



Australian
Political
Exchange
Council



**Annual Report
2001-2002**

Australian Political Exchange Council

Annual Report



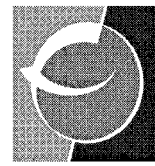
2001-2002

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Australian
Political
Exchange
Council

The Hon J W Howard MP
Prime Minister of Australia
Leader of the Liberal Party of Australia

The Hon S Crean MP
Leader of the Opposition
Leader of the Australian Labor Party

The Hon J D Anderson MP
Deputy Prime Minister
Leader of the National Party of Australia

Senator A Bartlett
Leader of the Australian Democrats

In accordance with the terms of reference of the Australian Political Exchange Council, I have pleasure in submitting the report of the Council for 2001-2002. The report will be presented to Parliament by the Special Minister of State.

Margaret Guilfoyle
Chairman

18 October 2002



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Chairman of the Australian Political Exchange Council, the Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle DBE, with the leader of the ninth Japanese delegation to Australia, Mr Hiroyuki Sonada MP.



Chairman's Message

I have much pleasure in reporting on the activities of the Australian Political Exchange Council for 2001-2002.

Several milestones were reached this year.

Our twentieth anniversary celebrations concluded with functions in Canberra, Brisbane, Hobart, Adelaide and Perth. These events were timed to coincide with incoming delegations enabling the Council to celebrate the success of the program and the achievements of our former delegates with current delegates and friends of the Council.

The inaugural Australian delegation to New Zealand undertook its study tour in July 2001, following formal agreement to the establishment of an annual exchange program of young political leaders between the Council and the Parliamentary Service Commission of New Zealand. The Council was delighted to host the second delegation from New Zealand in May/June 2002.

The tenth delegations to and from the Republic of China took place this year. The exchange program with China, established in 1983, was the second exchange program to be established (the first was with the United States of America). Taking place in the year in which Australia and China celebrated 30 years of diplomatic relations, these tenth delegations had added significance in recognising our mutual understanding and friendship. The opportunity to further cement our relationship was afforded when Mr Sun Jinlong, President of the All-China Youth Federation, led the eleventh Chinese delegation to Australia.

Key members of our counterpart organisations visited Australia this year. Mr Tadashi Yamamoto, President of the Japan Center for International Exchange, accompanied the ninth Japanese delegation to Australia in August 2001. Mr Tran Dac Loi, Director General of the International Youth Development Cooperation Center and Vice-President of the Vietnam Youth Federation, visited Australia in March 2002 with the sixth Vietnamese delegation, which was led by Ms Truong Thi Mai, President of the Vietnam Youth Federation.

The Council was very honoured to receive such distinguished guests. Their participation, together with all our visiting delegates, signals the mutual benefits of our exchange programs and gives us the opportunity to refresh and strengthen our ties of friendship.

For a number of years, the Council has sponsored individual study tours to the United States of America to enable young Australians to learn more about the national level of government or the conduct of congressional elections. This year, the Council extended the program by sponsoring a number of young Australians on study tours to New Zealand for the 2002 national election.

Events on the world stage of the past year are a sobering reminder of the responsibilities that the political leadership of all nations share in our global future. The Council plays an important role through its political exchange programs to give young political leaders a unique opportunity to come together in a non-partisan way to build common ground for the benefit of Australia and our international relationships. In the coming year, the Council will be looking for further opportunities to expand our global networks.

I am indebted to the members of the Council for their continuing commitment and for giving so generously to Council objectives. I value the ongoing support of the Principals of the Council – the Leaders of the Parliamentary Parties. I wish to thank Senator Natasha Stott Despoja for her contribution as a Principal and welcome the new Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Andrew Bartlett.

I also wish to thank the Patrons of the Council – the Presiding Officers of the Parliament – for their assistance and generosity. My thanks go to Senator the Hon Margaret Reid for her contribution to our programs over many years and I welcome, as Patron, the new President of the Senate, Senator the Hon Paul Calvert.

I am very grateful to Senator the Hon Eric Abetz, Special Minister of State, for his support as the responsible Minister. I also wish to record my thanks to the outgoing Secretary to the Council, Mr Daryl Wight, for his dedication and professionalism, and to the skilled staff of the Secretariat.

Finally, I would like to thank our former delegates whose willingness to participate in Council activities enables us to continue to provide quality programs and experiences for delegations visiting Australia.

[signature will be scanned in]

Margaret Guilfoyle

October 2002



Introducing the Council

Council Background

In December 1981, a program for political exchanges was established by the then Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Malcolm Fraser AC CH, with the support of the leaders of the major Parliamentary Political Parties, to arrange visits of young political leaders between Australia and other countries. An Interim Committee was established with the leaders of the four federal Parliamentary Parties as its Principals.

The program had its genesis the previous year when the Hon Sir Robert Cotton KCMG, the Australian Consul-General in New York, and Mr Tony Eggleton CVO, then Federal Director of the Liberal Party, discussed the concept of an Australian young political leaders exchange program with the American Council of Young Political Leaders.

The program of exchange visits was modelled on the system of exchanges between the United States of America and other countries, which was established in 1966 under the management of the American Council of Young Political Leaders.

With the agreement of the Principals, the Interim Committee became the Australian Political Exchange Committee in August 1983 and subsequently the Australian Political Exchange Council in September 1991.

The Council now has regular exchange programs with the People's Republic of China, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. It also sponsors delegates' participation in a range of individual study tours and international forums overseas.

The activities of the Council are funded through an annual appropriation to the Commonwealth Department of Finance and Administration and from donations in-kind from organisations and individuals. The Special Minister of State, Senator the Hon Eric Abetz, Senator for Tasmania, has responsibility for the program.



Membership of the Council

The Council comprises a Chairman and six Members nominated by the Principals of the Council. The Principals of the Council are the Parliamentary Leaders of the four major political parties – the Hon John Howard MP, Prime Minister and Leader of the Liberal Party of Australia; the Hon Simon Crean MP, Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Australian Labor Party; the Hon John Anderson MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the National Party of Australia; and Senator Andrew Bartlett, Leader of the Australian Democrats.

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition nominate two Council Members and the Leaders of the National Party and the Australian Democrats each nominate one Member. The Prime Minister also nominates an independent Chairman.

Council membership as at 30 June 2002 is as follows:

Chairman of the Council



The Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle DBE

Dame Margaret was appointed Chairman in August 1996.

Members of the Council (in order of appointment)



The Hon Alan Cadman MP
Federal Member for Mitchell

Mr Cadman is a representative of the Prime Minister; appointed in December 1981.



Ms Sam Hudson

Ex-National Secretary of the Australian Democrats; Executive Director, Australian Associated Brewers

Ms Hudson is the representative of the Leader of the Australian Democrats; appointed in June 1990.



Mr Gary Gray

Ex-National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party; Principal Strategic Adviser, Woodside Energy Pty Ltd

Mr Gray is a representative of the Leader of the Opposition; appointed in June 1993.



Senator Sue West

Deputy President of the Senate and Senator for New South Wales

Senator West is a representative of the Leader of the Opposition; appointed in May 1996.



Mr Lynton Crosby

Federal Director of the Liberal Party of Australia

Mr Crosby is a representative of the Prime Minister; appointed in May 1997.



Mr Paul Neville MP

Federal Member for Hinkler and National Party Whip

Mr Neville is the representative of the Leader of the National Party; appointed in November 1998.



The Council's Purpose

The Council's purpose is to provide opportunities for young Australians involved in politics to study the political systems of other countries as well as to offer a unique insight into the Australian political system to young people from participating exchange countries.

The Terms of Reference governing the Council's operations, and endorsed by the Principals of the Council are:

1. Arrange *regular exchange visits* for either individuals or groups of young people, drawn from the Parties of the Principals, with the potential to make a significant contribution to political life, between Australia and other countries;
2. Provide learning experiences through *study tours* of Australia for young political leaders from countries important for trade or strategic reasons;
3. Arrange related activities which provide *developmental opportunities* for the rising generation of Australian and other political leaders; and
4. Arrange for *regular reporting* on the Council's activities to Parliament, the Principals and sponsors.

Outgoing Australian Delegations

Each year the Council considers delegate nominations put forward by the Federal Directors/National Secretaries of the Parties of the Principals. Nominees are young Australians considered by their respective parties to have the potential to make a significant contribution to political life.

To maximise development opportunities, delegations comprise a representative, broadly based group of young Australian political leaders. Delegates are selected from a range of political backgrounds including:

- members of Federal and State Parliaments;
- party organisations, both professional and voluntary;
- industry organisations;
- trade unions;
- members of ministerial and electorate staffs; and
- local government representatives.

Delegates are required to be party members, Australian citizens and between the ages of 25 and 46 (with the exception of the US exchange where the age limit is 40).

All delegates are expected to continue their involvement in Council activities after their study tours by participating in or assisting with organising programs for incoming delegations and by promoting the program among colleagues and in the broader community. Indeed, former delegate participation in incoming exchanges provides a depth and degree of warmth that is invaluable to the success of the programs.



The inaugural Australian delegation to New Zealand, led by Mr John Lenders MP, with the Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Helen Clark MP.

Incoming Delegations to Australia

The Council receives delegations from its exchange partners as part of its program of political exchange study tours. The Council's aim for visiting delegations is to provide an understanding of Australia and our political system. Each itinerary is developed individually and provides:

- an overview of the Australian political system incorporating Federal, State/Territory and Local government;
- networking through meeting high-profile Australian political and business leaders, as well as former delegates of the Council's programs; and
- an insight into Australian culture through community and cultural activities.



Special Minister of State and Senator for Tasmania, Senator the Hon Eric Abetz and Ms Teresa Gambaro MP, with the sixth Vietnamese delegation to Australia led by Ms Truong Thi Mai.



Outgoing Australian Delegations for 2001-2002

At 30 June 2002, the Australian Political Exchange Council has sponsored 488 young Australians' participation in 68 overseas study tours. Council alumni include many who are now in prominent political positions, including members of Federal and State Parliaments, leaders in political and government organisations, trade unions and corporate Australia. A select list is available at Appendix A.

In 2001-2002, the Council sponsored 31 young Australian political leaders on overseas delegations to New Zealand, the People's Republic of China, Germany and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

22 to 31 July 2001	Inaugural Australian Delegation to New Zealand
25 July to 3 August 2001	Tenth Australian Delegation to China
8 to 14 September 2001	Sixth Australian Delegation to Germany
15 to 23 April 2002	Sixth Australian Delegation to Vietnam
19 to 28 May 2002	Eleventh Australian Delegation to China



The sixth Australian delegation to Vietnam, led by Ms Teresa Gambaro MP, with Mr Vu Mao, Member of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party; and Chairman of the Office of the National Assembly.

Inaugural Australian Delegation to New Zealand 22 to 31 July 2001

Delegates

- **Mr John Lenders MP** (Australian Labor Party), Parliamentary Secretary for Treasury and Finance; Victorian Member for Dandenong North – *Delegation Leader*
- **Ms Jo Fox** (Australian Labor Party), Adviser to the Federal Shadow Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander Affairs and Reconciliation; the Arts
- **Ms Megan Anwyl** (Australian Labor Party), Director, Hawker Britton Government Relations Consultants
- **Senator Marise Payne** (Liberal Party of Australia), Senator for New South Wales
- **Mr David Bushby** (Liberal Party of Australia), Chief of Staff to the Tasmanian Leader of the Opposition
- **Mr Martin Bella** (National Party of Australia), Cane and Cattle Farmer; Field Officer, Employment North
- **Ms Lynne Grimsey** (Australian Democrats), National Executive Officer, Australian Democrats
- **Mr Daryl Wight**, Secretary, Australian Political Exchange Council

In July 2001, the Council's newest exchange partner hosted the inaugural visit from Australia. The delegation returned, delighted by the access it had to New Zealand's most senior politicians, and with the opportunity to exchange views and information with Australia's close neighbours. The visit was hosted by the Speaker of the New Zealand Parliament and involved travel to Wellington, Christchurch, Rotorua, and Auckland. Delegates had access to all senior national leaders and exposure to numerous situations that helped them to gain a better appreciation of New Zealand and provided an opportunity to reflect upon the Australian situation.

There is no doubt that this opportunity gave me the luxury of sitting back and thinking of how the Victorian political system operates in comparison with New Zealand. (J. Lenders MP)

The delegation's report to Council focussed on a number of areas including the New Zealand Parliament, the economy, Maori New Zealand and defence issues. A summary of these issues is below. The full report is available on the Council's website.

New Zealand Parliament

In Wellington, the delegation met with 36 of the 120 members of the Parliament. These included the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and the Leaders of the other

five parliamentary parties. In addition, delegates were guests of honour at a dinner hosted by the Speaker, which was attended by the Prime Minister.

The courtesy extended by the New Zealand parliamentarians was ongoing. Highlights included a 45-minute meeting with the Prime Minister; dinner with the Deputy Prime Minister and most of the members of the Alliance Party Caucus; a meeting with the Leader of the Opposition and seven of her front-bench colleagues; a meeting with the Leader and two other members of the ACT Caucus; a robust meeting with all five members of the NZ First Caucus, and meetings with the Leaders of the Greens, United NZ Party and the Speaker.

Dialogue with the political leaders covered a broad spectrum of New Zealand and trans-Tasman issues, but emphasised the changes to the New Zealand political system brought about by the introduction in 1996 of the Mixed-Member Proportional (MMP) system of election. The second major issue was the integration of the two economies with the ongoing development of the Common Economic Relationship (CER). A further issue was the changing focus of foreign and defence policy.

Delegates were fascinated by the enforced pluralism brought about by MMP and the implications for party organisation, election campaigns and the operation of the Parliament itself. The number of Members of Parliament who had changed parties in the last decade was also an issue of considerable interest to the delegation.

The delegation attended Question Time where delegates favourably contrasted the ability of New Zealand MPs to extract information from Ministers to that of most Australian jurisdictions. With no political party controlling the Parliament in its own right, new traditions are developing under MMP.



The inaugural Australian delegation to New Zealand, led by Mr John Lenders MP, with Chief Government Whip, Mr Rick Barker MP, and Junior Labour Whip, Mr Chris Carter MP.

The New Zealand Economy

The state of the New Zealand economy and the radical move to a market economy under former Finance Ministers, the Hon Roger Douglas and the Hon Ruth Richardson, were themes in a number of the discussions across New Zealand.

The delegation met with Mr Tim Hazeldene, Professor of Economics at the University of Auckland, to discuss the economic transformation in New Zealand and future paths in the years ahead. Issues explored in some depth included value adding, skills retention and the CER.

It also met with Mr Paul Gaulter, General Secretary, and Mr Peter Conway from the Council of Trade Unions. In these discussions the delegation focussed on the recent manifestations of the Employment Contracts Act under successive governments and its impact on the New Zealand workforce and on organised labour.

In meetings with the Mayor, Cr Gary Moore, and other senior officials of the City of Christchurch, the delegation saw New Zealand's economic issues from a very different focus. The Christchurch City Council is the municipal government for approximately 320,000 people and operated in a very interventionist manner during the general downsizing of government in the 1980s and 1990s with acquisitions of the seaport, airport, bus system and some public housing. The Mayor also had a very Oceanic approach to investment and other issues that included embracing Australia and individual cities in local partnerships.

