THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
HUMANITIES RESEARCH CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT 1986

Director : Professor C.I.E. Donaldson, BA Melb., MA Oxf., FAHA

Deputy Director : Professor G.W. Clarke, BA Oxf., MA NZ & Melb., Litt.D Melb., FAHA

Research Officer : Dr J.C. Eade, MA St And. & Adel., PhD ANU

Visiting Fellows : Ms V. Blain, BA Tas., B.Litt Oxf.

Mr G.C. Bradshaw, MA Camb.
Mr D.J. Carter, BA, Dip.Ed, MA Melb.

Dr L. Code, BA Queen's, MA Guelph, PhD Guelph/McMaster

Dr P. Crawford, BA Melb., MA, PhD WA

Dr A. Curthoys, BA Syd., Dip.Ed Syd. Teachers' College, PhD Macquarie

Dr L.K. Devereaux, BA Radcliffe, MA, PhD Harvard

Professor R.J. Evans, MA, D.Phil Oxf.

Dr C.H. Griffin, BA, MA, D.Phil Oxf.

Dr E.A. Gross, BA, PhD Syd.

Dr S.-M. Gunew, BA Melb., MA Toronto, PhD Newcastle

Em. Professor P. Herbst, BA, MA Melb., BA Oxf.

Professor L. Lipking, BA W. Reserve, MA, PhD Cornell


Professor S.B. Pomeroy, BA Barnard, PhD Columbia

Dr L.A. Roper, BA Melb., PhD Lond.
Professor T.J. Saunders, BA Lond., PhD Camb.

Dr S.M. Sheridan, BA Syd., Dip.TESL Lond., PhD Adel.

Professor G.C. Spivak, BA Calcutta, PhD Cornell

Ms A.M. Tröger, Diplom Berlin

Visiting Scholars:

Dr W.K.H. Dean, BA, LLB, MA Syd., PhD Toronto

Professor D.A. Hamer, BA, MA NZ, D.Phil Oxf.

Ms M. Holloway, BA Calif., MA Courtauld

Mrs A. Inglis, BA Melb., MA ANU

Dr S.M. Magarey, BA, Dip.Ed Adel., MA, PhD ANU

Dr C.O. Sowerwine, BA Oberlin, MA, PhD Wisconsin

Mrs N.D.H. Underhill, BA Bryn Mawr, MA Lond.

Conference Visitors:

Professor L. Balsamo

Dr R. Braidotti, BA ANU, PhD Paris

Dr A. Callen, Dip.AD, MA Leic., PhD Lond.


Asst. Professor A.A. Jardine, BA, MA, PhD Columbia

Dr C. Kaplan, BA Northampton Ma., MA Brandeis

Ms A.F. Kuhn, BA, MA Sheffield

Professor J.W. Scott, BA Brandeis, MA, PhD Wis-Madison

Professor C.R. Stimpson, BA Bryn Mawr, BA, MA Camb., PhD Columbia
During 1986 the Humanities Research Centre continued to encourage a diversity of research activities, while concentrating as usual upon a nominated theme. This year's theme was Feminism and the Humanities. Three major international conferences, held in May, July and August, formed the focus of the year's activities, and between them drew over six hundred participants. In addition, the Centre convened a week-end Seminar in June in honour of the distinguished Canadian critic, Professor Northrop Frye, and in September convened a conference on the History of Books at Monash University (in conjunction with the Monash University Centre for Bibliographical and Textual Studies). These two additional conferences attracted a further one hundred and twenty participants. The HRC also assisted with the seventh David Nichol Smith Memorial Seminar in Eighteenth-Century Studies, held at the University of Otago in late August.

