

EDITORIAL

As the incoming General Editor of *Sites* (New Series) in its new biannual production format, let me welcome you to the first of our new general editions which in this volume draws upon such diversely situated topics as ethnomusicology, cultural politics, the construction of Pakeha identities and medical anthropology.

In addition to the move to an increased production rate in 2005, *Sites* has also changed production locations from Massey University to the University of Otago and the editorial board acknowledges Prof Glenn Summerhayes' contribution towards the current production process through the secondment of the layout and design skills of Mr Les O'Neill from the Otago Anthropology Department towards our project. *Sites* continues, also, to be most substantially supported by the ASAANZ and it is appropriate to thank once again the dedicated members and executive of our society for their recognition of the potential contribution of a journal such as *Sites* to promoting intellectual debate within the social sciences in New Zealand; and their commendable courage in bracing that intuition with significant material assistance.

The new year has also seen us welcome new members to the editorial team (Cris Shore, Auckland University) and editorial assistant (Raewyn Crump, University of Otago) as we farewelled other long serving and dedicated colleagues (Henry Barnard, Massey University and Mike Goldsmith, University of Waikato).

As if all that change might be insufficient for just six months as general editor, I have also introduced a new feature to our journal which is the inclusion of a commentary section for some of the more controversial articles which we publish from time to time. In this edition, we feature commentaries on Chris Tremewan's thoughts on the appearance of a certain ideological conformity within the New Zealand social sciences based on spirited readings of his paper supplied by Tom Ryan and Jeff Sissons followed by a further reply from Chris himself. It seems to me that New Zealand scholars may have a good deal

more to add to the debate which Tremewan has placed before us. For this reason I would like to invite our readers to contribute further to this discussion of cultural politics in Aotearoa/New Zealand in the forthcoming general issue to be released in June of 2006.

In the meantime however, I invite you to sample these interesting papers and in doing so I present my last acknowledgements - a special vote of thanks to Carolyn Morris (Canterbury University) for her editorial assistance in the selection of papers for this volume which deal with Pakeha identities and a final acknowledgement to the unsung heroes of any journal – those anonymous reviewers who battle impossibly short deadlines and conflicting demands on their time to provide the vibrant peer review which is the lifeblood of any community of scholars. The production of this journal is thus the combined painstaking work of many dedicated individuals and also the chaotic virtuosity of delightful and informal spontaneous scholarly collegialities.

Ruth Fitzgerald
General Editor