

NEXT GENERATION LEADERS U.S.-AUSTRALIA ALLIANCE

REGIONAL WORKSHOP BRISBANE

REGIONAL WORKSHOP

24 - 26 MARCH 2021



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**

WELCOME

IT IS OUR PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU TO THIS WORKSHOP ON THE U.S.-AUSTRALIA ALLIANCE FOR NEXT GENERATION LEADERS IN BRISBANE.

This workshop is part of a two-year program that involves three regional workshops to be held in Perth, Brisbane and Adelaide in 2020-2021. These workshops seek to engage young professionals in Australia with the potential to be the next generation of alliance leaders. We are looking for participants who will help shape the future of U.S.-Australia relations in the Indo-Pacific century. A select group from the regional workshops will have the opportunity to proceed to a national workshop in Canberra in 2021, and from that cohort, a final group will be chosen to attend a capstone workshop in Washington, DC.

The program introduces a group of approximately 55 young professionals to a range of alliance issues through workshop sessions, led by established academics and policymakers. Each workshop involves detailed discussions and presentations on topics such as:

- Shared values and democratic principles
- U.S.-Australia strategic relations
- Regional geopolitical issues and emerging security challenges
- U.S.-Australia cooperation on trade and economics
- Broader bilateral cooperation

The last sessions in each workshop focus on producing a joint statement to be issued by the participants that will focus on current and future issues for U.S.-Australia cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. These statements will help guide and inform the discussion and sessions in the Canberra-based workshop.

These workshops come at an important time for the U.S.-Australia alliance. The depth of cooperation and agreements between the two countries has never been greater, and the Alliance now arcs well beyond the traditional areas of intelligence and security cooperation encompassing: trade and economics, shared values and people to people contacts. We live, though, in challenging geopolitical times. Terrorism persists and conflict in the Middle East is ongoing.

Revisionist powers are challenging the existing international order while 'the West' seems beset with its own problems from challenging economic conditions, domestic upheaval and the ongoing implications of COVID-19. In the Indo-Pacific, the rise

of China has opened up major economic opportunities, while presenting new challenges to the rules-based international order and U.S. hegemony in the region. Australia has benefited enormously in economic terms from China's rise, while at the same time meeting new challenges in the face of shifting regional power. As one recent Australian prime minister noted, Australia's policies towards China are driven by two emotions: fear and greed.

Many of these issues are playing out in contemporary Australian debates, with a range of major political and industry figures calling for a more 'independent' Australian foreign policy, while others are pushing for deeper ties with Australia's traditional partners and allies. Lowy Institute opinion polling shows the Australian public is highly attuned to international debates and their impact on Australia. This era has raised new questions about the future of the U.S.-Australian alliance in domestic, bilateral and international contexts, highlighting the increasingly complex and multifaceted challenges both countries face. For these workshops, we have brought together a range of key thinkers on regional security, economic questions and the U.S.-Australian alliance to address these issues and challenges. Held under the Chatham House Rule, we seek to engage participants in a candid and open debate in order to unpack the depth of engagement between Australia and the U.S., and shine light on contemporary challenges. We look forward to your active participation and lively discussion on how you seek to consider and shape the future of the U.S.-Australia alliance.

The University of Western Australia and Griffith University would like to acknowledge the funding provided by the United States Government that underpins these Regional Workshops.



