

## Foreword

This issue of *The French Australian Review* features three articles developed from presentations given at the inaugural ISFAR Colloquium on *French-Australian Relations: The Field Today*, which was held in conjunction with the Australian Society for French Studies Conference in Adelaide, 7–9 December 2016.

The first article is by Jean Fornasiero and John West-Sooby and provides details on the research that is currently taking place into state-sponsored French voyages of the Revolutionary era. This research project brings together eight researchers in different disciplines from three continents. The primary result will be a collectively written monograph on the various scientific expeditions undertaken during the period 1789–1804.

This is followed by Alexis Bergantz's article on the meanings attached to the idea of Frenchness in Australia and how representations of France and the French have informed social and cultural history in this country. This article is a reflection on the author's research for his recently completed PhD thesis.

The third article, by Véronique Duché and Daniel Russo-Batterham, draws on material in the University of Melbourne Archives to provide insights into the role of food as an intercultural mediator between the Australian troops in France and their civilian hosts during WWI.

The Documents and Notes section begins with an article that continues the theme of war. Colin Nettelbeck examines a collection of material held in the National Library of Australia relating to the French experience of the Second World War. This is a significant collection and it offers valuable material for any researchers interested in this troubled period of French history. Next is William Land's brief historical overview of the French award, *Les Palmes académiques* and its Australian recipients. The final note is an obituary of Micheline Giroux, celebrating her life-long contribution to teaching French.

These documents are followed by a review of *Flanders in Australia: A Personal History of Wool and War* by Jacqueline Dwyer and the usual French-Australian Bibliographical Notes.