The first conference on the annual theme, on Feminist Criticism and Cultural Production, brought together feminist work on film, theatre, dance, literature and urban architecture, and explored connections and discontinuities between feminist criticism in these areas of cultural production. In accordance with the conference's aim to link issues in criticism with instances of art practice, the conference also included two sessions of readings, one by a Canberra women writers' group (organized by courtesy of the National Library of Australia) and one by visiting Canadian poets Nicole Brossard, Daphne Marlatt and Betsy Warland, and translator/ critic Barbara Godard; a film and video programme arranged by Helen Grace, including two works by conference speakers (Lesley Stern's 'Finishing Touches', and Laleen Jayamanne's 'A Song of Ceylon') as well as the controversial West German film, 'Seduction--The Cruel Woman'. An exhibition of works from the Australian National Gallery by women artists 'picturing the difference' through images of the body and mothering was held at the ANU's Drill Hall Gallery in conjunction with the conference. This conference attracted well over three hundred participants, a record in the history of the Centre.

The second conference, on Feminism and the Humanities: Enrichment, Expansion or Challenge?, explored the kinds of impact feminist thought is having on the humanities and the ways in which feminist thought, in its turn, is being shaped by its function as criticism. Papers on these themes were concentrated particularly on the disciplines of classical studies, philosophy, historical studies and literary theory. An exhibition on Australian women artists and activists was held at the National Library in connection with this conference. Special visitors to this conference included Professor Joan Scott (Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton), Professor Alice Jardine (Harvard), Dr Leonore Davidoff (Essex) and Professor Marilyn Butler (Cambridge).

The third conference, on Feminist Enquiry as a Transdisciplinary Enterprise, was held at the University of Adelaide in conjunction with the Research Centre for Women's Studies. It explored the various ways in which feminist scholarship in the humanities has
cut across conventional ideas of disciplinarity. The papers ranged widely through anthropology, art history, education, English literature, geography, history, philosophy and sociology. Special overseas visitors included Professor Catharine Stimpson (Rutgers), Dr Rosi Braidotti (Paris) and Dr Anthea Callen (Warwick).

The Northrop Frye Seminar was the third in a series of special seminars which the HRC has organized in recent years in honour of visiting scholars whose work is of exceptional interest to a wide range of people in the humanities. Northrop Frye's *The Great Code*, published in 1982, was intended as the first part of an ambitious study of the Bible and western literature. Professor Frye is now working on the second part of this study, and opened the Seminar with a public lecture entitled 'Myth, Metaphor, and Identity' (delivered to a large audience in the Coombs Lecture Theatre), which explored some of his current preoccupations. During the following two days, scholars from various disciplines and various Australian universities delivered papers on topics closely related, by theme or methodology, to Professor Frye's concerns; and the guest of honour responded very fully to questions directed principally to issues raised in his public lecture. The Centre is grateful to the University of Sydney and the Canadian Government for their close collaboration in organizing this Seminar.

The September conference on the History of Books, held at Monash University in conjunction with Monash's Centre for Bibliographical and Textual Studies, was concerned with metropolitan versus colonial and regional tensions and structures in the book trade in both hemispheres over the centuries. About sixty people attended the meeting, including visitors from Italy, Germany, Africa, Great Britain, and New Zealand. An exhibition of rare books from the Monash University Library was organized to coincide with the conference.

Since 1966, the Australian National University has been a major sponsor of the triennial David Nichol Smith Memorial Seminars in Eighteenth-Century Studies, along with the National Library of Australia, the Australian Academy of the Humanities, and (since 1970) the Australasian and Pacific Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Since 1976, the ANU's sponsorship has been directed through the HRC, which has handled the principal organization of the Seminar. In 1986, the Seminar was held at the University of Otago, and the HRC was again associated with its planning and sponsorship. The Seminar is expected to return to Canberra in 1989.

Most HRC visitors lectured extensively not only within the ANU but at Universities and Colleges elsewhere in Australia and several organized lecture and research tours also of Universities in New Zealand. The HRC Liaison Groups have continued to facilitate contacts and co-operation of this kind.
The Centre's 1986 Visiting Fellows spent their time as follows:

Ms Virginia Blain (English, Macquarie; May-July) worked on her book *The Woman Writer: A Feminist Companion to Literature in English*, and researched for a new book on narrative history of 19th-century women's writing, scheduled to follow the *Companion*. She gave a paper at the July conference, and work-in-progress seminars at the HRC and ANU Women's Studies and at other Australian universities.