PROFESSOR PETER J. DEAN

Chair of Defence Studies
Director, UWA Defence
and Security Institute



PROFESSOR CAITLIN BYRNE

Director, Griffith Asia Institute
Griffith University

PROGRAM

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
8:30 – 8:45	TEA AND COFFEE ON ARRIVAL	SHIP INN FUNCTION ROOM
8:45 – 9:15	ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO COUNTRY, WELCOME INTRODUCTIONS, WORKSHOP OBJECTIVE AND OVERVIEW Professor Caitlin Byrne, Director, Griffith Asia Institute Professor Peter Dean, Director, UWA Defence and Security Institute	
9:15 – 10:15	SESSION 1 THE EVOLUTION OF ANZUS IN THE CONTEXT OF AUSTRALIAN STRATEGY Professor Peter Dean, Director, UWA Defence and Security Institute	
10:15 – 10:30	MORNING TEA BREAK	
10:30 – 11:45	SESSION 2 BIDEN'S KEY MESSAGES – US STRATEGY IN THE INDO-PACIFIC AND THE TRUMP LEGACY Professor Andrew O'Neil, Professor of Political Science and Dean (Research), Griffith Business School, Griffith University	
11:45 – 12:45	NETWORKING LUNCH	
12:45 – 2:00	SESSION 3 THE INDO-PACIFIC: NARRATIVES & PERSPECTIVES Professor Caitlin Byrne, Director, Griffith Asia Institute	
2:00 – 2:15	AFTERNOON TEA BREAK	
2:15 – 3:30	SESSION 4 EMERGING AND NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY THREATS Professor Susan Harris Rimmer, Griffith Law School, Griffith University	
3:30 – 3:45	BREAK	
3:45 – 5:00	SESSION 5 STRATEGIC DYNAMICS / MINILATERALISM IN THE INDOPACIFIC AND TRADE AND ECONOMICS IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION Professor Ian Hall, Professor of International Relations and the Deputy Director (Research), Griffith Asia Institute	
5:00 – 6:00	FREE TIME	
6:00 – 8:30	SESSION 6 WELCOME DINNER: LEADERSHIP, PARTNERSHIPS AND THE ALLIANCE Major General Adam Findlay AM (Rtd) NETWORKING DRINKS: 6:00 – 6:30 DINNER: 6:30 – 8:30	GOMA RESTAURANT GALLERY OF MODERN ART, STANLEY PLACE, CULTURAL PRECINCT, SOUTH BRISBANE

DAY 2: THURSDAY 25 MARCH

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
8:30 – 9:00	TEA AND COFFEE ON ARRIVAL	GRIFFITH SOUTH BANK GRADUATE CENTRE
9:00 – 9:15	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS Professor Peter Dean, Director, UWA Defence and Security Institute Professor Caitlin Byrne, Director, Griffith Asia Institute	
9:15 – 10:30	SESSION 7 (VIA ZOOM) THE NZ VIEW Associate Professor David Capie, Director of the Centre for Strategic Studies	
10:30 – 10:45	MORNING TEA BREAK	
10:45 – 12:00	SESSION 8 (VIA ZOOM) PACIFIC PERSPECTIVES Dr Tarcisius Kabutaulaka, Associate Professor at the University of Hawai'i's Center for Pacific Islands Studies	
12:00 – 12:45	NETWORKING LUNCH	
12:45 – 2:00	SESSION 9 ENGAGING THE PACIFIC Dr Tess Newton Cain, Project Leader for the Griffith Asia Institute's Pacific Hub	
2:00 – 2:15	BREAK	
2:15 – 3:30	SESSION 10 INTRODUCTION TO JOINT STATEMENT Joint Statement discussion, expectations and possible outcomes Erin Watson-Lynn, Consultant	
3:30 – 3:45	BREAK	
3:45 – 4:45	JOINT STATEMENT WORKSHOP	

DAY 3: FRIDAY 26 MARCH

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
8:30 – 9:00	TEA AND COFFEE ON ARRIVAL	WEBB CENTRE BOARDROOM
9:00 – 9:05	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS Professor Peter Dean, Director, UWA Defence and Security Institute Professor Caitlin Byrne, Director, Griffith Asia Institute	
9:05 – 10:30	JOINT STATEMENT WORKSHOP CONTINUED	
10:30 – 10:45	MORNING TEA BREAK	
10:45 – 12:30	REFINE AND FINALISE JOINT STATEMENT	
12:30 – 2:00	FAREWELL LUNCH	BROOKLYN BURGER BAR

SPEAKER LIST

1. **PROFESSOR CAITLIN BYRNE**, Director, Griffith Asia Institute
2. **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DAVID CAPIE**, Director of the Centre for Strategic Studies
3. **PROFESSOR PETER DEAN**, Director, UWA Defence & Security Institute Program
4. **MAJOR GENERAL ADAM FINDAY AM**, Industry Fellow, Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University
5. **CHARGÉ D’AFFAIRES MICHAEL GOLDMAN**, U.S. Embassy Canberra
6. **PROFESSOR IAN HALL**, Deputy Director (Research) of the Griffith Asia Institute
7. **PROFESSOR SUSAN HARRIS RIMMER**, Policy Innovation Hub, Griffith University
8. **DR TARCISIUS KABUTAULAKA**, Director and Associate Professor, Center for Pacific Islands Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa
9. **ADJUNCT ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR TESS NEWTON CAIN**, Project Leader for the Griffith Asia Institute’s Pacific Hub
10. **PROFESSOR ANDREW O’NEIL**, Professor of Political Science and Dean (Research), Griffith Business School (Faculty), Griffith University
11. **MS ERIN WATSON-LYNN**, International Affairs Consultant

