Minutes, Thursday 12 June 2014.

1. **Attendance and apologies.**
   Members attending, Ann Corlett, Antony Green, John Gore, Alice Oppen, and Emily Scanlan together with Michael Jackson, Peter Chen and Christopher Neff (for item 4 below), and Kate McFarlane (for item 5 below).

   Representatives from student societies were: Holly McRath and Rhys Pogonoski of the Sydney University United Nations Society, Joel Schubert of the Politics Society, Virat Nehru of The Sydney Globalist, and Alex Zubrzycki of the International and Global Studies Society for item 4 below.

   Apologies Trevor Cook, Jeannie Douglass, Rosie Giddings, Ross Gittins, Alister Henskens, and Michael Lambert.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting**
   The minutes were approved.

3. **Matters arising**
   All were covered elsewhere in the agenda.

4. **Student Societies.**
   The Politics Society, the Sydney University United Nations Society, The Sydney Globalist, and the International and Global Studies Society representatives discussed their organizations and programs.

   The societies are committed to joint sponsorship of events, especially those involving guest speakers to reduce multiple approaches.

   Dr. Chen suggested that the several societies cooperate to produce a shared calendar of activities, deadlines, and events each year. This calendar could then used to support the societies with room bookings, recruiting guest speakers, publicity, and the like. He also suggested that liaison with student societies be written into the job description of the II/III Undergraduate coordinator.

   Ms. McFarlane can help with publicity through the alumni newsletter.

   Ms. Corlett will inquire further into room booking fees for these societies.

   In the subsequent discussion members concluded having societies together made it easier to understand the differences among them, and also to identify the points of common concern.

5. **Best and Brightest**
   The Committee found the 2014 edition the best Best and Brightest to date for the quality of the panel, and the turnout. Dr. Jackson outlined the methods he was testing to increase feedback from the audience which can
be used to explain and justify the event, including Socrative (http://www.socrative.com).

6. **World Politics**
The deadline for advertising a 2015 offering of World Politics is soon.

7. **Chair of Department**
Acting Chair of Department, Professor Rodney Smith, PhD, discussed staff changes including the incoming Chair, Professor Colin Wight, PhD, and the development of the new social science building behind the Watt Building near the Ross Street gate. Professor Graeme Gill will be retiring at the end of the year and the Department is advertising for two entry lecturers in comparative politics.

8. **Alumni**
Ann Corlett report on current work with the Database Manager of the Alumni Office, Mr. Jimmie Buck.

9. **Chair of Committee**
See below. Note attachment 1 below for continuing action items.

10. **Think Tank liaison**
Jackson reported on Michael Lambert's visit to the Australian Institute of International Affairs. See attachment 2.

11. **Notice Board display**
Jackson noted that the Department noticeboards now include the members of the this committee as they are shown on the web site. No individual contact information appears. Inquiries will be directed to Jackson.

12. **Any other business**
Alice Oppen was the invited speaker at the School of Social Sciences Prizes Ceremony at 6 pm in the Nicholson Museum. Several members retired to that ceremony.

13. **Future meetings**
Jackson asked whether members would like to consider a dinner with partners, friends at the end of the September meeting. He undertook to poll members.

2014 meetings: Thursday 4-6 pm on 11 September and 11 December.

Attachment 1.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda Item</th>
<th>Action</th>
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<tr>
<td>4. Student Societies</td>
<td>Monitor calendar</td>
<td>Michael Jackson to liaise with Dr. Peter Chen</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
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5. **Best and Brightest Sponsorship**

| 7. Chair of Department’s Report. | Set end-of-year Department drinks to coincide the External Advisory Committee’s last annual meeting on 11 December, if possible | Michael Lambert and Michael Jackson | Suggested. |


| 10. Think Tank liaison | Visits | Michael Lambert and Michael Jackson | Continuing. |

| 13. Dinner | Member, partners, friends, etc. | After the September meeting. | To be advised. |

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**Attachment 2.**

**Meeting Note: Meeting with select Think Tanks**

Meeting with the Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA) 5 June 2014 At Glover Cottage, Millers Point

**Present**

AIIA: Colin Chapman, Bob Howard, Jocelyn Chey, Louise Graham, and Richard Broinowski

External Advisory Committee: Michaels Lambert and Jackson

This meeting was initiated by the EAC in order to commence exploring ways in which the Department of Government and International Relations (DGIR) and the Australian Institute for International Affairs (AIIA) might assist each other in achieving their respective purposes.

The discussion opened with a brief history of the AIIA and the community liaison activities of the External Advisory Committee of DGIR.

The AIIA noted that they had planned to contact DGIR and various other equivalent departments on other campuses to explore whether and how they could work together. The timing of the visit offers the DGIR in a leading role.

The AIIA raised the following matters by way of background information:
• The AIIA has only one part-time staff member and needs administrative support, especially regarding database management (which includes mailing list, memberships) with the question of whether there was a creative way that partnership between AIIA and DGIR could help.

• It advertises on-line and recruits about six (6) interns a semester, receiving thirty (30) applications each time and they appear mainly to work on the research and support for visiting speakers.

• The AIIA has a weekly program on Tuesdays and it has an extensive network of contacts in diplomacy, international affairs, DFAT, non-government agencies, aid agencies, DOD, foreign service, journalists, consulates in Sydney, and more.

• It publishes the Australian International Affairs, and an occasional paper series. The aim is to bring together academic research and perspectives of practitioners.

• Partners with institutes in other countries with an active program of visits.

• There is a new website, http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au and produces a weekly International Outlook which draws upon their contributors and they encourage students to contribute.

• AIIA offered to work out a way to give DGIR alumni a favoured rate on subscription or entry fees.

• AIIA could organize a session on careers in international relations aimed at our students.

It was noted that the DGIR has an array of researchers whose work relates to the broad domain that AIIA occupies, and many have participated in its activities over the years. Bob Howard continues that direct link.

Jackson will ask Graeme Gill about putting a web link on the DGIR page to AIIA as a token on mutual recognition. This could be facilitated by an exchange of letters avowing to explore further ways to work together.

When the AIIA calls for interns, if it wishes to increase its appeal, its calls could be included in ‘Making Policy Work.’ Jackson can facilitate that.

We discussed giving AIIA access to the student societies that relate to DGIR. One easy way to do that in the near future would be to have a meeting with representatives of AIIA with the DGIR and the Politics Society, The Sydney Globalist, Sydney University United Nations Society, and the International and Global Studies Society. Jackson’s thinking is that the student societies would jump at the idea of making available to their members some kind of career’s briefing.

The Sydney Globalist’s articles are often excellent and there may be scope to reprint one now and again in the AIIA journal. One possible arrangement would
be to ask the editorial team of TSG to nominate three articles for consideration once a year. AIIA could then pick one, assuming it is of sufficient quality. The idea is to give AIIA scope to choose.

We could also explore whether there some easy way to bring to the attention of AIIA for either publication or to give a talk an outstanding student IVth Honours thesis germane to AIIA’s agenda.

We will continue to invite members of the AIIA board to Best and Brightest in May. (I will invite the people we met individually in the future.)

There is also the option of starting a history of AIIA in anticipation of its centenary in 2024, e.g., gathering material and indexing it.

We can also explore whether there is some way to expose the AIIA and its research needs and resources to IILH students as they develop theses topics.

We could also put AIIA or specific members of the Board on the distribution list for Department research seminars.

It was agreed that there would be a follow up meeting to explore in greater detail the basis of a possible partnership between the two organisations. The contact person at AIIA is Louise Graham.