

Chapter 3

Archaeology

Matthew Spriggs

The first thing to say about archaeology in what is now the School of Archaeology and Anthropology is that the first two appointed Professors John Mulvaney (Professor 1971-1985) and Isabel McBryde (1986-1994) had to do it really tough, in setting up a new Department in 1973 (more on that later) and then maintaining it through the lean years of the 1980s and 1990s. Apart from the first few years at the end of the 1990s and start of the 2000s which were a continuation of straitened circumstances, as the third and final appointed Professor (1997-2021) Matthew Spriggs' job was a much more pleasant one during the first two decades of the 21st century, as archaeology in the School expanded to its current strong position both within Australian academia and internationally.

Establishing the Prehistory programme, 1973-1980

John Mulvaney came from what had just become the Department of Prehistory in the Research School of Pacific Studies, to be appointed the Foundation Professor of Prehistory in what later became the Faculty of Arts (at the time part of the School of General Studies). He was initially placed within the History Department, but permission to establish a separate Department of Prehistory was soon given and it was established in 1973. While it was coming into being the University sought to get round a government ban on the establishment of new academic departments by adding Anthropology, and the Department of Prehistory and Anthropology was established early in 1974 with the arrival of the Foundation Professor of Anthropology, Anthony Forge. The Departmental name recognised the primacy of prehistory in its establishment, which is of course continued today in its current form as the School of Archaeology and Anthropology (henceforth SOAA).

Peter Bellwood and Wilfred Shawcross became the first archaeology lecturers in 1973, being joined by Isabel McBryde and Andrée Rosenfeld in 1974, Andrée having been a tutor in the Department from 1973. Mulvaney was able to add a further new archaeological position to the Department in 1979, Ian Farrington. This made a complement of six archaeologists, which continued as the steady-state position until the first new position in a decade was created in 1988, held initially by Bill Ferguson (1988-1991) and then Mary-Jane Mountain from 1992. This was the only archaeology position that Isabel McBryde was able to add during her tenure, with efforts to secure a cultural heritage position failing to achieve the necessary Departmental and Faculty support.

It is telling that John Mulvaney and Isabel McBryde both took early retirement at the age of 60, because of pressures of work, not least their unhappy relations with the rather dominating character of Anthony Forge (see Mulvaney 2011:176 on the latter). Mulvaney had been head of Department for eight of his 15 years as Professor. Wilfred Shawcross also departed well before retirement age in 1993 to take up a position in heritage management. Mike Smith had been hired to replace Shawcross' Australian archaeology teaching in 1994

but he too left for a different line of work in 1996, going to a senior position at the National Museum of Australia.

The 1970s was a period of hard work in establishing a new archaeology teaching program but these were also fulfilling years for the archaeology staff in research. John Mulvaney revised his seminal *Prehistory of Australia* (originally 1969, second edition 1975), conducted the last excavation of his career in 1974 at Lake Mungo (Shawcross 1998:190) and contributed important publications on the history of Australian anthropology. Peter Bellwood published two books on Southeast Asian and Pacific archaeology (*Man's Conquest of the Pacific*, Collins and Oxford U.P. 1978, and *The Polynesians*, Thames and Hudson 1978, 2nd ed. 1987), and moved from a Pacific archaeology focus into Indonesian and Malaysian archaeology, while Wilfred Shawcross expanded his interests from New Zealand to Australia with his extensive program of excavations at Lake Mungo in the Willandra Lakes between 1974 and 1980 (Shawcross 1998). Andrée Rosenfeld was very active in rock art research in Australia, building on her previous European experience and providing the first Pleistocene dates for rock art in Australia from Cape York (Rosenfeld et al. 1981), and Isabel McBryde continued her pioneering research on New England prehistory and ethnohistory and on Aboriginal exchange systems, based on petrological analysis of stone axes from southeastern Australia. Ian Farrington continued his research in South American archaeology, particularly in Peru, for many decades after taking up his position at the ANU.

As can be seen from the rather disparate research interests of the SOAA archaeologists of this period, they were very much individually oriented in their teaching and research interests. One looks in vain for any overarching research themes or team-teaching efforts beyond the first-year course.

Important student theses at PhD, Honours and Masters levels in archaeology started to be produced, the first PhD from the Department being submitted by Betty Meehan in 1975, passed the following year and published as *Shell Bed to Shell Midden* (Meehan 1982). It was the only archaeology PhD awarded in the Department during that decade, the next being Mike Morwood's thesis *Art and Stone: The Prehistory of Central Western Queensland* in 1980. The first four archaeology Honours theses, all by women, were also presented in 1975 as well as a Masters Qualifying thesis; the first Master's Thesis in archaeology was awarded in 1978. Between 1975 and 1982 there were 44 Honours graduates, with another 15 students beginning in 1983. The equivalent figures for anthropology were 25 and 9, so that although in general undergraduate numbers anthropology had more students, the situation was reversed at Honours level. The Bachelor of Letters (B.Litt) degree as an intermediate programme was introduced in 1979, with its first student thesis passed the following year, and proved popular among those wishing to enter archaeology from other disciplines. Prominent among the visitors to the Department in the 1970s was Virendra Misra, the renowned Indian archaeologist from Deccan College, who visited in 1977, ahead of the 10th Congress of the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association held in Poona (now Pune) in 1978, which he organised, and of which he and Peter Bellwood edited the Proceedings.

Lean and busy years: 1981-1990

Reading the Annual Reports of the Faculty of Arts, the 1980s were extremely busy years in archaeology, but with no new academic positions until Bill Ferguson was given a Lecturing

position in 1988 (he had had a casual appointment since 1986). The tensions that contributed to John Mulvaney taking early retirement were there from the start of that decade as the Faculty's budget problems led to significant cuts in staffing from 1982 that continued through the decade. Overall Faculty Academic staff decreased from 145.5 in 1980 to 139, then to 134 in 1983 and 129 in 1984. In 1990 there were 118.8 academic positions.

Anthony Forge, as Head of Department, expressed his frustration in the 1981 Annual Report that Archaeology had 6 staff, all tenured whereas through resignation Anthropology had lost 4 positions, only 2 of which were replaced: "It endangers the excellent relationships, personal and theoretical, that have existed within the Department since its emergence as the first joint department at ANU in 1974" (*Annual Report* 1981: 100). Mulvaney was Head of Department 1982-3 and Forge again took over in 1984. For 1984-5 Mulvaney was Chair of Australian Studies at Harvard, returning only briefly before retiring. In the 1984 *Annual Report*, Forge opined in relation to Mulvaney that the Department "has been in many ways his creation although he may have sometimes been aghast at what he had created in accepting a joint department". Forge also railed against the "no growth, no change philosophy of the Faculty" and complained that a new Faculty Honours structure had been introduced against the Department's wishes (*Annual Report* 1984: 108-9). The situation was dire in terms of workloads because by 1983 the Department as a whole had the highest enrolments of students at both undergraduate and graduate level of any Department in the Faculty of Arts.

