

Swinburne Institute for Social Research

Annual report 2004



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INSTITUTE
FOR SOCIAL
RESEARCH

Mission, values and goals

The ISR's mission is to undertake valuable and innovative social research and deliver high quality postgraduate education and training.

The ISR values research that advances our understanding of the social world and improves the quality of life; freedom of expression and thought; and a safe, friendly and enjoyable working environment.

The ISR's goals are to become recognised nationally and internationally for the quality of our research, to develop a reputation for innovation, and to foster high levels of research skills amongst our postgraduate students.

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Director's report

Julian Thomas

I begin this report with a few words about Dr David Hayward, Director of the ISR until August 2004 when he left to take up his present position as Dean of Swinburne's new Faculty of Business and Enterprise. David's enthusiasm, confidence and vision were vital ingredients in the Institute's successful emergence from 2000 onwards. At a time when the social sciences occupied an embattled position in many universities, David was temperamentally and strategically optimistic, with a very broad view of the potential public significance and impact of social research. He always believed that the next great research opportunity was just around the corner, and was not afraid to announce this fact to the world at large. With such a person as director, the ISR could not stand still, even if sometimes the pace left us breathless! David was a generous and creative academic leader, able to muster support for all sorts of imaginative ventures. He encouraged creativity in others. He made opportunities for colleagues and students, and inspired them to consider new possibilities.

David's departure was a significant loss for the ISR. It came in a year of transition, as Swinburne restructured its Higher Education Division into a faculty structure. The ISR joined the new Faculty of Life and Social Sciences, under the leadership of Professor Russell Crawford. The new faculty embraces disciplines extending from media and communications studies to biochemistry; it should not be surprising that in a complex new administrative environment of this kind, it took some time for the Institute to recover its equilibrium.

One aim of the University's reorganisation was to address structural weaknesses in the finances of research institutes such as the ISR. As David Hayward noted in our 2003 annual report, the ISR was in the difficult position of losing money as a result of our increasing grant success. Although we knew that large research grants were clearly vital to our reputation and our future, we were increasingly dependent on shorter-term contract research which drew resources away from more ambitious projects. A different model was needed, and although the adjustment has been complex, time consuming and

sometimes painful for all concerned, I believe that the new structure has given the ISR a considerably more sustainable financial base. The Institute's financial position appears likely to improve further as a result of new Swinburne policies concerning research centres.

Despite all the changes of 2004 and subsequently, David Hayward's creativity and optimism remain part of the ISR's DNA. The Institute's focus continues to be on excellent and innovative social research and postgraduate education. We value research that makes a positive contribution to public policy and public debate, and our achievements in 2004 reflect those objectives. To mention just three highlights from the year:

The Chair in Victorian State Parliamentary Democracy

This is a new Chair, funded through an innovative partnership between the state government, the parliament of Victoria and Swinburne. The purpose of the Chair is to develop the study of parliamentary democracy and representative government in Victoria. Announcing the establishment of the Chair on 7 December 2004, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Hon. Judy Madigan MP, said: 'I hope that the establishment of this position will lead to a greater profile nationally and internationally for the study of parliamentary democracy. I believe it's a fantastic move to establish a professorship that can engage academically with the parliament and its work, and provide fresh insight into the parliament's place in the community, and its future.' The appointee to the new Chair is Professor Brian Costar, formerly at Monash University. Brian joined the ISR in early 2005. A political scientist with a long record of distinction in the study of parliamentary democracy, he is also an expert in Victorian politics and constitutional matters. His appointment will substantially strengthen the ISR's capacity in the areas of politics and public policy, and Brian is already working closely with ISR colleagues on some exciting new projects which cross the boundaries of political science and social research and policy.

Ten years of postgraduate housing education

On 18–19 November 2004, the tenth anniversary of the housing courses at Swinburne was celebrated in great style. The anniversary was an opportunity to highlight the support of industry partners over ten years, and to create new links with past and present students. Around 300 people attended, with two keynote presentations, six workshops and our first

national graduation of 28 students with Swinburne's Chancellor. Key features included the formation of the Swinburne Housing Alumni, a breakfast with Housing CEOs, the participation of Swinburne's Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and a barbecue for agency people who promote and support the programs. The occasion was given extra colour by industry partners and other exhibitors from around Australia who supported the event and displayed their wares.

Human Rights Award

Senior Research Fellow Klaus Neumann's book, *Refuge Australia: Australia's Humanitarian Record*, published in the ISR's *Briefings* book series, won the Arts Non-Fiction Award in Australia's 2004 Human Rights Awards. The judges wrote: 'Klaus Neumann doesn't prejudge the issues. Rather, he allows readers to arrive at their own conclusions. *Refuge Australia* does, however, leave the reader with a sense of optimism and the idea that change is possible. In the midst of widespread community debate about Australia's current treatment of refugees and asylum seekers, *Refuge Australia* provides an important historical context in which to examine these issues. It's also a great read.' The Awards were judged and presented by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.

It is important to recognise the work of a number of staff members who left the ISR during 2004. Jock Given, Senior Research Fellow in Media and Communications, made a substantial and very positive contribution to the Institute over several years, publishing two important books and building on an established profile as a highly respected observer of media and communications policy. Jock left the ISR to take up a fellowship at the Mitchell Library, Sydney. Alexis Esposto, a Research Fellow in Cities and Housing, and Holly Cole, who worked in the National Centre for Gender and Cultural Diversity, made notable contributions to the ISR, and will be missed. Two members of our administrative staff, Michelle Orr and Grace Lee, left; we thank them for their hard work, especially in the difficult and sometimes uncertain circumstances of the restructure.

It is important also to note the work of several ISR Advisory Board members who left the board in 2004. Tim Costello, Rob Moodie and Helen Owens all made distinguished contributions to the Board; we thank them for their interest, involvement and wise counsel.

Our Chair, Hayden Raysmith, also completed his term: we owe him a particular debt for his enthusiastic support through our successes as well as our difficulties. Hayden will be hard to replace, but we aim to appoint a new Advisory Board Chair in the near future.

Finally, I wish to thank the ISR's staff members for their hard work through a difficult year. The fact that the Institute made it through the changes of 2004, and now appears likely to flourish in a more secure environment, reflects the extraordinary resilience and commitment of all our administrative and academic staff. The ISR is fortunate to have them.

2004: a closer look

In this part of the Annual Report, each program and centre reports on its activities in 2004.

Cities and Housing research program

The Cities and Housing program had another busy and productive year. Staff conducted applied research, contributed to policy debates about housing and urban issues, taught postgraduate housing courses, supervised postgraduate research students and conducted professional development programs. This mix of activities is based on a track record of over 25 years of work in the area and excellent links with other researchers, social housing providers, industry and government.

The ISR continued to be the lead partner in the Swinburne–Monash Research Centre of the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI). In October 2004, Kath Hulse, the Program Leader, also took over as Director of the research centre following the departure of David Hayward, who had previously carried out this role.

Researchers Terry Burke, Kath Hulse, Sean McNelis, Wendy Stone, Caroline Neske, Liss Ralston and Tania Herbert were involved in a number of AHURI projects in 2004, most of which involved extensive primary research. Two projects, *Entering Rental Housing* and *Allocating Social Housing*, were fully completed, and two others, *Rental Systems in Australia and Overseas* and *Australia's Housing Futures*, were substantially completed by the end of the year. The ISR also finished a further AHURI project on *Housing, Housing Assistance and Work Disincentives* in conjunction with researchers at the University of New South Wales/University of Western Sydney AHURI Research Centre.

We also carried out a number of commissioned research projects. These included housing studies and housing strategies for local governments (City of Geelong, Shire of Yarra Ranges and Shire of Bass). Work was also undertaken for the Victorian government on housing affordability (Department of Premier and Cabinet) and a social impact study of the redevelopment of an older style public housing estate in inner Melbourne (Department of Human Services). David Hudson did a sterling job editing the results of

all this research.

Six students carried out their PhD research into housing and urban issues within the program in 2004. We also ran, for the second time, a successful three day residential symposium for postgraduate students from around Australia at the Novotel Hotel in St Kilda. The students are all part of the AHURI network and this time the symposium involved presentations from cohorts of first and second year PhD students, including two from the ISR.