PARTICIPANTS

Tasha Aloni

Matt Alvites

Brianna Bailey

Gabriella Barnett

Cara Confessore

Monique Currie

Claire Doherty

Daniel Goli

Ben Gowdie

Jack Hayes

Henry Heritage

Jun Ki (Luis) Cho

Peta McGrath

Shaun Milligan

Tanner Noakes

Gin Saffi Abad

Joshua Saunders

Penelope Stavrou

Anna Stirling

Mariele Verroya

John Wood

Michael Young



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



PROFESSOR CAITLIN BYRNE
DIRECTOR, GRIFFITH ASIA INSTITUTE
GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Professor Caitlin Byrne is Director, Griffith Asia Institute. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute for International Affairs (AIIA) and Faculty Fellow of the University of Southern California's Centre for Public Diplomacy (CPD). Caitlin's research is focused on Australian diplomacy with a special interest in Australia's engagement in the Asia-Pacific region. Most recent research projects explore the role of leadership, soft power and public diplomacy-including people-to-people connections developed through international education, culture and sport-in developing Australia's regional influence, relationships and reputation. Caitlin brings expertise in executive education and currently delivers training on Soft Power & Public Diplomacy, and International Policy & Tradecraft through Australia's Diplomatic Academy in Canberra. She consults on occasion to government in the areas of strategic foreign policy and diplomatic practice. Prior to joining academia, Caitlin had established a professional career spanning strategic management, legal, foreign and social policy roles in government, business and community sectors.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DAVID CAPIE
DIRECTOR, THE CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY WELLINGTON

David Capie is Director of the Centre for Strategic Studies and an Associate Professor in International Relations. His research interests focus on conflict and security issues, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, and New Zealand's foreign relations. He has authored or co-authored three books and numerous articles and book chapters. His research has been supported by the Rockefeller Foundation, the East-West Center and the Royal Society of New Zealand's Marsden Fund. In 2007, he was a Visiting Scholar at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University.





PROFESSOR PETER J. DEAN
DIRECTOR, UWA DEFENCE AND SECURITY INSTITUTE
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Professor Peter J. Dean is Chair of Defence Studies, Director of the UWA Defence and Security Institute, and a Senior Fellow at the Perth USAsia Centre. Prior to the commencement of this role Professor Dean was Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education) at UWA. He has been a Fulbright Professional Fellow and Endeavour Research Scholar in Australia-United States Alliance Studies, as well as a non-resident fellow with the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and the Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Studies at Georgetown University in Washington D.C. Professor Dean was the founding editor of the Melbourne University Press Defence Studies Series, is a member of the Editorial Board of the Australian Army Journal, Global War Studies and the Military Studies Journal, and a former managing editor of the journal Security Challenges. An international award-winning author, his most recent book (with Brendan Taylor and Stephan Fruhling) is *After American Primacy: Imagining the Future of Australia's Defence*, (Melbourne University Press, 2019).

MAJOR GENERAL ADAM FINDLAY AM
INDUSTRY FELLOW, GRIFFITH ASIA INSTITUTE
GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Major General Adam Findlay has enjoyed a balanced career between command and staff appointments in both the domestic and deployed environments, encompassing conventional and special force capabilities.

He gained a scholarship and entered the Royal Military College, Duntroon in 1984. In 1987 he was commissioned into the Royal Australian Infantry Corps and served in regimental appointments in the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment and then in the Special Air Service Regiment. In 2000 he attended Australian Army Command and Staff College at Queenscliff and received the Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey Award as the Student of Merit.

Upon promotion to Colonel in 2007, Major General Findlay was seconded to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet responsible for briefing the Prime Minister on all facets of Defence policy and operations. In 2010 he attended the Royal College of Defence Studies, London and was awarded Student of Merit. He then selected to attend the University of Oxford as a Visiting Fellow.

