



Australian
Political
Exchange
Council

REPORT

2007-08
2008-09
2009-10



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Australian
Political
Exchange
Council

The Hon Julia Gillard MP
Prime Minister of Australia
Leader of the Australian Labor Party

The Hon Tony Abbott MP
Leader of the Opposition
Leader of the Liberal Party of Australia

The Hon Warren Truss MP
Leader of The Nationals

Senator Bob Brown
Leader of the Australian Greens

In accordance with the terms of reference of the Australian Political Exchange Council, I have pleasure in submitting the report of the Council for the 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 years. The report will be presented to Parliament by the Special Minister of State.

The Hon Robert Ray

Chairman
19 April 2011

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Chairman's Message

I have much pleasure in presenting the Report of the Australian Political Exchange Council.

My appointment as Chairman of the Council is the latest chapter in over twenty years' association with the political exchange program – beginning with portfolio responsibility for the program when Minister for Home Affairs in the 1980s. I have always taken a very keen interest in the Council's activities and its aim to develop Australia's young political leaders.

Since my appointment, the Council has continued to explore ways to develop outstanding young nominees drawn from the parliamentary political parties. The Council offers delegates the opportunity to study the political and cultural systems of partner countries and build enduring networks between young political leaders.

This year, in addition to its regular suite of delegation and individual study tours, the Council sponsored six individual study tours to observe the United Kingdom General Elections. Individual study tours provide young delegates with an invaluable 'on-the-ground' opportunity to compare and contrast political and electoral systems and are a useful adjunct to the overseas delegation program.

I am delighted to record the inaugural visit by an Australian delegation to India in late 2010.

I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor, the Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE, Council Chairman from 1996 to 2009, and her generous husband, Mr Stan Guilfoyle AM. Under Dame Margaret's excellent stewardship, and with a focus on the Asia-Pacific region, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea and the Philippines were added to the list of the Council's exchange partners. After her many years of public service, I am sure that Dame Margaret will continue to be regarded with deep affection by Council Members, former delegates and Secretariat staff alike.

I thank Council Members, Principals and Patrons for their continuing commitment and involvement in the political exchange program. I am grateful to the Hon Gary Gray AO MP, Special Minister of State, for his enthusiastic support as responsible Minister, having previously served as a Council Member for many years. I also record my thanks to the outgoing Director of the Council, Mrs Kim Baker, and to the staff of the Secretariat.

This year will mark the Council's 30th anniversary. It is a timely opportunity to both celebrate and reflect upon the value and achievements of the political exchange program.

The program has benefited substantially from the continued involvement of the friends of the Council, particularly from former delegates. I would like to thank all former delegates for their valuable contributions in assisting the Council to provide quality study opportunities and experiences for the future generation of Australia's political leaders.

ROBERT RAY

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL



The Hon Robert Ray, Chairman of the Australian Political Exchange Council with the Hon Gary Gray AO MP, Special Minister of State.

Introducing the Council

In 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 major federal Parliamentary parties as its Principals.

The program had its genesis the previous year when the late Hon Sir Robert Cotton KCMG AO, then Australian Consul-General in New York, and Mr Tony Eggleton AO CVO, then Federal Director of the Liberal Party of Australia, 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 1983 and, subsequently, the Australian Political Exchange Council in 1991.

The Council currently has exchange programs with the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Philippines, the United States of America, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and India. It also sponsors delegates' participation in a range of overseas individual study tours and international forums.

The activities of the Council are funded through an annual appropriation to the Commonwealth Department of Finance and Deregulation and from in-kind donations from organisations and individuals. The Special Minister of State has portfolio responsibility for the program.

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 offering 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 seek to:

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 to Australia 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.

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. As at 30 June 2010, these were:

- » The Hon Julia Gillard MP, Prime Minister and Leader of the Australian Labor Party;
- » The Hon Tony Abbott MP, Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Liberal Party of Australia;
- » The Hon Warren Truss MP, Leader of The Nationals; and
- » Senator Bob Brown, Leader of the Australian Greens.

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition each nominate two Council Members and the Leader of The Nationals and Leader of the Australian Greens each nominate one Council Member. The Prime Minister also nominates an independent Chairman.

Current Council Membership

Council membership as at 30 June 2010 was as follows:

Chairman of the Council



The Hon Robert Ray

Mr Ray was appointed Chairman in August 2009.

Members of the Council

(in order of appointment)



Mr Paul Neville MP

Nationals' Whip, Federal Member for Hinkler.

Mr Neville represents the Leader of The Nationals and was appointed in November 1998.

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL



Mr Brian Loughnane

Federal Director, Liberal Party of Australia.

Mr Loughnane represents the Leader of the Opposition and was appointed in February 2003.



The Hon Kevin Andrews MP

Shadow Minister for Families, Housing and Human Services,

Federal Member for Menzies, Liberal Party of Australia.

Mr Andrews represents the Leader of Opposition and was appointed in February 2008.



Senator Michael Forshaw

Senator for New South Wales, Australian Labor Party.

Senator Forshaw represents the Prime Minister and was appointed in June 2008.



Mr Karl Bitar

National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party.

Mr Bitar represents the Prime Minister and was appointed in December 2008.



Senator Sarah Hanson-Young

Senator for South Australia, Australian Greens.

Senator Hanson-Young represents the Leader of the Australian Greens and was appointed in April 2009.

Outgoing Members of the Council

The Council thanks the following for their commitment and active participation during their appointments as Council Members:



The Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE

Dame Margaret was appointed Chairman in August 1996. She continued in the role until her retirement in August 2009.



The Hon Alan Cadman OAM

Mr Cadman was appointed to the Council in December 1981 as a representative of the Leader of the Liberal Party of Australia. He retired in February 2008.



The Hon Gary Gray AO MP

Mr Gray was appointed in June 1993 and served as a Council Member, representing the Leader of the Australian Labor Party until June 2008.



Mr Tim Gartrell

Mr Gartrell was appointed in November 1993 and served as a Council Member, representing the Leader of the Australian Labor Party, until December 2008.

The Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE

Dame Margaret retired from the Chairmanship of the Australian Political Exchange Council in 2009. She remains the Council's longest serving Chairman. During her period in office, the Council added New Zealand, South Korea and the Philippines to its exchange programs and expanded the range of individual overseas study tours available to Australian young political leaders.





Council Activities

Outgoing Australian Delegations

Each year the Council considers delegate nominations put forward by 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 developmental 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 exchange programs with Japan and the United States of America where the age limit is 40).

All delegates are expected to continue their involvement in Council activities after their exchange visit by participating in, or assisting with organising programs for incoming delegations, and by promoting the program among colleagues and in the broader community. Former delegate participation during incoming exchanges is invaluable to the success of the Council's programs.

At 30 June 2010, the Australian Political Exchange Council had sponsored 763 young Australians' participation in 113 overseas exchange delegations. Former delegates of the Council include many who are now in prominent political positions, including members of federal and state parliaments, and leaders in political and government organisations, trade unions and corporate Australia.

Incoming Delegations to Australia

The Council operates a system of political exchange visits and receives delegations from its exchange partners. The Council's aim for visiting delegations is to provide an understanding of Australia and its political system. Each itinerary is developed individually and provides the following three components:

- » 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.

The total number of delegates hosted by the Council since its inception in 1981 was 722 as at 30 June 2010.

Individual Study Tours

Each year, the Council provides developmental opportunities for young Australian political leaders, through individual study tours. The total number of individuals sponsored by the Council as at 30 June 2010 was 79.

2007-2008



Outgoing Australian Delegations for 2007-2008

In 2007-2008, the Council sponsored 32 young Australian political leaders in overseas exchange delegations to New Zealand, the Philippines, Japan, China and the United States of America as follows:

12 to 18 July 2007	Fifth Australian Delegation to New Zealand
25 to 31 July 2007	Second Australian Delegation to the Philippines
1 to 7 March 2008	Sixteenth Australian Delegation to Japan
9 to 15 April 2008	Seventeenth Australian Delegation to China
19 to 30 April 2008	Twenty-fifth Australian Delegation to the United States of America

Fifth Australian Delegation to New Zealand

12 to 18 July 2007

DELEGATES

- » **The Hon Kate Doust MLC** (Australian Labor Party) *Delegation Leader*
Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier, Treasurer, Minister for State Development; Member of the Legislative Council, Parliament of Western Australia
- » **Ms Adina Cirson** (Australian Labor Party)
Senior Adviser to Mr Jon Stanhope MLA, Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory, Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory
- » **Mr Adam Wallace** (Australian Labor Party)
Senior Press Secretary to the Hon Joe Tripodi MP, Minister for Small Business and Regulatory Reform, Minister for Ports and Waterways, Parliament of New South Wales
- » **Ms Julie Baird** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Research/Adviser to the Hon Louise Asher MP, Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party in Victoria, Shadow Minister for Water, Environment and Climate Change, Parliament of Victoria
- » **Ms Sarah Casey** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Adviser to the Hon Kevin Andrews MP, Federal Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- » **Ms Kathryn Hodges** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Assistant Adviser to the Hon Andrew Robb AO MP, Federal Minister for Vocational and Further Education
- » **Mrs Rachel Sherman** (The Nationals)
Media Adviser to Senator the Hon Sandy Macdonald, Senator for New South Wales
- » **Ms Pandora Livanos** (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

The Council's exchange program with New Zealand is conducted with the Speaker of the New Zealand House of Representatives. The program commenced in 2000 and operates on an annual basis.

The fifth Australian delegation to New Zealand travelled to Auckland, Queenstown, Christchurch and Wellington during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Auckland

- » Briefing by the Institute of Environmental Science and Research
- » Visit to the Auckland Central Police Headquarters for a briefing, demonstration and guided tour of the facility
- » Welcome dinner hosted by the Hon Chris Carter MP, Minister of Conservation, Housing and Ethnic Affairs (Australia 2002)
- » Meeting with the Auckland Regional Council on the Resource Management Act
- » Visit to Skytower
- » Meeting at the ACT Party headquarters with Mr Stuart Wilson (Australia 2007)

Queenstown

- » Dinner with Mr Brett Wilson, Crowne Plaza General Manager, and Mr David Kennedy, Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Queenstown
- » Tourism activities, including visits to Arrowtown and Gibbston Valley Vineyard

Christchurch

- » Visit to the International Antarctic Centre
- » Discussion on community law with Mr Kevin Campbell, Supervising Solicitor, Community Law Canterbury (Australia 2002)
- » Visit to Lincoln University for discussions on a boutique university campus, climate change and the environment
- » Visit to Canterbury University and the Human Interface Technology Laboratory New Zealand (Hit Lab NZ)
- » Briefing on the New Zealand electoral system by Canterbury University

Wellington

- » Visit to the Waitangi Tribunal for a briefing on its history and role
- » Briefings by the State Services Commission on its overall role and in respect of industrial relations and employment negotiations in the public service
- » Meeting and dinner with the Hon Margaret Wilson MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives of New Zealand and host of the delegation
- » Guided tour of the New Zealand Parliament
- » Lunch with former New Zealand delegates to Australia
- » Observe Parliament in session

- » Meeting with members of the Labour Caucus, including Mr Charles Chauvel MP (Australia 2007)
- » Discussions on the New Zealand First Party with the Rt Hon Winston Peters MP, Party Leader and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr Scott Devine, Director of Research (Australia 2007)
- » Meeting with representatives of the New Zealand National Party Caucus
- » Meeting with the Department of Labour
- » Meeting with Mr David McGee, Clerk of the House of Representatives of New Zealand
- » Round-table discussions with the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- » Lunch meeting with Mr Frank Ingruber, Deputy Australian High Commissioner to New Zealand



The fifth delegation to New Zealand at the Parliament of New Zealand in Wellington.

Second Australian Delegation to the Philippines

25 to 31 July 2007

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Nicholas Kotsiras MLA** (Liberal Party of Australia), *Delegation Leader*
Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship, Shadow Minister for Youth and Sport,
Member for Bulleen, Parliament of Victoria
- » **Ms Judith Donnelly** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Adviser to the Hon Bruce Billson MP, Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Minister Assisting the Minister
for Defence
- » **Mr Gary Kent** (Liberal Party of Australia)
President, Liberal Party of Australia (Australian Capital Territory Division)
- » **Mr James Burke MLA** (Australian Labor Party)
Member of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory
- » **Ms Mary Mawhinney** (Australian Labor Party)
Program Director to Mr Kevin Rudd MP, Federal Leader of the Opposition
- » **Mr Ben Sakker Kelly** (Australian Labor Party)
Adviser to Mr Robert McClelland MP, Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs
- » **Mr David Wilson** (Council Representative)
Australian Political Exchange Council

The Australian Political Exchange Council established an exchange partnership with the Philippine Council of Young Political Leaders (PCYPL) in 2005, with annual exchanges commencing in 2006.

The second Australian delegation to the Philippines travelled to Manila, Guimaras and Iloilo during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Manila

- » Welcome dinner hosted by Congressman Edgar M. Chatto
- » Briefing by the PCYPL
- » Briefing and dinner hosted by HE Mr Tony Hely, Australian Ambassador to the Philippines
- » Courtesy call on the Hon Ricardo Saludo, Cabinet Secretary
- » Lunch meeting with Mayor Benjamin Abalos Jr, Mandaluyong City
- » Tour of the National Museum, National Art Gallery and Museum of the Filipino People
- » Courtesy call on Mayor Alfredo Lim, City of Manila
- » Tour of Intramuros (The Walled City) and Casa Manila Museum

- » Lunch hosted by the Department of Tourism
- » Courtesy call on Senator Kiko Pangilinan, Senate President
- » Courtesy call on Representative Jose de Venecia Jr, Speaker of the House of Representatives
- » Fellowship dinner hosted by Commissioner Marcelino Libanan, Bureau of Immigration

Guimaras

- » Courtesy call on Governor Felipe Nava, Governor of Guimaras
- » Meeting with officials of the Municipality of Nueva Valencia
- » Visit to the National Mango Research and Development Center
- » Island tour, including visit to turtle sanctuary and marine reserve area
- » Visit to Trappist monastery

Iloilo

- » Courtesy call on Governor Neil Tupaz, Governor of Iloilo
- » Tour of Iloilo



The second delegation to the Philippines in Manila with Senator Kiko Pangilinan, Senate President.

Sixteenth Australian Delegation to Japan

1 to 7 March 2008

DELEGATES

- » **The Hon Peter Dutton MP** (Liberal Party of Australia), *Delegation Leader*
Shadow Minister for Finance, Competition Policy and Deregulation, Federal Member for Dickson
- » **Senator Cory Bernardi** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Senator for South Australia
- » **Mr Julian Sheezel** (Liberal Party of Australia)
State Director and Chief Executive Officer, Liberal Party of Australia (Victorian Division)
- » **Ms Melissa Parke MP** (Australian Labor Party)
Federal Member for Fremantle
- » **Mr Stirling Hinchcliffe MP** (Australian Labor Party)
Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier, Minister for Infrastructure and Planning, Member for Stafford, Parliament of Queensland
- » **Mr Geoff Barnett** (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

The Australian Political Exchange Council established an annual exchange program with the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) in 1992.

The sixteenth Australian delegation to Japan travelled to Tokyo, Kobe and Kyoto during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Tokyo

- » Tour of Tokyo, including the Fukagawa Edo Historical Museum and the Sensoji Temple
- » Dinner hosted by Mr Tadashi Yamamoto, President, JCIE
- » Presentation on socio-political developments in Japan by Mr Tadashi Yamamoto, President, JCIE
- » Briefing by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- » Meeting with Members of Parliament of the New Komeito Party
- » Tour of the National Diet Building
- » Dinner hosted by Mr Hitoshi Kimura, Senior Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Member of the House of Councillors (Liberal Democratic Party)
- » Briefing on Japan's diplomatic agenda by Ambassador Koji Wananabe, Senior Fellow, JCIE
- » Luncheon meeting with Members of Parliament of the Liberal Democratic Party
- » Briefing on the Japanese economy by the Institute for International Policy Studies

- » Briefing on research whaling by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- » Briefing and dinner hosted by HE Mr Murray McLean OAM, Australian Ambassador to Japan
- » Briefing on Japan's trade policy by Nippon Keidanren (Japan Federation of Economic Organisations)
- » Luncheon meeting with Members of Parliament of the Democratic Party of Japan. Briefing on the role of the media in Japanese politics and society by the Asahi Shimbun Newspaper
- » Cocktail reception with program alumni

Kobe and Kyoto

- » Courtesy call on Mr Tomio Saito, Vice-Governor of Hyogo Prefecture
- » Visit to Asian Disaster Reduction Center
- » Visit to and briefing on the Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution
- » Briefing on the Hyogo Prefecture's policies on the environment by the Hyogo Environmental Advancement Association
- » Tour of Kyoto



The sixteenth delegation to Japan outside the National Diet Building in Tokyo.

Seventeenth Australian Delegation to China

9 to 15 April 2008

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Jason Wood MP** (Liberal Party of Australia), *Delegation Leader*
Federal Member for La Trobe
- » **Mr Conor O'Brien** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Adviser to the Hon Chris Pearce MP, Federal Member for Aston
- » **Mr Nick Champion MP** (Australian Labor Party)
Federal Member for Wakefield
- » **Ms Jaala Pulford MLC** (Australian Labor Party)
Parliamentary Secretary for Industrial Relations, Parliament of Victoria
- » **Ms Angie Drake** (Australian Labor Party)
Media Adviser to Ms Katy Gallagher MLA, Deputy Chief Minister, Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory
- » **Ms Kate Barwick** (The Nationals)
Media Adviser to Mr Paul Neville MP, Federal Member for Hinkler
- » **Ms Deb Lewis** (Council Representative)
Australian Political Exchange Council

The exchange with the All-China Youth Federation was established in 1984, making it the Council's second oldest exchange program. This year's delegation to China travelled to Beijing, Changsha, Hangzhou and Shanghai during its visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Beijing

- » Meeting with Mr Chen Haosu, Vice Chairman, Committee of Foreign Affairs, National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference
- » Meeting with Mr Yang Yue, President of the All-China Youth Federation
- » Luncheon hosted by the All-China Youth Federation
- » Briefing by Mr Ma Wenpu, Vice Chairman, Committee of Foreign Affairs, National People's Congress
- » Briefing by Mr Zhang Zhijun, Deputy Head, International Liaison Department of the Central Committee, Communist Party of China
- » Tours of the Forbidden City and the Great Wall
- » Visit to the National Centre for the Performing Arts
- » Attend acrobatics performance at Chaoyang Theatre

Changsha, Hunan Province

- » Briefing on the agricultural industry by the Hunan Provincial Department of Agriculture
- » Televised meeting with Ms Liu Lianyu, Vice Chairman, Hunan Provincial People's Congress (Australia 2001) followed by an official banquet
- » Visit to and briefing on the functions of the Changsha Demonstration Farm
- » Visit to the Yuelu Academy
- » Visit to the Xiangfeng Group's organic tea farm

Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province

- » Briefing on the rise of Chinese manufacturing and factory tour of the Wanxiang Group automobile component enterprise
- » Tour the West Lake, Leifeng Pagoda
- » Meeting with Zhejiang Provincial People's Congress followed by an official banquet

Shanghai

- » Visit to Pearl Tower
- » Visit to Nanjing Road and tour of the Pudong District



*The seventeenth delegation to China in Beijing with Mr Yang Yue,
President of the All-China Youth Federation.*

Twenty-fifth Australian Delegation to the United States of America

19 to 30 April 2008

DELEGATES

- » **Mrs Heidi Victoria MLA** (Liberal Party of Australia), *Delegation Leader*
Member for Bayswater, Parliament of Victoria
- » **Mr Rhys Turner** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Adviser to the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, Federal Member for Wentworth
- » **Mr Kristian Galanti** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Research Assistant, Federal Secretariat of the Liberal Party of Australia
- » **Mr Brian Tee MLC** (Australian Labor Party)
Parliamentary Secretary for Justice, Member for Eastern Metropolitan, Parliament of Victoria
- » **Mr Mark Nelson** (Australian Labor Party)
Senior Adviser to the Hon Paul Henderson MLA, Chief Minister of the Northern Territory
- » **Ms Ashley Hogan** (Australian Labor Party)
Adviser to Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State, Cabinet Secretary
- » **Ms Rebecca White** (Australian Labor Party)
Electorate Officer to the Hon Duncan Kerr SC MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs
- » **Mr Damian Callachor** (The Nationals)
President, Young Nationals
- » **Mr Geoff Barnett** (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

The exchange program with the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) is the Australian Political Exchange Council's oldest exchange, dating back to 1982.

