Crossing Borders:
Employment, Work, Markets and Social Justice Across Time, Discipline and Place

AIRAANZ 2001
The 15th AIRAANZ Conference

31 January to 3 February 2000
Wollongong, New South Wales

Volume 2:
Non-refereed Papers and Abstracts

Edited by Di Kelly
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Crossing Borders: Industrial Relations across time, place and discipline

From the first meeting in 1983, AIRAANZ Conferences have been characterised by a high degree of intellectual curiosity and enthusiasm. Yet, because of the immediacy of much of the subject matter in employment issues, research and analysis into new areas has often not quite met the temporal constraints imposed by publication of Proceedings. Moreover, such limits have been exaggerated by changes in the academic employment relationship itself in recent years.

Given such work and time pressures, it is not surprising, therefore, that many scholars have not been able to meet the time constraints of the rigorous AIRAANZ Refereeing process, introduced in 1998. Yet papers which are incomplete at the due date for refereeing some months before the Conference can often be source of considerable intellectual stimulation and debate, the very essence of scholarship. The papers in this Volume attest to such ideals, reflecting as they do scholarly intent and intellectual enthusiasm. Like Volume 1, Refereed Papers, the papers cover an immense range of content, theory, assumptions and method. I anticipate that many of the authors of the papers in this Volume will respond to the commentaries and suggestions proffered at the conference and from readers of these Proceedings. By considering such comments and suggestions, we can hone our evidence, analysis, methods and arguments. By so doing, analysts can augment and strengthen their intellectual enthusiasm to attain recognisable standards of scholarship which is published in academic journals and books.

I would like to acknowledge once again the sterling efforts of Sophie Abercrombie, a peerless administrator, and the very patient, caring, Jacqui Lee, as well as Nadyne Smith, Michael Kelly, Emilie Schmeltischek and Wolfgang Brodesser. The Printery at the University of Wollongong has been wonderfully tolerant and patient. Most particularly we owe Robert Hood without whose extensive publication skills, relentless persistence, and (almost) unfailing good humour, this volume would not have been available.

Di Kelly
Wollongong
Late January 2001