

Australian Institute of International Affairs Victoria

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ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016

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Mr John Woods

COMMITTEES

Finance

Programme

Sir Zelman Cowen Oration

Study Tour

International Careers Conference

VCE Schools Programme

University Development

Building, OHS & Library

Young Professionals Forum

Marketing & Communications

Membership

Chair: Mr Greg Romanes

Chair: Mr Alastair Roff

Chair: Mr Breck Hilton

Chair: Mr Matthew Di Leo

Chair: The Hon David Harper AM

Chair: Ms Robyn Byrne OAM

Chair: The Hon David Harper AM

Chair: Ms Robyn Byrne OAM

Chair: Ms Eileen McInnes

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Chair: Mr Greg Wills

The Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA) is an independent membership based organisation which promotes the objective study of international affairs. It has no political biases and hears all views. Founded in 1925, it was established as a federal organisation in 1933. The Institute has its national headquarters at Stephen House in Canberra, and branches in all states and Canberra. Like its sister Institutes in New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and India, it is affiliated with the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, London.

The AIIA provides a forum for discussion and research on subjects of topical and continuing interest through meetings, conferences and seminars addressed by distinguished specialists and public figures. Over the years, these meetings have contributed much to informing public opinion on international affairs and have assisted the development of the Australian Diplomatic Service and the study of international issues in Australia.

The AIIA Victoria (AIIAV) is housed in Dyason House, named after E.C. Dyason, a prominent past member and one of its most generous benefactors.

Membership is open to any individuals who are Australian residents, to corporate bodies, to diplomatic representatives, schools and students.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Last year was a terrific year for AIIA in Victoria. We have had increased activity, increased involvement and we are on a slightly better financial footing.

From the outside, everything seems to be going swimmingly well but that is because it is a paddling duck syndrome.

We are a volunteer organisation and rely so much on our Volunteers, Interns, Council Members and Members of our Committees. It is these people who collaborate together to produce, not only for our Members, but for the wider community, information, videos, the events and everything in order to improve our "product" together with Peta McDermott, our Executive Officer.

Rather than writing the whole report myself I thought it better this year for the various Council Members and others who are responsible for various aspects of our activities to put in their own reports.

Membership

During the course of the year our Membership fell from 534 to 478; partly due to the number of Couples. We hope to build our Membership this year by following up on all those non-Members who attend our Events.



Donors

As mentioned below, those of you who make donations to the AIIA provide us with the wherewithal to keep improving our programme. In particular, I would like to thank The Walter Mangold Trust Fund for their grant which enables us to provide opportunities for the young to do things which would be otherwise outside their ability to pay such as attending our National Conferences, the Sir Zelman Cowen Oration and other opportunities

The list of those who have been kind enough to make a donation in the course of the year are listed on page 6.

Study Tours

We did not have a Study Tour in the year to 30 June 2016. Nevertheless, we had one to Sri Lanka in July 2016 (see below). Given the very positive response to date we are most likely to have a Study Tour to Iran beginning 8 April 2017, with much preparatory work having already been done.

Interns

It is a sad state of affairs that the Fair Work Ombudsman is putting our business in jeopardy by vastly restricting the nature of unpaid work that can be done by our Volunteers and Interns and maybe even our

Council Members! Even worse than that, it means that those Volunteers and Interns seeking experience working with a not-for-profit like ourselves may not be able to find positions in the future. It is far more to their detriment than to ours. There have been so many examples of Interns who have worked with us and indeed other parts of the AIIA throughout Australia who have benefited from the experience they have had with us. For, in many cases, such internships have helped them launch their careers.

Council

Lastly and most importantly, I wish to thank your Council Members for all their work and their great contribution. We accomplished much this year; and this makes for a better year next year.

I look forward to an eventful year ahead; and to your participation in it.

