MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING HEAD

I would like to warmly welcome our new lecturing staff: Stuart MacDonald, Sandy Suardi and David Willis. It is really great to have such enthusiastic and well-qualified people joining the School. At the other end of the career structure, Jon Stanford and Clem Tisdell have retired after providing long and excellent service to the School. I am happy to report that Clem will be staying on in the School in his capacity as Emeritus Professor.

As indicated in the last Bulletin, 2004 was another very successful year for the School and 2005 is already shaping up to be another year of achievement on all fronts. Although there has been a general decrease in applications to undertake tertiary study in Australia, resulting in lower cut-off scores for almost all programs at UQ, it is anticipated that enrolments in the Bachelor of Economics will, once again, rise this year, as has been the case in the past four years. It is not clear at this stage how strong international enrolments will be in our programs. Australia-wide, there are reports of significant reductions in demand but the early indicators suggest that any fall will be minor in the BEL Faculty at UQ.

On the research front, recent comparative data released by the University for 2003, shows that the School was well ahead of other Schools in the BEL Faculty with regard to research performance indicators. This performance continued to be very strong in 2004 and there is every indication that this will be maintained in 2005.

It is becoming clearer that the Federal Government is planning to introduce a ‘research assessment exercise’ that will have significant funding attached to it, so it is very important that our achievements in research are maintained. Particularly reassuring in this regard is the fact, over the past three years, that there has been a steep rise in the profile of our published research, as measured by the SSCI Citation Impact Factors of the journals that we publish in. It is anticipated that such measures are likely to play a prominent role in any assessment scheme that is introduced.

As first semester looms closer, I would like to wish all staff well in the year ahead.

John Foster, Head

GREETINGS

Hi. I’m back from the ‘wilds’ of Gatton. Please email all your entries for the Bulletin. Any items of interest, as well as work related items, are welcome.

Kaelene, Editor
k.matts_at_economics.uq.edu.au phone: 3365 6590

IMPORTANT DATES

FIRST SEMESTER 2005

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<td>Summer Semester 2004 Exams Begin</td>
<td>7/2/05</td>
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<td>Summer Semester 2004 Ends</td>
<td>12/2/05</td>
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<td>Classes 28/2/05 - 4/6/05</td>
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<td>Mid Semester Break 28/3/05 – 4/4/05</td>
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<td>Classes Resume 4/4/05 – 25/6/05</td>
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STAFF CHANGES

Welcome...

Mr. John E. Hall has been appointed Adjunct Professor in the School until 31 December 2006.

Professor Steven Bradley has been appointed Honorary Professor until 31 December 2006.

Mr Stuart McDonald has been appointed lecturer in economics commencing January 2005.

Mr David Willis has been appointed lecturer in economics commencing January 2005.

Mr. Sandy Suardi has been appointed lecturer in economics commencing January 2005.

Departures...

Prof Clem Tisdell retired from the School on 31 December 2004.

Dr Jon Stanford retired from the School in January 2005.
STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to…

- Simon Quinn BEcon, who is due to graduate with a Bachelor of Laws in 2005, who has been chosen as the 2005 Queensland Rhodes Scholar.


Joshua Henry Brown.

Chloe Brown.

John Foster

- has been appointed to the Australian Research Council College of Experts (Social, Behavioural and Economic Sciences Panel) for three years (2005-7).

John Quiggin


- ‘“Tax and spend” is back’. Australian Financial Review, 7 October, p. 70.


- ‘And now for the hard bit’ (Ran in earlier edition as ‘Tough one for the winner’), Australian Financial Review, 4 November, p. 78.

- ‘No reserve for rainy days’. Australian Financial Review, 18 November, p. 70.