As the tenth year of the Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma courses in Housing Management and Policy, 2004 was a major milestone for our teaching program. These courses continue to attract students from around Australia and New Zealand, who receive financial support from their employers, most notably all state housing authorities in Australia and Housing New Zealand Corporation. The courses are run in distance education mode and remain the only national, fee-paying and industry-sponsored housing courses in the two countries. They are taught by Terry Burke (course convener), Kath Hulse and Scott Ewing. Celebration of a decade for the housing courses culminated in a major event at the Telstra Dome in Melbourne in November which drew together hundreds of previous and present students, other people working in the housing sector, and ten industry sponsors.

We also held another three day residential workshop in Melbourne in July 2004 for second year Graduate Certificate students, with the theme 'Social Housing: Reform or Radical Change'. The keynote address was provided by Professor Duncan Maclennan, then with the Victorian Department of Sustainability and the Environment. Many people contributed to the success of these events, but we would particularly like to acknowledge Mike Pelling and Robyn Timms for their contributions.

In terms of professional development, our highlights included a customised program in Transforming Leadership and Housing Enterprise for 30 senior managers of Housing Tasmania, including the CEO. The program was delivered in conjunction with our colleagues in The Policy Practice in Brisbane, Anne Tiernan and Robin Zakharov. Two sessions of this program were held during the year, with the final session scheduled for April 2005.

A further highlight was a series of seminars for people working within the community housing sector in Victoria. These seminars were funded by the Victorian Office of Housing and run in conjunction with

Community Housing Federation Victoria. Themes covered included 'Managing Growth' and 'Building Organisational Capacity'.

Finally, staff and students continued to disseminate the results of their work internationally and nationally. Terry Burke and Kath Hulse presented papers at the European Network of Housing Researchers conference on 'Housing: Growth or Regeneration?' at the University of Cambridge (UK) in July. PhD student Tom Alves presented at the early career researchers session which preceded the main conference. Terry Burke also presented a paper at the Asia-Pacific Network for Housing Research conference in Hong Kong and another at a conference to celebrate fifty years of public housing in Hong Kong. Tom Alves and fellow PhD student Ron Aspin also presented papers at the Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Housing conference on 'World Planning and Housing' in September.

Citizenship and Government research program

In 2004, the Citizenship and Government program took new directions, while consolidating in existing areas of research interest. Our work concentrated on funded projects and publications in key public policy areas: community consultation and local government, immigration and refugee policy, youth policy, homelessness, and the costs and benefits of interventions into homelessness.

This was an excellent year for ARC-funded projects, generating work on several funding applications that have since been successful. Denise Meredyth and Klaus Neumann have continued working on *Retrieving the Record*, a project that has been funded by the National Archives of Australia (NAA) and the ARC through a Linkage grant. Klaus collaborated with NAA staff on a substantial educational website development, and continued his research on the implementation of the White Australia policy in postwar Australia, which has already resulted in several refereed publications.

The *Community Consultation and the Hard to Reach* project began midyear. This was funded by a three-year Linkage grant (to Denise Meredyth and Brian Costar) and involves eight local councils from across Melbourne, as industry partners: the cities of Boroondara, Darebin, Maribyrnong, Melbourne, Moreland, Nillumbik, Port Phillip and Whittlesea, as well as the Victorian Local Governance Association.

The project was developed by Denise Meredyth and Nicola Brackertz and drew, in 2004, on the work of Wendy Stone and Liss Ralston. It explores new approaches to the problem of how to develop effective and realistic models of community consultation. The aim is to share information and innovation across councils, enabling them to reflect on why residents might be reluctant to involve themselves in local decision making and on how councils could make use of social profiling, consultation models and new media to contact groups of stakeholders.

This was also the first year for the *Political Asylum and Minority Rights* project, funded through a Strategic Initiative grant from the Chancellery. This project supports an impressive team of researchers and media commentators. Klaus Neumann, Peter Mares, Peter Browne and Glenn Nicholls are able to write for both academic and broader audiences. Each worked on substantial projects during 2004, while commenting on immigration and refugee policy for a number of media outlets including the *Age*, the *Australian Financial Review* and ABC Radio National. Klaus Neumann's *Refugee Australia: Australia's Humanitarian Record* (UNSW Press) was widely and favourably reviewed, receiving the Arts Non-Fiction Award in Australia's 2004 Human Rights Awards, and was accompanied by a series of public talks in Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney and Newcastle. Drawing on a wider circle of refugee policy experts and workers, Klaus and Peter Mares organised a cross-disciplinary research colloquium on issues of human movement and human rights. Peter Mares began work on immigration policy and seasonal agricultural workers schemes in Australia and Canada, while Peter Browne worked on a book about the international refugee resettlement program. Glenn Nicholls, meanwhile, embarked on a history of deportation policies and practices in Australia and elsewhere.

The program also incorporates an energetic area of work on homelessness, with a strong focus on homeless and marginalised young people. David MacKenzie's expertise and growing impact in these fields was consolidated by his publication, with Chris Chamberlain, of the AHURI-funded report *Youth Homelessness: Four Policy Proposals*, and by his collaborations with the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services, and with all state government departments concerned with SAAP (Supported Accommodation Assistance Program). During 2004, David developed long-term research collaborations with a number of bodies including the

Salvation Army, the Myer Foundation, the Department of Victorian Communities and the Victorian Department of Human Services, as well as with equivalent agencies in the ACT and South Australia. Meanwhile, Sarah Pinkney and Scott Ewing carried out a comprehensive analysis of the options for estimating the costs and pathways of homelessness, for the Department of Family and Community Services.

There is a clear international dimension to each of these topical Australian public policy projects. Over the year, researchers in the program strengthened the ISR's links with academic and policy networks in China, North America and Europe. Over the next two years, we plan to extend these international networks, consolidating our work on governance, civic infrastructure and the dilemmas of liberal democracy.

Media and Communications research program

The focus of the Media and Communications program is research on new media, its applications, histories, and social and policy consequences. 2004 publications for the program included *A Win and a Prayer: Scenes from the 2004 Australian Election*, edited by Peter Browne and Julian Thomas, with contributions from Geoffrey Barker, David Burchell, Brian Costar, Brett Evans, Morag Fraser, Marion Maddox, Shane Maloney, Peter Mares and Rodney Tiffen. It focused not on the well-publicised issues and events in the campaign, but on the revealing incidents and issues that didn't attract media attention in the heat of the contest. We were delighted to have such a diverse group of writers considering key events in the election campaign and what they might tell us about the state of our political system.

An exciting new project for the program is an ARC Postdoctoral Fellowship awarded to Liza Hopkins, involving an innovative study of Muslim communities and the media in Melbourne. This is a three year project which will commence in late 2005. Work in progress includes other major ARC projects: *Wired High Rise*, our study of a computer network in a high rise public housing estate in Melbourne; *Liberal Machines*, Julian Thomas and Denise Meredyth's work on electronic government; and Julian's project about the concept of audiovisual services industries. Robert Hassan's ongoing research into the experience of time in networked societies, also funded by the ARC, resulted in a new book, *Media, Politics*

and *the Network Society*, and several journal articles and conference papers.

The ISR's online and print publishing activities are another key element of our program. Our aim here is first to ensure that the work of ISR researchers is widely communicated and recognised, and second to build the profile of the ISR more generally as a national centre for applied social science. Our publishing activities involve two main initiatives: the *Briefings* series of books published with the University of New South Wales Press, and the website Australian Policy Online, <www.apo.org.au>. Both the book publishing program and APO enjoyed successful years in 2004.

The *Briefings* series included distinguished work by ISR authors and writers from around Australia. As well as *A Win and a Prayer* and *Refugee Australia*, referred to above, books published during 2004 included:

Rebels with a Cause: Independents in Australian Politics, by Brian Costar and Jennifer Curtin

The Case for an Australian Bill of Rights: Freedom in the War on Terror, by George Williams

The Politics of Medicare, by Gwendolyn Gray

Indonesia's Struggle: Jemaah Islamiyah and the Soul of Islam, by Greg Barton

All the Way with the USA: Australia, the US and Free Trade, by Ann Capling.