Ominously, in the 1985 *Annual Report* of the Faculty, Dean Beryl Rawson in talking of the Faculty's staffing policy 1985-90 noted that "a few areas still have difficulty accepting that the higher level of staffing and other resources of the mid-seventies is unlikely to return" (1985: 2). The following year, just as Isabel McBryde became Professor and Head of Department, further reductions in Faculty staff for the period 1988-1992 were announced of 6.68 academic and 3.37 professional staff positions. Despite this, Isabel did manage to extract a new position in archaeology for William (Bill) Ferguson, initially as a 'Temporary Lecturer' in Australian archaeology and then more permanently once his PhD was examined.

This was the 'Dawkins era' in Higher Education and much effort was spent dealing with the ultimately failed 1988-9 plans to merge the ANU with the Canberra College of Advanced Education (CCAEE), later the University of Canberra. In 1990 there were further funding cuts to the Faculty because of the 'clawback' of money from the ANU Block Grant to the Australian Research Council (ARC, replacing the ARGC), to allow the Research Schools to compete for ARC grants directly; nice for the Research Schools but not of immediate benefit to the Faculty.

But things were not all bad. The Departmental move to the A.D. Hope Building was finally completed in 1981 (it had commenced in 1974), after a strong-worded complaint from Head of Department, Anthony Forge in the previous year's Departmental Report (*Annual Report, Prehistory and Anthropology*:2), with archaeology laboratories on the lower ground floor and an additional laboratory added in 1988. In 1982 John Mulvaney initiated the D.A. Casey Prize – Dermot Casey having been a long-time archaeological collaborator of his – for best results in Prehistory 1st year and there was another prize for best result in Prehistory Honours. Several successful conferences were organised during the decade and

distinguished visitors were welcomed, including palaeolithic specialist Paul Mellars (Cambridge, 1981), stone tool specialist John Flenniken (Washington State University – on a Fulbright shared between ANU and Sydney, 1982), and historian of archaeology Bruce Trigger (McGill, 1983). Jo Kamminga transferred an Australian Research Grants Committee (ARGC) award from Sydney to the Department as a Visitor in 1985. The inaugural Mulvaney Lecture – held every two years ever since – was delivered in 1990 by Desmond Clark, a distinguished Africanist palaeolithic specialist from UC Berkeley, USA.

A Faculties Research Fund was established in 1983, complementing archaeological research funding obtainable for Australian projects from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies (AIAS) and those for any and all projects from what later became the ARC. The archaeologists of the Department have maintained a very solid record of ARC grant and fellowship success since the 1980s. If we take 1990 as a fieldwork census year for the decade, we find that Peter Bellwood was in the northern Maluku Islands in Eastern Indonesia, Isabel McBryde was working in the Flinders Ranges, SA, Andrée Rosenfeld was in Central Australia, and Wilfred Shawcross was at work near Goulburn in NSW. Slipping forward a year to 1991 we can add Ian Farrington in Peru, and Isabel McBryde in northern NSW, the latter having just been awarded a \$50,000 ARC grant.

There were developments in new courses and changes in degree structures during the 1980s of note. Apart from Honours and First Year courses, archaeology staff offered around 7 units in archaeology (the figure among the more numerous anthropologists was 14) and there were four joint courses, including in biological anthropology, and from 1981 a material culture course offered by Howard Morphy with funding from AIAS. What became two joint courses in material culture were reorganised by Professor Forge and Andrée Rosenfeld in 1987. A joint Honours course on *Anthropological Sciences considered as a Unity* was tried from 1981 for a few years. A significant new course was added in 1981: "*Landscape Archaeology* (BI7) which was designed to provide specialised training in field techniques to meet the increasing employment opportunities in Public archaeology was taught by Dr McBryde and Mr Farrington" (*Annual Report Prehistory and Anthropology 1981:4*). The 1983 *Annual Report* further noted that:

The prehistory staff are aware of the increasing need to equip students for field or administrative posts in those areas now termed Public Archaeology, or Cultural Resource Management. Some courses have been redesigned to take such matters into account. This is particularly the case with Prehistory BI7 (*Landscape Archaeology*) and in one of the honours IV seminars, 'The State and Archaeology' (*Annual Report 1983:94*).

Landscape archaeology, usually taught by Ian Farrington, remained a key course for field survey training into the first decade of the new century. Added to it in 1988 was *Archaeological Field and Laboratory Techniques*, first taught by recently appointed Bill Ferguson, with excavation experience gained for 4 weeks in the summer session after Christmas, investigating open sites and a rock shelter near Braidwood, NSW and analysis of the excavated material taking place in first semester. At the same time there was a cultural heritage field school held jointly with the Riverina/Murray Institute of Higher Education and

involving Annie Clarke from there, a decade later to become an ANU staff member. The course was taught by Farrington, McBryde, and Mary-Jane Mountain (at the time a Tutor in the Department) and was open to university students and state heritage and national parks services personnel. Archaeology field schools and other opportunities for gaining practical surveying and excavation skills have remained a key part of the educational experience in SOAA, to a greater extent and more regularly than at any other Australian university, with Ian Farrington's sterling service in keeping the course going in the 1990s and 2000s needing to be acknowledged here.

In 1990 the year-long first year prehistory course was split into two semester units, its format still today in 2024, with Isabel McBryde that year taking on the introductory course and Wilfred Shawcross teaching the second semester course on World prehistory. Another significant course splitting took place in 1985 when Peter Bellwood divided his *Pacific and Southeast Asian archaeology* course into two separate courses with *Prehistory of Oceania* taught that year and *Prehistory of Southeast Asia* taught in the alternate year 1986, in a pattern still basically in operation today.

A 1994 listing of Australian university archaeology theses covering 1975-1993 is a convenient benchmark to look at thesis completions from the start of the Honours and Masters' programs (White 1994). It lists 105 Honours theses (up from 44 in 1982) with a further 7 Archaeology Honours from the Human Sciences program which was a part of the Department from about 1976 to 1989. There were 22 Masters' and 10 Masters' Qualifying theses in the same period and 12 PhDs, with a further two archaeological-themed ones produced in the Human Sciences program (for comparison the RSPacS Department produced 25 PhDs in the same period). If we compare other Australian universities (excluding Classical archaeology programs), Sydney University came a poor second with 83 Honours, 9 MA or M.Litt degrees and 9 PhDs during the same period and the next highest number of Honours theses was La Trobe with 63. There is no doubt that through into the start of the 1990s and beyond, despite severely straitened resources, academic training in Australian archaeology at all levels was to a very large extent dominated by the Department.

