

## ANU Integration News: 11 December 2007

### WELCOME

Welcome to the second newsletter of the ANU Integration Network. The aim of this newsletter is to share updates on events, visitors, courses, seminars, and jobs. Next year, we'll be joined by a new member of staff – Caryn Anderson – and one of her jobs will be to produce this newsletter on a regular basis and to organise network activities. In the meantime, best wishes for a relaxing break over the Christmas-New Year period to recharge the batteries for an integrative 2008!

Gabriele Bammer

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### (1) NEWS

#### ANU INTEGRATION NETWORK MEMBERS SHARE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

\*Several ANU researchers, including members of the ANU Integration Network, won a share in this year's Nobel Peace Prize. The Prize was awarded jointly to Al Gore and the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for their work in raising awareness of the science and significance of global climate change and its impacts. Over 1500 scientists from around the world have contributed to the recent Fourth Assessment Report of IPCC. ANU members include Will Steffen and Tony McMichael.

## REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL VISITOR – PROFESSOR LINDA NEUHAUSER, UC BERKELEY

\*Linda visited the ANU from September 19 to October 26 on an ANU Travel Grant for Visiting International Academics. She runs the University of California Berkeley Health Research for Action Center, see <http://www.uhealthaction.org>.

She presented a well received seminar and public lecture, as well as a cross-campus masterclass – Integrating Knowledge to Improve Health and Society. The 20 places in the masterclass were snapped up, with 60 applications. This has stimulated us to plan a course for graduate students and early career researchers in 2008.

## (2) NEW BOOKS

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THREE MEMBERS OF THE ANU INTEGRATION NETWORK WHO HAVE RECENTLY HAD BOOKS PUBLISHED:

\*Valerie A. Brown "Leonardo's Vision: A Guide to Collective Thinking and Action", SENSE Publishers: Rotterdam

"Leonardo's Vision is essential reading for all those wishing to capture the emerging opportunity for collective thinking and action. The book provides a number of rigorous models and processes drawing on the author's extensive experience in supporting community efforts towards a sustainable future. I have learned that one should pay serious attention to anything that Valerie publishes and this is no exception." – Charlie Hargroves, coauthor, The Natural Advantage of Nations and Executive Director of The Natural Edge Project.

\*Karen Hussey and Stephen Dovers (editors) "Managing Water for Australia: The Social and Institutional Challenges" CSIRO Publishing

"Australian water policy and management are undergoing rapid and immense change in response to drought, technological advances, climate change and demographic and economic shifts. The National Water Initiative and the 2007 Australian Government water policy statements propose a fundamental shift in how Australians will use and manage water in the future. The implementation of the national water policy presents many challenges – the creation of water rights and markets, comprehensive water planning, new legislative settings, community participation in water management, linking urban and rural water management, and more. Managing Water for Australia brings together leading social sciences researchers and practitioners to identify the major challenges in achieving sustainable water management, to consolidate current knowledge, and to explore knowledge gaps in and opportunities for furthering water reform."

## (3) JOURNAL PROFILE

Research Policy is focused on multidisciplinary policy and management issues in science and technology, most notably regarding innovation, R&D and knowledge/learning generally. The journal publishes both empirical and theoretical papers. Its audience includes academics, industrialists and government officials.

\*Web-site:

[http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws\\_home/505598/description#description](http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/505598/description#description)

\*Impact factor: 1.328 (2006).

#### **(4) PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE**

The International Society for the Systems Sciences is a broadly based professional society focused on systems thinking. It is inter-disciplinary and stretches beyond an interest in theory of complex systems into the practicalities of problem solving using systems methodologies. The society caters for people in academia, business, government and non-profit organizations.

\* Web Address: <http://iss.org/world/>

\* Journal: General Systems Bulletin (<http://iss.org/world/en/bulletins>)

Membership includes the option for discounted journal subscriptions to Systemic Practice & Action Research; Cybernetics & Human Knowing; International Journal of Organisational Transformation and Social Change; and Emergence: Complexity and Organization [E:CO].

\* Conference: The 52nd Annual Meeting of the International Society for the Systems Sciences will be held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, July 13-18, 2008 with the theme Systems that Make a Difference.

Previous conference proceedings are available at <http://journals.iss.org/>

\* Special Interest Groups. There are several special interest groups, covering

- Business Industrial Systems Applications
- Hierarchy Theory
- Duality Theory
- Systems Philosophy and Systems Ethics
- Systems Modelling and Simulation
- Futurism and Systems Change
- Meta-modelling and Systems Epistemology
- Systems Psychology and Psychiatry
- Information Systems Design
- Research Towards a General Theory of Systems
- Medical and Health Systems
- Living Systems Analysis
- Designing Educational Systems
- Spirituality and Systems
- Human Systems Enquiry
- Critical Systems Theory and Practice
- Evolutionary Development
- Evolution and Complexity
- Applied Systems and Development
- What is Life/Living
- Women and Children
- Systems Specific Technology
- Organizational Transformation and Social Change
- Systems Pathology
- Student SIG
- Roundtable

#### **(5) About ANU Integration News:**

This newsletter aims to share updates on events, visitors, courses, seminars, and jobs among ANU staff and students with an interest in research integration (or inter- or

trans- disciplinaryity). It will also provide information on relevant journals and professional societies.

The Newsletter will be distributed on an ad-hoc basis, as material comes to hand. Back issues are available at [www.anu.edu.au/iisn](http://www.anu.edu.au/iisn). To contribute material or to subscribe or unsubscribe from the Newsletter, please contact [ra.iis@anu.edu.au](mailto:ra.iis@anu.edu.au).

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