Australian Policy Online, edited by Peter Browne, now presents the work of over 120 research centres and organisations across Australia, and has links with similar public policy oriented sites in the United States and Britain. It has developed close connections with other Australian research centres, especially the Gilbert + Tobin Centre for Public Law at the University of New South Wales, the Centre for Cultural Research at the University of Western Sydney, and the School of Political and Social Inquiry at Monash University. With support from Swinburne, the ISR and these other institutions, APO secured ARC infrastructure funding for a second year in late 2004. The grant will enable us to extend the subject matter of the site considerably, and add a number of exciting new features. Working with the National Library and others, it will also help us to make the site more accessible and more readily searchable.

Action Research program

Three years of establishment work culminated in September, in the Action Research Program 'going public', with an attractive website and its first public offering: a short course of workshops. The website, <www.sisr.net/arp>, outlines the program's comprehensive range of six interlocking elements: research, teaching/learning, consultancy, networking, resourcing and writing/publishing.

Behind the scenes, the program attracted two exceptionally experienced new staff: Elizabeth Branigan as education consultant and Sally Cowden as administrative research assistant. Liz comes from experience of tertiary teaching action research and, most recently, from the national action research resource team for the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services' flagship Strengthening Families program. Sally had worked previously for the Melbourne Action Research Issues Centre and provides administrative and research assistance. They joined Yoland Wadsworth, program convenor, and Jose Ramos, who co-convenes the program's network, to make up the team of four. Two additional offices were furnished and equipped, and systems and procedures established so the program can sustain itself as its profile grows.

Inaugural meetings were held of the Program and Course Advisory Committees, including attendance by some key figures nationally and internationally. Two leading thinkers in Australian community resourcing and action research have agreed to be inaugural chairpersons of these committees – Rhonda Galbally of OurCommunity and Mary Crooks of the Victorian Women's Trust. In March, University Council accepted a proposal for a suite of postgraduate courses in Social Science in Action Research. The application for accreditation was caught between a university restructuring, new accreditation and financial procedures, and new Commonwealth requirements, and it is now hoped that a high quality Graduate Certificate in Social Science in Action Research will be accredited early in 2005 to commence from first semester 2006. Elizabeth Branigan is thanked for providing outstanding support during a most challenging process.

The program also worked with industry partners, selected to shape its niche as a methodological resource organisation, and to ensure the program focus remained on 'who it is all for' – those most in need of the skills to conduct their own research into

the change they are seeking. Professional workforce development, 'thinking partners' consultancy, internal guest lectures and customised workshops for individual organisations were also provided on request – a highlight being a collaborative 'master class' involving the strategic research leaders of four of Victoria's largest welfare organisations, representing thousands of services, professionals and clients.

The program's first major research project was for the Victorian Department of Human Services. Phase 1 concluded with a conference in October at which an online publication was launched to assist health promotion programs carry out routine annual reporting using narrative action research evaluation (see <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/healthpromotion/hp_practice/eval_dissem.htm#near>).

With a 2003–04 ANU visiting residency, Yoland Wadsworth worked on the program's other major research interest – 'building in' user-responsive practice research and evaluation to human services' organisational and professional culture. In March she accepted an invitation from one of the leading intellectuals in international participatory action research – Md. Anisur Rahmann – to visit Bangladesh as part of an international group of delegates from Africa, South America and the Netherlands, and be a keynote speaker at a Dhaka conference. This, along with her election to Vice-President (International) of the Action Learning, Action Research and Process Management Association, were further highlights of 2004.

The year marked the reaching of an exciting point of readiness for a more extended 'take-off' when the first postgraduate course commences in the first semester of 2006.

Asia-Pacific Centre for Philanthropy and Social Investment

Established in 2001 with assistance from the Myer and Pratt Foundations, the Asia-Pacific Centre for Philanthropy and Social Investment teaches, researches, promotes and consults in all aspects of philanthropy and social investment, including the fast-growing field of corporate citizenship.

During 2004 its flagship courses, the Graduate Certificate (or Diploma) in Philanthropy and Social Investment, continued to develop and to attract students. The first cohort graduated midyear.

Other highlights of the year included the publication of *A Tradition of Giving: Seventy-Five Years of Myer Family Philanthropy* (Melbourne University Press) by the centre's director, Michael Liffman, and the launch of the Maimonides Society. Named for a mediaeval thinker whose commentary on giving is often quoted, the society is an occasional gathering of people with a shared interest in grantmaking. Its meetings are generously hosted by Goldman Sachs JBWere. Speakers during the year included Phillip Adams, Robyn Archer, Julian Burnside QC, Brian Howe and Sam Lipski.

In April the Big Philanthropy Debate took place at the State Library of Victoria. The topic, 'That philanthropy is an over-rated virtue', was fiercely contested by two teams: Eve Mahlab, Peter McMullin and Ian Roberts; and Jim Stynes, Simon McKeon and Kate Kennedy. Marion Webster proved to be an admirably corruptible adjudicator.

Other events during the year included a seminar featuring Steve Callick, Assistant Director, Environmental Programs of Pew Charitable Trusts (USA). The Stegley Lecture is an annual event made possible by the late (and much lamented) Stegley Foundation which, for 25 years, was a leader in strategic and progressive grantmaking. In August the lecture took the form of a debate between Moira Rayner and Gary Johns on the theme, 'Accountability, transparency and funding progressive causes'.

Michael Liffman and Denis Tracey presented a paper, *Maimonides in the Boardroom*, at the VCOSS congress; Michael presented a paper, *Donor Education and Family Philanthropy*, at the Australian Family Foundations Forum in Sydney; and Denis gave a paper, *Philanthropy for Family Businesses*, at the Asia Families in Business conference and workshop held in Singapore.

In October Professor Helmut Anheier of the London School of Economics and UCLA spoke at a seminar jointly hosted by the centre and Philanthropy Australia. The Heloise Waislitz Fellow for 2004 (the third year of the fellowship) was Professor Marcos Kisil of Brazil who gave lectures and held meetings in Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney in November.

Michael Liffman was appointed to the Steering Committee of the Prime Minister's Business Community Partnership's 'Giving Australia' study. He attended meetings in Turin and Mexico City as a guest of the International Network on Strategic Philanthropy.

A grant was made by the Telematics Foundation to

assist in the development of distance education materials. The Pratt and Myer Foundations continued to support the work of the centre.

National Centre for Gender and Cultural Diversity

New projects created rewarding and diverse experiences for staff members Holly Cole, Helen McKernan and Sue Lewis during 2004, reflecting a continuing strong demand for collaborative and industry based research that links gender, culture, work and organisational life. Staff at the centre have extensive experience providing research and training in gender work and organisational contexts, equity and diversity management, diversity leadership, diversity audits, gender and culturally inclusive education, cross-cultural communication and organisational change. As in previous years, the centre's research and training work was concentrated in masculine and technical work cultures in which women remain under-represented. Social justice makes good business sense and continued to be at the core of our work.

Sue Lewis continued a major research project for the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board (MFB). The objective was to research and develop a long-term equity plan that starts with the reality of the current culture and plans for a more diverse fire service over the next ten years. The research, which started during 2003 as an examination of the culture of the fire service in metropolitan Melbourne, was extended to a gender review of recruit training and the recruit selection process during 2004. Sue developed a long-term gender equity action plan and a five-year plan commencing in 2005. Three papers on the different project strands will be published by the MFB in 2005.

Helen McKernan collaborated with Swinburne Public and Environmental Health to conduct a research and development project for the Department of Human Services. This researched the work of local government Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) in managing cultural and linguistically diverse (CALD) food businesses, and developed a training syllabus to assist EHOs in effectively communicating food safety. Based on the research, Helen organised a one-day professional development workshop for EHOs that aimed to improve food safety outcomes among these businesses; the workshop was conducted in each of the 12 regions throughout Victoria.

The centre continued to run the Recruitment and Retention Program for women in non-traditional fields of study, funded by IBM, with Holly Cole coordinating the project. The key objective is to increase women's participation in Swinburne courses in which they are currently under-represented. A speakers' program sent undergraduate women who are currently studying in non-traditional courses at Swinburne into 25 Melbourne secondary schools to conduct career and experiential based sessions. The demand for this program saw the workshops reach 2,500 schoolgirls with the message to 'think about non-trad study' at Swinburne.

Unfortunately university funding was no longer provided for the popular newsletter, *Gender and Cultural Diversity Matters*, so only one edition appeared during 2004. Because the newsletter positions Swinburne and the ISR as an innovator in the field of diversity management and research and reached 3,000 readers nationally, we are exploring new funding possibilities for 2005.