While the study of archaeology by Indigenous Australian students was largely a feature of the 1990s (see below), the 1980s saw the first generation of Indigenous Pacific Islands students trained at the ANU, including Honours degrees by Jo Mangi and John Muke from PNG (1984) and Alek Rukia from Solomon Islands (1988), all of whom subsequently took up academic and government positions. Similarly, Peter Bellwood has mentored several generations of Island and Mainland Southeast Asian students, starting with Masters student Matussin bin Omar in 1978 from Brunei (this was the first Archaeology MA awarded in the Department) and Adi Haji Taha (MA 1980, PhD 2000) from Malaysia, and expanding greatly in numbers through the 1980s into the 1990s and beyond as further Malaysian, Filipino, Indonesian, Sri Lankan, Laotian, Thai and Chinese archaeology students arrived. Many of these ANU graduates at Master's and PhD level went on to hold prestigious academic, museum and government positions in their respective countries.

In 1983 John Mulvaney was made a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) for services to education and was elected as a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy, the only SOAA staff member to be given the latter honour until Peter Bellwood

was similarly elected in 2016. Also in 1983, Ian Farrington received a medal from the Peruvian government, *Comendador del Orden del Mérito por Servicios Distinguidos* for contributions to Peruvian-Australian relations and Peruvian archaeology. That same year Peter Bellwood was elected a Fellow of Australian Academy of the Humanities. Isabel McBryde was made an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO) in 1990 and John Mulvaney received the same honour the following year. In 1986 the first of two volumes in John Mulvaney's honour and detailing his career was published as a special issue of *Archaeology in Oceania* (Macknight and White 1986) and a second discussing his career as a public intellectual appeared in 1996 (Bonyhady and Griffiths 1996).

As well as many internal ANU committee duties (especially onerous for Isabel McBryde as one of the few senior female academic staff in the University), staff were kept busy with many duties beyond the Department. The flavour of the commitment this involved can be given by an extract from the Faculty's 1983 report concerning just two of them:

Staff members serve on the following professional or public committees: Dr McBryde is a member of the Australian Heritage Commission and was its acting-chairman during August/September. She is a council member and vice-president of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (acting-secretary June/July). She also is a member of the NSW Parks and Wildlife Service Sites Committee and she chairs its Archaeological sub-Committee. She is on the membership committee of the Australian Association of Consulting Archaeologists.

Professor Mulvaney is chairman of Council and president of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies and an ex officio member of many of its committees. He serves in this capacity on the Portfolio Committee, established by the present minister for Aboriginal Affairs as an advisory body. With Professor Forge he is on the Board of Advisers of 'Earthwatch' (*Annual Report* 1983:96).

Examining other *Annual Reports* for the 1980s we find archaeology staff providing expert advice to the National Capital Development Commission in the ACT and to various State and Federal Government instrumentalities as well as conducting numerous cultural heritage projects and engaging in teacher training for ACT Schools. Staff and some senior students were also involved in teaching entire courses and guest lectures at Canberra College of Advanced Education (CCAЕ), in part in preparation for the merger of that institution with ANU which proved abortive, and Mulvaney and Rosenfeld served in various AIAS, now AIATSIS, advisory committees.

Transition, 1991-1996

The year 1991 was a momentous one, with Anthropology professor Anthony Forge being forced to retire because of ill-health and then passing away before the end of the year, with the Head of Department position going to Nic Peterson for two years. The B.Litt degree - which produced 23 theses the decade or so it was offered - was replaced with Graduate Diploma and Master of Letters (M.Litt) programmes. Bill Ferguson left in July 1991, his teaching replaced for the rest of the year by student Barry Cundy and then by Mary-Jane

Mountain, initially for five years on a fixed-term contract that was later extended to end at age 65 in 2003. Limits on time to submit PhDs were instituted which led to 5 just-in-time submissions in the Department in 1991. On an initial suggestion from Mary-Jane Mountain, Isabel McBryde arranged to change the Department name in 1992 from Prehistory and Anthropology to Archaeology and Anthropology; prehistory being considered a pejorative term by some Indigenous Australians.

The Faculty seemed in a healthier position in terms of student numbers with a 50% increase from 1990 to 1992, and by 1994 the number of academic posts had increased to 140 from just under 119 in 1990. There was a major turnover in archaeology staff from 1993. That year, Wilfred Shawcross resigned to go into archaeological consulting, and in 1994 Professor Isabel McBryde took early retirement. Shawcross was replaced in 1994 by Mike Smith, a former undergraduate of the Department and RSPacS PhD graduate. Mike did not find teaching to be his *métier* and moved on in 1996 to a senior position at the National Museum of Australia. Isabel's position was readvertised in the 1995-6 period and Matthew Spriggs was appointed as the third archaeology Professor that year. Another long-standing archaeology staff member Andrée Rosenfeld retired at the start of 1997. Between them Shawcross, McBryde and Rosenfeld had contributed 62 years of service to the Department and their departure marked a major break in its traditions.

One of Isabel McBryde's major contributions was the active recruitment, encouragement and mentoring of Indigenous Australian students, which began even before she took over as Professor in 1986 but really bore fruit in the mid-1990s. The first Indigenous Honours graduate was in 1989. This was Dave Johnston, currently a SOAA Archaeology staff member after completing a Master's degree at the Institute of Archaeology in London, UK and a successful career as a contract archaeologist. Gaye Sculthorpe completed a Litt.B. in 1987 and Ron Heron completed his in 1991. A cohort of Indigenous Australian Honours graduates followed, such as Steve Free and Sam Wickman in 1993, Mark Dugay Grist in 1995, Emma Lee and Ricky Mullett in 1996 and John Mulvey in 1997, with several more Indigenous students completing BA and other studies, prominent among them Robyne Bancroft (see papers in Macfarlane et al. 2005 by Robyne Bancroft, Dave Johnston and Mary-Jane Mountain). They were the first generation of Indigenous professional archaeologists and they have inspired and mentored those who have followed in their footsteps.

