

MEMBERSHIP

How the Centre Works:

The Centre focuses on organizing 4 kinds of events:

1. *Annual and public lectures* by leading and renowned intellectuals and scholars, both here and overseas;
2. *Full day seminars* on the work and thought of such intellectuals with them present and working in conversation with a range of local interlocutors and discussants of their work;
3. *Half day seminars* on particular themes with invited speakers;
4. *Symposia and colloquia* in other cities either connected to the work of the journal or to international social theory and social science conferences.

The Centre has 4 fields of operation: local: Bundoora and City campuses; regional – especially Mildura Campus; national (this year we have begun to negotiate with Curtin, Murdoch and University of Western Australia in Perth; Flinders University in Adelaide); and international (in the past 12 months spanning 3 continents: Europe, Asia and North America but also New Zealand).

In all cases we are proactive, working through our own international and national professional and intellectual networks, minimising overheads and resources and maximizing local-global connections and networks, and ensuring intensive face to face encounters.

The coordinating editors of the journal, *Thesis Eleven*, Professor Peter Beilharz and Dr Trevor Hogan, are the founding Director and Deputy Director of this Centre, respectively. As such they are also *Chair* and *Deputy Chair* of the *Board of Management*.

Ordinary Members of the Centre who are also on the *Board of Management* appointed by the Dean of the Faculty, include the

Dean himself, Professor Roger Wales, as well as Professors Johann Arnason, Joel Kahn, Judith Brett and John Fitzgerald, and Ms Mary Reilly.

Student Members are Suzi Adams, David Freeman, Karl Smith.

Associate Members are: Peter Murphy, David Roberts, John Rundell, and Vince Marotta.

Honorary Members are: Dr Luis David, Professor Emeritus George Markus, Dr Maria Markus, Professor Tessa Morris-Suzuki, Professor Peter Newman, Professor George Ritzer, Professor Emeritus George Seddon, Professor Emeritus Bernard Smith, Professor Keith Tester.

OBJECTIVES

The Centre has 9 main aims, as set out in its Constitution:

1. To encourage the development and application of social and political theory throughout the world through publishing and presenting material in printed and electronic form and through delivering educational workshops, forums and conferences;
2. To facilitate international exchanges of internationally recognised scholars in the field of social and political theory;
3. To attract overseas students to enrol in the Faculty's postgraduate programs in the field of social and political theory;
4. To encourage local postgraduate research culture and scholarly research in the field of social and political theory;
5. To promote *Thesis Eleven* as an international journal of social and political theory;

6. To significantly expand the opportunities for research in the field of social and political theory;
7. To promote the teaching and research activities of members of staff of the University in the field of social and political theory;
8. To promote the training of postgraduates in research in the field of social and political theory;
9. To do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above aims.

ADMINISTRATION

The Centre is a small operation with limited resources and big ambitions. It runs on the entrepreneurial imaginations of its Directors and their colleagues in the journal. It depends on the goodwill of academic and general staff in the Sociology and Anthropology program in the School of Social Sciences. In particular we record our thanks to the initiative, drive and support of Mary Reilly (who administers the Centre's account) and her team of administrative staff, Barbara Matthews, Bronwyn Bardsley, Merle Parker, and Elaine Young.

In 2004 we are particularly grateful to Professor John Fitzgerald, Associate Dean International, for releasing Ms Tracy Lee, to work one day a week on the Delhi project of the Centre. Without Ms Lee's thoughtful and hardworking efforts this venture would not have been possible.

The Centre piggybacks on the resources of the journal office and in particular of the work of the two Production Assistants during this period, Suzi Adams (January to August, 2002) and Karl Smith (September, 2002-). The Directors of the Centre report regularly to the Editors' meetings of the journal and we are particularly grateful to our colleagues on the editorial team who are always imaginative, good humoured, generous-spirited

and hard working.

The Centre does not have a separate budget as such. The modest funds associated with the Centre are kept (and earmarked) in the journal's La Trobe University operating account administered by Mary Reilly on our behalf.

We also wish to take this opportunity to express and record our appreciation and thanks for the enthusiasm, wise counsel and support of Professor Michael Osborne, the Vice Chancellor (who provided the Centre with a seeding grant), Professor Roger Wales, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Professor David de Vaus, Head of the School of Social Sciences, respectively.