Upon promotion to Brigadier, Major General Findlay was appointed as the Director General Military Strategic Commitments over 2011-12 working at the military-strategic level of Defence and across the whole of Government national security domains. He then deployed to Afghanistan a second time for 14 months as Deputy Operations at HQ International Security Assistance Force, responsible to Commander ISAF for all military operations, Afghanistan-Pakistan military-to-military relations and interaction with the Office of National Security at the Presidential Palace. In October 2014, he was appointed as the Brigade Commander of the 7th Combat Brigade. In 2016, he deployed again to Iraq as the Commander Special Operations Joint Task Force - Iraq, commanding all coalition Special Forces in Iraq culminating in the defeat of ISIS during the Battle of Mosul.

He was promoted to Major General and assumed the appointment of Special Operations Commander - Australia in June 2017. His academic qualifications include a Bachelor of Science Honours degree (1988) and Master of Defence Studies degree (2000). He was awarded a PhD in Military History from the University of New South Wales in 2014. He is a Graduate of the Advanced Management Program of the Harvard Business School.

Major General Findlay was appointed a Member in the Military Division of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 2006 for his contribution as the Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion, the Royal Australian Regiment. In 2017 he was awarded the US Legion of Merit for his command of the Special Operations Joint Task Force - Iraq during the Battle of Mosul.



CHARGÉ D’AFFAIRES MICHAEL GOLDMAN

Mike Goldman arrived in Canberra in March 2020, after three years at the U.S Embassy in Suva, Fiji, where he served as Charge d’Affaires (2018-2019) and DCM (2017). A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Mike joined the State Department in 2000. He recently served in Washington as Deputy and Acting Director for China and Mongolia in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs (2015-2017). Previous assignments include Kathmandu (2012-2015), where he was Political and Economic Counselor; Hanoi (2008-2011) and Tashkent (2002-2005) as a political officer; and Taipei (2000-2002) as a consular officer, as well as an earlier stint on the China Desk (2005-2007). He’s the recipient of several State Department honors, including recognition as the Department’s outstanding human rights officer for his work to combat torture and safeguard vulnerable NGOs in Uzbekistan.



Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Mike worked as a dock worker on an oyster farm in Washington State’s Puget Sound and as an adjunct professor of political science at San Francisco State University.

Mike earned a Ph.D. and MA in political science from the University of California, Berkeley and an undergraduate degree in international politics from Georgetown University. He completed his dissertation research on a Fulbright scholarship at the Univesiti Sains Malaysia in Penang, Malaysia and has studied at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Taiwan Normal University, and the State University of Makassar in Ujung Pandang, Indonesia.



PROFESSOR IAN HALL DEPUTY DIRECTOR (RESEARCH) GRIFFITH ASIA INSTITUTE GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Ian Hall is a Professor of International Relations and the Deputy Director (Research) at the Griffith Asia Institute at Griffith University. He is also an Academic Fellow of the Australia India Institute and the co-editor (with Sara E. Davies) of the Australian Journal of International Affairs. He has published several books and more than seventy scholarly articles and chapters on the history of international thought and India’s foreign relations. His latest book is *Modi and the Reinvention of Indian Foreign Policy* (2019).

PROFESSOR SUSAN HARRIS RIMMER DIRECTOR, GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY POLICY INNOVATION HUB GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Professor Susan Harris Rimmer is the Director of the Griffith University Policy Innovation Hub (appointed July 2020). She was previously the Deputy Head of School (Research) in the Griffith Law School and prior to joining Griffith was the Director of Studies at the ANU Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy. With Professor Sara Davies, Susan is co-convenor of the Griffith Gender Equality Research Network. Sue leads the Climate Justice theme of the new Griffith Climate Action Beacon. She is a Research Associate at the Development Policy Centre in the Crawford School at the Australian National University. She is a non-resident Research Associate at Chatham House in the UK.

Susan is the author of the *Research Handbook for Feminist Engagement with International Law* (Edward Elgar 2019, with Kate Ogg); *Gender and Transitional Justice: The Women of Timor Leste* (Routledge, 2010) and over 40 refereed academic works.

Susan was chosen as the winner of the Audre Rapoport Prize for Scholarship on the Human Rights of Women for 2006.

Sue was previously the Advocacy lead at the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), She has also worked for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the National Council of Churches and the Parliamentary Library.

