

WINTER - 2005

update

THE MAGAZINE OF THE AUSTRALIAN MULTICULTURAL FOUNDATION

**Australia's largest multicultural health conference
comes to Melbourne in October**

Chinese costumes shine at Immigration Museum

Special report - 3rd Diversity Conference, India

New report into religion released



Australian Multicultural Foundation
www.amf.net.au

Contents

- 2 Report highlights enthusiasm and commitment for change
- 3 Report into Religion
- 4 AMF auspices the Australian National Diversity monument
- 4 Adopt a country for the Games
- 5-7 Special Report:
3rd Diversity Matters conference, Kolkata, India
- 8-9 Health conference comes to Melbourne in October
- 10 Hitomi Takeda awarded AMF Scholarship
- 10 MAPD intensive course receives accreditation
- 10 Rani Austin wins internship at the Smithsonian Institute
- 11 Chinese costumes shine at Immigration
- 11 Call for expressions of interest to join business delegation to China
- 12 New AMF Board member
- 12 The Australian Resource Centre for Healthcare Innovations (ARCHI) conference in June
- 12 4th Diversity Matters in South Africa, 2007
- 12 Support for people caring for dementia patients
- 12 Voices of Australia

UPDATE Winter - 2005

UPDATE is published by:

Australian Multicultural Foundation

185 Faraday St Carlton Victoria 3053

PO Box 538 Carlton South Victoria 3053

Phone: 03 9347 6622 Fax: 03 9347 2218

Email: info@amf.net.au

www.amf.net.au



Community Support Fund - "Step into Voluntary Work" program

Report highlights enthusiasm and commitment for change



The AMF's highly successful "Step into Voluntary Work" program concluded last year resulting in a diverse range of successful partnerships supporting culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Victoria.

More than 172 people representing 80 different Victorian organisations participated, with an average of 15 people attending each course. The 'Step into Voluntary Work' program was broken down into five separate phases with the fifth phase reporting and evaluating the success of the course.

The project report highlighted a number of issues including the fact that volunteers were less likely to participate in rural areas where some organisations "did not feel that issues around culturally and linguistically diverse volunteers were relevant to their organisation".

Conversely, urban organisations had the highest number of participants, particularly those held in central locations and the western and northern suburbs.



The Hon. John Pandazopoulos, Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs, with certificate recipients from Volunteering Australia.



Minister John Pandazopoulos MP, Parliamentary Secretary Hong Lim, Hass Dellal and Judith Miralles with certificate winners from Parks Victoria.

The report revealed that attendees were extremely enthusiastic and committed to bringing about organisational change on issues of diversity even when resources were limited.

During the project a number of successful partnerships were formed with major organisations including the Cancer Council of Victoria, Volunteering Australia, the Australian Red Cross and Parks Victoria.

The Step into Voluntary Work program is delivered by the AMF in partnership with Judith Miralles & Associates and is funded by the Victorian Government's Community Support Fund.

COVER: The recent AMF supported exhibition of Chinese Costumes held at the Immigration Museum included costumes from the Chinese National Museum of Ethnology in Beijing, as well as garments and accessories from some of China's ethnic nationalities. See page 11.

Report into Religion

A new report examining the relationship between religion and cultural diversity within a contemporary Australian framework was recently released by the Australian Multicultural Foundation.

Entitled 'Religion, Cultural Diversity and Safeguarding Australia', the report is co-authored by Professor Desmond Cahill (RMIT University), Professor Gary Bouma (Monash University), Mr Hass Dellal (AMF) and Dr Michael Leahy and released in partnership with the Australian Government's Living in Harmony Initiative (Dept. of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs) and in association with RMIT University, Monash University and the World Conference of Religions for Peace.

The Report, launched last December by The Hon Peter McGauran, MP, Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, aims to examine the place and function of faith traditions and religious groups in an increasingly multicultural Australia. As a consequence a number of strategies were undertaken including consultation with religious leaders, government officials and non-government organisations, as well as research at the local level. Public consultation and two independent papers were also commissioned as part of the study.