Mr Graham Bradshaw (English, University of St Andrews; June/September) completed work on his book *Ted Hughes and Civilisation*, gave two HRC work-in-progress seminars, on Emily Bronte and Conrad, and lectured at a number of other Australian universities.

Mr David Carter (Humanities, Deakin; December) did preparatory work on the organisation and arrangements for the HRC's conference on Literary Journals in 1987, for which he is convener. He also worked on a chapter for the forthcoming *New Literary History of Australia* on documentary and realist fiction, 1930-65.

Dr Lorraine Code (Philosophy, Queen's University, Canada; May-August) wrote on 'Autonomy Reconsidered' (presented to the July Conference) and 'Second Persons' (presented to two outside institutions); both pieces are part of the book she is writing on feminism and epistemology. She also wrote 'Experience, Responsibility and Knowledge' for a collection of articles by women philosophers of Britain to be published in 1987, and completed a draft chapter for a book entitled *Changing Patterns: Women in Canada*, to be published in 1987. As well as giving a work-in-progress seminar at the Centre she gave a guest lecture to the Philosophy Department at the ANU and lectured at other Australian and New Zealand universities.

Dr Patricia Crawford (History, Western Australia; May-August) worked on her book about women in early modern England and gave a work-in-progress seminar on one of the chapters: women and religion. She lectured to the Department of History and to Women's Studies at ANU, and at Sydney University.

Dr Ann Curthoys (NSW Institute of Technology; January-April) completed two chapters for the Bicentennial History Project volume of which she is a co-editor, *Australians Since 1939*; wrote an entry for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* on Marion Piddington (sexual reformer and birth control advocate) and spoke about her in a work-in-progress seminar and at the August conference; and continued to research a long-term project on sexual dimension of Aboriginal/European relations in New South Wales in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.
Dr Leslie Devereaux (Anthropology and Prehistory, Arts Faculty, ANU; April-September) held half-time appointments as Visiting Fellow in the Centre and lecturer in the Department of Prehistory and Anthropology in the Faculty of Arts. She spent her time in the Centre finishing an ethnography of Mayan women in southern Mexico entitled The Labour of Femininity, and worked on an ethnographic novel about a Zinacanteco woman. She gave a work-in-progress seminar, and a paper at the August conference, on hegemony.

Professor Richard Evans (Modern Languages and European History, East Anglia; April-June) edited two books of essays, The German Unemployed and The German Underworld, to be published in 1986, the journal German History, and the first volume in the Hutchinson Social History of Europe. He completed two review articles on the Central European Home and the German Labour Movement and two reviews for The American Historical Review. His main project was the completion of his book Comrades and Sisters: Feminism, Socialism and Pacifism in Europe 1870-1945. He was also able to gather material for the updating of the Australia and New Zealand sections of his book The Feminists. Professor Evans gave 41 lectures and papers at 17 different institutions in Australia and New Zealand, including an HRC work-in-progress seminar and the opening address to the Biennial Conference on the Australian Association of European Historians.

Dr Clive Griffin (Trinity College, Oxford; January-April) wrote two chapters of a book on a Mexican novel of the Revolution, Mariano Azuela's Los de abajo, and rewrote an article on Cien anos de soledad, to appear in a collection of essays on García Márquez; he finished his research on Guido de Lavezares from which he will write an article, and interested himself in the Australian idea of 'mateship'. He lectured in Canberra and Melbourne on Spanish-American fiction, 16th-century printing and book illustration, and the Crombergers of Seville.

Dr Elizabeth Gross (General Philosophy, Sydney; March-July) wrote drafts for nine papers, talks or chapters on feminist subjects, delivered as public talks in Canberra and Sydney, one of which was submitted to the Women's Studies International Quarterly. From this material she hopes to complete a book called Mapping Bodies: The Inscription of Sexual Difference. She drafted a chapter of a book she is currently writing called Jacques Lacan, gave a work-in-progress seminar in the Centre and presented a paper at the July conference on Bodies and Knowledges: Feminism and the Crisis of Reason.

