Welcome to the Third issue of the Australian National Internships Program Newsletter.

2009 has been a successful and rewarding year for ANIP. Student numbers have been strong and it has been encouraging to see greater participation by students with science, economics, commerce and Asian studies backgrounds along with our more traditional areas of arts and social sciences. This year has seen the launch of this Newsletter, which has been very positively received, and we have had a number of successful alumni functions in Canberra and Melbourne. We are planning similar functions in other cities next year. It was pleasing to see how many former Interns graduated at the end of 2009, some achieving outstanding results. (Ayleen O’Hanlon, Semester 1 2009 Intern, is pictured after graduating with a Bachelor Asian Studies (Indonesian).) This year has also seen a number of new placements join the Program and this has increased the range of possibilities open to Interns. Next year promises to be a challenging one, mainly due to the uncertainties resulting from the federal election, which is due sometime during the year. Election years are challenging because we can never be sure how many, if any, placements we will have in Parliament House. In addition to the election, 2010 will be challenging because we had record first semester applications. Traditionally Intern numbers are lower in first semester than second semester. However, with a large number of successful applicants for Semester 1, we will be working hard over the summer break to secure appropriate placements.

I would like to wish all of our friends, colleagues, placement hosts, former Interns and those Interns joining us for the first time in 2010, a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Associate Professor Robert Campbell

TOP HONOUR

Congratulations to former Intern, Henry Makeham, a successful recipient in the inaugural round of the 2010 Prime Minister’s Australia Asia Endeavour Awards. The 40 scholarships are awarded nationally to recognise leading undergraduate and postgraduate students to undertake not only international study and research, but also internships. The Awards aim to build strong and lasting education and professional linkages between Australia and Asia.

Henry completed 18 months of exchange at Peking University, studying Chinese language and Chinese law within his Bachelor of Asian Studies (Chinese)/ Bachelor of Laws degree. Upon returning from China, he founded the Australia China Youth
Association (ACYA), a national grassroots organisation that aims to promote professional opportunities for young Australians and facilitate meaningful engagement with China.

“Receiving the scholarships is an affirmation that a lot of hard work has been acknowledged by other parties and it is nice to know that the Federal Government is taking Asia-literacy seriously,” Henry said.

Henry's study will focus on the feasibility of Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's vision of an Asia-Pacific community, as viewed from various Chinese perspectives. Henry is completing a combined Law and Asia-Pacific Studies degree and undertook ANIP in Semester 2 2006 being placed with Kevin Rudd MP as Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The Australian recipients of these prestigious Awards congregated in Canberra for the official announcement and an intensive 3-day induction program. The program included briefings from a range of key stakeholders, plenty of opportunities for networking and, most significantly, morning tea with both the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister at Parliament House.

![Henry at morning tea with the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister](image)

See Henry's interview in full at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-YskTnNU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-YskTnNU)

**WHERE ARE THEY NOW???</br>**

**Angelique Fitzgerald**

Sydney is not a long way to travel from Canberra, but becoming an accountant is a fair way from an honours degree in International Relations!

My name is Angelique Fitzgerald and I graduated from the University of Sydney in 2008 with a Bachelor of International Studies (Honours: First Class). I was an intern with the ANIP in 2007 and I was placed in the Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA). I compiled a report on Vietnam and Globalisation that I was honoured to have published in the AIIA's *Emerging Scholars* maiden publication.

Since then, I have started as a graduate consultant with PricewaterhouseCoopers in January 2009 and I am now a consultant with the Private Clients Management Consulting team, focusing on Private Clients, areas of government and various not for profit organisations. I really love my job as it is all about problem solving - whatever the client needs, or whatever isn't working, we'll find a way to help! We've done some pretty amazing and diverse things.
I am also my teams’ PwC Foundation Champion – so I am responsible for organizing and promoting different charity activities that PwC sponsors. We each get a day off work to help a charity, so it’s a great way to be involved.

In terms of becoming an accountant, I’ve almost finished an accounting, finance and tax university bridging course and so I will be starting the qualification courses that allow me to become a Chartered Accountant next year. I think that politics and financial services go very well together, and would highly recommend this combination.

I’ve managed to stay in contact with the many friends I made through the internship program, and my internship supervisor, the National Executive Director. I am especially delighted to hear that Mee-Yeong is getting married! Congratulations! I count the internship as one of the best times of my life, and it’s played a huge part in getting me to where I am now.

So hello from PwC Sydney, and I look forward to seeing you at an Alumni event very soon.

Angelique Fitzgerald

Andrew Landles-Dowling

After my amazing and sometimes surreal experience in ANIP, I stayed in Australia for another month touring the country with my mom. After returning to the United States, I completed my last semester of University and graduated from the University of San Francisco (USF) Cum Laude with a major in Politics. After graduation, I was lucky to get a job working for USF’s advancement department travelling around the country meeting with Alumni to talk with them about their experiences as students and what their thoughts/perceptions are about the university today. This project is helping lay the foundation for my university to boost our alumni relations program that will help us be more competitive in the Secondary Education sector of the USA.

