

Minutes of 34th meeting, Thursday 15 December 2016.

1. Opening and apologies.

Present: Michael Lambert (chair). John Gore, Antony Green, Michael Neylan, Alice Oppen, Michael Jackson, Emily Scanlan, and Professor Colin Wight.

Guests were Dr Richard Broinowski, President of Australian Institute of International Affairs (NSW), and Dr Robert Howard, Councillor, and Dr Ryan Griffiths.

Apologies: Ann Corlett, Jeannie Douglass, Denise North, Rosie Giddings, and Ross Gittins.

2. Minutes of previous meeting of 8 September 2016 were accepted.

3. Matters arising from previous minutes not otherwise on the agenda.

- Item 3: Making Policy Work : Professor Wight and Jackson will inquire about putting 'Making Policy Work' on a website. See Appendix (1) for this and all other action items.
- Item 3: AIIA and Politics Society liaison : Jackson has introduced Tim Seguna from the Politics Society to Bob Howard from the Australian Institute of International Affairs to discuss a joint careers event. Addressed below in item 5.
- Item 7: Sydney University Foundations Program students: Rosie Giddings would like to be able to determine the number of Foundation Program students who completed the International Studies units who enrol in DGIR courses and their results. Anonymity would be respected. Jackson to follow up with Rosie and Colin to identify what can be provided and how, noting that Student Identification Numbers would be required.

4. Best and Brightest 2017.

Dr Griffiths reported that the auditorium at Parliament House has been booked for Tuesday 23 May from 5 pm, thanks to the help of Jeannie Douglass. Five panellists have been recruited who will cover a wide range of topics include the Iranian nuclear weapons deal, Kurdish nationalism and Latino acceptance in the USA. Jackson gave Griffiths copies of Michael Hogan's history of the Department to present to the speakers with the vote of thanks at the end.

In the discussion the importance of including in the program the abstracts of **all** theses in the year (in this case 2016) was stressed. In this way the work of all students is publicised and not just that of the five on the stage. Dr Griffiths and Professor Wight agreed.

The anonymous donor has agreed to fund the reception again in 2017.

5. Australian Institute of International Affairs.

Dr Broinowski noted that the AIIA had just completed a good year with a number of very successful function and events and 48 guest speakers. However, he acknowledged that the partnership with DGIR had not been handled as well as it should be and thus the full benefits had not been realised. The key weakness in the relationship was designated persons at both AIIA and DGIR with responsibility for managing the partnership and keeping the flow of information happening. AIIA will designate a liaison person who will be one of its interns and Dr Howard indicated that Adam Kamradt-Scott has volunteered to be the Department's liaison person. Members agreed this was an excellent arrangement to achieve a more effective partnership.

As many of eight of the ten AIIA interns this year were from the University of Sydney. The liaison intern mentioned above may well be a University of Sydney student.

He also mentioned the efforts of the Institute to offer model United Nations exercises in schools, and invited the participation of members of the Department. As this develops the HSC World Politics course could be advertised to participating students and schools. It was also noted that it may be useful to liaise with the Sydney University United Nations Society.

Dr Howard has discussed a careers event with Tim Seguna, President of the Politics Society. It was agreed that it would be very desirable for the Politics Society to work with AIIA on establishing an annual careers event.

Members unanimously thanked Dr Broinowski for his commitment to developing this mutually beneficial relationship.

6. Chair of Department's Report.

Several members of the Department have been successful in applications for major grants, including Justin Hastings, Adam Kamradt-Scott, and Anna Boucher. Three others have also secured very competitive SOAR fellowships. Two members have been appointed to teaching fellow posts.

Noted that DGIR, through the agency of Rodney Smith, has been very successful in obtaining internships in the Premiers' Department and the NSW Parliamentary Library. He indicated that in the future more internship places would be valuable, and if members of the Committee could make suggestions, these would be pursued.