Patrick Moore

President

Highlights of the Year

90th Anniversary Luncheon

We held a special anniversary luncheon in September 2015 to celebrate 90 years of dedication to the promotion of the discussion and debate of international affairs. It was held in the stately environs of Queens Hall at the Parliament of Victoria. Our guest speaker was Professor Geoffrey Blainey AC, who gave an excellent talk on Australia's Foreign Policy from 1904 to 2044 titled "Maps for the Pilot".



Prof Geoffrey Blainey AC presenting at the 90th Anniversary luncheon.

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

A joint event with our national office was held in February 2016 with a visit of a senior delegation from **Konrad Adenauer Stiftung** (KAS), the German political foundation associated with the Christian Democratic Union. KAS funds good governance and democracy through projects in 120 countries.



Konrad Adenauer Stiftung delegation with AIIAV President Patrick Moore, National Executive Director Melissa Conley Tyler and Prof Bruce Wilson, RMIT EU Centre

One Korea Seminar

We were delighted to Partner with the Consulate-General of the Republic of Korea for a special **One Korea Seminar** in August 2015. Discussion was on North Korean human rights issues and the outlook for the unification of the two Koreas. Keynote speakers were the Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG, who was the former chair of the UN Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in DPRK; the Consul-General of the Republic of Korea, Mr JO Hongju; and the Hon Michael Danby MHR, Federal Member for Melbourne Ports.



The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG at the One Korea Seminar

Other highlights, being the [International Careers Conference](#) and the [Sir Zelman Cower Oration](#) are listed below.

Study Tours

Much interest was generated by the programme created for a Study Tour to Japan. However final commitments were not enough for the Study Tour to proceed. A lot of energy was invested in preparing the itinerary with Council Members Robyn Byrne and Matthew Di Leo, and we were most grateful for the assistance by the Consul-General of Japan, John Richardson at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Robert Day Travel.

Preparations then proceeded for the 2016 Study Tour to Sri Lanka. The broad ranging programme included briefings and consultations with high level officials in government and other organisations, as well as visits to important tourism locations. We had tremendous support in organising the Tour from many parties including the Consul-General of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Mr Prasanna Gamage. In May, we were visited by the Hon. Mangala Samaraweera, the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, and H.E. Mr Skandakumar, the High Commissioner in Australia, to brief us and give us input on our Study Tour. His Excellency, Mr. Bryce Hutchesson the Australian High Commissioner in Sri Lanka, was also most helpful in organising our programme in Sri Lanka.

Volunteers and Interns

With such a busy programme of events we rely heavily on the terrific contribution of all our Volunteers. We are appreciative of the time given by all our Volunteers. Special mention should be made of Robyn Young who has been a regular for the past three years; ensuring that our finances are in perfect shape. Our fulsome thanks go to others who have helped over the past year: Can Qin, Sebastian Fuente, Olivia Clarke, Daniel Ryan, Mojgan Mossadegh, Isaac Kabochi, Phillip Mai, Patrick O’Gorman, Ainsley Carter, Grace Anthony, Dr Lesley Crowe-Delaney, Malvina Predecki, Victoria Xu, Malsha Panapiti, Shane Hadden and Michael Slater.

We relied heavily on our Interns throughout the year. Internships awarded during the year included:

- Programme: Dylan O’Beirne and Megan Giles.
- Communications: Sandra Silea;

- Marketing and Communications: Sheldon Heyes Clark;
- Membership: Morgan Pickett;
- President: Matthew Barrett;
- International Careers Conference: in 2015 Brigid O’Farrell and Marleen Honig, in 2016, Henry Meek, Gavin Height, Jack Simmonds and Stephanie Armstrong.



AIIAV volunteers and interns with young Council Members Eileen McInnes, Sean Jesudason and Sinead Ferris, President Patrick Moore, National Executive Director Melissa Conley Tyler, Council Member Alastair Roff and Executive Officer Peta McDermott.

There is a great team working behind the scenes to produce our e-magazine, Quarterly Access. Our thanks go to Hector Sharp, Jennifer Fang, Tamara Tubakovic, Felicity Driver, Nina Roxburgh, Anna Rabin and Rachel Kaye.

