From the Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues

As the end of the year is approaching, I would like to thank you all of your tremendous support in promoting our events and the promotion of federal studies in Australia and beyond.

Following our tremendously successful Canberra Conference for the International Association of Centers for Federal Studies (IACFS) held in 2018, 25-27 October, the ACF is moving quickly towards publishing the proceedings. The results of our inquiry into the contemporary challenges of the idea of “autonomy” in federal systems, are expected to be presented at the IACFS conference 2020, in Addis, Ethiopia, which we will be attending.

On the 17-18 October, ACF Fellow Carolyn Holbrook, Deakin University, attended the annual IACFS conference in Spreyer, Germany, exploring issues of federalism and public administration from an international perspective. The ACF also served as a juror for the annual Ron Watts Young Scholar Award, presented to a leading emerging scholar of federalism, Jesse Hartery, McGill University, Canada for his paper on Myanmar.

Upcoming Events 2020

Dr. Carolyn Holbrook will be presenting her research “The Unsentimental Nation” regarding the degree of sentiment that propelled the creation of the Commonwealth in 1901, on the 5th of February, 2020. Please register via the Eventbrite link below: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-unsentimental-nation-early-commemoration-of-the-aust-commonwealth-tickets-85446455649

In Memorial

The Australian Centre for Federalism (ACF) was saddened to learn of the recent death of Brian Galligan, a current fellow of the ACF, and a former member of the Australian National University. Brian served as the deputy director, then director of the RSSS Federalism Research Centre (1984-1994). Brian left the ANU in 1995 for the University of Melbourne where he was Vale Professor of Political Science.

Brian was a prolific writer of Australian and Comparative Federalism having written a plethora of books and journal articles on the subject. Brian was a strong supporter of the ACF. Brian’s energy and dedication to promoting the study of federalism in Australia and beyond will be sadly missed. As a prominent international federalist scholar remarked to us, “Brian is a great loss to the fraternity and universe of federal studies”.

Brian died peacefully at home in Melbourne on Saturday the 14th of December, after a prolonged illness.

To keep up with us, please join our mailing list via Liliana.Oyarzun@anu.edu.au.

Tracy Beck Fenwick, Senior Lecturer of Politics and Director of the ACF, SPIR.