

CITATION – Professor Desmond Ball, School of International, Political and Strategic Studies, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

The Peter Baume Award is the University's most prestigious award. It recognises eminent achievement and merit of the highest order.

Over more than 40 years at ANU, Professor Desmond Ball has offered sustained and exceptional service to the study of strategy and defence. Through his research, writing, teaching and advisory work, he has made an indelible mark on Australian defence policy, global strategic thinking and the security architecture of the Asia-Pacific region. After completing his PhD at the ANU in 1972, Professor Ball has gone on to produce more than 60 books and monographs, and innumerable articles, chapters and other outputs. The tremendous range of his scholarly interests and the impact of his professional contributions have been warmly recognized by global figures including United States President Jimmy Carter, and Australian Government Ministers such as Kim Beazley and Alexander Downer.

As Head of the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre from 1984 to 1991, and a Special Professor of the University for over 25 years, Professor Ball has taken responsibility for academic leadership in one of our most sensitive and important research areas. His pioneering contributions to understanding nuclear strategy, Australian defence, signals intelligence, regional security politics, and, most recently, conflict in Southeast Asia, have all been motivated by an unflinching commitment to rigour in policy-making.

As a founder and former Co-Chair of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific from 2000 to 2002, Professor Ball enjoys an unmatched status at regional security discussions and is widely regarded as the authoritative international voice in his areas of expertise. In recognition of these achievements, in 2012, the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore published a festschrift titled *Insurgent Intellectual*. In its words, Des Ball is the “gentle giant” of strategic studies.