The twenty-fifth Australian delegation to the United States of America travelled to Washington, DC, Richmond, Colorado Springs and Denver.

VISIT PROGRAM

Washington, DC

- » Tour of Washington, DC, including Embassy Row, the Washington National Cathedral, the Vietnam Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial
- » Visit to Georgetown
- » Dinner with ACYPL alumni and staff
- » Meeting with Ms Linda Rotunno, Chief Executive Officer, ACYPL

- » Briefing on United States-Australia relations by the US Department of State
- » Briefing on electoral policy by the Federal Election Commission
- » Briefing on global climate change policies by the Center for American Progress
- » Briefing on political campaign technologies by MSHC + Partners Inc.
- » Briefing on the Human Rights Campaign organisation and its activities
- » Lunch meeting hosted by HE Mr Dennis Richardson, Australian Ambassador to the United States of America
- » Briefing on Republican Party politics at the Republican Headquarters
- » Briefing on Democratic Party politics at the Democrats Headquarters
- » Tour of the White House
- » Visit to the Capitol Building and observe the House of Representatives
- » Meeting with the Hon Deborah Pryce, Republican Member of Congress for the State of Ohio (Australia 1986)
- » Meeting with the Hon Diana DeGette, Democrat Member of Congress for the State of Colorado
- » Meeting with the Hon Ed Royce, Republican Member of Congress for the State of California
- » Observe the Foreign Affairs Committee



The twenty-fifth delegation to the United States of America with the Hon Deborah Pryce, Republican Member of Congress for the State of Ohio.

Richmond, Virginia

- » Welcome reception hosted by Mr Chris Rivers, External Affairs and Corporate Communications Officer, Dominion Power, Democratic Member of the ACYPL Board of Trustees
- » Tour of the living museum in Jamestown, Virginia
- » Briefing by the Virginia Commonwealth University, followed by a meeting with student leaders
- » Meeting with Lieutenant Governor John Hager, Chairman, Republican Party of Virginia
- » Visit to Richmond City Hall
- » Briefing by Mr Levar Stoney, Executive Director, Democratic Party of Virginia
- » Briefing by the Virginia Public Access Project
- » Briefing on the office of the Attorney-General and its constitutional duties with Mr Courtney Malveaux, Assistant Attorney-General of Virginia
- » Courtesy call on the Hon L Douglas Wilder, Mayor, City of Richmond
- » Briefing on the operations of a Senator's office by staff of Senator Jim Webb, Senator for Virginia
- » Attend ANZAC Day service at the Carillion War Memorial, Byrd Park
- » Tour of the Capitol Building, Richmond

Colorado Springs, Colorado

- » Travel on the historic Pikes Peak Cog Railroad
- » Visit Manitou Springs and the Garden of the Gods city park
- » Welcome reception and dinner hosted by Mr William Hybl, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, El Pomar Foundation
- » Breakfast meeting with Mr Richard Skorman, Founder, Western Strategy Centre and Mr Jay Fawcett, business owner
- » Tour of Penrose House

Denver, Colorado

- » Lunch briefing on climate change policy and congress by The Nature Conservancy
- » Briefing on water management by the Denver Water Campus
- » Briefing on the environment and resources by the Department of Natural Resources
- » Dinner hosted by the Hon Steve Durham, Chief Executive Officer, Colorado Winning Edge
- » Meeting with the Hon John Wright Hickenlooper, Mayor of Denver, Colorado
- » Observe proceedings from the floor of the Colorado State Senate
- » Visit to the Denver Art Museum
- » Lunch with the Hon Tom Massey, Member, Colorado House of Representatives
- » Briefing on immigration by Rights for all People
- » Attend 'The Last Five Years' musical performance
- » Briefing on the Democratic Party Presidential nomination with Ms Leah Daughtry, Chief Executive Officer, DNC Convention Committee
- » Briefing on immigration and deportation by Stern Elkind Curray & Alterman LLP Immigration Lawyers

Incoming Delegations to Australia for 2007-2008

In 2007-2008, the Council hosted 34 participants on delegations from its exchange partners as follows:

12 to 18 July 2007	Second Delegation from the Philippines
16 to 27 September 2007	Twenty-fourth Delegation from the United States of America
17 to 23 February 2008	Sixteenth Delegation from China
11 to 17 May 2008	Sixth Delegation from New Zealand
22 to 28 June 2008	Third Delegation from the Philippines

Second Delegation from the Philippines

12 to 18 August 2007

DELEGATES

- » **The Hon Maria Isabelle G Climaco** (Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino Party), *Delegation Leader*
Representative, First District of Zamboanga City
- » **The Hon Arthur Robes** (KAMPI Party)
Representative, Lone District, San Jose Del Monte City, Province of Bulacan
- » **The Hon Maria Evita R Arago** (Liberal Party)
Representative, Third District, Province of Laguna
- » **The Hon Marlyn Primicias-Agabas** (KAMPI Party)
Vice-Governor, Province of Pangasinan
- » **The Hon Evelyn M Hernandez**
Chief of Staff to Mayor Sherwin Gatchalian, Valenzuela City
- » **The Hon Paolo Benigno A Aquino IV**
President, TAYO Awards Foundations, Inc, former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Office of the President of the Philippines – National Youth Commission
- » **Mr Rolendes C Fabi** (Accompanying Officer)
Executive Director, Philippine Council of Young Political Leaders

The second delegation from the Philippines travelled to Melbourne and Canberra during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Attend Australian Football League match between the North Melbourne Kangaroos and the West Coast Eagles
- » Dinner hosted by Mr Nicholas Kotsiras MLA (Philippines 2007)
- » Economic briefing by Mr Tony Pearson, Head of Australian Economics, ANZ Bank
- » Briefing and tour of the Parliament of Victoria
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Robert Smith MLC, President of the Legislative Council. Guests included the Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE, Council Chairman and Mr Raul V Hernandez, Honorary Consul, Consulate of the Philippines
- » Briefing on air traffic control by Airservices Australia and tour of the control room
- » Dinner with former delegates Mr Tim Singh (Philippines 2006), Mr Peter Clarke (Japan 1999), Mr Russell Wood (Vietnam 2002) and Mr Stephen Elder (USA 1992)

- » Briefing on the Australian health system, rural health and aged care by the Department of Human Services

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary (Japan 1992)
- » Briefing by the office of Mr Kevin Rudd MP, Leader of the Opposition
- » Meeting with Mr Bernie Ripoll MP, Member for Oxley (Philippines 2006)
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Gary Nairn MP, Special Minister of State. Guests included the Hon Alan Cadman MP, Council Member and Mr Ripoll
- » Briefing on the bilateral defence pact by staff of the Hon Dr Brendan Nelson MP, Minister for Defence (UK 1997)
- » Education briefing by Mr Martin Barr, Adviser to the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Minister for Education, Science and Training, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues (Vietnam 2006)
- » Meeting with Mr Tony Nutt, Chief of Staff to the Hon John Howard MP, Prime Minister of Australia (USA 1989, UK 1995)



The second delegation from the Philippines at the Federal Secretariat of the Liberal Party of Australia with Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary.

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

- » Dinner with former delegates Mr George Lemon (Philippines 2006), Mr Simon Troeth (USA 2005), Ms Jane Templeton (Philippines 2006), Mr Gary Kent (Philippines 2007) and Ms Mary Wood (USA 2006)
- » Meeting with HE Mr Ernesto H. De Leon, Philippines Ambassador to Australia
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Dr Michael Morgan, Director, International Projects
- » Courtesy calls on the Patrons of the Council, the Hon David Hawker MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson, President of the Senate
- » Lunch hosted by Senator Guy Barnett, Senator for Tasmania (China 2006)
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate
- » Guided tour of Parliament House
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Briefing by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- » Briefing on geohazard mapping and natural disaster assessment by Geoscience Australia followed by a tour of the Joint Australian Tsunami Warning Centre

Twenty-fourth Delegation from the United States of America

16 to 27 September 2007

DELEGATES

- » **The Hon Maria Antonia Berrios** (Democratic Party)
Member, Illinois State House of Representatives
- » **The Hon Laurie Funderburk** (Democratic Party)
Member, South Carolina House of Representatives
- » **The Hon Wes Hilliard** (Democratic Party)
Member, Oklahoma House of Representatives
- » **Mr Cary T Johnson** (Republican Party)
Director, Clatsop Soil and Water Conservation, District, Oregon
- » **The Hon Adam M Koenig** (Republican Party)
Member, Kentucky House of Representatives
- » **The Hon Paul Kohls** (Republican Party)
Member, Minnesota House of Representatives
- » **The Hon Thomas Reynolds** (Accompanying Officer)
Member, Connecticut House of Representatives

The delegation from the United States of America travelled to Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney and Adelaide during the twelve-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Visit Queen Victoria Markets
- » Attend soccer match between Melbourne Victory and the Central Coast Mariners
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Briefing by the Business Council of Australia
- » Briefing on social and economic issues in Australia by the Melbourne Institute, University of Melbourne
- » Dinner hosted by the Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE, Council Chairman and Mr Stan Guilfoyle AM. Guests included Mr Earl Michael Irving, Consul-General for the United States, the Hon Michael Beahan (USA 1983, Germany 1997), Mr Daryl Wight, Australian Electoral Officer for Victoria, Ms Julie Baird (NZ 2007), Mr Darren Disney (China 2007, USA 2002), Mr Tony Snell (China 2001, Vietnam 2007) and Professor the Hon Stephen Martin (Canada 1985)

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

- » Guided tour and briefing on the Parliament of Victoria
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Robert Smith MLC, President of the Legislative Council and the Hon Jenny Lindell MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Guests included the Hon Louise Asher MLA (USA 1995) and Mr Michael O'Brien MLA (USA 2002)
- » Attend Question Time in the Legislative Assembly

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Dinner with former delegates Ms Adina Cirson (New Zealand 2007), Ms Judith Donnelly (Philippines 2007), Mr Brad Emery (USA 2005), Mr Anthony Moate (USA 2006), Mr Zed Seselja MLA (USA 2007) and Ms Wendy Summers (South Korea 2005)
- » Briefing by HE Mr Robert McCallum Jr, United States of America Ambassador to Australia
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary, (Japan 1992)
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Gary Nairn MP, Special Minister of State. Attended by the Hon John Anderson MP (USA 1985), Ms Anna Burke MP (Japan 2007), the Hon Alan Cadman MP, Council Member, Senator Stephen Conroy (USA 1991), Mr Luke Hartsuyker MP (Japan 2005) and the Hon Andrew Robb AO MP (Japan 1993)
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate
- » Courtesy call on Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson, President of the Senate and the Hon David Hawker MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives



The twenty-fourth delegation from the United States of America in Melbourne at the Parliament of Victoria.

- » Dinner with former delegates Ms Holly Byrne (USA 2007), Ms Sarah Casey (NZ 2007), Mr Simeon Duncan (USA 2006), Mr Brad Henderson (USA 2007), Ms Kathryn Hodges (NZ 2007), Mrs Megan Jeremenko (Vietnam 2007), Mr Ben Sakker Kelly (Philippines 2007), Mrs Rachel Sherman (New Zealand 2007) and Mr Chris Swan (USA 2007)
- » Briefing by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Dr Michael Morgan, Director, International Projects
- » Briefing by the office of Mr Kevin Rudd MP, Leader of the Opposition
- » Lunch hosted by Ms Kirsten Livermore MP, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Education (China 1996, USA 2005) and attended by Mr Brad Emery (USA 2005)
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Meeting with Mr Tony Nutt, Chief of Staff to the Hon John Howard MP, Prime Minister of Australia (USA 1989, UK 1995)
- » Panel discussion on the US Presidential Election, facilitated by Dr John Hart, Reader in Political Science and Head of Department, Faculty of Arts, Australian National University
- » Briefing by Mr Martin Barr, Adviser to the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Federal Minister for Education, Science and Training, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues (Vietnam 2006)
- » Briefing on the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies by Professor Mick Dodson, Chairperson, and Mr Steve Larkin, Principal
- » Tour of the Australian War Memorial

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Lunch hosted by Mr Andrew Hall, former Federal Director of The Nationals and former Council Member (USA 2005)
- » Tours of Sydney Opera House, Featherdale Wildlife Park and Sydney Olympic Park
- » Visit to the Blue Mountains
- » Briefing by Johnson & Johnson
- » Briefing by the Hon John Watkins MLA, Deputy Premier of New South Wales, and representatives of the New South Wales Premier's Office
- » Briefing and lunch hosted by Capital Policy & Trade Pty Ltd

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

Adelaide, South Australia

- » Civic reception hosted by the Rt Hon Michael Harbison, Lord Mayor of Adelaide
- » Meeting with Mr Kyam Maher, Assistant State Secretary, Australian Labor Party, South Australian Branch (Vietnam 2006)
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Jack Snelling MHA, Speaker of the House of Assembly (Japan 2007), and the Hon Bob Sneath MLC, President of the Legislative Council. Guests included Mrs Liz Penfold MHA (Japan 2000) and the Hon Russell Wortley MLC (China 1984)
- » Attend Question Time
- » Briefing by representatives of the CSIRO Land and Water including Ms Helen Berringen, Communicator, CSIRO Land and Water for a Health Country Flagship (USA 1998)
- » Dinner with former delegates Mr Brer Adams (Japan 2002), Ms Zoe Bettison (Vietnam 2000), Mr Martyn Evans (Japan 2004), Mr James Porter (USA 1982) and Ms Catherine Tucker (Vietnam 2006)
- » Meeting with Ms Zoe Bettison, Associate Director, Hawker Britton South Australia (Vietnam 2000)
- » Meeting with Dr Andrew Southcott MP, Federal Member for Boothby (Japan 1996, Vietnam 2006)



The twenty-fourth delegation from the United States of America with the Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson, President of the Senate and the Hon David Hawker MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sixteenth Delegation from China

17 to 23 February 2008

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Liu Kewei**, *Delegation Leader*
Deputy Secretary-General, All-China Youth Federation
- » **Ms Li Qing**, *Delegation Secretary-General*
Deputy Director, International Department, All-China Youth Federation
- » **Mr Gu Shuguang**
Director, Rear Service Department, Central Committee, Communist Youth League of China
- » **Ms Zhuang Xiaojie**
Official, Publicity Department, Central Committee, Communist Party of China
- » **Mr Pan Yawen**
Board Chairperson, Beijing Zhong'ao Joint Investment Development Co. Ltd and Committee Member, All-China Youth Federation
- » **Mr Tang Hao**
Program Officer, International Department, All-China Youth Federation

The delegation from the All-China Youth Federation travelled to Sydney, Canberra and Perth during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Visit to Featherdale Wildlife Park
- » Dinner hosted by the Hon Alan Cadman, Council Member
- » Briefing by Johnson & Johnson
- » Briefing on the YMCA Youth Parliament and Youth Leadership programs
- » Lunch hosted by representatives of the Australia-China Council

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Meeting with Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Council luncheon hosted by the Hon Gary Gray AO MP (USA 1989) and Mr Paul Neville MP
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives
- » Australian Labor Party briefing by Dr Michael Morgan, Director, International Projects
- » Courtesy call on Patron of the Council, Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

- » Dinner hosted by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary (Japan 1992)
- » Lunch hosted by the Hon Andrew Robb AO MP (Japan 1993). Guests included Senator Marise Payne (USSR 1990, New Zealand 2001) and the Hon Judi Moylan MP (China 1999)
- » Tour of the Australian War Memorial and visit to Mount Ainslie lookout
- » Call on the Hon Kate Ellis MP, Minister for Youth, Minister for Sport (Japan 2005)



*The sixteenth delegation from China with the Hon Kate Ellis MP,
Minister for Youth and Minister for Sport.*

Perth, Western Australia

- » Lunch hosted by the Hon Fred Riebeling MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and attended by the Hon Kate Doust MLC (New Zealand 2007), the Hon Barry House MLC (USA 1992), the Hon Simon O'Brien MLC (Japan 1999), Mr Ben Wyatt MLA (China 2006) and Mr Brendon Grylls MLA (Japan 2004)
- » Observe proceedings of the Legislative Council
- » Briefing by the Confucius Institute, University of Western Australia
- » Visit to the Museum of Western Australia to view the "Perpetual Green Scenes – the charm of Zhejiang Celadon" Exhibition
- » Dinner hosted by the Hon Nick Griffiths MLC, President of the Legislative Council
- » Briefing on the sister-state partnership between Perth and Zhejiang Province by the Department of Industry and Resources
- » Meeting with Ms Lisa Scaffidi, Lord Mayor of the City of Perth
- » Briefing, tour and lunch hosted by Alcoa of Australia
- » Dinner with former delegates the Hon Kate Doust MLC (New Zealand 2007) and Mr Michael Quinlivan (Japan 2001)
- » Visit to Fremantle Markets and Swan River cruise to Perth

Sixth Delegation from New Zealand

11 to 18 May 2008

DELEGATES

- » **Ms Louisa Wall MP** (New Zealand Labour Party), *Delegation Leader*
Labour Party List Member
- » **Mr Conor Roberts** (New Zealand Labour Party)
2008 Labour Candidate for Rodney
- » **Mr Kenny Clark** (New Zealand National Party)
Information Analyst and Senior Researcher to Mr John Key MP, Leader of the Opposition
- » **Mr Willy Trolove** (New Zealand National Party)
Communications Advisor to Mr John Key MP, Leader of the Opposition
- » **Mr Tony de Jong** (New Zealand First Party)
Administrative Officer and Researcher to the Rt Hon Winston Peters MP, Leader of
New Zealand First and Minister of Foreign Affairs
- » **Ms Hannah Scott** (Green Party of New Zealand)
Executive Assistant and Researcher to Mr Keith Locke MP, Green Party List Member
- » **Ms Nina Sudiono-Price** (Accompanying Officer)
Administrative Assistant to the Hon Margaret Wilson MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives

The delegation from New Zealand travelled to Melbourne, Canberra and Hobart during the visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Briefing on government lobbying by CPR Communications
- » Briefing and tour of the Parliament of Victoria by the Clerk of the Legislative Council
- » Lunch hosted by the Hon Robert Smith MLC, President of the Legislative Council and
Mrs Jenny Lindell MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Guests included the
Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE, Council Chairman and Mr David Davis MLC (USA 2000)
- » Visit to the Eureka Tower Observation Deck – Skydeck 88
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Briefing by Partnerships Victoria
- » Round-table discussion with new Members of the Victorian and Federal Parliament. Attended by
Ms Jaala Pulford MLC (China 2008), Mr Brian Tee MLC (USA 2008), Ms Heidi Victoria MLA
(USA 2008) and Senator-elect Helen Kroger (USA 1999, Japan 2006)
- » Visit to Hanging Rock

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Dinner hosted by HE Dr John Larkindale, New Zealand High Commissioner to Australia
- » Briefing on Canberra by the National Capital Authority
- » Meeting with Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program
- » Courtesy call on Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson, President of the Senate and Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Parliament of Australia
- » Lunch hosted by Council Members, the Hon Gary Gray AO MP (USA 1989), the Hon Kevin Andrews MP (UK 2001) and Mr Paul Neville MP
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Attend presentation of the 2008 Federal Budget in the House of Representatives
- » Tour of Parliament House



The sixth delegation from New Zealand with Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State.

- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary (Japan 1992)
- » Attend the National Press Club Post Budget Address delivered by the Hon Wayne Swan MP, Treasurer (USA 1990, UK 1995, UK 1997)
- » Tour of the Australian War Memorial and visit to Mount Ainslie lookout
- » Briefing by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Dr Michael Morgan, Director, International Projects

Hobart, Tasmania

- » Briefing by the Hon Michael Hodgman QC MHA, Shadow Attorney-General, Mr Jeremy Rockliff MHA, Deputy Leader of the Opposition (New Zealand 2003) and Mr Ross Jordan, Chief of Staff to the Leader of the Opposition (New Zealand 2006)
- » Meeting with Ms Linda Hornsey, former Secretary, Tasmanian Department of Premier and Cabinet and Project Director, Australia 2020 Summit (USA 1993)
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Michael Polley MHA, Speaker of the House of Assembly and the Hon Greg Hall MLC, representing the President of the Legislative Council
- » Meeting with Alderman Rob Valentine MACS, Lord Mayor of Hobart
- » Meeting with the Australian Antarctic Division, Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
- » Dinner hosted by Senator the Hon Eric Abetz, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senator for Tasmania (Germany 1991, Vietnam 1996)
- » Visit to Salamanca Markets and boat cruise from Brooke Street Pier to Peppermint Bay
- » Pre-dinner drinks hosted at the residence of Ms Linda Hornsey (USA 1993)
- » Dinner with former delegates Mr Ross Jordan (New Zealand 2006) and Mr Brad Stansfield (China 2007)
- » Visit to Richmond, including the historic Richmond Bridge and the Richmond gaol

Third Delegation from the Philippines

22 to 28 June 2008

DELEGATES

- » **The Hon Miguel Rene A Dominguez** (SARRO Party), *Delegation Leader*
Governor, Province of Sarangani
- » **The Hon Emmanuel L Maliksi** (Liberal Party)
Mayor, Municipality of Imus, Province of Cavite
- » **The Hon Cecilia Claire N Reyes** (Lakas Party)
Board Member, 3rd District Province of Isabela
- » **The Hon Victoria G Corominas** (Lakas Party)
Board Member, Province of South Cotabato
- » **The Hon Jose Antonio S Veloso** (Lakas Party)
Vice Mayor, Tagbilaran City, Province of Bohol
- » **The Hon Maria Carmen Z Apsay** (Lakas Party)
Board Member, Province of Compostela Valley
- » **Mr Zenen Renan B Dalisay** (Accompanying Officer)
Chief of Staff to Mr Francis N. Pangilinan, Senate Majority Leader (Liberal Party)

The delegation from the Philippine Council of Young Political Leaders travelled to Sydney, Canberra and Adelaide during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Meeting with the New South Wales Department of State and Regional Development
- » Tour of the Sydney Opera House
- » Visit to Featherdale Wildlife Park
- » Lunch hosted by the Consul-General for the Philippines, Ms Maria Lazaro

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Dinner hosted by HE Mr Ernesto H De Leon, Philippines Ambassador to Australia
- » Meeting with the Hon Stephen Smith MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Luke Hartsuyker MP, Federal Member for Cowper (Japan 2005)
- » Courtesy call on the Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson, President of the Senate and Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives
- » Lunch hosted by Council Members, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP (UK 2001) and Mr Paul Neville MP

- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate
- » Briefing on Canberra by the National Capital Authority and visit to Mount Ainslie lookout
- » Meeting with Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program
- » Dinner hosted by Mr Bernie Ripoll MP (Philippines 2006). Guests included Mr Ben Sakker Kelly (Philippines 2007) and Ms Jane Templeton (Philippines 2006)
- » Meeting with Mr Tom Switzer, Senior Adviser to the Leader of the Opposition
- » Meeting with the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Minister for the Status of Women and Federal Member for Sydney (Vietnam 2006)
- » Briefings by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and AusAID
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Kristian Galanti (USA 2008)



The third delegation from the Philippines with Mr Luke Hartsuyker MP, Federal Member for Cowper.

Adelaide, South Australia

- » Briefing on the Parliament of South Australia by the Clerk of the House of Assembly
- » Briefing on the YMCA Youth Parliament
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Jack Snelling MHA, Speaker of the House of Assembly (Japan 2007). Guests included Ms Vickie Chapman MHA (Germany 1995), the Hon John Dawkins MLC (China 2003), Ms Sandra Kanck MLC (Vietnam 1994) and the Hon Russell Wortley MLC (China 1984)
- » Briefing by the University of South Australia
- » Meeting with the Rt Hon Cr Michael Harbison, Lord Mayor of Adelaide
- » Briefing on youth issues in South Australia by the Service to Youth Council
- » Tours of the Adelaide Central Market and Haigh's Chocolate Factory
- » Visit to Petaluma Winery
- » Dinner with former delegates including Senator Cory Bernardi (Japan 2008), Senator Grant Chapman (Japan 1992), Ms Cathi Tucker (Vietnam 2003), Mrs Leesa Vlahos (New Zealand 2003), Mr Wesley Glanville (Germany 1991) and Mr James Porter (USA 1982)

Individual Study Tours for 2007-2008

In 2007-2008, the Australian Political Exchange Council sponsored two individual study tours to the United States of America and one individual study tour to the United Kingdom as follows:

United States of America

Ms Davina Langton (Australian Labor Party)

Policy Coordinator and Senior Adviser to the Hon Morris Iemma MLA, Premier of New South Wales
2 July to 3 August 2007

Mr Peter McConnell (The Nationals)

Chief of Staff to Mr Andrew Stoner MLA, Leader of The Nationals in New South Wales
3 to 28 August 2007

United Kingdom

Mr Tim Dixon (Australian Labor Party)

Senior Adviser to the Hon Kevin Rudd MP, Prime Minister of Australia
23 December 2007 to 20 January 2008

Ms Davina Langton

The focus of Ms Langton's study tour was on policy areas that she considers play a significant role in determining election outcomes in modern-day Australia, namely, transport and law enforcement, including counter-terrorism, and she was able to meet with a number of organisations involved in these areas. Ms Langton also met with a wide range of people with expertise in American politics and was able to gain an understanding of the Presidential campaign as well as political campaigning methods. A recurrent topic raised during her political discussions was the increased use of the internet for campaigning. As her report discusses, one of the reasons for the shift to using the internet related to enhancements to pay television:

For the upcoming election, the internet is emerging as the most important tool candidates have at their disposal. In the United States, it is being used for fundraising and encouraging people to vote, as well as trying to sway voters' opinions...

Using the internet for campaigning has been prompted in part by the American experience with the television system 'TiVo'. This type of pay-television allows the user to record television programs without the advertisements. Formerly during campaigns, television was the domain of candidates trying to influence votes. Now that such a large proportion of people are watching television with the ads automatically removed, candidates have turned to the internet to catch people's attention. This is particularly the case in relation to younger, technology-savvy potential voters.

This TiVo system has recently been introduced in Australia so it can be expected that the use of the internet will become increasingly important for our campaigns. To this point, the importance of the internet has been picked up for the upcoming Australian Federal campaign by Kevin Rudd and, to a lesser extent, John Howard. The Opposition Leader is currently reported to have around 17,000 people interacting with his MySpace and YouTube sites, receiving daily updates on his activities and messages.

Mr Peter McConnell

The use of electronic media during political campaigning was also a subject of interest for Mr McConnell during his study tour. He spent a large part of his visit observing *Join Rudy* 2008, the Rudolph Giuliani Presidential campaign in New York and also met with a range of political professionals including peak bodies, Republican Party organisations, political pollsters and lobbyists. In Mr McConnell's report, he discusses the political climate and structure in the United States and innovations and trends in political campaigning, including the twenty-four hour news cycle and the high reliance on YouTube. His report also discussed the increasingly sophisticated use of targeted local campaigning:

The adage that all politics is local is universal. However it seems that United States politics is in the process of redefining just how localised politics has become.

Perhaps the driving force behind this is the adoption of direct marketing techniques by political organisations. Karl Rove is well known for the pivotal role he plays in the ascendancy of George W Bush to the White House. What is less well known is that he spent most of his career in direct marketing.

The political parties are spending increasing resources to specifically identify demographic groups that can influence the outcomes of elections. The principal source of data is voter information that is on the public record. However this can be easily spliced and enhanced with other data sets – for example, commercial data that can be bought from retail companies. Ultimately the political parties are able to develop a very accurate understanding of voters and voting intentions and accurately target them.

Grass roots activism is also being driven through strong coalition programs. The Join Rudy campaign has a range of coalitions including 'First Responders for Rudy', 'Italian Americans for Rudy' and more. This enables the campaign to communicate with certain cross sections of society on issues that are important to them.

The other dimension of new grassroots campaign techniques is e-campaigning. The internet and email has facilitated cheaper direct contact. Highly tailored messages can be communicated via email almost for free.

Mr Tim Dixon

Mr Dixon's visit to the United Kingdom occurred shortly after the election of the Rudd Government in Australia. Mr Dixon's aims for his study tour were to learn about current policy projects underway in United Kingdom think tanks that may be of interest in Australia; establish links with the offices of the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer; and learn about the transition into Government, including strategic planning for the early stages of new government. On reporting back to the Council, Mr Dixon summarised the key lessons for an incoming Government that were conveyed by interviewees:

- » *It is important to make a transition from campaigning to governing, and from the focus on news management in Opposition to long-term governing strategies.*
- » *Public expectations of the Government's capacity to deliver change need to be carefully managed from early on in the Government's first term, by articulating realistic time frames in which the Government can deliver on its policy priorities and commitments.*
- » *Governments should organise their policy program around a core narrative that can be expressed succinctly and that can be understood clearly within government, the public service and the wider community.*

- » *It is important always to remain attentive and responsive to new developments and to risks to the Government's program, while at the same time retaining a focus on core priorities and not being easily distracted from those priorities.*
- » *A culture of discipline and accountability need to be established within a government from early in its first term, and some clear guidelines can help establish such a culture.*

2008-2009



Outgoing Australian Delegations for 2008-2009

In 2008-2009, the Council sponsored 27 young Australian political leaders in overseas exchange delegations to New Zealand, the Philippines, Vietnam, Japan and China as follows:

25 to 31 July 2008	Sixth Australian Delegation to New Zealand
1 to 7 August 2008	Third Australian Delegation to the Philippines
28 October to 3 November 2008	Twelfth Australian Delegation to Vietnam
28 February to 6 March 2009	Seventeenth Australian Delegation to Japan
27 June to 3 July 2009	Eighteenth Australian Delegation to China

Sixth Australian Delegation to New Zealand

25 to 31 July 2008

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Michael Johnson MP** (Liberal Party of Australia), *Delegation Leader*
Opposition Whip, Member for Ryan
- » **Mr Eacham Curry** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Campaign Officer, Liberal Party of Australia Federal Secretariat
- » **Mr Michael Lye** (Australian Labor Party)
Senior Adviser – Social Policy to the Hon Kevin Rudd MP, Prime Minister of Australia
- » **Mr Scott McFarlane** (Australian Labor Party)
Assistant Adviser, Caucus Committees Support and Training Unit
- » **Ms Rebecca Fanning** (Australian Labor Party)
Research Officer to the Hon Wayne Swan MP, Federal Treasurer
- » **Mrs Kim Baker** (Council Representative)
Director, Australian Political Exchange Council

The delegation travelled to Christchurch, Queenstown, Wellington and Auckland during the seven-day visit, which was hosted by the Speaker of the New Zealand Parliament.

VISIT PROGRAM

Christchurch

- » Visit to the Christchurch Central Police Headquarters for a briefing and guided tour
- » Meeting with Mr Kevin Campbell, Supervising Solicitor, Community Law Canterbury (Australia 2002)
- » Discussions on the New Zealand political system with Dr Therese Arseneaux, Political Lecturer, Canterbury University
- » Visit to the International Antarctic Centre

Queenstown

- » Dinner meeting with Mr Brett Wilson, Crowne Plaza General Manager, and Mr David Kennedy, Chief Executive of Destination Queenstown
- » Tourism activities, including visit to Arrowtown

Wellington

- » Visit Te Papa, the Museum of New Zealand
- » Briefing by Dr Helena Catt, Chief Executive, Electoral Commission

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

- » Briefing on the Waitangi Tribunal and Treaty of Waitangi matters
- » Briefing on the New Zealand National Party by party representatives including Ms Rhiannon White, Communications Director (Australia 2007)
- » Lunch at the Australian High Commission hosted by Mr Frank Ingruber, Deputy High Commissioner
- » Briefing by the State Services Commission
- » Briefing by the New Zealand First Party by Mr Damien Edwards
- » Briefing on The Green Party of New Zealand by Dr Russel Norman MP
- » Meeting with members of the 2008 New Zealand delegation to Australia
- » Dinner hosted by the Hon Shane Jones MP, Minister for Building and Construction, Associate Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, Associate Minister of Trade and Immigration



The sixth delegation to New Zealand in Wellington with Dr Pita Sharples MP, Co-leader of the Maori Party.

- » Meeting with the Australian Division of the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- » Meeting and dinner with the Hon Margaret Wilson MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives and visit host
- » Meeting with Ms Mary Harris, Clerk of the House of Representatives
- » Meeting with members of the Press Gallery
- » Guided tour of the Parliament Buildings
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives
- » Briefing on the Maori Party by Dr Pita Sharples MP, Co-leader
- » Visit to Weta Cave, Miramar

Auckland

- » Briefing on Drug Free Sport New Zealand
- » Lunch with the Rt Hon Mike Moore, former Prime Minister of New Zealand and Director-General of the World Trade Organisation
- » Briefing on DNA testing by the New Zealand Institute of Environmental Science and Research
- » Briefing by Maori Television
- » Meeting with the Hon Sir Roger Douglas, Candidate for Hunua, and Mr Stuart Wilson (Australia 2007)
- » Dinner hosted by the Hon Chris Carter, Minister of Education and Minister for Ethnic Affairs (Australia 2002), and Mr Peter Kaiser
- » Briefing by the Auckland Regional Council
- » Visit to Skycity and Skytower

Third Australian Delegation to the Philippines

1 to 7 August 2008

DELEGATES

- » **The Hon Jack Snelling MHA** (Australian Labor Party), *Delegation Leader*
Speaker of the House of Assembly, Member for Playford, Parliament of South Australia
- » **Mr Jack Smith** (Australian Labor Party)
Defence and Assistant Media Adviser to the Hon Joel Fitzgibbon MP, Minister for Defence
- » **Cr Tim Polley** (Australian Labor Party)
Councillor, Northern Midlands Council, Tasmania
- » **Mr Heath Michael** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Adviser to Senator David Bushby, Senator for Tasmania
- » **Mr Tony Barry** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Media Adviser to Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson, Shadow Special Minister of State
- » **Mr John Gardiner** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Policy Adviser to the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, Shadow Minister for Justice and Border Protection
- » **Mr David Wilson** (Council Representative)
Australian Political Exchange Council

The delegation, hosted by the Philippine Council of Young Political Leaders, travelled to Manila and the regions of Bohol and Cebu during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Manila

- » Briefing and dinner hosted by HE Mr Rod Smith, Australian Ambassador to the Philippines
- » Briefing on the Province of Cavite and Municipality of Imus followed by a pinning ceremony. Attendees included the Hon Emmanuel L. Maliksi, Mayor, Municipality of Imus (Australia 2008)
- » Visits to the Imus Historical Museum, the Mall of Asia and the Battle of Alapan site
- » Tours of the Aguinaldo Shrine, the Ayala Museum and the Tagaytay Highlands
- » Meeting with the Philippines-Australia Business Council
- » Briefing on politics in the Philippines by the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats
- » Courtesy calls on Senate President Pro-Tempore Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada and Senate Majority Leader, Senator Mr Francis N. Pangilinan
- » Tour of the Senate and observe Senate and Congress sessions
- » Meeting with Secretary Gilberto C. Teodoro Jr, Department of National Defence
- » Lunch hosted by Congresswoman Ma. Evita Arago (Australia 2007)

- » Meeting with Chief Justice Reynato Puno, Supreme Court of the Philippines
- » Meeting with Professor Randy David, University of the Philippines
- » Courtesy call on the Hon Prospero Nograles, Speaker of the House of Representatives
- » Farewell dinner with Commissioner Marcelino C. Libanan, Bureau of Immigration

Bohol

- » Lunch with Governor Erico B Aumentado, Province of Bohol, Congressman Edgar M. Chatto, 1st District, Bohol and President, Philippine Council of Young Political Leaders, Board Member Mr Alfonso R. Damalerio II, 1st District, Bohol and Vice Mayor Mr Jose Antonio S. Veloso, Tagbilaran City, Bohol (Australia 2008)
- » Visit to Chocolate Hills, Carmen, and welcomed by Mayor Manuel Molina, Municipality of Carmen, Bohol
- » Tarsier viewing at Loboc
- » Visit to the Children's Palace and attend Loboc Children's Choir and Loboc Youth Band concert
- » Watch Loboc Brass Band
- » Dinner hosted by Congressman Adam Relson L. Jala, 3rd District, Bohol
- » Breakfast meeting with Mayor Benedicto Alcala, Panglao Island, Bohol
- » Briefing by Bohol Tourism
- » Briefing on Bohol's Development Program

Cebu

- » Welcome dinner hosted by Vice Governor Gregorio Sanchez, Province of Cebu and Board Member Victoria G. Corominas (Australia 2008)
- » Attend Opening Ceremonies of Cebu Province's Founding Anniversary
- » Briefing on economic development in Cebu and innovative policy for the management of prisoners by the Hon Governor Gwendolyn F. Garcia, Province of Cebu



The third delegation to the Philippines in Manila with Chief Justice Reynato Puno, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines.

Twelfth Australian Delegation to Vietnam

28 October to 3 November 2008

DELEGATES

- » **Senator Mathias Cormann** (Liberal Party of Australia), *Delegation Leader*
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Health Administration, Senator for Western Australia
- » **Ms Rachel Fry** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Media Adviser to Senator David Bushby, Senator for Tasmania
- » **Ms Shannon Fentiman** (Australian Labor Party)
Research/Industrial Officer, Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union
- » **Mr Ben Broyd** (Australian Labor Party)
Electorate Officer to Senator the Hon Ursula Stephens, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector, Parliamentary Secretary Assisting the Prime Minister for Social Inclusion
- » **Mr Tony Hodges** (Australian Labor Party)
Assistant Adviser to the Hon Bob McMullan MP, Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance
- » **Mr Geoff Barnett** (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

The delegation travelled to Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi and the provinces of Quang Ninh and Bac Ninh during the visit, which was hosted by the International Youth Cooperation Development Center.

VISIT PROGRAM

Ho Chi Minh City

- » Meeting the Youth Union of Ho Chi Minh City
- » Briefing and lunch hosted by the Thanh Nien Newspaper
- » Meeting with Madam Nguyen Thi Thu Ha, Vice-President of the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City
- » Visits to the Unification Palace and the War Remnants Museum
- » Tour of Ho Chi Minh City
- » Meeting with the Women's Union of Ho Chi Minh City, chaired by Ms Nguyen Ngoc Hanh, Standing Vice-President

Hanoi

- » Meeting with HE Mr Vo Van Thuong, Alternate Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, Member of the National Assembly (Australia 2008)

- » Dinner hosted by the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union
- » Meeting with the Commission for External Relations of the National Assembly of Vietnam
- » Courtesy call on HE Madam Nguyen Thi Doan, Vice-President of Socialist Republic of Vietnam
- » Meeting and lunch with HE Mr Allaster Cox, Australian Ambassador to Vietnam
- » Briefing on immigration and citizenship by the Ministry of Public Security
- » Briefing on law reform by the Ministry of Justice
- » Attend Water Puppet show
- » Briefing on workplace relations and social security by the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs
- » Briefing on trade and economic relations by the Ministry of Trade and Industry

Ha Long Bay, Quang Ninh Province

- » Tour of Ha Long Bay
- » Meeting and dinner with the Quang Ninh Provincial Youth Union

Bac Ninh Province

- » Meeting with Ms Nguyen Huong Giang, Secretary, Bac Ninh Provincial Youth Union (Australia 2008)



The twelfth delegation to Vietnam with Ms Nguyen Ngoc Hanh, Standing Vice-President of the Women's Union of Ho Chi Minh City.