On non-economic matters, the delegation also discussed some issues of pluralism and community and municipal governance with the municipal officials. In addition, the delegation was greeted as honoured guests at a full meeting of the 25-member Christchurch City Council, which was both lively and informative. Christchurch also showcased its International Antarctic Centre to the delegation as a niche regional centre of excellence that is utilised by the United States and Norwegian governments.

Maori New Zealand

The role of Maori in New Zealand is an issue that the delegation considered in some detail and in a number of manifestations during the visit. The first detailed discussion was with Mr Morris Love, the Director of the Waitangi Tribunal. This body has a number of functions including the determination of outstanding issues that arose from the Treaty of Waitangi of 1840 between the Maori Chiefs and Queen Victoria.

The second major discussion was with Mr Mark Solomon, the Kaiwhakahaere, or Head of the Tribal Council, of the Ngai Tahu iwi. Mr Solomon and other members of the Tribal Council that covers the vast majority of the South Island's landmass discussed a number of issues with the delegation including settlement of the tribal claims of the Ngai Tahu and the investment and development plans of what appears to be the most successful of the Maori settlements under the Waitangi process.

A third and continuing discussion included the issue of the separate Maori Roll that is used to elect designated Maori MPs to the Parliament. Under the electoral arrangements, citizens who self-define themselves as Maori by virtue of being the descendant of a Maori are eligible to choose whether they enrol on the Maori Roll or the General Roll. Approximately 20% of New Zealand voters have identified themselves as Maori and just over half this number have elected to vote on the Maori Roll. This translates to 61 electorate-MPs being selected from General Roll constituencies and a further six electorate-MPs being selected from Maori Roll constituencies. Under the MMP regime a further fifty-three MPs are selected from Party Lists for whom all voters cast a ballot.

During the delegation's visit, changes to Maori enrolment numbers ensured that in the next Parliament a seventh Maori electorate would be created.

Community debate continues as to whether this is an appropriate system of selection generally, and whether it is appropriate for Maori to have such a choice as approximately 10% of General Roll voters have also identified themselves as Maori. Debate continues in both the Maori and Pakeha communities as to whether this system should be extended to local government.

In addition to these three issues, the relationship of Maori to Pakeha New Zealanders was discussed at some length by the delegation in relation to education, domestic violence, the justice system, the environment and cultural responses to genetic engineering.

Whilst the cultures and circumstances are significantly different, members of the delegation reflected not only on the differences and similarities of the relationships between the indigenous and immigrant communities in both our countries, but also on the very different approaches that have been taken.

Defence Issues

The ongoing trans-Tasman debate on ANZUS issues regarding nuclear capabilities; the peace-keeping operations in Timor and Melanesia and the size and nature of the New Zealand defence forces made defence an issue of some significance to the delegation. The trans-Tasman debate on the decision of the New Zealand Government to disband its air-combat forces was still very alive during the visit. In meetings with the Prime Minister, the Defence Minister and a number of other MPs, the delegation was able to touch on these issues.

The delegation met with three senior officers of the New Zealand Defence Forces (Admiral Ray Gillbanks and Generals Clive Lilley and Jerry Mateparae) at the Defence Force Headquarters. This meeting provided an opportunity to not only discuss the general defence issues, but particularly to discuss in detail the Timor Peacekeeping operation.

Conclusion

The first Australian delegation to New Zealand was treated with considerable courtesy and given extraordinary access to key decision-makers and opinion leaders in New Zealand. According to David Bushby, it was:

A wonderful, once in a lifetime experience. The level of access to the decision-makers of New Zealand was humbling and I believe I have come away with far greater understanding and empathy with New Zealand and its people.

The delegates' impressions of New Zealand and its political system were clearly enhanced; and the networks likely to be of immense value in their future roles as political leaders in Australia.

My understanding of New Zealand's political system has gone from 0 to 10! I found it intriguing and as a result took a great interest. The more I heard, the more I became interested. ... I have already corresponded with a number of those I have met (from a number of political parties) and believe these contacts will prove to be very useful in the future. (D. Bushby)



The inaugural Australian delegation to New Zealand, led by Mr John Lenders MP, with the Leader of the Opposition, the Rt Hon Jenny Shipley MP.

Tenth Australian Delegation to China

25 July to 3 August 2001

Delegates

- **Hon Michael Board MLA** (Liberal Party of Australia), Western Australian Opposition Spokesperson for Health, Culture and the Arts, State Member for Murdoch – *Delegation Leader*
- **Mr Andrew Gregson** (Liberal Party of Australia), Tasmanian State Director of the Liberal Party
- **Mr Tony Snell** (Liberal Party of Australia), Member, Constitutional Committee, Victorian Division of the Liberal Party; Partner, Mallesons Stephen Jaques, Solicitors
- **Mr Simon Corbell MLA** (Australian Labor Party), Australian Capital Territory Shadow Minister for Planning and Land Management, the Environment, Communications and Information Technology, Youth Affairs and Public Administration, Member of the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly for Molonglo
- **Ms Alison Roy** (Australian Labor Party), Former Adviser to the Hon Simon Crean MP; Manager, Biotechnology, Victorian Department of State and Regional Development
- **Mr Norm Kelly** (Australian Democrats), Former Member of the Western Australian Legislative Council; Member of Australian Democrats WA Division Executive
- **Ms Christine Briton**, Secretary, Australian Political Exchange Council

The year 2001 was not only notable for being the Council's twentieth anniversary but also for the marking of the tenth exchange with the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF). China was the second country with which the Council established an exchange relationship making the ACYF the Council's second longest exchange partner after the American Council of Young Political Leaders.

The tenth delegation to China was warmly received during its ten-day program, which encompassed Beijing, Hubei Province and Shanghai. During the visit delegates gained an appreciation of China's system of government, economy, and its unique history and culture. Delegation leader, the Hon Mike Board MLA, provided an account of the visit and an abridged version is below.

Beijing

The delegation's first day in Beijing included business and cultural activities. The delegation visited the Supreme People's Court of China where it was briefed on the Chinese justice

system by Mr Jiang Zhipei, Chief Justice of the Intellectual Property Right Tribunal and Ms Duan Lihong, Judge of the Supreme Court.

Visits to the remarkable Great Wall of China, which stretches over 6000 kilometres, and to Tiananamen Square in the heart of Beijing, provided the delegation with a taste of China's ancient and more recent historic sites.

At the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the delegation met with Mr Zhao Jian, Deputy Director of the Australian and New Zealand Division. Mr Zhao's understanding of the relationship between Australia and China, and his knowledge of current events in both countries ensured that the delegation received an informative and valuable briefing. A wide range of issues was discussed including the opening up of China to the international community and border protection.

Delegates visited the headquarters of the ACYF, where they met with ACYF President, Mr Sun Jinlong. Mr Sun explained the role of the 450-million member strong ACYF in supporting and encouraging education and participation by China's youth, and its current priorities which include the protection of the environment. Mr Sun later hosted a banquet in honour of the delegates where they were able to discuss a range of issues with members of the ACYF on an informal and frank basis.

At the Ministry of Education, delegates were briefed by Ms Zhang Ziuqin, Deputy Director General of the Department of International Cooperation and Exchange. The delegation learned about the emphasis placed by China on further education, which is regarded as a key factor in its economic development. While tertiary education is encouraged it was noted that university numbers are still limited with only 50% of eligible students able to secure a place; an issue that continues to receive attention.

The group learned about the challenges facing the Department in providing education to rural youth where less resources and pressures to continue working on farms remain issues of concern. International students and the incentives that have been put in place to ensure that students return to China on completion of their studies were also topics of discussion. Of additional interest was a new plan to financially reward academics that complete outstanding research projects.

Hubei Province

The delegation flew to Wuhan City in the Hubei Province where it was greeted on arrival by Mrs Ziao Juhua, Chairman of the Hubei Youth Federation and Mr Tang Yanmin, Deputy Secretary General.

The first meeting in Wuhan was with Mr Lu Fang, Vice General Engineer, and Mr He Zhi Hong, General Manager, of the SP (State Power) Central Company. This government-owned enterprise, by Australian or even world standards, is huge, delivering up to 30,000 megawatts of power and upon completion of the Three Gorges project, has the capacity to significantly increase power.



The tenth Australian delegation to China, led by the Hon Mike Board MLA, with the President of the All-China Youth Federation, Mr Sun Jinlong.

China is understandably proud of its production of power, and particularly with its hydro-production – the Three Gorges project being the pinnacle. The project is particularly valued for the prospect of economic growth that it will offer to China’s rural hinterland.

The delegation was provided with a full and interesting briefing on market reforms and the delivery of power in Hubei province and within China generally. Australian delegate Tony Snell, who had taken part in the Victorian deregulation project, was able to provide a detailed account of the reform process occurring within Australia, an area of great interest to the delegation’s hosts.

A visit to the Hubei Provincial Museum was an opportunity to view some of China’s national treasures. One of the exhibits is a tomb of a nobleman discovered in the 1970s, which dates back to 2400BC. The most prominent valued treasure from the tomb, however, is a massive set of bronze bell chimes with a range of eight octaves. The delegation was privileged to be treated to a musical performance on a set of replica 2400BC bronze bells.

Delegates also visited the Huanghelou Mansion, set on the edge of a lake in Wuhan City. The Mansion is where Chairman Mao spent his summer breaks, entertained international guests and reflected and made decisions about the future of China. The larger meeting rooms are now used as commercial conference facilities. The delegation received privileged access to the Mansion and was able to view artefacts and rooms that are generally not open to the public.

A meeting with the Hubei’s provincial leaders was an opportunity to discuss a range of local government issues. The delegation met the Chairman of the Province, Mr Wang Zhen You, where a number of common issues were discussed. The meeting was followed by a dinner with local officials of the Province that provided a forum for informative discussions about Hubei and the local system of government.

The following day, the delegation had a chance to see some of the Province's rural areas during the four-hour bus trip to Yichang City, where the Yichang Chapter of the Youth Federation was the host. Delegates met the Deputy Mayor of the City and a number of health officials including Mr Sung, Administrator, and Dr Zhang Keqin, Chief Physician, of the Yichang City Hospital.

After a detailed briefing on the hospital and the city health system, during which delegates learned about health delivery, eligibility for treatment, and health costs, they were taken on a tour of the hospital. Of interest was the successful combination of Western and traditional Chinese medicine in the treatment of patients.

Delegates were guests of honour at a dinner hosted by the Mayor of Yichang City, Mr Wong, who delighted delegates with his knowledge of, and fondness for, Australia. The City of Perth in Western Australia had just signed a sister city relationship with Yichang, providing further opportunities for exchanges, and the development of friendships. Delegation leader, Mike Board, was thrilled to be presented with a key to the City of Yichang, which has a population of over four million people.

The following day was the much-anticipated visit to the Three Gorges project. The delegation was met on arrival by Mr Wang Jia Zhu, Vice President of the China Yangtze Three Gorges project, who provided a comprehensive briefing on this massive undertaking.

The scale of the project is almost beyond comprehension - it is the world's largest construction project and the dam will have the largest water capacity in the world. Delegation leader Mike Board summed up the project:

The Three Gorges Dam and Hydro project has cost in excess of US\$200 billion, with a workforce of over 30,000 people. This project consists of several towns, bridges, freeways and the relocation of nearly 1.5 million people. The dam will also consist of a Loch system to allow the passage of ships for transport. When completed it will generate up to 30,000 megawatts of electricity. The dam will be over three kilometres in length with walls up to 50 storeys high. (M. Board MLA)

The delegation found the visit to the Three Gorges fascinating and a demonstration of China's capacity to invest significant amounts into its future. At the time of the visit, the project had already been under construction for 12 years with another seven likely before completion. The delegation was interested to learn about the cultural, social and heritage issues surrounding the project, and of the long-term benefits China anticipates it will offer to the Chinese people.

Shanghai

The visit to Shanghai commenced with an inspection of Shanghai Digital World. Here, delegates were introduced to a number of digital companies that have embraced the latest technologies and are expanding throughout China and to other parts of the world.



The tenth Australian delegation to China, led by the Hon Mike Board MLA, with Ms Zhang Ziujin, Deputy Director-General of the Ministry of Education in Beijing.

The delegation spent some time with Mr Zu Zhen Zhong, Vice General Manager of Legend (Shanghai) Ltd, a company that has expanded very quickly since its inception and is now the largest hardware provider to the personal computer market in China. The pace of development in China is rapid and impressive to witness, with the expansion of companies such as Legend (Shanghai) Ltd and the Baoshan Iron and Steel Company, occurring throughout the country. Delegation leader Mike Board made comment of this in his report:

*The investment in Shanghai, Wuhan and Beijing can only be understood by personally seeing the extent of the development of the country, and witnessing progress wherever you turn.
(M. Board MLA)*

At the Baoshan Iron and Steel Company, the Director and Chairman of Baosteel Union, Mr Zhu Yiming, briefed the delegation. After a briefing on what is one of the world's largest iron and steel producers, the group was taken on a bus tour of the mega-industrial site with its 16,000 employees and large port. The delegation witnessed the hot-rolling mill where one large molten ingot is compressed into a 5km long rolled thin coil of sheet metal, used primarily in the production of white goods. Mr Zhu informed the delegation that the majority of the iron ore is imported from Western Australia and that he is hoping to expand the company's trade relationship with Australia.

A formal farewell dinner was hosted by Mr Zhong Ziao Min, Deputy Chairman of the Changing District of Shanghai, member of the City Council, and a senior official of the Shanghai Youth Federation. It was a fitting program finale.

Conclusions

Many of the delegation's preconceived ideas on China were challenged during the visit and the knowledge gained during the ten days was regarded as invaluable for the future. As delegation leader Mike Board wrote in his report:

I'm sure that I speak for all of us when I say that we have come away from this trip with a totally different vision and understanding of the complexity of China, their political system and the values that the Chinese hold.

The delegation was impressed by the Chinese people's dedication to their country, their plans for growth, and the way in which they are embracing the rest of the world and inviting it to participate in its growth.

There is genuine excitement in China to celebrate with the rest of the world their history and their incredible achievements over thousands of years. (M. Board MLA)

The opportunity to visit Shanghai and to observe the economic zones and, by contrast, to visit, a provincial region was regarded as a useful and important part of the study program.

The experiences and information gained during the visit greatly increased the delegates' knowledge and understanding of China. Good friendships were established within the delegation and with those met in China and the delegation is confident that it has continued the tradition of creating new ties and understanding between the two countries.



The tenth Australian delegation to China, led by the Hon Mike Board MLA, at Shanghai Digital World.

Sixth Australian Delegation to Germany

8 to 14 September 2001

Delegates

- **Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich MLC** (Australian Labor Party), Parliamentary Secretary for Health; Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Community Development; Women's Interests, Seniors and Youth; Disability Services; Culture and the Arts, Western Australian Member for East Metropolitan Region – *Delegation Leader*
- **Mr Gordon Noble** (Australian Labor Party), Adviser to the Federal Shadow Minister for Financial Services and Regulation
- **Mr Andrew Whale** (Australian Labor Party), Secretary, Canberra Sub Branch of the Transport Workers' Union of Australia
- **Mr Stephen Wade** (Liberal Party of Australia), Policy Coordinator and Member of the State Executive of the South Australian Division of the Liberal Party of Australia
- **Ms Donna Taylor** (Liberal Party of Australia), Assistant Adviser to the Federal Minister for Justice and Customs
- **Ms Meg Edwards** (National Party of Australia), State President, Young National Party, Victoria. Federal Treasurer, Young National Party of Australia
- **Ms Sue Whisker**, Representative, Australian Political Exchange Council

The sixth Australian delegation to visit Germany at the invitation of the German-Oceania Parliamentary Friendship Group will remember the exchange for the benefits to personal and professional development, and for the many wonderful and hospitable people that it met in Frankfurt, Berlin and Hamburg. Unfortunately, the visit will also be remembered as the time of the world's worst terrorist attack, which occurred on September 11, four days before the end of the visit.

