



Pacific Journalism Review celebrates 20 years of political reportage



Cartoonist Malcolm Evans, *PJR* editor David Robie and Vice-Chancellor Derek McCormack with some of the journal team. Image: Tom Carnegie

PACIFIC JOURNALISM REVIEW celebrated 20 years of publishing in style in late November with a three-day Asia-Pacific political media conference, a tapas and drinks celebration and the unveiling of a mega cartoon featuring editorial characters.

Vice-Chancellor Derek McCormack congratulated the research journal's founding editor, Professor David Robie, and his team for reaching the milestone.

"At 20 years of age, I guess we can say the journal has now matured from a youthful adolescent into a mature adult," he said.

Australian Journalism Review editor Professor Ian Richards also spoke at the birthday celebration, saying how the journal's unique character for the Asia-Pacific region had been beneficial for the research culture in Australia and New Zealand as well as the Pacific.

Many current and past co-editors and contributors also praised the journal, some sending messages from afar, such as Vanuatu-based photojournalist Ben Bohane, communications director for the Pacific Institute of Public Policy. He is featured with a portfolio of "The Black Islands" photographs in the latest edition of *PJR*.

"Congratulations for all your hard work over 20 years with the journal and all your other initiatives which have contributed hugely to building up Pacific journalism," said Bohane, one of the editorial personalities featured in the cartoon by Malcolm

Evans, who has created many of *PJR*'s distinctive covers.

Evans, a former NZ cartoonist of the year, had both a digital and print exhibition of his cartoons on display at the conference.

Vice-president Dr Angela Romano of the Journalism Education and Research Association of Australia (JERAA) also congratulated the journal.

'Superb achievement'

"Congratulations to David and everyone else associated with *PJR*. It's another great edition, and a superb achievement to have reached the 20-year milestone," she said.

Shailendra Singh of the University of the South Pacific, where *PJR* was based for five years, praised the journal's support for emerging Pacific media researchers.

"*PJR* has played a critical role providing opportunities and space for upcoming Pacific Island academics and journalists. For me it was thrilling to see USP's Eliki Drugunalevu and *Republika* editor Ricardo Morris on the *PJR* programme this year," he said.

Speaking about the last two decades, Dr Robie said a research paper about the journal presented to the conference by Dr Lee Duffield of Queensland University of Technology had provided statistics on the achievements.

This would be published as a peer-

reviewed document in the special birthday edition next May.

But Dr Robie wanted to "acknowledge a few people who have contributed to our *vaka* on this journey".

"It is more than just a research journal. It has given strong support to investigative journalism, photojournalism and political cartooning in its two decades, which have all been strongly reflected in the character of the journal."

He complimented many people for the role they played, including designer Del Abcede who has prepared every issue twice a year since 2007.

The conference featured many strong papers and several documentaries, including Jim Marbrook's *Cap Bocage* about New Caledonian mining; Alister Barry's *Hot Air* on climate change policy; Annie Goldson's work in progress on the Dotcom saga, and an astonishing feature documentary, *Reconciliation*, described by Timor-Leste film maker Max Stahl as "antinews".

Papers and other materials from the conference will be published as a special edition of *PJR* next May. Watch for it at: www.pjreview.info