One of the enduring myths about archaeology at the ANU in the 1980s and 1990s, largely put about by a few disgruntled and long-serving archaeology PhD students in the Department (as partially illustrated in Crellin 2018), was that there was no collaboration with or cooperation from members of Jack Golson's Prehistory Department in the Research School of Pacific (later Pacific and Asian) Studies. Some of the more arrogant shorter-term visitors to Golson's Department too were not above stirring up inter-departmental animosities. Mulvaney and later Mary-Jane Mountain and Mike Smith had of course all come from RSPacS to take up their positions, as did Spriggs in 1997 and the *Annual Reports* of this period further give the lie to this claim. There had been a joint seminar series between the Departments since at least 1980. In 1981 Alan Thorne of Golson's Department had begun to teach a course on *Biological Anthropology of Australian Aborigines* (discussed further in the Biological Anthropology chapter) offered every other year into the 1990s, and various RSPacS staff are listed every year as giving guest lectures in courses (with Matthew Spriggs

presenting one for the first time in 1989). To cover just the 1980s, Mulvaney played a significant role in the efforts of Rhys Jones and others to preserve the Pleistocene archaeology of Tasmania's Southern Forests in the early 1980s and The Research School's 'Austronesian Project', beginning in 1987 had Peter Bellwood as a central participant, seconded to RSPacS for 2 years from 1989 (with his teaching replaced by Mary-Jane Mountain during that time). Wilfred Shawcross was a Visitor in Golson's Department for second semester 1983 to write up his Willandra Lakes research, Bellwood and Golson were the main organisers of the 12th Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association Congress in the Philippines in 1985, and Andree Rosenfeld participated in the RSPacS 'Lapita Homeland Project' in 1985-6 in New Ireland, PNG. In addition, several SOAA students completed Honours and Masters theses on topics derived from the research of RSPacS archaeologists, including Betty Ross (1977), Ken Aplin (1981), Sam Wilson (1982), Chris Ballard (1985), Peter Antcliff (1988), and in the following decade Lynn Schmidt (1996) and Veronica Gutierrez (1997).

The archaeology section of the University's contract arm, ANUTECH, originally run from Golson's Department by Scott Cane as ANUARCH, involved both staff and students in its projects with Isabel McBryde, Bill Ferguson, Wilfred Shawcross and several students involved in a large Nullarbor (SA) project in 1988, and with numerous Prehistory and Anthropology students employed in subsequent years. At the first ANU Open Day in September 1990 both Golson and Thorne gave lectures, and the same year Tom Loy of that Department offered a new course on Archaeological Science. Collaboration, teaching of additional courses by RSPacS staff and guest lectures continued through the 1990s, culminating with the formalisation of inter-departmental cooperation in the establishment of the Centre for Archaeological Research in 2000 (see later).

Years of contraction and then expansion 1997-2014

Matthew Spriggs was appointed the third archaeology Professor in 1996 and took up the position in first semester 1997. This was not initially a popular choice among some staff and students, having only thrown his hat in the ring for the position at the short-list stage with the encouragement of the new Professor of Anthropology Francesca Merlan and of Nic Thomas of the Centre for Cross-Cultural research. Some saw it as a Research School takeover (perhaps forgetting that Mulvaney had come from there too) or as a shift to a Pacific focus and away from Australian interests, given the fieldwork foci of the two previous Professors. Luckily, the resignation of Mike Smith (he assured Spriggs that it wasn't because of his arrival!) and retirement of Andrée Rosenfeld, allowed him the luxury of advertising two new positions, both of which were filled by young scholars with solidly Australian archaeological interests, Annie Clarke and Peter Hiscock. Criticism of his direction for archaeology in the Department was somewhat allayed.

He took over Peter Bellwood's *Prehistory of Oceania* course which was renamed *Archaeology of the Pacific Islanders* (ARCH2005/6005) that first year and taught it regularly, with occasional sabbatical breaks, until 2012, as well as *Introduction to Archaeology* (ARCH1111), usually always the Professor's course, which he taught every year until 2001, when Peter Hiscock took it over and changed it radically. Spriggs instituted two new courses *Introduction to Environmental Archaeology* (ARCH2041/6041), taught from 1998, and the course of which he is most proud, *Post Roman Archaeology of Britain: Arthur and the Anglo-*

Saxons (ARCH2037/6037). This was first taught as a one-off Honours course in 1998 and then regularly by him until 2013, and eventually attracted the highest enrolments of any 2nd and 3rd year course by the time he passed it on to Ash Lenton in 2015.

The rationale for the first of the new courses was to introduce more archaeological science into the curriculum, something we were in danger of lagging behind in as the discipline became ever more dependent on a wide range of developing scientific techniques in dating and analysis. The second was out of a desire to establish a full European archaeology stream into the program, with an ultimate aim to create a dedicated position in European archaeology that was eventually realised with the hiring of Catherine Frieman in 2012. Spriggs also worked with QEII Research Fellow Penelope (Pim) Allison to create another new course on *Britons and Romans: The Archaeology of the Western Roman Empire* (ARCH2056/6056), with an aim to bridge his *Post Roman Archaeology* course to one taught by Mary-Jane Mountain on Pre-Roman Britain. Sadly, Pim took up a position at Leicester University in the UK just prior to commencing teaching the course in the early 2000s, but we were able to offer it through casual teaching by former University of Sydney academic Dr Aedeon Cremin until it too passed on to Ash Lenton.

The new European focus was strongly supported by Mary-Jane Mountain, whose pre-ANU training, teaching and research expertise was in European archaeology. She had seen the interest in European archaeology among first year students when she began teaching into *World Archaeology* (ARCH1112), initially as a tutor and from 1992 on as the Lecturer¹. Given that most of the students of the time were of European descent, their interest in its past is not surprising. What is perhaps more surprising is that until the late 1990s no Australian university offered a comprehensive program in European archaeology beyond Classical archaeology. There is no doubt too that the very much needed discussions of 'Who owns the past?' and the need for truth-telling and listening to Indigenous Australian viewpoints concerning archaeology, which had been encouraged by Isabel McBryde among others, tended to dissuade some students from taking an immediate interest in Australian archaeology. An interest in European archaeology could tide them over until they became more understanding of the Australian archaeological scene. Mary-Jane Mountain developed a course first taught in 1997 on *Emerging Complexity in Later Prehistoric Europe* (ARCH2002), which later became more engagingly titled *Who were the Celts?* In its last manifestation, designed to fit in with Roman and Post Roman courses, this became *Archaeology of Pre-Roman Britain: From Stonehenge to the Celts* (ARCH2006) which Mountain taught in a casual contract position in 2006. Peter Hiscock's courses on stone artefact analysis and the Palaeolithic period also had a strong component of even earlier prehistoric European archaeology during this period. The hiring of Cate Frieman in 2012 to teach European archaeology was the culmination of the European 'push' in SOAA.

