As the new Director of the Coral Bell School, it is a great pleasure to welcome you to the latest edition of the School’s newsletter – which has a particular focus on the outstanding research that is being produced across the School – and to highlight some of our recent achievements and forthcoming activities. To begin, though, I want to take this opportunity to thank Dr Mathew Davies for serving as the School’s Interim Director over the past six months. He has led the School with great energy and effectiveness and we are all in his debt.

I am very proud of both the exciting research projects being conducted in the School (please see the following pages) and the most recent list of superb books published in the School (see the column to the right). I am also delighted to congratulate Paul Kenny (Department of Political and Social Change) on the outstanding achievement of being selected for the American Political Science Association’s prestigious 2018 Robert A. Dahl Award for his first book, *Populism and Patronage: Why Populists Win Elections in India, Asia, and Beyond*.

One of the stand-out strengths of the School is the way that we combine research excellence with innovative teaching. A good example of this is Dr Aurore Chow (Strategic & Defence Studies Centre) recently being awarded an ANU Linkage Grant for Learning and Teaching to work with the Australian Defence College on her project *Start Faster, Go Further: Preparing Continuing Education Students for Postgraduate Study*. Other examples can be found in the ‘Thinking in Public’ Symposium for masters students, hosted by the Department of IR in collaboration with Schwartz Media (*Australian Foreign Affairs, The Saturday Paper, The Monthly*), and the OBCE study tour conducted by the Strategic & Defence Studies Centre (see below).

Our impressive students are a crucial part of the Bell School community and we were pleased to welcome 66 new students in July as part of the Semester 2 enrolment. We also celebrated the graduation of 75 of our students (7 PhDs, 7 undergraduates, 61 postgraduates). Notably, the Bell School student community is expanding further. Applications are now open for our new dual degree program with Ritsumeikan University (RU) in Japan for a Semester 1 2019 start. Staff from RU attended the ANU Open Day on 25 August to promote the new Bachelor of Asia Pacific Affairs (ANU) and Bachelor of Global Liberal Arts (RU).

As part of our extensive outreach program the School hosted a very successful ANU Global Update in August. The Department of Pacific Affairs organised another exceptional State of the Pacific conference (10-12 September) with more than 400 participants and superb keynote speaker Dame Meg Taylor, with the opening address from newly appointed Foreign Minister, Marise Payne. We are pleased to have Dr Greg Fealy from the Department of Political and Social Change convening the upcoming Indonesia Update (14-15 Sept) and we look forward to hosting the Vietnam Update (7-10 Nov).

Finally, as a mark of the School’s goal of continuing to expand our research expertise to meet new global challenges, I recently had the honour of signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Bell School and the Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence (CFI), University of Cambridge to collaborate on research relating to the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on international and Asia-Pacific politics and security. I look forward to working with our new partners at Cambridge University.
No small undertaking - Encyclopedia of Diplomacy

Dr Pauline Kerr hopes to influence holistic understandings of diplomacy with the release of the multi-volume Encyclopedia of Diplomacy.

Published by Wiley-Blackwell: bit.ly/2LQwd92

The recently published 4-volume Encyclopedia of Diplomacy, published by Wiley-Blackwell, is a complete and authoritative compendium of the most important events, people and terms associated with diplomacy and international relations from ancient times to the present, from a global perspective.

The encyclopedia includes a chapter on the Coral Bell School building’s namesake - Hedley Bull. The chapter is written by Dr Pauline Kerr, Emeritus Fellow at the Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy (APCD). She highlights the decision by ANU to name the architectural-award winning building after Bull is just one indication of his continuing stature as an internationally recognised scholar.

Pauline was one of several contributing editors who assisted in the compilation of the encyclopedia, which was a massive undertaking by the main editor Gordon Martel, Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Northern British Columbia and Adjunct Professor at the University of Victoria.

For anyone interested in diplomacy, its history, and the relations between states, it is an invaluable resource. For example, it includes scholarship on the role of non-state organisations, including the UN and Médecins Sans Frontières, and the exercise of soft power, as well as issues of globalisation and climate change. Its A-Z format makes it easy to use.