Pacific Journalism Review conference in pictures



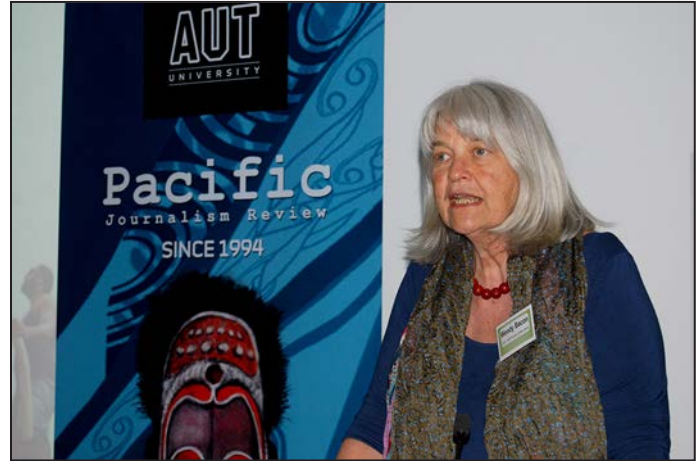
Some of Malcom Evans' cartoons



PMC director David Robie and School head Alan Cocker



Ian Richards, AUT VC Derek McCormack and Camille Nakhid



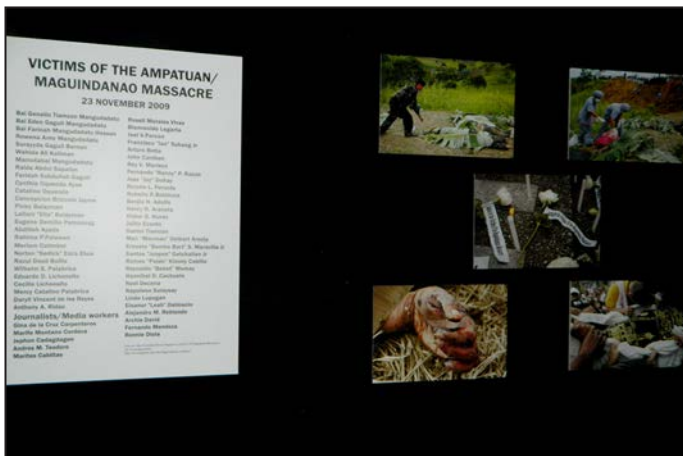
PJR Frontline editor Wendy Bacon



Del Abcede, Derek McCormack and Chris Nash



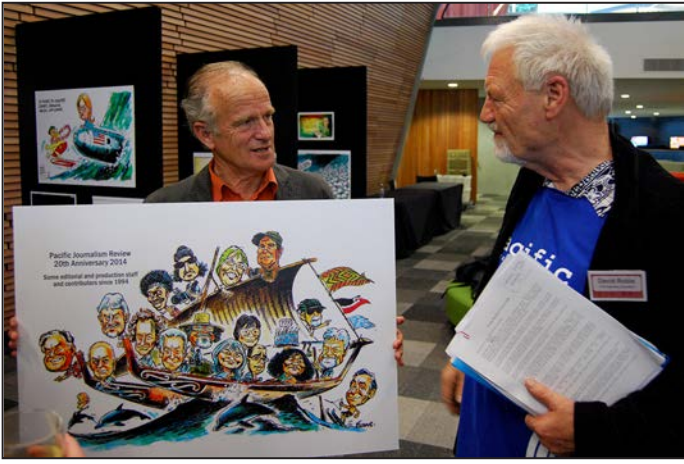
Barry King signing the cartoon and Maire Leadbeater



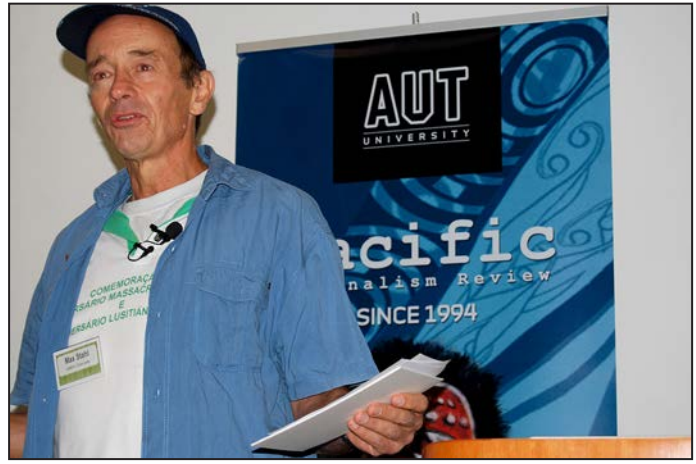
The Ampatuan/Maguindanao massacre, Philippines, display



The Ampatuan massacre vigil



Malcolm Evans and David Robie



Film maker Max Stahl from Timor-Leste



Ricardo Morris, Shailendra Singh and Elik Drugunalevu from Fiji



AUT's Ariane Adam and Barbara Dreaver of TVNZ



Annie Goldson of Auckland University talks about her films



Malcolm Evans speaks on cartooning



Jim Marbrook's student film crew



Nick Chesterfield, Rukhsana Aslam and Tui O'Sullivan



Tom Moring and his colleagues from Finland



Inger Munk and Asbjørn Slot Jørgensen of Denmark



Elisha Edmonds and Lyn Barnes



Trevor Cullen and Verica Rupar



Rizwangul Nur-Muhammad and Steve Ellmers of Unitec



Steve Elers and Phoebe Elers



Film makers Alister Barry and Jim Marbrook



Tui O'Sullivan and Philip Cass and the "lechon" style roast pig