OBITUARY

Melanie Beresford

It is with deep sorrow that the *Journal of Contemporary Asia* records the death of Editorial Board member Melanie Beresford. Our comrade of many years passed away on February 27, 2013.

Melanie received her Bachelor and Master degrees in Politics and History at Adelaide University and completed further studies at the University of Cambridge, receiving a Masters and PhD in Economics.

Melanie became a leading scholar of the political economy of Indochina. Her academic research and publications always insisted on the unity of theory and practice. During the Vietnam War era, she was very active in the anti-War and solidarity movement. As a supporter of liberation movements in Southeast Asia, Melanie also took an important part in trade union support committees, including those in Australia.


Melanie’s academic interests were always broad. For many years she focused on Vietnam’s transition from central planning to a market economy. At the same time, Melanie’s research interests included gender, environmental issues, the political economy of developing Asia, and much more. In all of this, Melanie was a dedicated political economist employing class analysis and interrogating theoretical issues. Her writing, from the very beginning, was steeped in a close reading and understanding of Marxist and classical political economy.

For over 20 years Melanie was in the Department of Economics at Macquarie University in Sydney, where her Dean explained that she “was admired by everyone for her courteous manner, her friendly and giving nature and her intellect.” Melanie was generous to her students, supporting them as they matured as scholars, with several of them publishing in this journal in recent years.

Melanie was a connoisseur of fine wine and food and a generous host. She was charming in gatherings and always intellectually ready for any discussion.
Her colleagues, students and friends established a blog page to pay tribute to her, with many photos and information about her (http://tributemb.wordpress.com/).

**Articles by Melanie Beresford in the *Journal of Contemporary Asia***:


At the *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, Melanie joined the Editorial Board in 1984 and remained a valuable member until her passing. She was a friend, colleague and comrade who worked tirelessly over many years for the journal. We will miss her immensely.

As a final tribute to Melanie, with our publisher, we have established a page of Melanie’s articles, available for download. This page includes all of the articles published in the *Journal of Contemporary Asia* and several others. To access these articles, go to: http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/access/melanieberesford.pdf.