In other highlights, Sue Lewis presented a paper at the Australasian Fire Authorities Council conference in Perth on the MFB research findings and their national significance and there are plans for the first national women in firefighting conference to be held in 2005. Sue also established partnerships with Marilyn Childs from the University of Western Sydney and Dave Baigent of the Fire Research Unit at the Anglia Polytechnic University in Cambridge to initiate international work on gender and cultural research for the fire services industry. Sue Lewis and Denise Meredyth were also successful in gaining an ARC Linkage Australian Postgraduate award – Industry with the MFB. Sue was central in writing a successful research proposal for a three-year Swinburne Strategic Initiative 'Women in Information Technology' project with Judy McKay and Catherine Lang from the faculty. During 2005–07 this will research the factors behind the national collapse in the numbers of women choosing tertiary study in IT.

Selected ISR research projects 2004

Australian Research Council projects

The new services industry model: Implications for audiovisual media

ARC Discovery grant 2002-04

This project is examining important current changes in the understanding of audiovisual media. It involves a collaboration between Julian Thomas (ISR), Stuart Cunningham (Queensland University of Technology), Elizabeth Jacka (University of Technology, Sydney) and Tom O'Regan (Griffith University). The project is concerned with a new 'services industry model' developed by governments, academics, industry players and international organisations to map future directions and policies for audiovisual industries. Little attention has been given to how this model may apply to the complex cultural and social role of audiovisual media. The research aims to fill this gap through a series of substantial publications on four key problems: the conversion to digital broadcasting; public broadcasting and its future role; international policy dynamics; and the re-evaluation of long-standing domestic social and cultural policy objectives.

Liberal machines: Information poverty, political culture and the uses of new communications technologies

ARC Discovery grant 2003-05

This project by Denise Meredyth and Julian Thomas examines two contentious issues in scholarly and policy debate: the nature and consequences of information poverty, and the consequences of new communications technologies for western political culture. Rather than focusing on the emancipatory potential of new technologies, they see these problems through the prism of liberal government, its history and prospects. In particular, they are interested in liberalism's longstanding concerns with security, civil peace, freedom and disadvantage.

Time out of mind? Australians' experience of time in the network society

ARC Discovery grant Postdoctoral Fellowship 2003-05

Computer mediated communication is profoundly affecting the ways in which individuals live. The

rapidity of the process has left many changes unexplored and under-analysed. Robert Hassan is using an ethnographic study to uncover the ways in which people think about time and about electronic networks, and by what means these influence how they make sense of their lives, their work and their relationships in a fast-changing and globalising world. The project will result in an international workshop on 'Time and Networks', an edited collection of articles from workshop participants, and an internationally published book on the project's findings.

Retrieving the record: The White Australia policy, citizenship education and new applications for archival research

ARC Linkage grant (with National Archives of Australia) 2003-05

This project is designed to develop models for making more effective use of the resources of the National Archives of Australia within civics and citizenship education. Denise Meredyth and Julian Thomas are the chief investigators, with Klaus Neumann as senior research fellow and Dinah Partridge as research assistant. Using the resources of the Archives, Klaus will produce a new history of the White Australia policy. This will be developed into a public display and forum, showing how archival materials can illuminate the complexities of the democratic process. Supplementary research will investigate prospects for making stronger institutional connections between the Archives, citizenship education and teachers' professional formation.

Community consultation and the hard to reach. Local government, social profiling and civic infrastructure

ARC Linkage grant (with the City of Nillumbik, City of Melbourne, City of Moreland, City of Darebin, City of Port Phillip, City of Maribyrnong, City of Whittlesea, City of Boroondara and Victorian Local Governance Association) 2004-07

This study offers conceptual insights into reasons for non-participation in local government consultation, drawing on critical policy analysis and debates on governance and democratic capacity. The collaboration of eight local councils and the VLGA enable the development of a transferable, generally

viable framework linking: (i) sophisticated demographic profiles, (ii) types of communication media on a continuum of intensity (face to face, telephone/mail survey, email/Internet), (iii) issues on which residents wish to be consulted, and (iv) implications for civic infrastructure. Outcomes will benefit councils and Victorian citizens by providing an innovative, practically applicable framework for policy implementation using consultative processes. Denise Meredyth and Brian Costar are the chief investigators, with Nicola Brackertz as research fellow. During 2004, Wendy Stone and Liss Ralston also worked on the project.

Australian Policy Online Archive Project

ARC Linkage Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities grant 2004

The project will significantly upgrade Australian Policy Online (<http://www.apo.org.au>), an ISR-based online gateway to policy-related research from over ninety centres, institutes and departments, to create a national, searchable electronic gateway for academic researchers, librarians, public servants, journalists and students. The project deepened the APO archive by adding key reports from the past five years; established thematic resource pages on key policy-oriented research projects, providing previously inaccessible primary and secondary material online; upgraded the accessibility and searchability of APO by improving the site's metadata protocol; and broadened membership. The chief investigators include Julian Thomas, George Williams (UNSW), David Burchell (UWS) and Brian Costar. Peter Browne is the senior research fellow on this project.

Inner urban public housing redevelopment: A case study of the high rise estate at Kensington, Melbourne

ARC APAI Linkage grant (with Office of Housing, Department of Human Services) 2002-04

Many of the old public housing estates in Australia require redevelopment. This project is tracing the redevelopment process on one estate from conception to post-occupancy, analysing the financial, organisational, political and construction hurdles that had to be overcome. This analysis will serve as a comprehensive model for other imminent redevelopments, particularly as a model for the incorporation of private sector interests. Terry Burke and David Hayward are the chief investigators, and Barbara Ives is the postgraduate student working on the project.

Building communities: Managing public assets to provide social value

ARC APAI Linkage (with the City of Moonee Valley) 2003-05

Local government facilities have a social value for the community beyond the immediate provision of service or amenity. However, this aspect is not generally considered in the formal planning and management of public facilities, which concentrate on economic considerations and community service needs. This project explores the links between public assets, their social value and community wellbeing. It will provide a rationale, model and set of indicators to assess social value for facilities, assisting local government decision making, including regional and rural communities, and contribute to the development of meaningful long-term infrastructure and community plans. David Hayward and Russell Kenley are the chief investigators. Postgraduate student Ian McShane is examining the role of public facilities in the maintenance of social capital in local areas, under the supervision of Denise Meredyth and Julian Thomas.

Managing medium density development: A municipal case study

ARC APAI Linkage grant (with the City of Boroondara) 2003-05

There has been no applied, local government-focused research on medium density residential development. This issue creates the most political and planning problems for many urban local governments in Australia. Using the case study municipality of Boroondara (Melbourne), the aim is to identify, explain and address the many problems associated with such development. This will advance our knowledge about the implications of medium density housing for municipalities and thus enable the implementation of better management practices. Terry Burke and David Hayward are the chief investigators, and Tom Alves is the postgraduate student working on the project.

Political and social factors in the decline of mass transit: An investigation of failed policies to rebuild Melbourne's mass transit

ARC APAI Linkage (with Metropolitan Transport Forum) 2003-05

The project aims to improve understandings of political and social factors underlying failed attempts to rebuild an effective mass transit system in Melbourne. It will do this by developing an analysis of the delivery of Melbourne's mass transit system which

combines modern public policy theory with the outcomes of recent transport planning research. Urban transport in Australia imposes very large economic, social and environmental costs. Significant increase in the use of mass transit is necessary to reduce these costs. The project will provide problem-solving knowledge to assist efforts to improve the planning and delivery of mass transit in Australian cities. Terry Burke and Paul Mees are the chief investigators, and John Stone is the postgraduate student working on the project.

Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute projects

Allocating social housing

Allocations are at the heart of social housing provision and management. Social housing is a scarce public resource and, in the absence of market criteria to allocate priorities, a bureaucratic allocations system is the principal rationing device to determine access. The underlying philosophy, form and direction of an allocations system has a whole range of implications for housing assistance, tenant management, asset management and, as more recently recognised, community sustainability. The broad aim of the research is to provide knowledge as to why, and how, allocations systems should be reformed in order to enable greater discretion, choice and flexibility. The project team includes Terry Burke and Kath Hulse.

