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In 2013 the United States Studies Centre continued its commitment to our core goals: to increase understanding of America in Australia and around the globe and become one of the world’s leading institutions for the study of the United States. In perusing this review of our activities in 2013, you will see we had an active and exciting year in meeting those goals through teaching, research, and public outreach.

Taught by our outstanding faculty, more than 1,200 students enrolled in our undergraduate and postgraduate units in 2013. We were also delighted to expand our unique intern and study abroad program to include students from the University of Western Australia (UWA) —more than 38 UWA students joined 89 others from the University of Sydney to experience our programs in Los Angeles and Washington, DC.

We are especially pleased that in 2013 the Centre took up the role as administrator for the interdisciplinary American Studies major at the University of Sydney. We look forward to working with our partners in departments across the university to further strengthen its reputation as one of the world’s leading academic institutions for the study of the United States.

Supported by governments and the private sector, the Centre’s think-tank programs continued to thrive, helping drive public policy debate across a range of issues including on future cities, groundwater resources, soil security, sustainable fuels, evidence-based policymaking, women in leadership, and prospects for Australia–US relations in the 21st century.

Of particular note, the Centre launched the inaugural Public Knowledge Forum in November, a major international event
Reflecting on 2013

held at the iconic Sydney Opera House, to explore how in
our current technological age citizens inform their political
choices. At the end of 2013 we were honoured to learn that
the Chicago-based MacArthur Foundation would provide a
significant grant to the Centre to support a project examining
expanding US ties with Burma, Indonesia, and Vietnam.

All told, over the course of 2013 we had some 128 high-
level visitors from America and Australia at the Centre, and
convened close to 100 events on both sides of the Pacific.
And we had one of our biggest years yet in the media, with
a significant expansion of our profile in international media
outside of Australia.

In another important milestone for the Centre, 2013 also saw
us take part in the international search for the founding CEO
of our sister institution, the Perth USAsia Centre at UWA. The
US Studies Centre, along with the other founding members
of the Perth USAsia Centre — the American Australian
Association and UWA — are pleased and proud that L.
Gordon Flake, then-CEO of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield
Foundation in Washington, DC, accepted our offer to lead the
new centre in Perth. He took up the reins in the new position
in January 2014 and we are very much looking forward to
working closely with the Perth USAsia Centre in the years
ahead.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to former US
Ambassador to Australia Jeffrey Bleich, who stepped down in
2013, and extend a warm welcome to the new ambassador,
John Berry. These gentlemen have been enormously
supportive of the Centre and its work and we greatly
appreciate working with them and their teams to promote our
shared goals.

Looking ahead, watch for the Centre to continue its steady
expansion — within Australia, in the Asia-Pacific, and in the
United States — across our various portfolios of teaching,
research, and public outreach. We look forward to working
with our excellent board of directors and our many other
stakeholders and supporters in 2014 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Bates Gill
Chief Executive Officer
APPOINTMENTS

DELIVERING EXCELLENCE

As the Centre’s global reputation grows, so too does its staff and associates, and in 2013 the Centre made a number of outstanding appointments.

THOMAS J. ADAMS
Lecturer in History and American Studies

In late 2013, Thomas Jessen Adams accepted a position as lecturer in History and American Studies, a joint appointment between the US Studies Centre and the Department of History at the University of Sydney.

Adams received his PhD in US history from the University of Chicago and has taught at the University of Chicago and Tulane University where he was American Council of Learned Societies New Faculty Fellow and Andrew Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow.

His research focuses on a variety of topics in US history, including the history of political economy and labour, urban history, social movements, legal history, and race and gender. Recently his work has begun to examine the contemporary history, politics, and culture of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast.


RODNEY TAVEIRA
Lecturer in American Studies

Centre lecturer Rodney Taveira was awarded his PhD in English from the University of Sydney in 2010 and now teaches undergraduate units Global America and American Foundations, and the Board of Studies–endorsed unit for year 11 and 12 high school students, America: Prophecy, Power, Politics.

Taveira has published on contemporary American fiction, literary responses to 9/11, and the interrelation of cinema, photography, painting, and literature. He is currently working on a book manuscript which examines how violence, sexuality, and the way writing makes meaning are observed in the works of Thomas Pynchon, James Ellroy, and Don DeLillo when they are read through the lens of visual culture.

Taveira’s work also includes a comprehensive analysis of James Ellroy’s writing career, the American genre of crime fiction, and the place of Los Angeles in American culture and recent history.

Taveira was previously a lecturer in English at the University of New South Wales.
LINDA JAKOBSON: AN EXPERT IN US-CHINA RELATIONS

Visiting Professor

On the world’s leading scholars on China and US-China ties joined the Centre in 2013 to add expertise and deepen understanding of the relationship between the two superpowers.

Linda Jakobson, who is also a non-resident fellow at the Lowy Institute for International Policy, is researching the US–China relationship, focusing on societal engagement, economic interdependence, and political and strategic competition.

A fluent Mandarin speaker, Jakobson lived and worked in China for 20 years and has extensively published on China’s foreign policy, energy security, and science and technology development.

Jakobson is currently developing a course for University of Sydney students on US–China relations.

HUW MCKAY
US ECONOMICS COMMENTATOR

Visiting Scholar

The Centre welcomed Huw McKay aboard as a visiting scholar in 2013 to comment on economic and financial issues related to the US. McKay is executive director and senior international economist at Westpac, as well as the spokesperson on pan-Asian economic and market issues and a widely sought-after expert on the state of the global economy.

In 2013, McKay’s activities for the Centre included joining an Alliance 21 panel discussing President Obama’s trade policy titled Trans-Pacific Partnership and Beyond, which examined how the US-led multilateral deal could affect the balance of power in the Asia-Pacific.

McKay also led a presentation on the economic consequences of the October US government shutdown as part of a Centre media briefing and is working on an Alliance 21 paper on the economic dimensions of the Australia–US alliance. Before his appointment, McKay was involved in a number of Centre events, including a 2012 forum looking at the impact of the US presidential election on Australia and the Asia-Pacific.
In 2013, the Centre welcomed 128 high-level visitors to contribute to our leading education, research, and outreach programs. These included current government leaders from Australia and the US, prominent public intellectuals, and a diverse range of experts and academics, all of whom added to the debate surrounding the key issues facing the US and the world.
ANDREW HOFFMAN: BUSINESS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
Holcim Professor of Sustainable Enterprise at the University of Michigan

The University of Michigan's professor of sustainable enterprise Andrew Hoffman, one of the world's leading academics on business and climate change, visited the Centre in March.

Speaking in Sydney at an event co-hosted with EY and the University of Sydney Business School, Hoffman said business leaders are perfectly placed to move beyond the extreme partisan debate preventing governments from acting on global warming and seize the opportunities created by the global shift in energy use.

