Pursuit of knowledge forms the basis of the new JCPML exhibition

John Curtin, the prime minister who led Australia through the darkest days of World War Two, believed passionately in the transforming power of education and understood the importance of knowledge and research. He saw these as the foundations of progress and strove to make them a national priority.

The JCPML’s newest exhibition, *The Pursuit of Knowledge: Curtin, looking ever forward*, will explore the importance of learning as it contributes to progress in research and technology.

Featuring John Curtin’s own education from his early school days to his continuing education within the labour movement, the exhibition will look at ways the Curtin Labor government translated that passion for learning into policies and decisions that promoted education and the advancement of knowledge.

It will also examine how the war provided Australia with the impetus for research and technological advances crucial to meet the often competing demands of industry and the military.

*The great University should look ever forward; for it the past should be but a preparation for the greater days to be.* John Curtin, *The Views of Labour*, West Australian, April 16, 1932. JCPML00610/12

Curtin University of Technology takes John Curtin’s words as a guiding principle. The new exhibition will focus on the development of the University and explore some of the innovative and applied research that it is currently undertaking across the five key areas of:

- Resources and energy;
- ICT and emerging technologies;
- Health, ageing and well-being;
- Communities and changing environments;
- Growth and prosperity.

Enclosed is your invitation to the opening of this exciting new exhibition on Wednesday 26 March by His Excellency Dr Ken Michael, AC, Governor of WA.

If you can’t attend the opening, please feel free to visit the exhibition weekdays from noon to 5pm in the John Curtin Gallery.
JCPML team honoured for their significant contributions

The outstanding and enthusiastic contributions of the JCPML’s Historical Consultant David Black, Foundation Archivist Kandy-Jane Henderson and Education Officer Ros Marshall are being recognised in separate honours.

Professor David Black will receive the title of Emeritus Professor of Curtin University of Technology for his distinguished academic reputation both nationally and internationally and his contribution to the study and teaching of history and politics. He will be further honoured with an Honorary Doctorate of Letters for his lifelong commitment to the study of history and politics, his exceptional service to professional and public life, and the benefits these have brought to Curtin.

Kandy-Jane Henderson will be named a Curtin University of Technology Fellow for her distinguished service to the University, the archival profession and to the community in her role as Foundation Archivist of the JCPML. These awards will be conferred at separate graduation ceremonies held at Curtin in February.

Ros Marshall was presented with an Outstanding Professional Service Award by the Professional Teaching Council of WA in late 2007. The award recognises her tireless and enthusiastic contribution to the Political and Legal Educators’ Association of WA and to students and teachers.

The JCPML warmly congratulates Professor David Black, Kandy-Jane Henderson and Ros Marshall on these well deserved honours.

New appointments for JCPML

Lesley Wallace has been appointed Manager of the JCPML following the retirement of Foundation Archivist Kandy-Jane Henderson in 2007. Lesley brings a wealth of experience to the post, having been Collections Librarian at the JCPML since 1999 and Acting Manager last year. Lesley will take responsibility for Curtin University Library archival collections, including the Geoff Gallop collection and the online Elizabeth Jolley research collection featured in this newsletter.

The JCPML also welcomes Amanda Cockrell who has joined the team as Librarian. Amanda will play a key role in collection development and coordination of our public programs.

Curtin University Library

Curtin University Library celebrated the life and work of Elizabeth Jolley with the launch on 8 February of an online Elizabeth Jolley Collection – a virtual research centre for scholars interested in one of Australia’s most significant writers.

 Appropriately, the launch took place at Curtin in conjunction with the annual Elizabeth Jolley Lecture, named to honour the author who was Professor of Creative Writing at Curtin and later became Emeritus Professor in the School of Communication and Cultural Studies.

The online resource brings together a biography of Elizabeth Jolley and a comprehensive bibliography of works by and about the author, while providing digital access to many of the items in the bibliography.

Compiled over 20 years by Curtin researchers Professors Brian Dibble and Barbara Milech, the bibliography lists works by or on Elizabeth Jolley (including print, audio and visual adaptations of her work) and interviews with her.

Find out more at john.curtin.edu.au/jolley