Delegates were particularly interested in the changes that Germany has undergone since reunification and the challenges that still lie ahead, Germany's political system and organisations, and the effect of the European Union. These were focal parts of the delegation's report, which also included the delegation's observations on the terrorist attacks. Sections of the delegation's report are below.

Overview

Germany, 11 years after reunification, is a nation undergoing massive economic, social and political change. Berlin, the new capital of a united Germany and the home of the Bundestag, is a city symbolic of Germany's divided past and united future.

While there are economic and social differences between Germany and Australia, political differences are less apparent. The issues that face our own political system and parties are similar to those facing the German government and the German political parties - health, law and order and unemployment. The two most obvious challenges for the Federal Government are dealing with the rate and extent of change flowing from the reunification of West Germany and East Germany and the policy issues surrounding the European Union.

Political Foundations – ‘Stiftungs’

Each political party represented in the Bundestag is entitled to establish a foundation with public funds. These are generously funded by the government but also raise money from other sources. Their role is described in terms of ‘think-tanks’ which, through a range of activities, encourage democracy, its processes and institutions, promote political theories, promote democracy internationally, and train leaders of the future.

Irrespective of the foundation’s party associations and ideological leanings none view themselves as having a direct role in the activities of a political party. Foundations provide research on a wide range of issues that may be used by a variety of clients including politicians. However, they do not take part in election campaigns. They are essentially issue-based organisations.

The delegation visited four stiftungs – those associated with the Social Democrats, the Christian Democrats, the Free Democrats and the PDS - and was struck by the richness of the model. In each foundation, there was a clear passion for democratic development in Germany and overseas. A passion, not merely to promote the mechanistic functionality of electoral processes but also to foster a democratic and civil society, underpinned by institutions such as families, unions, churches, and political foundations.



The fifth Australian delegation to Germany, led by the Hon Ljiljanna Ravlich MLC, at the German Bundestag (photo courtesy of Mr Gordon Noble).

As we face the uncertainties of a world after September 11, the delegation is of the view that one of the best ways to strengthen homeland security would be by strengthening the civil society that undergirds Australia's democracy.

The delegation found the visits to the stiftungs very worthwhile for the different perspectives they provided.

I found the visits to the political foundations to be extremely interesting, giving us insights into political philosophy, and German and European politics and government. (S. Wade)

The Future of Europe

The concept of a united Europe seemed a distant reality in the decade after the war when coal and steel producers in France and Germany sat down to negotiate an agreement of co operation. Yet it was these humble beginnings that led to the establishment of the European Union.

At the turn of the century the challenges that confront Europe are immense. Despite these challenges it is clear that German politicians, whatever their political persuasion, remain committed to the ideal of European integration.

While Germany remains committed to the European Union other European countries have been prepared to put their national interest ahead of ideals.

While the main political parties may remain committed to the ideal of a unified Europe, perhaps the biggest danger for Germany's ongoing support for the European Union may come from the emergence of radical parties.

A View of the Terrorist Attacks on America from within Germany

It was 3.45 pm in the Reichstag when Mr Hermann, a Greens MP, stopped talking to answer his mobile phone. On hanging up he told us that a plane had crashed into the World Trade Centre in New York. After a brief moment of stunned silence we continued the meeting for the remaining ten minutes. As we left the Reichstag people were cramming around televisions. On the bus, the driver turned the radio onto the BBC World Service and the reality of what had occurred began to dawn on us.

There was a brief suggestion about the future of the trip and whether we should head home. However, it was quickly agreed that it was better to be on the ground than in the air. That night we were scheduled to attend a Greens Party Festival at its Headquarters. It was to become the first of numerous cancellations.

Back at the hotel, which was close to the centre of Berlin, the lobby was packed with people, many of whom were clearly American. A sign at the front entrance indicated that one of the hotel bars was showing CNN on the big screen. It wasn't really necessary, as the graphic nature of the pictures needed no English.

Later that evening the bells rang out across Berlin from its oldest cathedral, the Giedachtniskirche, which had somehow managed to survive the Russian, British and American bombing raids. Tonight it rang out in mourning with America.

The German Bundestag was in the midst of its busiest week of the year. It was the resumption after the summer break and it was Budget week. However, the following morning after speeches by the Party Leaders, the sitting week was cancelled.

The following day the delegation met with Dr Michael Brie of the Rosa Luxembourg Foundation – the Foundation for the PDS, the former East German Communist Party. Dr Brie discussed how he had been with his Party Leader earlier in the day helping to prepare his speech for the Bundestag. In reference to what he referred to as ‘acts of barbarism’ he said that it was his belief that the destruction of the State was creating the environment for these acts of terrorism.

Back on the streets of Berlin a bomb scare had meant the area around the Foreign Ministry was blocked off.

We headed back to the Reichstag. Twenty-four hours earlier, the Parliament building was full of politicians, bureaucrats, staffers, media, tourists and the odd Australian delegation. Today it was all but an empty shell.

There was however a member of the German Government, Ms Iris Gleicke, Junior Minister for a range of portfolios including Construction; Housing; Transport; and Youth Affairs. She reiterated her leader’s declaration that ‘today, we are all Americans’. In a very emotional opening to the meeting both Ms Gleicke and delegation leader Ms Ravlich exchanged concerns for the need for unity and support between all nations at this time.

In contrast to the words, the following day it was silence that reflected the German people’s emotions. The delegation was arriving at the main railway station in Berlin – one of the busiest in Europe – when at 10.00 am the bells once again sounded and the German people stopped for three minutes. It was an almost surreal sight as cars, buses and people stopped in a place that is based on movement and normally appears as chaos.

The delegation reached Hamburg just in time to participate in the city’s commemorative service. The town square, outside the impressive town hall, was full of thousands of people, including many of the city’s fire-fighters. Under a German flag flying at half-mast, the city’s civic and church leaders expressed their support for the American people and stressed the need for peace and social unity.

Hamburg’s state of shock was intensified as around us arrests were taking place as the link between some of the terrorists and a student enclave in the outskirts of the north German city was established. This also heightened the concern for civil unrest and attacks against religious sectors.

This concern flowed through to the local election campaign. Hamburg was only a week away from its ‘State’ elections. Prior to the terrorist attack law and order was already a major

theme. It was pushed to centre stage largely by a former Judge (known colloquially as ‘Judge Merciless’) who was running independent to the major parties with a very strong platform of justice, criminal punishment and anti-immigration.

All candidates had agreed to suspend the campaign for five days out of respect for the victims of the American tragedy. It was clear however that the major parties were unsure and nervous as to what effect the attacks, and the local links to the terrorism, would have on the election.

The answer came a little over a week later when the final election results will most probably see the end to almost fifty years of Government by the Social Democrat Party as the independent Mr Ronald Schill secured over 19% of the vote and is likely to form a Coalition with the Christian Democrats and the Free Democrats to take power.

Postscript: Mr Schill subsequently formed a coalition with the Christian Democrats.

Conclusion

The delegation found the visit immensely useful in gaining an understanding of Germany and the process of reunification.

The program was excellent. It was pertinent and relevant and gave good insight and understanding into the German political system and the policy issues that are at the forefront of the debate. (L. Ravlich MLC)

Delegates also found the visit useful for the opportunity to look afresh at Australia and the issues confronting it:

The trip was extremely valuable in my political life. It was a great opportunity to understand Australian government and politics both by comparing and contrasting with German government and politics, and by travelling and dialoguing with people from different Australian parties. (S. Wade)



The Fifth Australian delegation to Germany with accompanying officers from the German Bundestag (courtesy of Mr Stephen Wade).

Sixth Australian Delegation to Vietnam

15 to 23 April 2002

Delegates

- **Ms Teresa Gambaro MP** (Liberal Party of Australia), Federal Member for Petrie – *Delegation Leader*
- **Mr Russell Wood** (Liberal Party of Australia), Communications Officer, Government Members' Secretariat
- **Mr Stuart Eaton** (Liberal Party of Australia), Research Assistant (Tactical), Liberal Party Federal Secretariat
- **Ms Jaye Radisich MLA** (Australian Labor Party), Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Swan Hills
- **Ms Denise Spinks** (Australian Labor Party), Policy Adviser to the Federal Shadow Minister for Regional and Urban Development, Transport and Infrastructure
- **Ms Christine Briton**, Secretary, Australian Political Exchange Council

The fifth delegation to Vietnam was offered a program of great diversity, ranging from visits with Communist Party leaders and officials to meetings with the Vietnamese Youth Federation (CYDECO), Vice Ministers of the Government and leading figures of the Vietnamese media and the People's Council.

Delegates were introduced to Vietnam through a comprehensive briefing provided by the Australian Ambassador, HE Michael Mann. His knowledge and enthusiasm for Vietnam and the region stimulated delegates interest and helped focus areas for study. The Ambassador hosted a function for the delegates enabling them to meet a number of Vietnamese and Australians having a keen interest in the bilateral relationship.

The delegation visited Hanoi, Hoi Chi Min City, Ha Long Bay and Lac Hamlet in the northern province of Mai Chau, and Vang Tau in the country's south.

In Hanoi, delegates met a number of members of the National Assembly, including Mr Nguyen Phu Binh, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. Key briefings were provided by Mr Pham The Duyet, Chairman of the Vietnamese Fatherland Front, and Mr Vu Mao, Member of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party and Chairman of the Office of the National Assembly. Mr Vu Mao is a strong supporter of the bilateral relationship and has visited Australian on a number of occasions. He delighted the delegation by singing for them a song he had composed about the friendship between our two countries.

A number of candidates from metropolitan and rural areas for the 19 May 2002 National Assembly elections were introduced to the delegation over the course of the visit. In addition to issues of a political nature, the delegation had the opportunity to canvass a

wide range of public policy and other areas of interest in briefings with the Central Commission for Ideology and Culture, the Civil Aviation Administration, the Ministry of Health, and the State Bank of Vietnam and during inspections of the Song Day Hydro-electricity plant (Hoa Binh Province) and the Cho Ray Hospital (a major medical facility serving around 35 million people in the southern provinces). Meetings with the Board of Editors of newspapers for students and youth, and discussions with their young employees, were opportunities to talk directly to young people about the issues of the next generation of leaders. The delegation was honoured to be featured in an edition of the *Thanh Nien*.

The delegation was particularly interested to learn about the Vietnamese political system and its fast-developing economy and excerpts of the report on these topics are below.

The Political System

While there is a great deal that can be read about the system as it operates in Vietnam, to meet some of the major figures in this process was a unique opportunity that allowed the delegation the chance to explore the relationships between the various bodies that make up the political network. (Delegation Report)

There are three levels to the system – province-level People’s Councils (local/state governments), the National Assembly and the Government. The most powerful people in the Vietnamese political system are the President, the Prime Minister, and the Chairman of the National Assembly and the General Secretary of the Communist Party.

According to Mr Vu Mao, Chairman of the Office of National Assembly, the National Assembly decides on policy and the Government implements it.

The role of the National Assembly has increased over recent years and it now has a larger role in creating and enforcing laws. It sits for longer periods of time and is moving towards a greater number of full-time MPs. (In Vietnam not all MPs are professionals and part-time MPs need only spend four months a year working for the Assembly.)

Other changes that have taken place include increases in the number of independent candidates, in female members and in representatives from the 50-plus ethnic groups and major religions now standing for election. There is also the opportunity for constituents to have questions asked in the National Assembly on their behalf by their local MP.

A new innovation is the broadcast of the proceedings of the National Assembly over TV and radio. The delegation was told that these broadcasts are very popular with the public who regard them as a way of ensuring that their representatives are accountable to the people (the public keeps track of how many questions are asked by their respective representatives and how well questions are answered).

The Fatherland Front has responsibility for candidate selection and the conduct of elections, including the counting of votes. Candidates have to apply to the Fatherland Front for

permission to stand at the General Election. Once a candidate gains approval from the Fatherland Front his or her name is submitted to the National Assembly Standing Committee and to the Communist Party for approval. Possible constituents from the relevant area are invited to evaluate the candidate at public meetings where candidates talk about their qualities and attributes. If the public evaluation is not positive, a candidate can be deselected.

After candidates are elected to the National Assembly, it is usual for groupings or factions to be formed based on the state/province that they represent.



The sixth Australian delegation to Vietnam, led by Ms Teresa Gambaro MP, with Mr Pham The Duyet, President of the Vietnam Fatherland Front.

Economic and International Trade Issues

Vietnam has experienced very strong rates of economic growth in recent years and consequent increases in general standards of living. The significant economic restructuring by Vietnam's Government, particularly over the last decade, has provided the impetus for this improvement. Through continued economic reform and a determination to become more a part of the global economic system, Vietnam hopes to create a robust and strong economy – one that will provide increased prosperity and standards of living to its citizens. However, it is determined to retain its unique and vibrant culture through this transition to a market-based economy.

Vietnam is at an important and fascinating point in its economic development. It is attempting a transition from a centrally planned economy to one in which the dominant factors are the market forces of supply and demand. Although there has been some discussion about the current pace of economic reform in recent years, Vietnam's commitment to opening up its economy to global forces is clearly evident.

Vietnam's economic system ranges from the large metropolises of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City to the subsistence relationships some Vietnamese people still retain with their land. Yet Vietnam is already the world's second largest exporter of rice and coffee and the latest figures show the value of Vietnam's exports have reached more than US\$14 billion. Over and above this is the growing international tourist market, which is being cultivated throughout the country. Yet poverty is still higher than the authorities would like, there are great inequalities between rich and poor, rural and urban areas and unemployment will rise sharply if 1.5 million jobs are not found for the burgeoning labour market each year. Such are the complexities and intricacies of Vietnam's economy and economic development.

Vietnam followed the lead of communist regimes, predominantly the former USSR, in controlling the elements of its economy. In 1986, however, and for various reasons, it moved significantly to break down these relationship and controls. This policy was called 'Doi Moi' or 'renovation'. Under Doi Moi, Vietnam's economy and the living standards of its people have grown significantly.

At times it seemed to the delegation that the whole of the country was unified behind the need to open the economic system to redevelopment and foreign investment. There is an appreciation that, with continued effort and some sacrifice, the economy and the country will be stronger with consequent improvements in people's standards of living.

Vietnam is, in some ways, in the fortunate position of being able to follow most of its Asian neighbours in opening up to the world economy. Vietnam, along with Myanmar and Cambodia, are only relatively recent members of ASEAN and the economic benefits of that association, along with the abolition of trade barriers with the USA, continue to



The sixth Australian delegation to Vietnam, led by Ms Teresa Gambaro MP, with Mr Tran Dac Loi, Vice-President of the Vietnam Youth Federation; Director-General of CYDECO.

add momentum to economic growth. The Government is committed to a strong state sector involvement in its increasingly open economy both for economic and social reasons.

The delegation's program included a visit to Lac Hamlet in Mai Chau province, a village of one of Vietnam's 50 plus ethnic minorities. It provided a fascinating insight into village life contrasting with the bustle of the cities of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. The villagers offered an evening meal of local dishes followed by a performance of traditional song and dance. Delegates slept overnight on the raised bamboo floor of a long house under mosquito nets.

