**Review of Euan Crone Asian Awareness Scholarships 2013 - 2015**The Euan Crone Asian Awareness Scholarship Scheme was initiated in   
  
response to calls from the wider community for young Australians to   
  
devote greater efforts to deepening awareness of countries of Asia   
  
and issues associated with the Asian Region.  
  
  
Applications were sought from young AIIA members Australia wide,  
  
with 32 applicants being received in 2013 from all States and Territories,  
  
apart from South Australia. Most applicants were from students   
  
undertaking undergraduate courses in international relations, Asian   
  
studies or international development. In addition, there were applicants  
  
from among those young people who wished to develop their skills in  
  
Asian languages.   
  
  
Members of the 2013 Selection Committee sought to ensure the four  
  
successful candidates chosen, included representatives from different  
  
States and territories of Australia with an interest in differing target   
  
countries. In 2013, scholarship winners were from Western Australia,  
  
Victoria and New South Wales, with projects based in China, India,  
  
Indonesia and Vietnam.   
  
  
Although 23 applications for the Euan Crone Asian Awareness   
  
Scholarships were received in 2014 or nine less than in 2013,   
  
a sizeable number were still centred on developing or upgrading   
  
proficiency in Asian languages. Whilst recognizing that language skills  
  
are vital to the deepening of knowledge and understanding of Asia,  
  
the Selection Committee decided that from 2015 onwards, it would no   
  
longer consider applications for a scholarship aimed solely at Asian   
  
language proficiency skills.   
  
  
The Selection Committee was also concerned to encourage  
  
applications (particularly those for undergraduate studies) that were  
  
based on specific topics or research proposals.   
  
  
The four recipients of the 2014 Euan Crone Asian Awareness grants   
  
came from Victoria, Western Australia and Queensland and were   
  
awarded for research into aspects of contemporary Myanmar,  
  
Cambodia, China and Indonesia.   
  
  
In 2015, the Selection Committee once again placed emphasis on   
  
research into hitherto unreported aspects of Asia and Asian countries.

Four grants were made to young AIIA members from Queensland,   
  
the ACT and Western Australia. These were for research into   
  
Tropical Health (Singapore), the role of women in the legal profession  
  
(Mongolia), differing approaches to International Development and its  
  
management (South Korea) and the Politics of Leadership (Taiwan).   
  
  
Two applications were received from AIIA members for grants to  
  
cover the elections in Myanmar on the one hand and the Presidential  
  
elections in Taiwan on the other. The Selection Committee was of the   
  
view that the Euan Crone Asian Awareness Scholarships were not   
  
designed to provide coverage of current events, something that was  
  
being done by other organizations and established media sources.  
  
However the visit to Taiwan was funded, as the Presidential elections   
  
in Taiwan formed part of a broader examination of the politics of  
  
leadership in that region under a PhD study undertaken at the ANU.   
  
  
**Findings and Recommendations**    
   
  
1. The Review showed that there are interested, young Australians   
  
capable of successfully undertaking a project aimed at deepening   
  
Australian awareness of Asian countries or the Region as a whole.  
  
This was by way of in-country research into hitherto unknown or   
  
widely understood aspects of a country or the Asian Region as a whole.   
  
  
2. It was also felt that older members of the AIIA and in particular former  
  
diplomats and Australian expatriates, have much to offer younger   
  
members in advice and guidance on in-country conditions.  
  
  
3. Accordingly, it is recommended the Euan Crone Asian Awareness   
  
Scholarship Scheme be continued, with even greater emphasis being  
  
placed on post-graduate rather than undergraduate, research in-country.  
  
  
Euan John Dalrymple Crone, 14 September 2016