Seventeenth Australian Delegation to Japan

28 February to 6 March 2009

DELEGATES

- » **Senator Louise Pratt** (Australian Labor Party), *Delegation Leader*
Senator for Western Australia
- » **Ms Kerry Rea MP** (Australian Labor Party)
Federal Member for Bonner
- » **Senator Mitch Fifield** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities, Carers and the Voluntary Sector,
Senator for Victoria
- » **Senator Simon Birmingham** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Senator for South Australia
- » **Mr Ben Morton** (Liberal Party of Australia)
State Director, Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australian Division)
- » **Mrs Kim Baker** (Council Representative)
Director, Australian Political Exchange Council

The delegation to Japan, hosted by the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE), travelled to Tokyo, Kobe and Kyoto during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Tokyo

- » Tour of Tokyo, including the Fukagawa Edo Historical Museum, the Mirikan National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation and the Sensoji Temple
- » Cocktail reception and dinner and briefing hosted by Mr Tadashi Yamamoto, President, JCIE
- » Briefing on Japan's role in Asia-Pacific security by the Research Institute for Peace and Security
- » Luncheon briefing on the evolution of Japan-Australia relationship with Mr Hiroshi Takaku, President, Takaku Associates Inc.
- » Briefing by the Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- » Meeting with Diet Members of New Komeito Party
- » Briefing on the Japanese economy and its challenges by Nippon Keidanren
- » Briefing and dinner hosted by HE Mr Murray McLean OAM, Australian Ambassador to Japan
- » Briefing on Japan's diplomatic agenda by Mr Koji Wananabe, Senior Fellow, JCIE
- » Briefing on whaling matters by the Economic Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- » Courtesy call on Mr Yohei Kono, Speaker of the House of Representatives

- » Luncheon meeting with Diet Members of the Liberal Democratic Party
- » Meeting with Diet Members of the Democratic Party of Japan
- » Meeting with Mr Akio Mimura, Representative Director and Chairman, Nippon Steel Corporation and Chairman, The Australia-Japan Business Co-operation Committee
- » Briefing on human rights matters by Ms Kanae Doi, Tokyo Director, Human Rights Watch, and Ms Yuki Akimoto, Director, Burma Information Network Japan
- » Briefing on environment and energy matters by Dr Taizo Yakushiji, Keio University
- » Dinner meeting hosted by Mr Nobuhide Minorikawa, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs

Kobe and Kyoto

- » Courtesy call on Mr Tomio Saito, Vice-Governor of Hyogo Prefecture
- » Visit to the Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution
- » Briefing on the Hyogo International Association
- » Farewell dinner hosted by JCIE
- » Tour of Kyoto, including visits to the Sanjusangen-do Temple and the Golden Pavilion



The seventeenth delegation to Japan in Tokyo with Members of the New Komeito Party.

Eighteenth Australian Delegation to China

27 June to 3 July 2009

DELEGATES

- » **Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith** (Australian Labor Party), *Delegation Leader*
Chief of Staff to Senator the Hon Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
- » **Mr Michael Brown** (Australian Labor Party)
State Secretary, Australian Labor Party (South Australian Division)
- » **Mr Matthew Thistlethwaite** (Australian Labor Party)
General Secretary, Australian Labor Party (New South Wales Division)
- » **Ms Kate Raggatt** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Chief of Staff to Senator the Hon Nick Minchin, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate
- » **Mr Richard Shields** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Deputy State Director, Liberal Party of Australia (New South Wales Division)
- » **Ms Tania Wright** (The Nationals)
Vice-President, Liberal National Party Women (Queensland)
- » **Mr Geoff Barnett** (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

The delegation to China, hosted by the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF), travelled to Beijing, Xining and Shenzhen during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Beijing

- » Meeting with the Bureau of Foreign Affairs of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference
- » Meeting with Mr Lu Yongzheng, Vice President, ACYF
- » Meeting with the Sinohydro Corporation
- » Meeting with the Party School of the Beijing Municipal Committee of the Communist Party of China
- » Visits to the Great Wall, Forbidden City and Jingshan Park
- » Attend acrobatics performance at Chaoyang Theatre
- » Visit to the Olympic Stadiums, including the Birds Nest and the Water Cube

Xining, Qinghai Province

- » Meeting with the Qinghai Provincial People's Government
- » Visit to Riyue Mountain
- » Visits to Doatanhe Town and Hayihai Village

- » Visit to Qinghai Lake
- » Dinner meeting with the Qinghai Provincial Youth Federation
- » Visit to the Taer Monastery for meeting with the Living Buddha Saichi
- » Visit to Dongchuan Industrial Park

Shenzhen, Guangdong Province

- » Visit to the Administrative Service Hall, Civil Service Centre
- » Meeting with the Shenzhen Municipal Bureau of Development and Reform
- » Meeting with the Huawei Company
- » Visit the Taoyuanju Community
- » Dinner meeting hosted by Ms Liu Yan, President of the Shenzhen Youth Federation
- » Visit to the Lotus Mountain, Planning Exhibition and Youth Palace



The eighteenth delegation to China at the Taer Monastery in Xining, Qinghai Province.

Incoming Delegations to Australia for 2008-2009

In 2008-2009, the Council hosted 27 participants on delegations from its exchange partners as follows:

31 August to 6 September 2008	Twelfth Delegation from Vietnam
14 to 25 September 2008	Twenty-fifth Delegation from the United States of America
30 November to 5 December 2008	Seventeenth Delegation from China
15 to 21 March 2009	Fourth Delegation from the Philippines
23 May to 3 June 2009	Twenty-sixth Delegation from the United States of America

Twelfth Delegation from Vietnam

31 August to 6 September 2008

DELEGATES

- » **HE Mr Vo Van Thuong**, *Delegation Leader*
Alternate Member, Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam; First Secretary, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union; Chairman, National Committee on Youth of Vietnam; President, Vietnam Youth Federation; and Member, National Assembly of Vietnam
- » **Mr Tat Thanh Cang**
Member, National Assembly of Vietnam and Secretary, Ho Chi Minh City Youth Union
- » **Mr Mai Huu Tin**
Member, National Assembly of Vietnam; Chief Executive Officer and Director-General, Investment U & I Joint Stock Company; and Chief Executive Officer, Viet Quoc Securities Joint Stock Company
- » **Ms Pham Thi Phuong Chi**
Deputy Director-General, International Youth Cooperation Development Center
- » **Ms Nguyen Huong Giang**
Secretary, Bac Ninh Provincial Youth Union
- » **Mr Nguyen Thanh Binh**
Secretary, Youth Union, Vietnam Airlines Corporation

The delegation, sponsored by the International Youth Cooperation Development Center, travelled to Sydney, Canberra and Newcastle during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Guided tour of Sydney
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Briefing on the Parliament of New South Wales and guided tour
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Henry Tsang OAM MLC, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier and Assisting the Treasurer on Trade and Investment

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Meeting with Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program
- » Attend Vietnam's National Day celebrations, hosted by HE Mr Nguyen Thanh Tan, Vietnamese Ambassador to Australia

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

- » Visit to the National Zoo and Aquarium
- » Courtesy call on Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate and Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives
- » Dinner hosted by the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Housing (Vietnam 2006) and Dr Andrew Southcott MP, Shadow Minister for Employment Participation and Apprenticeships (Vietnam 2006). Attended by Mr Stuart Eaton (Vietnam 2002) and Ms Denise Spinks (Vietnam 2002)
- » Meeting with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Kristian Galanti (USA 2008)
- » Visit to Mount Ainslie lookout
- » Luncheon hosted by Council Members Senator Michael Forshaw, Mr Paul Neville MP and the Hon Kevin Andrews MP (UK 2001)
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate
- » Meeting with the Mayor of Queanbeyan City Council, Lord Mayor Frank Pangallo

Newcastle, New South Wales

- » Meeting with Newcastle Youth Council
- » Dinner hosted by Ms Jodi McKay MLA, New South Wales State Member for Newcastle
- » Visit to Centennial Coal for a briefing, lunch and site tour arranged by Ms Katie Brassil, Group Manager, External Affairs, Centennial Coal (China 1998)



The twelfth delegation from Vietnam at Centennial Coal, near Newcastle, New South Wales.

Twenty-fifth Delegation from the United States of America

14 to 25 September 2008

DELEGATES

- » **Ms Leslie K Hafner** (Republican Party)
Director of Government Relations, Law Offices of Bass, Berry and Sims, PLC (TN)
- » **Ms Stephanie Kent** (Republican Party)
Government Affairs Specialist, Target (MN)
- » **The Hon Lee Yancey** (Republican Party)
Member, Mississippi State Senate
- » **The Hon Mark V Falzone** (Democratic Party)
Member, Massachusetts State House of Representatives
- » **The Hon Tony J Payton Jr.** (Democratic Party)
Member, Pennsylvania State House of Representatives
- » **Ms Amy E Ruble** (Democratic Party)
Staff Coordinator, Washington State Democratic Caucus
- » **Ms Linda Rotunno** (Accompanying Officer)
Chief Executive Officer, American Council of Young Political Leaders

The delegation from the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) travelled to Sydney, Canberra, Brisbane and Toowoomba during the twelve-day visit. In Canberra, a reception to mark the twenty-fifth exchange visit to Australia under the political exchange program between the Australian Political Exchange Council and ACYPL was hosted by the Chairman, the Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE.

VISIT PROGRAM

Sydney

- » Tour of the Sydney Opera House
- » Dinner with former delegates Mr Damian O'Connor (USA 2000) and Mr Brad Emery (USA 2005)
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Meeting with the Lowy Institute for International Policy
- » Luncheon hosted by Mr Adam Kilgour, Executive Chairman of CPR Communications and Managing Director of the Specialised Communications Division of Photon Group

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Dinner hosted at the residence of Mr Mark Baker (USA 2002) and Mrs Jenny Baker. Guests included Mr Chris Walton (USA 2002), Dr Pradeep Philip (USA 2002) and Mr Chris Fry (Japan 1999)
- » Meeting with HE Mr Robert McCallum Jr, United States of America Ambassador to Australia
- » Briefing on the Australian Parliament by Ms Robyn McClelland, Clerk Assistant (Table)
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards (Japan 1992) and Mr Kristian Galanti (USA 2008)
- » Reception hosted by the Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE, Chairman of the Australian Political Exchange Council, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the exchange with ACYPL
- » Briefing by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
- » Visit to the National Museum of Australia
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007). Joined by the Hon Warren Truss MP, Leader of The Nationals and Council Principal and Mr Darren Chester MP, Federal Member for Gippsland (USA 2004)
- » Luncheon hosted by Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program.
- » Round-table discussion with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- » Tour of Parliament House
- » Dinner with former delegates Ms Ashley Hogan (USA 2008), Mr Kristian Galanti (USA 2008), Mr Mark Nelson (USA 2008), Mr Rhys Turner (USA 2008), Ms Margot Marshall (China 1996) and Mr George Lemon (Philippines 2006)
- » Briefing on the Australian Defence Force by the Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Dr Michael Morgan, Director, International Programs, Australian Labor Party Secretariat
- » Meeting with Mr Gary Quinlan, Senior Adviser for Foreign Affairs, National Security, Defence and Trade to the Hon Kevin Rudd MP, Prime Minister of Australia
- » Attend Australian Capital Territory Election Leaders' Debate Luncheon, National Press Club of Australia
- » Visit to Floriade at Commonwealth Park
- » Tour of the Australian War Memorial
- » Courtesy call on Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate and Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives
- » Discussion panel hosted by Dr John Hart, Lecturer of Political Science and International Relations, Australian National University



The delegation from the United States of America in Canberra at the reception marking the twenty-fifth exchange visit by the American Council of Young Political Leaders, Chairman of the Council, the Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE and former Council Member, the Hon Gary Gray AO MP.

Brisbane, Queensland

- » Meeting with Mr Tim Nicholls MLA, Member for Clayfield, and visit to St Rita's Catholic Girl's College
- » Dinner at the 'Australian Outback Spectacular'
- » Visit to Australia Zoo
- » Dinner with former delegates hosted by the Hon Peter Dutton MP (Japan 2008) and Mrs Kirilly Dutton. Other guests included Mr Michael Johnson MP (New Zealand 2008), Mr Milton Dick (South Korea 2005), Mr Stirling Hinchliffe MLA (Japan 2008) and Ms Kate Jones MLA (USA 2006)

Toowoomba, Queensland

- » Barbeque lunch at the home of the Hon Ian Macfarlane MP, Shadow Minister for Trade (China 1999) and Mrs Karen Macfarlane. Also attended by Mr Stuart Copeland MLA (USA 1997, ACYPL Summit 2006) and Mrs Rae Copeland (Japan 1992)
- » Tour of Toowoomba City and the Carnival of Flowers
- » Attend Joe Camilleri and the Black Sorrows concert
- » Meeting with electorate office staff of Mr Stuart Copeland MLA
- » Briefing by the Toowoomba Regional Council

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

- » Meeting and lunch hosted by Cr Peter Taylor, Mayor, and Mr Philip Spencer, Chief Executive Officer, Toowoomba Regional Council
- » Briefing on Wagners Composite Fibre Technology by Mr Neill Wagner, Director
- » Dinner at the home of Mr Stuart Copeland MLA and Mrs Rae Copeland

Brisbane, Queensland

- » Meeting with the Hon Andrew Fraser MLA, Treasurer of Queensland, and Mr Stirling Hinchliffe MLA, Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier and the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (Japan 2008)
- » Briefing by Cr Graham Quirk, Deputy Mayor of Brisbane, Chairman of the Brisbane Council's Infrastructure Department (USA 1989)
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Mike Reynolds AM MLA, Speaker of the Parliament of Queensland, and attended by Mr Stuart Copeland MLA, Mr Simon Finn MLA (USA 2004), Mr Stirling Hinchliffe MLA, Ms Rachel Nolan MLA (Vietnam 2005) and Dr John-Paul Langbroek MLA (Japan 2002)

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Dinner hosted by Mr John Brogden, Chief Executive Officer, Manchester Unity Australia Ltd (USA 1994)
- » Briefing on the Sydney Desalination Project at Kurnell
- » Briefing on the Australian economy by the National Australia Bank
- » Briefing on the University of Sydney's United States Studies Centre



The twenty-fifth delegation from the United States of America in Toowoomba at the home of the Hon Ian Macfarlane MP, Federal Member for Groom and Shadow Minister for Trade.

Seventeenth Delegation from China

30 November to 5 December 2008

DELEGATES

- » **Ms Wang Lei**, *Delegation Leader*
President, Shandong Provincial Youth Federation
- » **Mr Du Dong**, *Delegation Secretary-General*
Deputy Director, International Department, All-China Youth Federation
- » **Mr Wu Jiasong**
Deputy Director, Youth Committee and Work Committee, Central Government Departments
- » **Ms Xu Zhen**
Deputy Division Director, Supervision Bureau, Ministry of Public Security
- » **Mr Zhang Hanlong**
Board Chairman, Beijing Chaoxing Medicine Co. Ltd.
- » **Mr Xu Lin** (Accompanying Officer)
Program Officer, International Department, All-China Youth Federation

The seventeenth delegation from the All-China Youth Federation travelled to Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Echuca and Shepparton during the six-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Visits to Sydney Wildlife World and the Chinese Garden of Friendship, Darling Harbour
- » Luncheon hosted by Madam Zhao Xuefang, Deputy Consul-General, Consulate-General of the People's Republic of China of New South Wales

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary, (Japan 1992)
- » Lunch meeting with delegates to China in 2008, Mr Jason Wood MP, Mr Nick Champion MP and Ms Kate Barwick
- » Visit to Mawson Primary School to observe its Chinese Immersion Program
- » Meeting with Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program
- » Dinner hosted by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China
- » Courtesy call on Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate and Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Dr Michael Morgan, Director, International Projects
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Lunch hosted by Council Members Senator Michael Forshaw, Mr Paul Neville MP and the Hon Kevin Andrews MP (UK 2001)
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate
- » Tour of Parliament House
- » Courtesy call on Senator Marise Payne, Senator for New South Wales (USSR 1990, New Zealand 2001), representing the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, Leader of the Opposition



The seventeenth delegation from China in Shepparton, Victoria, with representatives from local youth organisations.

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Briefing on the Parliament of Victoria by Mr Wayne Tunnecliffe, Clerk of the Legislative Council
- » Meeting with Mrs Jeanette Powell MLA, Shadow Minister for Local Government and Aboriginal Affairs
- » Meeting with Ms Wendy Lovell MLC, Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council (PNG 2004)
- » Meeting with the Hon Ken Smith MLA, Member for Bass and Mr George Seitz MLA, Member for Keilor, Joint-Chairs of the Parliament of Victoria's People's Republic of China Parliamentary Friendship Group
- » Attend Question Time in the Legislative Council

- » Luncheon hosted by Mrs Jenny Lindell MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the Hon Robert Smith MLC, President of the Legislative Council. Guests included Mr Carlo Carli MLA (Japan 1999), Mr Nick Kotsiras MLA (Philippines 2007), Ms Wendy Lovell MLC, the Hon James Merlino MLA (Japan 2004, South Korea 2005) and Ms Heidi Victoria MLA (USA 2008)
- » Attend Question Time in the Legislative Assembly
- » Briefing by the Victorian Farmers Federation on the issues faced by young farmers

Echuca, Victoria

- » Tour of the Port of Echuca and afternoon tea on a paddle steamer
- » Briefing on local government by the Campaspe Shire Council

Shepparton, Victoria

- » Meeting with representatives of the Goulburn Valley Chinese Fellowship Association
- » Briefing on the drought in Northern Victoria by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority
- » Lunch with representatives of the Shepparton youth organisations

Fourth Delegation from the Philippines

15 to 21 March 2009

DELEGATES

- » **The Hon Dakila Carlo E. Cua** (Lakas Party), *Delegation Leader*
Governor, Province of Quirino
- » **The Hon Von Mark R. Mendoza** (KAMPI Party)
Board Member, Province of Pangasinan
- » **The Hon Jonathan C. Yambao** (Lakas Party)
Board Member, Province of Zamboanga Sibugay
- » **The Hon Jinky T. Avance** (Nationalist People's Coalition)
Board Member, Province of South Cotabato
- » **The Hon Antonino M. Jumawid** (Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino Party)
Councillor, Municipality of Bauan, Province of Bohol
- » **The Hon Placido Cesar O. Mapa** (Nationalist People's Coalition)
Councillor, Tanjay City, Province of Oriental Negros
- » **Miss Katherine A. Purugganan** (Accompanying Officer)
Program Officer, Philippine Council of Young Political Leaders

The fourth delegation from the Philippine Council of Young Political Leaders travelled to Melbourne, Canberra, Goulburn and Sydney during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Visit to the Eureka Tower
- » Dinner with former delegates Mr Nicholas Kotsiras MLA (Philippines 2007), Mr Tim Singh (Philippines 2007), Ms Judith Donnelly (Philippines 2007), Ms Holly Byrne (USA 2007) and Mr Martin Foley MLA (Vietnam 2004)
- » Attend the Halogen Foundation Australia National Young Leaders' Day Conference
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Lunch hosted by the Victorian Consul-General of the Philippines, Mr Raul V Hernandez
- » Briefing on the Parliament of Victoria

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Briefing on climate change and its impact on the Australian environment and native animals by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
- » Visit to Mount Ainslie lookout

- » Courtesy call on Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate and Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives
- » Council luncheon hosted by Senator Michael Forshaw, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP (UK 2001) and Mr Paul Neville MP
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives and the Senate
- » Briefing on the aims and achievements of Youth InterACT, followed by a visit to 'Youth in the City', a Canberra youth centre
- » Dinner hosted by HE Mr Ernesto H De Leon, Philippines Ambassador to Australia
- » Meeting with Ms Jennie George MP, Chair, Committee for Climate Change, Water, Environment and the Arts
- » Meeting with Senator the Hon John Faulkner, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Mr Karl Bitar, National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party and Council Member (Vietnam 1998, USA 2005)
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Lunch with former delegates Mr Bernie Ripoll MP (Philippines 2006) and Ms Jane Templeton (Philippines 2006)
- » Briefing by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary (Japan 1992)



The fourth delegation from the Philippines with Council Members Senator Michael Forshaw and the Hon Kevin Andrews MP.