The provincial level of government hosted the delegation in Ho Chi Minh City and Vung Tau. Mr Le Minh Nhat, Vice-Chairman of the People's Council of Ho Chi Minh City briefed the delegates on the Council's composition and responsibilities (85 members; the largest People's Council in Vietnam) and the activities of various local authorities. In Vung Tau, Mr Le Huy Luyen, Vice-Chairman of the People's Council of Vung Tau Province, provided a similar briefing, enabling the delegates to compare and contrast two provincial governments.

CYDECO arranged for the delegation to meet many of the delegates from the sixth Vietnamese delegation to Australia (March 2002). Delegates dined in Hanoi with Ms Truong Thi Mai, Member of the National Assembly and President of the Vietnam Youth Federation. In Ho Chi Minh City, delegates were hosted by Mr Nguyen Cong Khe, Vice-President of the Vietnam Youth Federation and Editor-in-Chief of the *Thanh Nien* newspaper. In Vung Tau, delegates were hosted by Mr Tao Quoc Tuan, member of the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union; and in Ha Long Bay (a World Heritage Site), delegates were hosted by Ms Ngo Thi Minh, Secretary of the Quang Ninh Provincial Youth Union.

Conclusion

The delegation returned with a new level of interest and appreciation for Vietnam. Delegates commented that they found the visit valuable for the opportunity to observe first-hand Vietnam's political system, society and culture.

It was fascinating to test pre-conceptions, rhetoric and perceptions against the reality of how it operates, its impact on the people, economy and place. (D. Spinks)

The visit continued to strengthen the network between young political leaders in Australia and Vietnam, with delegates establishing a number of contacts throughout the visit.

There is no question that [relationships have] been established between members of the delegation and a number of political leaders in Vietnam. I am confident that those relationships will be utilised in the future for the benefit of Australia and Vietnam, particularly in portfolio areas like trade, education, and agriculture. (J. Radisich MLA)

Eleventh Australian Delegation to China

19 to 28 May 2002

Delegates

- **Mr Daryl Maguire MP** (Liberal Party of Australia), New South Wales Member for Wagga Wagga – *Delegation Leader*
- **Mr Gerard Paynter** (Liberal Party of Australia), Immediate Past Federal President, Young Liberal Movement of Australia; Stockbroker, Burrell Stockbroking
- **Mr Stephen Hartney** (Liberal Party of Australia), Member, Goldstein Electorate Committee (Victoria)
- **Ms Kirsten Andrews** (Australian Labor Party), Media Adviser to the Federal Leader of the Opposition
- **Mr Andrew Dempster** (Australian Labor Party), Senior Adviser to the Federal Shadow Attorney-General and Shadow Minister for Workplace Relations
- **Mr Matthew Linden** (Australian Labor Party), Senior Adviser to the Federal Shadow Minister for Family and Community Services
- **Ms Christine Briton**, Secretary, Australian Political Exchange Council

The eleventh Australian delegation to China had a range of interests that were thoughtfully incorporated into the ten-day program by the host organisation, the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF). The delegation had an opportunity to visit Beijing, Shanghai and for a complete contrast, the Province of Jiangsu.

The delegation's first briefing was with HE Mr David Irvine, Australian Ambassador to China. This was invaluable in setting the scene and prompting delegates to formulate questions for forthcoming meetings. Towards the end of the visit, the delegation met the Australian Consul-General in Shanghai, Mr Sam Gerovich. This meeting gave delegates the opportunity to reflect upon some of the experiences and test preliminary conclusions as the study tour neared completion.

Highlights of the Beijing program included visits to the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, the All-China Women's Federation, the Guantao Law Firm, the Ministry of Information Industry, and a visit to an information technology company (Legend Group Ltd) in the Zhongguancun industrial area.

In Jiangsu Province, the delegation visited the People's Council, the Jiangsu Trade Union Council, the Jiangsu Education TV Studio and the Jiangsu Oil Field. Mr Wang Zhao Xi, Vice-Chairman of the Jiangsu Trade Union Council led a team of officials who provided a comprehensive briefing on the Council and its activities. The Council represents over seven million members; holds a congress of members every five years (the last being the

tenth congress); and, has around 160 employees working in 14 departments. Madam Bai Suning, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Jiangsu Provincial People's Congress provided a briefing on the Province and the People's Congress and arranged for delegates to meet a number of key provincial officials having responsibility for international relations. The Jiangsu People's Congress is comprised of 800 deputies and has a five-year term. Its primary responsibilities include developing legislation and monitoring performance against enacted legislation. The Standing Committee of which Madam Bai Suning is Vice Chairman has 60 members.

The visit to China concluded in Shanghai where the program included a visit to the Pudong New Area Government, the Oriental Pearl TV Tower and meetings with the Shanghai Youth Federation.

Cultural and historical aspects of China incorporated into the program included visits to the Tomb of Dr Sun Yat Sen, the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, a number of historic gardens and parks and the Shanghai Museum.

The new President of the ACYF, Mr Sun Jinlong, warmly welcomed delegates to Beijing and was a very generous host. He also briefed the delegation on the ACYF, its structure, membership and wide-ranging programs – including in areas such as health, education and the environment.

Selected sections of the delegation's report are included below.

All-China Women's Federation

The delegation met with Ms Long Jiangwen, Deputy Director-General, and Ms Cui Linlin, Deputy Director, of the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF) to gain an appreciation of the status of women in China and the key issues that are the current focus of the Federation's work.

The delegation was provided with an historical perspective on the status of women in China. Given that fifty years ago women's status was limited to the home, there has been remarkable progress. Ancient Chinese society encouraged women to focus on 'obedience' of the father or husband as the key directive of behaviour. Women were not encouraged to develop skills or obtain an education.

In 1949, when the People's Republic of China was formed, the principles of equality were developed, both legally and subsequently culturally.

In 1978 when economic reform began, Chinese women, like the rest of China, underwent significant changes. The role of women changed, and not just in China, as they began to play a role on the world stage, culminating in the 1995 World Women's Conference in Beijing.

Women now play an important – although not yet completely equal – role in the construction of Chinese society, in economic development and in education. The ACWF's role is to continue to expand and support the ongoing development of the role of women.

In 1949, 90% of women were illiterate and only 7% were in paid employment. Now 46% are in paid employment and the literacy among young and middle-aged women is 46%, largely due to the work of the ACWF.

The ACWF is striving to increase the number of women parliamentary representatives, particularly in the National Congress, but also at the provincial and city level, including increasing the number of women mayors. At this stage, there are no women representatives in the Politburo.

The structure of the ACWF is focussed around the nine industries (professions) of China and the various areas of women's progress, including women's rights, the department of children and publications. Various enterprises are affiliated to the Federation and their work is coordinated across China.

Representing the 600 million women of China is clearly a momentous task. The delegation was impressed with both the size and scope of the work of the ACWF, which operates on a scale and diversity that does not compare with anything undertaken in Australia. The delegation was particularly grateful for Ms Long's insightful and high quality presentation, which placed the work in both a useful and historical context.



The eleventh Australian delegation to China, led by Mr Daryl Maguire MP, with Ms Cui Linlin, Deputy Director, and Ms Long Jiangwen, Deputy Director-General, of the All-China Women's Federation.

China Energy

China's recent economic growth has created enormous demand for energy. It is this demand that may lead to the strongest economic ties with energy-rich Australia.

Recently a great deal of Australia's diplomatic efforts in China has been directed toward securing the 'China Gas Contract'. These efforts included a visit by the Australian Prime Minister. The China Gas Contract is an example of the opportunities available to Australia

for exporting energy to China. The deal will see electricity producers in Guangdong province powered by liquefied natural gas from Australia's North West Shelf. The current contract is only the first of a number of contracts that the Chinese Government propose to enter into over the next 10 years, making it essential for Australia to understand China's energy needs.

The delegation's understanding of the energy industry in China was greatly assisted by its informative and friendly hosts in Jiangsu Province.

The Jiangsu Oil Field is an impressive project. The Jiangsu Oil Exploration Corporation and the Jiangsu Oil Company administer the field. These two companies are subsidiaries of Sinopec, China's energy giant. Sinopec is listed in Hong Kong, London, New York and Shanghai. The Jiangsu Oil Field has an annual production of 1.5 million tonnes of oil and projections are that it will continue to produce at these levels for the next 20 years. China being a net importer of oil means that all the oil produced by the Jiangsu Oil Field is used in Jiangsu or the surrounding provinces.

The delegation met with the union leaders of the Jiangsu Oil Company in Yangzhou. The meeting was very informative giving an overview of the development of the field. Delegates observed the company-provided accommodation for workers in the area surrounding the company headquarters. The accommodation was of a high standard. Some workers appeared to work for a period on the field followed by a period in Yangzhou similar to Australian mining operations.

The delegation had an opportunity to see rural areas during the three-hour bus ride from Yangzhou to one of the 36 locations within the Jiangsu Oil Field. Local staff demonstrated the technology used in the recovery of the oil. The tour included the control room, which monitors the numerous wells in the region and the facilities for piping oil or gas to ships to be transported up the Yangtze River.

China's need for energy and Australia's ability to supply it will be an important, if not the most important, link between our two countries. During our visit, two points became clear about the developing relationship:

1. China has a great deal of technical skill in exploring and producing energy as well as no doubt massive undiscovered resources. It is these resources that could be opportunities for Australian companies. Jiangsu Oil Field is one of the first Chinese mining projects to use three-dimensional seismic surveys. In Australia the use of this technology is extremely common and Australian mining companies have a great deal of expertise in its use. A government focus on encouraging Australian companies to undertake joint ventures with Chinese companies may be useful.
2. China's economic growth will create a demand for Australian oil and gas. The demand for our product does not assure us success, as there are numerous other nations competing to fill China's energy requirements. Australia's efforts on a diplomatic and political level in attempting to secure the China Gas Contract are to be commended. Australia must have a continuous focus on Chinese energy and position itself as a supplier that is reliable and cost efficient.

Shanghai Stock Exchange

The Chinese Government through its open door policy has encouraged enormous development in the Chinese private sector. Private sector growth demands free and effective flows of capital. The majority of this capital is currently sourced through the state or through direct foreign investment. Private sector borrowing was not encouraged until relatively recently and the private sector makes up only a small percentage of outstanding loans. In more developed economies the stock market provides capital for the private sector. The Chinese government acknowledges this and has recently been encouraging people to invest in the nation's two stock exchanges in Beijing and Shanghai.

In China there are 36 million share-broking accounts shared between the two exchanges. The Shanghai Stock Exchange (SSE) is the most well known of China's stock exchanges. The market capitalisation of the SSE is approximately RMD290 billion (approximately A\$72.5 million) and the daily volume is around RMD8 billion (approximately A\$2 billion). The companies listed on this exchange represent one-sixth of the Chinese economy. In comparison, the Australian Stock Exchange is capitalised at A\$710 billion and has a daily volume of A\$2 billion.



The eleventh Australian delegation to China, led by Mr Daryl Maguire MP, with HE Mr David Irvine, Australian Ambassador to China.

The SSE has a fully computerised system. Orders from around China are processed through the world's largest dealing room with 1601 seats. The SSE has instituted a continuous disclosure regime where companies are expected to disclose all price sensitive information as well as report quarterly. The system appeared to be very similar to Australia's. Companies whose share prices move dramatically for no obvious reason also have their share price queried as in Australia.

A State-run audit office conducts audits, which is an interesting difference given recent compliance issues in the United States.

At variance with most of the world's stock markets, the SSE actively discourages speculation. The best example of this is the exchange rule that no stock can trade more than 10% more or less than yesterday's closing price. The running of a restricted market would probably act as a disincentive to the international investment community.

Conclusion

Delegates concluded that the visit had been very valuable from a number of different perspectives, including the opportunity to learn and work with each other. ACYF had been excellent hosts and had organised a program that enhanced delegates understanding of politics, structure, the importance of China's political history and culture, the economy and business relationships. Delegates returned with a new optimism for China and Australia, for our relationship and opportunities, and for our vision for the region and future directions.

I had the good fortune to see aspects of China that the average visitor would not. Politically, China is extremely important to Australia and an understanding of the issues that impact on it is very useful. (G. Paynter)



Incoming Delegations to Australia for 2001-2002

In 2001-2002, the Council hosted 28 delegates on four delegations from its exchange partners.

The total number of delegates hosted by the Council since its inception in 1981 was 499 as at 30 June 2002.

The delegations hosted in 2001-2002 were:

5 to 9 August 2001	Ninth Japanese Delegation to Australia
21 to 28 August 2001	Tenth Chinese Delegation to Australia
12 to 20 March 2002	Sixth Vietnamese Delegation to Australia
26 May to 4 June 2002	Second New Zealand Delegation to Australia

A list of activities arranged by the Council for each delegation is available on the Council's website: www.polexchange.org.au.



The Hon Mark Vaile MP, Federal Minister for Trade and Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia, with the tenth Chinese delegation to Australia, led by Ms Liu Lianyu.

Ninth Japanese Delegation to Australia

5 to 9 August 2001

Delegates

- **Mr Hiroyuki Sonoda** (Liberal Democratic Party), Member, House of Representatives for Kumamoto Fourth District – *Delegation Leader*
- **Mr Taro Kono** (Liberal Democratic Party), Member, House of Representatives for Kanagawa Fifteenth District
- **Mr Hakubun Shimomura** (Liberal Democratic Party), Member, House of Representatives for the Tokyo Eleventh District
- **Mr Motohisa Furukawa** (Democratic Party of Japan), Member, House of Representatives for Aichi Second District
- **Mr Seiji Maehara** (Democratic Party of Japan), Member, House of Representatives for Kyoto Second District
- **Mr Tadashi Yamamoto**, President, Japan Center for International Exchange
- **Mr Hyoma Ito**, Assistant Program Officer, Japan Center for International Exchange

The ninth delegation from the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) experienced an informative program during its visit to Australia. The visit was shorter than usual due to an extraordinary session of the Japanese Diet that required delegation members to return to Japan earlier than originally anticipated. However, this did not prevent the delegation from meeting a number of Australia's senior politicians and other leaders during the visit.

The Council was pleased to welcome back Mr Yamamoto, President of its counterpart organisation, who visited Australia two months previously to take part in the Council's twentieth anniversary celebrations.

Sydney

The delegation arrived in Australia on a Sunday morning and enjoyed a day of sightseeing activities and an informal briefing on the Australian political system before dining with the Consul-General of Japan, Mr Shigenobu Kato, at his residence.

The following day involved a number of activities at Parliament House in Sydney, arranged by former delegate Ms Jacqueline Trad (Japan 2001). These included a morning tea and discussion with members of the New South Wales Asia-Pacific Parliamentary Friendship Group, a tour of the Parliament, followed by a luncheon hosted by the President of the Legislative Council, the Hon Dr Meredith Burgmann MLC.

The delegation also received a briefing from the Australian Electoral Commission on the Australian electoral system, where topics of great interest to the delegation were Australia's compulsory voting system and election campaign public funding.

Canberra

The first appointment in the program in Canberra was a reception in honour of the delegation hosted by the Ambassador of Japan, HE Mr Atsushi Hatakenaka, at his residence. Here, the delegation had an opportunity to meet and exchange views with guests from political and academic fields.

