

April 2008

## WELCOME

Welcome to the fourth newsletter of the ANU Integration Network. The aim of this newsletter is to share updates on events, visitors, activities, opportunities and resources related to research integration and inter- or trans- disciplinary.

We are especially pleased to have Professor Michael Wesley speaking on "Risk, Uncertainty and the Future of National Security" as part of the ANU-Toyota Public Lecture Series. He will be launching the new book *Uncertainty and Risk: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*, which includes chapters authored by many ANU Integration Network members. We hope you can join us on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2008 at 5.30pm in the Finkel Theatre at ANU.

Gabriele Bammer

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## NEWS & EVENTS

**Tuesday, 29 April 2008, 3-4.30pm, NCEPH Seminar Room**

### **Integrating Research Across Disciplines – Students' chance to have a say in developing a new graduate course**

Are you a graduate student involved in interdisciplinary or integrated research? If so, we'd like to hear about your experiences in a forum on Tuesday, 29 April 2008, at 3.00 pm. We are interested in learning about:

- challenges you encounter integrating across disciplines or in researching real-world problems;
- whether you would find it useful to learn principles and techniques to assist in your integrated research, and;
- which proposed research integration curriculum areas would be most valuable in your research.

This discussion of the challenges and needs related to researching across disciplines and with stakeholders will inform the development of a new research integration graduate course. The course will build on a successful master class ("Integrating Knowledge to Improve Health and Society") run at ANU in October 2007 by Professor Linda Neuhauser from the University of California, Berkeley and on introductory courses offered to research managers by the ANU in 2007. We will also be seeking to form a small advisory group of graduate students that will be involved in the development and running of the course.

Please join us – your perspectives are important. RSVP to Caryn Anderson by Thursday 24 April 2008 ([caryn.anderson@anu.edu.au](mailto:caryn.anderson@anu.edu.au), x55621).

When: Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2008, 3 – 4.30 pm

Where: Seminar Room at the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (Building 62, corner of Mills and Eggleston Roads)

Sponsor: The ANU Integration Network & the College of Medicine and Health Sciences

Notes: Refreshments will be served.

**Thursday, 8 May 2008, 5.30pm, Finkel Theatre, JCSMR, ANU**

### **Public Lecture and Book Launch for *Uncertainty and Risk: Multidisciplinary Perspectives***

Please join us for a lecture by Professor Michael Wesley, "Risk, Uncertainty and the Future of National Security", to introduce the new volume edited by Gabriele Bammer and Michael Smithson, *Uncertainty and Risk: Multidisciplinary Perspectives* (<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/?tabid=331>). His lecture will discuss how risk and uncertainty inform the democratic politics of national security; and more specifically, how the management of national security is framed by the changing ways in which society assesses uncertainty and risk. He will explore the emotion of fear in individual and social contexts, and examine how different security fears lead to different structures of national security. Professor Wesley leads the Australia 2020 panel focused on "Australia's future security and prosperity in a rapidly changing region and world" (<http://www.australia2020.gov.au/committee>). Wesley is Professor of International Relations, Director of the Griffith Asia Institute at Griffith University and Program Leader of the ARC Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security. Refreshments will be served after the lecture and launch. Please RSVP to [nceph@anu.edu.au](mailto:nceph@anu.edu.au) or T: 6125 2378.

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## **Major integrative project, "Sustainable Farms", launched at The Fenner School**

A major integrative project has commenced at The Fenner School, funded by the Commonwealth Environmental Research Facilities. The project "Sustainable Farms" will build onto an ecological science project on the recruitment and biodiversity values of scattered trees, funded through the ARC and run by Dr Jeorn Fischer, adding socio-economic and policy aspects through participatory research and high level visualisation. Kate Sherren and a to-be-appointed policy researcher will work full time on the project until late 2010, along with Steve Dovers, Jacki Schirmer and others.

## **New Conference Announcements**

### ***17-19 June 2008, 6<sup>th</sup> Annual CSIRO CSS Workshop, Brisbane***

The themes for the CSIRO Complex Systems Science workshop will be:

- Current breakthroughs – leading edge application of Complex Systems Science to real world problems.
- Where to next? What are the other major challenges where CSS could make a significant difference?

