

Clare Burton Lectures 2005

Australian National University, Canberra, ACT

The 2005 Clare Burton lecture in the ACT was once again supported by the 4 ACT universities (Australian Catholic University, Australian Defence Force Academy, Australian National University and University of Canberra) and was organised by the ANU's Equity and Diversity Unit. The lecture was incorporated in the Women of Influence Lecture Series, an initiative of the ACT universities.

Curtin University of Technology, Perth

The Clare Burton Memorial Lecture took place as a luncheon event on Friday 14 October, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Perth. The event attracted 170 registrations from the private and public sector across Perth. The topic **Girls, schools and society: a generation of change** attracted full table bookings by prominent independent girls' schools in Perth, St Hilda's and Penrhos College, St Brigid's College as well as a number of other bookings by the Women's Advisory Network of the Western Australian Police, The Schools of Isolated and Distance Education, The Professional Learning Institute as well as attendance from Edith Cowan University and the University of Western Australia. This annual event now attracts regular support from the Women's Policy Office, one of the sponsors, and other WA Government Departments and has become a prominent event on the calendar.

This year's lecture was also the subject of a video for Access 31, television channel as part of the **Curtin Dialogues Lecture Series** which was screened on the network in December 2005. The video production was undertaken by the media department of the Learning Support Network at Curtin. It was a good archival record of this event for 2005, and copies were provided to the ATN WEXDEV National Office and to Professor Mackinnon.

Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane

The 2005 Clare Burton Lecture at QUT was held on Tuesday, 18 October 2005. 74 people from University, public, government and corporate sectors attended the lecture which again proved a valued forum for interaction and networking.

RMIT University, Melbourne

In 2005, the first of the national lecture series was held at RMIT University's Storey Hall. The speaker for the event was Professor Alison Mackinnon, Professor of History and Gender Studies and the Foundation Director of the Hawke Research Institute at the University of South Australia. Her lecture entitled 'Girls, schools and society: a generation of change', proved to be highly informative and inspiring, raising some compelling questions for future discussion: Do we agree with workplaces demanding full time commitment from women and the deferral of child bearing and rearing? Are we seeing the development of 'two cultures of child

bearing', 'two cultures of womanhood'? Have we really achieved gender equity and justice for girls in our schools and society? Or is there a new (old, perhaps) divide?

The event was a great success with over 100 people in attendance. RMIT's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Margaret Gardner opened the event, and Pro Vice-Chancellor Students, Professor Joyce Kirk presented Professor Alison Mackinnon and EOWA representative, Margaret Wilson. Drinks and nibbles were provided both before and after the event, which provided guests with ample networking opportunities.

University of South Australia, Adelaide

Hosted by the Human Resources Unit, the annual Clare Burton Memorial Lecture was held at the Mercury Cinema on 23 November and attended by about 70 people. Professor Hilary Winchester, Pro Vice Chancellor: Organisational Strategy and Change chaired the event, and Ms Josie Agius welcomed the audience on behalf of the Kaurna people. Ms Anna McPhee, Director of the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency presented the sponsor's address. Professor Denise Bradley AO, Vice Chancellor of the University of South Australia, introduced the speaker, Professor Alison Mackinnon, and paid a tribute on the eve of her retirement.

University of Technology, Sydney

The Clare Burton Memorial Lecture was held at the University of Technology Sydney on Wednesday 19 October 2005 and attracted 71 attendees (18 UTS academics; 25 UTS support staff and 28 visitors). UTS Vice Chancellor, Professor Ross Milbourne introduced the speaker Professor Alison Mackinnon, and following the lecture Ms Heather Gordon, Manager, Waiving and EOWA Employer of Choice, gave an overview of the current work of the Agency.

The lecture was very well received and stimulated much discussion afterwards when attendees were invited to stay for drinks and nibbles and to hear the UTS women's a cappella Blue Stocking Choir. A United Nations Development Fund of Women (UNIFEM) information stall was set up in the foyer staffed by volunteers. The work of UNIFEM is supported by UTS and in South Australia through the Hawke Institute at UniSA of which Professor Mackinnon is Founding Director.