Throughout the public consultations, respondents were provided with a list of 21

issues and asked to nominate those of most concern to them. The issue most concerning respondents was religious education in mainstream public and private schools, followed by Aboriginal reconciliation and the definition of religion in a multi-faith context.

Other issues highlighted included religious expression, the role of women in religion and the place of Aboriginal spirituality in a multi-faith context.

The report recommended a number of major changes including the establishment of a Multi-faith Advisory Council working closely alongside the Council for Multicultural Australia as well as the establishment of an electronic

network to act as a conduit for communicating with various levels of Government and non-Government organisations.

A number of significant changes addressing individual religious personnel were also suggested including that all arriving religious personnel, whether applying for permanent residency or a long term temporary visa, be given provisional visas for six months until they achieved vocational proficiency in English and have undergone an orientation process together with arriving religious personnel from other faith communities.

For a copy of the report contact the AMF on (03) 9347 6622 or visit our website at www.amf.net.au



The 'Religion, Cultural Diversity and Safeguarding Australia' Report was launched by The Hon. Peter McGauran, Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs (above) last December at the Immigration Museum.



The Hon. Sir James Gobbo, AC CVO, AMF Chairman.



Prof. Desmond Cahill, RMIT University.



Hass Dellal OAM, Executive Director, AMF.



Venerable Chi Sunim.



Guests at the Report's launch.



Bishop Chris Prowse.



Prof. Gary Bouma, Monash University.



Reverend Gurdashan Singh Gil.



From left: Prof. Gary Bouma, Hass Dellal, Dr Peter Lentini and Prof. Desmond Cahill.



Sheikh Isse Mussa.

AMF auspices the Australian National Diversity Monument

A new project designed to represent Australia's socio-cultural development over the 21st Century has recently been launched by AMF Board member Ms Carla Zampatti AM. The project will result in the commissioning of a public artwork in the form of a national monument and will be referred to as the Australian National Diversity Monument.

Managed by Dr Farvardin Daliri under the auspices of the AMF, in partnership with FECCA, the monument is a community education and art development project. It will be conducted through the participation of secondary school students across Australia in a bid to establish the initial design stage of the project.

Students will be asked to draw or paint their ideas of national identity – both collectively and individually. Teachers will be provided with resources to advise the students in pre-federation background history, indigenous cultures, current culturally diverse demographics and dynamic diversity views.

Once all the students have submitted their designs they will be analysed and one design will emerge for each region. It will then be represented as a 3D sculpture feature including colours and texture with

Students will be asked to draw or paint their ideas of national identity.

each design relaying messages from the school students and sponsors.

These regional designs will then be incorporated into one national design using all the regionally specific information.

Dr Farvardin Daliri is an accomplished sculptor and public space artist with extensive experience in community art work, education and welfare. He is also well respected in education and curriculum development.



Pictured at the launch: Dr Farvardin Daliri, Manager of the Australian National Diversity Monument project with AMF Board member Ms Carla Zampatti AM.

The project launch took place in Wollongong at the FECCA Congress on May 25.

For further information, contact Dr Farvardin Daliri on 0414 356 875 or email Farvardin.Daliri@bigpond.com

M2006: Adopt a Second Team Project

Adopt a country for the Games

A new program aimed at helping local communities find out more about Commonwealth nations has recently been launched by M2006. The project was developed by the AMF for M2006.

Simply known as M2006: Adopt a Second Team Project, consists of a kit designed to enable local communities to adopt a country by taking an active interest in its people. Basically the kit provides resources for communities to establish contact with people from Commonwealth countries. This Project has been designed as part of the 2006 Commonwealth Games bid to foster positive relationships and promote long-term partnerships and liaisons between people from different countries.