Members of the Young Professionals Forum are noted in the report on page 9.

Vale Professor John Legge AO, FAIIA, 1921 – 2016

We were deeply saddened by the death on 4 February this year of one of our great contributors, Professor John Legge AO FAIIA.

He had a long and distinguished service on the Council of the AIIA Victoria, including as President from 1963-1966. John’s genuine love of the Institute saw him involved in many aspects of its development over the decades, and he was highly regarded for both his institutional and academic knowledge, and for his considerable wisdom. In recognition of his services to the AIIAV, the library was named in his honour, and he was made a Life Member in 1999. He was also a Friend of the AIIA.

In addition to his Branch commitments, John was very active at the National level, including as Chair of the Research Committee from 1973 – 1978. He also authored a book on the history of the Institute, *Australian Outlook*, which was published in 1999. He will be sadly missed.

Benefactors

We are most indebted to our many Donors. In particular we are indebted to The Walter Mangold Trust Fund for their continued support of our Interns, Volunteers and younger Members. In particular, this has enabled them to participate in functions such as the 90th Anniversary luncheon and the Sir Zelman Cowen Oration. The Sir Wilfred Brookes Charitable Foundation has also been terrific in promoting the AIIA. I thank all who have contributed to the financial well-being of the Institute.

The Friends of the AIIA Society

The Society was established to recognise and honour those who generously support the AIIA. We thank our Friends for this year:

Mr C H Brookes
The Hon David Harper AM
Mr Frank Mahlab & Dr Eve Mahlab AO
Mr Stephen Spargo AM
Ms Zara Kimpton OAM
Mr Patrick Moore

Donations

We are most grateful to all who contribute to the AIIA. Those contributions enable us to do that little bit extra which makes the Institute such a wonderful organisation.

Mr C H Brookes
Mr John Brookes
Mr Andrew Farran
The Hon David Harper AM
Dr Michael Henry AM
Ms Zara Kimpton OAM
Mr Frank Mahlab & Dr Eve Mahlab AO
Mr Patrick Moore
Mr Richard Morgan AM
Mr Jonathan Ramsden
Mr Michael Rodd
Mr Stephen Spargo AM
Dr Kim Wright
Mrs Ethel White
Mrs Jenny Varcoe-Cocks

AIIA Fellows

There were no Victorians appointed as Fellows of the AIIA last year.

Victorian Advisory Board.

During the course of the year the Victorian Advisory Board was formed with the Hon Jim Short being the Chairman. Other Members on that Committee include Hugh Morgan AC, Zara Kimpton OAM, Trish Ritman, Les Rowe, Jim Short and Ian Wilcock. The objective of the Committee is to advise the President on various matters and also to increase the profile of the AIIA in Melbourne and in particular amongst the business community.



AIIAV Council Member Sinead Ferris, Intern Sandra Silea, members Trish Ritman and Pat Pettit, and Estelle Parker, then Deputy State Director - Victoria, DFAT, at the Festive Luncheon.

The Programme

Thank you to all who attended our Events Programme this year. Your presence and interest ensures that the hard work that goes into preparing the Programme is worthwhile. Our gratitude goes particularly to our Speakers who so generously gave their time to address us.



AIIAV Council Member Greg Wills with the Ambassador of Belgium, HE Mr Jean-Luc Bodson

There were 38 events during the year directly related to the Programme. A wide range of geopolitical and international issues were covered, including the UN Sustainable Development Goals; the UN Human Rights Council; Rebuilding States after War; the Past and Future of War; Crimes against the

Environment; and the Implications of 'Brexit' to name but a few. Our geographical focus ranged from the Arabian Peninsula, and Asia to Zimbabwe, with talks on North Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, China, Brazil and Turkey rounding out an extensive global coverage.



