



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

2010 Australian
Laureate Fellows

Professor Margaret Jolly

Engendering persons, transforming things: Christianities, Commodities and Individualism in Oceania

Current Organisation: The Australian National University
Administering Organisation: The Australian National University
Primary research field: Anthropology and other studies in human society
National Research Priority: Safeguarding Australia

Professor Margaret Jolly is Professor of Gender Studies and Pacific Studies in the School of Culture, History and Language, College of Asia and the Pacific at The Australian National University (ANU). She is an historical anthropologist who has written extensively on gender, exploratory voyages and travel writing, missions and contemporary Christianity, maternity and sexuality, cinema and art in Oceania

Professor Jolly will address a profound and long-debated question about the historical interaction between Oceanic and Western constructs of the person and contemporary controversies about the role of Christianity and commoditization in the emergence of modern individualism in the region. The research will further Australia's pre-eminence in studies of Oceania, contribute to Australia's capacity to deliver successful development assistance in gender justice, health and law, and strengthen Australia's capacity to interpret and engage with regional and global environments through greater understanding of languages, societies, politics and cultures.

Professor Jolly was awarded her PhD in Anthropology from The University of Sydney. She was Head of the Gender Relations Centre at ANU from 1992-2009. She has held several visiting appointments at international institutions including Visiting Professor at the University of California at Santa Cruz, the Burns Distinguished Visiting Chair in History, at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa and Visiting Professor at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in France.

Professor Jolly is a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia. She is Vice-President of the Australian Association for the Advancement of Pacific Studies and currently editor of its e-journal *PacifiCurrents*. She is on the editorial boards of several journals including *The Asia-Pacific Journal of Anthropology*, *Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific*, and *The Australian Journal of Anthropology* and the Pacific Studies board of ANU E-Press.

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