2003: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

At Bundoora Campus:

The 2nd Annual Lecture: 23rd April: 'On Writing Art History in Australia' Bernard Smith, Professor Emeritus, The University of Melbourne.

Public Lectures:

7th October: 'Beyond the Conflict of Identities: Toward a Planetary Civility' Professor Emeritus Ihab Hassan, Comparative Literature, Milwaukee University

Seminars:

1st April: 'German Questions, Futures: Unification, European Union and Globalization' Professor Claus Offe, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany.

Discussants: Peter Hardy, Trevor Hogan, Alison McClelland, Carla Lipsig-Mumme (Swinburne), David Roberts (Monash)

23rd April: 'On Writing Art History in Australia' Professor Emeritus Bernard Smith (Melbourne) Discussants: Robert

Gaston, Richard Haese, Greg Denning (Melbourne), Christopher Wallace-Crabbe (Melbourne), Charles Green (NGV) and Susan Lowish (Monash)

10th June: 'Development and Social Change' Professor Philip McMichael, Rural Sociology, Cornell University

Discussants: Ken Young, Peter Beilharz, Wendy Mee, Lloyd Cox

5th September: 'On The Sociology of the Emotions' Professor Jack Barbalet, Sociology, Leicester University

Discussants: Peter Beilharz, Trevor Hogan, Joy Damousi (Melbourne)

3rd October: 'Regional Australia and Global Futures' Professor Geoffrey Lawrence, Sociology, University of Queensland.

26th November: 'Eastern Europe, Intellectuals and the Social Sciences' Professor Ivan Szelenyi, Sociology, Yale University

Discussants: Renata Kokanovic (Melbourne), Maria Markus (Sydney), Hugh Stretton (Adelaide), Bill Martin (Flinders), Johann Arnason, Peter Murphy, David Roberts (Monash), Peter Beilharz.

Mildura:

6th October: 'Becoming Part of a Greener Future? Australian Agriculture in the New Millennium' (Public Lecture) 'Australia's Regions: Prosperity or Poverty?' (Address to 2nd and 3rd Year Sociology students, Mildura Campus) Professor Geoffrey Lawrence, Sociology, University of Queensland

Manila, Philippines:

A highlight of the first half of 2003 was the conjoint symposium and related events held in Manila, Philippines in February 1st to 11th. In cooperation with the editors of *Budhi: a journal of ideas and culture*, Thesis Eleven organized a 2 day symposium on 'Cities. Nations. Civilizations. Stories and Arguments' followed by 3 Public Lectures, and a series of intensive, informal meetings with Faculty and graduate students in the Sociology and Philosophy Departments and the various research centres of Ateneo de Manila University. The three public lectures were:

1. 'Rewriting Australia', Peter Beilharz;
2. 'The Ethics of Distance', Peter Murphy;
3. 'Rethinking Southeast Asian Cities: The Case of Manila', Trevor Hogan.

The Murphy and Beilharz lectures are published as articles in *Budhi*, Vol VI: 2 and 3, 2002: 1-24 and 37-50 respectively. The third lecture by Hogan is in *Budhi*, Vol. VII: 3, 103-128. The lectures were attended by over 500 people over three nights. We brought a visiting delegation of eight members, including a graduate student and a Sociology Honours program student, both of whom have research interests in urban studies in Manila, as well as Dr Beryl Langer (Sociology, LTU), and Adjunct Professor Charles Mott, Advisor to the Vice Chancellor on International Affairs, LTU. The final member of our team was Professor Kim Dovey, Architecture and Urban Design, the University of Melbourne, who we arranged for him to give a public lecture at Far Eastern University, Centre for the Study of the Urban Environment' on 'The Politics of Public Space and Urban Design' at which five urban planning and architecture departments from five different universities in Manila were represented. The delegation was taken on two walking tours (Intramuros and Quaipo districts), and one bus tour of the Metro Manila region. The visit was completed with a four day field trip to the World Heritage 16th century Spanish colonial era town, Vigan, 10 hours north of Manila, where we were introduced to local urban political movements and organizers who outlined to us some of the issues facing the city and its immediate region. We were shown urban heritage district, local initiatives in sustainable development, and some of the environmental and socio-economic challenges and conflicts.