President Patrick Moore; HE Mr John Quinn, Australian Ambassador and Permanent Representative, the United Nations, Geneva; and Council Member Alastair Roff

We continue to work closely with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and are particularly grateful for the valuable cooperation we receive in being able to host returning Ambassadors and High Commissioners as they pass through Melbourne. Talks by DFAT Representatives to the UN in Geneva, to the African Union, and from New York and Fiji proved especially popular. Presentations by the Ambassadors of Belgium and Cuba, and the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka were all likewise warmly received by members.



National Vice President Zara Kimpton OAM, the Hon Mangala Samaraweera, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka, AIIAV President Patrick Moore, HE Mr Somasundaram Skandakumar, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka.

We have held several partnership events at venues other than Dyason House, and will continue to do so periodically to be able to provide access to different events for our

members. We have also held a number of Round-table functions, notably that with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka, offering the opportunity for informal discussion with visiting dignitaries.

The Interns on the Programme Committee, Dylan O'Beirne (September-December), and Megan Giles (February-June) provided invaluable support and assistance, as did Sandra Silea (September-December) and Sheldon Heyes Clark (from April) in their support roles as Marketing/Communications Intern. The members of the Programme Committee itself are thanked for their active contribution throughout the year:

Cate Pickett (Chair until December); Alastair Roff (Chair from January); Patrick Moore; Ian Howie; John Woods; Kelly MacDonald; Mia Davison; Michael Henry; Peta McDermott; Toni Feddersen; Greg Wills; Rhys Hulme; Malvina Predecki and Iain MacGillivray.



HE Mr José Manuel Galego Montano, Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba, with member Elisabeth Perrin

Valuable feedback was received from members at the General Meeting on 26th May 2016. We have already incorporated many of the suggested topics in to the forward schedule, e.g. South China Sea, China's 'One Belt, One Road' Initiative, and the Middle East. We will also be focusing in the year ahead on the themes of Trade, Elections and Global Governance.

The Committee will continue to work to deliver a stimulating and diverse range of events to the Programme.

Alastair Roff

The list of Speakers follows on page 12.

Sir Zelman Cowen Oration 2015

On Thursday 8 October, the 2015 Sir Zelman Cowen Oration was presented by Mr Amed Fahour, CEO of Australia Post, on *"I'll Ride with You: Social Inclusion and Resilience in an Era of Violent Extremism"*, a most thought provoking speech for the times. The appreciation was provided by Mr Steven Skala AO, Vice Chairman, Australia and New Zealand, Deutsche Bank AG.

The Oration was held once again in the distinguished surrounds of The Australian Club. We were delighted that Lady Cowen was able to attend, along with National Vice President Zara Kimpton OAM, National Director Melissa Conley Tyler and AIIAV Past President Andrew Farran.



Mr Amed Fahour and Mr Steven Skala AO

Special thanks to The Walter Mangold Trust Fund for their generous support of a number of young members to attend the event. Thanks also to corporate sponsors Australia Post, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and PwC, and to members who organised tables.

A most interesting and enjoyable evening was had by our 165 guests. The topical nature of the Oration generated much discussion and received wide media coverage. Our thanks to organisers Breck Hilton, John Allen and Peta McDermott.

Breck Hilton

International Careers Conference 2015

The 11th International Careers Conference (ICC) was held on Friday, 21 August 2015 at the ANZ Pavilion in the Victorian Arts Centre. We were extremely grateful for the conference sponsorship by Deakin University and venue support by the Victorian Arts Centre.

The purpose of the ICC is to provide students with insights into the varied career paths open to those considering embarking on an international career and the implications of working overseas.

