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RACI ACT Branch Public Lecture - 18th Aug 18

The Art and Chemistry of Egyptian Mummification - Dr Karin Sowada

Date: **Saturday 18 August**

Time: **12 noon**

Venue: **Ann Harding Conference Theatre**

Building 24, University Drive South

University of Canberra

The Art and Chemistry of Egyptian Mummification

In recent years, the application of modern science has enabled us to literally see beneath the wrappings of Egyptian mummies. Research on a mummified body in Sydney dated to c. 1200 BC demonstrates the exceptional lengths to which the Egyptians prepared their dead. When combined with analyses on embalming chemicals, the great antiquity of these techniques is exposed, thus enabling a deeper understanding of the ideas that inspired the ancient Egyptians to preserve their dead in this unique way.

Dr Karin Sowada

Karin Sowada is an ARC Future Fellow in the Department of Ancient History at Macquarie University, leading the project 'Pyramids, Power and the Dynamics of States in Crisis'. She has worked on archaeological excavations in Egypt, Australia and Jordan for nearly 30 years and is a specialist in Egypt's foreign relations in the Middle East during the third millennium BC. From 1996-2005 she was Assistant Curator of the Nicholson Museum at Sydney University, during which time she conducted extensive research on Egyptian mummies in the collection.

Beyond academia, Karin has had an extensive career in community service, politics and public policy, including over six years as CEO (2008-2016) for a not-for profit company, and director of Mission Australia (2008-2017). In the early 1990s, Karin served as an Australian Democrats Senator for NSW in the Federal Parliament and was party spokesperson for Education, Youth and Science.

Price: AU \$ 5 (Inc. GST)