Diplomacy exported to and from Africa

Dr Yolanda Kemp Spies has applied over three decades of academic and professional experience to draw much needed attention to the diplomatic relations of the Global South.

Global Diplomacy and International Society: bit.ly/2MHQQu5P
Global South Perspectives on Diplomacy: bit.ly/2wCrPVl

“Diplomacy has always been a bridging endeavour focused on communication and connecting seemingly irreconcilable parties... it is obsessed by definition with conflict resolution”, says Yolanda.

Currently a Visiting Fellow at the Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy, Yolanda has a lifetime of diplomatic experience, both professional and academic. Serving as a diplomat for nineteen years across four different continents, followed by another decade of teaching and writing on practical and theoretical diplomacy, Yolanda has identified a critical gap between what is required to practice diplomacy and what is taught to the future leaders of this sector.

“Diplomacy is an understudied area of international relations, it has always been seen as inaccessible, the preserve of elites, of government executives, something that was always kept under wraps... it has this secretive aura about it”, explains Yolanda.

This gap has become the basis of her latest two book releases – Global Diplomacy and International Society and Global South Perspectives on Diplomacy. The first book highlights the theoretical history of the practice of diplomacy, which complements the second book, which aims to highlight diplomacy in a historically unrecognised geo-political arena, both in theory and discourse.

“If you don’t pay enough attention to a whole continent, which is engrained with violent conflict, how are you going to solve it?”

Yolanda’s passion for the African continent shines through when talking about historical challenges relating to the ‘global south’. She cites how the African continent dominates fora like the UN Security Council, without being a member.

“Our biggest challenges now are in countries where we are bewildered at the catalysts and causes of war... you cannot attempt to solve problems without the expertise of the locals”, she says.

When asked what impact her new books will have, Yolanda wishes for a re-adjustment of diplomats’ perspectives in the modern world dominated by populism; “Diplomacy is an asset of global society, it does not belong to anyone specifically, it should be liberated from this pressure that has taken hold of global politics”.

Pauline is already using the encyclopedia in her teaching this year, for example chapters on historical periods of diplomacy (Roman, Byzantine, and Italian Renaissance), on contemporary issues (such as public diplomacy and soft power), and on theoretical arguments (including the relationship between Diplomatic Studies and International Relations).

Now, combined with her other recent publications as well as the proliferation in Diplomatic Studies publications, there is, as Pauline says, “a treasure trove of diplomatic studies literature for our students and researchers”.

Pauline also agrees with her APCD colleagues that “there has never been a better time to study diplomacy” and “there has never been a time when measured diplomacy is more needed. I think that Nicholas Burns (former US Under-Secretary of State, Ambassador to NATO and now Harvard Professor) is spot on when he writes in the back-cover blurb of my 2018 co-edited book with my colleague APCD Director Professor Geoffrey Wiseman, that ‘Diplomacy is critical for the twenty-first world’”.

Inside The Coral Bell School / Issue 5
Non-monetary rewards play a significant role in encouraging people to look after the environment they live in, Indonesia expert Abidah Setyowati reveals in a case study. Be it biodegradation, water services, or the production of ecosystem goods such as timber or pharmaceuticals – ecosystem services are an essential part of making human life possible. So how are governments translating these services into policies? A global team of researchers from The Australian National University, University of Sheffield, Carleton University, Universidad di Tella, and Griffith University are conducting five country-focused case studies to find out. Abidah Setyowati, Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of International Relations, is putting Indonesia’s environmental service policies under the microscope.

In Indonesia, financial compensation for ecosystem services has long been the go-to policy tool. But in the 111 semi-structured interviews with multi actors, she revealed that the priority for the people is not the payment, but legal access to the forests. “Many people living in upstream areas of Lombok occupy the area considered ‘illegal’ by the state. The payments are a departure from the community forest initiative, which aims to give these people rights to own the land they live on”, Abidah says.

Aware that ecosystem service policies in Indonesia are fragmented, the team around Abidah wants to provide tangible policy recommendations and facilitate ecosystem services valuation. “We reveal what is actually working on the ground and try to help people change their mindsets to more effectively protect nature”, Abidah explains.