Hoffman’s visit to Australia was part of an Australian Research Council–funded program into business response to climate change, and also included a meeting with Centre students. He has published eight books and more than ninety articles, and his work has been covered by or published in The New York Times, Harvard Business Review, Scientific American, Time, The Wall Street Journal, The Atlantic, and National Public Radio.

DAPHNE KOLLER: WHAT MOOCS MEAN FOR UNIVERSITIES
Co-founder of Coursera and Rajeev Motwani Professor in the School of Engineering at Stanford

In August, Stanford University's Daphne Koller, the co-founder of the world-leading online education platform Coursera, joined University of New South Wales vice-chancellor Fred Hilmer and Andrew Stevens, the managing director of IBM Australia and New Zealand for a public forum. They explored how courses allowing professors to potentially educate millions of students at a time will affect existing tertiary institutions. A pioneer in the field of Massive Open Online Courses, Coursera offers free online classes from more than 80 universities.

Whilst in Sydney, Koller also participated in an invitation-only event discussing the Centre report The Technology Enabled Higher Education Revolution (see page 20).

Koller's main research interest is in developing and using machine learning and probabilistic methods to model and analyse complex domains. She is the author of more than 200 publications, which have appeared in venues that range from Science to numerous conferences and journals in artificial intelligence and computer science.
OTHER NOTABLE VISITORS

- Richard Altman, executive director, emeritus, of the Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuels Initiative
- Jeffrey Bleich, US ambassador to Australia
- Kurt Campbell, former assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs
- Roland Chin, provost at the University of Hong Kong
- Jim Clifton, chairman and CEO of Gallup
- David Gottfried, founder of the US Green Building Council and World Green Building Council
- Brad Glosserman, executive director of the Pacific Forum, Center for Strategic and International Studies
- Arlie Hochschild, professor emerita of sociology at the University of California, Berkeley
- William H. Janeway, senior advisor and managing director at Warburg Pincus
- Bruce Jentleson, professor of public policy and political science at Duke University
- Kerri-Ann Jones, US assistant secretary of state for oceans and international environmental and scientific affairs
- Sherman Katz, senior advisor at the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress
- Ethan Kent, senior vice president of the Project for Public Spaces
- Atul Keshap, US senior official for Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation
- Dennise Mathieu, US deputy assistant secretary for Australia, New Zealand, and Pacific Island affairs
- Nicholas Moore, CEO of Macquarie Group
- John A. Nagl, former president of the Center for a New American Security, Washington DC
- Cynthia Ogden, researcher at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Joelle Simonpietri, senior analyst at the US Pacific Command Energy Office

Find out more at: ussc.edu.au/2013visitors
Education stands as a crucial part of the Centre’s mission to enrich the understanding of the United States in Australia and beyond. Maintaining that guiding focus, we have continued to inspire students through our new and existing education programs and stimulated an enhanced comprehension of the US and its role in the world.

In 2013, the Centre had another record year, sending 130 students abroad for study and intern placements in the United States, and with 1,243 students enrolled in our broad range of educational programs. Our unparalleled access to political, cultural, academic, and business leaders from Australia and the US allowed Centre students the unique opportunity to engage with the brightest minds and tackle the big issues facing both countries.

Our education opportunities also extended beyond the classroom. Through the Centre’s US connections, more students than ever travelled to Los Angeles and Washington DC to study, intern, and live on campus in two of America’s most important cities.

The Centre continues to grow, improve, and adapt its education offerings to expand its global reach and give more students the opportunity to interact with and gain a deep understanding of the US. In 2014, the Centre will continue to offer these, and a number of exciting new opportunities for high school, undergraduate, and postgraduate students.

DEBATE THE FUTURE OF AMERICA

Have race relations in the US improved during the Obama presidency or deteriorated? This vexing question was tackled by some of Sydney’s top high school debaters at the final of the Centre’s 2013 Debate the Future of America competition.

The debate was won by Hurlstone Agricultural High School, which narrowly beat Pymble Ladies’ College in a split decision. The final was the culmination of three hard-fought elimination rounds, in which ten teams from across Sydney debated whether the US should adopt Australian-style gun laws and whether the US needs an austerity program.

The competition is open to Year 11 students interested in deepening their awareness of the strong links between the US and Australia. The winners from Hurlstone were awarded three iPads for their school.

Find out more at usc.edu.au/debate.
AMERICA: PROPHECY, POWER, POLITICS

In 2013, Centre academic Rebecca Sheehan worked closely with a number of Sydney schools to review the Centre’s academic offerings to high school students. The outcome of this collaborative approach was the development of a new Board of Studies–endorsed Higher School Certificate (HSC) course for Year 11 and Year 12 students, America: Prophecy, Power, Politics. Taught by Centre lecturer Rodney Taveira, the course was offered for the first time in semester one, 2014.

The course covers new and exciting ground outside the HSC curriculum to enhance students’ understanding of the United States and give them the opportunity to develop university-standard writing and critical thinking skills whilst also earning credit towards a university degree.

Find out more at ussc.edu.au/highschool.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

“The United States Studies Centre offers some of the most unique, creative, and respected units you will undertake during your study. Basically — GET ON IT!” This advice was given in the University of Sydney Union’s 2014 Counter Course Handbook following another year of outstanding undergraduate teaching at the US Studies Centre.

In US Politics: Elections, Presidents, Laws, associate professor Brendan O’Connor led students through the intricacies of the American political system, looking at current debates over spending, the power of congress, and Obama’s second term agenda. For those with a thirst for foreign policy, US in the World looked at America’s place in contemporary geopolitics amid the challenges of Islamic extremism, nuclear proliferation, and the rise of China.

Rebecca Sheehan’s unit Sex, Race, and Rock in the USA featured some enthralling guest lecturers, including co-founder of MTV Les Garland, music critic Simon Reynolds (see feature box) and songwriter and frontwoman of ARIA Award-winning independent band The Jezabels, Hayley Mary.

In total, the Centre offered six undergraduate units in 2013 and for the first time administered the American Studies major for the University of Sydney. The major incorporates units of study from the US Studies Centre as well as the departments of English, film studies, history, government, and music.

Find out more at ussc.edu.au/undergraduate.

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAM

Our postgraduate program continued to strengthen in 2013. More than 300 students enrolled in our US Studies master’s, graduate diploma, graduate certificate, or individual units of study to help gain a deeper understanding of the US and its place in the world.

A new postgraduate unit exploring in detail why so many around the world have extremely negative views of the US was offered for the first time in 2013. Taught by Centre lecturer Adam Lockyer, The Anti-American Tradition examined claims that Americans are particularly uninformed about other cultures, global affairs, and world geography.