- Interviews with:
  - ABC Radio (Brisbane) about the cost of living in Brisbane, 14 June 2004.
ABC Radio (Brisbane) about the State budget, 15 June 2004.
ABC Radio (Brisbane) about the State budget, 16 June 2004.
ABC Radio (Brisbane) about blogging, 12 July 2004.
Christian Kerr for a feature on political blogs for the relaunch issue of Internet.au magazine, 5th August 2004.
Sharon Aris, Choice Magazine (Australian Consumers Association) on electricity privatisation and its effect on consumers (price and supply), 10 September 2004.
ABC Radio (WA Country Hour) on National Competition Policy, 23 September 2004.
Western Suburbs News about Economists’ Hall of Fame, 8th October 2004.

- Refereeing for:
  - ARC Discovery and Linkage projects
  - Australian Accounting Review,
  - Australian Economic Review,
  - Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics,
  - Australian Journal of Politics and History,
  - Australian Journal of Public Administration,
  - British Journal of Political Science,
  - Economics Bulletin,
  - Economic Papers,
  - Economic Record,
  - European Economic Review,
  - Health Economics Journal,
  - Journal of Risk and Uncertainty,
  - Journal of Economic and Social Policy,
  - Journal of Health Economics,
  - Papers in Regional Science,
  - Regional Science and Urban Economics.

- PhD Theses examined:
  - Paul Jensen ‘Public sector outsourcing’. Australian Graduate School of Management, University of New South Wales, 7 May 2004.
  - Andrew Wyatt ‘Infrastructure development and BOOT in Laos and Vietnam: a case study of collective action and risk in transitional developing countries’. Faculty of Science, University of Sydney, 3 June 2004.

- Conferences, seminars & workshop presentations & attendance

- John Quiggin


  - ‘Infrastructure bonds’. Presentation to the Property Council, Brisbane, 4th August.
  - ‘Research funding and commercialisation’. Presentation to a public forum on ‘The future of University Research in Australia’. hosted by the UQ Research Staff Committee of the National Tertiary Education Union, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, 5 August.
  - ‘Innovative taxation arrangements’. Presentation to the Financing Development Colloquium sponsored by the Foundation for Development Cooperation, Gold Coast, 14 August.
  - ‘The pros and cons of the 2004-05 Queensland state budget’. Presentation to the Brisbane Institute, Brisbane, 31 August.
  - ‘How should we pay for pharmaceuticals?’. Presentation to the ACT Branch of the Economics Society of Australia, Canberra, 2 September.
  - ‘Discount rates’. Presentation to a symposium on
Cost–Benefit Analysis sponsored jointly by the ACT Branch of the Economic Society of Australia and the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC), Canberra, 3 September.

• ‘The equity premium: explanations and implications’. Presentation to the NSW Branch of the Economics Society of Australia, Sydney, 8 September.


• ‘Environmental economics and the Murray-Darling river system’. Guest lecture presented to the AREC3005 Rural Land Economics class, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, 13th October.

• ‘Infrastructure financing: options and reality’. Presentation to a workshop on Smart Transport and Property 2004: Leveraging Transport Infrastructure for Property and Land Use Development, hosted by the UQ Centre for Transport Strategy and Transport Roundtable Australasia Pty Ltd, Customs House, Brisbane, 4 November.

• ‘Government as a manager of risk’. Keynote address at the Academy of Social Sciences symposium, Canberra, 8 November.

• ‘Government service provision and regulation’. Guest lecture presented for the course entitled ‘Government in the Market Economy’ provided by the Australia–New Zealand School of Government, Griffith University, South Bank, Brisbane, 12 November.

• ‘Priorities for policy and research’. Presentation at a National Water Initiative policy and modelling workshop jointly hosted by ABARE and the Productivity Commission, Canberra, 24 November.


• ‘Climate change and the precautionary principle’. Presentation to the NSW Branch of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society, Sydney, 8 December.

**Clem Tisdell**


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**AWARDS – PhDs**

**Congratulations to…**

- Dr Nicholas Emtage, awarded a PhD on 23 November 2004. Thesis title ‘An investigation of the social and economic factors affecting the development of small-scale forestry in Leyte province, Philippines’ Supervisors: NRSM (60%) and Harrison.