The first section of the kit consists of lists of international, national and state level contact numbers of Commonwealth nations. It aims to start getting people connected with information and ideas about their adopted country.

Section two contains a list of international and national projects and helpful ideas about how to get your local community involved. And the third section includes the types of sports that are popular in the adopted country. It also includes themes and national symbols such as birds, flowers, animals and coat of arms.

For details: www.m2006.com.au



The kit provides resources for communities to establish contact with people from Commonwealth countries.



Kolkata, India

28 February – 2 March 2005



Mr Salman Haidar, former Foreign Secretary of India, spoke about the need for diversity in everyday life and as a crucial ingredient for good governance. He elaborated by stating that established and newly established religions need to be mutually respected while minority religions need their space.

Identifying new initiatives and challenges for Commonwealth countries aiming to maximise their cultural and ethnic diversity

Kolkata is considered by many to be the epitome of a multicultural oasis - a modern city streaming with cultural diversity representing the faith and feelings of its beautiful people.

An opulent city providing its visitors with a truly sensory experience, starting with its exotically perfumed curries right through to its exhibition of boldly-coloured silks and saris worn by its strikingly beautiful women.

Kolkata truly is representative of India's multicultural and multi faith community and the ideal place to hold the Third Diversity Matters Forum.

Held between 28 February and 2 March this year, the forum was attended by more than 80 delegates from around the world, all hoping to identify new initiatives and challenges for Commonwealth countries aiming to maximise their cultural and ethnic diversity.

Following on the success of the two previous conferences, held respectively in the United Kingdom and Brisbane,

Australia, this forum also attracted an international standing of keynote speakers and participants.

A wide-range of Commonwealth countries were represented at the forum including Australia, the United Kingdom, Canada, India, Bangladesh, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nigeria and Malaysia and Thailand as a non-Commonwealth country.

The forum was officially opened by Mr Amitav Banerji, Head/Director of the Office of the Commonwealth Secretary-General, followed by keynote addresses from Mr Salman Haidar, former Foreign Secretary of India, and The Hon Sir James Gobbo AC CVO, Chairman of the AMF.

The forum attracted an enormous amount of media attention with articles appearing in major newspapers daily. Mr Hass Dellal

3rd DIVERSITY MATTERS CONFERENCE

OAM, Executive Director of the AMF, was quoted in India's major English-speaking newspaper, *The Statesman* as saying "The challenge lies in differences and not in commonalities."

He said, "This platform will give us an opportunity to see what some of the Commonwealth countries are doing and how we can capitalise on it." He went on to highlight the importance of religion by suggesting we use faith as a tool to advance the ideals and core values of diversity. Mr Dellal also said, "Religious and faith leaders have a big influence, they advise people. They are in a position to bring people with them. It is also a mechanism to advocate good work."

Participants questioned the use of religion as a trigger for terrorism espousing historical events where religion was used to entice secularism and liberal leadership has eased religious conflicts.

Keynote speaker, Mr Salman Haidar, former Foreign Secretary of India, spoke about the need for diversity in everyday life and as a crucial ingredient for good governance. He elaborated by stating that established and newly established religions need to be mutually respected while minority religions need their space.

Mr Haider concluded his address by promoting liberal democracy as the most efficient method of pursuing interfaith.

The Hon Sir James Gobbo AC CVO, Chairman of the AMF, definite when he answered his own question, 'Does religion precipitate most wars' – "No", was his answer. He said all faiths promoted non-violence and peace and called on a broader mainstream dialogue between faiths to promote understanding.

He elaborated by stating that there were too many misconceptions on the preaching of religions, especially Islam, and that it could only be corrected by more dialogue.

The paper that followed Sir James' speech entitled 'Regulating Religion in a Global Context' was delivered by Professor Desmond Cahill, Professor of Intercultural Studies at RMIT University. Professor Cahill also called for increased dialogue and stressed the need for the formation of national and regional interfaith councils in a bid to provide a conduit to achieve understanding.

