I take pleasure in presenting Council with the 1994 Annual Report of RSSS. The report is in several parts: it has what is supposed to be a 'reader friendly' portion at the beginning which highlights some of the research being pursued in the School. This part includes some accounts, originally prepared in the context of our '95 School Review preparations, of broad themes that have been important in the School - work that an annual picture broken down into disciplinary categories (such as the Annual Report provides) doesn't capture. Perhaps I should note that the Annual Report makes little mention of the School-wide Reshaping Australian Institutions project. This is because a separate three-year report on RAI was prepared at about the same time as the Annual Report: I would be pleased to provide members of Council with a copy of that report should they wish it. The second part is an account of the work in the Disciplinary Programs of the School done during 1994. The third part is the School's Strategic Plan, developed through the second half of 1994. This Strategic Plan is an important document both in itself, because it sets the broad structure of the School over the next five years, and by virtue of the process it represents - the process, that is, of all the scholars in the School lifting their gaze from their own research preoccupations and joining in a collective enterprise aimed at reshaping our own institution.

One event in 1994 that gave particular pleasure to the School was the award of the Nobel Prize in economics to John Harsanyi for work some significant part of which was done in RSSS in the early 60s. This may seem like ancient history as far as the School is concerned: Harsanyi's current affiliation is with Berkeley and has been for a long time. But there is a feature of the 1994 award that is notable: Harsanyi was the first Nobel Laureate in economics ever to have held a permanent position in a Philosophy program - which he did in the School. This says something about the distinctive intellectual character of RSSS. There are very few places in the world where economists are in philosophy departments and/or work routinely with philosophers. This is a common feature of the intellectual life of RSSS: it is very unusual of intellectual life in the social sciences more generally. This is, in short, one of the things that makes RSSS special.
1994 was a productive year in the life of the School - somewhat less productive than 1993, but more so than 1991 and 1992. In 1994, we produced 29 books (20 fully authored: 9 edited) 80 chapters in edited volumes; 160 journal articles; 97 reports and 70 other pieces. We have been on an upward trend in graduate enrolments - from about 80 in 1991 to about 130 in 1994 (43 Ph.D students in 1991, more then doubled by 1994).

The number of tenured staff fell from 29 in 1993 to 23 in 1994 - and we are now at our target of 30% tenured. The proportion of female staff (fte's at March 31) rose from 14% in 1993 to 24% in 1994: this does not include the women's only tenured positions, initiated in 1994 - but three truly excellent appointments have now been made in that connection, and one has already taken up office in the School. A second is expected in late October.

I think RSSS is in very good shape. And I think all the trends are in the right direction. I believe, certain recent mischievous press reports to the contrary notwithstanding, that the recent School Review represents a very strong endorsement of the School's performance. I would of course be pleased to answer any questions either about the 1994 Report or any more general aspect of the School's activities.