IMPERFECT PITCH

In September renowned music critic Simon Reynolds visited the Centre to guest lecture in Rebecca Sheehan’s undergraduate unit Sex, Race, and Rock in the USA. Reynolds discussed his latest book Retromania: Pop Culture’s Addiction to Its Own Past and elements of his work on gender, class, race, and sexuality in music.

Reynolds and Sheehan also teamed up with music critics Anwyn Crawford and Craig Mathieson to discuss the past, present, and future of music writing as part of a Sydney Ideas public forum. The event, Imperfect Pitch: Music Writing in the 21st Century, touched on the thriving market for music books and specialist magazines as well as the proliferation of online comment.
World-renowned US history professor Ian Tyrrell joined the Centre in 2013 to teach popular postgraduate unit *American Exceptionalism*. Tyrrell is a professor of history at the University of New South Wales and was a pioneer in the approach to transnational history as a research program for reconceptualising US history.

Find out more at ussc.edu.au/postgraduate.

**CAPITOL HILL INTERNS**

Centre master’s students Sinclaire Prowse and Hannah Blyth travelled to Washington in January to take part in the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme. The program, founded in 1999, offers Australian students an opportunity to intern in a range of United States Congressional offices for two months each year. Blyth interned in the office of Democratic representative Joe Courtney of Connecticut, while Prowse worked in the offices of Eni Faleomavaega, the delegate for American Samoa.

Prowse said she was proud to have been chosen for the prestigious program. “I’ve focused my study at the Centre on US foreign policy, so I was very excited to have had the opportunity to work right where the action happens in Washington DC,” she said.

Find out more at ussc.edu.au/ucwip.

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**A TASTE FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDY**

For those interested in finding out more about the Master of United States Studies, two opportunities were presented to meet and hear from Centre academics and visiting scholars.

In May, Fulbright Flinders University Distinguished Chair in American Political Science and leading scholar on the American political system Burdett A. Loomis spoke at the Centre’s postgraduate information evening. In his talk, Loomis explored how changes to the US electoral college system could provide a more coherent and democratic way of picking the American president.

Potential students also had the opportunity to meet academics, current students, and alumni when professor of political science and director of the Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies at the Australian National University Amin Saikal visited the Centre in October. Saikal joined Centre academics Adam Lockyer and Tom Switzer to discuss the pressing strategic, political, and humanitarian questions surrounding the civil war in Syria and what could be expected from the Obama administration going forward.

With a focus on international perspectives and a high-level understanding of the US and its role in the world, the discussion gave guests a taste of the Centre’s postgraduate programs.
UCLA STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

The Centre, in conjunction with the Perth USAsia Centre, offered 70 students from the University of Sydney and University of Western Australia (UWA) the opportunity to study at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), during the mid-year break.

Open to UWA undergraduates for the first time in 2013, the program was a chance for students to gain invaluable international experience at one of the world’s most prestigious universities while earning credit points towards their degrees.

As well as taking advantage of the diverse range of academic offerings at UCLA, from entertainment law to US foreign relations, the students experienced such quintessential American activities as a Dodgers vs Yankees baseball game and a Fourth of July visit to Disneyland. The students were also honoured with a reception at the home of Australian consul general to Los Angeles Karen Lanyon.

University of Sydney student Go-Eun Kim said of her experience, “This trip meant so much to me, in terms of meeting people within the film and TV industry and getting an international perspective on the industry I want to work in in the future.”

Find out more at ussc.edu.au/ucla.

NEW IN 2014: SHANGHAI STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

For the first time, the Centre will offer University of Sydney students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to study in Shanghai during the 2014 winter break.

Based on our highly successful UCLA Study Abroad program, the six-week China program will see students studying at the Center for American Studies, the best American studies centre in China, at Shanghai’s top university, Fudan.

The program also features meetings and roundtables with some of the region’s top scholars, diplomats, and business leaders. Planned events include a panel discussion with the Australian consul general, a roundtable with US diplomats, and lectures by Centre CEO and US–China expert Bates Gill.

In addition to the invaluable international experience, students will receive credit points towards their degrees at the University of Sydney.

Find out more at ussc.edu.au/shanghai.
US CONSULATE INTERNSHIP

The Centre again partnered with the US Consulate General in Sydney to offer talented students a nine-week internship program during the summer break.

Mariah Okeroa, Amanda Stewart, and Ellen Stay gained real-world diplomatic experience interacting with government officials and foreign delegations in a wide range of settings, all while earning credit towards their undergraduate degrees.

Find out more at usc.edu.au/consulate.

NEW IN 2014: AMCHAM INTERNSHIP

The Centre has partnered with the American Chamber of Commerce to offer a Centre undergraduate student the opportunity to intern at the AmCham offices in Sydney.

As the pre-eminent international chamber of commerce in Australia, AmCham offers the intern a unique opportunity to work on issues concerning Australia–US relations in the business space.

The 12-week winter internship not only provides the student with real-world experience but will also count as six credit points towards his or her degree at the University of Sydney.

Find out more at usc.edu.au/amcham.

LOS ANGELES PLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Centre also offered an nine-week study abroad and internship program in Los Angeles. Partnering with UCLA, the University of Sydney and UWA students worked by day in organisations including M&C Saatchi, Warner Bros. Pictures, Cappello Capital, the City of Santa Monica, and the Reason Foundation, and studied at night for credit towards their degrees.

Sydney student Gina Ricardo managed to fit a trip to Disneyland and an epic 200 mile ride across the Californian desert in between roundtable discussions, guest lectures, and her internship at M&C Saatchi. “I’ve been spending time with the creative and social departments, doing cool things like helping out with creative briefs and attending photo-shoots,” she said. “I love being busy, and I’m having such a great time, meeting all sorts of interesting people.”

WASHINGTON DC PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Twenty-five students from the University of Sydney and the University of Western Australia embarked on a nine-week internship and study abroad program in Washington DC in January 2014. As part of the once-in-a-lifetime experience, students studied at the University of California, Washington Center and were placed in a wide range of sectors, including business, entertainment, government, and think tanks, such as the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Rio Tinto, and the East-West Center.

Students were invited to receptions hosted by Centre visiting professor James Fallows and Australian Ambassador to the United States the Hon. Kim Beazley AC. “No other university in Australia offers an exceptional program like this,” said University of Sydney commerce student Andrew Huynh.

Find out more at usc.edu.au/dc.
In partnership with the University of Sydney Business School and the Perth USAsia Centre at UWA, scholarships totalling $87,000 were awarded to enable students to participate in the Washington DC and LA Placement Programs. The scholarships were presented at ceremonies in Sydney with US consul general Hugo Llorens and in Perth with deputy US consul general Robert Reeves.