Mir Nawaz Khan Marwat, Assistant Secretary-General of the World Muslim Congress in Pakistan, said "to live in a global village, we must get over issues of mistrust and distrust". He was adamant that the youth were the future and urged leaders to explore common points of mutual care. He said that understanding goes a long way to achieving harmony.



3rd DIVERSITY MATTERS CONFERENCE



There was a general consensus by all the speakers that all religions aimed to achieve harmony and that religious choice ensured an equitable and preferable social cohesion.

Other topics and speakers included Mrs Josie Lacey, Interfaith Advisor, Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (APEROC) and Convenor and Initiator, Women's Interfaith Network (Australia), and Ms Sanjana Joshi, Fellow, Maulana Azad Institute of Asian Studies (India), who explored the unique capacity of women in religion, their role in religious and community life and challenges faced in educating for shared values. Religion and the arts was a popular topic delivered by Dr Mark Manolopoulos, Research Associate for Religions and Theology at Monash University, who questioned whether art and the pursuit of leisure can lead to peace.

The forum provided practical recommendations, a key one being the formation of a Multi-Faith Advisory Council.

Participants unanimously decided to organise a working party to formulate the framework for convening a committee to establish the Multi-faith Advisory Council for the Commonwealth.

And finally, the AMF wishes to thank all delegates for their participation and invaluable input to this historical event; thank you to Mr Ravindra Kumar and *The Statesman* for their support and contribution making this event a success; to the Commonwealth Foundation for its generous financial support and invaluable partnership, in particular the former Director Mr Colin Ball, newly appointed Director Dr Mark Collins, and Mr Seth Lartey; to Mr Richard Bourne from the Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit for his commitment and ongoing support; and thank you to Mr Amitav Banerji, Head/Director of the Office of the Commonwealth Secretary-General for his support and encouragement.

For a copy of the report (including papers) contact the AMF on (03) 9347 6622 or visit our website www.amf.net.au

Participants unanimously decided to organise a working party to formulate the framework for convening a committee to establish the Multi-faith Advisory Council for the Commonwealth.



CO-HOSTS



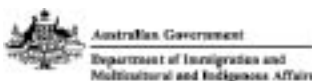
Australian Multicultural Foundation



MAJOR SPONSORS



SUPPORTERS



Health conference comes to Melbourne in October

Melbourne will soon play host to hundreds of health professionals and consumers when they attend Australia's largest multicultural health conference to be held at Hilton on the Park in October this year.

'Diversity in Health 2005 - it's everybody's business' will run from 17 to 19 October 2005 and will be co-hosted by the Australian Multicultural Foundation, Multicultural Mental Health Australia and the Diversity Health Institute. Major sponsors include VicHealth, the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Department of Human Services and the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing, and supporting sponsors Victoria University, VITS Language Link, SBS Radio, CO.AS.IT., the Australian Government Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, the Queensland Government, Victorian Multicultural Commission and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

The conference aims to simultaneously provide new perspectives on old issues and by providing valuable new information concerning challenges of health and well-being for the diverse community in Australia.

Diversity in Health is the most innovative multicultural health and well-being conference in Australia. The conference aims to describe the latest physical and mental health priorities related to the challenges faced by the community, carers, clinicians, service providers, planners and policy makers in their efforts to provide high quality health for Australia's multicultural community.

It will also highlight innovative research, practices, programs, and partnerships between health management systems, providers, governments, legal systems, social service agencies, and patient health status. There will be a large emphasis on prevention and intervention strategies relevant to diverse cultures.

Registrations will close on 15th September, with early bird registrations closing on 1st August this year.



Diversity in Health is the most innovative multicultural health and well-being conference in Australia, highlighting innovative research, practices, programs, and partnerships between health management systems, providers, governments, legal systems, social service agencies, and patient health status.