So far, she has conducted semi-structured interviews and found that the social stigma of being a child soldier was often worse for girls than the boys in their reintegration which affected their social mobility and inclusion, ability to marry, and find work. While the findings in Nepal and Indonesia are different, these were similar themes that emerged for female participants in their reintegration experiences. Kate hopes that by speaking with former child soldiers, more inclusive conflict resolution processes that incorporate a gender perspective can be gained through a comparative case study of Sri Lanka and Nepal. “Integrating the perspectives of former child soldiers into current research and policy efforts will assist future peacebuilding with youth and children”, she says.

In 2015 she started this research project because she was concerned “about the ongoing levels of violence and vulnerabilities experienced by children in conflict zones worldwide”. Throughout her research, she also realised the scope of her study needed to be wider. “The more people I spoke to, the more I understood that I couldn’t study girls/women as a separate group. Poverty and poor education affects everyone and former boy child soldiers also face different, but equally challenging life circumstances in post-conflict settings”, she says. It is important that we also think about the boys/men when we apply a gender analysis.

To support her research, Kate has been awarded the Fox International Fellowship for the 2018-19 academic year at Yale University where she looks forward to sharing her findings.
Family protection legislation in PNG - new pilot research

Dr Judy Putt explores how family violence in Papua New Guinea (PNG) has been impacted by family protection legislation.

Over the past decade, a number of Pacific Island nations have introduced family protection legislation as a means of addressing family violence. A new research pilot project led by Dr Judy Putt aims to investigate the expectations, use and efficacy of family protection legislation, and specifically protection orders, in Papua New Guinea. The pilot is envisaged as part of a broader research project on family protection legislation in a number of countries in the region.

The pilot project is being undertaken in Lae, with the support of Femili PNG, a local NGO based in Lae that runs a Case Management Centre to assist survivors of family and sexual violence to access the services they need. The research team is working closely with the Morobe Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee and Femili PNG on design, conduct and report of the project. The Canberra based service, Domestic Violence Crisis Service (DVCS), has an established relationship with Femili PNG and is involved in the research in an advisory capacity on technical aspects of the project that relate to legal practice.

The pilot project provides an opportunity to refine the research questions and appropriate methods, before expanding the project to include other sites. Key research questions for the study revolve around what kind of expectations complainants have when seeking protection orders, how the process is conducted, whether the orders are working as expected or not, what the consequences are for a breach of the orders, and if these processes interact with community, customary and church mechanisms of ensuring safety.

In March 2018 Dr Putt and Ms Eve Ball of the DVCS visited Lae to undertake preliminary stakeholder consultations on the project. Ms Ball shared with Femili PNG staff DVCS's experience of running a Court Advocacy Program in Canberra, and Femili PNG staff and other stakeholders explained their role and work, and the difficult and often fraught context in which they operate in Lae.

Establishing the new Australia-China-Pacific trilateral research network on Pacific Studies

The Department of Pacific Affairs (DPA) has been awarded a grant by the Australia-China Council to establish a new trilateral research network on Pacific studies – the first of its kind in the world.

The informal network, to be convened by DPA Research Fellow Denghua Zhang, will draw together leading experts from universities and research institutes in Australia, China and Pacific Island countries to promote knowledge sharing and research collaboration concerning the Pacific.

The trilateral research network is the first of its kind globally. In preparation for the establishment of this network, the project will examine current research about Oceania in Chinese universities and research institutions.

It is anticipated to become an important component of the broader Australia-China engagement strategy that ANU has in the Pacific region. This project will build on existing partnerships and form new ones between ANU, Chinese universities and Pacific universities.

The research network will pool the intellectual resources on Pacific studies in order to enhance understanding of issues of interest to each of the partners’ governments and academic communities. It will also support the identification of new areas for engagement between Australia and China in the Pacific, such as collaborative research, dialogue between institutions, and trilateral aid cooperation.

