



**State, Society and
Governance in Melanesia
Program**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific



AUSAID PACIFIC ISLANDS WORKSHOP

22–23 October 2008

**Innovations Lecture Theatre
Building No: 124
Eggleston Road
The Australian National University**

Program

Aim: to enable participants to

1. examine the origins, cultures and history of the Pacific Islanders and Pacific Island countries.
2. relate those characteristics of the region to its contemporary situation, in particular its political and economic development and prospects.

Format: 45-50 minute presentations followed by questions and discussion.

Materials: The State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program provide readings on each topic and summaries of key points to each participant. These are made available one week before the workshop.

Refreshments and Lunch: provided by the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program.

Dates: Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd October 2008.

*This workshop is financially supported by the Australian Government through AusAID
and its contract with the State Society and Governance in Melanesia Program*

Venue: up stairs through main entrance, on your left.

Innovations Building [124]



Innovations Lecture Theatre
Innovations Bldg, No.124
Eggleston Road
The Australian National University
<http://campusmap.anu.edu.au/displaymap.asp?>

Presenters: The presenters – academics at the ANU – are all experts on their topic areas, have lived in the Pacific for extended periods, and visit the region frequently. The format allows for easy interaction during presentations and discussion. (Comment by one participant last time: ‘thank heavens it wasn’t death by PowerPoint’.)

Parking: limited paid parking available on campus. Voucher paid parking on Campus (usually full by 8.45 am). Possible parking off campus - on Lawson Crescent, Acton or parking area near Commonwealth Avenue on Barrine Drive near the Futsal Slab .

Program

Topic 1: Prehistory and the Pacific Islands Environment

Topic 2: State and Nation in the Pacific

Topic 3: Culturally Melanesian Politics: Bougainville and PNG

Topic 4: Culturally Polynesian and Micronesian Politics

Topic 5: 'The Coup to end all Coups': Fiji

Topic 6: State under Construction: Solomon Islands

Topic 7: Regional Challenges: HIV/AIDS

Topic 8: Regional Challenges: the economic outlook

Day 1

Topic 1: Prehistory and the Pacific Islands Environment (Paul D'Arcy)

9:00 to 9:50 Presentation

9:50 to 10:30 Questions and Discussion

10:30 to 11:00 *Tea Break*

Topic 2: State and Nation in the Pacific (Stewart Firth)

11:00 to 11:50 Presentation

11:50 to 12:30 Questions and Discussion

12:30 to 1:30 *Lunch*

Topic 3: Culturally Melanesian Politics: Bougainville and PNG (Anthony Regan)

1:30 to 2:20 Presentation

2:20 to 3:00 Questions and Discussion

3:00 to 3:30 *Tea Break*

Topic 4: Culturally Polynesian and Micronesian Politics (Stewart Firth)

3:30 to 4:20 Presentation

4:20 to 5:00 Questions and Discussion

Day 2

Topic 5: 'The Coup to end all Coups': Fiji (Jon Fraenkel)

9:00 to 9:50	Presentation
9:50 to 10:30	Questions and Discussion
10:30 to 11:00	<i>Tea Break</i>

Topic 6: State under Construction: Solomon Islands (Sinclair Dinnen)

11:00 to 11:50	Presentation
11:50 to 12:30	Questions and Discussion
12:30 to 1:30	<i>Lunch</i>

Topic 7: Regional Challenges: HIV/AIDS (Vicki Luker)

1:30 to 2:15	Presentation
2:15 to 3:00	Questions and Discussion
3:00 to 3:30	<i>Tea Break</i>

Topic 8: Regional Challenges: the economic outlook (Stewart Firth)

3:30 to 4:20	Presentation
4:20 to 5:00	Questions and Discussion

PRESENTERS AT AUSAID WORKSHOP OCTOBER 2008

Stewart Firth (convener)

Stewart Firth is a Visiting Fellow in the State, Society and Governance in Melanesian Program at the ANU. He was Professor of Politics and head of the Department of History/Politics at the University of the South Pacific, Fiji, 1998-2004. His most recent books are ed., *Globalisation and Governance in the Pacific Islands*, ANU E Press, 2006; (with Jon Fraenkel), eds., *From Election to Coup in Fiji: the 2006 campaign and its aftermath*, Asia Pacific Press and ANU E Press, 2007; (with Sinclair Dinnen), eds., *Politics and State-Building in Solomon Islands*, Asia Pacific Press and ANU E Press, 2008.

Paul D'Arcy

Paul D'Arcy is a Fellow in the Division of Pacific and Asian History, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific. He teaches courses in Pacific and environmental history, as well as colonial race relations, and his current research focuses on the problems and benefits of interdisciplinary collaboration, the history of conflict and conflict resolution in the Asia Pacific region, and Australia's historical relationship with its regional neighbours. He is the author of *The People of the Sea: Environment, Identity, and History in Oceania*, University of Hawai'i Press, Honolulu, 2006.

Anthony Regan

Anthony Regan is a Senior Fellow in the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program at the ANU. He is a constitutional lawyer who specialises in constitutional development as part of conflict resolution. He has lived and worked in Papua New Guinea for 15 years and in Uganda for over three years. In PNG he advised government on decentralisation policy and law and taught at the UPNG Law Faculty. He was involved in the Bougainville peace process, and remains a close observer of developments in Bougainville and PNG. Among many other publications, he co-edited *Twenty Years of the Papua New Guinea Constitution*, Lawbook Company, Sydney, 2001, and *Bougainville before the conflict*, Pandanus Books, Canberra, 2005.

Jon Fraenkel

Jon Fraenkel is a Research Fellow in the State, Society & Governance in Melanesia Program at the ANU. He is author of *The Manipulation of Custom; from uprising to intervention in the Solomon Islands* Victoria University Press & Pandanus Books, 2004, and the co-editor of *From Election to Coup in Fiji; The 2006 Campaign & its Aftermath*, Institute of Pacific Studies, Suva, & Asia-Pacific Press, Canberra, 2007. His research and publications focus on the economic history of Oceania, electoral systems and contemporary Pacific politics, and he regularly covers contemporary Pacific issues in both the local and international media. He lived in Fiji from 1996 to 2007.

Sinclair Dinnen

Sinclair Dinnen is a Senior Fellow in the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program at the ANU. He has undertaken extensive research and policy work in Melanesia and was an adviser to the Solomon Islands Peace Process in 2000. He is author of *Law and Order in a Weak State: Crime and Politics in Papua New Guinea* University of Hawai'i Press, 2000; and co-editor of *Reflections on Violence in Melanesia* Hawkins Press and Asia Pacific Press, 2000, *A Kind of Mending - Restorative Justice in the Pacific Islands*, Pandanus Books, 2003, and *Politics and State-Building in Solomon Islands*, Asia Pacific Press and ANU E Press, 2008.

Vicki Luker

Vicki Luker is the executive editor of the *Journal of Pacific History* and a Visiting Fellow in the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program at the ANU. She is an historian with broad interests in the history of health, medicine and colonialism. She co-edited [*Birthing in the Pacific: beyond tradition and modernity?*](#) University of Hawai'i Press, 2002, and is working towards a contemporary history of HIV in the Pacific and a comparative study of miscegenation in the colonial Pacific.