Dr Sneja Gunew (Humanities, Deakin; May-July) completed two substantial papers which will function as first-draft chapters of her book Framing Marginality. She gave a work-in-progress seminar in the Centre and presented a paper at the May conference on migrant women writers.
Emeritus Professor Peter Herbst (Canberra; September 85-August 86) came near to completing his book on epistemology with the proposed title: *Critical Enquiry*. He did some work on the borders between philosophy and anthropology ('Discursive Realms and Relativism'). He was involved in the planning and committee work for the proposed Australian Centre in Italy. As well as giving an HRC work-in-progress seminar on Objectivity and Regimentation, Prof. Herbst lectured in Queensland University on the visual arts in Melbourne 1935-60, and in the Fine Art Programme, ANU on the baroque architect, Borromini.

Professor Lawrence Lipking (English, Northwestern University; June-September) wrote a review of Maynard Mack's biography of Pope, and an article on translations of Sappho in the 17th and 18th centuries; he completed half the notes for his book *Abandoned Women and Poetic Tradition*, which has been accepted for publication by the University of Chicago Press. He gave a paper to the David Nichol Smith Seminar in Dunedin and a work-in-progress seminar at the Centre.

Ms Meaghan Morris (independent scholar, Sydney; March-June) devoted most of her time in the Centre working on a projected book about the life and work of Ernestine Hill. Her work-in-progress seminar on Hill will be the basis for a chapter in a *Critical History of Australian Criticism* to be published in 1988. She presented a paper at the May conference titled 'Feminism and Popular Culture: things to do with Shopping Centres', and completed an outline for a book on this material for Methuen.

Professor Sarah Pomeroy (Classics, Hunter College, CUNY; June-July) completed a first draft of a new English translation of Xenophon's *Oeconomicus*, and reviewed *The Family in Ancient Rome* (B. Rawson, ed.) for American Historical Review and *Frauen in der griechischen Geschichte* (W. Schuller) for Gnomon. She gave nine papers in Perth, Hobart, Brisbane and ANU, and presented a paper at the July conference on Classics, Gender and *Oikonomia*.

Dr Lyndal Roper (King's College, London; July-September) completed most of the redraft of her book on women and the Reformation in Augsburg (to be published by OUP), finished an article on 'The Common Man' to appear in *Social History* in 1987, and began reading and thinking about a book on Sexuality and the Western Church 1500-1800, on which subject she gave her paper at the July conference. She lectured at Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Monash, and the ANU, and to various societies.

Professor Trevor J. Saunders (Classics, Newcastle Upon Tyne; April-July) devoted most of his time in the Centre revising and enlarging chapter V and VI of his work on the history of Greek penology, with special reference to Plato, and reviewed a book for *TLS*. He gave 14 lectures in Australia and 13 in New Zealand.
Dr Susan Sheridan (Humanities, Deakin; March-September) was able to complete basic research on her work on Christina Stead. She gave a work-in-progress seminar in the Centre and four lectures to the Women's Studies programme. As convener of the Feminism and the Humanities year, she spent the major part of her Fellowship organising the 1986 conferences.

Professor Gayatri Spivak (English, Pittsburgh; July and August) worked on the revision of her manuscript *Master Discourse, Native Informant* and presented a chapter of this manuscript, on Kant's Third Critique, in an HRC work-in-progress seminar. She lectured on teaching a Third World Women's text at New England, Monash and Melbourne, and on narrative at Deakin University. She presented a paper on the problem of transdisciplinary feminism in the US and India at the August conference.

Ms Anna Tröger (Sociology, Hanover; August-December) continued her work on Maurice Merleau-Ponty and Alfred Schütz; she lectured at ANU and at several other Australian universities and gave a paper at the August conference on oral history and feminist research.

The Visiting Scholars worked as follows:

Dr William Dean (English, Otago; January-February) completed drafts of a commentary on George Chapman's *The Blind Beggar of Alexandria* and *An Humorous Day's Mirth*, both of which he hopes to incorporate into a book on Chapman's achievement as a comic writer.

