**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