



# Vale to Paul Preda

Sandra van der Laan<sup>1\*</sup>

It is with great sadness that I learned of Paul's sudden passing on 24th October 2011 - one week short of his 38th birthday.

For those that knew Paul, one can only wonder at what he would have thought of the 'scene' he created on the Champs-Elysees in Paris when he suddenly collapsed. Paul apparently suffered from a form of congenital heart disease of which he was unaware and, despite the best efforts of an Air France pilot on the scene and later the medical staff at the hospital, he was not able to be revived.

Paul joined the staff in the Discipline of Accounting at Sydney University in July 2001 after stints at UTS and UWS. Paul was appreciated by all those who worked with him due to his unwavering good humour and quick wit. Paul took his teaching obligations seriously and was well-liked by his students. He was also making great strides towards the completion his PhD. Known for his immaculately tidy office and his quirky habits (the only person I know that watered down his Coke because it is too sweet). Paul enjoyed the 'good life' and it is with fond memories that I write this obituary reflecting on his friendship.

Paul will be missed terribly by all his colleagues at USYD and the wider academic community.

Paul is survived by his wife, Rebeca and son, Philip.

Sandra van der Laan

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