Goulburn, New South Wales

- » Meeting with Ms Pru Goward MLA, Shadow Minister for Community Services and Shadow Minister for Women, Parliament of New South Wales
- » Briefing on local government youth and community services, followed by lunch hosted by the Goulburn Mulwaree Council
- » Briefing and tour of the New South Wales Police Training College

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Briefing on skilled migration by the New South Wales Department of State and Regional Development
- » Briefing on the University of New South Wales Climate Change Research Centre
- » Luncheon hosted by Mr J Anthony Reyes, Acting Consul-General, Philippine Consulate General in Sydney
- » Briefing by the New South Wales Department of Juvenile Justice
- » Dinner with representatives of the New South Wales Youth Advisory Council, New South Wales Commission for Children and Young People

Twenty-sixth Delegation from the United States of America

23 May to 3 June 2009

DELEGATES

- » **The Hon Hardie Davis** (Democratic Party)
Member, Georgia State House of Representatives
- » **Ms Madison Nguyen** (Democratic Party)
Member, San Jose City Council, California
- » **Ms Amy Wanamaker** (Democratic Party)
Member, Stratford Town Council, Connecticut
- » **Ms Carrie Hartgen** (Republican Party)
Government Affairs Consultant, Washington, DC
- » **Mr Robert Kreig** (Republican Party)
Prosecuting Attorney, Gibson County, Indiana
- » **Mr Nathan Mick** (Republican Party)
Economic Development Director, Garrard County, Kentucky
- » **Ms Tami Jackson** (Accompanying Officer)
Senior Manager, US Government Relations, The Coca-Cola Company, Washington, DC

The twenty-sixth delegation from the United States of America, sponsored by the American Council of Young Political Leaders, travelled to Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Lorne during the visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Tours of the Sydney Opera House and Featherdale Wildlife Park
- » Dinner with former delegates Mr Simon Berger (USA 2005), Mr Ben Broyd (Vietnam 2008), Ms Rowena Cowan (USA 2000), Mr Brad Emery (USA 2005), Ms Catherine Fitzpatrick (USA 2004), Mr Sean Kennedy (USA 2007) and Dr Peter Poggoli (Japan 1997)
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Economic briefing by the Reserve Bank of Australia
- » Luncheon, meeting and tour of Juniperina Juvenile Justice Centre, hosted by the Hon Graham West MLA, Minister for Juvenile Justice and Minister for Youth and Community Services, Parliament of New South Wales (USA 2004) and attended by Mr Peter Muir, Director-General of the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Hon Jenny Gardiner MLC (USA 1984) and Mr Greg Smith MLA

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Tour of Old Parliament House and the Museum of Australian Democracy
- » Discussion on the Victorian bushfires with the Hon Fran Bailey MP, Federal Member for McEwen
- » Lunch hosted by Council Members Senator Michael Forshaw, Mr Paul Neville MP, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP (UK 2001) and Senator Sarah Hanson-Young
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives
- » Panel discussion and reception hosted by the Embassy of the United States of America
- » Meeting with the Hon Peter Costello MP, Member for Higgins (USA 1986) and the Hon Tony Abbott MP, Shadow Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Mr Karl Bitar, National Secretary of the Australian Labor Party and Council Member (Vietnam 1998, USA 2005)
- » Courtesy call on the Patrons of the Council, Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate
- » Meeting with the Hon Wayne Swan MP, Treasurer (USA 1990, UK 1995, UK 1997)
- » Briefing on the 2009-2010 Australian Budget by Mr Andrew Thomas, Economic Adviser to the Hon Wayne Swan MP, Treasurer



The twenty-sixth delegation from the United States of America with the Hon Wayne Swan MP, Treasurer.

- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Lunch with former delegates including Mr Darren Chester MP (USA 2004), the Hon Peter Dutton MP (Japan 2008), Senator Mitch Fifield (Japan 2009), Ms Kirsten Livermore MP (China 1996, USA 2005), Ms Melissa Parke MP (Japan 2008) and Senator Louise Pratt (Japan 2009)
- » Round-table discussion with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- » Briefing on the Australian Greens by Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Senator for South Australia and Council Member
- » Meeting with the Hon Gary Gray AO MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Development and Northern Australia and former Council Member (USA 1989)
- » Dinner with former delegates including Mr Mark Baker (USA 2002), Ms Adina Cirson (New Zealand 2007), Ms Angie Drake (China 2008), Mr Simeon Duncan (USA 2006), Mr Kristian Galanti (USA 2008), Mr Brad Henderson (USA 2007), Mr Tony Hodges (Vietnam 2008), Ms Ashley Hogan (USA 2008), Ms Meredith Horne (Germany 2003), Mr Ross Jordan (New Zealand 2006), Mr Mark Nelson (USA 2008), Mr Zed Seselja MLA (USA 2007), Mr Jamie Snashall (Germany 2003), Mr Mark Ward (Germany 2003) and Ms Mary Wood (USA 2006)
- » Briefing on Australia's health care system by Medicare Australia
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Brian Loughnane, Federal Director of the Liberal Party of Australia and Council Member (USA 1998) and Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary (Japan 1992)
- » Guided tour of the Australian War Memorial
- » Briefing on housing affordability and supply by the Housing Industry Association



The twenty-sixth delegation from the United States of America with Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Senator for South Australia and Council Member.

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Briefing on the role of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority by the Chair of the Authority, Ms Christine Nixon
- » Briefing on the Victorian bushfire wildlife rescue and rehabilitation by Ms Sandy Fernee, Executive Officer, Wildlife Victoria
- » Parliamentary briefing and visit to Question Time in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Victoria
- » Attend Australian Football League match between the Carlton Blues and West Coast Eagles
- » Tour of Fort Queenscliff
- » Lunch at Bellarine Estate Winery, Portarlington
- » Dinner with former delegates Mr Ron Wilson (USA 2004), Mr Martin Barr (Vietnam 2006), Ms Holly Byrne (USA 2007), Ms Judith Donnelly (Philippines 2007), Ms Melissa Horne (Germany 1999), Mrs Megan Jeremenko (Vietnam 2007), Mr Conor O'Brien (China 2008) and Mr Tim Singh (Philippines 2006)
- » Meeting with the Rt Hon Robert Doyle, Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Japan 1996)
- » Briefing on lobbying in Australia by the Hon Robert Ray, Special Counsel, and Mr Andres Puig, General Manager (Victoria), CPR Communications
- » Luncheon hosted by the Mrs Jenny Lindell MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the Hon Robert Smith MLC, President of the Legislative Council. Guests included the Hon Dame Margaret Guilfoyle AC DBE, Council Chairman, Mr John Lenders MLC (New Zealand 2001), Ms Jaala Pulford MLC (China 2008), Mr Michael O'Brien MLA (USA 2002), the Hon Tony Robinson MLA (Japan 2006), Mr Brian Tee MLC (USA 2008), the Hon Marsha Thomson MLA (USA 1997) and Ms Heidi Victoria MLA (USA 2008)

Lorne, Victoria

- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon David Hawker MP, Federal Member for Wannon (USA 1984) and Mrs Penny Hawker. Also attended by the Hon Dr Denis Napthine MLA (Japan 1994) and Mrs Peggy Napthine
- » Local government briefing and lunch hosted by Cr Brian Crook, Mayor of Colac Otway Shire

Individual Study Tours for 2008-2009

In 2008-2009, the Australian Political Exchange Council sponsored two individual study tours to the United States of America and one individual study tour to the United Kingdom as follows:

United States of America

Ms Annie O'Rourke (Australian Labor Party)

E-Communications Adviser to the Hon Kevin Rudd MP, Prime Minister of Australia

26 March to 18 April 2009

Ms Tegan Alchin (Australian Labor Party)

Digital Campaign Coordinator, Australian Labor Party (National Secretariat)

9 to 30 June 2009

United Kingdom

Mr Russell Biddle (The Nationals)

Chairman, Redlands Branch, Queensland Nationals; Member, Central Council, Queensland Nationals

6 April to 5 May 2009

Ms Annie O'Rourke

Ms O'Rourke spent her study tour in Washington, DC and New York with members of the new media campaign team used by Barack Obama during his Presidential campaign, nicknamed 'Triple O' (Obama's Online Operation). She was able to learn about the achievements of the Triple O team, which created a vast network of support for Obama through media such as email, text messaging and the internet. Ms O'Rourke's report compares the use of new media across other Presidential candidate campaigns and the positive effect that direct engagement with the community had on the Obama campaign. One of the tools used by Triple O to harness support was through the creation of 'My Barack Obama':

On MyBarackObama.com, or MyBO, Obama's own social network, three million profiles were created by individuals. MyBO was a virtual organising center that combined blogs, outreach groups, virtual volunteering, fundraising and a series of resources designed to give each Obama activist the tools, scripts or the network needed to recruit other supporters. About 400,000 blog posts were written and more than 35,000 volunteer groups were created - at least 1,000 of them on February 10, 2007, the day Obama announced his candidacy. Some three million calls were made in the final four days of the campaign using MyBO's virtual phone-banking platform.

On their own MyBO fundraising pages, 70,000 people raised \$30 million. The campaign even set up a grassroots finance committee that was inspired by the national finance committee's high-dollar bundlers. In the grassroots committee though, supporters were trained to collect small-dollar donations from their friends, relatives and co-workers. Obama had five million supporters in other social networks. He maintained a profile in more than 15 online communities, including BlackPlanet, a MySpace for African Americans, Eons, a Facebook for baby boomers, Faithbase (church-goers), AsianAve.com (Asian-Americans) and MiGente.com (Latinos).

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A group called Students for Barack Obama was created on Facebook in July 2007. It was so effective at energizing college-age voters that it was made an official part of the campaign the following spring.

Ms Tegan Alchin

During Ms Alchin's study tour, she attended the Art of Political Campaigning Conference, the Internet Advocacy Roundtable Forum and the Personal Democracy Forum Conference. Her report discusses the many topics covered at these forums, including the rapid adoption of technologies by political campaigners and governments:

Social Networks You Tube, Facebook and Twitter were all integral tools of the 2008 Presidential campaign tool box. Their impact is being furiously debated by political campaigns and governments across the world.

The speed with which these tools have made centre stage appearance in political campaigns has been remarkable to say the least. Mainstream social networking tools did not exist in the previous electoral cycle... What will exist in the next political cycle in the United States of America or even in Australia may not have even been conceived yet. Will technology have moved rapidly further forward before we have fully realised its potential?

A fundamental shift towards empowered democracy is occurring. Governments, political campaigns and citizens are more than ever before, able to listen and communicate ideas not only with each other, but in a very public multidirectional way. Ideas and policies will percolate up, down and sideways many times. Opinion and difference become more common with the aim to a more robust democracy and society.

They are noble goals, but not without pitfalls. The new tool box does not replace the old it merely complements it, so there are added costs and new staff to maintain a smooth and working dialogue through these new tools. Some theorise that the new tools lead to decision paralysis, with endless opinions and information. Whilst many argue the new tool box breaks down barriers allowing the marginalised more opportunity to participate, do we run the risk of reinforcing social division, and marginalising yet again another generation without access to discussion? These are some issues that political campaigns and governments must grapple with.

Mr Russell Biddle

Mr Russell Biddle's study tour to the United Kingdom incorporated a wide range of meetings including with politicians, think tanks and government organisations. Topics for discussion included the rural sector and the environment, defence, the British parliamentary system and political campaigning. The study tour also provided Mr Biddle with an opportunity to observe politics at the local level when he attended the Harbury Council Parish meeting:

During the study tour, I spent some time in a little village called Harbury in the county of Warwickshire. There are approximately 2,500 residents and the village prides itself on still managing to retain its 'spirit' of community... The meeting was officially run by the mayor and councillors and was held in the village hall. The meeting was open to the general public...

The meeting was run on a formal agenda and issues which they covered in the meeting included:

- » *reports from other bodies including the Harbury School, public safety issues ...*
- » *issues regarding Deppers Bridge which is a separate village but within the Harbury Parish Council;*
- » *planning issues;*
- » *property issues;*
- » *environmental issues including street lighting, village improvements and traffic management; and*
- » *finance and other business.*

I found the meeting to be a mixture between our much more formal local council meetings and a meeting you would otherwise expect within a local area to be run, say a Chamber of Commerce or Local Progress of Development Association. Clearly the parish council has legislative power and responsibility but it was extremely interesting to see this in operation at the most local level where such issues would probably be addressed within our local council system by departmental or council employees rather than these issues being dealt with formally by the elected representatives at the local meeting.

2009-2010



Outgoing Australian Delegations for 2009-2010

In 2009-2010, the Council sponsored 37 young Australian political leaders in overseas exchange delegations to New Zealand, the Philippines, Vietnam, Japan, the United States of America and China as follows:

19 to 25 September 2009	Seventh Australian Delegation to New Zealand
3 to 10 October 2009	Fourth Australian Delegation to the Philippines
3 to 9 December 2009	Thirteenth Australian Delegation to Vietnam
27 February to 5 March 2010	Eighteenth Australian Delegation to Japan
9 to 20 April 2010	Twenty-sixth Australian Delegation to the United States of America
15 to 21 May 2010	Nineteenth Australian Delegation to China

Seventh Australian Delegation to New Zealand

19 to 25 September 2009

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Kyam Maher** (Australian Labor Party), *Delegation Leader*
Assistant Secretary, Australian Labor Party (South Australian Branch)
- » **Ms Charlene Farmer** (Australian Labor Party)
Assistant Secretary, Australian Labor Party (Western Australian Branch)
- » **Mr Daniel Cheverton** (Australian Labor Party)
Chief of Staff to the Hon Rachel Nolan MLA, Queensland Minister for Transport
- » **Mr Michael Ferguson** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Liberal Party candidate in the 2010 Tasmanian Election, former Federal Member for Bass (2004-2007)
- » **Mr Nick Westenberg** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Adviser to the Hon Stephen Wade MLC, South Australian Shadow Minister for Housing, Families and Communities, Disability Services, Social Inclusion and Assisting the Shadow Attorney-General
- » **Mr Scott Hickie** (Australian Greens)
Adviser to the Hon Ian Cohen MLC, Member of the New South Wales Legislative Council
- » **Mr Geoff Barnett** (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

The seventh Australian delegation to New Zealand travelled to Matauri Bay, Waitangi, Auckland, Christchurch and Wellington during the visit, which was hosted by the Speaker of the New Zealand Parliament.

VISIT PROGRAM

Matauri Bay

- » Tour of the Kauri Cliffs property and facilities and briefing by Mr Tatsio Franco, Assistant General Manager

Waitangi

- » Visit to Te Tii Marae for traditional Maori welcome and discussions on the Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Treaty of Waitangi) and cultural heritage. Accompanied by the Hon Shane Jones MP, New Zealand Labour Party List Member
- » Visit the Waitangi Treaty Grounds
- » Dinner with New Zealand Labour Party List Members, the Hon Shane Jones MP and Mr Kelvin Davis MP (Australia 2009)

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Auckland

- » Briefing and tour of the Bank of New Zealand's Quay Park 'green' building
- » Briefing and discussion on the role of the Auckland Regional Council with Mr Peter Winder, Chief Executive
- » Briefing on Auckland city and the proposed 'super city' by Ms Karen Lyons, Group Manager Strategy, Auckland City Council
- » Presentation and tour of Maori Television by Mr Jim Mather, Chief Executive Officer
- » Tour of the West Coast, including Muriwai Beach and the gannet colony, and visit to Soljans Winery
- » Tour of the Devonport Naval Base, Royal New Zealand Navy
- » Visit to the Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd for briefings and a tour of the facility



The seventh delegation to New Zealand with Mr Darrin Sykes, Director, Waitangi Tribunal.

Christchurch

- » Meeting with Dr Terese Arseneaux, Senior Fellow, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Canterbury
- » Lunch with Mr Kevin Campbell, Supervising Solicitor, Community Law Canterbury (delegate to Australia 2002)
- » Briefings by Lincoln University on international trade, biodiversity in agriculture, the South Island Dairy Development Centre and the environment and EcoN
- » Visit to the Lincoln University demonstration dairy farm
- » Visit to the International Antarctic Centre

Wellington

- » Meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia Division
- » Visit to Weta Cave, Miramar
- » Visit to the Australian High Commission for working lunch hosted by Ms Amanda Gorley, Deputy High Commissioner for Australia
- » Meeting with members of the Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand. Attended by Ms Metiria Turei MP, Co-leader, Ms Jeannette Fitzsimons MP, List Member and former Co-leader, Ms Alison Coleman, Communications Adviser (Australia 2009), Mr Scott Compton, Media Coordinator, Ms Katya Paquin, Political Coordinator and Mr Ken Spagnolo, Chief of Staff
- » Meeting with members of the New Zealand National Party. Attended by Mr David Bennett MP, Hamilton East (Australia 2009), and Mr Matthew Kenning, Deputy Director Government Resources and Communications (Australia 2009)
- » Tour of the New Zealand Parliament
- » Meeting and dinner with Dr the Rt Hon Lockwood Smith MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives and visit host. Attended by members of the New Zealand delegation to Australia in 2009
- » Briefing and tour of the Royal New Zealand Police College
- » Briefing on the ACT Party by the Hon Sir Roger Douglas MP, List Member, Mr Andrew Falloon, Director, ACT Research Unit (Australia 2009) and Mr Stuart Wilson, Advisor (Australia 2007)
- » Working lunch and presentation on the Waitangi Tribunal by Mr Darrin Sykes, Director
- » Observe Question Time in the Parliament
- » Briefing on the Maori Party by Mr Te Ururoa Flavell MP, Member for Waiariki
- » Briefing on the New Zealand Labour Party by Mr Darren Hughes MP, Chief Opposition Whip and Shadow Minister for Transport, Mr Kelvin Davis MP, Shadow Minister for Tourism (Australia 2009) and Mr Rajesh Nahna, Adviser to the Hon Phil Goff MP, Leader of the Opposition (Australia 2009)

Fourth Australian Delegation to the Philippines

3 to 10 October 2009

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Albert Jacob MLA** (Liberal Party of Australia), *Delegation Leader*
Member for Ocean Reef, Parliament of Western Australia
- » **Cr Timothy Smith** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Councillor for South Ward, City of Stonnington, Victoria
- » **Mrs Jacqueline Myers** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Treasurer of the Liberal Women's Council (Australian Capital Territory), Australian Capital Territory
Legislative Assembly Candidate (2008)
- » **Ms Gabrielle Hummel** (Australian Labor Party)
Chief of Staff to Ms Katy Gallagher MLA, Deputy Chief Minister for the Australian Capital Territory,
Treasurer, Minister for Health and Industrial Relations
- » **Mr Robert Flanagan** (Australian Labor Party)
Branch Assistant Secretary, Australian Workers Union (Tasmanian Branch), Vice President,
Industrial Relations Society of Tasmania
- » **Ms Kimberley Gardiner** (Australian Labor Party)
Press Secretary to the Hon Julia Gillard MP, Deputy Prime Minister, Federal Minister for Education,
Employment and Workplace Relations
- » **Mr Geoff Barnett**, (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

During the visit, which was hosted by the Philippine Council of Young Political Leaders, the delegation travelled to Manila and the regions of Bohol and Negros Oriental.