Find out more at usc.edu.au/la.
THINK TANK

DRIVING THE DEBATE

The Centre’s think tank activities continued to forge innovative solutions to the pressing issues that affect Australia, the US, and the world. By bringing together the best minds across a broad range of fields, our events, projects, and partnerships are helping drive debate on the topics that matter.

In 2013, the Centre attracted significant interest from state and federal governments as well as the corporate sector by generating practical, real-world policy advice and producing cutting-edge ideas. As a result, the Centre cemented its position as one of the leading intellectual forces in Australia.

ALLIANCE 21

In its second year in 2013, the Alliance 21 project brought a new level of collaboration and analysis of the Australia–US relationship across the realms of defence, innovation, education, trade, the environment, and energy security.

Under the direction of project leaders the Hon. Robert Hill AC and Geoffrey Garrett, hundreds of experts and thought leaders from government, business, academia, and the think tank community met in Washington, Sydney, and Melbourne during the year to examine the relationship as it stands today and to consider future directions. This was made possible with continuing support from the project’s sponsors: the Australian Government, the Dow Chemical Company, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, GE, News Corp, Pratt Industries, Morgan Stanley, and Raytheon.

Highlights for Alliance 21 included praise from Prime Minister the Hon. Julia Gillard for the project’s “serious contributions to the affairs of our two nations” at the annual American Australian Association dinner in Sydney, and a July meeting of the project’s stakeholders, theme leaders, and directors examining the outcomes of the project. The latter was addressed by the outgoing US Ambassador to Australia Jeffrey Bleich and attended by the Shadow Minister for Defence Senator the Hon. David Johnston. Adding to these was the outstanding success of the first of the project’s two final major conferences, held in wintry Washington DC.

An alliance is only as strong as the underlying mutual interests between partners and, in 2013, Alliance 21 continued to show that those interests, in Australian and US terms, are of vital contemporary importance.

The first three-year phase of Alliance 21 will conclude in 2014, marked by a landmark conference in Canberra bringing together Australian and American leaders to examine the breadth and depth of the Australia–US partnership, with a particular focus on trade and investment, energy, innovation, and defence and security.

Find out more at alliance21.org.au.
US-AUSTRALIA: THE ALLIANCE IN AN EMERGING ASIA

In January 2014 more than 250 government representatives, diplomats, media, and foreign affairs analysts braved extreme cold and snow flurries to pack the meeting room at Washington DC’s Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) for the Alliance 21 conferences, US–Australia: The Alliance in an Emerging Asia.

Centre CEO Bates Gill joined with former US Senator William E. Brock from CSIS to open the day. They were followed by a video message from Prime Minister of Australia the Hon. Tony Abbott praising the strong bonds underlying the alliance.

The event was held in partnership with CSIS and G’Day USA, and sessions included debate about Australia’s defence obligations regarding the alliance, the potential for conflict arising from tensions in the East China Sea, and future resource development in the Asia–Pacific.

One panel saw Acting Deputy US Trade Representative Wendy Cutler discuss trade and the alliance, including the ongoing Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations, and there was talk of growing Chinese interest in joining the agreement.

The event’s midday keynote address was given by Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Julie Bishop. In describing the goals of the Alliance 21 project, Bishop quoted Abraham Lincoln’s observation that “The best way to predict your future is to create it.”

The day concluded with a session on the likely future of the knowledge economy in the region with input from chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisers Jason Furman, Australian Minister for Communications the Hon. Malcolm Turnbull, and News Corp CEO Robert Thomson, among others.

“The Alliance 21 project is conceiving new ways that our alliance can build on our shared history to identify the challenges and opportunities that are ahead and to devise joint strategies to create our shared future.”

The Hon. Julie Bishop
Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs
TRADE AND INVESTMENT

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) was the focus of a panel discussion led by US trade policy expert and senior advisor at the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress Sherman Katz as part of the Alliance 21 Trade and Investment theme.

Katz told the packed room that there remained significant hurdles to reaching a final agreement, including labour rights, the environment, and intellectual property, but said it was an exciting agreement. He shared the stage with New South Wales state director of foreign affairs and trade Virginia Greville, and Centre research associate and senior international economist with Westpac Huw McKay in a discussion moderated by 2013 US Studies Centre–World Press Institute Fellowship recipient Carson Scott.

ENERGY SECURITY

What part is natural gas likely to play in the energy security policies of Australia and the US and how are these perspectives being received in Asia? A coterie of leading Australian and American energy policy experts met in Washington DC in May 2013 to discuss the role of gas in Asia–Pacific energy security.

The Alliance 21 energy security workshop was led by theme leader Howard Bamsey, the Centre’s adjunct professor in climate change and energy security and acting director-general of the Global Green Growth Institute.

Bamsey was joined by senior fellow with the Brookings Institution Charles Ebriger, co-director of the Center for Strategic and International Studies’ energy and national security program David Pumphrey, and adjunct professor in sustainability the Hon. Robert Hill AC.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

In April 2013, the science and policy associated with groundwater ecosystems in Australia and the US was examined at a Stanford University workshop supported by the Alliance 21 Natural Resources and the Environment theme. The two-day workshop looked at the laws, policies, and approaches being used to value and make decisions about this valuable natural resource.

Later in the year, the Developments in Global Oceans Governance and Conservation seminar was led by leader of the Alliance 21 Environment and Natural Resources theme the Hon. Robert Hill AC, with the Hon. Paul Martin, the former prime minister of Canada.

Australian Parliamentary Secretary for the Minister for the Environment Senator the Hon. Simon Birmingham gave the federal government’s perspective at the event co-hosted by the Alliance 21 project and attended by senior state and federal bureaucrats, NGO representatives, and international experts.

The Australian government is a key player in global oceans governance reform and the US government’s approach — criticised by some on the day — is pivotal. Recommendations and issues identified during the forum were forwarded to the Australian government.

EDUCATION AND INNOVATION

As part of the Alliance 21 Education and Innovation theme, links between school, higher education, innovation, and productivity in the United States and Australia were explored in a policy exchange between American and Australian experts in March.
Hosted by Melbourne’s Grattan Institute in association with PwC Australia, speakers included Director of Harvard’s Program on Education Policy and Governance Paul Peterson, Executive Councillor and head of the Secretariat of the Commonwealth of Australian Governments (COAG) Reform Council Mary Ann O’Loughlin, Vice Chancellor of Deakin University Jane den Hollander, and Associate Professor Alex Tabarrok of George Mason University.

EMERGING ASIA

As part of the Alliance 21 Emerging Asia theme, 2013 saw the Centre host two major public presentations on the changing roles for the US, Australia, and the alliance, in Asia–Pacific trade, resources, sustainability, geopolitics, and security.

