

EDITORIAL

The year 2008 has seen a number of changes. The new Vice-Chancellor, Dr Michael Spence, has taken up office and has been warmly welcomed. Eastern Avenue, furnished and burnished, was re-opened almost as a triumphal walkway. Dr Spence has already moved to rationalise and to simplify some academic and administrative procedures, including matters affecting the Faculty of Arts. There is to be a 'slate' of some forty major projects around the university, so that their progress may be observed. Unavoidably, in the face of the global financial crisis more cuts have been imposed. Interestingly, however, in a university situation often felt to be over-regulated, the cuts to academic expenditures are to be of the order of six per cent; to administrative expenditures, of the order of nine per cent.

During the year the Arts Association has welcomed the formation of a student body, the Sydney Arts Students' Society, and its resurrection of the journal, *ARNA*. Committee memberships have been exchanged. Reciprocal links have been established also with the English Association and its long-standing journal, *Southerly*.

It is with great regret that we note the death of the previous Chancellor, the Honourable Kim Santow. We note too, sadly, the death at age 84 of one of the Faculty's most respected and stimulating teachers. John Maze spent many years in the Department of Psychology. In retirement he remained active in psychology, philosophy, and literature, producing an analytic study of Virginia Woolf and papers on 'Kubla Khan' and other topics. A series of 'cyber-novels' linking the classical world and the world of the computer was aimed at adolescents. A study of Camus is currently in press.

G.L.L.