
The Centre has joined the University of New South Wales and the University of Melbourne in setting up a new Centre for Social Impact (CSI) which will be headed by Dr Peter Shergold AC. For the past five years, Dr Shergold has been Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Commencing operations in February 2008, the CSI will build the capacity of Australia’s non-for-profit sector, philanthropic endeavour and the development of social responsibility in the corporate sector.

It is being funded with a $12.5m grant from the Australian Government, to be matched through fund-raising. It will be a collaborative venture designed to provide national leadership, and it is intended that other institutions will be invited to join later.

While exact details are still to be finalised, our role in the new Centre will be the further development of our pioneering work in grantmaker education, and the creation of an entirely new graduate program in fundraising. The latter, to be undertaken in association with the Center for Philanthropy at Indiana University, will meet a longstanding demand.

Our work over 2008 and beyond will continue to be guided by the distinguished working party, led by Peter Fritz AM.

This development is a huge step forward both in recognition of our own work and for the field of social investment in Australia and beyond.

One consequence of this is that, pending the development and accreditation of our new programs, there will be no new intake of students in 2008. Instead there will be an active program of executive programs and single subjects over the year. Details will be emailed, and posted here shortly.

This development is the culmination of a great deal of effort, not only from within the Centre but also from many others, who, while they are too many to name, we wish to thank most sincerely. The continuing financial support of the Pratt and Myer Foundations, and of the Yugilbar Foundation, Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation, the Gandel Group, the Ross Trust and Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC is greatly appreciated.

In addition a very generous donation from the Eldon and Anne Foote Trust, through the Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund, will enable the creation of a specialist library on philanthropy at Swinburne University next year.

Other highlights of 2007 included:

- the visit of Professor Leslie Lenkowsky from Indiana University as the 2007 Waislitz Fellow in Philanthropy
- the growth of the Swinburne Philanthropy Alumni and the establishment of its Fund within the Lord Mayor's Fund
- the completion of masters degrees by Leigh Wallace, Leslie Falkiner-Rose and Rikki Andrews
invitations to Michael Liffman and Denis Tracey to present at workshops in Singapore, Sao Paulo, Shanghai, Tel Aviv, Cairo, Honolulu, and Indiana.

These invitations, and considerable media attention - including recently in the *Wall Street Journal* and in the summer issue of the *BRW* - confirm that our work is part of a growing global interest.