In March, former US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Kurt Campbell, shared his insights into the region’s diplomatic, trade, and security manoeuvrings in his first public presentation since leaving office.

Campbell’s observations were followed by a May presentation by Bonnie Glaser, the senior advisor for Asia in the Freeman Chair in China Studies at Washington DC’s Center for Strategic and International Studies, and Bruce Jentleson, professor of public policy and political science at Duke University and a former senior advisor to the US State Department. They discussed the region’s contemporary foreign policy paradox of striking the right balance in ties with the US and China.

ALLIANCE 21 STEERING COMMITTEE

Lachlan Strahan (Chair), Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Geoffrey Garrett (Co-Director), Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania
The Hon. Robert Hill AC (Co-Director), US Studies Centre
Bates Gill, US Studies Centre
Tom Harley, Dow Chemical Company
Brendan Sergeant, Australian Government Department of Defence
David Wawn, Chevron
Melissa Graham-McIntosh (Project Administrator), US Studies Centre

THE CENTRE THANKS ITS ALLIANCE 21 PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

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Once again, the US Studies Centre played a big role in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s annual G’Day USA celebrations promoting Australian business, innovation, tourism, and government policy across America. With the support of the Centre’s Alliance 21 project, the Centre took part in three major events at the start of the year’s campaign in January 2014.

The successful Centre-led Alliance 21 US–Australia: The Alliance in an Emerging Asia conference was part of the 2014 G’Day USA program (see page 16).

US–Australian Dialogue — The Coming Water Crisis: Solutions and Strategies

The Centre extended its engagement in policy development regarding one of the globe’s most precious resources as sponsor of this high-level seminar at the University of California, Los Angeles. Presenters included Australian Minister for Trade and Investment the Hon. Andrew Robb AO, Australian Ambassador to the US the Hon. Kim Beazley AC and former US ambassador to Australia Jeffrey Bleich. Joining them was Jamie Pittock, leader of the Centre’s Climate, Energy, and Water Nexus Project which is part of the Dow Sustainability Program. Pittock spoke about regional and national solutions as part of a panel looking at global water management in 2050.

Co-director of Alliance 21, the Hon. Robert Hill AC also took part as moderator of a session discussing how Los Angeles and Sydney would manage future water demand as well as providing final thoughts on the day’s discussion.

The US and Australia: Partners in the Asian Century

By 2025, Asia will not only be the world’s largest producer of goods and services, it will also be home to the majority of the world’s middle class. The US and Australia: Partners in the Asian Century forum looked at the implications for the US and Australia amid the development occurring across the Asia–Pacific.

Held at the University of Southern California, the day focused on the trade, politics, and strategy of this change with participation by the Hon. Robert Hill AC and Centre board member, Michael Thawley AO.
NSW GOVERNMENT

Continuing its four-year agreement with the New South Wales Government, the Centre undertook a number of thought-provoking initiatives tackling the challenges that face Australia and the US.

DISRUPTIVE EDUCATION

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), which have already seen leading universities around the world offer entire units online and free of charge, are here to stay. This upheaval, the greatest revolution in higher education since the printing press, will force sweeping changes in the education sector and will transform the way universities operate. In 2013, the Centre continued its partnership with the New South Wales Government to examine the future of international higher education and the implications of MOOCs for NSW and Australia.

Disruptive Education: Technology Enabled Universities, a major report co-written by Centre chief operating officer Sean Gallagher and Alliance 21 co-director Geoffrey Garrett, outlined the challenges posed by MOOCs and the opportunities they offer to place-based universities who can effectively integrate the latest technology in their degrees.

The release of the report coincided with the public event What MOOCs Mean for Universities: Revolution or Evolution?. Speakers included Stanford University professor Daphne Koller, the co-founder of world-leading MOOC platform Coursera, University of New South Wales vice-chancellor Fred Hilmer AO, and Andrew Stevens, the managing director of IBM Australia and New Zealand.

Sean Gallagher, also a research associate in higher education, participated in a number of other events on the future of the sector this year. In July, he presented at MOOCs 2013, a conference presented by the Informa Higher Education Series, discussing the radical challenges occurring at American public universities in the face of online education platforms. This was followed later in the year by a presentation at Consilium 2013, an exclusive invite-only event hosted by the Centre for Independent Studies that also featured Stanford University's Francis Fukuyama and former Australian treasurer the Hon. Peter Costello AO.

STARLAB

Launched in 2012, STAR Lab led a number of projects in 2013 designed to evaluate and improve sustainability, transparency, accountability, and responsibility in a range of fields. One randomised controlled trial in Victorian supermarkets tested the efficacy of messages about cruelty free poultry, while another at the University of Sydney found that direct email communications were more effective than staff-wide broadcasts in boosting attendance at superannuation seminars.

Other projects included measuring the impact of corporate responsibility programs for Qantas and Lend Lease, the development of a tourism industry certification portal in collaboration with the New South Wales Government and a joint study on rational decision-making with the Economic Society of Australia.

STAR Lab also hosted a number of events during the year, including the Green Visitor Economy conference, featuring founder of the US Green Building Council and the World
Green Building Council David Gottfried discussing with local experts the growing business of sustainability tourism and how to measure consumer behaviour. STAR Lab director Michael Hiscox also led two major workshops, one in January in Sydney with MIT professors Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee and a second in July in Canberra with Executive Director of the Poverty Action Lab Rachel Glennerster.

STAR Lab had two journal articles published in 2013 and welcomed new staff member Danielle Merrett to the team. Merrett began her role as postdoctoral fellow in August and has previously worked at the World Bank where she conducted fieldwork in Papua New Guinea evaluating development programs.

Find out more at starlab.org.au.

OTHER PROGRAMS

SECURING SOIL

The Soil Carbon Initiative continued this year to engage policy makers, scholars, and business leaders on the global challenge of securing soil by reversing soil degradation on agricultural and pastoral land. Important publications included a letter in the highly respected journal Nature highlighting the need for policy makers to act on soil security, followed by articles in the Global Policy Journal and Geoderma outlining the range of biophysical, economic, social, and policy dimensions that make up soil security. Leader of the Soil Carbon Initiative Andrea Koch presented these papers at the second Global Soil Week in Berlin in October.

The Initiative also hosted the Agriculture, Soil Health, and Climate Change Forum, which attracted international leaders such as Charles Walthall from the US Department of Agriculture and senior carbon finance specialist of the World Bank Neeta Hooda. Hosted in partnership with the Australian Government’s Department of Industry, Innovation, Climate Change, Science, Research, and Tertiary Education, the forum focused on the potential of soil to mitigate climate change and boost agricultural productivity, looking at examples from Australia, the US, and developing countries.