The network will convene at a workshop at ANU in mid-2019 bringing key members together to set the academic agenda for its operation. It is envisaged that workshops will be held every two years, rotating between universities and research institutes in Australia, China and Pacific states.
Bringing serious authors and serious topics on Southeast Asia to the public

Taking research to the masses, Dr Nick Cheesman hosts a monthly podcast on Southeast Asian studies as part of the New Books Network.

Listen to the podcast on: newbooksnetwork.com/category/southeast-asian-studies/

The podcast, New Books Southeast Asian Studies (NBSEAS), is just one of over 80 channels in the New Books Network (NBN). Since he began hosting the channel four years ago, Nick has quadrupled its audience size, now getting around 8,000 downloads a month. The entire network has around half a million monthly downloads worldwide.

It seems that books aren’t dead after all, and that there is still quite a healthy public appetite for in-depth discussions about important new research.

The stated aim of the New Books Network is to ‘help save humanity from death-by-ignorance’ by bringing serious conversations with authors of scholarly books to a general audience (in addition to academics and their students).

NBN is unique - there are no other dedicated online venues for authors of scholarly books to talk at length about their work, and raise the level of public discourse by introducing serious authors to a wide public via new media.

The New Book Network podcasts over 100 new interviews a month and has a network of 180 hosts who are topic experts, and who contribute interviews with book authors in that field. Nick is the topic expert on Southeast Asian studies, and has been listening to podcasts for years, so he was the right host for the NBSEAS channel.

“I think podcasting is the best online innovation ever. It’s both a democratic and substantive mode of communication”.

When he found NBN four years ago, he noticed that there was an inactive channel on Southeast Asian studies. He got in touch with the head of the network - an historian in Massachussetts - one thing led to another, and he decided to host the channel as a way of giving something back to the podcast world, from which he had gained so much.

The NBSEAS channel is today sponsored by the ANU Southeast Asia Institute (SEAI), Sydney Southeast Asia Centre (SSEAC) at The University of Sydney, and the Griffith Asia Institute (GAI) at Griffith University.

As for the topics covered in the NBSEAS channel - if it’s Southeast Asian studies, it goes. In almost 50 episodes to date, most of the featured books are related to social science and the humanities. They have ranged from ancient history to anthropology, to political theory, to comparative religion, and ethnography.

“We’ve featured books on every Southeast Asian country except Timor Leste and Brunei - hopefully we’ll have featured books on them soon. The authors have come from institutions across Asia, Australasia, Europe and North America”, Nick says.

In each episode, he tries to cover the basic contents of the book in the first twenty minutes, so that an undergraduate or someone with a casual interest who is thinking of going out and getting a copy of the book will get a better idea of what is in it.

The content of the rest of the episode can vary widely.

“We might talk more about how the author came upon an interesting research question, or about their methods, or source materials, or what kept them motivated, or what skills they needed to write it. Often the discussions give listeners more intimate, less guarded insights into the business of researching and writing the book than they might get from reading the book itself”. That said, he does hope that many people who listen to the interviews will also be keen to read the books featured, having heard the authors speak.

Finding authors to interview for the podcast was initially a case of asking friends or colleagues to do him a favour by coming to speak. “Luckily they were kind about it, and tolerant of my inexperience”.

From there, the reputation of the channel has grown, and he has been able to convince authors who he didn’t know personally to get involved. Now he is often approached by publishers, authors and readers to appear on the show, and has an international advisory board to provide recommendations. But he is quick to state “I’m open to suggestions from anyone”.

For Nick, hosting the channel is a great way to read books that he would not otherwise have read, and speak with colleagues at length about topics that they are deeply invested in.

“As I become so engaged either because the book is so well researched and written, or because the author is so good at communicating about the book in an interview, or both”, Nick explains.

Hosting the channel has also led Nick to have some great encounters with listeners and fans keen to ‘put a face to the voice’. When he was on a fellowship at Princeton a listener came from another state just to talk over lunch about a couple of the episodes that he’d heard. Nick was also surprised to find that colleagues in Japan have been listening too. For Nick, it’s also these kinds of off-mic conversations that make hosting the channel deeply worthwhile.
Claiming ‘Victory’

Dr Meighen McCrae will use her skills as a historian to examine differing notions of victory throughout the First World War to challenge the legacies they have in our modern world.