The following day commenced with a meeting with Professor Peter Drysdale from the Australia-Japan Research Centre, a research centre based at the Australian National University with a focus on Japanese and Northeast Asian economics and on Asia Pacific economic cooperation. Professor Drysdale spoke to the delegation about strategies for strengthening Australia-Japan economic relations, which provoked much discussion and interest.

A guided tour of Parliament House was next on the program followed by a luncheon meeting hosted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Hon Neil Andrew MP, with former delegates including Senator Sue West (USA 1986, UK 1999); Ms Nicola Roxon MP (Japan 1999); Dr Andrew Southcott MP (Japan 1996); Mr Ross Cameron MP (Japan 1998); and Senator Grant Chapman (Japan 1992). Other appointments during the day included briefings with Mr Lynton Crosby, Federal Director of the Liberal Party of Australia (China 1986) and Mr Geoff Walsh, National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party, where the delegation learned about each Party's philosophy, structure and



The Hon Alexander Downer MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs, with the ninth Japanese delegation to Australia, led by Mr Hiroyuki Sonada MP.

current issues; and meetings with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon Alexander Downer MP (USA 1986); and Senator the Hon Peter Cook, Deputy Opposition Leader in the Senate.

Meetings with senior politicians continued on the following day with the delegation meeting the Hon John Anderson MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the National Party (USA 1985); the Hon Mark Vaile MP, Deputy Leader of the National Party and Minister for Trade (UK 1995); Senator the Hon Eric Abetz, Special Minister of State (Germany 1991, Vietnam 1996); Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (arranged by his Senior Adviser, Mr David Williams, Japan 2000); the Hon Dr Stephen Martin MP, Shadow Minister for Defence (Canada 1985); the Hon Michael Lee MP, Shadow Minister for Education (China 1986); Senator Brett Mason, Senator for Queensland (Japan 2000); and Mr Tony Nutt, Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister (USA 1989, UK 1995).

The delegates also attended Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate, were guests at a luncheon hosted in its honour by the Chairman, the Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle DBE, and Members of the Australian Political Exchange Council, and attended the Council's twentieth anniversary reception in Parliament House where they had an opportunity to network with a number of the Council's former delegates.

On return to Japan, Mr Yamamoto wrote to the Council about the value of the exchange visit:

The delegation was able to develop a very good understanding of political dynamics in Australia and the issues being discussed in your political arena. More importantly, they have come away with a much better appreciation of the importance of our relationship and a strong commitment to work toward strengthening the cooperation between our two countries.



Senator the Hon Peter Cook, Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate with the ninth Japanese delegation to Australia, led by Mr Hiroyuki Sonada MP.

Tenth Chinese Delegation to Australia

21 to 28 August 2001

Delegates

- **Ms Liu Lianyu**, Secretary, Communist Youth League of Hunan Province – *Delegation Leader*
- **Mr Xu Han**, Vice President, Jilin Provincial Youth Federation
- **Mr Chen Yonggang**, Deputy Secretary-General, Chinese Association of Newspaper and Magazines
- **Mr Xu Shuqiang**, Deputy Director, Sino-Japanese Friendship Hospital
- **Ms Liu Na**, Member of Standing Council, Chinese Young Entrepreneurs Association, President, White Dove Group, Zhengzhou, Henan Province and Vice President, Henan Young Entrepreneurs Association
- **Mr Zhao Yong**, Deputy Director, International Department, All-China Youth Federation – *Delegation Secretary*
- **Mr Wu Wei**, Program Officer, International Department, All-China Youth Federation

The visit by the tenth delegation from China coincided with two of the Council's twentieth anniversary functions, held in Adelaide and Perth, and our guests had an opportunity to meet a number of the Council's former delegates.

The visit commenced with a half-day in Sydney where the delegation took a cruise on Sydney Harbour before meeting with Mr David Pigott, Director, PricewaterhouseLegal (China 1998), for a discussion on Australian business ventures in China.

In Parliament House, Canberra, the delegation met with the Hon Mark Vaile MP, Deputy Leader of the National Party and Minister for Trade (UK 1995); the Hon John Anderson MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the National Party (USA 1985); Senator the Hon Eric Abetz, Special Minister of State (Germany 1991, Vietnam 1996); Senator Natasha Stott Despoja, Leader of the Australian Democrats (UK 1995); the Hon Dr Stephen Martin MP, Shadow Minister for Defence (Canada 1985); and Senator the Hon Peter Cook, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Trade.

The delegation also met with Mr Bruce Edwards, Manager, Parliamentary and Policy, Liberal Party of Australia (Japan 1992), for a discussion on the Party's policies and structure; attended Question Time in both the House of Representatives and the Senate; and met with Mr Geoff Walsh, National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party. The Council hosted a luncheon for the delegation and Mr Simon Corbell MLA, Australian Capital Territory Shadow Minister for Environment; Planning and Land Management; Youth Affairs; Public Administration;

Information Technology and Communications (China 2001), hosted a working lunch during which the Australian Capital Territory's system of government was explained to the delegation.

A dinner with some of the Council's former delegates provided an informal setting for further discussions and questions regarding Australia. Those who attended included the Hon Judi Moylan MP (China 1999), Mr Patrick Secker MP (China 2000), and Ms Allison Brown (China 2000).

In Adelaide, the delegation met with the Hon Rob Lucas MLC, Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Industry (USA 1987); Mr Ralph Clarke MP (USSR 1990); the Hon John Dawkins MLC (China 1993); and the Hon Mike Elliott MLC (Canada 1990). These discussions were wide-ranging, including Federal/State responsibilities and systems of government, indigenous issues, trade, education and youth.

Other activities included a tour of Adelaide, visits to a wildlife park and winery and the twentieth anniversary reception at Parliament House.

The delegation's visit to Australia concluded in Perth where a program had been developed by Mr Gary Gray, Council Member (USA 1989); Mr Mark McGowan MLA, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier of Western Australia (Japan 2001); and the Hon Mike Board MLA (China 2001).



Senator Natasha Stott Despoja, Leader of the Australian Democrats, with the tenth Chinese delegation to Australia, led by Ms Liu Lianyu.

The program included a range of activities including a breakfast meeting with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce; visits to the Aquarium of Western Australia (AQWA); the Perth Mint; Solahart; and Old Fremantle Prison. The delegation also had an afternoon tea meeting with the Hon Dr Geoff Gallop MLA, Premier of Western Australia (UK 1997); attended the Council's twentieth Anniversary reception; was briefed by Mr Samuel Thawley, Marketing Manager for Hamersley Iron; visited Challenger TAFE to view its innovative aqua culture projects; and visited Austral Ships which exports ferries to China.



The Hon Geoff Gallop MP, Premier of Western Australia, and the Hon Mark McGowan MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, with the tenth Chinese delegation to Australia, led by Ms Liu Lianyu.

Sixth Vietnamese Delegation to Australia

12 to 20 March 2002

Delegates

- **Ms Truong Thi Mai**, Member of the National Assembly, Standing Secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, President of the Vietnam Youth Federation - *Delegation Leader*
- **Mr Tran Dac Loi**, Member of the Standing Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, Vice President of the Vietnam Youth Federation, Director General of CYDECO
- **Mr Nguyen Cong Khe**, Vice President of the Vietnam Youth Federation, Editor-in-chief of the Thanh Nien Newspaper
- **Mr Tao Quoc Tuan**, Member of the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, Head of Political Division of Provincial Department of Public Security, Head of Youth Department the Provincial Police
- **Mr Le Thanh Xuan**, Member of the Standing Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, Secretary of the Can Tho Provincial Youth Union
- **Ms Ngo Thi Minh**, Secretary of the Quang Ninh Provincial Youth Union



The Hon Neil Andrew MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Members of the Federal Parliament, with the sixth Vietnamese delegation to Australia led by Ms Truong Thi Mai.

The sixth delegation from the International Youth Cooperation Development Center (CYDECO) experienced a varied program which involved travel to Canberra, Brisbane, the Gold Coast and Sydney. Assistance in developing the program was received from a number of former delegates and the Council extends its thanks to those people.

The program commenced in Canberra where activities centred mainly on the Parliament. Delegates met with a number of key political figures including the Hon John Anderson MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the National Party (USA 1985); Senator the Hon Eric Abetz, Special Minister of State (Vietnam 1996, Germany 1991); Senator Natasha Stott Despoja, Leader of the Australian Democrats (UK 1995); the Hon Dr Stephen Martin MP, Shadow Minister for Trade and Tourism (Canada 1985); Ms Nicola Roxon MP, Federal Shadow Minister for Children and Youth (Japan 1999); and Mr Tony Nutt, Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister (USA 1989; UK 1995).

Other highlights included a welcome lunch hosted by the Council, where the delegation also had an opportunity to meet the 2002 Australian delegation to Vietnam that would visit the following month; and briefings by the Liberal Party of Australia; the Australian Labor Party; and the National Farmers' Federation (arranged by Kate Schultze, Vietnam 1998) where rural-urban youth migration was a topic of particular interest to the delegation. The delegation also attended Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate; a lunch hosted by the Hon Neil Andrew MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives; and a reception hosted by the Australian Associated Brewers (arranged by Council Member, Ms Sam Hudson).



Members of the New South Wales Parliament with the sixth Vietnamese delegation to Australia led by Ms Truong Thi Mai.

The delegation's visit to Brisbane commenced with a welcome dinner with former and 2002 delegates. Weekend activities included a visit to Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary, a barbeque lunch at the home of former delegates, Mr Grant Muller (Vietnam 2000) and Ms Penny Behan (Japan 1998); a visit to a dairy farm owned by Mr Jason Hughes (Vietnam 1998) and his family; and a visit to Seaworld where Mr Muller had arranged for Mr Steven Ciobo MP, Federal Member for Moncrieff, to accompany the delegation.

Day five of the visit commenced with a courtesy call on the Speaker of the Queensland Legislative Assembly, the Hon Raymond Hollis MP, followed by meetings with the Hon Terry Mackenroth MP, Deputy Premier of Queensland; and Mr Mike Horan MP, Queensland Leader of the Opposition. The delegation's visit to Brisbane concluded with a visit to Ironside State School to tour its Centre for Excellence in Science and Technology, arranged by former delegate Ms Cathi Collier (USA 1992).

In Sydney, activities included a briefing on the Australian economy by the Macquarie Bank (arranged by Mr Jody Fassina, Vietnam 2000); dinner with the Presiding Officers of the New South Wales Parliament and a number of the Council's former delegates who are Members of Parliament including the Hon Tony Kelly MLC (USA 1987), Mr Barry O'Farrell MP (USA 1996), Mr Andrew Humpherson MP (USA 1997), the Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC (USA 1984), the Hon Pam Allan MP (Japan 1993), and Ms Peta Seaton MP (USA 1999); a meeting with the New South Wales Labor Women's Forum (arranged by Ms Katie Brassil, China 1998, and the Hon Amanda Fazio MLC, Japan 1992), and met with Dr Simon Longstaff, Executive Director, St James Ethics Centre.

Second New Zealand Delegation to Australia

26 May to 4 June 2002

Delegates

- **Mr Chris Carter MP** (NZ Labour Party), Member for Te Atatu, Junior Labour Whip – *Delegation Leader*
- **Ms Jenny Michie** (NZ Labour Party), Communications and Women’s Organiser, NZ Labour Party
- **Mr Lindsay Tisch MP** (NZ National Party), Member for Karapiro, National Spokesperson on Racing; Gaming Industry
- **Mr Scott Simpson** (NZ National Party), Regional Chairman of the NZ National Party
- **Mr Kevin Campbell MP** (Alliance Party), List Member of Parliament
- **Mr David Weinstein** (Green Party), Campaign Coordinator for the Wellington Green Party
- **Mr Sean Rota**, Private Secretary to the Speaker of the New Zealand Parliament

The second delegation from New Zealand visited Australia for ten days, travelling to the Illawarra District, Canberra, Adelaide and Melbourne. The delegation comprised members of five New Zealand political parties and the diverse interests of the group were reflected in the program.

The visit commenced in the Illawarra district with a varied two-day program arranged by Ms Marianne Saliba MP, New South Wales Member for Illawarra (Japan 1997), who also accompanied the delegation on those days. Following a tour, briefing and lunch hosted by the Minnamurra Rainforest Centre in Budderoo National Park, the delegation was warmly welcomed to the district at a dinner in Wollongong attended by Ms Saliba and a number of local Councillors from Wollongong and Shellharbour City. The following day involved an inspection and briefing on the SWERF (Solid Waste and Energy Recycling Facility), a tour of the Shellharbour City Centre and proposed marina site, a picnic lunch hosted by the Shellharbour City Council, and a tour of the BHP steelworks.

In Canberra, the delegation enjoyed a full program designed to introduce the delegation to many of Australia’s key political leaders. The first day included a courtesy call on the Speaker of the House of Representatives and Patron of the Council, the Hon Neil Andrew MP, meetings with Mr Tony Nutt, Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister (USA 1989, UK 1995); Senator the Hon Eric Abetz, Special Minister of State (Vietnam 1996, Germany 1991); the Hon Alexander Downer MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs (USA 1986); a briefing on the Australian Parliament; and lunch hosted by the Australia/New Zealand Parliamentary Group.

Day two of the Canberra program included a visit to the Australian Labor Party headquarters; lunch hosted by the Chairman and Members of the Australian Political Exchange Council; and visits to Question Time and a Senate Estimates hearing. Meetings with the Hon John Anderson MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the National Party (USA 1985), the Hon Simon Crean MP, Leader of the Opposition (arranged by former delegate Mr Michael Kerrisk, USA 1996); Ms Teresa Gambaro MP, Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Migration (Vietnam 2002); and the Hon Dr Stephen Martin MP, Shadow Minister for Trade and Tourism (Canada 1985). The day concluded with a networking dinner with former and current year delegates including Mr Scott Mitchell (USA 2000), Ms Dawn Crosby (Germany 1993), Mr Michael O'Brien (USA 2002), Ms Sue Robinson (USA Intern 1995), Mr Mark Baker (USA 2002), and Mr Terry Connolly (USA 1993).



The Hon Simon Crean MP, Leader of the Federal Opposition and Leader of the Australian Labor Party, with the second New Zealand delegation.

The final day in Canberra involved a briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission and meetings with Senator Andrew Bartlett, Senator for Queensland (Germany 1995), and Ms Julia Gillard MP, Shadow Minister for Population and Immigration (China 2000).

The delegation then flew to Adelaide for a program developed with the assistance of Mr Stephen Wade (Germany 2001), the Hon John Hill MP (Japan 1996, USA 1991), Mr Brer Adams (Japan 2002) and Ms Michelle Lensink (Vietnam 2001). On arrival, the delegation travelled to the Adelaide Hills for a dusk walk through the Warrawong Earth Sanctuary before a dinner meeting with the Hon Iain Evans MP, South Australian Shadow Minister for Environment and Conservation; Industrial Relations and Workplace Services (China 1996) and Mr Stephen Wade to discuss the recent South Australian election and the policies of the South Australia Division of the Liberal Party.

The following day included opportunities to meet some of South Australia's State parliamentarians and to learn about State-based issues. Meetings were held with the Hon Mike Rann MP, Premier of South Australia; the Hon Dean Brown MP, Deputy Leader

of the Opposition; and the Hon Mike Elliott MLC, South Australian Parliamentary Leader of the Australian Democrats (Canada 1990). Delegates also enjoyed lunch hosted by the Hon John Hill MP, South Australian Minister for Environment and Conservation; the River Murray; Gambling; Southern Suburbs; and Minister Assisting the Premier in the Arts, and a visit to the South Australian Police Communications Centre and Call Centre. The day concluded with a dinner with former and current year delegates including Mr Russell Wortley (China 1984), Ms Elizabeth Fricker (Canada 1992), Ms Vickie Chapman MP (Germany 1995), Mr Brer Adams (Japan 2002), and Mr Alex Bowie (Vietnam 1996).