VISIT PROGRAM

Manila

- » Meeting, lunch and tour hosted by the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority
- » Dinner meeting with the Hon Von Mark C. Mendoza, Board Member of the Province of Pangasinan
- » Meeting with the Hon Eduardo Ermita, Executive Secretary for the Philippines
- » Lunch meeting with Mayor Benhur C. Abalos Jr, Mandaluyong City
- » Briefing by Microventures Inc.
- » Observe Congress and Senate sessions
- » Courtesy calls on Congressman the Hon Prospero Nograles, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
and Senator the Hon Juan Ponce Enrile, President of the Senate
- » Dinner meeting with Ausphi Tollways Corporation and Penson & Co

- » Briefing and reception hosted by HE Mr Rod Smith, Australian Ambassador to the Philippines
- » Lunch meeting with the Romulo Mabanta Buenaventura Sayoc and De Los Angeles Law Office and the Makati Business Club
- » Courtesy call on Senator Francis N. Pangilinan
- » Fellowship dinner hosted by Commissioner Marcelino Libanan, Bureau of Immigration

Negros Oriental

- » Courtesy call on Governor Emilio Macias II, Governor of Negros Oriental
- » Courtesy call on Bais City Council
- » Lunch meeting with Councillor Karen Villanueva
- » Visit to GK Mapahiusa Village, Tanjay City, and dinner with members of the Tanjay City Council
- » Meeting with faculty members of Silliman University School of Public Administration and Governance
- » Lunch meeting with the Negros Oriental Provincial Board

Bohol

- » Dinner meeting with Congressman Edgar M. Chatto
- » Bohol countryside tour, including visits to the Blood Compact Site and Baclayon Church
- » Lunch meeting with Congressman Adam Relson L. Jala
- » Tour of Chocolate Hills, Carmen, and visit to the Philippine Tarsier Sanctuary, Corella



The fourth delegation to the Philippines in Manila with Congressman the Hon Prospero Nograles, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Thirteenth Australian Delegation to Vietnam

3 to 9 December 2009

DELEGATES

- » **Ms Marlene Kairouz MLA** (Australian Labor Party), *Delegation Leader*
Member for Kororoit, Parliament of Victoria
- » **Mr Matthew Gardiner** (Australian Labor Party)
Secretary, Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Workers Union (Northern Territory Branch)
- » **Ms Kaila Murnain** (Australian Labor Party)
Membership and Communications Officer, Australian Labor Party (New South Wales Branch)
- » **Ms Suzanne Fosbery** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Policy Adviser and Chief of Staff to the Hon Mike Gallacher MLC, Leader of the Opposition in the New South Wales Legislative Council, Shadow Minister for Politics, Shadow Minister for the Hunter
- » **Mr Travis Bell** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Press Secretary to Senator the Hon George Brandis SC, Shadow Attorney-General
- » **Ms Sara Smith** (Council Representative)
Program Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

The delegation travelled to Hanoi, Ha Long Bay, Da Nang, Hoi An and Ho Chi Minh City during the seven-day visit, which was hosted by the International Youth Cooperation Development Center.

VISIT PROGRAM

Hanoi

- » Briefing on economic growth and trade unions by the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- » Briefing on the justice system of Vietnam by the Ministry of Justice
- » Briefing on Australian tourism in Vietnam and the development of elite sport by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism
- » Briefing on the Vietnamese military and its relationship with Australian forces by the Ministry of Defence
- » Meeting with leaders of the Vietnam Women's Union
- » Attend water puppet performance
- » Visit to President Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum and Residence
- » Visit to the Temple of Literature
- » Visit to the Hoa Sua Vocational Training School for Disadvantaged Youth
- » Meeting with the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the Vietnam Young Entrepreneurs' Association

- » Briefing on Vietnam-Australia trade and business enterprises by the Ministry of Trade and Industry
- » Lunch meeting with leaders of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union
- » Briefing on the operation of the National Assembly with Mr Ngo Duc Minh, Vice Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Commission of External Relations, National Assembly of Vietnam

Ha Long Bay

- » Courtesy call on leaders of the Quang Ninh Province
- » Meeting with the Quang Ninh Provincial Youth Union
- » Boat tour of Ha Long Bay

Da Nang and Hoi An

- » Meeting with leaders of Da Nang City
- » Meeting and dinner with representatives from the Da Nang Youth Union
- » Tour of Hoi An village

Ho Chi Minh City

- » Briefing on the Thanh Nien Newspaper by Chief Editor, Mr Nguyen Quang Thong
- » Visit to the Reunification Palace and War Remnants Museum
- » Meeting and dinner with the Ho Chi Minh City Youth Union
- » Courtesy call on leaders of Ho Chi Minh City



The thirteenth delegation to Vietnam with leaders of Da Nang City.

Eighteenth Australian Delegation to Japan

27 February to 5 March 2010

DELEGATES

- » **Senator Scott Ryan** (Liberal Party of Australia), *Delegation Leader*
Senator for Victoria
- » **Mr Jamie Briggs MP** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Federal Member for Mayo
- » **Mr Jarrod Bleijie MP** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Member for Kawana, Parliament of Queensland
- » **Mr Nick Champion MP** (Australian Labor Party)
Federal Member for Wakefield
- » **The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC** (Australian Labor Party)
Parliamentary Secretary Assisting the Minister for Transport, Member of the Legislative Council,
Parliament of New South Wales
- » **Mr Colin Brooks MP** (Australian Labor Party)
Member for Bundoora, Parliament of Victoria
- » **Mr Geoff Barnett**, (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

The delegation visited Tokyo, Kyoto and the Aichi Prefecture during the seven-day visit, which was hosted by the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE).

VISIT PROGRAM

Tokyo

- » Tour of Tokyo, including the Fukagawa Edo Historical Museum and the Sensoji Temple
- » Cocktail reception and dinner hosted by Mr Tadashi Yamamoto AO, President, JCIE
- » Briefing on the roles of politicians and bureaucrats in foreign relations by Mr Koji Watanabe, Senior Fellow, JCIE
- » Luncheon meeting hosted by Nippon Keidanren (Japan Federation of Economic Organisations)
- » Meeting with the Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- » Briefing by the Fishery Division, Economic Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- » Briefing by Australian Embassy officials, followed by reception hosted by HE Mr Murray McLean OAM, Australian Ambassador to Japan
- » Visit to the Asahi Shimbun Newspaper and briefing on the role of the media in Japanese politics
- » Meetings with Diet Members of the Democratic Party of Japan and the Liberal Democratic Party

- » Meeting with Mr Akio Mimura, Representative Director and Chairman, Nippon Steel Corporation, Chairman, The Australia-Japan Business Co-operation Committee
- » Dinner meeting with Australian experts
- » Briefing on business in Japan from the Australian perspective by Dr Greg Story, Chairman, Australia and New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Japan, Country Head, Japan National Australia Bank
- » Briefing on East Asia community building and Australia-Japan relations by Mr Hitoshi Tanaka, Senior Fellow, JCIE
- » Meeting with Mr Taro Kono, Member of the House of Representatives (Liberal Democratic Party)
- » Dinner meeting with Mr Tetsuro Fukuyama, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Kyoto

- » Tour of Kyoto including visits to historical sites, the Sanjusangen-Do, the Nijo-Do and the Kinkau-ji Temple (the Temple of the Golden Pavilion)



The eighteenth delegation to Japan with Mr Taro Kono, Liberal Democratic Party Member of the House of Representatives.

Aichi Prefecture

- » Courtesy call on HE Mr Masaaki Kanda, Governor of Aichi Prefecture
- » Visit to and meeting with Aichi Prefectural Assembly
- » Luncheon meeting hosted by Chubu Electric Power Company
- » Tour and briefing on the Meijo Power Substation

Twenty-sixth Australian Delegation to the United States of America

9 to 20 April 2010

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Chris Minns** (Australian Labor Party), *Delegation Leader*
Chief of Staff to the Hon John Robertson MLC, New South Wales Minister for Industrial Relations, Commerce, Energy and Public Sector Reform
- » **Ms Shannon Fentiman** (Australian Labor Party)
State Organiser, Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch)
- » **Mr Andrew Giles** (Australian Labor Party)
Chief of Staff to Ms Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Victorian Minister for Community Development
- » **Ms Sarah Mawhinney** (Australian Labor Party)
Project Officer, Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch)
- » **Mr Alistair Coe MLA** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Member for Ginninderra, Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory, Shadow Minister for Urban Services, Transport Services, Housing, Heritage and Youth
- » **Mr Jonathan Hawkes** (Liberal Party of Australia)
State Director, Liberal Party of Australia (Tasmanian Division)
- » **Mr Ben Allen** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Campaign Officer, Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australia Division)
- » **Mr Ben Hindmarsh** (The Nationals)
Chief of Staff to Mr Peter Ryan MLA, Leader of the Nationals in Victoria
- » **Mr Geoff Barnett**, (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

During the twelve-day visit, hosted by the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL), the delegation travelled to Washington, DC, Rapid City and Pierre, South Dakota and Phoenix, Arizona.

VISIT PROGRAM

Washington, DC

- » Observe the Cherry Blossom Parade
- » Visit to Mount Vernon
- » Segway and Cherry Blossom River tours
- » Reception hosted at the home of Ms Mary Eva Candon, Executive Vice President, Bar Association of the District of Columbia (delegate to Australia 1984)
- » Meeting with ACYPL

- » Briefing on the role of Attorney-General by representatives of the National Association of Attorneys-General
- » Luncheon briefing on lobbying in the United States of America by Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc.
- » Briefing on United States-Australia relations by the US State Department
- » Briefing by the Transurban Group on the transportation landscape
- » Breakfast meeting with the Boeing Company
- » Briefing on the Democratic Party by the Democratic National Committee
- » Luncheon briefing on the Republican Party by the Republican National Committee
- » Overview of American government by the Brookings Institution
- » Meeting with Ms Amy Dacey, Director, Government Relations, Services Employees International Union, and Mr Scott Shumaker, Project Coordinator and Communications, Global Organising Partnerships
- » Dinner meeting with Mr John Hurson, Executive Vice President of Government Affairs, Personal Care Products Council (ACYPL Board of Trustees Member)
- » Briefing on the United States-Australia bilateral relationship by the Embassy of Australia

Rapid City, South Dakota

- » Dinner meeting with the Black Hills, Badlands and Lakes Association.
- » Briefing on city government by the Mayor of Rapid City
- » Visit to Mount Rushmore
- » Lunch meeting with Frankenfeld Associates Interactive
- » Briefing by the National Park Service
- » Briefing on the Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory Project by the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
- » Breakfast briefing on downtown revitalisation by the Downtown Rapid City Group
- » Tour of the Camp Reid National Guard base

Pierre, South Dakota

- » Dinner meeting with Ms Laurie Gill, Mayor, City of Pierre
- » Briefing on the role of the state government with the Hon Mike Rounds, Governor, State of South Dakota
- » Briefing on the legislative process of the State of South Dakota with the Hon Dave Knudson, Senate Majority Leader, South Dakota State Senate
- » Briefing on transportation issues and research by the South Dakota Department of Transportation
- » Tour of Today's KCCR AM 1240 radio station
- » Tour of the Buffalo Interpretive Center including a tour of buffalo pastures

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Phoenix, Arizona

- » Lunch meeting with the United Services Automobile Association
- » Briefing on economic development policy by the Salt River Indian Reservation
- » Tour of the Reservation's spring training baseball facility and the casino
- » Helicopter tour and presentation on the watershed/dam system at the Reservation
- » Briefing by the Arizona State University School of Sustainability on sustainable energy
- » Briefing on immigration by the Political Science Department, Arizona State University
- » Attend baseball match between Arizona Diamondbacks and the St Louis Cardinals
- » Briefing on job creation and high-tech investment by the Science Foundation Arizona
- » Briefing on economic development in the private sector by the Greater Phoenix Economic Council
- » Briefing on local government by Mr Phil Gordon, Mayor, City of Phoenix
- » Tour of Metro Tech High School
- » Observe the Arizona House of Representatives in session



The twenty-sixth delegation to the United States of America with Mayor Alan E. Hanks, Mayor of Rapid City.

Nineteenth Australian Delegation to China

15 to 21 May 2010

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Joe Francis MLA** (Liberal Party of Australia), *Delegation Leader*
Member for Jandakot, Parliament of Western Australia
- » **Ms Sallyann Innes** (Liberal Party of Australia)
Executive Officer to Mr Michael Keenan MP, Federal Member for Stirling
- » **Mr Clancy Dobbyn** (Australian Labor Party)
Adviser to Senator Gavin Marshall, Senator for Victoria
- » **Mr Patrick Fagan** (Australian Labor Party)
Assistant Adviser to the Hon Gary Gray AO MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Western and Northern Australia
- » **Ms Kerry Treuel** (Australian Labor Party)
Office Manager to Mr Leon Bignell MHA, Member for Mawson, Parliament of South Australia
- » **Ms Sarah Johnston** (The Nationals)
Portfolio and Research Officer to Mr Mark Coulton MP, Federal Member for Parkes
- » **Mr Geoff Barnett**, (Council Representative)
Executive Officer, Australian Political Exchange Council

The delegation travelled to Beijing, Shandong Province and Shanghai during the seven-day visit hosted by the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF).

VISIT PROGRAM

Beijing

- » Tour of the Forbidden City
- » Welcome banquet hosted by ACYF
- » Briefing by the China Youth Daily Newspaper and a round-table discussion with students from the China University Media Union
- » Tour of the Great Wall
- » Meeting with the Vice Chairman of the China Zhi Gong Party Central Committee
- » Meeting and lunch hosted by CHINALCO (Aluminium Corporation of China)
- » Meeting with the Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
- » Meeting with Mr Lu Yongzheng, Vice President, ACYF
- » Attend Peking Opera performance

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- » Meeting with Mr Ma Wenpu, Vice Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress

Jinan and Qufu, Shandong Province

- » Welcome banquet hosted by the Shandong Provincial Youth Federation
- » Meeting with Mr Liu Sen, Mayor of Qufu City
- » Tour of the Confucian Temple and Confucian Mansion
- » Visit to the Nanchi community, including tours of the school, hospital and local council
- » Visit to Xia village
- » Meeting with the Shandong Provincial Bureau of Commerce
- » Visit to the Qianfoshan Hospital

Shanghai

- » Tour of the Shanghai World Expo and meeting with Ms Lyndall Sachs, Commissioner-General for Australia



The nineteenth delegation to China with Mr Lu Yongzheng, Vice-President of the All-China Youth Federation.

Incoming Delegations to Australia for 2009-2010

In 2009-2010, the Council hosted 33 participants on delegations from its exchange partners as follows:

9 to 15 August 2009	Seventh Delegation from New Zealand
7 to 12 September 2009	Eighteenth Delegation from China
18 to 24 October 2009	Thirteenth Delegation from Vietnam
13 to 19 March 2010	Fourteenth Delegation from Vietnam
17 to 28 June 2010	Twenty-seventh Delegation from the United States of America

Seventh Delegation from New Zealand

9 to 15 August 2009

DELEGATES

- » **Mr David Bennett MP** (New Zealand National Party), *Delegation Leader*
Member for Hamilton East
- » **Mr Matthew Kenning** (New Zealand National Party)
Deputy Director, Government Research and Communications Unit
- » **Mr Kelvin Davis MP** (New Zealand Labour Party)
Labour Party List Member
- » **Mr Rajesh Nahna** (New Zealand Labour Party)
Advisor to the Hon Phil Goff MP, Leader of the Opposition
- » **Mr Andrew Falloon** (ACT Party)
Director of the Research Unit, Office of the Hon Rodney Hide MP, Minister for Local Government and Leader of the ACT Party
- » **Ms Alison Coleman** (Green Party of New Zealand)
Communications Adviser, Parliamentary Office of the Green Party
- » **Ms Trish Wanden** (Accompanying Officer)
Executive Assistant to the Rt Hon Dr Lockwood Smith MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives

The delegation from New Zealand travelled to Sydney, Canberra and Adelaide during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Dinner with former delegates Ms Tegan Alchin (USA 2009), Mr Scott Hickie (New Zealand 2009), Mr Brendan Lyon (New Zealand 2005), and Mr Peter Zangari (Vietnam 2003)
- » Briefing on Sydney Water's new water desalination plant by Mr Ian Payne, Project Director and Mr George Bawtree, Ministerial and Corporate Liaison Manager
- » Briefing on the Australian economy by the National Australia Bank by Mr Rob Henderson, Chief Economist (Markets) and Mr Peter Jolly, Head of Global Markets (Research)
- » Luncheon meeting with Cr the Hon Dr Meredith Burgmann, Councillor for the City of Sydney
- » Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb
- » Visit to Bondi Beach
- » Attend Australian Football League match between the Sydney Swans and Geelong Cats with Mr Richard Shields (China 2009) and Mr Matthew Thistlethwaite (China 2009)

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary (Japan 1992)
- » Overview of the Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and lunch hosted by the Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA, Speaker and Mr Tom Duncan, Clerk of the ACT Legislative Assembly. Attended by Mr Zed Seselja MLA, Leader of the Opposition (USA 2007)
- » Meeting with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- » Tour of Parliament House and attend Question Time in the House of Representatives
- » Courtesy call on the Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate and Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives
- » Meeting with the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, Shadow Minister for Trade (Germany 1999)
- » Dinner with former delegates to New Zealand Ms Catherine King MP (2005), Mr Michael Johnson MP (2008), Mr Michael Lye (2008), Mr Scott McFarlane (2008), Senator David Bushby (2001). Also attended by Senator Guy Barnett (China 2006) and Senator Mathias Cormann (Vietnam 2008)
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Mr Nick Martin, Assistant National Secretary



The seventh delegation from New Zealand with the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Meeting with Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program (USA 1994)

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- » Briefing on the Australian Greens by Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Senator for South Australia and Council Member
- » Meeting with HE Dr John Larkindale, High Commissioner for New Zealand
- » Council lunch hosted by Senator Sarah Hanson-Young and Mr Paul Neville MP
- » Dinner with former delegates Mr John Gardner (Philippines 2008), Mr Ross Jordan (New Zealand 2006), Ms Kate Raggatt (China 2009), Mr Antony Sachs (New Zealand 2003), Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith (China 2009) and Mr Chris Swan (USA 2007)
- » Visit to Mount Ainslie lookout

Adelaide, South Australia

- » Meeting with the South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board
- » Tour of the Parliament of South Australia followed by lunch hosted by the Hon Jack Snelling MHA, Speaker of the House of Assembly (Japan 2007, Philippines 2008). Also attended by Ms Vickie Chapman MHA (Germany 1995), Mr Graham Jaeschke (USA 1996, New Zealand 2002), the Hon Michelle Lensink MLC (Vietnam 2001) and Mr Kyam Maher (Vietnam 2006)
- » Visit to Mount Lofty Summit lookout
- » Wine-tasting at Petaluma's Bridgewater Mill
- » Dinner with former delegates Ms Zoe Bettison (Vietnam 2000), Mr Wesley Glanville (Germany 1991), Mr Dean Hersey (New Zealand 2003), Ms Cathi Tucker (Vietnam 2003), Ms Leesa Vlahos (New Zealand 2003), the Hon Stephen Wade MLC (Germany 2001), Mr Nick Westenberg (New Zealand 2009) and the Hon Russell Wortley MLC (China 1984)
- » Tour and cultural performance of Tandanya, National Aboriginal Cultural Institute
- » Luncheon meeting hosted by Mayor Ken Rolland of the City of Holdfast Bay
- » Visit to the Bay Discovery Centre
- » Tour of Haigh's Chocolate Factory

Eighteenth Delegation from China

7 to 12 September 2009

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Li Xiaobao**, *Delegation Leader*
Deputy Secretary-General, All-China Youth Federation
- » **Mr Wang Weizhong**
Deputy Director of the International Department, All-China Youth Federation
- » **Ms Yan Shuang**
Vice President, Guangxi Provincial Youth Federation
- » **Mr Yin Shiyi**
Vice-President, Qingdao Municipal Youth Federation
- » **Mr Jiang Wen**
Board Chairman, Anhui Hualing Cable Group Co. Ltd and Member, All-China Youth Federation
- » **Mr Tang Hao** (Accompanying Officer)
Program Officer, International Department, All-China Youth Federation

The delegation from China travelled to Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane during the six-day visit. As 2009 marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the signing of the exchange with the All-China Youth Federation (ACYF), functions were held in Canberra and Brisbane to mark the occasion.