Activities of the Directors:

On returning to Melbourne from Manila, Beilharz and Hogan visited National University of Singapore and gave a joint seminar paper on 'Thesis Eleven: journal, centre and project' to the Sociology and Anthropology Department. We held discussions

with the Head of the Department and two other senior members about conjointly organizing an International Social Theory Consortium (ISTC) Annual Conference in January, 2005 at NUS, Singapore. Hogan subsequently took this proposal to the Management Committee of the International Social Theory Consortium at Tampa Bay, Florida in May, 2003. The ISTC agreed to the proposal and the 6th Annual Conference of the ISTC will be held 9-11 June, 2005 at NUS, Singapore.

Beilharz began an ARC Discovery Grant project for 2004-06 on Australia and New Zealand, with Lloyd Cox. This opens the prospect of collaboration with Centres in New Zealand, and with the Centre for Social Inclusion at Macquarie University, Sydney.

Together, Beilharz and Hogan have developed an ARC Discovery Grant Project proposal for 2004-06 on 'Jean Martin and the Instituting of Social Sciences in Australia'. We wrote a synoptic paper on this project which Hogan presented at the 4th Annual Conference of the International Social Theory Consortium, held in Tampa Bay, Florida, May 18-21 2003.

From Florida, Hogan flew to London (meetings with Sage Publishers) and to Universiteit voor Humanistiek, Utrecht, where he gave a joint seminar with Suzi Adams on 'Critical Social Theory: from the margins to the centre?' (May 28, 2003).

In Delhi, Hogan held exploratory talks with academics from Delhi University and Sage India Publishers about the possibility of holding some *Thesis Eleven* Centre events in Delhi in second half of 2004. These talks were encouraging and there was considerable enthusiasm for the proposal.

In August, Beilharz made his annual visit to American Sociological Association meeting, this time in Atlanta. He gave lectures in Mexico City at the UNAM, and spoke there on the work of the Centre. He spoke on the Jean Martin project in Atlanta, and met with potential visitors to the Centre, including Richard Sennett (LSE), Tom Bender (NYU). He visited New Haven to consolidate Yale connections.

Finally, Beilharz and Hogan drafted a new proposal for a social sciences textbook on Australia entitled *Place, Time and Division*.

OUP accepted the proposal in July, 03 to proceed with a publication dateline set for first half of 2006.

At Bundoora Campus:

3rd Annual Lecture: 3rd August: 'The Wilder Shores of Power: Migration, Border Controls, and Democracy in Japan, 1945-1980' Professor Tessa Morris-Suzuki, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National University

Public Lecture:

26th July: 'Perpetrators and Global Bystanders: Reflections on the Abu Graibh Photographs' Professor Keith Tester, Sociology, University of Portsmouth

Seminars:

26th February: 'The Motor Car in Australia: a Cultural History' Professor Graeme Davison, History, Monash University
Discussants: Peter Beilharz, Ian Carter (Auckland), Trevor Hogan, Ruth Fincher (Melbourne)

25th March: 'The Globalization of Nothing' Professor George Ritzer, Sociology, University of Maryland

Discussants: Dennis Altman, Peter Beilharz, Trevor Hogan, Beryl Langer

19th July: 'On Getting Published' Professor Chris Rojek, Sage, London and Sociology, Nottingham Trent University, UK.

27th July: 'The Constitution of the Subject' Professor Anthony Elliott, Centre for Critical Theory, University of the West of England.

3rd August: 'Japanese Modernity' Professor Tessa Morris-Suzuki, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, ANU
Discussants: Johann Arnason, John Fitzgerald, Ken Young.

27th August: 'Re-Imagining Castoriadis' A Symposium organized by Suzi Adams Papers by Postgraduates and Post-Doctoral students at La Trobe (Suzi Adams, Jeff Klooger, Karl Smith) and Melbourne (Sergio Mariscal, Bryan Cooke) with short

presentations by Trevor Hogan and Johann Arnason, and a Roundtable Discussion.

2004: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Mildura:

30th April: La Trobe Lecture: 'Modern Art and the Formalesque'

1st May: 'Dinner with *The Boy Adeodatus*', 25 Deakin St Gallery. Professor Emeritus Bernard Smith (Melbourne)

2nd – 3rd October: Two Day forum on 'Art, Place, and Nature' was co-sponsored by the Centre with Murray-Darling Palimpsest (a public project administered by a committee representing La Trobe University, Mildura, Sunraysia TAFE, and Mildura Rural City Council, Arts Centre and Chaired by Mr Stefano de Pieri, and dedicated to promoting the arts and sustainable regional development) and La Trobe University, Mildura Campus. *Thesis Eleven* Centre brought to Mildura George Seddon, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Science, University of Melbourne, and Senior Honorary Research Fellow, English, University of Western Australia, and Paul Carter, Professorial Research Fellow, Architecture, University of Melbourne. In addition to Seddon and Carter, keynote papers were also given by Beilharz, Hogan and their postgraduate student based at Mildura, Kirsten Henderson.