As the visit to Adelaide coincided with the weekend, a number of cultural activities were arranged, including a tour of the Australian Aboriginal Cultures Gallery in the South Australian Museum, a tour of Petaluma Winery and attendance at an Australian Football League Match.

The study tour concluded in Melbourne with a program developed with assistance from the Hon John Lenders MP, Victorian Minister for Finance and Industrial Relations and Member of the Legislative Assembly for Dandenong (NZ 2001).

Delegates met with Mr Brian Loughnane, State Director of the Liberal Party, Victorian Division (USA Intern 1998); Mr Kim Wells MP, Shadow Minister for Police and Emergency Services; Shadow Minister for Corrections (China 1999); and the Hon Dr Dennis Napthine MP, Victorian Leader of the Opposition; (Japan 1994). Other activities included briefings from the Constitutional Reform Commission; Power Advertising on the Australian Democrats' advertising campaign for the 2001 Federal Election; the Australian Council of Trade Unions, on occupational health and safety in Australia; and an inspection of the Australian Electoral Commission's Education Centre. The delegation was also hosted to lunch by the Hon John Lenders MP and dined with former delegates including the Hon David Davis MLC (USA 2000), Mr Jim Downey (USA 2000), the Hon Phil Davis MLC (Germany 1997), Ms Rosemary Barker (Vietnam 1998), Mr Darryl Hockey (USA 1995), the Hon Michael Beahan (USA 1983), and Mr Peter Anderson (Japan 1995).



The Hon John Anderson MP, Deputy Prime Minister of Australia and Leader of the National Party of Australia, with second New Zealand delegation to Australia, led by Mr Chris Carter MP.



Other Activities Sponsored by the Council

Each year, the Council provides developmental opportunities for young Australian political leaders through individual study tours.

New Zealand Election Study Tours

In May 2002, the Council agreed to sponsor individual study tours for six young Australian political leaders to observe the New Zealand 2002 national election campaign in June and July 2002.

Mr Graham Jaeschke, State Director of the South Australian Division of the Liberal Party of Australia, travelled to New Zealand from 28 June to 20 July 2002. A summary of his report is provided below. (The remaining five participants undertook their study tours in July 2002 and their reports will be incorporated into the Council's Annual Report for 2002-2003.)

Report by Mr Graham Jaeschke

Mr Jaeschke spent three weeks in New Zealand observing the election, departing one week before Election Day (27 July).

'My study tour began in Auckland where I attended the National Party Campaign Launch. A crowd of over 600 attended and it had a similar feel to Australian campaign launches. A difference was the use of a comedian and cultural entertainment before the Leader's speech. I caught up with Scott Simpson, the National Party Vice-President who had recently visited Australia on a delegation hosted by the Australian Political Exchange Council.

I was based at the National Head Office of the National Party in Wellington. The National Party gives far more autonomy to its campaigns, electorates, MPs and candidates. It does not have a centralised structure like Australia where most of the campaign is driven centrally and controlled by the organizational wing of the respective party. Therefore, the National Head Office was not as busy as I had expected.

The role of the Leader's Office is more important than in Australia in some respects. It is given a very generous allocation per MP with the Whip also allocated an amount per MP for research purposes. The National Party Head Office therefore had a diminished role because much is paid for and controlled by the Parliamentary Party.

The office was very busy during my first week as the Party's National Conference was held in Wellington on 6 and 7 July. The Conference included a thank-you function for retiring MPs including Jenny Shipley, the former Prime Minister. Their stories gave me a very good insight into the recent history of the National Party.

The Conference itself had over 450 delegates from throughout New Zealand. I also took the opportunity to meet with all the Regional Managers as well as MPs and candidates throughout the country. Both Brendan Cooper [another of the Council's delegates to New Zealand] and I met with Bill English MP, the Leader of the National Party.

Election Issues

There was an emphasis on law and order for the election. A referendum calling for tougher sentencing was supported by 92% of the public. (New sentencing legislation had been introduced but the first test of the legislation fell far short of what was promised according to many pundits.) The National Party ran strong on this issue as well as the NZ First and ACT Parties. ACT campaigned on zero tolerance.

I attended a rally/march in support of victims of crime who wanted tougher sentencing. Over 500 people carried around 1100 crosses representing the number of people murdered in the last 10 years in New Zealand. There were many touching speeches by family members of victims.

The ongoing teachers strike has ensured that education has played a prominent role in the campaign and ongoing difficulties in the health system were a constant issue for the political parties to talk about.

An issue that has not surfaced in Australia to the extent it had in New Zealand is Genetically Modified Foods. The Greens Party made this its campaign issue and it seemed to grab the attention that the anti nuclear debates had in the past in New Zealand.

Electoral System and Campaigning

I met with Dr Paul Harris, Chief Executive of the Electoral Commission, who explained the role of the Commission. Unlike Australia, the Electoral Commission does not control the conduct of the election or the electoral roll. These roles are performed by the Ministry of Justice and NZ Post respectively. The Commission's main roles include party registration, logo registration, and party disclosure.

New Zealand has a voluntary voting system and I expected to see a concerted effort to 'Get out the Vote' as in the United States. With voting turnout around 85% historically, I did not see this as being a component of any campaign (except on polling day).

I spoke to Mr Mark Sainsbury, the political reporter from TVOne about voluntary voting. He agreed that minimal effort is expended on getting out the vote but he had observed that Labour's message - that it wanted a majority government - was aimed at giving supporters a good reason to vote. Historically, he added, Labour has had more difficulty getting its supporters to vote than has the National Party.

New Zealand's electoral system promotes a very different style of campaigning to that in Australia. The Leaders' campaigns are very similar but the List component of Mixed-Member Proportional electoral system and the cap on spending in electorates, make on the ground campaigns less important.

As the Party vote is very important, there was a Presidential style of campaign. Published polls had stated that Helen Clark was very popular and she therefore featured prominently in all Labour literature and advertisements. The Nationals also promoted their Leader, Bill English, in an attempt to improve his standing compared to Helen Clark.

The Leaders of minor parties were given good exposure, as TVNZ must provide balance. The first debate on TV3 featured five Leaders and this automatically gave equal exposure. I was fortunate to attend the first Leaders' Debate between the eight Leaders. The audience was made up of 50 supporters from all Parties and barracking and heckling was promoted. I was surprised that the Leaders agreed to this format as the laughter, heckling and clapping seemed to have an effect on the 'worm' monitors [which monitor audience reactions and support for individual Leaders] in Auckland.

As the worm audience is made up of predominantly undecided voters, it is not surprising that commonsense, middle-of-the-road statements scored well. The worm ultimately gave the debate to Winston Peters MP, Leader of the NZ First Party, and Peter Dunne MP, Leader of the United Future Party.

In contrast, I attended a debate in the Opera Hall for the nine candidates standing for Wellington Central. It certainly was a diverse set of candidates: Legalise Cannabis, Libertarian, Alliance, Labour, ACT, National, United Future, Greens, and New Zealand First. Over 400 people attended the event and it was good to see the old style town hall meeting being supported by the public, even if most were partisan supporters!

I enjoyed my trip to New Zealand to observe the election. It is a very different election but with many similarities to Australia. South Australia is scheduled to have a Constitutional Convention in the future and the practical knowledge that I have gained will be invaluable.'



Twentieth Anniversary Celebrations

The Australian Political Exchange Council celebrated its twentieth anniversary in 2001. A number of events, including the Council's formal dinner, were held earlier in the year (and are covered in the Annual Report for 2000-2001), with functions for former delegates held throughout August 2001. These functions provided a wonderful opportunity to network and to renew friendships with former delegates associated with the Council.

Canberra (8 August 2001)

The Canberra reception was held in the Senate Alcove in Parliament House during the visit by the ninth Japanese delegation. A large number of former delegates joined the delegation and Council Members, to mark the occasion. These included a number of Members of the Parliament; and Ms Kate Carnell (USA 1994), Mrs Dawn Crosby (Germany 1993), Mr Bruce Edwards (Japan 1992), Ms Julie McCarron-Benson (Russia 1992), Mr David Williams (Japan 2000), Ms Gerrie van Dam (USA 1994), Mr Gerald Anderson (Japan 2001), Mr Simon Banks (Japan 1998), Ms Rowena Cowan (USA 2000), Mr Russ Neal (China 1988), Mr Gerard Wheeler (USA 1993), Mr Scott Mitchell (USA 2000), Mr Michael Barrett (Germany 1999), Mr Chris Fry (Japan 1999); and Mr Simon Corbell MLA (China 2001).



The Council's twentieth anniversary reception at Parliament House in Canberra

Brisbane (9 August 2001)

The Brisbane reception was hosted by the Speaker of the Parliament, the Hon Ray Hollis MLA, in Parliament House. Those who attended included the Mr Gary Fenlon MP (PNG 1993), Hon Virginia Chadwick (USA 1986), Ms Lyn Dengate (Japan 2000), Mr David Fraser (USA 1988), the Hon David Hamill (Canada 1987), Ms Narelle Davy (USA 1997), Ms Marianne Dickie (China 1999), Mrs Margaret Keech MLA (Japan 2001), Ms Samantha Pidgeon (Germany 1997), Dr Stephanie Smith (USA 1987), and Mr Lawrence Springborg MP (Japan 1995).



Mrs Margaret Keech MLA (Japan 2001) and Ms Lyn Dengate (Japan 2000) with the Consul-General for Japan, Mr Korenari Kai, at the Council's twentieth anniversary reception in Brisbane.

Hobart (14 August 2001)

In Tasmania, Senator the Hon Eric Abetz, Special Minister of State and Senator for Tasmania (Germany 1991, Vietnam 1996), hosted a dinner for former delegates. Attendees included the Hon Ron Cornish (USA 1983), Mrs Jan Field (Japan 2000), Ms Linda Hornsey (USA 1993), Mr John Temple (Japan 1998), Mr Andrew Gregson (China 2001), Mr Tony Reidy (USA 1988), Mr David Bushby (New Zealand 2001), Mr Bryan Green MHA (UK 2001), and Mr David Price (Japan 1997).

Adelaide (24 August 2001)

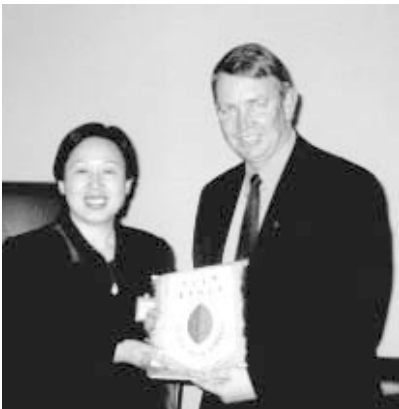
In Adelaide, former delegates were invited to attend a reception at Parliament House hosted by Mr John Oswald MP, Speaker of the House of Assembly, and the Hon Jamie Irwin MLC, President of the Legislative Council. Joining the visiting tenth delegation from China were: Mr James Porter, Honorary Consul for the Federal Republic of Germany (USA 1982), Mr Ralph Clarke MP (USSR 1990), Mr John Hill MP (USA 1991, Japan 1996), Ms Elizabeth Fricker (Canada 1992), the Hon John Dawkins MLC (China 1993), Ms Jennifer Whitehead (Indonesia 1995), Ms Vickie Chapman (Germany 1995), Ms Helen Beringen (USA 1998) and Mr Stephen Wade (Germany 2001).



The Council's twentieth anniversary reception in Adelaide.

Perth (27 August 2001)

The Perth reception was held in Parliament House and hosted by the Speaker, the Hon Fred Riebeling MLA, and President of the Legislative Council, the Hon John Cowdell MLC (USA 1985). Joining the visiting delegation from China were Mr Mark Cuomo (USA 1999), Mr John Bradshaw MLA (China 1994), the Hon Helen Hodgson (Japan 1993), Ms Gail Kelly (Vietnam 2000), the Hon Mike Board MLA (China 2001), Ms Ljiljana Ravlich MLC (Germany 2001), Mr Michael Quinlivan (Japan 2001), Ms Nerina Lewis (Japan 2001) and Ms Sue Metcalfe (Vietnam 2001).







Reporting on Council Activities

The Council reports on its programs through the Annual Report, the Council's website and a newsletter for former delegates.

Annual Report

The Council's Annual Report provides a means for regular reporting on Council activities for each financial year to the Principals of the Council. The report is also forwarded to the Minister responsible for the political exchange program, the Special Minister of State, for tabling in the Parliament. It is also sent to former delegates, counterpart organisations and friends of the Council.

Website

The Council's website provides current information on the Council's activities, a calendar of forthcoming exchanges, delegation reports and information about former delegates.

The website is updated regularly and has a facility that enables former delegates to update their contact details on-line.

The website address is: www.polexchange.org.au.

Newsletter

A newsletter for former delegates is produced on a regular basis providing current news, drawing attention to forthcoming activities and delegations, and recognising the achievements of members of the delegate alumni.



Chronology for 2001-2002

- 22 to 31 July 2001 **Inaugural Australian Delegation to New Zealand**
Led by Mr John Lenders MP (Australian Labor Party), Member, Victorian Legislative Assembly for Dandenong North, Parliamentary Secretary for Treasury and Finance.
- 25 July to 3 August 2001 **Tenth Australian Delegation to China**
Led by the Hon Mike Board MLA (Liberal Party of Australia), Member, Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Murdoch, Opposition Spokesperson for Health, Culture and the Arts.
- 8 August 2001 **Twentieth Anniversary Reception**
Parliament House, Canberra
- 9 August 2001 **Twentieth Anniversary Reception**
Parliament House, Brisbane
- 5 to 9 August 2001 **Ninth Japanese Delegation to Australia**
Led by Mr Hiroyuki Sonoda (Liberal Democratic Party), Member, House of Representatives
- 14 August 2001 **Twentieth Anniversary Dinner**
Hosted by Special Minister of State, Senator the Hon Eric Abetz in Hobart, Tasmania
- 21 to 29 August 2001 **Tenth Chinese Delegation to Australia**
Led by Ms Liu Lianyu, Secretary, Communist Youth League of Hunan Province
- 24 August 2001 **Twentieth Anniversary Reception**
Parliament House, Adelaide
- 27 August 2001 **Twentieth Anniversary Reception**
Parliament House, Perth
- 8 to 14 September 2001 **Sixth Australian Delegation to Germany**
Led by the Hon Ljiljana Ravlich MLC (Australian Labor Party), Member, Western Australian Legislative Council for East Metropolitan Region, Parliamentary Secretary for Health; Community Development; Women's Interests, Seniors and Youth; Disability Services; Culture and the Arts

12 to 20 March 2002

Sixth Vietnamese Delegation to Australia

Led by Ms Truong Thi Mai, Member of the National Assembly, Standing Secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, President of the Vietnam Youth Federation

15 to 23 April 2002

Sixth Australian Delegation to Vietnam

Led by Ms Teresa Gambaro MP (Liberal Party of Australia), Federal Member for Petrie.