The workshop will be structured around:

- Morning:- presentation sessions, grouped into areas such as Social Ecological Systems, Biological Systems, Physical Systems, etc
- Afternoon:- parallel small group discussions around specific issues of common interest, with a view to the starting the groundwork for future research collaborations.

They welcome participants and potential collaborators from outside CSIRO. Key dates:

- Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> April: Discussion Chairs to self-nominate
- Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> May: Title/Abstracts for papers due
- Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May: Registrations due

Contact Danielle Stevens for details and forms ([Danielle.Stevens@csiro.au](mailto:Danielle.Stevens@csiro.au) or Fax 02 6242 1677).

### ***30 September – 1 October 2008, 3rd Annual Conference of the Australian and New Zealand Chapter of the Society for Risk Analysis, Finkel Theatre, JCSMR, ANU***

The conference will address the interdisciplinary nature of risk by focusing on three key aspects of complex system management:

- Tools and methods;
- Policy and implementation; and
- Risk communication and social science.

The conference will be preceded by workshops on the 29th of September. Events information, the call for papers, preliminary conference and workshop programs and online registration form will be posted on <http://www.acera.unimelb.edu.au/sra/news.html> as they become available. Workshop and conference attendance will be free for members of the Australian and New Zealand Chapter of the Society for Risk Analysis.

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***23-26 October 2008, 30th Annual Conference of the Association for Integrative Studies, University of Illinois at Springfield, Springfield, Illinois, USA***

The conference will serve as a celebration of 30 years of work by the Association for Integrative Studies (AIS) to promote interdisciplinary and integrative teaching and scholarship. Keynote: Ray Miller. The 2008 conference theme is "Interdisciplinarity and the Engaged Citizen: Integrating Higher Education, Public Policy, and Global Action". As higher education promotes citizenship, ethics, and social responsibility, the benefits of interdisciplinary and integrative discussion and problem-solving become clearer. AIS therefore welcomes papers, panels, workshops, roundtables, and creative presentations in the categories of Engagement and Knowledge Making; Engagement and Public Policy; Engagement in Teaching and Learning; and Engagement and Action. Details available at [http://www.units.muohio.edu/aisorg/Conference/conference\\_upcoming.shtml](http://www.units.muohio.edu/aisorg/Conference/conference_upcoming.shtml).

### **Upcoming Conference Reminders**

***8-11 June 2008, 2<sup>nd</sup> World Congress on Risk, Guadalajara, Mexico***  
([http://www.sra.org/events\\_2008\\_world\\_congress.php](http://www.sra.org/events_2008_world_congress.php)).

***7-10 December 2008, 28th Society for Risk Analysis 2008 Annual Meeting, Boston, USA***  
([http://www.sra.org/events\\_2008\\_meeting.php](http://www.sra.org/events_2008_meeting.php)).

## **NEW BOOKS & RESOURCES**

### **Policy integration for sustainable natural resource management: joint research and policy learning by Andrew Ross and Steve Dovers (ANU Integration Network members)**

Environmental policy integration is a strongly emerging area of research and practice, exploring the incorporation of environmental imperatives into social and economic policy through structural change, policy assessment procedures and other means. An initial exploration of Australian experiences is available at: Ross, A. and Dovers, S. 2007. Policy integration for sustainable natural resource management: joint research and policy learning. Canberra: Land & Water Australia.

[http://downloads.lwa2.com/downloads/publications\\_pdf/PR071444.pdf](http://downloads.lwa2.com/downloads/publications_pdf/PR071444.pdf)

### **Bibliography: A Tour d'Horizon of 2007 literature related to Transdisciplinarity**

Td-net (a network for transdisciplinarity in the sciences and humanities) requested experts of transdisciplinary research to indicate important new literature published in 2007. The following web page provides links to PDF versions of the bibliographies for 2007, 2006, and 2005:

<http://www.transdisciplinarity.ch/bibliographie/index.html>. The 2007 bibliography includes references in Concepts of Transdisciplinarity, Problem-oriented Research, Perspectives from Science & Technology Studies, Academic and Non-Academic Expertise, Science-Policy Interface, Management of Transdisciplinary Projects, Problem Framing, Participation, Knowledge Integration, Evaluation of Transdisciplinary Research, Real-World Experimentation, Transdisciplinary Research in Action, Risk Research, Socioecological Research, and Sustainable Development.