Entering rental housing

This study is a consumer survey of nearly 5,000 low income renters designed to identify their perceptions of, and experiences in, living in private rental and their future housing expectations. Half the sample were on public housing waiting lists and the others were not, with a secondary objective of finding out who applies for public housing and why. Complementing the survey is a smaller post-occupancy survey to measure the views and experiences of those clients who have made the transition from the waiting list to actual public housing allocation. The project team includes Terry Burke, Caroline Neske and Liss Ralston.

Independent living units provided by not-for-profit organisations: Clarifying their current and future role as an affordable housing option for older people with low assets and low incomes

This is a study of independent living units provided by not-for-profit organisations for older people. The

project proposes to fill a significant gap in information and identify changes occurring in this sector. It will explore the potential, opportunities and disadvantages for linking this type of housing with support services for older people, and identify practical strategies that will enable those with low assets and low incomes to have continued access to this type of accommodation. The project team comprises Terry Burke, Tania Herbert and Sean McNelis.

Long-term housing futures for Australia: Using 'foresight' to explore alternative visions and choices

The key aim of this project is to develop a small number of scenarios about the nature of Australia's housing system at a specified future date. As such, it involves the development of a significant exercise in strategic foresight about alternative futures for Australia's housing, the conditions and policies which would support these futures, and the implications for research and policy. The project draws on the literature and experiences of foresight studies, a creative field of investigation, analysis and postulation to develop scenarios that help prepare organisations and nations for possibilities and challenges. It applies foresight methodology to the issues of Australia's broader housing system, examines the effect of major economic, technological and social trends, and explores alternative policy pathways on a future housing system. In analysing the implications of scenarios, questions of winners and losers, impact on ecologically sustainable communities and implications for and impacts of government interventions can be explored. Team members include Terry Burke, Kath Hulse, Richard Slaughter, Anne Tieman, Joseph Voros and Robin Zakharov.

Rental housing costs, housing assistance and work disincentives: Attitudes to work and employment decisions

This research seeks to assess the effect of rental housing costs and subsidy structures on the capacity of unemployed people to gain work. Specifically, it looks at how the housing costs that unemployed people pay in various rental tenures, and the housing assistance available to them, assist or inhibit the transition to work. Researchers are Kath Hulse and Bill Randolph (University of Western Sydney).

Rental systems in Australia

This will be the first accessible and comprehensive

study of rent setting principles, problems and practices in Australia, and one of the first internationally. With its emphasis on problem identification and potential for reform, it will fill a major knowledge vacuum. The broad objective is to assess the potential for rental reform in a way that is consistent with the complexities of contemporary social housing management and current funding constraints. It will also evaluate the possible implications and opportunities for rent setting reform created by any new funding models resulting from the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement or from affordable housing initiatives. The major reason for proposing the study is that such a core component of social housing operations should be exposed to critical review and analysis in order to assess the validity of current practice for current and future social housing provision. Terry Burke and Sean McNelis make up the team.

Commissioned research

Kensington social impact study

Victorian Department of Human Services

The ISR carried out a social impact study of a major redevelopment of a public housing estate in inner Melbourne, identifying the impact on people, families and the local communities. The work will also suggest strategies to manage or change any adverse social effects of the redevelopment and to contribute to community building. Kath Hulse was leader of the project team, with Karyn Down and Tania Herbert.

Community Rent Scheme

Queensland Department of Housing

The Community Rent Scheme was established in 1991 to assist low income people experiencing immediate and severe housing need to access short-to medium-term housing while they waited for more permanent accommodation in public housing. The evaluation is examining the continuing appropriateness of the program in the light of major social and housing market changes and considering recommendations for a new form of transitional housing assistance. The research team includes Terry Burke, Anne Tiernan and Robin Zakharov.

Yarra Ranges Housing strategy

Shire of Yarra Ranges

This study reviewed the housing issues and problems confronting the Shire of Yarra Ranges and the

individual communities that make up this very diverse shire. The study used both secondary data analysis and focus group discussions with local residents to generate this overview. The information was then worked into a housing strategy. The ISR research team was Sean McNelis and Terry Burke.

City of Greater Geelong Housing Strategy

City of Greater Geelong

Like the Yarra Ranges study, this overviewed the housing issues and problems confronting the Greater Geelong area, drawing out quite different issues and problems to those of Yarra Ranges. The latter is an area of slow population growth and high environmental sensitivity, while the Geelong area is one of very rapid population growth, much of it in existing urban areas. The study used both secondary data analysis and focus group discussions with local residents to generate an overview. The information was then worked into a housing strategy. The ISR research team was Sean McNelis and David Hayward.

Bass Coast Affordable Housing Strategy

Shire of Bass Coast

As in many coastal areas, Bass Coast is experiencing rapid household growth and second home ownership fueled by cashed-up Melburnians looking for a lifestyle change. The escalation in rents and house prices has created a major affordability problem. This study documents the form and scale of the problem and develops a series of strategies to deal with the problem. The ISR team was Sean McNelis and Terry Burke.

Counting the homeless

Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services

This is a joint RMIT-Swinburne project led by Chris Chamberlain (RMIT) and David MacKenzie. The project, which began in 2001, received funding of more than \$700,000 from all state and territory government departments concerned with the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program, as well as a major investment from the Salvation Army.

Youthworx

Myer Foundation, Jressati Foundation, Salvation Army

Youthworx is a research and development project using radio broadcasting and media arts to work with highly disadvantaged or homeless young people.

Broadcasting is undertaken through youth radio station SYN-FM. Youthworx and SYN both represent participatory models of young people's activity. Seed funding of \$25,000 was received from the Myer and Jressati Foundations and work to build a substantial and recurrent research and development program resulted in further significant funding. David MacKenzie is project director and Ken Young is project manager.

Year in China program

Commonwealth Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

The Institute for Social Research has been funded by the Australia-China Council, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, to manage its Year in China program. Young Australians who have studied Chinese to Year 12 are selected through a competitive process to study Chinese at a Chinese university for a year. The ISR in partnership with the Liaoning Academy of Social Sciences has developed a joint Australia-China Youth Development Centre and this provides the institutional basis for supporting the program. David MacKenzie is the project manager for this initiative.

Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade

This research project for the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board Brigade is designed to research and develop a long-term equity plan for a more diverse fire service. It includes an examination of the culture of the fire service in metropolitan Melbourne and extends to a gender review of recruit training and the recruit selection process. Sue Lewis is the principal researcher on this project.

Professional development program for local government environmental health officers in managing culturally and linguistically diverse food businesses

This research and development project for the Department of Human Services investigates the inter-cultural aspects of local government Environmental Health Officers' (EHOs) work in managing cultural and linguistically diverse (CALD) food businesses. A training syllabus was developed to assist EHOs in effectively communicating food safety. The project is conducted by Helen McKernan, in collaboration with Swinburne Public and Environmental Health in the Faculty of Life and Social Sciences.

Publications and presentations

Books

Browne, Peter and Thomas, Julian (eds) *A Win and a Prayer: Scenes from the 2004 Australian Election*, UNSW Press, Sydney

Hassan, Robert, *Media, Politics and the Network Society*, Open University Press, Maidenhead, UK

Liffman, Michael, *A Tradition of Giving: Seventy-Five Years of Myer Family Philanthropy*, Melbourne University Press, Melbourne

Neumann, Klaus, *Refuge Australia: Australia's Humanitarian Record*, UNSW Press, Sydney

Chapters

Browne, Peter, 'Independents and independence: The case of Peter Andren' in Costar, B. and Curtin, J. (eds) *Rebels with a Cause: Independents in Australian Politics*, UNSW Press, Sydney

Browne, Peter, 'Introduction' and 'The aftermath: How Labor lost' (with Costar, Brian) in Browne, P. and Thomas, J. (eds) *A Win and a Prayer: Scenes from the 2004 Australian Election*, UNSW Press, Sydney

Mares, Peter, 'Unfinished business' in Browne, P. and Thomas, J. (eds) *A Win and a Prayer: Scenes from the 2004 Australian Election*, UNSW Press, Sydney

Mares, Peter, 'A death in the rain: Who killed Viliami Tanginoa?' in Dessaix, R. (ed.) *The Best Australian Essays 2004*, Black Inc., Melbourne

Meredydh, Denise, Hopkins, Liza, Ewing, Scott and Thomas, Julian, 'Wired high rise: Using technology to combat social isolation on an inner city public housing estate' in Marshall, Stewart, Taylor, Wal and Yu, Xinghuo (eds) *Using Community Informatics to Transform Regions*, Idea Group, Hershey, Penn.