Susan is on the National Board of the International Women’s Development Agency.





DR TARCISIUS KABUTAULAKA

**DIRECTOR AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
CENTER FOR PACIFIC ISLANDS STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA**

Tarcisius Kabutaulaka is a political scientist with a PhD from the Australian National University and undergraduate and MA degrees from the University of the South Pacific (USP). He joined the Center for Pacific Islands Studies in 2009 and has served as director since August 2018. Prior to that, he worked for six years as a Research Fellow at the East-West Center's Pacific Islands Development Program. Before moving to Hawai'i in 2003, he taught history and political science at USP. Over the years, Kabutaulaka has also done consultancy work for governments, regional and international organizations and NGOs in the Pacific Islands. He is the editor the Pacific Islands Monograph Series (PIMS), the founding editor of *Oceania Currents*, and a member of the editorial board of *The Contemporary Pacific*. He has published extensively on the Solomon Islands

civil unrest and the Australian-led regional intervention, the forestry industry in Solomon Islands, China in Oceania, and on governance issues in the Pacific Islands. He is the co-editor (with Greg Fry) of *Intervention and State-building in the Pacific: the Legitimacy of 'Cooperative Intervention'* (Manchester University Press, 2008). In 2000, following two years of conflicts in Solomon Islands, he participated in the peace talks in Townsville, Australia, as one of the chief negotiators. He is a regular commentator on Radio Australia. Kabutaulaka comes from the Weather Coast of Guadalcanal in Solomon Islands.

ADJUNCT ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR TESS NEWTON CAIN **PROJECT LEADER, GRIFFITH ASIA INSTITUTE'S PACIFIC HUB** **GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY**

Dr Tess Newton Cain is the Project Leader for the Griffith Asia Institute's Pacific Hub. Within that role she assists with curation for the Pacific Outlook section of the Griffith Asia Insights blog.

Tess is a dual citizen of Vanuatu and the United Kingdom. She is a former Lecturer in Law at the University of the South Pacific. She has lived and worked in the Pacific islands region for almost 25 years, with most of that time spent living in Vanuatu.

Tess' research interests focus on politics, policy and development in the Pacific islands region. She has provided research, strategic advice and policy support to national governments, regional organisations (including the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat) and development partners (including the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the United Nations, and the governments of Australia and New Zealand).

In 2019, Tess led a research team on behalf of Peacifica and the Whitlam Institute which led to the report: *Pacific perspectives on the world* published in February 2020. She has recently co-authored two policy briefs with Dr Wesley Morgan, published by the Griffith Asia Institute—*Activating greater trade and investment between Australia and Pacific island countries* and *Strengthening Australia's relationships with Pacific island countries*.





PROFESSOR ANDREW O'NEIL
DEAN (RESEARCH)
OFFICE OF GBS DEAN (RESEARCH)
GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Andrew is Dean (Research) and Professor of Political Science in the Griffith Business School. Prior to being appointed Dean in April 2016, he was Head of the School of Government and International Relations (2014-2016) and Director of the Griffith Asia Institute (2010-2014). Before coming to Griffith in 2010, Andrew was Associate Head (Research) in the Faculty of Social Sciences at Flinders University, and prior to entering academia he worked as a Commonwealth public servant with Australia's Department of Defence. Andrew's research expertise focuses on the intersection of strategic, political, and economic change in the Asia-Pacific with particular emphasis on the security dimension of international relations, and he is a frequent media commentator on these topics.

Andrew was recently appointed to the Australian Research Council College of Experts for 2020 and is Chair of the Business Academic Research Directors' Network. He is also a former member of the Australian Foreign Minister's National Consultative Committee on National Security Issues and former advisory board member of the Lowy Institute's G20 Studies Centre. Andrew is the former editor-in-chief of the Australian Journal of International Affairs and is currently an editorial board member of the Korean Journal of International Studies, the North Korean Review the Journal of Intelligence History, and Security Challenges.

MS ERIN WATSON-LYNN
CONSULTANT

Erin Watson-Lynn is an international relations consultant who focuses on Australia's engagement with the world and works with Australian and foreign governments, universities and think-tanks. Erin is currently Australia's Head Delegate for the G20 Women Summit in Saudi Arabia and has represented Australia at G20 meetings in Turkey, China, Argentina and Japan. Prior to establishing her own consultancy, Erin was a Senior Fellow at the Perth USAsia Centre and Director of Asialink Diplomacy at the University of Melbourne. Erin is a foreign affairs commentator and appears regularly on the ABC and Sky News.



PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES



TASHA ALONI

Tasha graduated with a degree in Laws (Honours) in 2019 and was admitted to the Supreme Court of Queensland as a legal practitioner in November 2020. Tasha is a dedicated policy officer with experience in the Department of Justice and Attorney-General's Practice and Innovation team. She was one of 30 successful applicants to be accepted into the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Policy Futures program. Throughout Tasha's legal policy and communications career she has gained extensive experience working in high pressure public and private industry environments.



MATT ALVITES

Matt is a fourth-year Law and International Relations student at Griffith University with a vision to get involved in commercial litigation, environmental planning, and resource management. He is particularly interested in the role that law, political economy, and social advocacy play in making a difference for people affected by environmental issues. Recognised as one of the top 20 law students at Griffith, Matt is proficient in legal research and has worked as a research assistant for multiple law academics. Matt is an active team player who currently coaches and mentors first-year students.



BRIANNA BAILEY

Brianna graduated with a Bachelor of Business/Bachelor of Government and International Relations and is now pursuing her honours year focusing on the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. She has previously interned at Trade and Investment Queensland in Seoul as a part of the New Colombo Plan Grant program. Brianna has a significant passion for furthering Australia's relationships not only for the trade and economic benefits, but for the opportunities it provides to communities through cross-cultural exchange. Having been involved in the international education sector, Brianna has an adept understanding of the benefits this brings to the home and host countries.



GABRIELLA (GABI) BARNETT

Gabi is currently working as a Policy Support Officer with the Queensland Government, providing policy analysis and advice in the areas of health and the COVID-19 response. Prior to her employment with the Queensland Government, Gabi lived in France where she completed a Master in International Security at Sciences Po Paris. Throughout the course of her degree Gabi studied a diverse course load related to international security issues, with a particular passion for the topics of migration, refugees, and human rights. While currently working in domestic public policy, Gabi maintains a continued deep interest in international affairs and bilateral and multilateral engagement to address issues of shared international concern. It is her long-term professional aspiration to build a career in diplomacy and foreign affairs.



CARA CONFESSORE

Cara recently graduated from Griffith University with a Bachelor of Government and International Relations and a Diploma of Languages. With these qualifications she is keenly interested in diplomacy and interstate relations. Cara is particularly interested in Australian foreign policy and is keen to engage further with US-AU relations.



MONIQUE CURRIE

Monique is a graduate from a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in History from the University of Queensland. Monique has studied subjects in modern Chinese history, MENA history, and macroeconomics. She is passionate about supporting young historians, founding the University of Queensland Modern History Society Journal. Monique's work has been published by Young Diplomats Society and the University of Oxford History Society Journal. She has participated in the 'Inside the Embassy' Simulation with the U.S. Consulate General in Melbourne and occasionally volunteers as an image analyst for Missing Maps, mapping vulnerable regions for local and international NGOs involved in emergency humanitarian response. Monique has recently taken on a role as Country Director for the ASEAN Youth Organisation network in Australia, and she is interested in bringing her historical training and global perspective to a career in international affairs.



CLAIRE DOHERTY

Claire is entering her final semester of university and is set to graduate with a double degree Bachelor of Government and International Relations and Asian Studies. Claire gained valuable insight into Southeast Asian politics and Australian policy making whilst interning with the Griffith Asia Institute in 2019. Claire developed her interests in the private sector through work undertaken with JOST&Co., an Australian based management consultancy firm. Recently, Claire helped establish a Griffith University club called the Hidden Initiative. The Hidden Initiative strives to spread awareness and understanding for those living with disabilities and mental and/or physical health conditions that aren't apparent to the naked eye.



DANIEL GOLI

Daniel is a highly skilled and motivated solicitor and graduate Policy Officer with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. Daniel has experience in government and volunteering and working at a community legal centre. This experience, along his culturally and linguistically diverse background has provided him with a keen sense of social justice, cultural awareness and a genuine curiosity and openness to new experiences and challenges. Daniel is passionate about leveraging his skills and experience to tackle social and legal challenges in order to make a positive contribution to public policy and to the community.