The Initiative will continue to build important linkages with US counterparts across the science and government in 2014 and will remain engaged with the soil science community as a member of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations’ Global Soil Partnership.

FUTURE CITIES

Leveraging the foundation support from Dow Chemical Company’s Sustainability program and the New South Wales government, the Delivering a Sustainable Future City Program, developed in 2013, provided leaders of NSW cities with the opportunity to explore, discover, and test innovative ways to address the challenges they face in sustainable urban development.

The program started with the mayors’ forum in April, based on the Mayors’ Institute in the United States and focused on developing and connecting strategic thinking with urban design and planning skills. Each of the six participating cities worked intensively on a precinct in their area with the assistance of domestic and international experts, invited specialists, and urban design students from the University of Sydney. The team was led by the Centre’s honorary professor in urban policy Edward Blakely and urban environments program leader Sandy Burgoyne, and included sustainability expert Robert “Hutch” Hutchinson from the Rocky Mountain Institute.
The response from the mayors’ forum was overwhelmingly positive, with more than 90 per cent of delegates rating the program as extremely useful and all delegates saying they would recommend this program to other cities in the future.

The forum was followed by a US study tour led by Blakely, providing all participating councils an opportunity to examine community sustainability and livability transformations on the West Coast, including in Los Angeles, Portland, Denver, Boulder, and Fort Collins.

“Meeting with mayors from around the US was an exceptional opportunity to share ideas and build new bilateral relationships between cities across the Pacific,” said Blakely.

Looking forward, the program aims to expand and solidify its network of Australian and American cities and organisations through the Future Cities Collaborative (see feature box) to offer the same opportunities for bilateral partnership and knowledge exchange to all new participants.

**SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUELS IN FOCUS**

The Bioenergy and Biofuels Project, led by chair of the Australian Initiative for Sustainable Aviation Fuels (AISAF) and adjunct professor in sustainability Susan Pond, continued in 2013 to work towards the development of cost-competitive, renewable liquid fuels as part of the transport energy mix in Australia.

The project held a number of important events, including the Advanced Biofuels Industry Day at PACIFIC 2013 and the NSW Advanced Biofuels Industry Roundtable which featured senior analyst for US Pacific Command Energy Office Joelle Simonpietri and executive director emeritus of the Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuels Initiative Rich Altman.

The Low Carbon Jet Fuel Conference at AIRSHOW2013 in Avalon, Victoria, a major highlight of the year, included nine US speakers sharing insights on the future for alternative aviation fuels, timelines for scale production, and optimal policy settings from around the world.

In June, the Australian Chief Scientist Ian Chubb AC launched a landmark report by the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering on *Green Growth — Energy: Industry Opportunities for Australia*. As one of the three co-authors,
Susan Pond spoke at the launch about the large-scale economic opportunities to be gained by Australian production of sustainable liquid fuels.

Pond was also recognised as one of the *Australian Financial Review*’s 100 Women of Influence and *Biofuels Digest*’s Top 100 People in Bioenergy.

In August, AISAF — of which the Centre is a founding partner — joined Aviation/Aerospace Australia, the national association for the Australian aviation and aerospace industries, to continue the critical investigation, analysis, and promotion necessary to encourage the development of sustainable biofuels.

Find out more at aisaf.org.au.

**WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP**

In 2013 the Centre commenced an ambitious Women in Leadership initiative with the goal of providing a much-needed international platform for the research, discussion, and promotion of contemporary issues related to women in leadership in business, government, and non-profit organisations.

The initiative was launched with an academic roundtable and dinner attended by special guest and renowned US sociologist Arlie Hochschild from the University of California, Berkeley. The dinner saw leading women and men from business, academia, politics, and government — including member of the Centre’s council of advisers Maria Atkinson AM, chairman of Macquarie Group and Centre director Kevin McCann, and managing director of IBM Australia and New Zealand Andrew Stevens — debate the importance of merit appointments, quotas, changing expectations, and unconscious bias. The ideas and suggestions arising from this discussion have gone on to inform the longer term plans for the initiative.

Leader of the initiative Melissa Grah-McIntosh published a number of opinion pieces in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Canberra Times* discussing the challenges in Australia and the United States to gender equality in executive leadership roles in business and politics. Looking ahead, plans are underway for a major conference to dovetail with the 2014 G20 leaders summit in Brisbane, with a view to commencing research related to achieving full participation and broader gender equality in the workplace and society, with a focus on drawing in American women’s perspectives and experience.

**GROUNDWATER POLICY**

In collaboration with the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment and the Bill Lane Center for The American West, both of Stanford University, the Comparative Groundwater Law and Policy Program produced a number of publications in 2013 highlighting important lessons in groundwater management in the US and Australia. Published articles included book chapters, workshop papers, reports, and blog posts focusing on managing groundwater across boundaries, in urban contexts, and in conjunction with surface water.

Steered by the program’s lead researcher Rebecca Nelson, the third comparative groundwater workshop was also held at Stanford University in April 2013 (see page 17). A report produced after the event that summarised the insights gleaned from the workshop was published in *Australian Environmental Review*. 

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RESEARCH

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Centre’s 2013 research program probed American politics, culture, policymaking, and business, providing an invaluable resource for other international academics, policymakers, and passionate US observers through publications and major conferences.

PUBLICATIONS

Centre-supported researchers produced a plethora of books, chapters, journal articles, conference papers, and reports in 2013, some of which are featured below.

IN THE INTEREST OF OTHERS

Visiting professor Margaret Levi co-authored a new book explaining why labour organisations sometimes engage in social activism that does not benefit their members directly. In the Interest of Others: Organizations and Social Activism, co-written with associate professor of political science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison John S. Ahlquist, looks at the history of unions in the US and Australia to help explain why trade unions often sacrifice time and money to support far-flung political causes unrelated to their core activities. Specifically, the book documents 80 years of political action by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union in the US and the Waterside Workers Federation in Australia and asks if there is a future for a labour movement facing increasing irrelevancy and marginalisation.

The book was launched at the Australian National Maritime Museum, with both authors joining ABC Radio National’s Late Night Live before the event to discuss their work.

THE GREAT CIVIL WAR LIE

Centre research associate Marc Palen produced an article for the Journal of the Civil War Era in February titled “The Civil War’s Forgotten Transatlantic Tariff Debate and the Confederacy’s Free Trade Diplomacy”. In it he argues that differences in trade policy between the Union and the Confederacy affected British views of the Civil War and help explain some of the support the South received there. Palen, who was also appointed lecturer of imperial and global history at the University of Exeter in 2013, discussed similar issues in his New York Times Online article, “The Great Civil War Lie”.