Sharam, Andrea, 'The Victorian experience: Customer experiences' in Hodge, Graeme, Sands, Valerie, Hayward, David and Scott, David (eds) *Power Progress: An Audit of Australia's Electricity Reform Experiment*, Australian Scholarly Publishing, Melbourne

Thomas, Julian, 'Horizons of expectation: Imaginary trajectories of electronic government' in Goggin, Gerard (ed.) *Virtual Nation: The Internet in Australia*, UNSW Press, Sydney

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Tracey, Denis, 'A new paradigm for business-social partnership' in Singh-Sengupta, Sunita (ed.) *Business-Social Partnership: An International Perspective*, Aalekh, Jaipur

Wadsworth, Yoland (with Brydon-Miller, Mary and Satiani, Anmol), 'Conclusion' in Brydon-Miller, M., Maguire, P. and McIntyre, A. (eds), *Travelling Companions: Feminism, Teaching and Action Research*, Praeger, Westport, Conn.

Journal Articles

Hassan, Robert, 'Timescapes of the network society', *Fast Capitalism*, vol. 1, no. 1, <<http://www.fastcapitalism.com/>>

Hassan, Robert, 'Art versus empire', *RealTime*, no. 61, <<http://www.realttimearts.net/rt61/hassan.html>>

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Hopkins, Liza, Thomas, Julian, Meredydh, Denise and Ewing, Scott, 'Social capital and community building through an electronic network', *Australian Journal of Social Issues*, vol. 39, no. 4

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Neumann, Klaus, 'Anxieties in colonial Mauritius and the erosion of the White Australia policy', *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*, vol. 32, no. 3, <taylorandfrancis.metapress.com/index/R9FPMQGG22B1YTLN.pdf>

Thomas, Julian, 'Wiring Atherton Gardens', *Griffith Review*, no. 3, <<http://www3.griffith.edu.au/01/griffithreview/>>

Wadsworth, Yoland, 'Learning to partner in action', *Action Learning Action Research*, vol. 9, no. 1

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Hulse, Kath (with Randolph, Bill), *Work Disincentives and Housing Assistance*, Final Report, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, Melbourne, <<http://www.ahuri.edu.au/global/docs/doc720.pdf>>

Hulse, Kath, Herbert, Tania and Down, Karyn, *Kensington Estate Redevelopment Social Impact Study*, report prepared for Department of Human Services

Lewis, Sue, *Gender Equity in the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade: Confidential Report on Gender Research in the MFESB*, Melbourne

Lewis, Sue, *Gender and the Culture of Firefighting*, Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board, Melbourne

Lewis, Sue, *Gender on the Agenda: Confidential Research Report on the Findings of a Gender Survey in Telstra Business and Government*, Melbourne

MacKenzie, David (with Chamberlain, Chris), *Youth Homelessness: Four Policy Proposals*, Final Report, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, Melbourne, <<http://www.ahuri.edu.au/global/docs/doc724.pdf>>

MacKenzie, David (with Chamberlain, Chris), *Counting the Homeless 2001*, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra, <<http://www.countingthehomeless.com.au/>>

McKernan, Helen (with Dunn, Louise), *Development and Delivery of a Training Program to Local Government Environmental Health Officers in Dealing with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Food Businesses*, report prepared for Department of Human Services, Melbourne

McNelis, Sean and Burke, Terry, *Rental Systems in Australia and Overseas*, Positioning Paper, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, Melbourne

McNelis, Sean and Herbert, Tania, *Independent Living Units: Clarifying Their Current and Future Role as an Affordable Housing Option for Older Persons with Low Assets and Low Incomes*, Final Report, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, Melbourne

Neske, Caroline and Ralston, Liss, *Swinburne TAFE Graduate Certificate Survey*, report prepared for Swinburne TAFE Division, Melbourne

Neumann, Klaus, '...That No Timber Whatsoever Be Removed', brief of evidence prepared for Waitangi Tribunal, New Zealand

Neumann, Klaus, *Millable Timber and 'Natural Forest Values'*, brief of evidence prepared for Waitangi Tribunal, New Zealand

Sharam, Andrea, *Power, Markets and Exclusion: Assessing the Effectiveness of Social Protections in Deregulated Markets: An Electricity Case Study from Victoria*, Financial and Consumer Rights Council, Melbourne

Sharam, Andrea (with Duggan, Barry), *Bleak House: The Implications of the Contest Between Private Utilities and Landlords for the Non-Discretionary Income of Vulnerable Households*, Working Paper no. 9, Institute for Social Research, Swinburne University of Technology, <http://www.sisr.net/publications/workingpapers/wp9_sharam.pdf>

Conference Papers (International)

Alves, Tom, Managing medium density development: A municipal case study, paper presented to European Network for Housing Research conference, Cambridge, 2-6 July

Alves, Tom, Medium density housing in Melbourne: The management of sustainable and democratic local communities under global pressure for increased urban efficiencies, paper presented to 19th EAROPH (Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Housing) World Planning and Housing Congress and National Housing Conference, Melbourne, 19-22 Sept., <<http://mams.rmit.edu.au/67o8jrhvbd.pdf>>

Aspin, Ron, Public-private partnerships and effective risk management for local government, paper presented to 19th EAROPH (Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Housing) World Planning and Housing Congress and National Housing Conference, Melbourne, 19-22 Sept., <<http://mams.rmit.edu.au/ql2xuupevqn9.PDF>>

Brackertz, Nicola, A framework for the strategic management of facilities, balancing physical and financial considerations with service, customer, utilisation and environmental requirements, Pacific Rim Real Estate Conference, Bangkok, 25-28 Jan.

Burke, Terry, Governance and social housing: Can good governance be bad practice?, paper presented to Housing in the 21st Century conference, Hong Kong Housing Authority, Hong Kong, 2 Feb., <<http://www.housingauthority.gov.hk/hdw/ihc/pdf/hkgsh1120.pdf>>

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Burke, Terry, Entering social housing, paper presented to European Network for Housing Research conference, Cambridge, 2-6 July

Hassan, Robert, No time for politics, paper presented to Time and Organizational Management conference, INSEAD Business School, Fontainebleau, France, 28-30 June

Hulse, Kath (with Randolph, Bill), Getting a job: The role of rental housing assistance, paper presented to European Network for Housing Research conference, Cambridge, 2-6 July, <<http://www.sisr.net/publications/0407hulse.pdf>>

Lewis, Sue, Masculinity and the culture of firefighting: The challenges for equity and diversity, paper presented to Fire Training Research conference, Moreton-in-Marsh, UK, Nov.

Lewis, Sue (with Prattis, Georgia), Engendering the future: Report on the MFESB gender research project, paper presented to Australasian Fire Authorities Council, Perth, Oct.

Liffman, Michael and Tracey, Dennis, Maimonides in the boardroom: A new paradigm for business-social partnerships, paper presented to International Society of Business, Economics and Ethics world congress, Melbourne, 14 July

Tracey, Denis, Philanthropy for family businesses, paper presented to Asia Families in Business conference and workshop, Singapore, 23-24 Sept., <<http://www.sisr.net/news/items2004/0409tracey.pdf>>

Wadsworth, Yoland, Professionals and participatory action research, paper presented to Participatory Action Research conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 27 March

Conference Papers (Australia)

Burke, Terry, Housing affordability: Beyond conventional social housing solutions, paper presented to Victorian Council of Social Service congress, Melbourne, 5-6 Aug., <http://www.vcross.org.au/congress04/Burke_Terry.doc>

Hayward, David, Financing affordable housing and that vision thing, paper presented to National Housing Affordability conference, Parliament House, Canberra, 29 June

Hopkins, Liza, Media use and Turkish Australians, paper presented to Australian Sociology Association annual conference, Latrobe University, Beechworth, 8-11 Dec.

Liffman, Michael, Donor education and family philanthropy, paper presented to Australian Family Foundations Forum, Sydney, 10 Aug.

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Meredyith, Denise and Brackertz, Nicola, Community consultation, local government and the hard to reach, paper presented to Australian Sociology Association annual conference, Latrobe University, Beechworth, 8-11 Dec.

