



COMMITTEE OF CONVOCATION

Supporting The University of Melbourne since 1867

(An Alumni Body of the University of Melbourne)

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November 2019

A viewing of a collection of sketches, drawings and rare books was arranged for the Committee by Gwenda Thomas, Director of Scholarly Services in the Leigh Scott room of the Baillieu Library, This was followed by a dinner with some of the library staff at University House.

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August 2019

Gwenda Thomas, Director of Scholarly Services and University Librarian, led members on a tour of the Baillieu Library. Members noted the obvious changes with regard to the shift from books and journals to the online study environment and how the physical spaces have been altered to accommodate these changes in learning style. There are now many spaces available for groups of students to work together, reflecting the emphasis in team projects.

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October 2016

The committee was given a short tour of the recently opened Arts West building.

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July 2016

Irene Jablonka reported on the 01 July 2016 tour of the new Comprehensive Cancer Centre, which was attended by some members of the Committee Convocation and invited guests from Graduate House, Dr Kerry Bennett (CEO), Mr Vincent Mirabelli (member of Council) and Mr David Sparks (Past Chairman of Council).

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June 2016

The tour of Bio 21 on June 6 was awe inspiring. We were hosted by the external relations lady and we met with senior staff of three units and a third year PhD student who told us about their research.

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September 2015

Tour **Grimwade Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation.**

We saw how the teaching, research and engagement programs at this centre combine both the theory and practice of cultural material conservation. The graduate students were working on a wide range of artistic objects and books which had suffered physical and flood damage or deteriorated from old age. Heritage objects also required careful consultation with their owners.

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September 2015

Tour **University grounds and significant trees.**

Virginia McNally gave us an excellent tour of the University grounds, starting of course at the Cussonia tree which was propagated from a cutting of the original tree planted in the 1880s. It included a tree grown from seed in the 1860s by an early academic, and the original Red Gums near the sports oval, which long pre-date the University. She described how all the plants had been catalogued, and the care with which they were managed with full regard for heritage considerations.

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August 2015

Tour **Lab-14 and Carlton Connect Initiative**

This uses one of the old Women's Hospital buildings, and brings together a diverse mix of people and activities: the Victorian Life Sciences Computation Initiative, the City of Melbourne Creative Spaces Initiative, the EU Centre on Shared Complex Challenges, the Melbourne Accelerator Program, and the Innovative

Manufacturing Cooperative Research Centre. There are several open-plan areas which throw together artists, medical researchers, climate scientists and entrepreneurs including recent graduates. One project was a Zimmer frame with instrumentation to measure how well its owner was walking.

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June 2015

Tour **Queen's College**

Our tour group heard a potted history of the original building on College Crescent, saw the Eakins Dining Hall, the Junior Common Room and its honour boards with some familiar names, the Chapel, and the Library with its Sugden collection of rare bibles and Wesley letters and other materials.

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May 2015

Tour **Harry Brookes Allen Museum of Anatomy and Pathology**

This museum has one of Australia's largest collections of human specimens and historical anatomical models. Our tour coincided with a tutorial for medical students, showing the teaching use of the museum.

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April 2015

Tour **Burnley campus of the University of Melbourne**

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February 2015

Tour **Peter Doherty Institute**

The Doherty Institute combines research, teaching, public health and reference laboratory services, diagnostic services and clinical care. We were impressed at the large number of activities and collaborations being managed by the Institute's staff. We were impressed that this building had been designed to support the Institute's many and varied functions, rather than to make an architectural statement.

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September 2014

Tour **Contemporary music classes in action at the School of Music, St Kilda Road**

This tour began when we met the Head of Contemporary Music, Professor Mark Pollard. Mark escorted us to the newly named Brian Brown Studio, named in honour of the founding Head of Improvisation Studies at the VCA, and which has been refurbished at a cost of over \$1million to become a 'state of the art' recording facility. We then attended a class of Year 1 students performing in a session known as Workshop at which all students enrolled in that year perform weekly in groups, and taught by Ashley Cross. After one hour, our group moved to the Workshop class of Years 2 and 3, taken by David Jones, where we heard original music composed by each ensemble.