4th October: 'Australia's Ecological Future and the challenge of Sustainable Regional Development' Address to 1st year Sociology class, Mildura Campus, Professor Emeritus George Seddon (Melbourne and UWA).

Delhi:

The Centre is organizing a series of events from 4th -15th December 2004 entitled *Australia and India: Cities, Nation-States, Alternative Modernities, Civilisations?* in New Delhi. The 10 day schedule includes a formal reception at the Australian High Commission, three public lectures, three seminars, one

specialist two-day colloquium, two field trips and three formal bilateral university meetings.

This programme aims to achieve a number of objectives. The three key thematic objectives are to develop social and political theory of India and Australia in comparative perspective, promote Australian Studies in Delhi and South Asian Studies in Melbourne. Other principal objectives are to secure formal agreements between La Trobe University (Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences) and equivalent universities in Delhi; increase intellectual traffic between Delhi and Melbourne by enhancing and developing teaching exchange, visiting scholar schemes, and research collaboration, publication of public lectures and research papers in *Thesis Eleven* and in equivalent Delhi-based social and political theory journals. *Thesis Eleven*, as a leading international social theory and historical sociology journal is well-placed to publish the best of the papers and lectures delivered, and has secured the interest and support of Sage in London and in Delhi, as well as the Delhi office of Oxford University Press so that there is potential publication and reprinting of books of visiting scholars.

While it is a La Trobe initiative, the project involves a number of local organizations, universities and companies (especially publishers) which will be hosting and sponsoring the entire show in cooperation with *Thesis Eleven* and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FHUSS), La Trobe University. The hosting organizations in Delhi include Hindu College, Delhi University; Oxford University Press of India; Sage Publications India; Australian High Commission, India; SARAI, Centre for the Study of developing Societies; Centre for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU); Indian Association for the Study of Australia (IASA); the Centre for American and West European Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; the Australian Studies Centre, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU); and the Urban History Unit, Jaimia Islamia University.

About 18 delegates from FHUSS, La Trobe, (including the Dean of the Faculty) and *Thesis Eleven*, combining senior, internationally-renowned scholars, South Asian nationals, Area Studies specialists (South Asian and Australian Studies), and

postgraduates are going to be flying to Delhi. Meetings with scholars in Delhi have been arranged at their home universities and centres of research for informal and formal meetings to explore ways of developing projects of research collaboration and teaching exchange. An added attraction is the colloquium being sponsored by the Australia-India Council, Australian High Commission, New Delhi involving influential Indian and Australian scholars across the major disciplines of Humanities and Social Sciences. Scheduled to be held at the Neemrana fort palace, in Rajasthan, considered to be one of India's oldest heritage resorts, the two-day colloquium has been specially conceived to give the participants adequate time together to develop a rapport enabling free flow of ideas. The series of seminars and public lectures are being held in central and strategically important locations like the India International Centre, Delhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University.

In addition to a cash contribution of \$6,000 from the Australia-India Council for the colloquium, and support from various Indian institutions in hosting and sponsoring the lectures valued at around \$4,000, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the School of Social Sciences and *Thesis Eleven* are contributing approximately \$40,000 to support participation by staff and postgraduate students in these events. Further, Tracy Lee was seconded in March to provide administration for this project.

Honorary Doctorate Award:

At the Centre's suggestion, Professor George Ritzer, Sociology, University of Maryland, was awarded an honorary doctorate by La Trobe University on 23rd March. Ritzer participated in a day symposium with more than a hundred attending, including interstate visitors; and worked with fourth year Honours students in the 'American Visions' elective course.

Visiting Distinguished Fellow:

Professor Keith Tester, Sociology, University of Portsmouth, the first VDF for the *Thesis Eleven* Centre, was an unqualified success. Tester and family visited for 6 weeks, 5 July – 13 August. Tester was enthusiastic and generous with his time across a wide range of constituencies and audiences, including

the following events.