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## **JOBS & STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Post-Doctoral Fellowships in Human Ecology Division, Lund University, Sweden**

The Human Ecology Division at Lund University, Sweden, would welcome post-doctoral research fellows who are able to secure funding from any of the several agencies available (see links below). The Human Ecology Division in Lund is oriented toward general, trans-disciplinary anthropology but is currently negotiating a transfer to the Department of Social and Economic Geography. Its main research and teaching focus is on global environmental history, unequal exchange, political ecology, and cultural aspects of sustainability issues (website: [www.humecol.lu.se](http://www.humecol.lu.se)).

Post-doctoral research fellows are encouraged to design their project proposals so as to fit any of these themes. In addition to research and writing, a fellowship can be combined with a modest teaching load in courses such as Global Environmental Justice; Environmental History; Political Ecology of the World-System; or the new Master's Programme "Culture, Lifestyle, and Sustainability".

A list of appropriate funding agencies is provided below. Each website offers a version "In English". Please note that some deadlines have already been passed for this year, but that new opportunities will appear in 2009. Others (such as FORMAS) still leave plenty of time to prepare a proposal. For further information, contact Alf Hornborg at [Alf.Hornborg@humecol.lu.se](mailto:Alf.Hornborg@humecol.lu.se).

- The Swedish Research Council - <http://www.vr.se>
- The Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation - <http://wallenberg.org/kaw>
- KVA, The Swedish Academy of Sciences - <http://www.kva.se>
- FAS, Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research - <http://www.fas.forskning.se>
- FORMAS, The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning - <http://www.formas.se>
- SSF, The Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research - <http://www.stratresearch.se>
- RJ, The Bank of Sweden Tercentenary Foundation - <http://www.rj.se>
- KK-stiftelsen, The Knowledge Foundation - <http://www.kks.se>
- MISTRA, The Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research - <http://www.mistra.org/>
- VINNOVA, Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems - <http://www.vinnova.se>
- The Wenner-Gren Foundations - <http://www.swgc.org/>
- The Sweden-America Foundation - <http://www.sweamfo.se/info.html>
- International Programme Office - <http://www.programkontoret.se/>
- Swedish Institute - <http://www.si.se>
- Swedish Fulbright Commission - <http://www.usemb.se/Fulbright/index.html>
- The Swedish Society of Medicine - <http://www2.svls.se/>
- NordForsk - Nordic Research Board - <http://www.NordForsk.org>
- Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung - <http://www.humboldt-foundation.de>

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## JOURNAL PROFILE

### *Science, Technology & Human Values*

*Science, Technology & Human Values* is a peer-reviewed, international, interdisciplinary journal containing research, analyses and commentary on the development and dynamics of science and technology, including their relationship to politics, society and culture. The journal provides work from scholars in a diverse range of disciplines across the social sciences. Among the disciplines included in *Science, Technology & Human Values* are: Political Science, Sociology, Environmental Studies, Anthropology, Literature, History, Economics, Philosophy."

\* Website: <http://www.4sonline.org/sthv.htm>

\* Impact factor: 1.231 (2004)

## PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY PROFILE

### **Society for the Policy Sciences**

"The basic purpose of the Society is to advance knowledge and practice in the policy sciences in the service of human dignity for all. Consistent with this basic purpose, the Society encourages and supports research, practice, and education in the policy sciences.

"Whether the problems are local, regional, international, or planetary, the policy sciences provide an integrated and comprehensive set of procedures for addressing them in ways that help to clarify and secure the common interest. ... the policy sciences draw on and contribute to all fields of knowledge. The emphasis is on comprehending problems in context in order to develop recommendations that are both realistic and desirable. The content and procedures of many disciplines may be brought constructively to bear on efforts to achieve such results."

\* Journal: *Policy Sciences*

\* Website: <http://www.policysciences.org/sops.cfm>

\* Conference: The 2008 Policy Sciences Annual Institute will be held October 23-25 at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

## ABOUT ANU INTEGRATION NEWS

This newsletter aims to share updates on events, visitors, activities, opportunities and resources among ANU staff and students with an interest in research integration (or inter- or trans-disciplinarity). In addition to current information, each issue will also highlight a relevant journal and professional society.

Our aim for 2008 is to distribute the newsletter monthly. 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 Caryn Anderson at [caryn.anderson@anu.edu.au](mailto:caryn.anderson@anu.edu.au).