation to recent legal proceedings in the United Kingdom. ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hF\\_omQJJy\\_4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hF_omQJJy_4))

Jennifer was an Intern with the Australian National Internships Program (ANIP) in Semester 1, 2005. She was placed in Parliament House with Senator Kerry Nettle and completed a research report on environmentally sustainable development in Timor-Leste. After participating in ANIP Jennifer went on to complete a double degree at the ANU in Law and Asian Studies graduating with First Class Honours and University Medal in Law and a Distinguished Scholar in Asian Studies.

## Australian National Internships Program

After qualifying as a solicitor Jennifer worked for a judge before winning a Rhodes Scholarship to the University of Oxford and was awarded a Bachelor of Civil Law and a MPhil in Public International Law.

Jennifer worked with Geoffrey Robertson QC before joining law firm Finers Stephens Innocent (FSI) where she specialises in media, defamation, human rights, Privy Council and international cross-institutional disputes. Jennifer is part of a long list of ANIP Interns who have gone on to establish influential careers in politics, business and public and community service and it is hoped that her achievements, and those of other Interns will continue to inspire future students and enhance the reputation of ANIP and the ANU more generally.

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### Gretchen Tietje



I'm currently a Foreign Service Officer with the U.S. Department of State and am posted in Mexico. I finished my undergraduate studies at the University of Texas in 2004, worked in the non-profit sector for about two years before going back to UT for a Masters degree at the Lyndon B Johnson School of Public Affairs.

During graduate school, I interned at the Department of State in Washington, DC and at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. I was fortunate to get hired by the Department of State after finishing graduate school and was assigned to Mexico for my first post. I spent about nine months in the Washington, DC area learning Spanish and getting training for my job, and then arrived in Mexico. So, it's been a hectic few years since I participated in ANIP in 2003, but things have worked out well and I hope to have a long career with the Department of State.

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### Annabelle Ross

I completed a combined BA / LLB program at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) in Sydney. In Semester II, 2006, I seized the opportunity to be placed with Mr. Phil Barresi MP as part of the ANIP internship program. During my internship, I completed a research report on social welfare changes designed to increase employment in single parent families.

After returning to Sydney, I was offered a student vacation traineeship at PwC in the Advisory section where I worked as a Consultant. My main project involved researching strategies to help companies with their assessment techniques in the recruitment of investment bankers.

Upon graduation, I volunteered at the Jerusalem Centre for Public Affairs (JCPA) - a public policy think tank in Jerusalem. Working in the International Law section, I undertook research on current international legal and policy issues. I was also given the opportunity to attend conferences in relation to economics, security and current events concerning Israel, the region and the world. These events provided me with a deeper insight into current policy issues on a local and international level and gave me the opportunity to meet diplomats and journalists from all over the world.

Currently I am undertaking a legal internship (graduate position) at Zellermyer Pelossof & Co, a commercial law firm based in Tel Aviv. My work thus far has been in the Mergers & Acquisitions section. The clients consist of major international and domestic corporations including industrial manufacturing companies, investment funds, hi-tech ventures, banking and financial services institutions, communication service providers and real estate developers.



## Australian National Internships Program



My ANIP internship developed my confidence, experience and interest in the political, commercial and public sectors. I relished the opportunity to gain friends, broaden my education and refine skills that have been an invaluable help in my subsequent endeavors.

Annabelle in Tel Aviv

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## Semester 1 Interns

A reception for all Interns was held at Parliament in March, Interns were given a guided tour of the Presidents suite and enjoyed refreshments afterwards in the courtyard. President of the Senate, Senator John Hogg and Speaker of the House of Representatives, Harry Jenkins MP both thanked Associate Professor Campbell for his commitment to the program and wished him well for the future. They spoke of the value of the program to both Interns and Parliamentary members. PVC Mandy Thomas responded and thanked both the President and Speaker for the incredible opportunity for Interns to be placed in Parliament and for hosting the event. Senators, MPs and Parliamentary staff had the opportunity to meet and speak to all Interns in a relaxed setting.



(Right) Harry Jenkins MP  
congratulating Robert



(Left) Mandy Thomas PVC



(Right) Kelly O'Dwyer MP and Mew  
Tanasarnsopaporn



(Left) Katherine Melitsis, Liam Fuller &  
Sophie Stibbard



(Right) Senator Hogg with Emilie  
Franklin and Yasmin Russell



(Left) Interns with Speaker Harry  
Jenkins

## Australian National Internships Program



Interns in Presidents suite



Main foyer of Parliament

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### Right place at the right time

for Intern Alexandra Satariano from Scripps College, California.

I was an Intern for Mr. Shayne Neumann MP, the Federal Labor Member for Blair. Blair encompasses Ipswich, a suburb of Brisbane that was severely damaged during the destructive floods earlier in the year. In an effort to encourage residents to shop locally, a campaign called "Shop Ipswich" has been launched. To show her support, the Prime Minister agreed to take a photo with Mr. Neumann MP while holding a "Shop Ipswich" t-shirt. I was allowed to accompany Mr. Neumann MP and his staff to the Prime Minister's office, where I spoke briefly with her and then posed for the photo.



'Alex' with Prime Minister, Julia Gillard

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## Oral Presentations



Robert with Senator Nigel Scullion and his Intern Jasmyne Lobo



Carla Ward was an Intern with Senator John Hogg

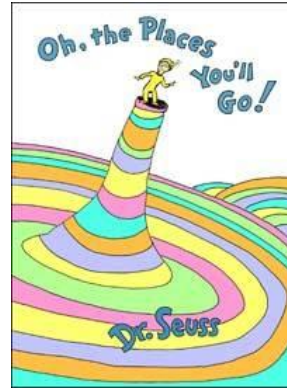
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## Graduation

Congratulations to all Interns graduating in July. We wish you all the best for the future.

In the words of Dr. Seuss

You have brains in your head.  
You have feet in your shoes.  
You can steer yourself in any direction you choose.  
You're on your own.  
And you know what you know.  
You are the guy who'll decide where to go.



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We welcome articles for the ANIP Newsletter so if you wish to contribute please email [internships@anu.edu.au](mailto:internships@anu.edu.au)

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**Reminder**  
**Applications for Semester 1 2012 close on October 21 2011**