VISIT PROGRAM

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Parliamentary briefing by Mr Wayne Tunnecliffe, Clerk of the Legislative Council, Parliament of Victoria
- » Boat cruise to Williamstown

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Attend Question Time in House of Representatives and the Senate
- » Meeting with the Youth Ambassadors for the Office of Sustainability and the Environment.
- » Courtesy calls on the Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate, and Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives

AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL EXCHANGE COUNCIL

- » Dinner reception to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the signing of the exchange with the All-China Youth Federation. Attended by Senator Guy Barnett (China 2006), Ms Anna Burke MP (Japan 2007), Mr Darren Chester MP (USA 2004), Ms Rachel Fry (Vietnam 2008), Ms Meredith Horne (Germany 1998), Mr Michael Johnson MP (New Zealand 2008), Mr Scott McFarlane (New Zealand 2008), the Hon Judi Moylan MP (China 1999), Senator Helen Polley (China 1994), Ms Kate Raggatt (China 2009), Mr Patrick Secker MP (China 2000), Mr Brad Stansfield (China 2007), Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith (China 2008), Ms Jane Templeton (Philippines 2006) and Mr Jason Wood MP (China 2008)
- » Visit to Mawson Primary School to observe the Chinese Immersion Program for students
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary, (Japan 1992)
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Darren Chester MP, Federal Member for Gippsland (USA 2004)
- » Lunch hosted by Council Members Senator Michael Forshaw, Mr Paul Neville MP, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP (UK 2001) and Senator Sarah Hanson-Young
- » Tour of the National Museum of Australia
- » Meeting with Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program (USA 1994)
- » Dinner hosted by HE Mr Zhang Junsai, People's Republic of China Ambassador to Australia
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Mr Nick Martin, Assistant National Secretary
- » Briefing on the Australian Greens by Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Senator for South Australia and Council Member



The eighteenth delegation from China with Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig, Special Minister of State.

Sydney, New South Wales

- » Meeting with the University of Sydney's Confucius Institute
- » Tour of the Sydney Opera House

Brisbane, Queensland

- » Luncheon meeting with Cr Nicole Johnston, Councillor for Tennyson Ward, City of Brisbane (Vietnam 2006), Mr Ren Gongping, Consul-General of the People's Republic of China in Brisbane and Mr Brian Tan, Brisbane City Council
- » Tour of Australia Zoo
- » Reception hosted by the Hon John Mickel MLA, Speaker of the Parliament of Queensland, to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the signing of the exchange with the ACYF. Attended by Mr David Anthony (Philippines 2006), Mr John Cherry (Hong Kong 1999), Mr Daniel Cheverton (New Zealand 2009), Mrs Rae Copeland (Japan 1992), Mr Stuart Copeland (USA 1997, Japan 2006), Cr Milton Dick (South Korea 2005), Ms Rebecca Fanning (New Zealand 2008), Ms Shannon Fentiman (Vietnam 2008), Mr David Fraser (USA 1988), the Hon Stirling Hinchliffe MLA (Japan 2008), Ms Heather Jeffcoat (China 1988), the Hon Kate Jones MLA (USA 2006), Cr Nicole Johnston, Mr Gerard Paynter (China 2002), Mr Jim Reeves (USA 1990), the Hon Santo Santoro (USA 1993, Germany 2003), Ms Janine Walker (USA 1988) and Ms Tania Wright (China 2009)

Thirteenth Delegation from Vietnam

18 to 24 October 2009

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Nguyen Hoang Hiep**, *Delegation Leader*
Secretary, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union
- » **Mr Nguyen Manh Dung**
Member, Standing Bureau, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and Chief Administrator,
Office of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union
- » **Ms Ho Thi Thu Hang**
Member, National Assembly, Vinh Long Province
- » **Mr Tong Quoc Truong**
Director-General, PetroVietnam Finance Corporation and Vice President, Vietnam Youth Federation
- » **Mr Ngo Duy Hieu**
Member, Standing Bureau, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and Secretary,
Hanoi City Youth Union
- » **Mr Phung Khanh Tai**
Member, Standing Bureau, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and Director-General,
International Youth Cooperation Development Center

The delegation from the International Youth Cooperation Development Center travelled to Melbourne, Ballarat, Canberra and Perth during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Tour of the Melbourne Zoo's Australian animal sanctuary
- » Meeting with the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
- » Briefing by Mr Matthew Tricario, Deputy Clerk of the Legislative Council, Parliament of Victoria
- » Luncheon hosted by the Hon Robert Smith MLC, President of the Legislative Council and the Hon Jenny Lindell MLA, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Parliament of Victoria. Guests included Mr Martin Foley MLA (Vietnam 2004), Mr Martin Barr (Vietnam 2006) and Mr Richard Dalla-Riva MLC (Vietnam 2005)
- » Briefing by the Victorian YMCA

Ballarat, Victoria

- » Tour of Sovereign Hill

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Mr Nick Martin, Assistant National Secretary
- » Meeting with Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program (USA 1994)
- » Lunch hosted by Senator Michael Forshaw, Council Member, and attended by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director, The Nationals (USA 2007)
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives
- » Meeting with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- » Meeting with the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (Vietnam 2007)
- » Courtesy calls on the Patrons of the Council, Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson, Deputy President of the Senate and Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives
- » Dinner hosted by HE Mr Nguyen Thanh Tan, Socialist Republic of China Ambassador to Australia
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Meeting with Dr Andrew Southcott MP, Shadow Minister for Employment Participation, Training and Sport (Vietnam 2006)
- » Courtesy call on the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, Shadow Minister for Trade (Germany 1999)
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary (Japan 1992)
- » Visit to the National Botanic Gardens



The thirteenth delegation from Vietnam with Mr Ben Wyatt MLA, Shadow Treasurer for Western Australia.

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- » Briefing on Australian research in the fields of emerging pathogens and vaccines, genome biology, immunology, neuroscience and structural biology by the Australian National University's John Curtin School of Medical Research
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Briefing and tour of Brindabella Business Park by the Canberra Airport Group

Perth, Western Australia

- » Luncheon meeting with the City of Fremantle
- » Briefing by Mr Lachlan McCrudden, External Affairs Officer, Fremantle Port Authority
- » Visit to the Western Australian Maritime Museum
- » Guided tour of the Perth Mint
- » Meeting with Mr Ben Wyatt MLA, Shadow Treasurer for Western Australia (China 2005)
- » Tour of the Parliament of Western Australia
- » Lunch hosted by the Hon Matt Benson-Lidholm MLC, Acting President of the Legislative Council, Parliament of Western Australia
- » Meeting with Ms Sue Metcalf, Special Projects Officer, Perth Region Natural Resource Management (Vietnam 2001)
- » Dinner hosted by Senator Mathias Cormann, Senator for Western Australia (Vietnam 2008) and Mrs Hayley Cormann. Guests included Mr Eacham Curry (China 2004, New Zealand 2008), Ms Kate Doust MLC (New Zealand 2007) and Mr Rhys Turner (USA 2008)

Fourteenth Delegation from Vietnam

13 to 19 March 2010

DELEGATES

- » **Mr Duong Van An**, *Delegation Leader*
Secretary, Central Committee, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union
- » **Mr Nguyen Quang Truong**
Member, Standing Committee, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, and Head, Supervision Department, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union
- » **Mr Nguyen Van Hieu**
Secretary, Ho Chi Minh City Youth Union
- » **Mr Nguyen Quang Hoa**
Editor-in-Chief, Tuoi Tre Thu Do Newspaper
- » **Mr Bui Van Quan**
President, Young Entrepreneurs' Association of Hanoi, and Director General, Anh Quan Strong Cooperation
- » **Mr Tran Huu The**
Member, National Assembly and Secretary, Phu Yen Provincial Youth Union

The delegation from the International Youth Cooperation Development Center travelled to Melbourne, Canberra and Wollongong during the seven-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission
- » Briefing and tour of the Parliament of Victoria by Mr Wayne Tunnecliffe, Clerk of the Legislative Council
- » Meeting with Professor Simon Adams, Pro-Vice Chancellor, International Engagement, Ms Megan Jeremenko, Senior Adviser, Government and External Relations (Vietnam 2007) and Ms Erica Trippett, Project Officer, Monash University
- » Boat cruise to Williamstown
- » 'Puffing Billy' steam train ride from Belgrave to Lakeside in the Dandenong Ranges
- » Visit Dandenong Ranges Observatory
- » Dinner with former delegates Ms Marlene Kairouz MLA (Vietnam 2009), Ms Megan Jeremenko (Vietnam 2007), Mr Jason Aldworth (Vietnam 2004, South Korea 2005), Cr Emanuele Cicchiello (Vietnam 2003) and Mr Tony Snell (China 2001, Vietnam 2007)

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Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Courtesy call on the Hon Bob McMullan MP, Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance, representing the Prime Minister of Australia
- » Meeting with Ms Rachel Fry, former President of the Young Liberals (Vietnam 2008)
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Mr Nick Martin, Assistant National Secretary and Mr Scott McFarlane, International Projects Officer (New Zealand 2008)
- » Courtesy call on Patrons of the Council, Mr Harry Jenkins MP, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives



The fourteenth delegation from Vietnam with the Hon Tony Abbott MP, Leader of the Opposition and Principal of the Council.

- » Lunch hosted by HE Mr Hoang Vinh Thanh, Chinese Ambassador to Australia
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Brian Loughnane, Federal Director and Council Member (USA 1998)
- » Dinner with former delegates including Mr Travis Bell (Vietnam 2009), Ms Gabrielle Hummel (Philippines 2009) and Ms Rachel Fry (Vietnam 2008)
- » Courtesy call on the Hon Tony Abbott MP, Leader of the Opposition and Principal of the Council
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Darren Chester MP, Federal Member for Gippsland (USA 2004)
- » Meeting with Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program (USA 1994)
- » Council luncheon hosted by the Hon Robert Ray, Council Chairman and attended by Senator Michael Forshaw, Council Member, Dr Andrew Southcott MP (Japan 1996, Vietnam 2006), Senator Mathias Cormann (Vietnam 2008), and Senator Dana Wortley

Wollongong, New South Wales

- » Meeting with Ms Natalie Viselli, President and Miss Jessica Saad, Immediate Past President, Junior Chamber Illawarra
- » Meeting with representatives of the North Wollongong Surf Lifesaving Club
- » Briefing and tour of the Innovation Campus, University of Wollongong
- » Luncheon meeting hosted by the Wollongong City Council

Twenty-seventh Delegation from the United States of America

17 to 28 June 2010

DELEGATES

- » **The Hon Vicki Englund** (Democratic Party)
Member, Missouri House of Representatives
- » **The Hon Michael J. Moran** (Democratic Party)
Member, Massachusetts House of Representatives
- » **The Hon Rahn Mayo** (Democratic Party)
Member, Georgia House of Representatives
- » **The Hon Anna Tovar** (Democratic Party)
Member, Arizona House of Representatives
- » **Ms Alicia Hughes** (Republican Party)
Member, Alexandria City Council, Virginia
- » **Mr Jeffrey Rabren** (Republican Party)
Director of Legislative Affairs, Office of Governor Bob Riley, Governor of Alabama
- » **Ms Jennifer Spall** (Republican Party)
Senior Public Affairs Manager, Wal-Mart Inc. (Alaska, Oregon and Washington)
- » **Ms Jessica Monroe** (Accompanying Officer)
Director, State Government Affairs, Johnson & Johnson (Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee)

The delegation from the American Council of Young Political Leaders travelled to Melbourne, Canberra and Cairns during the twelve-day visit.

VISIT PROGRAM

Melbourne, Victoria

- » Meeting with the Hon Tony Robinson MLA, Minister for Gaming, Minister for Consumer Affairs and Minister Assisting the Premier on Veterans' Affairs (Japan 2006)
- » Meeting with Mr Ryan Smith MLA, Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations and Manufacturing, Mr Nick Wakeling MLA, Shadow Parliamentary Secretary to the Leader of the Opposition and Community Services and Mr Tony Nutt, State Director of the Liberal Party of Victoria (USA 1989, UK 1995)
- » Visit to Stephanie Alexander's Kitchen Garden Program at Whitehorse Primary School hosted by Ms Stephanie Alexander and Ms Kerry Wood, Principal
- » Briefing by the Australian Electoral Commission

- » Meeting with the Hon James Merlino MLA, Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs, Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs (Japan 2004, South Korea 2005)
- » Dinner hosted by the Hon Robert Ray, Council Chairman and Mrs Jane Ray followed by attendance at an Australian Football League match between the Essendon Bombers and the Hawthorn Hawks hosted by the Australian Football League
- » 'Puffing Billy' steam train ride in the Dandenong Ranges
- » Dinner with former delegates including Mr Michael Barrett (Germany 1999), Mr Tony Nutt (USA 1989, UK 1995), Ms Holly Byrne (USA 2007), Mr Darren Disney (USA 2002, China 2007), Mr Clancy Dobbyn (China 2010), Ms Judith Donnelly (Philippines 2007), Mr John Donovan (China 1998), Mr Andrew Giles (USA 2010), the Hon Monica Gould (USA 1994), Mr Ben Hindmarsh (USA 2010), Ms Renee Hindmarsh (China 2004), Ms Kathryn Hodges (New Zealand 2007), Mr Jonathan Kirkwood (Japan 2004), Mr James McAdam (USA 1998), Ms Kathleen Maltzhan (UK 2009), Mr Nathan Niven (China 1999) and Mr Simon Troeth (USA 2005)
- » Visit to Melbourne Zoo
- » Ferry ride along the Yarra River to Williamstown
- » Briefing by Mr James McAdam, Director of Relationships and Advocacy (USA 1998) and Mr Michael Barrett (Germany 1999), Manager, Media and Public Relations, Royal College of Surgeons
- » Visit to the Parliament of Victoria for a briefing, tour and lunch hosted by the Hon Robert Smith MLC, President of the Legislative Council and Ms Ann Barker MLA, Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Lunch guests included Mr Colin Brooks MLA (Japan 2010), Mr David Davis MLC (USA 2000), Ms Wendy Lovell MLC (PNG 2004), the Hon Dr Denis Naphine MLA (Japan 1994), Mr Michael O'Brien MLA (USA 2002), Ms Jaala Pulford MLC (China 2008), Mr Brian Tee MLC (USA 2008) and Ms Heidi Victoria MLA (USA 2008)
- » Meeting with Mr Ted Baillieu MLA, Victorian Leader of the Opposition (Japan 1993)



The twenty-seventh delegation from the United States of America visiting Stephanie Alexander's Kitchen Garden Program.

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Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

- » Tour of the National Capital Exhibition
- » Briefing on the Australian Labor Party by Mr Scott McFarlane, International Projects Officer (New Zealand 2007)
- » Courtesy call on Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate and Patron of the Council
- » Attend Question Time in the House of Representatives
- » Briefing on the Liberal Party of Australia by Mr Brian Loughnane, Federal Director and Council Member, and Mr Bruce Edwards, International Secretary, Liberal Party of Australia (Japan 1992)
- » Meeting with HE Mr Jeffrey Bleich, United States of America Ambassador to Australia
- » Panel discussion co-hosted by the Embassy of the United States of America and the Australian Institute of International Affairs
- » Briefing on The Nationals by Mr Brad Henderson, Federal Director (USA 2007)
- » Meeting with the Hon Bob McMullan MP, Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance, representing the Prime Minister
- » Meeting with Mr David Williams, Chief of Staff to the Hon Peter Garrett MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage (Japan 2000)



The twenty-seventh delegation from the United States of America with Senator the Hon John Hogg, President of the Senate and Patron of the Council.

- » Meeting with Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig, Special Minister of State and Minister responsible for the political exchange program (USA 1994)
- » Briefing on The Australian Greens by Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Senator for South Australia and Council Member
- » Attend Question Time in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Legislative Assembly, followed by afternoon tea hosted by the Speaker, Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA. Attended by Mr Zed Seselja MLA (USA 2007), Mr Alistair Coe MLA (USA 2010), Mr John Hargraves MLA and Mr Brendan Smyth MLA
- » Tour of the Australian War Memorial
- » Dinner with former delegates including Mr Mark Baker (USA 2002), Ms Kate Barwick (China 2008), Mr Travis Bell (Vietnam 2009), Mr Simeon Duncan (USA 2006), Mr Josh Fear (UK 2010), Mr Patrick Fagan (China 2010), Ms Daele Healy (USA 2004), Mr Brad Henderson (USA 2007), Ms Sallyann Innes (China 2010), Ms Sarah Johnston (China 2010), Ms Kerry Kellett (UK 1997), Mr Mark Nelson (USA 2008), Ms Linda Reynolds (USA 2002) and Mr Nick Westenberg (New Zealand 2009)
- » Courtesy call on the Hon Julie Bishop MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, Shadow Minister for Trade (Germany 1999)
- » Lunch hosted by Council Members Senator Michael Forshaw, Mr Paul Neville MP and the Hon Kevin Andrews MP (UK 2001). Attended by former delegates Senator Cory Bernardi (Japan 2008), Senator Simon Birmingham (Japan 2009), Mr Jamie Briggs MP (Japan 2010), Senator David Bushby (New Zealand 2001), Mr Darren Chester MP (USA 2004), the Hon Peter Dutton MP (Japan 2008), Ms Kirsten Livermore MP (China 1996, USA 2005), Ms Melissa Parke MP (Japan 2008), Senator Louise Pratt (Japan 2009) and Senator Scott Ryan (Japan 2010)
- » Meeting with Dr Helen Watchirs, ACT Human Rights and Discrimination Commissioner

Cairns, Queensland

- » Meeting and luncheon hosted by Cairns Regional Council
- » Briefing by the Cape York Institute for Indigenous Policy and Leadership
- » Meeting with the Cairns Young Chamber
- » Briefing on the Royal Flying Doctor Service
- » Luncheon meeting with Senator the Hon Jan McLucas, Senator for Queensland (USA 1994)
- » Visit to Kuranda
- » Briefing on research to eliminate dengue fever by the School of Biological Sciences, University of Queensland
- » Briefing on the effects of climate change on the Great Barrier Reef by the Reef and Rainforest Research Centre

Individual Study Tours for 2009-2010

Twelve young Australians participated in individual study tours to the United Kingdom and the United States of America in 2009-2010. This included seven study tours offered by the Council specifically for delegates to observe the United Kingdom Election.

United States of America

Mr James Lantry (The Nationals)

Chief of Staff to Mr Terry Mills MLA, Leader of the Opposition in the Northern Territory
20 September to 16 October 2009

Mr Michael Allen (Australian Labor Party)

Managing Director, Campaigns & Communications Group (Sydney)
3 to 23 December 2009

Mr Nick Martin (Australian Labor Party)

Assistant National Secretary, Australian Labor Party
3 to 23 December 2009

Mr Simon Every (Australian Labor Party)

Senior Adviser to Senator the Hon Joe Ludwig, Special Minister of State, Cabinet Secretary
22 April to 13 May 2010

United Kingdom

Ms Kathleen Maltzahn (Australian Greens)

Greens Candidate, Victorian State Parliament
21 November to 21 December 2009

United Kingdom Election Study Tours

Mr Ian McNamara (Australian Labor Party)

President, New South Wales Young Labor
20 April to 10 May 2010

Mr Noah Carroll (Australian Labor Party)

Assistant State Secretary, Australian Labor Party (Victorian Division)
22 April to 10 May 2010

Ms Bronwyn Halfpenny (Australian Labor Party)

Industrial/Campaigns Officer, Victorian Trades Hall Council
24 April to 12 May 2010

Mr Kristian Galanti (Liberal Party of Australia)

Research Assistant to the Federal Director, Liberal Party of Australia
9 to 25 April 2010

Mr Ben Morton (Liberal Party of Australia)
State Director, Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australian Division)
26 April to 1 May 2010

Mr Luke O’Sullivan (The Nationals)
State Director, The Nationals (Victoria)
20 April to 8 May 2010

Mr Joshua Fear (Australian Greens)
Deputy Director, The Australia Institute
30 April to 21 May 2010

Mr James Lantry

Mr Lantry’s study tour to the United States of America focussed on campaigning and research techniques, specifically looking at new and emerging technologies, and how they impact upon communication and campaigning. He met with a range of individuals including politicians and representatives of government and companies from both sides of politics, as well as with representatives from Washington University. Mr Lantry’s report discusses the effect of new media on campaigning, including the challenge it presents to campaigners:

The challenge is to determine what is sustainable in this medium. It is important to note that people who are engaging social media are not doing it, for the most part, to reach into the political world; they are doing it for social contact. For many, the political process is one of influence, or a less glamorous way to put it, is management of an issue to both populous and electoral advantage.