John Ahlquist and Margaret Levi
**CONFERENCES**

**FOOD AND NUTRITION LABELLING**

Tackling increasing obesity, heart disease, and diabetes among Australians by improving food and nutrition labelling was the focus of a Centre-sponsored conference in July. Co-hosted with the Charles Perkins Centre at the University of Sydney and supported by NSW Trade & Investment, the Food and Nutrition Labelling conference brought together leading international experts including US epidemiologist Cynthia Ogden, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to discuss the effectiveness of food labelling in empowering consumers to make healthier choices.

In her keynote address, Ogden focused on ways that food labelling could tackle the four main trends which are leading to an increase in obesity: more snacking, beverage consumption, eating out, and larger portion sizes. “If consumers can understand that the food they are eating is high in calories, that will help people make choices that are better,” she said. The conference generated significant media interest with Ogden interviewed on ABC TV and radio and the conference highlighted in AAP and Xinhua, among others.

**EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING**

The Centre’s Evidence-Based Policymaking conference saw leading experts from Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) joining Australian scholars in Sydney to discuss the latest in effective policy design and evaluation.

Spanning diverse policy areas such as education, health care, housing, immigration, and anti-discrimination, the event highlighted the need to incorporate the latest and most accurate empirical data into programs to achieve the best results. The keynote address was delivered by MIT’s Esther Duflo, who discussed her work on poverty alleviation and development economics, describing it as “the venture capitalism of policy.”

Duflo emphasised the importance of scientific evidence in her work and provided a case study on how using up-to-date research methods could bring about meaningful change in the developing world and elsewhere.

**MACARTHUR GRANT**

A group of scholars led by Centre CEO Bates Gill was awarded a major grant in 2013 from the Chicago-based MacArthur Foundation for a new research project looking at US foreign policy and security partnerships in South-East Asia.

The two-year, US$400,000 project will focus on Indonesia, Myanmar, and Vietnam and how these countries are balancing relations between the US and China. The research will be carried out by a core team of Australian and Asian experts and will include extensive field research in South-East Asia, as well as research and briefings in the US.

Gill said he was looking forward to contributing to the MacArthur Foundation’s long-running research into international peace and security. “I am delighted the Centre will be working with the MacArthur Foundation to better understand and assess US policies in the Asia-Pacific region,” he said.
VISITING FELLOWS

In 2013 the Centre launched its Visiting Fellows program, which offers a number of stipends for academics to take leave from their home institutions and spend between one month and one year in Sydney. The program is an opportunity for scholars to make progress on a serious writing project, engage with the Centre’s academics, and interact with the Australian academic community. The Centre selected the following six scholars as part of the 2013–14 intake.

TOM BRUNELL
Professor of Political Science at the University of Texas at Dallas

Tom Brunell is a professor of political science in the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas. His six-week fellowship is co-sponsored with the Electoral Integrity Project at the University of Sydney’s Department of Government and International Relations.

Brunell’s research project focuses on partisan gerrymandering in the United States and its potential chilling effects on American democracy. With redistricting and gerrymandering now virtually synonymous in the US, Brunell looks at the legality of the practice, the effectiveness of potential remedies, and how it has distorted past elections.

Brunell’s research suggests that an independent commission model, such as the one used in Australia, does not solve the problem of partisan districting in the US, with results suggesting Democrats are unfairly favoured in states where it has been adopted. He instead advocates for a judicial framework for assessing the fairness of electoral boundaries.

CHRISTOPHER PARKER
Professor of Social Justice and Political Science at the University of Washington

Christopher Parker is the Stuart A. Scheingold professor of social justice and political science in the Department of Political Science at the University of Washington and will be spending three months at the Centre from February 2014.

As part of his fellowship, Parker will be beginning a multi-country study of right wing political movements in countries such as Australia and the US. Based on his research into the Tea Party in the US, Parker will be working with others, including Centre lecturer David Smith, to apply a theoretical framework to these movements and examine their similarities and differences.

Australia is the first country where Parker will be testing this approach and he hopes it will be applicable to similar “reactionary conservative” movements in countries such as Canada and the United Kingdom and across Europe more broadly.
Richard Rabinowitz is the president of the American History Workshop and will begin his two-month fellowship in March 2014.

Rabinowitz’s project focuses on the changing face of public history in the US over the past 50 years. As one of America’s leading public historians, with over 30 years of experience in creating new museums, exhibits, and educational programs, Rabinowitz will use his experience and extensive research to examine how American interactions with history have changed over time.

Rabinowitz’s study takes in everything from school curricula and place-marking installations, such as monuments and statues, to public television and popular representations of historical matter to examine the ever-changing relationship between the present and the past. This will include considerations of new communication technologies, the rise of “participatory” learning, the tensions between public and private funding models and the incorporation of previously overlooked populations into public history.

Celine Shimizu is a professor of Asian American studies, comparative literature, feminist studies, and film and media at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She will begin her two-month fellowship in June 2014 and will be examining race, intimacy, and representations.

Shimizu teaches a wide range of courses on film, performance theory and production, race and sexuality, comparative feminisms, and transnational popular culture, and will be using this expertise to complete her third sole-authored book while at the Centre.

Deprived of intimacy with white women in their earliest depictions on film, Asian men in the movies continue to experience a tenuous relationship with heterosexuality as a social institution and as a form of relationality today. In the book, she will trace the complex history of moving image representations of Asian Americans in the United States.
Sanford Schram is a professor in the political science department at Hunter College, The City University of New York. His research project is titled “The ‘Othered’ America: US Welfare Policy in Comparative Perspective” and his fellowship begins in February 2014.

His current research focuses on a new form of public-private partnership in welfare policy called a Social Impact Bond. Also known as Social Benefit Bonds or Pay for Success Bonds, they involve the government turning to private investors to help fund new social welfare policies that will pay out with interest only if the program meets a set of agreed benchmarks.

Programs such as these are already in place in the US and the UK to help decrease recidivism and began in New South Wales this year to help keep children out of foster care. Although these programs can be a win-win for both the public and the private sphere, Schram has concerns that they represent a dangerous intrusion of the market into social welfare policy. His research looks at this emerging area and its potential effects on the social welfare state around the world.

Micol Siegel is an associate professor of American studies and history at Indiana University, Bloomington, and has a six-month fellowship at the Centre in early 2014.

Her research takes a transnational approach to the study of policing in an attempt to unravel the global exchange of policing techniques, approaches, and attitudes.

While at the Centre, she will be working on her latest book in which she explores how American police who travelled overseas dramatically impacted policing when they returned. Some of the more obvious influences include the paradigm of counterinsurgency, which was seen first hand by American police in the Vietnam War and became the orthodoxy in dealing with riots in US cities in the 1960s and 1970s.

