

## NEWS

### The Australian Centre for Dialogue: Celebration of progress and new DVD

Senator Kate Lundy joined with Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Mandy Thomas and Project Director, Peter Hancock on 5 June to launch a new DVD promoting the Australian Centre for Dialogue and explaining the benefits of dialogue. Supporters of the Centre from the ANU and the community celebrated the raising the first \$10M dollars from a philanthropist and the new site for the Centre on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin in the National Humanities and Science Campus. The project to establish the Centre has been hosted by the ANU College of Law since 2004.

The celebration was held in the Conference Room overlooking the site where the Centre for Dialogue will be linked to Questacon and its proposed Garden of Wonder and the National Health and Medical Research Council's proposed Life and Health House. An architectural concept plan as commissioned to examine the linkages and synergies that can be achieved on this site in the National Humanities and Science campus which includes the National Library of Australia. This will be an outreach activity of the ANU to Australia and the Asia-Pacific.

The three speakers emphasised the importance of fostering constructive dialogue in Australia in resolving issues today and the need for a dedicated place for it where the architectural ambience and in-the-round configuration have proven beneficial effects on outcomes. The Centre will also serve as a boutique conference venue for the ANU, seating up to 160 persons in-the-round in the main dialogue theatre and smaller numbers in a range of dialogue rooms

A total of \$26M is required to commence construction and it is hoped that it can be up and running for the Centenary of Canberra in 2013.



Photograph from left: Professor Mandy Thomas, Peter Hancock and Senator Kate Lundy.

<http://www.anu.edu.au/dialogue/>