



News from AIIA National Office *October-November 2013*

Events

AIIA 80th Anniversary National Conference

The AIIA celebrated its 80th Anniversary as a national organization with a national conference on 'Foreign Policy Priorities for Australia' on 21 November 2013 at the Hyatt Hotel, Canberra. Details on the event can be found at: http://www.aiia.asn.au/act-papers/doc_download/1481-national-conference-final-program. More than 150 people attended the event and they got to hear the expertise and insight of leading Australian government, diplomatic, academic and business figures. There was significant media coverage with the Conference broadcast on Australia's Public Affairs Channel and covered broadly. Footage will be loaded to the AIIA's YouTube channel once available: www.youtube.com/user/AIIAvision

News

The 2013 Sir James Plimsoll Lecture

You can now view the 2013 Sir James Plimsoll Lecture delivered by Peter Varghese AO on 7 November 2013 on "The Challenges of Multilateralism" at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqZ44zNUYrU&feature=c4-overview&list=UU2fOgXLcB3IK9IN3KMqCHYA>. The lecture is hosted each year by the University of Tasmania in partnership with DFAT and the Tasmania Branch of the Australian Institute for International Affairs.

Book Launch

On 14 November, the AIIA NSW launched Rachel Miller's "Wife and Baggage To Follow" which can be ordered at <https://shop.abc.net.au/products/wife-and-baggage-to-follow-pbk>. Rachel is the wife of former AIIA National Vice-President Geoff Miller and accompanied him on seven foreign service postings over four decades.

Publications

Emerging Scholars 2013

The latest volume in the AIIA's *Emerging Scholars* series was launched at SA Branch on Monday 25 November. The volume can be downloaded at http://www.aiia.asn.au/act-papers/doc_download/1476-emerging-scholars-2013 or

hardcopies ordered from intern3@aiia.asn.au.

The *Emerging Scholars* 2013 volume includes papers on the Scottish Independence referendum, security in the Indo-Pacific, nationalism in the Philippines, the India-Pakistan dynamic, minerals and aid in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the role of discourse in diplomacy, international organisations the IMF and WTO, private military firms, illegal immigration and the role of second track dialogue in the Australia-China relationship. For the first time, the 2013 volume is edited by former interns Mhairi Cowden, Eva Entenmann and Alix Kearney.

Policy Commentary

The AIIA has released a new policy commentary, 'Japan's New Trajectory: Economic Prospects and Security Challenges', which can be downloaded from http://www.aiia.asn.au/act-papers/doc_download/1477-japans-new-trajectory. Nobuhide Hatasa of the Japan Institute of International Affairs sets the context by detailing the current state of the Japanese economy including the optimism following Prime Minister Abe's return to power. Airport Economist' Tim Harcourt analyses Japan-Australia trade prospects and identifies the factors which could strengthen economic relations. David Envall identifies Japan's strategic challenges in its major relationships. Finally, Rikki Kersten describes the dilemma caused by the revival of Japanese assertiveness since Abe's re-election

Member Offers

AIIA members have been invited to consider the following:

- **Oceanic Conference on International Studies**, 9-11 July 2014, Melbourne. The AIIA is one of the partners assisting in organising this event. A call for papers has been released at <http://www.ocis.org.au/pages/call-for-abstracts.php> with abstracts due by 31 January 2014.
- **Professor Darrell Tryon Research Scholarship** for PhD students interested in spending 3 months doing research in New Caledonia. Applications close 30 November: <http://asiapacific.anu.edu.au/students/scholarships/professor-darrell-tryon-research-scholarship>

Staff and Volunteers

The AIIA farewells Sophia Brook, Rebeka Selmeczki, Christopher Lever, Almog Elijis, Artemis Niaros and Shane Ivimey. It extends a warm welcome to Gayathiri Ganeshan (New Zealand), Matt McDevitt (ANU), Giridharan Ramasubramanian (ANU) and Katrina Senchuk (ANU).

Melissa H. Conley Tyler
National Executive Director