

Introduction

Duncan Maskell

Welcome to issue 24 of *University of Melbourne Collections*. Getting to know our remarkable cultural collections and the colleagues who take care of them has been a highlight of my time at Melbourne so far. Thanks to their efforts, and those of their predecessors, the collections form an intrinsic part of the rich teaching and learning environment our campus provides.

This edition opens with a tribute to the late Dr Raymond David Marginson AM (1923–2019), who during his time as vice-principal made unparalleled improvements to the way the university and its cultural collections were managed. His achievements included establishing a university gallery, taking control of the art collection, and commissioning sculptures, murals and other artworks that helped transform the campus. Robyn Sloggett and Belinda Nemec describe the many ways in which Dr Marginson helped form some of our most important collections, placed them on a sustainable footing, and opened them up to the community.

Another legacy is celebrated in this issue: that of London print dealer and collector Harold Wright, whose generosity has for half a century enabled University of Melbourne scholars to spend an extended period immersed in one of the world's greatest print collections, at the British Museum in London. Professor Emerita Jaynie Anderson and past beneficiaries discuss the Harold Wright and Sarah and William Holmes Scholarships, and what they gained from this fantastic opportunity.

The university's cultural collections are not limited to the visual arts; they reflect all fields of academic endeavour, including the sciences and engineering. The Electrical and Electronic Engineering Collection is being documented and researched at present, and Richard Gillespie describes some fascinating artefacts from this important assemblage. Also in this issue Naomi Mullumby and Alan Pert discuss a research

and teaching project based on the distributed archive of modernist architect Ernest Fooks; Cathleen Rosier tells a detective story involving a carved emu egg; Katja Wagner describes her virtual recreation of Miegunyah, the home of collectors and benefactors Sir Russell and Lady (Mab) Grimwade; and Carole Hinchliff recounts the history of Sir Redmond Barry's involvement with the University Library, when it was located in the recently refurbished Old Quad.

I was honoured to take part in the opening celebrations of the restored Old Quad. As well as providing a stunning new 'Treasury' space to showcase the collections, the redevelopment prompted the commissioning of new work. Maree Clarke's *Ancestral memory* and Tom Nicholson's *Towards a glass monument* complement a collection that is continually evolving and growing, looking forward and to the past—helping to define our place in the world.



Professor Duncan Maskell MA, PhD, became the 20th vice-chancellor of the University of Melbourne in October 2018. Before this, he was senior pro-vice-chancellor at the University of Cambridge. His research specialisation is infectious diseases, and he is a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences and an Honorary Associate of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.