The conference will be officially opened by The Hon Peter McGauran MP, Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, The Hon Sir James Gobbo AC CVO, Chairman of the AMF, The Hon Jeff Kennett AC, Chairman of Beyondblue, and The Hon Christopher Pyne, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Aged Care.

THE CONFERENCE WILL COVER A NUMBER OF THEMES INCLUDING:

Capacity Development and Diversity

Clinical Innovation and Research Policy

Culture, Music, Dance, Art and Health

Health and the role of Philanthropy

Intergenerational Health Issues - Youth and Ageing

Medicine and Alternative Health Issues

Migration and Health

Models of Excellence in Health Promotion in a diverse community

Organisational Cultural Competence

Providing a Supportive Environment

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Mr Tom Calma, Acting Race Discrimination Commissioner, Human, Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (Australia)

Mr Mahatma G. Davis, CEO ArabMedicare.com and Diversity Health International (USA)

The Hon Jeff Kennett AC, Chairman, Beyondblue (Australia)

Ms Yvonne Morgan, Health Canada

Professor Rodreck Mupedziswa, School of Social Work, University of Zimbabwe

Lady Southey AM, President of Philanthropy Australia, Director of The Myer Foundation and Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria (Australia)

Mr Thomas Spang, Head, Equal Opportunities and Health Section, Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (Switzerland)

Professor Leslie Swartz, Research Director, Human Science Research, Council of South Africa

Mr Robert Tickner, CEO, Australian Red Cross

Dr Fiona Wood AM, Head of Royal Perth Hospital's Burns Unit and Director of the Western Australia Burns Service. Australian of the Year 2005.

The conference will be held at Hilton on the Park which occupies a unique position in the city. Situated next to the beautiful Fitzroy Gardens, it is only a five-minute walk from the city's downtown shopping and commercial district, and is directly opposite the Melbourne Cricket Ground and Melbourne Park Tennis Centre.

The Victoria University will launch their Institute for Health and Diversity on Tuesday 18 October 2005 at 7:00pm.

There will also be a photographic exhibition showcasing a series of immigrant, Indigenous and refugee life experiences. In addition, an industry exhibition will feature community organisations and companies.

For further details and registration forms contact Mirka Odlevakova, Conference Secretariat at the AMF on (03) 9347 6622 or email diversityinhealth@amf.net.au and website www.amf.net.au for details on speakers and program.

Hitomi Takeda awarded AMF Scholarship

Once again the AMF prides itself in supporting culture and the arts and accordingly has awarded another scholarship to The Australian Ballet School.

This year's recipient is 18 year-old Hitomi Takeda who is in her final year of a three year Diploma of Advanced Dance. Hitomi came to The Australian Ballet School two years ago after being awarded a Scholarship from the largest international dance competition in the world, the Prix De Lausanne.

Last year she was selected by The Australian Ballet School for their National Dance

Company Tour, visiting major cities around Australia including Alice Springs

The AMF has been supporting The Australian Ballet School since 2000 when it offered its first Scholarship for excellence. This year's Scholarship was awarded at the official presentation evening held on 24 March by Lady Primrose Potter AC.



Lady Primrose Potter AC pictured with the recipient of the AMF Australian Ballet School scholarship, Hitomi Takeda.

MAPD intensive course receives accreditation

Multicultural Arts Professional Development Program has successfully been accredited by RMIT University.

On successful completion of all assessments the participants will be able to apply for **one credit in the elective 'Current Issues in Business in the Graduate Certificate in Business Administration'**.

This is the fourth MAPD course and will officially commence on Sunday, August 1, 2005.

MAPD is a national program of the Australia Council for the Arts and is delivered by the AMF in conjunction with RMIT and Kape Communications. It is tailored to those in arts and cultural industries wishing to extend their skills in culturally diverse arts leadership, marketing, sponsorship building and income generation.

This year's program features topics on marketing and branding, arts marketing for specific communities, organisational leadership, multimedia marketing, sponsorship building and entrepreneurship with Professor Peter Sheldrake (RMIT).