BEN GOWDIE

Ben has an undergraduate degree in Public Policy and International Relations and is currently studying a Master of Governance and Public Policy at UQ. Ben has a keen interest in international affairs, global commerce, and the roles of government and business in supporting and securing key interests of democratic societies. Ben has worked in the government sector, non-profit public interest sector, and the private sector, most recently as an international strategy consultant for Brisbane start-up Paraspace.



JACK HAYES

Jack developed a passion for international diplomacy in his undergraduate degree, where he travelled to countries throughout Europe and Asia to present papers, meet with political and cultural leaders and connect with a global nexus of students and academics. His most recent work is positioned firmly in the Australian context; he conducted the first qualitative study of gay and lesbian politicians in Australia and now works with the Policy Innovation Hub at Griffith University to craft expert policy advice at a state and federal level. This mix of domestic and international experiences has led to Jack's interest in Australia's role as a key player in its geopolitical 'neighbourhood.'



HENRY HERITAGE

Henry studied International Relations and Politics at the University of Wollongong and is currently a Policy Officer in the Queensland Government. Henry has a deep interest in US culture and politics, with a particular interest in US multilateralism and partnerships in the Asia-Pacific. He further developed this passion in 2019 when he interned in the US Congress through the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme. Henry is a member of the Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA) and a member of the NSW division of the United Nations Association of Australia. Henry regularly publishes foreign affairs op-eds through Young Australians in International Affairs and the AIIA.



JUN KI (LUIS) CHO

Jun Ki (Luis) Cho gained valuable insight into the legal work around the government and public sector, and public international law when he went on an exchange to Korea University in 2019. Here he attended various classes with Korean students and gained a passion to strengthen the bilateral ties between Australia and Korea through arbitrating international issues. Jun Ki has continued this interest through undertaking an internship with the Australia-Korea Business Council. He is now completing his Honours degree in Laws, after graduating from a Bachelor of Government and International Relations last year.



PETA MCGRATH

Peta McGrath graduated with a Bachelor of International Studies (Distinction) from Deakin University in 2019, majoring in International Relations and Middle East Studies. Peta has a keen interest in international relations and completed an internship in Jakarta, Indonesia as part of her studies. Whilst working for a public policy think tank in Sydney, Peta attended a variety of events and seminars on Australia-US relations, meeting and speaking with prominent international relations scholars such as John Mearsheimer. Prior to commencing university Peta worked for Maersk - one of the largest shipping lines in the world. In this role Peta was responsible for the level of service provided to customers in Papua New Guinea and she travelled across PNG conducting training and participating in key client meetings. Peta is currently part of the Policy Futures graduate program, facilitated by the Department of Premier and Cabinet.





SHAUN MILLIGAN

Shaun is a Law and Business graduate with a particular interest in international human rights law and international dispute resolution. During 2017 and 2018 he was able to explore these interests as a New Colombo Plan Scholar. During his 19 months abroad, Shaun worked for leading international law firms where he assisted lawyers on some of the region's largest international commercial arbitrations. These overseas experiences provided the inspiration for his prize-winning Law Honours thesis, "It Takes Two to Tango: Why Businesses Are Unlikely to Engage with the Hague Rules on Business and Human Rights Arbitration". Shaun's Honours thesis was recently published in *The American Review of International Arbitration* at Columbia Law School. As a soon-to-be lawyer, Shaun plans to help Australian businesses identify, assess and mitigate adverse human rights impacts in their domestic and overseas operations.



TANNER NOAKES

Tanner is a recent Bachelor of Commerce (Finance & Accounting) graduate who is passionate about social impact investment and its critical role in international business. Tanner has 15 years of experience within social enterprises, 2 years of experience in social impact finance, and has received awards in this area from international universities and the Australian government. Tanner currently work as a social impact corporate finance analyst and has created the financial models for \$140mil worth of social projects. In his spare time, he works with researchers from Oxford University to implement best-practice theories in impact investment.



GIN SAFFI ABAD

Gin Saffi Abad is expected to graduate from Griffith University with a Bachelor of Government and International Relations in June 2021. Griffith University recognised Saffi's experience interning as a Refugee Visa Officer for the Refugee Association of Logan (RAL) earning her the 2019 Ron Ould Memorial Scholarship for her high achievements. Following the internship, Saffi appeared as a guest speaker on Brisbane's 4EB Radio Mabuhay Program discussing the issue of refugees and asylum seekers on community radio. In her spare time, Saffi volunteers at the United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA) assisting with, among other responsibilities, government submissions, policy proposals and grant applications within the UNAA's Peace and Security program. Driven by her passion for human rights, Saffi hopes to contribute to international aid and development initiatives on the global stage.