19 to 28 May 2002

Eleventh Australian Delegation to China

Led by Mr Daryl Maguire MP (Liberal Party of Australia), Member, New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Wagga Wagga

26 May to 4 June 2002

Second New Zealand Delegation to Australia

Led by Mr Chris Carter MP (New Zealand Labour Party), Member for Te Atatu, Junior Labour Whip



Acknowledgements

The Council is able to offer developmental opportunities to young political leaders from Australian and overseas with the assistance and support of a number of individuals and organisations. In particular, former delegates and supporting organisations have assisted through being involved in, helping to organise, and/or sponsoring activities for the Council's incoming exchange programs.

Former Delegates

The Council wishes to thank all our former delegates whose ongoing support contributes in a very positive way to the experience of delegations visiting Australia. Former delegates' assistance in arranging appointments and briefings and sharing their knowledge and experience with incoming delegations continues to enrich the program.

Supporting Organisations

A number of activities are made possible through the support of private sector and other organisations. The Council wishes to sincerely thank the following for their generous support and participation in 2001-2002:

- Aquarium of Western Australia (AQWA)
- Chinese Chamber of Commerce
- Macquarie Bank Limited
- Minnamurra Rainforest Centre
- Petaluma Winery, South Australia
- Philip Morris (Australia) Ltd
- PricewaterhouseCoopers Legal
- Shellharbour City Council
- Seaworld
- SBS Broadcasting Authority
- Woodside Energy Ltd

The Council would also like to thank the Presiding Officers of the Federal and State Parliaments, and participating embassy and consular officials around Australia for their continued enthusiastic support of the Council's programs. The generous support of all State and Territory governments continues to enhance the program.



Appendix A - Prominent Former Delegates

This appendix recognises prominent former delegates including Members of Federal Parliament, Members of State and Territory Parliaments, leaders of party and government organisations and leaders in trade unions and corporate Australia, as at 28 October 2002.

Members of Federal Parliament

- **Senator the Hon Eric Abetz** (Germany 1991, Vietnam 1996), Special Minister of State, Senator for Tasmania
- **The Hon John Anderson MP** (USA 1985) Deputy Prime Minister, Leader of the National Party, Minister for Transport and Regional Services, Member for Gwydir
- **The Hon Kevin Andrews MP** (UK 2001), Minister for Ageing, Member for Menzies
- **The Hon Larry Anthony MP** (Japan 1994), Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Member for Richmond
- **Senator Andrew Bartlett** (Germany 1995), Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator for Queensland
- **The Hon Arch Bevis MP** (Japan 1993), Member for Brisbane
- **Mr Bruce Billson MP** (UK 1999), Member for Dunkley
- **Ms Julie Bishop MP** (Germany 1999), Member for Curtin
- **The Hon Ross Cameron MP** (Japan 1998), Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Family and Community Services, Member for Parramatta
- **Senator Grant Chapman** (Japan 1992), Senator for South Australia
- **Senator John Cherry** (AAI Hong Kong 1999), Senator for Queensland
- **Senator Richard Colbeck** (Japan 1994), Senator for Tasmania
- **Senator Stephen Conroy** (USA 1991), Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Shadow Minister for Finance, Small Business and Financial Services, Senator for Victoria
- **The Hon Peter Costello MP** (USA 1986), Treasurer, Member for Higgins
- **Mr Michael Danby MP** (Japan 2000), Deputy Opposition Whip, Member for Melbourne Ports

- **The Hon Alexander Downer MP** (USA 1986), Minister for Foreign Affairs, Member for Mayo
- **Dr Craig Emerson MP** (UK 1999), Shadow Minister for Innovation, Industry and Trade, Member for Rankin
- **Ms Teresa Gambaro MP** (Vietnam 2002), Member for Petrie
- **Ms Julia Gillard MP** (China 2000), Shadow Minister for Population and Immigration, Member for Lalor
- **Senator Brian Greig**, (UK 2001), Senator for Western Australia
- **The Hon Gary Hardgrave MP** (USA 1994), Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, Member for Moreton
- **Mr David Hawker MP** (USA 1984), Member for Wannan
- **Senator the Hon Robert Hill** (Canada 1987), Minister for Defence, Leader of the Government in the Senate, Senator for South Australia
- **Ms Sharryn Jackson MP** (Germany 1991), Member for Hasluck
- **Ms Catherine King MP** (Japan 2002), Member for Ballarat
- **Senator Sue Knowles** (Canada 1985), Senator for Western Australia
- **Senator Meg Lees** (China 1986), Senator for South Australia
- **Ms Kirsten Livermore MP** (China 1996), Member for Capricornia
- **Senator Joe Ludwig** (USA 1994), Manager of Opposition Business in the Senate, Senator for Queensland
- **Senator Kate Lundy** (Japan 1997), Shadow Minister for Information Technology and Sport, Senator for the Australian Capital Territory
- **The Hon Ian Macfarlane MP** (China 1999), Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Member for Groom
- **Senator Sue Mackay** (USA 1984), Opposition Whip in the Senate, Senator for Tasmania
- **Senator Brett Mason** (Japan 2000), Senator for Queensland
- **Senator Julian McGauran** (Japan 1993), National Party Whip in the Senate, Senator for Victoria
- **Senator Jan McLucas** (USA 1994), Senator for Queensland
- **Senator the Hon Nick Minchin** (USA 1990), Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator for South Australia

- **The Hon Judi Moylan MP** (China 1999), Member for Pearce
- **The Hon Dr Brendan Nelson MP** (UK 1997), Minister for Education, Science and Training, Member for Bradfield
- **Senator Marise Payne** (Russia 1990, New Zealand 2001), Senator for New South Wales
- **Mr Chris Pearce MP** (Japan 2002), Member for Aston
- **Mr Christopher Pyne MP** (PNG 1993, Japan 2001), Member for Sturt
- **Senator Aden Ridgeway** (UK 1999), Senator for New South Wales
- **Ms Nicola Roxon MP** (Japan 1999), Shadow Minister for Children and Youth, Member for Gellibrand
- **Senator Santo Santoro** (USA 1993), Senator for Queensland
- **Mr Patrick Secker MP** (China 2000), Member for Barker
- **Senator the Hon Nick Sherry** (Canada 1992), Shadow Minister for Retirement Incomes and Savings, Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs, Senator for Tasmania
- **Dr Andrew Southcott MP** (Japan 1996), Member for Boothby
- **Senator Natasha Stott Despoja** (UK 1995), Senator for South Australia
- **Mr Wayne Swan MP** (USA 1990, UK 1995), Shadow Minister for Family and Community Services, Manager of Opposition Business in the House, Member for Lilley
- **The Hon Mark Vaile MP** (UK 1995), Minister for Trade, Deputy Leader of the National Party of Australia, Member for Lyne
- **Senator the Hon Amanda Vanstone** (USA 1989), Minister for Family and Community Services, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women, Senator for South Australia
- **Senator Ruth Webber** (Japan 1994), Senator for Western Australia
- **Senator Penny Wong** (China 1994), Senator for South Australia
- **The Hon Trish Worth MP** (USA 1988), Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing, Member for Adelaide

Members of State or Territory Parliaments

- **The Hon Pam Allan MP** (Japan 1993), Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Wentworthville
- **The Hon Louise Asher MP** (USA 1995), Victorian Shadow Minister for Industry and Employment, Shadow Minister for Major Projects, Shadow Minister for Tourism, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Brighton
- **Mr Ted Baillieu MP** (Japan 1993), Victorian Shadow Minister for Planning, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Hawthorn
- **The Hon Peter Batchelor MP** (USA 1993), Victorian Minister for Transport, Minister for Major Projects, Leader of the House, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Thomastown
- **The Hon Mark Birrell MLC** (China 1984), Member of the Victorian Legislative Council
- **The Hon Michael Board MLA** (China 2001), Western Australian Shadow Minister for Health, Shadow Minister for Youth, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Murdoch
- **The Hon Steve Bracks MP** (Canada 1992), Victorian Premier, Victorian Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Williamstown
- **Mr John Bradshaw MP** (China 1994), Western Australian Opposition Whip, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Murray-Wellington
- **Mr John Brogden MP** (USA 1994, Indonesia 1995), New South Wales Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Ethnic Affairs, Shadow Minister for Reform of Government, Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Pittwater
- **The Hon Terry Cameron MLC** (USA 1992), Member of the South Australian Legislative Council
- **Mr Carlo Carli MLA** (Japan 1998), Victorian Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Infrastructure, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Coburg
- **Ms Vickie Chapman MP** (Germany 1995), South Australian Shadow Minister for Education and Children's Services, Shadow Minister for the Status of Women, Member of the House of Assembly for Bragg
- **The Hon Dr Arthur Chesterfield-Evans MLC** (USA 1993), Member of the New South Wales Legislative Council

- **Dr Lesley Clark MP** (Canada 1990), Queensland Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Trade in Far North Queensland, Member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly for Barron River
- **Mr Robert Clark MP** (Japan 1995), Victorian Shadow Minister for Finance, Shadow Assistant Treasurer, Shadow Minister for WorkCover, Shadow Minister for Gaming, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Box Hill
- **Mr Stuart Copeland MP** (USA 1997), Queensland Shadow Minister for Families, Shadow Minister for Disability Services, Shadow Minister for Youth, Shadow Minister for the Arts, Member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly for Cunningham
- **Mr Simon Corbell MLA** (China 2001), Australian Capital Territory Minister for Education, Youth and Family Services, Minister for Planning, Minister for Industrial Relations, Member of the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly for Molonglo
- **The Hon John Cowdell MLC** (USA 1985), President of the Western Australia Legislative Council, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Council
- **Mr Paul Crittenden MP** (USA 1998), New South Wales Parliamentary Secretary Assisting the Premier and the Attorney-General, Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Wyong
- **The Hon David Davis MLC** (USA 2000), Victorian Shadow Minister for Scrutiny of Government, Member of the Victorian Legislative Council
- **The Hon Philip Davis MLC** (Germany 1997), Victorian Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Shadow Minister for Rural Victoria, Member of the Victorian Legislative Council
- **The Hon John Dawkins MLC** (China 1993), Opposition Whip in South Australian Legislative Council, Member of the South Australian Legislative Council
- **The Hon John Day MLA** (Japan 1996), Western Australian Shadow Minister for Education, Shadow Minister for Energy, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Darling Range
- **Mr Robert Doyle MP** (Japan 1996), Victorian Leader of the Opposition, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Malvern
- **The Hon Mike Elliott MLC** (Canada 1990), South Australian Parliamentary Leader of the Australian Democrats, Member of the South Australian Legislative Council

- **The Hon Iain Evans MP** (China 1996), South Australian Shadow Minister for Environment and Conservation, Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations and Workplace Services, Member of the South Australian House of Assembly for Davenport
- **The Hon Amanda Fazio MLC** (Japan 1992), Deputy Government Whip in the New South Wales Legislative Council, Member of the New South Wales Legislative Council
- **Mr Gary Fenlon MP** (PNG 1993), Member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly for Greenslopes
- **The Hon Kevin Foley MP** (Japan 1995), South Australian Deputy Premier, Treasurer, Minister for Industry, Investment and Trade, Member of the South Australian House of Assembly for Port Adelaide
- **The Hon Patricia Forsythe MLC** (Canada 1987), New South Wales Shadow Minister for the Environment, Shadow Minister for Sydney Water, Shadow Minister for the Status of Women, Shadow Minister for the Arts, Member of the New South Wales Legislative Council
- **The Hon Dr Geoffrey Gallop MLA** (UK 1997), Premier of Western Australia, Minister for Public Sector Management, Minister for Federal Affairs, Minister for Science, Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Interests, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Victoria Park
- **The Hon Sherryl Garbutt MP** (Japan 1994), Victorian Minister for Environment and Conservation; Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Bundoora
- **The Hon Jennifer Gardiner MLC** (USA 1984), New South Wales Shadow Minister for Fisheries and Ports, Assistant Shadow Minister for Rural Health, Member of the New South Wales Legislative Council
- **The Hon Monica Gould MLC** (USA 1994), Victorian Minister for Education Services, Minister for Youth Affairs, Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council, Member of the Victorian Legislative Council
- **The Hon Bryan Green MLA** (UK 2001), Tasmanian Minister for Primary Industry, Water and Environment, Member of the Tasmanian Legislative Assembly for Braddon
- **The Hon Paul Henderson MLA** (Indonesia 1995), Northern Territory Minister for Business, Industry and Resource Development, Minister for Primary Industry and Fisheries, Minister for Energy, Minister for Asian Relations and Trade, Minister for the AustralAsia Railway, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Defence Support, Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Territory Development, Member of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly for Wanguri

- **The Hon John Hill MP** (USA 1991, Japan 1996), South Australian Minister for Environment and Conservation, Minister for the River Murray, Minister for Gambling, Minister for Southern Suburbs, Minister assisting the Premier in the Arts, Member of the South Australian Legislative Assembly for Kaurna
- **The Hon Phillip Honeywood MP** (Canada 1990), Victorian Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Education, Shadow Minister for Tertiary Education and Training, Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Warrandyte
- **The Hon Barry House MLC** (USA 1992), Western Australian Shadow Minister for Racing and Gaming, Shadow Minister for the South-West, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Council
- **The Hon Monty House MLA** (Canada 1987), Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Stirling
- **The Hon Rob Hulls MP** (USA 1992), Victorian Attorney-General, Minister for Manufacturing Industry, Minister for Racing, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Niddrie
- **Mr Andrew Humpherson MP** (USA 1997), New South Wales Shadow Minister for Planning and Innovation, Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Davidson
- **Mr Gary Humphries MLA** (Japan 1992), Australian Capital Territory Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Shadow Minister for Arts, Shadow Treasurer, Member of the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly for Molonglo
- **The Hon Sandra Kanck MLC** (Vietnam 1994), Member of the South Australian Legislative Council
- **Ms Margaret Keech MP** (Japan 2001), Member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly for Albert
- **The Hon Anthony Kelly MLC** (USA 1987), Deputy President of the New South Wales Legislative Council and Chairman of Committees, Member of the New South Wales Legislative Council
- **The Hon Diana Laidlaw MLC** (China 1988), Member of the South Australian Legislative Council
- **The Hon John Lenders MP** (New Zealand 2001), Victorian Minister for Finance, Minister for Industrial Relations, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Dandenong North

- **Mr Fran Logan MLA** (Korea 1995), Western Australian Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Midwest, Wheatbelt and Great Southern, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment and Heritage, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Cockburn
- **The Hon Robert Lucas MLC** (USA 1987), South Australian Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for State and Regional Development, Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Shadow Minister for Small Business, Member of the South Australian Legislative Council
- **Ms Alannah MacTiernan MLA** (Germany 1993), Western Australian Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Armadale
- **Mr Daryl Maguire MP** (China 2002), Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Wagga Wagga
- **Mr Mark McGowan MLA** (Japan 2001), Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier of Western Australia, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Public Sector Management, Federal Affairs, Science, Citizenship and Multicultural Interests, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Rockingham
- **The Hon Dr Denis Napthine MP** (Japan 1994), Victorian Shadow Minister for Rural and Regional Development, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Portland
- **Mr Neville Newell MP** (Japan 1994), Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Tweed
- **The Hon Simon O'Brien MLC** (Japan 1998), Western Australian Shadow Minister for Disability Services, Shadow Minister for Drug Abuse Strategy, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Council
- **Mr Barry O'Farrell MP** (USA 1996), Shadow Minister for Education and Training, Shadow Minister of State, Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Ku-ring-gai
- **The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC** (China 2000), Member of the New South Wales Legislative Council
- **Mrs Liz Penfold MP** (Japan 2000), Member of the South Australian House of Assembly for Flinders
- **Ms Jaye Radisich MLA** (Vietnam 2002), Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Swan Hills
- **Mr John Rau MP** (USA 1992), Member of the South Australian Legislative Assembly for Enfield