My placement while in the ANIP program in 2007 was with Senator the Honourable Nigel Scullion who was the Minister for Community Services under the John Howard regime. I worked on research for him concerning the viability of a crocodile safari industry in the Northern Territory.

I mentioned earlier that this trip was surreal for me because I was so blessed to have been given such an amazing opportunity to work in high-level government (something that is rarely experienced in the United States). I was also lucky enough to work for a Crocodile Dundee-esque Minister from the Northern Territory. I enjoyed making friends that I will undoubtedly stay in contact with throughout my life.

Andy Landles-Dowling

Steve Michelson

I commenced my studies in Arts/Law at the ANU in 2000 before transferring to finish my undergraduate degree at The University of Melbourne in 2005. While in Canberra, I was President of the ANU Students’ Association and completed internships at the ACT Legislative Assembly and United States Congress. Since then I have practiced workplace relations law at a commercial law firm in Melbourne and am now a member of the Industrial Relations team at the Victorian Department of Health. In my spare time, I am a Director of www.onefreebike.com, member of the North Melbourne Community Legal Service Committee of Management and enrolled in a Masters of Labour Relations Law at the University of Melbourne. I also enjoy digging holes into the local golf course, playing drums in a very ordinary sounding rock band and thinking of intuitive ways to pay off my mortgage over a couple of quiet ales.

Steve Michelson
Intern in Semester 2 2004- ACT Legislative Assembly
Joshua See

In Semester 2 of this year, I was placed in the office of the Hon Alex Somlyay MP, Chief Opposition Whip. This was an interesting placement, as the whip’s office is that which traditionally assists the leader in administering advice and instructions to Members of the Opposition, a sort of nerve point for the Parliamentary Party. While placed in the office I wrote a report about Parliamentary Remuneration, specifically how the States and Territories create Parliamentary remuneration schemes, and what mechanisms they use to determine a concept that is critical to the thinking of all politicians, “How much am I worth”? 

The Whip’s office was a fantastic place to be based during a Parliamentary Internship, as it meant I have to meet most, if not all of the Coalition MPs and their staffs, who, essentially, run the offices on their employing MP’s behalf. Following the completion of my report, I was offered a non-ongoing position with the office while a staff member was on extended leave. This is a fantastic opportunity and one that I was most grateful for, as the experience of the Internship had taught me not only what to expect, but how best to operate professionally within the unique work environment of Parliament. 

While working over the course of late November and early December of this year, it became apparent that moves were being made behind the scenes in relation to the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme and the wider leadership ambitions of some senior Coalition MPs. I was fortunate enough to have been able to see Alex in his role as Chief Opposition Whip a sort of counsellor and friend to all of the MPs who required his counsel and watch the chaos in the period preceding the spill motion that succeeded on Tuesday, 1 December 2009. It was incredible, as a student of political science at the ANU, to go from watching the development of political stories in the media, to being a part of it – to be on the ground, ‘in the thick of it’.

Without ANIP, there was no way that I could have remained so involved in an aspect of life that I enjoy so much. As a recent graduate with a Bachelor of Arts, it is sometimes frustrating at the lack of opportunity afforded to Arts students to utilise their skill base before finishing their university studies. There are not nearly as many summer clerkship programs for Arts students as there for other disciplines like Commerce, Economics or Law. I believe that the Internship was the best thing I have done in my time at the Australian National University, as it allowed me to use and apply the knowledge that I had gained in my academic experience in a professional and demanding working environment. I would highly and emphatically recommend the program to anyone who is considering applying for it, and while the program may be rigorous at times, with the correct mindset the rewards far outweigh the sacrifice.

Joshua See

Lia van den Bosch

Whilst undertaking ANIP and interning with Dr Dennis Jensen MP, Lia became one of the first Canberra students accepted into the Teach for Australia Program. The program, based on American and British examples, aims to put law, economics and science graduates through a six-week training course during the Christmas holidays before sending them into the classroom for two years. While the graduates will receive ongoing teaching instruction and mentoring from business partners sponsoring the scheme, they will carry an 80 per cent teaching load and will be placed in largely disadvantaged schools. After their two years are up they will receive a teaching qualification and will be free to move into careers with the business sponsors, including Boston Consulting Group, Microsoft, Freehills, Stockland and Corrs Chambers Westgarth Lawyers – or to remain in the classroom’

Lia plans to travel to India next year and then take up her deferred place. We look forward to a follow-up story.

During the Semester, the Interns had the opportunity to attend several events, including a Parliamentary Reception, lunch and seminar hosted by the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic, BBQ, and welcome and farewell functions. These events were an opportunity for Interns to network and socialise.

Finally yet importantly is a special thank you to our Student Representatives, Jacqueline Brandman, Jennifer Burgess and Kimberley Hare for their time, suggestions and valuable feedback.

**REMINDER**

Application Closing Date for Semester 2, 2010 is Friday 30 April 2010

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