Keynote speakers were Prof. Dineli Mather, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Graduate Employment) at Deakin University; Tim Costello AO, Chief Executive World Vision Australia, and John Richardson, former Ambassador in a number of countries, who once again spoke entertainingly and insightfully about careers in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

There were also three panel discussions. The first chaired by Leonard Vary of the Myer Foundation featured Prof Brendan Crabb AC of the Burnet Institute, Sarah Davies then Chief Executive of the Reach Foundation and Paul Ronalds, Chief Executive, Save the Children Australia. This was followed by the business panel chaired by AIIAV Council Member John Allen, discussing international careers in business with Larry Kamener of the Boston Consulting Group, Laura Tyler of BHP Billiton and Didier Van Not of Westpac. The final panel chaired by Kathy Townsend of Australian Volunteers International featured Michaela Browning of Austrade, Matt Carrick of the Victorian Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources and Jane Gronow of Futureye. In all these sessions there were informative question and answer exchanges between speakers and the more than 200 engaged undergraduate and postgraduate students who attended the conference.



Our thanks go to Committee Chair John Allen and the AIIAV team ably led by Sinead Ferris, with admirable support by Brigid O'Farrell and Marlene Honig, working closely with the Executive Officer, Peta McDermott. Their hard work was critical in making the 2015 ICC such a successful day for those seeking

information on international careers; also an annual initiative by the AIIAV that is now regularly producing a nicely profitable contribution to the annual revenue.

John Allen

Young Professionals Forum

The Young Professionals Forum has been in a refinement and planning year driven by Council Members Sean Jesudason and Eileen McInnes, with the core team of Kelly MacDonald, Rhys Hulme, Warren Evans and Hayden Meney.

The Forum presented two events over the period looking at a film night in partnership with the Human Rights Arts and Film Festival and the annual Trivia Night, as well as planning for the first ever internship event in partnership with Monash International Affairs Society.

Eileen McInnes



All that study was worthwhile - success at the YPF Trivia Night 2015

Our Financial Situation

The Institute recorded a profit of \$22,517 for the year ended 30 June 2016 compared with \$8,390 in the previous year. During 2016, there was growth in the support of functions

held and therefore function income was higher as were the costs of functions, membership subscriptions continued to be strong and grants and donations providing solid support for the Institute's operations.

On July 1, 2015 the Institute introduced Cash accounting to replace the Accrual accounting we had been using. This has resulted in some minor adjustments. The auditor has advised that these adjustments are not of a material nature.

Greg Romanes

Dyason House

The committee consisted of Greg Romanes and then Robyn Byrne. A satisfactory assessment of the safety of the building was completed for 2016.

Negotiations with an extension of the lease with the current tenants was also completed for two years and minor maintenance work was carried out in the tenant area.

Maintenance occurred on the backstairs, the back kitchen window and the roof, and the side gate was repaired with a post and new latch. The boiler required a new pump. We spent \$1,000 on maintenance of the garden to fix the path which was being raised by the roots of the silver birch.

Pat Pettit continues to work on culling the Library of periodicals that are readily available at other Libraries.

Discussions have occurred on the possibility of installing a lift but it appears that we would be required to install an access ramp and lose a car park at the back. No decision on this has been made as yet.

Robyn Byrne OAM

Listed below are the names of all those who kindly made a donation to and sponsored AIIA Victoria during the year. The Institute would like to thank all of these people and institutions for this invaluable assistance in its ongoing efforts to upgrade its activities and to improve the facilities at Dyason House.

DONATIONS

Mr C H (Roger) Brookes

Mr John Brookes

Mr Andrew Farran

The Hon David Harper AM

Dr Michael Henry AM

Ms Zara Kimpton OAM

Dr Eve Mahlab AO &
Mr Frank Mahlab

Mr Patrick Moore

Mr Richard Morgan AM

Mr Jonathan Ramsden

Mr Michael Rodd

Mr Stephen Spargo AM

Dr Kim Wright

Mrs Ethel White

Mrs Jenny Varcoe-Cocks

SPONSORS

The Walter Mangold Trust Fund

Mr Euan Crone

Deakin University

The Sir Wilfred Brookes Charitable
Foundation

Victorian Arts Centre

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

Category	30/06/2012	30/06/13	30/06/14	30/06/15	30/06/2016
Standard	141	148	160	193	169
Concession	119	108	115	111	134
Institutional	7	3	8	6	5
Spouse	41	38	33	33	18
School	18	18	8	9	3
Student	125	102	115	147	105
Speakers	34	35	30	31	37
Life Members	4	4	4	4	3
Honorary	4	4	4	4	4
Total	493	460	477	538	478

