

Dear ACREW members,

We are more than half way through the year. This Bulletin highlights what ACREW has been doing thus far in 2008.

We would also like to welcome Professor Greg Bamber to ACREW and the Department.

Helen, Anne, Peter, Chris & Trish

ADVISORY BOARD AND MEMBERS MEETING

The ACREW Advisory Board met in May and in August. Professor Rick Iverson visited for the May meeting and conducted a research seminar and publishing workshop while here.

The Board have been drafting the ACREW Strategic Plan and an Operational Plan for 2009. All ACREW members are invited to contribute to these Plans, which will be circulated for discussion at the members' meeting on 23 September, 2008.

ACREW TEACHING

Cathy Sheehan and Sue Mayson are the ACREW representatives on the Department Education Committee.

At the Education Committee on 22 August the issue of reporting internal assessment composition was raised and the point was made that although unit co-ordinators are no longer required to specify the breakdown of a unit's internal assessment in the hand book, any changes made to the composition of the internal assessment still need to go through Education Committee. Under general business a comment was made that although there are mechanisms in place to assist students when they are placing a complaint there could be greater clarification of the correct process and lines of reporting for academic staff when they are approached by students who wish to make a complaint against another staff member.

The HRM course committee met on 20 June to review potential overlap between HRM graduate units. The outcome of the discussion was a minor restructuring of the topics dealt with in MGX9850 HRM. The key recommendations were as follows: the week covering International HRM should be deleted as the material is dealt with in MGX 5631 International HRM, an additional week should be dedicated to the legal issues related to HRM and the open topic in Week 11 should be given a specific focus such as diversity management, change management or ethics. The HRM course committee also discussed preparations for AHRI accreditation which is due in April next year.

ACREW ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

We currently have Trish Pettit working in the ACREW office on Tuesdays

If you wish to contact the ACREW office, please email: acrew@buseco.monash.edu.au

TRADE UNIONS CONFERENCE

ACREW is supporting the 2008 Trade Union Conference, which has the theme: 'Unions in the Twenty-First Century and Beyond: The Environment, Politics, and Education'. The 2008 conference continues a tradition initially established by the NKCIR in 1998, 2000, and 2002 and continued under the auspices of ACREW with conferences in 2004 at Melbourne Trades Hall and 2006 in Prato. The conference is unique in its focus on trade unions and in combining academic and trade unionist contributions in the one forum. The conference is of significance given the changing industrial relations landscape and the refocusing on trade union activities and achievements that extend beyond the workplace. The organisers are Dr Marjorie Jerrard, Dr Sandra Cockfield, and Dr Donna Buttigieg.

The conference will be the key ACREW event for 2008 and builds on established links between members of ACREW and trade unions and national and international trade union researchers. Some of the participating trade unions include the National Tertiary Education Union; Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union; the Electrical Trades Union; The Police Association of Victoria; and the Australian Council of Trade Unions. Other speakers are Dr Ian McPhail AM, Victoria's Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability and Dave Kerrin from Union Solidarity. The key note speakers are ACTU Secretary Jeff Lawrence and Pr Paul Jarley, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. A number of key national trade union researchers will be presenting papers.

ACREW VISITORS

Since the last Bulletin, there have been several visitors to ACREW -- Thanks to Peter Holland for organising the seminar series.

Rick Iverson presented an ACREW seminar on 20 May: 'The Process of Downsizing: Task Performance and Organizational Commitment as Layoff Criteria'. Rick is Professor of Human Resource Management at the Faculty of Business Administration, Simon Fraser University and a member of the ACREW Advisory Board.

Rick Iverson, Peter Dowling, Julian Teicher & Helen De Cieri presented a roundtable on 19 May: 'Publishing Roundtable: Publishing research in top tier journals'. In line with ACREW's aim to facilitate and develop high quality research, the centre held the roundtable on publishing in high quality journals.

Min Li presented a joint SEIRnet/ACREW/IBRG seminar on 8 August: 'How Human Resource Practices Shape Workers' Attitudes in Cosmetic Firms in China'. Min Li is a Professor of IR & HRM and MBA Director at Business School of Administration, South China University of Technology (SCUT).

JaneMaree Maher, Jo Lindsay & Anne Bardoel will present an ACREW seminar on 17 September: 'New Configurations of Flexibility: Nurses Working and Caring'. JaneMaree is currently Director of the Centre for Women's Studies and Gender Research at Monash University and Associate Dean Education in the Faculty of Arts. Jo is a senior lecturer in Sociology at Monash University. Anne is an Associate Professor in Management at Monash University, Australia and Deputy Director of ACREW.

Shuming Zhao will present a joint ACREW, IBRG, WERCC & SEIRnet seminar on 3 October: 'Reform in the Labour Regulatory Environment in China and its Impact on Human Resource Management and Labour Relations'. Professor Shuming Zhao is Dean of the School of Business, Nanjing University, P.R. China. This seminar will include an introduction of economic reforms and changes in labour regulatory environments in China, followed by a discussion about their impact on HRM and labour relations.

Santina Bertone will present an ACREW seminar on 14 October. Details of this seminar will be available on the ACREW website shortly.

For further details of these seminars visit: <http://www.buseco.monash.edu.au/mgt/research/acrew/>

COMMISSIONED RESEARCH AND RESEARCH FUNDING

ACREW members currently have several projects under proposal or negotiation for commissioned research and/or research funding, including ARC grant applications.

Members should note that applications for Faculty Research Grants and for the Category 1 Research Grant Incentive Scheme are due in October. See:

<http://www.buseco.monash.edu.au/research/staff/funding2008.html>

Staff who submit ARC Linkage or Discovery Project applications will be awarded \$3,000 for inclusion in a DRI. See: <http://intranet.buseco.monash.edu.au/twiki/bin/view/Management/ARCIncentiveRewardFund>.

Applications for ARC Linkage grants may also receive University funding. Guidelines & application forms are on web at <http://www.monash.edu.au/research/academics/funding/applications/enabling-grants.html>.

ACREW MEMBERS IN THE MEDIA AND COMMUNITY

Expertline is a searchable database of Monash University's academic staff available to comment in the media on their areas of research and teaching expertise. If you have not already done so, ACREW researchers might wish to register as an expert in your area of specialty. Contact media@adm.monash.edu.au for more information'.

ACREW NEWS

If you have news you would like to be shared in a future ACREW Bulletin, please contact Trish at acrew@buseco.monash.edu.au.