JOSHUA SAUNDERS

Josh is a fourth year Bachelor of Laws (Honours)/Bachelor of Government and International Relations student at Griffith University, majoring in Politics and Public Policy. His two years volunteering in Thailand and Myanmar led him to develop a strong passion for international relations and international law. Speaking both the Thai and Myanmar languages, Josh has worked with the Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank, the Royal Thai Police, various NGOs in the Ayeyarwady Region, and the Minister of Health in Shan State (Myanmar). Josh has been selected by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade as the ASEAN Fellow for the prestigious New Colombo Plan Scholarship in 2021, aiming to pursue his passion for international dispute resolution in a globalised economy. He is particularly interested in the role of the Australia-US relationship in shaping the positioning of Australia in the Indo-Pacific region.



PENELOPE STAVROU

Penelope gained valuable insight into cultural diversity and international exposure when her family moved from Brisbane to Dubai, United Arab Emirates in 2010. Here she attended an International School with over 30 different nationalities and gained a passion for cultural diversity, international relations and the role of Islam in our modern world. Penelope has continued these interests through work undertaken with Multicultural Families Organization and Challenges Abroad Australia/FutureSense Foundation. She is now completing her Honours degree majoring in historical Islamic texts, Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) and CVE policy in the Australian context.



ANNA STIRLING

Anna is in her fourth year of a Bachelor of Laws and Government and International Relations, with a grade point average of 6.95 out of 7. She is a dedicated student and was selected as a 2020 New Colombo Plan Scholar for Hong Kong and is a recipient of the Griffith University Sir Samuel Griffith Academic Scholarship. Anna was awarded the 'Best Upper-Year Double Degree Student in the Bachelor of Government and International Relations' in 2019 by Griffith University, and the Russel Trood Prize in International Relations in 2018. In 2019 she was sponsored by the Griffith Honours College to attend the International Diplomacy Forum in Bangkok, Thailand; and in 2018 to the Queensland Servant Leadership Forum in Brisbane. Anna was a delegate at the Inaugural Asia Pacific Youth Dialogue in 2020 and was also the winner of the 2020 Queensland Interschool Law Competition (QILC) Client Interview Competition. She is passionate about policy formation on both the domestic and international levels.



MARIEL VERROYA

Mariel is a Bachelor of Government and International Relations graduate from Griffith University, currently completing her Honours. Her biological roots trace back to the Philippines but migrating to Papua New Guinea when she was eleven years old gave her a whole new perspective. While residing in Port Moresby she found a passion for social justice, in particular the power imbalances as a result of entrenched corruption. Mariel was inspired by the resilient culture in Papua New Guinea in the face of domestic violence, lack of health and educational institutions and corruption itself. Mariel is a researcher and a team convener for the United Nations Association of Australia Queensland Peace and Security Program. She has published work about West Papua and child soldiers. Mariel aspires to become a diplomat; her topics of interest include Indigenous rights and the impact of childhood ontological insecurity in prolonged conflict.



JOHN WOOD

John is a passionate student of geopolitics and international business. His studies on Southeast Asia have helped him provide support for Cameron Dick MP, Treasurer of Queensland, and Minister for Investment. John was the author of and consulted on multiple briefs for Queensland and Australian Members of Parliament on visiting foreign delegations and information regarding the region. John is particularly keen on exploring how Australia can further engage Indonesia through trade and investment ties. He is currently learning Indonesian (Bahasa Indonesia).



MICHAEL YOUNG

Michael is an Intelligence Officer of the Royal Australian Air Force, currently working in the Combined Headquarters, Combat Support Group. He graduated from Griffith University in 2019 with a degree in Government and International Relations, with a double major in International Relations and Politics & Public Policy. In addition, Michael was a member of the Griffith Honours College and the Griffith Business School Leadership Program. His work and interests lie in the geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific, with a particular focus on North Asia, especially Japan. He enjoys bushwalking, playing the cello and volleyball.



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