For details about the program contact Lynn Cain from the AMF (03) 9457 7130 or email info@amf.net.au or Kape Communications on (03) 9470 1099 or email kape@iinet.au

Rani Austin awarded internship at the Smithsonian Institute

The opportunity to attend the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC as an Intern is Rani Austin's first step in her aim to develop an educational, interpretative museum event based around 20th Century migration experiences.



MAPD applicants were invited to apply for the internship which coincides with the Smithsonian Festival in July this year.

As the successful applicant, Rani will be provided with AUS\$9000 from the Australia Council for the Arts to assist with flights, travel expenses and accommodation.

The internship is being managed by the AMF and Kape Communications. Rani will also receive US\$1,000 support from the Smithsonian Institute in addition to administrative support, access to information and advice.

A qualified and experienced museum director with an interest in the use of museum theatre techniques for interpreting collections, Rani's recent work has been the development of the *Making Australia Home* service for the National Archives of Australia. It was this project which inspired Rani to research and scope the development of the educational, interpretive museum theatre event based around 20th Century migration experiences.

Rani says the Smithsonian Internship will provide her with the necessary professional development to realise the later project stages to help fulfill her aim of the museum theatre.

Chinese Costumes shine at Immigration

The exhibition of Chinese Costumes held at the Immigration Museum in Melbourne closed on 15 March 2005 and was hailed an enormous success with significant numbers of people visiting during January and February this year.

The exhibition was part of the AMF's Cultural Exchange program with the State Ethnic Affairs Commission of the People's Republic of China.

The exhibition included costumes from the Chinese National Museum of Ethnology in Beijing, as well as garments and accessories from some of China's ethnic nationalities.

It was officially launched on 30 November 2004 by the Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Melbourne, The Hon Junting Tian, and Chairman of the AMF and Patron of the Immigration Museum, The Hon Sir James Gobbo.

The exhibition showcased immaculately crafted costumes from 14 of China's ethnic nationalities including the northern Kirgiz, Mongolian and Uygur, and southern Zhuang, Yao, Lisu, Miao and Jino.

The exhibition was on show for the first time in Australia and featured 58 individual costumes including wax-printed garments from the Miao people and colourfully embroidered Mongolian gowns.



The Museum also staged a Kids Fest Family Day on Sunday 16 January 2005, drawing a crowd of around 1500 people participating in a range of China-themed activities.

Children attending the Kids Fest day were able to create their own special Chinese crafts to take home, participate in a martial arts workshop, see the famous Lion Dance and learn more about Chinese music and culture.

The Immigration Museum is located in the heart of Melbourne and has won the National Tourism Award for Heritage and Cultural Tourism for three consecutive years including 2005.

The Museum stages a regular program of exhibitions and activities, including cultural festivals and school holiday workshops celebrating Victoria's cultural diversity.

For details about what's on at the Immigration Museum visit their website at www.immigration.museum.vic.gov.au

Call for expressions of interest to join business delegation to China

The AMF is proud to announce a new program for business people hoping to gain an insight into the legal and banking requirements when conducting business in China.

This new program will commence in August this year when a small group of selected business people travel to China to gain first hand knowledge on how to conduct business in the People's Republic of China (PRC). The AMF has had several delegations visit China under a Memorandum of Understanding between the State Ethnic Affairs Commission of the PRC, the Chinese Ethnic Minority Association and the AMF since 1995. These previous delegations have highlighted the positive relationships between Australia and the People's Republic of China by promoting cultural and educational exchanges between the two countries.

The business delegation aims to take this relationship one step further by imparting practical outcomes for Australian business people hoping to conduct business in China. For practical reasons the size of the delegation is limited to 20 people. Persons or businesses interested in participating in this program should contact the AMF on (03) 9347 6622 and ask for an expression of interest form. A program consultant will then contact you directly to discuss further details.