“If you want to understand ‘victory’ you have to examine the multi-faceted perspectives of those who were involved in orchestrating it and in doing the fighting,” says Dr McCrae.

She explains that “victory is a very contextual concept, it means different things for different people, and yet today we have very strong national beliefs about ‘victory’ in the First World War.”

With work just finalised for her latest publication, Dr Meighen McCrae has utilised the experience to think thematically about representations of victory and “how it has shaped how governments think about strategy development and how we ultimately think about the (near) future”.

Set for release in early 2019, Coalition Strategy and the End of the First World War: The Supreme War Council and War Planning, 1917-18, focuses on the efforts of Britain, France, Italy and the USA to forge a coordinated coalition in the final year of World War I.

“At the end of the day, how did they bring together these multi-national perspectives to develop a strategy that they could all work towards?” In the process of researching this book, Dr McCrae became acutely aware of how these national strategies came to form a coalition one that was underpinned by a shared notion of victory - the complete military defeat of the German army.

Dr McCrae highlights this shared notion of victory by breaking down the book into multiple “theatres of war” to highlight the driving force of this concept throughout a critical time in modern world history.

Inspired by this new research and reflecting upon her past work that investigated how people have utilised science fiction literature “to advocate for a certain future based on their desire to change the present”, Dr McCrae is now in the preliminary stages of pursuing research on the conceptualisation of victory in the First World War from the perspective of those who did the fighting.

“Myth making is an important element that binds society; however, during this process many of the actual experiences and opinions of those involved in conflict, in this case the First World War, get lost.”

Dr McCrae looks at a variety of sources from the time including trench journalism, diaries, and letters, taking advantage of the digitisation of these sources in the wake of the war’s centenary. Ultimately, this research seeks to understand the extent of the appropriation of servicemen’s voices and how that relates to social constructs in modern world.

In peacetime, why does Sovereignty matter?

Dr Marigold Black uses both defence and civilian contexts to inform her primary research of modern conceptualisations of sovereignty.

Dr Marigold Black has utilised the opportunity to work in both defence and civilian contexts to inform her primary research of modern conceptualisations of sovereignty. Marigold, a Visiting Australian Army Research Fellow at the Strategic & Defence Studies Centre, says “sovereignty is fundamental to our national integrity, but it is something we don’t understand well enough because we have had such a long period of relative peace and security”.

Marigold’s research pursuits in topics of sovereignty have been an evolving interest over the last decade. Her PhD investigated sovereignty as the key idea in the intellectual origins of the modern world, looking specifically at understandings of the concept in the context of the American Revolution and the Declaration of Independence. She has also researched sovereignty as it intersected with the doctrine of freedom of the seas and world economy in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Now, her research agenda as a post-doctoral fellow focuses on Australian sovereignty in a context of changing strategic order; the rise of China and evolving international norms. Such a context “has us confused and flailing about. Understanding the parameters of sovereignty tells us a lot about what we are trying to protect, gives us a language to articulate what is against our interests, and provides us with a conceptual anchor for understanding the implications of shifts in the international order”, she says.

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Marigold cites that such a lack of progress in research about perceptions and representation of sovereignty could leave Australia more exposed to both internal and external threats. Marigold says “understanding sovereignty will provide us with a better, and more accurate, sense of how national integrity might be compromised and what that might look like”.

The AARC Research Fellowship allows Marigold exclusive access to work at the Russell Department of Defence offices. This access, ‘to be inside the tent’, is critical to the research agenda for the three year fellowship which will produce a monograph and numerous journal articles and short online blogs.

Marigold’s research will be shaped by an investigation of the current public discourse, as it speaks to the historical and theoretical evolution of concept, and with a view to future Defence strategies. “Sovereignty is, and always has been, a staple of defence and political discourse without people thinking about it critically”.

“It is such a nebulous concept, and it is used in so many different contexts… but this only makes it more important that we have a conversation about its parameters”. An ‘historian by trade’, Marigold hopes that her research findings will deliver a greater understanding of modern Australian sovereignty by investigating the concept through multiple prisms, and help to promote a national conversation.
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