The process of management and manipulation does not go well with people who are undertaking genuine contact and engaging people in a ‘real’ manner. The challenge for politicians and political parties is to answer the question as to where the line of ‘real’ ends and where the line of ‘manipulation’ begins...

Thus arming the ‘new’ campaign with tools to assist rather than manipulate people to exercise their influence of opinion is the challenge that Australian political parties face. For those who have the premise that we are not large enough to affect a critical mass, think of it in these simple terms – if your opponent has 200, 2,000 or 20,000 people they are engaging with and you only have a few dozen, who will have the greater level of effectiveness in delivering their message? The more individuals that can be convinced of the genuineness of a political figure and by them informing their friends and family on what is real or not real about the politicians they are being asked to vote for, the greater chance the message will be seen as ‘real’ rather than manipulative.

Mr Michael Allen and Mr Nick Martin

Mr Allen and Mr Martin chose to undertake their study tours together, and focused primarily on progressive political organisations as well as electoral and campaign methodologies. Organisations visited included the Democratic National Committee, the Democratic Congressional Committee and the Democratic Senate Congressional Committee. Discussions about Third Party campaigning involved meetings with the world’s largest trade union, the Service Employees International Union, and the peak organisations, the AFL-CIO and Change to Win. Two other areas of interest were electoral training and electoral campaigning:

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The participants also met with a number of providers of electoral training to political, labour and community organisers. This included the premier trainers in USA politics, Wellstone Action, who have a long history of providing effective and empowering training to people seeking to change the world around them. Wellstone Action was founded after the sudden and tragic death of Senator Paul Wellstone from Minnesota in 2002. In ongoing recognition of his contribution supporters founded Wellstone Action to carry on his tradition of participatory politics.

A number of providers of online training were also met with, including the New Organising Institute which provides training to people involved in web campaigning. The participants also met with Democratic Gain an organisation that acts as an “umbrella” organisation for progressive political training in the USA.

The participants had an opportunity to meet with some of the best political consultants in the USA across a number of campaign disciplines. This included people from the market research community, and well as broader whole-of-campaign consultancies which assist a candidate or campaign team in all areas of their campaign.

These meetings provided a useful contrast to the Australian experience of centralised operations from Party organisations. In the USA the experience is more control by local campaigns and there is a greater role for non-party actors, such as for-profit political consultancies.

Mr Simon Every

Mr Every's study tour focussed on three key areas: partisanship in the Congress and the primary voting system, United States-China relations, and the prospects for campaign finance reform in the wake of the *Citizens United* case, which struck out a ban on corporations and labour unions making independent expenditures and electioneering communications. Mr Every's report discusses his findings in the three areas of study. In studying campaign finance reform, his report compared the American system to that of Australia:

...but of more interest to me was a more radical, post-regulatory approach that allows participation by corporations and Political Action Committees, but that also encourages parties to harvest small donations by paying them at a \$5 or \$6 matched public funding rate for every dollar raised. Such a system is in place now in New York City (to a limit of \$175 per voter).

The present system of funding political parties in Australia is based around a simple calculation using a formula and giving this money to political parties to expend. Advocates argue convincingly that a New York City-style matching system is a more productive use of public money than simply giving parties a simple per vote grant because, in addition to diluting the influence of corporate and union donations, it has a beneficial influence on parties to work for their public funding by reaching out to potential and previous donors. In turn, research has shown that a small donation leads to increased activism and engagement; in an era of declining party membership and voter apathy this is an important goal in improving our polity. Using public money to improve public engagement (both by parties to individuals and individuals to parties) and a small philanthropic donation is arguably a better spend than the simple “bonus” approach of paying the most money to whoever wins the most votes.

Ms Kathleen Maltzahn

Ms Maltzahn's visit to the United Kingdom included meetings with a wide range of people, including Green Party members of the London Assembly, local councillors, political advisers, campaign managers and party officials. Among the topics discussed in her study tour report were the impact of Greens parties that have the balance of power and the range of programs in place in the United Kingdom to curb greenhouse gas emissions. An area of interest to Ms Maltzahn was the world's first 'transition town' at Totnes, which she was able to observe first-hand:

Totnes Transition Town (TTT) has a participatory process for developing an 'energy descent plan' that aims to identify practical ways to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. There is a wide-range of working groups, including on housing, education and food, that meet regular to develop projects. It is estimated that 10-15 per cent of the Totnes community has had some involvement with TTT.

I attended the Totnes' 'Winterfest' Celebration, where Transition Town projects and processes were being showcased. This included, for example, a bio-fuel plant that was being established in Totnes, where used cooking oil will be collected and distributed locally. Solar energy projects were also on display, as were local food production ideas, sustainable building materials and a wide-range of other ideas and projects. A display of the vision of TTT members for Totnes on a timeline from the present to 2030 demonstrated the participatory process that was being used to develop a low-carbon community. The Winterfest was attended by large numbers of people, illustrating the growing popularity of TTT.

The TTT approach to localization is embodied in the Totnes pound, an alternative local currency that can be used in Totnes, and that ensures, literally, that local money stays in local hands (as it cannot be used in other areas). The Totnes Pound is accepted by over 70 local businesses.

There are now hundreds of Transition Towns starting around the world, including in Australia. Seeing the first Transition Town in operation was extremely useful in helping me understand this growing movement ...

Mr Ian McNamara and Mr Noah Carroll

During Mr McNamara and Mr Carroll's visit to the United Kingdom, they had an opportunity to meet with a range of Labour parliamentarians, including the current and former Labour leaders, political staff and officials from party organisations. Areas of interest included the trend towards 'presidential' politics in the United Kingdom, the role of think tanks and the growing level of organisation and sophistication in building community and special interest groups to engage in the democratic process. One such organisation was CitizensUK:

We were invited to attend the CitizensUK Election Assembly by Lead Organiser, Jonathan Cox. The assembly brought together key community groups from across London and the UK.

CitizensUK, through its membership, had outlined six broad platform positions on various macro-political issues. Each of the three party leaders was given the opportunity to address these policy positions in a speech. Following each speech, two representatives from CitizensUK would question the leader about the detail of their commitments to each policy area.

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We found this process yielded thoughtful, rigorous and specific dialogue on a range of issues of interest to community members. Feedback from participants was very positive about having the opportunity to develop a set of policy priorities important to them as a community and have the three prospective leaders of the country address their policies.

Meeting with CitizensUK provided an excellent opportunity to observe community organising in action. This organisation is building links within and between communities to empower citizens and encourage them to engage with the democratic process.

Ms Bronwyn Halfpenny

Ms Halfpenny's study tour took her to London, Belfast and Leeds, where she met with a number of representatives from political, industrial and campaigning organisations. Ms Halfpenny was interested in campaigning methods and styles of progressive organisation and lobby groups in the lead up to the election. An activity that she found gave her the greatest insight into campaigning methodologies was working on local campaigns, including the campaign for the regional marginal seat of Leeds North East:

The local candidate, Fabian Hamilton, was well-known in the area and he had the support of many local small businesses and ethnic communities, in particular, the Pakistani and Caribbean community leaders.

Campaign workers were older and predominantly local branch members or community activists including the principal of the local school. The trade union UNITE had targeted this seat and union officials were also working here. The union itself had an extensive database of union members living in the seat and union members and officials were using that data to telephone members and seek their support for Labour.

The participant door-knocked in what was explained to her as one of the poorest areas in Leeds. Campaigning in this area demonstrated how important it is to have local community activists involved. These people were very well-respected and residents increased their effort to go out and vote based on the urgings of those activists.

Mr Kristian Galanti

Mr Galanti's study tour was spent observing and participating in several marginal seat campaigns and visiting the Conservative Party's national campaign headquarters. During his visit, he was able to compare and contrast Australian and British elections, with a particular focus on media coverage, voting systems and leaders' debates, which were the first ever to be held in a British election. Mr Galanti was also interested in the differences in election campaign advertising:

A major difference between British and Australian election campaigns is the absence in the UK of television and radio advertising, with the exception of a set number of party election broadcasts.

Some argue that such a ban puts everyone on a level playing field, as most parties are unable to compete with the expenditure of the major parties. However, following my visit I remain convinced that this is not a compelling reason to disallow TV advertising. I witnessed nothing to suggest the UK's ban on TV advertising put minor parties in any better position to compete with the major parties.

Money that would otherwise be spent on television and radio advertising is typically directed to other forms of advertising. In the case of the Conservatives, a strong advertising focus was placed on billboards. Perhaps a reflection of the superior spending power of the Conservatives, Tory billboards were scattered across London, easily outnumbering Labour's.

However, billboards aside, one could walk around parts of London and not know that an election was about to be held. Unlike in Australia where our streets are adorned with candidate posters in the weeks leading up to polling day, with the exception a handful of signs in front yards and windows London seemed strangely void of political advertising.

Mr Ben Morton

Mr Morton also found his study tour useful in comparing the UK and Australian elections. With a background as a campaigner and political party administrator, his interests were primarily the mechanics of the Conservative Party organisation and local campaigning techniques. During the study tour, he visited the Conservative Party campaign headquarters and a number of London campaigns, before travelling to the marginal seat of Pental, outside Manchester, to observe local campaigning, which he describes in his report:

The local Conservative Party office was a hive of activity. At no time was there ever less than at least ten volunteers working in the office, with many more out in the field...

Canvassing was a major activity during my visit to Pental. At 6pm every evening, teams went out into the streets to canvass for and record Conservative voters. During the day volunteers spent their time canvassing by telephone from the campaign office.

I was surprised by the amount of cheaply-produced election material that was distributed by volunteers in the electorate. In Pental, the large number of terrace houses makes letterbox dropping a much easier task that it is in Australia, however, this is not the reason for the large amount of low-cost election material.

Local spending caps imposed by the Electoral Commission ensure that local campaigns try to use volunteers and cheap in house printing rather than spend funds on professional distribution or printing. As a result, funds spent on individual projects were reduced so that more could be done within the spending cap...

The spending cap ensured that British campaigns rely on a large number of local and active volunteers. This certainly changes the dynamic of campaigning at a local level.

Mr Luke O'Sullivan

Mr O'Sullivan also found campaigning to be different to that in Australia, due in part to the different electoral systems and the spending caps. In addition to discussing his observations on the significance of the daily pre-election polls, advertising, the leaders' debates and the emergence of a third major party, his report also discusses the impact of campaigning regulations:

The average voter enrolment per constituency is 80,000 voters. The election expenditure cap per party for an average constituency was approximately 11,000 pounds. In the 18 months leading up to the election, the respective parties spend considerable time establishing voter databases to determine local issues of relevance and particularly the political persuasion of individual voters. Many direct mail surveys were undertaken outside the election cap timeframe with a view to gaining as much voter detail as possible. Closer to the election, teams of volunteers spend night after night phone canvassing voters which was then cross referenced to the voter database. The data collected was then scrutinised and sympathetic voters were heavily targeted during the campaign to ensure that they turned out and voted on polling day.

Each of the marginal constituencies had a full-time campaign office from election to election which was serviced by a party agent who has the legislative responsibility on behalf of the party to ensure compliance with current regulations. In addition, each constituency had its own party structure headed by a constituent chair. The constituency chair, along with the party agent had the grass roots responsibility for directing the campaign.

Mr Joshua Fear

During Mr Fear's study tour, he sought to explore political polling and the links between think tanks and political parties in policy formulation. In doing so, he met with a wide range of people, including parliamentarians, campaigners, market researchers, think tanks and pollsters. His report includes a number of policy recommendations which originated from think tanks in the United Kingdom. It also discusses the role of political polling:

Election campaigns in the UK are dominated by the polls. Almost every day in the lead-up to the election a new poll is published by one of the many national newspapers. Poll numbers are especially important because of the electoral system, which encourages people to vote 'tactically' – that is, to vote according to the likely vote in your constituency in order to keep the party that you like least from being elected.

Making predictions on the likely makeup of the parliament based on poll results is complicated by the fact that voting is not compulsory in the UK. This means that polling companies must develop effective ways to weight their data according to how likely individual respondents are to vote. In addition, elaborate weighting systems are used to correct for predictable distortions in the data. The competition between polling companies to predict the result most accurately is in essence a battle between their respective approaches to weighting data – not between methods of data collection (face-to-face vs. telephone vs. online) as is commonly thought. Extrapolating poll results to the likely composition of the parliament is more complex than in Australia, again because of the first-past-the-post system. This makes it difficult to make predictions based on a uniform swing in each seat.

Chronology of Visits

12 to 18 July 2007	Fifth Australian Delegation to New Zealand Led by the Hon Kate Doust MLC (Australian Labor Party), Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier, Treasurer, Minister for State Development and Member of the Legislative Council, Parliament of Western Australia
25 to 31 July 2007	Second Australian Delegation to the Philippines Led by Mr Nicholas Kotsiras MLA (Liberal Party of Australia), Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship, Shadow Minister for Youth and Sport, Member for Bulleen, Parliament of Victoria
12 to 18 August 2007	Second Delegation from the Philippines Led by Ms Maria Isabelle G Climaco (Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino Party), Representative, First District of Zamboanga
16 to 27 September 2007	Twenty-fourth Delegation from the United States of America Leadership shared between delegation members
17 to 23 February 2008	Sixteenth Delegation from China Led by Mr Lui Kewei, Deputy Secretary-General of the All-China Youth Federation
1 to 7 March 2008	Sixteenth Australian Delegation to Japan Led by the Hon Peter Dutton MP (Liberal Party of Australia), Shadow Minister for Finance, Competition Policy and Deregulation and Federal Member for Dickson
9 to 15 April 2008	Seventeenth Australian Delegation to China Led by Mr Jason Wood MP (Liberal Party of Australia), Federal Member for La Trobe
19 to 30 April 2008	Twenty-fifth Australian Delegation to the United States of America Led by Ms Heidi Victoria MLA (Liberal Party of Australia), Member for Bayswater, Parliament of Victoria
11 to 17 May 2008	Sixth Delegation from New Zealand Led by Ms Louisa Wall MP (New Zealand Labour Party), Labour List Member of Parliament
22 to 28 June 2008	Third Delegation from the Philippines Led by the Hon Miguel Rene A Dominguez (Sarangani Reconciliation and Reformation Organisation Party), Governor, Province of Sarangani
25 to 31 July 2008	Sixth Australian Delegation to New Zealand Led by Mr Michael Johnson MP (Liberal Party of Australia), Opposition Whip, Federal Member for Ryan

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2 to 8 August 2008	Third Australian Delegation to the Philippines Led by the Hon Jack Snelling MHA (Australian Labor Party), Speaker of the House of Assembly, Member for Playford, Parliament of South Australia
1 to 7 September 2008	Twelfth Delegation from Vietnam Led by HE Mr Vo Van Thuong, Alternate Member, Central Committee, Communist Party of Vietnam; First Secretary, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union; Chairman, National Committee on Youth of Vietnam, President, Vietnam Youth Federation and Member, National Assembly
14 to 25 September 2008	Twenty-fifth Delegation from the United States of America Leadership shared between delegation members
28 October to 3 November 2008	Twelfth Australian Delegation to Vietnam Led by Senator Mathias Cormann (Liberal Party of Australia), Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Health Administration, Senator for Western Australia
30 November to 5 December 2009	Seventeenth Delegation from China Led by Ms Wang Lei, President, Shandong Provincial Youth Federation
28 February to 6 March 2009	Seventeenth Australian Delegation to Japan Led by Senator Louise Pratt (Australian Labor Party), Senator for Western Australia
15 to 21 March 2009	Fourth Delegation from the Philippines Led by the Hon Dakila Carlo E Cua (Lakas Party), Governor, Province of Quirino
23 May to 3 June 2009	Twenty-sixth Delegation from the United States of America Leadership shared between delegation members
27 June to 3 July 2009	Eighteenth Australian Delegation to China Led by Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith (Australian Labor Party), Chief of Staff to Senator the Hon Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
9 to 15 August 2009	Seventh Delegation from New Zealand Led by Mr David Bennett MP (National Party), Member for Hamilton East
7 to 12 September 2009	Eighteenth Delegation from China Led by Mr Li Xiaobao, Deputy Secretary-General, All-China Youth Federation
19 to 26 September 2009	Seventh Australian Delegation to New Zealand Led by Mr Kyam Maher (Australian Labor Party), Assistant Secretary of the Australian Labor Party (South Australian Branch)

3 to 10 October 2009	Fourth Australian Delegation to the Philippines Led by Mr Albert Jacob MLA (Liberal Party of Australia), Member for Ocean Reef, Parliament of Western Australia
18 to 24 October 2009	Thirteenth Delegation from Vietnam Led by Mr Nguyen Hoang Hiep, Secretary, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union
3 to 9 December 2009	Thirteenth Delegation to Vietnam Led by Ms Marlene Kairouz MLA (Australian Labor Party), Member for Kororoit, Parliament of Victoria
27 February to 5 March 2010	Eighteenth Australian Delegation to Japan Led by Senator Scott Ryan (Liberal Party of Australia), Senator for Victoria
13 to 19 March 2010	Fourteenth Delegation from Vietnam Led by Mr Duong Van An, Secretary, Central Committee, Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union
9 to 20 April 2010	Twenty-sixth Australian Delegation to the United States of America Led by Mr Chris Minns (Australian Labor Party), Chief of Staff to the Hon John Robertson MLC, New South Wales Minister for Industrial Relations, Commerce, Energy and Public Sector Reform
15 to 21 May 2010	Nineteenth Australian Delegation to China Led by Mr Joe Francis MLA (Liberal Party of Australia), Member for Jandakot, Parliament of Western Australia
17 to 28 June 2010	Twenty-seventh Delegation from the United States of America Leadership shared between delegation members

Acknowledgements

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

Former Delegates

The Council wishes to thank all of its former delegates whose ongoing support contributes in a very positive and significant way to the experience of delegations visiting Australia. The assistance the Council receives from its former delegates, 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 in-kind support of private sector and other organisations.

The Council would 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.

Financial Summary

Year	\$
2007-2008	
Commonwealth Appropriation	805,000
Expenditure	392,007
2008-2009	
Commonwealth Appropriation	809,000
Expenditure	375,302
2009-2010	
Commonwealth Appropriation	829,000
Expenditure	539,945

Notes:

1. *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 Deregulation.*
2. *Funds are set aside each financial year based on all exchange activities proceeding, however, a number of circumstances can prevent visits from taking place, such as elections in Australia and events in partnering countries.*

Administrative Information

Chairman's Remuneration

The Chairman receives a sitting fee when the Council meets and when 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.

Staffing

A number of staff from the Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Division of the Department of Finance and Deregulation have supported the Council over the reporting period. As at 30 June 2010, the Council Secretariat staff were Ms Deb Lewis - Director, Mr Geoff Barnett - Executive Officer and Ms Sara Smith - Program Officer.

The Council extends its thanks for the work and commitment of former Director, Mrs Kim Baker, who ceased in October 2009, and former Executive Officer, Ms Pandora Livanos, who ceased in January 2008.

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