Neumann, Klaus, The democratisation of history, paper presented to Australian Historical Association conference, Newcastle, 5 July

Wadsworth, Yoland, Consumer directed mental health research: II, paper presented to national workshop, Promoting Consumer Participation in Mental Health Research, Centre for Mental Health Research, Australian National University, Canberra, 15 June, <<http://www.anu.edu.au/cmhr/pdf/consumerworkshopeport.pdf>>

Wadsworth, Yoland, An emerging methodology: Narrative action evaluation, paper presented to Australasian Evaluation Society annual conference, Adelaide, 15 Oct.

Wadsworth, Yoland, What's Myers Briggs got to do with it? Toward a new synthesis of epistemology, systems thinking and psychology, paper presented to Australian Sociology Association annual conference, Latrobe University, Beechworth, 8-11 Dec.

Wadsworth, Yoland, An emerging hybrid methodology:

Action research, narrative and evaluation, paper presented to Action Learning Action Research and Process Management annual conference, Kormilda College, Darwin, 18 July

Wadsworth, Yoland, 'What's a nice sociologist like me using a psychological instrument?', paper presented to National Australian Association of Psychological Type conference, Ballarat, 18 Sept.

Wadsworth, Yoland, 'Strategic questioning for change', paper presented to Community Development, Human Rights and the Grassroots conference, Centre for Citizenship and Human Rights, Deakin University, Melbourne, 17 Apr.

Other Presentations, Papers and Publications

Aspin, Ron, 'Affordable housing and the place of the church', *BriefCACE*, no. 15, Centre for Applied Christian Ethics, Ridley College, University of Melb

Burke, Terry, 'Local government and homelessness: Is the future all bleak?', *Parity*, vol. 17, no. 7

Given, Jock, 'Our airwaves: Perspectives on the preservation and expansion of diversity', paper presented to Australian Fabian Society lecture series, Melbourne, 29 Mar.

Hayward, David, 'Age care: Rhetoric versus reality', New International Bookshop lecture series, Trades Hall, Melbourne, 9 June

Hayward, David (with Costar, Brian), 'Steve Bracks', presentation made to special conference on state premiers, Australian National University, 19 Feb.

Hayward, David, 'Child care: Shifting the debate from efficiency to effectiveness', keynote address to National Association of Community Based Children's Services, Melbourne, 26 July

Hulse, Kath, 'Choice, diversity and coordination: Improving access to social housing', *Parity*, vol. 17, no. 10

Hulse, Kath, 'Setting the scene: Context and challenges', paper presented to 'Does size matter? "Growing" community housing' seminar, Community Housing Federation of Victoria, Melbourne, 19 Mar., <<http://www.sisr.net/programch/projects/sem/Hulsepre-se-DSM.pdf>>

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Liffman, Michael, panel member, ABC Radio National forum on 'The Generous Society?', Town Hall, Melbourne, 24 Nov.

MacKenzie, David, 'Ten years after: A bit of history and some thoughts', *Parity*, July

McKernan, Helen, 'On the beat', *Gender and Cultural Diversity Matters*, vol. 5

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Neumann, Klaus, 'Retrieving the record: Detectives to the fore', *Teaching History*, vol. 38, no. 1

Neumann, Klaus, 'Reffos, balts and border crossers: Australian responses to refugees, 1938-1973', essay commissioned by A Just Australia

Neumann, Klaus, 'Manus Island', Perspective, ABC Radio National, 18 June, <<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/perspective/stories/s1135307.htm>>, published as *Taking Responsibility*, ISR occasional papers, <<http://www.sisr.net/publications/0207neumann.pdf>>

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Neumann, Klaus, 'Refugee policies in an election campaign', *New Matilda*, 29 Sept.

Neumann, Klaus, Refuge Australia, Newcastle Workers' Club, Newcastle, 6 July

Neumann, Klaus, Taking responsibility, The Avenue Bookstore, Melbourne, 9 June, published as 'Australia's refugee policy has always been calculating', *Online Opinion*, <<http://www.onlineopinion.com.au/view.asp?article=2284>>

Neumann, Klaus, Refuge Australia: Australia's humanitarian record, New International Bookshop lecture series, Trades Hall, Melbourne, 8 Sept., <<http://www.sisr.net/news/items2004/neumann0904.pdf>>

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Wadsworth, Yoland, What is social action evaluation research?, presentation made to South Australia Centrelink and Department of Family and Youth Services workshop, Adelaide, 7 Apr.

Wadsworth, Yoland, Action research and evidence-based practice, presentation made to regional parenting coordinators, Anglicare, Melbourne, 10 May

Wadsworth, Yoland (with Boulet, Jacques), Evaluation: How do we know when it works? Indicators and new approaches to evaluation, presentation made to Communities in Control Conference, Melbourne, 8 June

Wadsworth, Yoland, Research-in-practice: When the research 'rubber' hits the practice 'road', paper presented to National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health seminar, Australian National University, Canberra, 15 July

Wadsworth, Yoland, Practicing narrative action evaluation: A newly-emerging methodology, presentation made to ACT branch, Australasian Evaluation Society Canberra, 25 Aug.

Wadsworth, Yoland, What is social action research?, presentation made to South Australia Centrelink Social Work Group workshop, Adelaide, 12 Oct.

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Browne, Peter, 'What Blix told Howard about WMDs', *Age*, 18 Aug.

Browne, Peter, 'A careful reading of the PM on Blix is revealing', *Canberra Times*, 20 Aug.

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Liffman, Michael, 'How to bring some integrity to asylum policy', *Age*, 1 Jan.

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Tracey, Denis, 'Perhaps our very system of democracy is broke', *Age*, 15 Dec.

Staff

Director (to August 2004)

Associate Professor David Hayward, BA(SUT),
GradDipUrbSoc(SUT), PhD(Mon)

Deputy Director: Strategy and Communications (Acting Director from August 2004)

Professor Julian Thomas, BA(Hons)(ANU),
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Professor Denise Meredyth, BA(Hons)(ANU),
DipEd(CanbCAE), PhD(Griffith)

Deputy Director: Teaching and Learning

Dr Kath Hulse, BA(Hons)(Exeter), MSocSci(Birm),
PhD(SUT)

Administration Manager

Sue Kelman, BA(SUT), AssDipCommDev(SIT)

Professor

Professor Terry Burke, BEc(Hons)(Mon),
MSocSci(Birm), MEd(Mon)

Senior Research Fellows

Peter Browne, BA(Melb)

Scott Ewing, BEc(Mon), GradDipUrbResPolicy(SUT)

Jock Given, BA(Qld), LLB(Qld), BComm(Qld),
BEc(Qld)

Dr Sue Lewis, BSc(Hons)(Melb), PhD(Melb),
DipEd(Melb)

Dr Michael Liffman, BA(Hons)(Melb), MSc(Social
Admin)(LSE), PhD(Melb)

David MacKenzie, MA(Mon)

Peter Mares, BA(Adel)

Dr Klaus Neumann, DipEd(Studienseminar Kassel),
PhD(ANU)

Sean McNelis, BA(Hons)(LaTrobe),
BTheol(MelbCollDivinity), MA(SUT)

Denis Tracey, BA(ANU)

Research Fellows

Ron Aspin, BA(Hons)(SUT)

Nicola Brackertz, BA(Melb), MA(Melb),
PostgradDipArtCuratorialStudies(Melb)

Holly Cole, BA(Hons)(Melb)

Alexis Esposto, BEc(Hons)(LaTrobe),
DipEd(LaTrobe), MA(Melb)

Dr Robert Hassan, BA(Hons)(SUT), PhD(SUT)

Tania Herbert, BAppSc(Deakin), BA(Hons)(Ballarat)

Dr Liza Hopkins, MA(Melb), PhD(Melb)

Helen McKernan, BSc(Mon), DipEd(Mon)

Caroline Neske, BA(Mon), MA(Mon)

David Prater, BA(Hons)(Syd)

Liss Ralston, BA(SUT),

GradDipAppSc(Statistics)(SUT)

Ulrike Schuermann, DipPaedagoge(Duesseldorf)

Wendy Stone, BA(Hons)(ANU), MA(Melb)

Ken Young, BEd(Melb)

Visiting Research Fellows

Dr Glenn Nicholls (from July 2004)