AIIA PAST FUNCTIONS

1st July 2015 – 30th June 2016

2 July 2015	Dr Denis Dragovic , University of Melbourne, and International Development Expert	<i>Friend or Foe: Religion and Rebuilding States after War</i>
28 July 2015	Mr Andrew Parker , Partner – Deals and Asia Practice Leader, PWC	<i>Australian Business: Missing the Asian opportunity?</i>
4 August 2015	<i>Partnership event with the Consulate-General of the Republic of Korea.</i> Mr JO Hongju , Consul-General of the Republic of Korea, The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG , and The Hon Michael Danby MHR	<i>One Korea Seminar</i>
12 August 2015	Mr John Thwaites , Chairman, Monash Sustainability Institute and Climate Works Australia	<i>Transforming our World - the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals</i>
13 August 2015	<i>Partnership event with the Melbourne School of Government</i> Prof Alex J Bellamy , The University of Queensland	<i>Contemporary UN Peacekeeping: Development and Challenges</i>
18 August 2015	Mr Greg Sheridan , Foreign Editor, <i>The Australian</i>	<i>The Cold War: Its critical impact on our political values</i>
20 August 2015	Mr Hillel C Neuer , Executive Director, UN Watch, Geneva	<i>What's Wrong with the UN Human Rights Council?</i>
21 August 2015	International Careers Conference	
27 August 2015	Mr Ronan Lee , Deakin University	<i>The Rohingyas - the most persecuted people today?</i>
4 September 2015	Professor Geoffrey Blainey AC	<i>AIIAV 90th Anniversary Luncheon Maps for the Pilot: Australia's Foreign Policy 1904-2044</i>
10 September 2015	Mr Terry McCrann , Financial and Economic Journalist	<i>Understanding the Greek Financial Crisis and its Importance for Europe...and the Rest of the World</i>
17 September 2015	Professor Steven Freeland , Western Sydney University; Visiting Professor, iCourts Centre of Excellence for International Courts, Denmark; Director, International Institute of Space Law	<i>Space Entrepreneurship and Future Legal Challenges</i>
24 September 2015	Dr David Tittensor , Research Fellow to the UNESCO Chair for Cultural Diversity and Social Justice, Deakin University	<i>Turkey's Kurdish Election Surprise: Unpacking the 2015 national election</i>

8 October 2015	Sir Zelman Cowen Oration Mr Ahmed Fahour , MD & CEO, Australia Post, and Patron, the Islamic Museum of Australia. Appreciation by Mr Steven Skala AO	<i>I'll Ride with You: Social inclusion and resilience in an era of violent extremism</i>
15 October 2015	Dr Tom Quirk , Visiting Fellow, Deakin University	<i>Welcome to the Yellow Brick Maze: Innovation for Australia</i>
22 October 2015	Mr Andrew Hewett , former Executive Director, Oxfam Australia	<i>Challenges for Humanitarian Assistance</i>
28 October 2015	Ms Jacqueline Zwambila , Asia Pacific Representative, Movement for Democratic Change, and former Ambassador of Zimbabwe	<i>Forgotten Struggle: Zimbabwe's long road to democracy</i>
9 November 2015	Dr Michelle Foster , The University of Melbourne	<i>Young Professionals Forum, film night and discussion Evaporating Borders</i>
11 November 2015	Dr John Basarin OAM & Mrs Hatice Basarin , Authors	Book launch <i>The Gallipoli Campaign through Turkish Eyes</i>
25 November 2015	Annual General Meeting	
30 November 2015	The Hon Ted Baillieu , former Premier of Victoria Chair, ANZAC Centenary Committee	<i>The Life and Legacy of Sir John Monash</i>
1 December 2015		Young Professionals Forum event – All welcome. <i>Trivia Night</i>
7 December 2015	The Hon Nick Minchin , Australian Consul-General in New York	<i>US Presidential Elections: What do they mean for Australia?</i>
10 December 2015	Mr John McCarthy AO , Immediate Past National President, Australian Institute of International Affairs; former Australian Ambassador to Vietnam, Mexico, Thailand, USA, Indonesia and Japan; and former High Commissioner to India	Festive Luncheon <i>Advancing Together: Growing Australia's Regional Relationships</i>
17 February 2016	HE Mr Jean-Luc Bodson , Ambassador of Belgium	<i>Migration, Terrorism and other Crises: The European model under threat?</i>
18 February 2016	Professor Azar Gat , Ezer Weitzman Professor for National Security, Tel Aviv University, Israel	<i>The Past and Future of War</i>
25 February 2016	Dr Ben Habib , La Trobe University	<i>Social Swings and Nuclear Roundabouts – North Korea in 2016</i>
1 March 2016	Mr Kerim Balci , Editor-in-Chief, <i>Turkish Review</i>	<i>Roundtable with Mr Kerim Balci, Editor-in-Chief, Turkish Review</i>
3 March 2016	Emeritus Professor Bruce Jacobs , Monash University	<i>Taiwan's Presidential and Legislative Elections – Implications for Taiwan, Australia and the Asia-Pacific</i>

