



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**SYDNEY**

**Dr Rae Cooper**  
President AIRAANZ

Wednesday, 16 February 2011

Joyce Mansfield  
Hand delivered by  
Prof Greg Bamber

Dear Joyce

I am writing representing the members of the Association of Industrial Relations Academics of Australia and New Zealand (AIRAANZ) to offer our condolences to your family and to pay tribute to Bill's extraordinary contribution to industrial relations in this country.

Bill's many years in the union movement, including in the national peak council, were marked by an innovative approach to critical labour market issues, including vocational education and training and the broader skills agenda. He did some very important work in relation to worker safety and was a leading Australian thinker in this policy area. His five years at the AIRC demonstrated his meticulous approach to industrial 'problems' and his contributions at the ILO showed his passion for inclusive practices and policy. His work with APHEDA was important and undoubtedly made a difference in the material circumstances of the people their programmes touched.

Bill was a gentle and thoughtful man who encouraged research and critical thinking in relation to work, skills and labour market issues. He supported numerous large research projects and influenced the work of many of the leading scholars in our discipline. A number of AIRAANZ members were very proud to call Bill a friend and we celebrate his work and life and we are saddened by his passing. I would like to pass on the

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appreciation of the members of AIRAANZ to you and your sons, Justin and Luke, for your ongoing support of Bill's inspirational work in the area of industrial relations.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rae Cooper', written in a cursive style.

Dr Rae Cooper  
President AIRAANZ