1. Seminar Series on the work of Zygmunt Bauman. A weekly seminar drawn from across the university went for six weeks to workshop Tester's new book on Bauman, his area of world expertise in common with Professor Beilharz. Twenty individuals, from Honours level to the Professoriate and from across Social Sciences and Humanities joined in.
2. Public Lecture, on Perpetrators and Global Bystanders – The Abu Graibh Photographs, Undercroft, 26 July. Followup radio interviews on Life Matters, ABC RN 26 July, and Sydney Radio 2SFM, 5 August. In result of this work, Professor Tester is investigating UK-based funding for further comparative work, and planning a return visit to La Trobe in the near future. This was the primary interest of Professor Tester's new research, comparing media and popular responses to atrocity and spectacle.
3. A Monash seminar, on Bauman and Literature, Comparative and General Literature, 28 July.
4. Professor Tester spent substantial time in meetings and consultations with La Trobe postgraduates, postdocs and honours students working in his field, including Dr L. Cox; Robert Campaign; Adrian Barker; Suzi Adams.
5. Professors Tester and Beilharz joined a special session of the Sociology/Anthropology Honours students, to talk on culture and cultural studies and the future of sociology in the United Kingdom and Australia.
6. Professor Tester joined in the editorial work of *Thesis Eleven* journal, reading and refereeing papers submitted, and joining in meetings.

This was an extremely productive visit, and we thank the University and all involved for making it possible.

Honorary Research Associates:

Mr Ricardo Manapat, Director, National Archives, Republic of

the Philippines, and double Masters' candidate at University of Philippines (Spanish studies) and Ateneo de Manila University (Filipino History) respectively was appointed to a 6 week Research Associate Fellowship but was unable to take up the post due to political crises in the Philippines associated with the Presidential Elections. He has subsequently applied to undertake doctoral research 'Rethinking the Philippines: towards a historical sociology' with us to commence in January, 2005.

Dr Luis David, SJ, Philosophy, Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines, visited the Centre in May and is planning a sabbatical based here in 2006.

Activities of the Directors:

January: Hogan spent 3 weeks in Delhi, India, first to attend and give 2 papers at the India Association for Australian Studies (IASA) and then to plan and make arrangements for the Centre's events to be held in December.

February: Hogan met with the hosts of the ISTC 05 conference at Dept of Sociology, National University of Singapore before traveling to Manila where he was the key organizer of the delegation from La Trobe to Ateneo de Manila University. Wearing both his PASC and *Thesis Eleven* hats, he organized 3 public lectures (by Professors Kahn and Camilleri, and Dr Murphy respectively) and a number of other public events with the PASN at Ateneo.

March- May: Beilharz and Hogan made several short interstate trips (Canberra, Perth, Adelaide and Sydney) to undertake interviews for the Jean Martin project and host author workshops for the OUP Textbook project.

June: Hogan gave 2 papers at the ISTC conference in Toronto, and interviewed Florence Harding-Everts in Washington DC for the Jean Martin project. He then traveled to Manila where he consolidated PASC links and planned next year's Budhi-*Thesis Eleven* symposium. Beilharz delivered the 4 volume collection per the Centre, on *American Postwar Critical Theory* to Sage.

August: Beilharz visited USA, participating in the ASA, San

Francisco. He also negotiated our contribution on 'Jean Martin: American and Australian Sociology' for the 100th Anniversary of ASA at Philadelphia in 2005. He met with numerous contacts including recent and future *Thesis Eleven* contributors: in NY, with Prof. Calhoun, SSRC, to discuss participation in 25th Anniversary *Thesis Eleven* event, December 2005; in New Haven with Prof. Alexander re: collaboration with Yale Cultural Sociology Centre; in Milwaukee, where he negotiated with Prof. Hassan re: Mildura event with David Malouf in May, 2005; and then onto Cambridge, Ma. Where he interviewed Prof. Emeritus Daniel Bell for *Thesis Eleven* journal. In Washington DC, he conducted a follow up interview with Florence Harding-Everts for the Jean Martin project.

October: Beilharz discussed developing links with Institute of Advanced Studies, UWA, and shared events in Sydney with *Heat*, per Ivor Indyk.

November: Beilharz travels to New Zealand for meetings with the Canterbury Trans-Tasman Collegia and the Stout Centre, Wellington, to discuss possible links; at the Stout Centre he presents work in progress on the Antipodes Project and again at the national annual Sociology Conference, Wellington.

December: Delhi! As per above.