As argued for in the Departmental Review in 1994, Spriggs was able to supervise improvements to the Archaeology laboratory facilities in the basement of the A.D. Hope Building, the first new labs in 10 years. These included a dedicated and registered Quarantine Laboratory, a new wet lab and finds' processing set up and a new teaching

¹ Upon Mary-Jane's retirement, *World Archaeology* (ARCH1112) was regularly taught by Peter Bellwood for nearly a decade until his own retirement.

laboratory and storage areas. This was possible as various other entities that had space in the Basement moved out at that time, freeing up a considerable area and allowing refurbishing of what we already had. The entirety of the Basement floor had to be abandoned in the wake of a disastrous flood during the construction of the adjacent Kambri Precinct in 2018, but the resultant move of SOAA very largely over to the Banks Building, formerly the home of Biological Sciences, has provided a vastly expanded laboratory complex.

The resources and capacity of the teaching and research programs were considerably augmented in the 2000-2007 period by the creation of the Centre for Archaeological Research (CAR), designed to coordinate the archaeological and bioanthropological endeavours of the University as a whole and link to the wider Canberra community of archaeologists, mainly consultants but also AIATSIS, National Museum and University of Canberra staff. Atholl Anderson, the Head of Archaeology and Natural History (formerly Prehistory) in RSPAS (as it had then become), was the lead on this as the Centre's first Director 2000-2002, and Spriggs was Associate Director. Funding initially came very largely from the Vice-Chancellor with additional contributions from the Faculty of Arts, RSPAS and the Research School of Earth Sciences (RSES). One of CAR's first tasks in 2000 was to organise the *Fourth International Lapita Conference* at very short notice to be held in Canberra after a military coup in Fiji disrupted plans to hold it there.

Re-reading the glossy *CAR Annual Reports* produced for 2000 to 2004 (2005 was written by Spriggs as outgoing Director at the time, but never printed), one is struck by the major difference it made to staff and students during those years. For the first time there was a major interdepartmental co-ordinated research project which those with archaeological interests across the campus were encouraged to participate in: *The Asian-Forearc Project*. This dealt with areas of Southeast Asia stretching from the Ryukyus down to Timor, and with connections to Australia to the south and the Pacific world to the east factored in. There were further successful ARC-funded collaborations between SOAA and RSPAS and SOAA and The Research School of Earth Sciences (RSES) over the next several years, such as those between Bellwood and Judith Cameron, Spriggs and Stuart Bedford and Spriggs and Rainer Grün. Funding was available for Peter Bellwood and Spriggs to shift to rotating 0.5 appointments in RSPAS during 2001-2005 to allow concentration on field and laboratory research. The former joint seminar series came under CAR's wing and was held weekly for several years, and a new prestigious biennial lecture series was set up and named in honour of Jack Golson, the first Golson Lecture being given by Tom Dillehay of the University of Kentucky at the launch of CAR in April 2000. For the first time, through CAR there was equal access to radiocarbon dates for archaeologists across the campus in a competitive scheme that at its height distributed 100 conventional and 25 AMS dates to staff and students; after the closure of the 35-year-old ANU Radiocarbon Lab at the end of 2003 these were provided by New Zealand's Waikato University. Well-attended field trips were organised to Canberra and NSW archaeological sites on an annual basis.

There was CAR funding for student conference attendance, and a New Initiatives 'seed' grant scheme accessible to both staff and students. Distinguished international visitors to CAR included Graeme Barker (Cambridge), Barbara Bender (UC London), James Connolly (UC London), Jared Diamond (UCLA), Peter Gathercole (Cambridge), Matthew Johnson

(Durham), Helen Lewis (Oxford), Luiz Oosterbeek (Polytechnic Institute of Tomar, Portugal), Eliezer D. Oren (Ben Gurion U, Israel), Deborah Pearsall (Missouri), Dolores Piperno (Smithsonian Institute, Panama), Charles Redman (Arizona State U), Christophe Sand (Museum of New Caledonia), Michael Shott (Northern Iowa), Jonathan Tubb (British Museum), Chris Stringer (Natural History Museum, London), Paul Wallin and Helene Martinsson-Wallin (Kon Tiki Museum, Oslo)

Spriggs was Director between 2003 and 2005, with Glenn Summerhayes from RSPAS as Associate Director, replaced by Simon Haberle when Summerhayes left for a Professorship at the University of Otago in 2004. At the end of 2003 there were 143 members of CAR, 95 of them on campus. A generous donation of \$15,000 from the estate of the late Dorothy Cameron, who had worked as an illustrator/artist with James Mellaart at the Neolithic site of Çatal Höyük in Turkey in the 1960s, allowed us to set up the Dorothy Cameron Award for the best publication by an ANU Archaeology student, thus encouraging students to be more proactive in publishing their research – Tim Denham, then a PhD student, was the initial awardee in 2004 for a co-authored paper published in *Science*. A few years earlier Dorothy Cameron donated her personal archaeological artefact collection to SOAA and this was put on display in her honour in the AD Hope building in 2004, with a series of talks to honour her memory. CAR organised the Annual Conference of the Australian Archaeological Association at Jindabyne in the Snowy Mountains in December 2003, the largest held to date with over 230 attendees, and earlier that year had organised the Canberra contribution to the inaugural National Archaeology Week.

The VC extended his contribution to funding for a further year for 2003, but at the end of that year RSES pulled out their funding of \$15,000 per year. An application was made for an ARC Centre of Excellence in Asia-Pacific Archaeology which if successful would have taken over many of the functions of CAR and ensured its future for the next 7 years, but it was not to be. Towards the end of 2005, the VC again very graciously extended funding to allow CAR to continue in 2006 and 2007, but even before the CAR Directorship was transferred to Simon Haberle in RSPAS and Peter Hiscock in SOAA at the start of 2006 the writing was already on the wall, not helped by some administrative confusion about how much money was left in the CAR account. Eventually that was sorted out and CAR, now without any administrative support, was wound down around at the end of 2007 with the remaining monies going into the Golson Lecture account to provide ongoing funding for that prestigious event. CAR exists now pretty much in name only as the umbrella organising the joint seminar series, but the momentum CAR gave to cross-campus collaboration between archaeologists has continued, as has the incredible ARC grant success that it did so much to generate for SOAA.

The Archaeology program in SOAA managed to attract several high-achieving ARC Postdoctoral and QEII Fellowship applicants in the years at the start of the new millennium: Annie Clarke took up a Postdoctoral Fellowship in 2000, as already mentioned Pim Allison a QEII in 2001, and there were further Postdocs during this period such as Geoff Clark from 2001, Robin Sim from 2002, Alex Mackay from 2007, Hsiao-Chun Hung from 2009, and James Flexner from 2013.