Professor David Hamer (History, Victoria University of Wellington; December-February) researched the Australian segment of his study of the comparative history of the evolution of towns and cities in 'new societies' of the nineteenth century, which he hopes to publish in book form with an American publisher.

Ms Memory Holloway (Visual Arts, Monash; January-February) studied the collection of Aboriginal Art in the Australian National Gallery as part of her book for Thames and Hudson on Australian art since 1945.

Mrs Amirah Inglis (independent scholar, Canberra; January-March) completed her book on Australians and the Spanish Civil War 1936-9 for publication by Allen and Unwin.

Dr Susan Magarey (Women's Studies, Adelaide; May-July) continued with her project entitled 'Revisiting the 1890s: Discourses of Feminism in Australia', and, as convener of the August Conference, spent a major proportion of her time on preparatory work for it. She gave one paper, on feminism as politicised knowledge, to the Women's Studies Programme.

Dr Charles Sowerwine (History, Melbourne; February-April) pursued his research on rural sociology in southern France. He
prepared a number of book reviews for *Meanjin* and *The Journal of Modern History*, *Labour History* and *Historical Studies*, and began his biography of Dr Madeleine Pelletier (1874-1939), a French socialist and feminist.

Mrs Nancy Underhill (Fine Arts, Queensland; October/November) continued work on her book *The Ure Smith Era*, which examines the art world in Australia between 1910 and 1945.

Throughout the year the Centre continued its weekly programme of work-in-progress seminars, along with occasional lunch-time talks and readings. Papers were given by members of the Centre's staff and all Visiting Fellows, and by the following invited speakers: Professor Marilyn Butler (English, Cambridge); Dr Anthony Easthope (English, Manchester); Professor Alexander Goehr (Music, Cambridge; composer); Ms Sarah Kent (Editor, *Time Out*); Professor Stephen Orgel (English, Stanford); Ms Val Plumwood (Philosophy, Macquarie); Dr Griselda Pollock (Fine Arts, Leeds); and Professor George Rochberg (Pennsylvania; composer).

Publications:

This year saw the publication of *The Family in Ancient Rome*, edited by Beryl Rawson (London, Croom Helm), a volume deriving from the Centre's Conference on 'The Roman Family' in 1981, and the publication of the second edition of the Centre's *Directory of Research in the Humanities*. In this edition the coverage has been extended to New Zealand universities.

It also saw the completion of page proofs for the first volume in the HRC/Oxford University Press Series of monographs, which is a selection of papers edited by F.W. Kent and Patricia Simons from the Centre's Conference, 'Patronage, Art and Society' (1983). A similar selection, to be published in-house, from the conferences on 'Landscape and the Arts' (1984) will appear early in 1987.


Some of the papers from the Centre's Northrop Frye Seminar are also to appear in a future edition of *AUMLA*, the journal of the Australasian Universities Language and Literature Association.

Planning continued throughout the year for the HRC's activities in 1987. The theme for 1987 is Europe and the Orient, and two conferences on this theme are planned for the year (in July, on Europe and the Exotic, and in August, on The Occident and the Orient, convened by Dr C.A. Gerstie and Dr A.C. Milner, both of th ANU). There will be a third, separate Conference in 1987 on Literary Journals, scheduled for May (convened by Mr D.J. Carter of Griffith University, formerly of Deakin University). A Seminar, entitled Inventing the American People, will be held in
October of 1987, and centred on the work of Professor Edmund Morgan of Yale University; this will be convened by Professor Paul Bourke, Director of the Research School of Social Sciences.