Professor Wight reported that the HSC World Politics course will be offered in January 2017. The enrolments are 15 from a broader range of schools. While an improvement on last year, the enrolment remains below aspirations. the spread of schools is increasing. He noted that the enrolment process is complex and may be discouraging enrolments. Online enrolment may encourage higher enrolments in the future.

He advised that a committee has been established to plan for the 2017 Centenary, with current members being Rodney Smith, Anika Gauja, and others. Michael Lambert and Michael Jackson will join the Committee and Michael Hogan will be included. Professor Wight will convene the first meeting in late January.

The discussion stressed the Centenary as an opportunity to mobilize alumni and friends of the Department. It was agreed that it would be appropriate for the DGIR to formally request from the University assistance in identifying alumni for the centennial year and to clarify the ongoing ability, going forward, to identify each additional year of alumni.

In an earlier discussion Antony Green suggested consideration be given to the circumstances in Australia in 1917 when the first seeds of the Department were planted, as a way to show the historical origin and subsequent evolution of the Department.

Professor Wight also alerted Jackson to the need to double check the future booking of Merewether 397 since some changes have been made to booking arraignments.

7. Chair of Committee's report.

Michael Lambert reported that he and Michael Jackson had attended a meeting of the Department Board in November, which was well attended, and in the discussion several members showed a lively interest in the External Advisory Committee. An open invitation was given to department members to contact Lambert or Jackson if they have suggestions for how the EAC could assist the Department. The Board expressed its thanks to the members of the External Advisory Committee for their efforts.

He reported on a discussion with the incoming President of the Politics Society, Tim Seguna, which included cooperating with support of the Best and Brightest 2017 and cooperation with the Australian Institute of International Affairs on an annual careers event. Dr Howard of the Institute has since been in touch with Mr Seguna about the latter.

Occasioned by his resignation from the Committee, the chair offered a vote of thanks to Antony Green for his many contributions to the Committee over the years since 2008. Green volunteered to remain a friend of the Committee in the future.

Lambert also indicated that Colin Chapman, a journalist and former President of the AIIA , will be joining the Committee in 2017.

8. **Alumni.** This standing item reflects the Committee's continued efforts to identify alumni and communicate with them. This purpose is particularly relevant to the Centenary plans in item (6) above.
9. **Other Business.** There was no other business.
10. **Next meeting.** Thursday, 9 March 2017. The room will be confirmed with the agenda.
11. **End of year drinks** with members of the Department. At this reception Professor Wight gave recognition to and fulsome thanks to the members of the External Advisory Committee for their time, energy, wit, and good will on behalf of the Department and its constituents.

Appendix 1: Action items.

Agenda item	Action	Responsibility	Status
3	'Making Policy Work': web site and simpler process for obtaining the publication	Jackson and Professor Wight	Pending,
3	Tracking Foundation Program Students: liaise with Rosie Giddings to confirm what information can be provided and confirm availability of SINS and then liaise with DGIR on a process to provide the information	Jackson.	Pending.
4	Best and Brightest 2017: including ensuring	Dr Griffiths	Continuing.

Agenda item	Action	Responsibility	Status
	summary of all theses for the year are included in the program		
5	Australian Institute of International Affairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIIA to nominate a liaison person to facilitate the partnership with DGIR • Development of an annual career event involving AIIA and the Politics Society • DGIR and AIIA to liaise on the planned UN in schools initiative 	Jackson to follow up with AIIA Dr Howard to work with Politics Society AIIA and DGIR	Continuing.
6	Centenary planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • convene the centennial committee in late January 2017 • DGIR to seek the assistance of the university in identifying alumni for an invitation to participate in the 2017 centennial celebrations 	Professor Wight Jackson will alert Michael Hogan to his appointment to the committee Professor Wight	Pending. Done.
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing of Colin Chapman • Invitation for members of the EAC to identify any internship opportunities 	Lambert and Jackson All members	Pending.
8	2017 meetings scheduled	Jackson will double check on the room.	In train.