If we look at 2000 for our decadal snapshot of Archaeology staff fieldwork, we find Spriggs conducting fieldwork and excavations in East Timor (with Sue O'Connor of RSPAS and Peter Veth of James Cook University) and Vanuatu (with Stuart Bedford of NZ Historic Places Trust), and Annie Clarke at Blue Mud Bay, NT. Ditto in 2001 for both of them and also with Peter Bellwood working in the Philippines and Pim Allison at the Kinchega Homestead, NSW.

From 1998, ANU changed its policies and allowed promotion from Reader to Professor for the first time: Peter Bellwood, Colin Groves and Nic Peterson were deservedly among the first group of academics promoted to Professor in subsequent years.

The most momentous Faculty-wide event during Spriggs' Headship was the merger of Departments into Schools in 1999, an only-partially successful cost saving measure. His proudest moment was in manoeuvring at the Faculty level so that what had been the largest Department of 10 in the Faculty of Arts became, at least for a while, the smallest of four Schools in the new arrangement, the only Department not forced to merge with any other. His argument was a simple one: he contended we were already 'School-like' in that we combined Archaeology, Biological Anthropology and Sociocultural Anthropology, whereas other Departments of the time could be considered much more cohesive. Subsequently one of the other Schools demerged to form two separate Schools and we were no longer the smallest and therefore inevitably most vulnerable one.

Spriggs' next challenge as Head of Department around 2000, was yet another round of cuts to the Faculty of Arts academic staff; up to one third of the Faculty's academic staff departed in that process. He was told by the Dean of the time to deliver up 5 involuntary redundancies out of 19 academic staff, which would have been 2 in Archaeology and 2 in Anthropology and doubtless a big argument over where the fifth one would have come from. Working with the professional staff and with some discrete consultation with a group of School academics, a way was worked out to save the same amount of money without having to lose any staff, through a combination of ultimately successful ARC Fellowship applications, periods of leave without pay, secondments to RSPAS, and so on. Not getting a fair hearing from the Dean Spriggs went to his boss, the then-DVC. He considered the plan sound and Spriggs remembers him asking concerning the Dean "Should I tell him or will you?". Spriggs thought it best coming from the DVC. The Dean moved on to another University very soon after. After some time, a new Dean was appointed and the Faculty's supposed 'debts' were written off, but the result was that 'all bets were off' in relation to previous agreements and when Annie Clarke's Postdoctoral Fellowship came to an end, her promised continuing contract did not eventuate and the position was abolished.

The presence of various ARC Fellows during the late-1990s and early-2000s disguised the fact of a serious decline in permanent teaching and research staff, from 6 in 1997 to 4.5 by 2003 with the departures of Annie Clarke and Mary-Jane Mountain. Marc Oxenham was appointed in the latter's stead but as 0.5 in Biological Anthropology. The thought occurred to Spriggs at that time that he might be presiding over the demise of the program John Mulvaney and Isabel McBryde had done so much to establish. But until the hiring situation improved, we were able to tide things over with continued casual teaching by Mary-Jane Mountain and others and the development of a new course with Indigenous archaeologist Dave Johnston, an Isabel McBryde era student, *Indigenous Perspectives in Archaeological*

Fieldwork: Seeing 'Country' through our eyes (ARCH2053). This was a truly innovative project, held initially in the Willandra Lakes (Mungo) area of Western New South Wales in 2005 with 22 students who unanimously nominated Johnston for an ANU teaching award. Students were taught by Aboriginal elders and Indigenous archaeologists and volunteers such as Wilfred Shawcross. The course was taught again in 2006 and the plan was to continue it every other year, with *Introduction to Cultural Heritage Management* (ARCH2051) to be taught by Johnston in alternate years, providing an Indigenous 'take' on that professional practice. The course and Johnston's involvement had been championed by the then Dean, Adam Shoemaker, and funded by him and by ARC teaching relief funds. The course shifted to the Canberra region, but Johnston found it hard to run his archaeological consultancy business and deal with the considerable administrative and teaching load the course involved, the Dean changed and the funding dried up after a few years. Attempts to secure a continuing 0.25 position for Dave Johnston in 2006 were unsuccessful, but he finally achieved a full-time position in SOAA in 2021.

A specialist archaeology degree, the *Bachelor of Archaeological Practice* was established in 2003, having been developed by Peter Hiscock and other teaching staff members, essentially being a double-major in archaeology. It proved popular with those already committed to an archaeological career and remained on the books until another inevitable curriculum reorganisation directed from above in the early 2020s.

In 2007 there was a Faculty-wide push to develop new professional Masters programs and Tony Barham and Spriggs developed a proposal for a *Masters in Archaeological Science* (M.Arch Sci) which Barham coordinated from 2007-2012 as the first new position in Archaeology for 20 years, initially funded from central Faculty funds. The program, a first in Australia at the time in combining solid professional training in heritage management and in the latest archaeological science techniques, began in 2008 and was launched with an international Archaeological Science Conference at ANU. After 5 years the enrolment was up to 60 in 2013. Tim Denham took over the co-ordinating role from Tony Barham that year after the latter's fixed term contract came to an end, and in 2015 the name and scope changed to a *Masters in Archaeological and Evolutionary Science* (MAES) when it absorbed the previous Bioanthropology Masters' program. From its beginning the program has always been taught into by Archaeology and Natural History staff as well, notably through the *Advanced Field Training in Archaeological Science* (ARCH8002) course that is regularly offered as a field school in Vanuatu in the South Pacific by Stuart Bedford of ANH, and with the assistance of Spriggs in 2010 and 2012-2015. The more general *MA in Archaeology* continued in tandem throughout this period.

A further new academic position was created in 2012 in European archaeology (Cate Frieman). Meanwhile, Ian Farrington retired in 2011 after 32 years in SOAA, to be replaced by Dougald O'Reilly and marking a shift in Archaeology to more engagement with mainland Southeast Asia rather than South America. Peter Bellwood, the longest serving member of SOAA with a career of 40 years in the School, retired in 2013, to be replaced by Philip Piper, similarly a Southeast Asian specialist. Also in 2013, Peter Hiscock moved to Sydney University to take up a named Chair and was replaced by Duncan Wright as our primary Australian-focussed staff member. There was thus a major generational change that had occurred over those few years 2011-2013, equal to the last one in 1993-1997, leaving

Spriggs as the longest serving archaeologist (arrived 1997) and Marc Oxenham as second longest, having arrived in 2003. The age profile of archaeology staff had decisively shifted to a younger generation.