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June 2014

Tour **Beaurepaire Centre**

Our tour included both the original Beaurepaire Centre swimming pool, trophy hall and gymnasium and also the newer facilities extending along Tin Alley. The Leonard French mural was of interest, and it was obvious that keeping fit nowadays requires a vast array of equipment.

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May 2014

Tour **Victorian College of Arts, St Kilda Road**

Our tour was wide-ranging, encompassing the music and performing arts teaching along St Kilda Road, and also the numerous visual arts areas in Dodds Street. We were not surprised that there is strong competition for student places.

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April 2014

Tour **Learning Centres, Electrical and Electronic Engineering**

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March 2014

Tour **Walking tour of the Carlton campus**

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November 2013

Tour **Land Sciences**

Our tour started in the Agriculture School, where the original lecture theatre had been turned into an area for collaborative group learning, and included the Systems Garden at the rear. Our guide explained the effort which now goes into supporting the students, and also the amalgamations of the former government agricultural colleges, forestry school and university departments related to Land Sciences.

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October 2013

Tour **Melbourne Business School Library**

Our tour concentrated on the Business School Library and how it had been adapted over the years to support the changing teaching methods.

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September 2013

Tour **Guided tour of the gardens of the Carlton Campus and, in particular, the Systems Garden**

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August 2013

Tour **Kenneth Myer Building**

The Kenneth Myer Building houses the Melbourne Brain Centre for neuroscience and mental health research into a broad range of conditions which affect the brain. It also has the Cunningham Dax Collection of artworks created by people with an experience of mental illness or psychological trauma, for exhibitions and education programs for students at all levels and for the community at large.

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June 2013

Tour **Louise Hanson-Dyer Music Library**

This music library supports music students and researchers in Melbourne and all over the world, and includes the rare collection of manuscripts collected by Louise Hanson-Dyer, including both works from Australian composers from the colonial period to the present day and European composers from Corelli to Stravinsky.

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May 2013

Tour **Law School Graduate Program area**

Our tour covered the facilities used for graduate teaching programs and Masters by coursework, which form an important part of the Law School teaching programs.

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April 2013

Tour **School of Historical Studies and History of the University Unit**

Dr Waghorne is a Fellow of the School of Historical Studies and Research officer for the History of the University Unit. He conducted us on an interesting tour of historic parts of the University pointing out what was special or of historical interest, including the old Law cloisters area, Wilson Hall with discussions about the fire which destroyed the original Gothic structure and the challenges associated with designing a suitable replacement hall, the University war memorial and other points of interest.

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February 2013

Tour Melbourne Dental Clinic

This excellent tour of the recently opened teaching and practice clinic in Swanson Street demonstrated the most up to date equipment and teaching laboratories for students in dentistry. Members were able to get hands on experience of drilling out a decayed tooth using the simulator now in use to teach dental restoration to undergraduates. It was fortunate live patients were not involved during the tour.

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October 2012

Tour Media and Public Relations

Diane Squires showed us the facilities, including the production studio and explained how the studio was used for the production of videos for use on campus and elsewhere.

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September 2012

Tour Giblin Eunson Library

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August 2012

Tour Electronic engineering laboratory in the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Building

Combining Electronic Engineering and what was formerly Computer Science, the laboratory is funded chiefly by the Australian and Victorian Governments and draws on the expertise of other University of Melbourne departments and of other Universities and institutions.

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July 2012

Tour Graduate Research area

Members toured the old Melbourne Teachers College building (Frank Tate House) in Grattan Street used by post graduate students for study, thesis preparation and publication, discussion and counselling using the facilities available. This provides a very professional and well designed environment for the University's many post graduate students. The Office of the Postgraduate Students Association was visited.

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June 2012

Tour Tiegs Museum, Department of Zoology

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March 2012

Tour Melbourne Graduate School of Education

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