Kathleen Maltzahn (Oct.–Dec. 2004)

Adjunct Professors

John Edwards, BA(Hons)(Keele),

GradDipEdAdmin(RMIT)

David Scott, AO, BA(Melb)

Dennis Trewin, BEc(ANU), BSc(Hons)(Melb),
MSc(London)

Yoland Wadsworth, BA(Mon), PhD(Mon)

Adjunct Research Fellows

Bev Kliger, MUrbPolicyPlanning(RMIT),

GradDipUrbRegPlanning(RMIT)

Max Nankervis, BA(Melb), DipEd(TSTC),

MUrbPlanning(Melb)

Dr Alpana Sivam, DipUrbRegPlanning(Ahemadabad),

BArch(IndianIT, Roorkee), PhD(Melb)

Ilene Wolcott, BA(Rochester), MEd(American)

Research Associates

Geoffrey Barker

Brian Walters, SC

Finance Manager

John Mathews, DipHumRes(Mon)

Principal, Business Development

Mike Pelling, BA(Qld)

Student Coordinator

Robyn Timms

Editor

David Hudson, BA(Hons)(Melb), MA(Melb),

DipEd(Melb)

Executive Assistant

Michelle Orr, BNursing(RMIT)

Finance Officer

Barbara Rozsa

Administration Assistant

Grace Lee, BA(SUT)

Postgraduate students

Tom Alves: Managing medium density development: A municipal case study (PhD)

Ron Aspin: Public-private partnerships as a solution to housing affordability problems: A case study of inner urban development (PhD)

Nicola Brackertz: Managing for service outcomes: An investigation of management changes in Victorian local government authorities due to the implementation of a strategic facilities management (PhD)

David Brosnan: The role of housing policy in civil society (PhD)

Scott Ewing: Wired high rise: A case study in new forms of governance (PhD)

Christine Fitzpatrick: Participation in local government: Rhetoric, myth, reality (MA)

Barbara Ives: Inner urban public housing redevelopment: A case study of the high rise estate at Kensington, Melbourne (PhD)

Glen Jessop: Disability and wired communities (PhD)

Craig McIntosh: Crisis management: The rise of neo-liberalism in Victoria: To what extent did the Kennett government transform Victoria? (PhD)

Ian McShane: Building communities: Managing public assets to provide social value (PhD)

Andrea Sharam: Market segmentation and domestic electricity supply in Victoria (PhD)

John Stone: Political and social factors in the decline of mass transit: An investigation of failed policies to rebuild Melbourne's mass transit (MA)

Wendy Stone: Housing more for less: Downshifting and housing consumption patterns in contemporary Australia (PhD)

Structure and governance

The ISR comprises **four research programs** and **two research centres**. The research programs are:

Cities and Housing (Dr Kath Hulse, program leader);

Citizenship and Government (Professor Denise Meredyth, program leader);

Media and Communications (Professor Julian Thomas, program leader).

Action Research (Adjunct Professor Yoland Wadsworth, program leader);

The research centres are:

Asia-Pacific Centre for Philanthropy and Social Investment (Dr Michael Liffman, director);

National Centre for Gender and Cultural Diversity (Dr Sue Lewis, director).

The ISR is managed through the following committees.

Management Group

The ISR Management Group comprises the Director, Deputy Directors, Administration Manager and Centre (APCPSI and NCGCD) Directors. It is responsible for the general management of the Institute and meets on a fortnightly basis.

Academic Committee

The ISR Academic Committee comprises Kath Hulse (chair), Tom Alves, Deirdre Barron, David Hayward and Denise Meredyth. The purposes of the committee are:

- To consider specific matters of postgraduate research training, including applications for candidature, applications to be registered as supervisors, candidates' progress and changes to supervision;
- To consider broader issues relating to strategy for recruitment of high quality candidates, developing a supportive environment for postgraduate students, and any issues that postgraduate students wish to raise;
- To plan professional development programs for students and supervisors;

- To monitor university policies on teaching and postgraduate development.

Ethics Committee

The ISR Ethics Committee comprises Scott Ewing (chair), Nicola Brackertz, Louise Kloot and Julian Thomas. It operates under the guidelines of the Swinburne University Human Research Ethics Committee. All research projects are subject to review by the committee before their commencement.

Research Committee

The ISR Research Committee comprises Denise Meredyth (chair), Terry Burke, Scott Ewing, Robert Hassan, Sue Kelman, David MacKenzie, Sandra Mosca, Mike Pelling and Liss Ralston. The committee's powers reflect those of the Swinburne University Academic Board as set down in Section 30 of the Swinburne University of Technology Act. These include:

- Assessing applications for research grant funding, postgraduate scholarships and internships;
- Discussing research strategies across the ISR;
- Planning professional development
- Reviewing project management and record-keeping.

ISR advisory board

The ISR Advisory Board's members are prominent policy makers in the academic, business, social welfare and local community areas; they promote the ethos of the Institute, helping us to initiate industry and community partnerships and to build cooperative and fruitful research agendas and projects. The Board offers guidance on strategic planning and emerging areas of social science research. We acknowledge the very valuable input of all members, and the leadership role and guidance of Hayden Raysmith as chair. During 2004, the Advisory Board's members were:

Mr Hayden Raysmith, Adjunct Professor, RMIT University (chair)

Professor Kwok Bun Chan, Director, David C. Lam Centre, Hong Kong Baptist University

Rev. Tim Costello, Director, Urban Mission Unit, Baptist Church

Associate Professor David Hayward, Director, ISR

Mr Mike Hill, Secretary, Victorian Local Government Association

Ms Sue Kelman, Administration Manager, ISR

Professor Rob Moodie, Chief Executive Officer, Victorian Health Foundation

Ms Helen Owens, Commissioner, Productivity Commission

Professor Doreen Rosenthal, Director, Key Centre for Women's Health in Society, University of Melbourne

Adjunct Professor Dennis Trewin, Australian Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Professor Ian Young, Vice-Chancellor, Swinburne University of Technology

Mr Mike Zafiroopoulos, General Manager, Special Broadcasting Service.

Board and committee memberships

Terry Burke

Vice-Chair, Asia-Pacific Network for Housing Research
 Coordinator, Australian Chapter, Asia-Pacific Network for Housing Research
 Director, Swinburne-Monash Research Centre, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute
 Editorial Committee, *People and Place*

Scott Ewing

Benefit Assessments in Child Welfare Advisory Committee, Department of Community Services, Government of New South Wales
 Editorial Reference Group, *Parity*

Jock Given

Chair, Screenrights (audiovisual copyright society)
 Editorial Advisory Group, *Enhance* website
 Advisory Board, *Southern Review*

Robert Hassan

Editorial Committee, *Journal for Educational Enquiry*

David Hayward

Editorial Board, *Urban Policy and Research*
 Board of Directors, InfoXchange
 Board of Directors, Tenants Union

David Hudson

Board of Directors, New International Bookshop Cooperative Ltd

Kath Hulse

Board of Directors, Ecumenical Community Housing Steering Committee, Health Impact, Deakin University

Michael Liffman

Trustee, Sarah and Baillieu Myer Family Foundation
 Council Member, The Alpine School
 Board of Directors, South Port Community Nursing Home

Peter Mares

Judging Panel, Human Rights Awards (non-fiction category), Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

Ian McShane

Editorial Board, *Open Museum Journal*
 Editorial Standing Committee, *Museums Australia Magazine*

Denise Meredyth

Editorial Board, *Australian Universities Review*
 Editorial Committee, *Southern Review*

Ulrike Schuermann

Board, *The Big Issue*
 Board, Leadership Without Borders Ltd
 Board, Renewable Energy Foundation

Andrea Sharam

President, Energy Action Group

Julian Thomas

Advisory Board, RMIT, MA (Communications)
 Editorial Committee, *Southern Review*

Denis Tracey

Council for the Encouragement of Philanthropy in Australia

Yoland Wadsworth

Vice-President (International), International Action Learning, Action Research and Process Management Association
 Editorial Board, *Action Research International*
 Advisory Committee, *Systemic Practice and Action Research*
 Consulting Editor, *Action Learning, Action Research*
 Advisory Board, *Action Research*
 Editorial Advisory Board, *Action Learning: Research & Practice Journal*

Ken Young

Chairperson, Skillsnet Association Co-operative Ltd