Structural reorganisation continued in 2008 with Faculty of Arts absorption into the College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS), through a merger with the Research School of Social Sciences (RSSS) and the Research School of Humanities and the Arts (RSHA). Faculty Schools were divided between these two Research Schools with SOAA being placed under RSHA. At the time there was a 'spill' of positions among the various Schools and Centres and most of the Heritage Studies section staff joined SOAA at this time, with the rest coming over to form a Heritage 'Department' at the beginning of 2014 after widespread dissatisfaction with the governance of RSHA (see the Heritage Studies section of this history). Potential synergies between Archaeology and Heritage Studies were not realised, however, especially following the departure of Sally May, the only archaeologist among their staff. At the same time as CASS was formed, our sister department of Archaeology and Natural History joined the College of Asia-Pacific (CAP), a merger of RSPAS and the Faculty of Asian Studies.

Other events of note during this period were the already mentioned ARC grant success which funded field research in Australia and France (Hiscock), Philippines (Bellwood), PNG (Denham), Vanuatu (Spriggs) and Vietnam (Bellwood, Oxenham). In July 2001, Mary-Jane Mountain, Rob Paton and Ingereth Macfarlane organised a symposium in honour of Emeritus Professor Isabel McBryde, *Many Exchanges: Archaeology, History, Community and the work of Isabel McBryde*. The Symposium was later published (Macfarlane et al. 2005). In 2008 the Rhys Jones Fieldwork Scholarship to assist archaeology students across the Campus in carrying out fieldwork when other funding sources had run out or were unavailable was established by a generous bequest by Rhys' widow and first PhD graduand of SOAA in 1976, Betty Meehan. In 2010 the ANU archaeologists, chaired by Spriggs, organised the Australian Archaeological Association conference at Batemans Bay on the NSW south coast, which again broke attendance records. Very soon afterwards the Association moved to using professional conference organisers rather than local university committees, precisely because the Conference had got too large for volunteer organisation. It was at the Batemans Bay Conference that the Australian Indigenous Archaeologists Association (AIAA) was launched by ANU-graduate Dave Johnston.

Since 1980, the School has been the base for the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association (IPPA), an international community of scholars that holds conferences in Asian and Pacific countries every 4 years and that publishes its own in-house open access journal, called the *Bulletin of the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association (IPPA Bulletin)* when it was edited by Peter Bellwood between 1980 and 2009, and now renamed the *Journal of Indo-Pacific Archaeology*, edited by David Bulbeck and published through the University of Washington in the USA. IPPA also awards small research grants annually to Indonesian and Timor-Leste scholars through its Granucci Fund. Two members of the School have served as IPPA Secretary-Generals: Peter Bellwood (1980 to 2009) and Philip Piper (since 2018).

The Last decade 2015-2024

Spriggs finished as Head of Archaeology in 2014, as he anticipated taking up his ARC Laureate Fellowship early in 2015. Phil Piper, although still on his ARC Future Fellowship

took over as Head from 2014 to 2019, when he was succeeded by Dougal O'Reilly during 2019-2020, Duncan Wright 2021-2022, Tim Denham for 2023 and currently Guillaume Molle from the start of 2024. Piper's administrative tasks became more onerous in 2015 when he took over the M. Arch Sci (soon to become MAES) coordinator position from Tim Denham when the latter became at first Associate Dean Education (mid-2015-2016) and then took up an ARC Future Fellowship (mid-2016-2020). Denham took over the running of the MAES again in mid-2022. Phil Piper was promoted to Professor in 2018 and Tim Denham achieved the same rank from the start of 2020. For a short period, there were thus three Archaeology professors in SOAA before Spriggs' retirement at the end of March 2021. Two completely new positions have been created in Archaeology in the last decade: in archaeological science (Rachel Wood, initially fractionally with the Research School of Earth Sciences) in 2018 and later replaced by Anna Florin in 2023 when she became Director of the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit (ORAU) at Oxford University, and in 2021 the Indigenous Academic Associate position was created for Dave Johnston. This brings the current continuing positions in Archaeology to 8.5 from a low in 2004 of 4.5 and a steady state of 6 for some years before that.

During this decade, Archaeology staff members had tremendous success at winning ARC Discovery, Linkage and DECRA and Future Fellowship Grants, with Tim Denham, Cate Frieman, and Guillaume Molle all being successful in Fellowship rounds, and Dougal O'Reilly, Phil Piper and Emeritus Professor Bellwood regularly successful in gaining ARC Discovery grants.

Spriggs' Laureate Fellowship for the project *The Collective Biography of Archaeology in the Pacific* (CBAP), a history of Pacific archaeology, added two more research staff to the School, Drs Emilie-Dotte Sarout and Hilary Howes for its duration 2015-2020, as well as two key School visitors, distinguished Pacific historian Emeritus Professor Bronwen Douglas and Russian anthropology expert Dr Elena Govor, as well as four PhD scholarships, and administrative and Research assistant staff. The project, which took over most of a wing of the Sir Roland Wilson Building on campus for its offices, culminated just as the COVID epidemic took off in early 2020 with a devolved exhibition at some 35 museums and libraries worldwide, *Uncovering Pacific Pasts*. An accompanying volume of the same name was published by ANU Press (Howes et al. 2022). A closing international conference, *Histories of Archaeology*, had to be delayed and finally took place online in 2022 and *Pasifika Perspectives*, a workshop for Pacific Islands' museum and archive specialists, was finally held as a face-to-face event in 2023, signalling the final end of the project two years after Professor Spriggs' official retirement and graduation to Emeritus status within the School. The Laureate program also brought various distinguished international visitors to ANU, including Ingrid Ahlgren (Peabody Museum, Harvard), Brian Fagan (UC Santa Barbara) and Jo Anne van Tilburg (UCLA).

These various Fellowships allowed the hiring of several young (and not so young) fixed-term lecturers: Sofia Samper-Carro to replace Denham (2016), Petra Vaiglova to replace Frieman (2023), Mathieu Leclerc to replace Molle (2019) and Ash Lenton and Guillaume Molle to replace Spriggs (Molle gaining a continuing position after Spriggs' retirement).

Various honours were achieved by SOAA Archaeology staff, present and past, during this decade. A Festschrift for Peter Bellwood was published in 2017 entitled *New Perspectives in Southeast Asian and Pacific Prehistory* (Piper et al. 2017) and one for Ian Farrington in 2020, *Yachay Wasi: The House of Knowledge of I.S. Farrington* (Dunbar et al. 2020). As previously mentioned, Bellwood was elected as a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy in 2016 and in 2021 he was awarded the prestigious International Cosmos Prize, the first Australian to be awarded with it in its 28-year history, joining the likes of previous recipients David Attenborough, Jared Diamond, Richard Dawkins and Jane Goodall. In 2019 Spriggs was awarded the Order of Vanuatu Third Class (Distinguished Service Medal) and in 2021 he received the Republic of Vanuatu 40th Anniversary of Independence Medal. In 2017 Archaeology staff won the CASS award for programs that enhance learning, and the equivalent Vice-Chancellor's award in 2018, for our integrated fieldwork and classroom teaching courses.