The Director continued to work on a book on comedy, under contract to Oxford University Press, and to serve as General Editor of the new Oxford University Press/HRC monograph series. He completed an article on Pope for the *Yearbook of English Studies*, a paper on Samuel Johnson for an HRC work-in-progress seminar, and another on Ben Jonson for the Australian and New Zealand Mediaeval and Renaissance Society conference held at the University of Melbourne in August. He taught regularly throughout the year for the ANU's English Department, lectured for the History Department, and supervised graduate students from English, Modern European Languages, and the Australian Defence Force Academy. He convened the Northrop Frye Seminar, and was closely involved in the organization of the Centre's other conferences. He served on a number of University committees, and on an electoral committee at the University of Melbourne; was Chairman of a national committee, supported by the HRC, which is exploring ways and means of establishing an Australian Centre in Italy; and was a member of the Executive of the Australia/Italy Promotion Committee, established by the Australian Government in June.

The Deputy Director continued his research on the fragments and letters of Dionysius of Alexandria and worked on the chapter he is commissioned to write on the Origins and Spread of Early Christianity for the revised Cambridge Ancient History vol. X. He completed the editing of a volume of papers drawn from the June Conference, 1985 on Rediscovering Hellenism in Europe. In August he worked at the archaeological site of Jebel Khalid in Northern Syria on the Euphrates and has subsequently written (with P.J. Connor) two papers, one on the defence system of Jebel Khalid (to appear in *Archäologischer Anzeiger*) and the second on inscriptions, symbols and graffiti near Jousset Pasha (to appear in *Abr-Nahrain*). He gave lectures in the University of Western Australia and continued to supervise for the ANU's Department of Classics. He also served as Chairman of the ANU Library Committee and (since July) as Treasurer of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

The Research Officer's main role continued to be that of publications officer. This duty involved production of the Centre's quarterly *Bulletin*, a new edition of its descriptive *Brochure*, the production of a second edition of its *Directory of Research in the Humanities in Australia and New Zealand*, editorial work on the volume *Projecting the Landscape*, and initial editing of the volume *Rediscovering Hellenism*.

During the year the Centre was also involved in a substantial rearrangement of its word-processing facilities and had to accommodate an increasing number of visitors with varied demands on these and other facilities.

In May and June Dr Eade took long service leave, during which time his duties were performed by Mr R. Gardner.
The Centre's Steering Committee met on eight occasions throughout the year to assist and advise the Director and Deputy Director on a variety of matters, and to elect Visiting Fellows for 1987 and 1988. The Advisory Committee met as usual in late November to review the events of the past year and to advise on future policy and activities. The Chairman of these two Committees, Professor R.W.V. Elliott, retired from the University at the end of 1986 (but is joining the HRC as a Visiting Fellow in 1987). Professor Elliott has had a long and intimate association with the HRC since its inception, and was a member of the original planning group which helped to bring the Centre into existence in the early 1970s. The HRC owes him a large debt of gratitude for his counsel and guidance over many years.

The Centre owes particular thanks also to Dr Susan Sheridan, who convened the 1986 Feminism and the Humanities year, and took responsibility for the May and July meetings; to Dr Susan Magarey, who convened the August conference; and to Associate Professor Wallace Kirsop, who convened the conference on the History of Books in September.

As ever, it is the secretarial staff who keep the HRC functioning happily and efficiently, and whose qualities are regularly and appreciatively commented on by visitors to the Centre. After ten years' service to the HRC, Miss Mary Theo, the Centre's Secretary, took six months' long service leave in Europe from April to September. Mrs Krystyna Verhelst ably ran the office in her absence, assisted by the Deputy Director's Secretary, Mrs Pearl Moyseyenko, and Word Processor Operator Mrs Jodi Parvey. To this highly dependable team, the Centre once more expresses its thanks.

PUBLICATIONS

CLARKE, G.W.


DOCKER, John
'In Defence of Melodrama: Towards a Libertarian Aesthetic', Australasian Drama Studies, 9, October 1986.

DONALDSON, Ian


EADE, J.C.
Directory of Research in the Humanities in Australia and New Zealand, Australian National University, Canberra, 1986.

HOFF, Ursula

PREST, Wilfrid

SEDDON, George

WHITE, R.S.

WIDDOWSON, Peter
'Hardy, "Wessex", and the Making of a National Culture', Thomas Hardy Annual, no. 4, June 1986, 45-69.

* Former member; publication based on work done in the Centre and not previously cited.