New AMF board member

The AMF prides itself on being able to attract inspirational people to its organisation and new board member Ms Carla Zampatti AM is its latest addition.

Most Australians, particularly women, recognise Carla as a fashion pioneer, a woman who has not only helped to shape fashion in this country since the early 60's, but ensured her designs raised the status of Australian fashion to an international level.



But those in the multicultural and business sectors recognise her for much more than that. She is now honored for her contributions to both business and the multicultural sectors.

Amongst her most elevated achievements, Carla was awarded the Medal of Australia, the Lyrebird Fashion Award, the Bulletin/Qantas Businesswoman of the Year Award, the Ufficiale of the Italian Republic (a special award given by the Italian government to Italians living overseas who have achieved excellence in their industries), and was voted Designer of the Year in 1994.

In 2004 Carla was elevated to Commendatore (Commander) in Italy's Order of Merit and most recently in 2005, was honored by Australia Post as an Australian Legend (with her own stamp) for her contribution to the Australian fashion industry as well as her influence on our national identity.

She is also recognised by major corporations as a valuable decision-maker and is currently Chairman of SBS, a Director of Westfield and McDonalds, and a Trustee of the Sydney Theatre Company Foundation.

The AMF welcomes Carla and looks forward to a long and prosperous relationship.

Support for people caring for dementia patients

The AMF's Aged Care Training Institute has produced another 3,500 of its 'Caring for a Person with Dementia' audiotapes in both English and Maltese in response to orders placed by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care.

The audio-tapes were originally produced in a bid to provide support for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds who were caring for people suffering from dementia.

The tapes were so successfully received by members of the multicultural community that they were produced in Greek, Italian, Polish, Russian, Turkish, Cantonese, Vietnamese and Maltese.

Funding for the tapes was provided by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care, the Australian Multicultural Foundation and RMIT University. To date over 23,000 audiotapes have been produced in over 8 languages.

Tapes can be ordered directly from the AMF on (03) 9457 7130.

Conference tackles culture and diversity in health

The Australian Resource Centre for Healthcare Innovations (ARCHI) is holding a conference aimed at addressing issues related to culture and diversity in healthcare delivery.

The conference 'Respecting Culture and Diversity: Innovations in Healthcare' will be held on 23 and 24 June 2005 at Hilton on the Park in Melbourne.

The conference will highlight strategic directions addressing relevant issues revolving around the diversity and culture of healthcare delivery. It will also showcase a number of healthcare delivery models while simultaneously examining policies, processes and innovations where the projects and solutions have been demonstrated as effective mechanisms for delivery.

ARCHI is auspiced by the Hunter New England Area Health Service and its mission is to support and increase the implementation of effective and quality innovations in clinical care in the Australian healthcare sector. Through its website, newsletter, discussion groups, enquiry service and seminars ARCHI helps to promote information sharing while preventing duplication of effort.

For program and registration details visit the ARCHI website, www.archi.net.au or email admin@archi.net.au

Voices of Australia

30 years of the Racial Discrimination Act



What is your story?

Send us a story from your life on one of the following themes. The themes are very broad so we can cover a wide range of stories.

Tell us about an important event or moment in your life.

- Australia...our home
- Unexpected friendships
- Breaking down barriers
- Racism... not in my backyard
- From tolerance to respect

For further information and examples of stories – www.humanrights.gov.au/voices

AMF's 4th Diversity Matters Forum in South Africa 2007

Monash University's South African campus will play host to the Fourth Diversity Matters Forum to be held in 2007 – furthering the already successful relationships established between Monash University, the AMF, the Commonwealth Foundation (UK) and the Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit, University of London.

Since its establishment in South Africa in 2001, Monash University has steadfastly gained a reputation as one of the most technologically advanced institutes in the country and is already making an important contribution to research in areas including governments, ecology, economics and pressing people issues.

Details about the Fourth Diversity Matters Forum will be available in the next edition of *UPDATE*.