- **The Hon Ljiljana Ravlich MLC** (Germany 2001), Western Australian Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Community Development, Women's Interests, Seniors and Youth, Disability Services; Culture and the Arts, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Council
- **The Hon Michelle Roberts MLA** (China 1988), Western Australian Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Member of the Western Australian Legislative Assembly for Midland
- **Ms Marianne Saliba MP** (Japan 1997), Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Illawarra
- **Ms Peta Seaton MP** (USA 1999), Member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Southern Highlands
- **Mr Lawrence Springborg MLA** (Japan 1995), Queensland Shadow Attorney-General, Shadow Minister for Justice, Shadow Minister for Innovation, Information Technology and Rural Technology, Shadow Minister for Fair Trading, Deputy Opposition Whip, Member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly for Southern Downs
- **The Hon Marsha Thomson MLC** (USA 1997), Victorian Minister for Information and Communication Technology, Member of the Victorian Legislative Council
- **Mr Kim Wells MP** (China 1999), Victorian Shadow Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Shadow Minister for Corrections, Member of the Victorian Legislative Assembly for Wantirna
- **Mr Brett Whiteley MLA** (UK 2001), Member of the Tasmanian House of Assembly

Other Prominent Former Delegates

- **Mr Graham Allan** (USA 1982), Managing Director, Yum! Restaurants Europe, London
- **Mr Julian Anderson** (China 1986), President, Rider Hunt Levett and Bailey Ltd, North America, 2000 Arizona Republican Businessman of the Year
- **Mr Peter Anderson** (Japan 1995), Director, Workplace Policy, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- **Mr Paris Aristotle AM** (Vietnam 1994), Member of the Commonwealth Immigration Detention Advisory Group, Member of the Refugee Resettlement Advisory Council; Part-time commissioner for the Victorian Law Reform Commission,

- **Mr Michael Bailey** (NZ election 2002), Secretary, New South Wales Young Labor, International Secretary, Australian Young Labor
- **Mr Mark Baker** (USA 2002), Head of Government Relations, Westpac Bank
- **Mr Simon Banks** (Japan 1998), Director of Policy for the Federal Leader of the Opposition
- **Mr Jim Barron** (USA 1996), Chief Executive Officer, Group Training Australia
- **Mr Liam Bathgate** (USA 1994), Manager, Group Communications, Tenix Pty Ltd
- **The Hon Michael Beahan** (USA 1983), Director of Government Relations, Pharmacy Guild of Australia, former Chairman, Australian Political Exchange Council
- **Mr Rick Beatty** (China 1996), President, Western Australia Branch of the National Party of Australia
- **Ms Gladys Berejiklian** (USA 2000), General Manager, Youth Segment, Commonwealth Bank of Australia
- **Mr Andrew Bibb** (Japan 2002), Campaign and Policy Manager, National Party of Australia – Queensland
- **Mr Kym Bills** (Germany 1991), Executive Director, Australian Transport Safety Bureau
- **Mr Charles Blunt** (USA 1982), National Director, United States Chamber of Commerce, Australia
- **Mr Dennis Bree** (Russia 1992), Chief of Staff to the Northern Territory Chief Minister
- **Ms Debbie Butler** (Germany 1999), Convenor of the Tasmanian Division of the Australian Democrats
- **Mr Bruce Campbell-Fraser** (USA 1997), Chief of Staff to the Western Australian Minister for Health
- **Ms Kate Carnell** (USA 1994), Executive Director, National Association of Forest Industries
- **Mr Ian Carson** (China 1996), President, Victorian Division, Liberal Party of Australia
- **The Hon Virginia Chadwick** (USA 1986), Chair of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

- **Mr Daniel Clode** (Vietnam 2001), Director, Australian Capital Territory Division of the Liberal Party of Australia
- **Mr Terry Connolly** (USA 1993), Master of Australian Capital Territory Supreme Court
- **Mr Brendan Cooper** (NZ election 2002), State Director of the Queensland Division of Liberal Party of Australia
- **Mr Lynton Crosby** (China 1986), Federal Director, Liberal Party of Australia, Australian Political Exchange Council Member
- **Mr Lawrie Daly** (USA 1989), Senior Policy Adviser to the New South Wales Special Minister of State and Assistant Treasurer
- **Ms Meredith Dickie** (Germany 1999), State Director of the Victorian Branch of the National Party
- **Mr Mark Domitrak** (USA 2000), National Manager of Public Affairs, Australian Hotels Association
- **Mr Jim Downey** (USA 2000), Chief Executive Officer, Birds Australia
- **Mr Mick Doyle** (China 1993), Secretary, United Firefighters Union, South Australia
- **Mr Michael Duff** (USA 1999), Federal President, Young National Party of Australia
- **Ms Jennifer Eddy** (USA 1995), Media Adviser to the Federal Minister for Finance and Administration
- **Mr Bruce Edwards** (Japan 1992), Manager, Parliamentary and Policy, Federal Secretariat of the Liberal Party of Australia
- **Mr Mario Falchoni** (Indonesia 1995), Corporate Relations Manager, GrainCorp
- **Mr Jason Falinski** (USA 1998), Public Affairs Manager, Insurance Australia Group
- **Mr Jody Fassina** (Vietnam 2000), Manager, Public Affairs, Macquarie Bank Ltd
- **Mr David Feeney** (USA 1998), Campaign Director, Victorian Branch, Australian Labor Party
- **Ms Rosemary Follett** (USA 1990), Australian Capital Territory Discrimination Commissioner
- **Mr Stephen Forshaw** (Indonesia 1995), Public Relations Manager (Australia), Singapore Airlines
- **Ms Elizabeth Fricker** (Canada 1992), Managing Director, Agserve Industries South Australia

- **Mr Tim Gartrell** (USA 2002), Assistant National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party
- **Mr Gary Gray** (USA 1989), Principal Strategic Adviser, Woodside Energy Ltd, Member, Australian Political Exchange Council, Ex-National Secretary, Australian Labor Party
- **Ms Lynne Grimsey** (NZ 2001), National Policy Coordinator of the Australian Democrats, President of the ACT Division of the Australian Democrats
- **Mr Ian Henderson** (Canada 1987), Economics Correspondent, ABC Radio Current Affairs, Former Member, Australian Political Exchange Council
- **Mr Daryl Hockey** (USA 1995), General Manager, Corporate Affairs, Australian Wheat Board
- **Ms Melissa Horne** (Germany 1999), Chief of Staff to the Victorian Minister for Employment; Gaming; Tourism; and Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs
- **Ms Linda Hornsey** (USA 1993), Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Tasmania
- **Ms Sam Hudson** (USA 1998), Executive Director, Australian Associated Brewers, Member, Australian Political Exchange Council, Ex-National Secretary of the Australian Democrats
- **Mr Graham Jaeschke** (USA 1996, NZ election 2002), State Director of the South Australian Division of the Liberal Party of Australia
- **Mr Norm Kelly** (China 2001), Deputy President of the Australian Democrats
- **Mr Peter Kerestes** (USA 1983) General Manager, Healthcare, Australian Unity
- **Mr Michael Kerrisk** (USA Intern 1996), Deputy Chief of Staff to the Federal Leader of the Opposition
- **Mr Keith Kessell** (USA 1988), General Manager, Corporate Affairs, Wesfarmers Pty Ltd
- **Ms Cathy King** (USA 1996), Chief of Staff to the South Australian Minister of Police
- **Ms Debra Klika** (Japan 1994), Convenor of the Australian Broadcasting Authority Advisory Council
- **Mr Michael Kroger** (Germany 1991), Director of the ABC Board
- **The Hon Michael Lavarch** (USSR 1990), Secretary-General of the Law Council of Australia

- **Commissioner John Lewin** (Canada 1987), Australian Industrial Relations Commissioner, Victoria
- **Mr Erik Locke** (USA 2002), Senior Adviser to the Victorian Minister for Education and Training
- **Mr Stephen Loosley** (USA 1984), Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers Legal
- **Mr Brian Loughnane** (USA 1998), State Director of the Victorian Division of the Liberal Party of Australia
- **Ms Anna McPhee** (USA 1995), Public Affairs and Communications Manager, Australian Business Ltd
- **Mr Cameron Milner** (USA 2000), State Secretary and Campaign Director, Queensland Branch of the Australian Labor Party
- **Mr Grant Muller** (Vietnam 2000), Federal President of the Young Liberal Movement of Australia
- **Mr Russ Neal** (China 1988), CEO, Australian Seafood Industry Council
- **Mr Gary Neat** (USA 1984), President of the Australian Institute of Management
- **Mr Nathan Niven** (China 1999), Assistant Secretary, Victorian Trades Hall Council
- **Mr Tony Nutt** (USA 1989, UK 1995), Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister of Australia
- **Mr Michael O'Brien** (USA 2002), Senior Adviser to the Federal Treasurer
- **Mr Damian O'Connor** (USA 2000), Assistant General Secretary, Australian Labor Party (New South Wales Branch)
- **The Hon John Olsen** (Canada 1990), Consul-General in Los Angeles (from November 2002)
- **Mr Bill Phillips-Turner** (Germany 1993), Chairman, Mossman Central Mill Co Ltd.
- **Mr David Pigott** (China 1998), General Manager, Corporate Partnerships, Mission Australia
- **Dr Peter Poggioli** (Japan 1997), Chief of Staff to the Federal Minister for Environment and Heritage
- **Mr James Porter** (USA 1982), Honorary Consul in South Australia for the Federal Republic of Germany, Consultant, Piper Alderman
- **Mr David Price** (Japan 1997), State Secretary, Tasmanian Branch, Australian Labor Party

- **Mr David Quilty** (UK 1997), Chief of Staff to the Federal Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts and Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate
- **Cr Graham Quirk** (USA 1989), Councillor for Wishart, Opposition Spokesman for Transport and Major Projects, Brisbane City Council.
- **Mr Robert Reid** (USA Congressional 2000), Senior Adviser to the Minister for Ageing
- **Mr Tony Reidy** (USA 1988), Executive Director, Royal Hobart Hospital Research Foundation
- **Ms Linda Reynolds** (USA 2002), Chief of Staff to the Federal Minister for Justice and Customs
- **Mr Bernie Riordan** (USA 1997), General Secretary, Electrical Trades Union of Australia – New South Wales Branch
- **Mr Andrew Robb** (Japan 1993, AAI Malaysia 1993), Business Adviser, Minter Ellison, Former Federal Director, Liberal Party of Australia, Former Member of the Australian Political Exchange Council
- **Mr Ian Robertson** (Germany 1995), Member, Australian Broadcasting Authority, Managing Partner (Sydney), Holding Redlich, Lawyers and Consultants
- **Mr Geoffrey Rutledge** (NZ election 2002), National Campaign Director of the Australian Democrats, Adviser to the Australian Capital Territory Leader of the Australian Democrats
- **Ms Rita Saffioti** (Japan 2002), Principal Policy Adviser to the Premier of Western Australia
- **Ms Kate Schultze** (Vietnam 1998), General Manager, Public Relations, National Farmers' Federation
- **Mr Brian Scullin** (USA 1985), CEO Asia Pacific, Deutsche Asset Management (Australia) Ltd
- **Mr Bill Shorten** (Japan 1995), National and State (Victoria) Secretary, Australian Workers' Union
- **Mr Arthur Sinodinos** (Philippines 1996), Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister of Australia
- **Mr Dean Smith** (USA 1997), Senior Adviser to the Federal Minister for Justice and Customs
- **The Hon Warwick Smith** (China 1986), Executive Director, Macquarie Bank Ltd, National President of the Australia-China Business Council

- **Ms Louise Staley** (China 1998), Deputy Chair, Australian Film Commission
- **Mr Matthew Strassberg** (Russia 1992), Chief of Staff to the New South Wales Minister of State and Assistant Treasurer
- **Mr John Temple** (Japan 1998), Commissioner, Australian Heritage Commission
- **Mr Mark Textor** (USA 1992), Managing Director, Wirthlin Worldwide Australasia
- **Ms Caroline Turnour** (Vietnam 2001), Chief of Staff to the Federal Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Science
- **Mr Andrew Whale** (Germany 2001), Secretary, Trade Workers' Union (Canberra Sub-Branch)
- **Mr Gerard Wheeler** (USA 1993), Adviser to the Prime Minister of Australia
- **Mr Rob Whiddon** (Canada 1985), Chief of Staff to the Premier of Queensland
- **Mr John Whitelaw** (Germany 1995), Principal Project Officer to the Premier of Western Australia
- **Mr David Williams** (Japan 2000), Senior Adviser to the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Shadow Minister for Public Administration and Home Affairs
- **Mr Russell Wortley** (China 1984), Secretary, South Australian Sub-Branch of the Transport Workers' Union



Appendix B - Financial Statement

Year 2001-2002

Income	\$
Commonwealth Appropriation	769,000
Expenditure	
Australia to New Zealand- July 2001	21,478
Australia to China – July 2001	27,163
Japan to Australia – August 2001	84,703
China to Australia – August 2001	28,817
Australia to Germany – September 2001	45,558
Vietnam to Australia – March 2002	41,416
Australia to Vietnam – April 2002	23,354
Australia to China – May 2002	20,854
New Zealand to Australia – May 2002	28,654
New Zealand Election Study Tours – July 2002	4,749
US Individual Congressional Study Tours	2,685
Advance payments for 2002-2003 delegations	3,147
Carryover Expenditure from 2000-2001 delegations	27,304
Twentieth Anniversary Costs	44,963
Council Communications	8,686
Administration	6,384
Total	419,915
Budget not utilised	349,085

Note – Unexpended Funds in 2001-2002

The funds set aside for this financial year were under-utilised due to unforeseen circumstances including the deferral of several delegation visits and US Congressional Study tours until 2002-2003.



Appendix C - Administrative Overview

Chairman's Remuneration

The Chairman receives a sitting fee when the Council meets and when she is engaged in business on behalf of the Council, in accordance with the determinations made by the Remuneration Tribunal. Members of the Council do not receive any remuneration.

Meetings

The Council met formally on three occasions: 22 August 2001, 20 February 2002 and 29 May 2002. In addition, certain Council business was progressed out of session.

Staffing

The Council Secretariat function is performed by staff of the Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Group of the Department of Finance and Administration. Mr Daryl Wight ceased as Secretary to the Council on 5 October 2001 after which Ms Christine Briton assumed the role. Other Secretariat positions include an Executive Officer, Ms Debbie Lewis, and a Program Officer, Ms Maree Drury. Mr Lyalle Patterson also assisted the Council during the year.

Auditor's Report

The financial affairs of the Council are examined by the Australian National Audit Office as part of its annual audit of the financial statements of the Department of Finance and Administration.

Freedom of Information

No applications were received by the Council under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* in 2001-2002.



Appendix D - Contact Information

The Australian Political Exchange Council may be contacted through its Secretariat by contacting the Executive Officer.

Address: Executive Officer
Australian Political Exchange Council
PO Box 4860
Kingston ACT 2604
Australia

Telephone: (02) 6215 3248 or (02) 6215 3469
Facsimile: (02) 6215 3262

Email: auspol.exchange@finance.gov.au