Conclusion

Our graduation from the biggest Department to, at least before one of the other three schools split into two schools, the smallest school in the Faculty of Arts was really the start of a new confidence and so, despite how it seemed at its start, the first two decades and a bit of this century turned out to be those of significant expansion in the number of archaeology positions. CAR was another major boost for the six or seven years of its very active existence, fostering SOAA and RSPAS and CAP and RSES collaboration at various levels that continued on after the funding dried up. SOAA has also continued to be attractive as place to take up DECRA and Future Fellowships, not to mention Laureates.

The development of the *Masters in Archaeological Science* by Tony Barham in 2008 was a key factor in the increasing capacity in that field that the School has developed, boosted by the arrival of Tim Denham, Rachel Wood and most recently Anna Florin. This strength has led to the very high international standing of ANU archaeology in the various 'league tables', of the last decade: always the best in Australia and within the top 20 or so in the world - while noting that this results from the efforts of both us and our CAP counterparts of course! The latest QS subject rankings (April 2024) placed ANU archaeology as top in Australia by some 23 places and number 8 overall in the World.²

The Department's very early commitment to archaeology field training, firmly established by Ian Farrington from the early 1980s through to 2010 and now often with several field school offerings in any one year by teaching and research staff, has produced many excellent field archaeologists in academic and commercial positions in Australia and internationally over the last 40 years or so. No other archaeology department in the country has maintained such a firm commitment to field training of students over such a long period.

Isabel McBryde's emphasis on recruiting and training Indigenous students in archaeology and heritage management produced a generation of trained Indigenous archaeologists, including Dave Johnston now on staff. The sustained commitment to field research beyond Australia in Southeast Asian and Pacific archaeology has been maintained since the start of

² <https://www.topuniversities.com/university-subject-rankings/archaeology> (consulted 24 April 2024).

the Department, and training of Southeast Asian and Pacific Indigenous archaeologists at various levels through to PhD, particularly by Peter Bellwood and now carried on actively by his successors is also something to be proud of.

The range of archaeology courses that have been available to students, including the only serious focus in Australia on European prehistory and 'Dark Age' archaeology, starting with Mary-Jane Mountain's courses in the 1990s and continuing today are also a notable feature of the program.

As was noted at the start of this disquisition, both John Mulvaney and Isabel McBryde did it really tough through into the 1990s but set a great foundation for the expansion that subsequently took place. Spriggs considers that his job as head of archaeology was comparatively easy compared to theirs, at least as the new millennium really got going. Hats off to the pioneers!

YEAR CAME	NAME ARRIVED FROM	YEAR LEFT
1971	Mulvaney, John: Foundation Professor of Prehistory, situated in the Dept of History, Faculty of Arts until end of 1972: from RSPacS, ANU [new position]	1985, early retirement (replaced as Professor by Isabel McBryde)
1973	Bellwood, Peter: University of Auckland, NZ [New position. Promoted to Professor 2000]	2013, Emeritus Professor (replaced by Philip Piper)
1973	Shawcross, Wilfred: University of Auckland, NZ [new position]	1993: consultant (Replaced by Mike Smith)
1974	McBryde, Isabel: University of New England [new position]. Second Appointed Professor of Prehistory in 1986 upon Mulvaney's retirement.	1994, retired (Replaced as Professor by Matthew Spriggs)
1974	Rosenfeld, Andrée: British Museum, UK [new position], previously a tutor from 1973	1997, retired (Replaced by Annie Clarke)
1979	Farrington, Ian: St David's University College, Lampeter, UK [new position]	2011, retired (replaced by Dougald O'Reilly)
1987	Ferguson, Bill: upon graduating with PhD from the Department [new position, previously a temporary lecturer from 1986]	1991, University of Western Australia (replaced by Mary-Jane Mountain)
1992	Mountain, Mary-Jane: RSPacS Dept. of Prehistory upon graduating with PhD, initially on a 5-year fixed term appointment (had earlier held casual tutoring/teaching positions in A&A from 1986 on)	2003, retired although continued on casual teaching positions until 2006 (replaced by Marc Oxenham in joint position with Bioanthropology).

1994	Smith, Mike; RSPacS, ANU	1996, National Museum of Australia (replaced by Peter Hiscock)
1997	Spriggs, Matthew. Third and final Appointed Professor of Archaeology, following Isabel McBryde's retirement: RSPACS, ANU.	2021, Emeritus Professor (replaced by Guillaume Molle)
1997	Clarke, Annie; North Australia Research Unit, ANU	2003, University of Sydney (position not replaced)
1997	Hiscock, Peter: Charles Darwin University	2013, University of Sydney (replaced by Duncan Wright)
2003	Oxenham, Marc: Colorado College, USA [0.5 position, shared with Bioanthropology]	2024, Emeritus Professor
2007	Barham, Anthony: University of London, UK [new position as Convenor of Masters of Archaeological Science Program]	2012, consultant (replaced by Tim Denham)
2010	Higginbottom, Gail: Flinders University [while Ian Farrington on leave]	2011, Flinders University
2011	O'Reilly, Dougald: Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh, University of Sydney	
2012	Frieman, Catherine; Oxford University [new position]	
2012	Piper, Philip: University of the Philippines [Promoted to Professor 2018]	
2013	Denham, Tim: La Trobe University [Promoted to Professor 2020]	
2014	Wright, Duncan: Griffith University	
2017	Lenton, Ash: University of Reading, UK [0.5 fixed term position to replace Matthew Spriggs during his Laureate Fellowship, earlier sessional teaching contracts from 2013]	2020, appointed School of Cybernetics, CECC, ANU, 2021
2016	Molle, Guillaume: University of French Polynesia and California-Berkeley [Initially 5-year fixed term to replace Matthew Spriggs during his Laureate Fellowship, tenured in 2021]	
2016	Samper-Carro, Sofia: Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain & ANH, CAP [5-year fixed term to replace Tim Denham during his ARC Future Fellowship]	2020, ANH, CAP
2018	Wood, Rachel: ANU Research School of Earth Sciences [new position, initially fractional with RSES]	2022, University of Oxford, UK (replaced by Anna Florin)
2019	Leclerc, Mathieu: Archaeology and Natural History, CAP, ANU [Originally 3-year fixed term to replace Guillaume Molle during his ARC DECRA Fellowship, then extended]	

2021	Dave Johnston: consultant [new position, Indigenous Academic Associate]	
2023	Florin, Anna: Cambridge University, UK	
2023	Vaiglova, Petra: Griffith University [5-year fixed term to replace Catherine Frieman during her ARC Future Fellowship]	

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