



**SENATOR JOHN FAULKNER  
CABINET SECRETARY  
SPECIAL MINISTER OF STATE**

**34/2008**

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**PRIME MINISTERS CENTRE FELLOWSHIPS**

Special Minister of State, Senator John Faulkner, today announced the recipients of eight Australian Prime Ministers Centre (APMC) Fellowships and one Summer Scholarship, provided by Old Parliament House.

The Fellowships allow researchers to explore the history of Australia's prime ministers and how they shaped the Australia we live in today.

Senator Faulkner said 'Now in its second year, the Australian Prime Ministers Centre Research and Scholarship Program is proving to be a truly valuable initiative that supports historians in researching and writing political history with a focus on Australia's heads of government. I am delighted that the program has attracted such a high calibre and diversity of applicants.'

The Fellows will undertake research projects on topics as diverse as the crucial role that radio played in Joseph Lyons' successful 1931 election campaign, and the roles of former Prime Ministers Hawke and Fraser in the human rights campaign for Soviet Jewry.

Recipients of the 2008-09 APMC Fellowships are Dr David Bird, Professor Carl Bridge, Dr David Lee, Professor Philippa Mein-Smith, Mr Michael Piggott, Mr Nick Richardson, Dr Suzanne Rutland and Mr Bob Wurth.

In addition to the Fellowship program, which is aimed at established researchers, Summer Scholarships are presented to students and graduates just starting their research careers. This year's recipient is Ms Isabelle Barrett Meyering.

Summer scholars work on research projects which contribute to Old Parliament House's public history program, with a focus on prime ministers.

The Fellowships are selected by an independent selection panel convened by Old Parliament House representing national collecting institutions and the academic community.

As the former Federal Parliament, and now a Heritage Listed tourist attraction, visitors can experience the rich history of Australia's political past through tours, events and exhibitions.

Information about the APMC can be found at [www.apmc.oph.gov.au](http://www.apmc.oph.gov.au) or [www.oph.gov.au](http://www.oph.gov.au).

For more information on 2008 Fellowship research projects or to arrange an interview please contact Michael Richards (02) 62708174 or Linda Macfarlane (02) 6270 8134

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