9 March 2016	Sir Nigel Broomfield KCMG , former UK Ambassador to Germany	<i>The UK and the EU – The many implications of “Brexit”</i>
17 March 2016	HE Mr José Manuel Galego Montano , Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba	<i>Cuba – Challenges, Opportunities and Optimism</i>
22 March 2016	Professor Cameron Simmons , Department of Microbiology & Immunology, The University of Melbourne	<i>Wrestling with the Zika Virus: Knowledge gaps, policy conundrums and the international response</i>
4 April 2016	Roundtable with The Hon. Mangala Samaraweera Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka	<i>Roundtable with The Hon. Mangala Samaraweera Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sri Lanka</i>
13 April 2016	HE Mr John Quinn , Australian Ambassador and Permanent Representative, the United Nations, Geneva	<i>Australia in Geneva: Interests and issues at the United Nations</i>
14 April 2016	Mr Desmond Moore , Director, Institute for Private Enterprise.	<i>Dangerous Global Warming - Fact or Fiction? Limits of the Paris Accord</i>
27 April 2016	Professor John Fitzgerald FAHA , President, Australian Academy of the Humanities, Swinburne University	<i>Australia's Public Diplomacy Challenges in the Asian Century</i>
5 May 2016	Mr Tom Harley , Joint Managing Director, Dragoman Global	<i>The Outlook for the Arabian Peninsula</i>
12 May 2016	HE Mr Mark Sawers , Australian Ambassador to Ethiopia and Permanent Representative to the African Union	<i>Australia's Place in Africa – Diplomacy, development and deeper relations</i>
16 May 2016	Professor Steven Freeland , Western Sydney University <i>Law Week Partner Event</i>	<i>Crimes against the Environment under International Criminal Law</i>
25 May 2016	HE Mr Somasundaram Skandakumar , High Commissioner of Sri Lanka. In preparation for the Sri Lanka Study Tour in July 2016	<i>Sri Lanka - Peace and Prosperity, Democracy and Development</i>
26 May 2016	General Meeting of Members	
1 June 2016	Mr Brett Hackett , former Australian Ambassador to Brazil	<i>Brazil and the Rio Olympics - Now not the only games in town?</i>
2 June 2016	HE Ms Margaret Twomey , High Commissioner to Fiji	<i>Fiji and Diplomacy between Neighbours</i>
16 June 2016	Dr Kerstin Steiner , Monash University	<i>Malaysian Politics, Law and Economics: The 1MBD Scandal</i>
27 June 2016	Professor Marco Sassoli , Professor of International Law, University of Geneva	<i>Is the Law of Armed Conflict in Crisis?</i>