She hopes her work will broaden the traditional view of local police to incorporate the international, military, and commercial influences that define their policing.
The Public Knowledge Forum is a new international platform for a long overdue conversation about the future of journalism and its role in democracy.

Conceived by Centre visiting professor and national correspondent at The Atlantic James Fallows, the Public Knowledge Forum was designed to address the dramatic shifts in the media industry that are transforming traditional reporting and shattering 20th century media business models.

From Fallows’s original vision and supported by the New South Wales government, the Forum was brought to reality by project leaders Andrea Koch and Tom Switzer, who created a three-day event that brought together distinguished opinion leaders from technology, politics, and the press to discuss what these changes mean for government accountability, public policy, and the quality of democracy around the world.

Held at the Sydney Opera House, the event launched with Life After Truth: The Death of Journalism and What this Means for Democracy, a panel discussion presented in conjunction with the Festival of Dangerous Ideas (see page 31).

This was followed by a full day of lively and challenging panel discussions, opened by Centre CEO Bates Gill, parliamentary secretary to the premier of NSW the Hon. Marie Ficarra, and convenor James Fallows. Morning panels saw former Media Watch presenter Jonathan Holmes, editor-at-large of The American Interest Walter Russell Mead, and New York University’s Jay Rosen discussing the changing relationship between journalism and the public, and Al Jazeera’s Melissa Chan, Mary Kissel of the Wall Street Journal’s editorial board, and Washington Post columnist Eugene Robinson analysing the weakening ability of news media to fulfil its watchdog role.

The sessions were followed by a lunchtime conversation by former media proprietor Conrad Black and former Australian foreign minister the Hon. Bob Carr, moderated by Centre research associate Tom Switzer. Framed by the Sydney Harbour Bridge through the windows of the Opera House’s northern foyer, the provocative discussion ranged from Syria and US foreign policy to the performance of Barack Obama, with the state of global media also looming large.
Some of the more memorable moments included Black’s impressions of the US, which he described as “a silly country” which had recently “collapsed like a soufflé,” due to a corrupt penal system, deeply flawed healthcare program, and a Supreme Court that had been “drinking its own bath water” for decades. Carr, on the other hand, was optimistic about the direction Obama had taken the country, expressing a surprising affinity for Fox News and its tendency to push the political debate ever further rightward. “If you are running as a candidate for the Republicans, you must do Fox News and you must pander to the table thumpers,” he said. “I am delighted by it because it is a textbook experiment in how to make the Republican Party unelectable.”

After lunch, discussion moved to changing media consumption and audience behaviour. Editor of The New Republic John Judis and newDemocracy Foundation executive director Iain Walker joined Mary Kissel to ask whether fragmented audiences were undermining public knowledge, while editor-in-chief of ninemsn Hal Crawford, research associate Nicole Hemmer, and Jonathan Rauch from the Brookings Institution debated the impact of the shifting relationship between journalists and readers. Another post-lunch panel featuring Time correspondent Jay Newton-Small, opinion editor at US News & World Report Robert Schlesinger and ABC news director Kate Torney analysed the changing business model for quality journalism.

The day was wrapped up by a panel moderated by James Fallows that saw Crikey publisher Eric Beecher, editor-at-large for The Australian Paul Kelly, and New York University’s Jay Rosen go head-to-head on the prospects of growing public knowledge in a new media era and whether there were causes for optimism in both improving journalism and the standard of political debate.

The next day saw the conference participants and key stakeholders in the future of Public Knowledge meet at the Intercontinental Hotel to crystallise the findings from the day before and look for ways to meaningfully advance the conversation in political, business, and media spheres. The federal minister for communications, the Hon. Malcolm Turnbull, as well as representatives from a range of local and international media organisations, joined the roundtable discussion, led by conference convenor James Fallows.

The Forum was a great success, with speakers, attendees, and staff complimenting the excellent line-up of speakers, the high calibre of the discussions, and the flawless execution of the event. In his closing remarks, Fallows thanked the Centre and the NSW Government for their support and praised the event as a launching pad for an ongoing discussion of the major challenges facing the news media and democracy. “I hope that we’ll look back on this first installation of this conference as the beginning of the sort of network which helps us all deals with these challenges and issues,” he said.
With newspapers closing, broadcast media struggling, and media empires disappearing in the face of the digital media revolution, what has happened to the concepts and ideals that underpinned them? Can new media help create the informed citizens needed for a healthy democracy or will partisanship, information overload, and idle gossip fatally undermine the concept of "truth"?

These questions and more were the subject of the Public Knowledge Forum’s opening event, Life After Truth: The Death of Journalism and What this Means for Democracy.

Presented in conjunction with the Festival of Dangerous Ideas, the panel discussion featured former media proprietor Conrad Black, ABC’s chief online political reporter Annabel Crabb, and Washington Post columnist Eugene Robinson. More than 1,400 people crammed in to the Sydney Opera House Concert Hall to watch the discussion, which was moderated by Public Knowledge Forum convener James Fallows.

The thought-provoking event produced plenty of chatter on Twitter as the participants discussed their concerns about local accountability journalism, the practice of giving away news for free, and the relationship between partisan media and polarised politics.

Despite plenty of disagreements about how a “post-truth” environment would impact public knowledge, all the panellists agreed that the spread of information, the speed at which it was available, and the range of perspectives offered had completely changed journalism. “Rather than projecting information into silence, you are having an exchange with people who are interested,” said Crabb. “Now I think publishing is the beginning.”
AMERICAN REVIEW SPECIAL

Published to coincide with the Public Knowledge Forum, the November issue of the Centre’s journal American Review featured a range of essays looking at the future of journalism and democracy.

Are We Really Informed? included articles from Public Knowledge Forum speakers Jay Rosen and Mary Kissel addressing the key issues of the conference such as the limits of investigative journalism and the potential conflicts between the news media’s role as watchdog and its place in the market.

The edition also featured the winner of the Centre’s inaugural James Fallows Essay Prize, a piece by University of Sydney student Melanie Jayne looking at the new paradigms emerging from the collapse of traditional media. As the winner of the prize, Jayne also won $1000 and tickets to the Public Knowledge Forum.

The release of the issue saw the highest traffic to americanreviewmag.com in its four-year history, with the Rosen article alone viewed nearly 5000 times.

MEDIA COVERAGE

The Public Knowledge Forum generated plenty of interest from the media, both during and after the event, with an active Twitter conversation surrounding the #pkf13 hashtag, backed up by coverage by many of the major news outlets. In a column for The Age and syndicated across the Fairfax network, Jonathan Holmes looked at how a new style of passionate, argumentative journalism was replacing the more familiar “objective” style. The column drew heavily from comments by fellow speaker Jay Rosen on his blog PressThink, who reiterated his arguments for so-called “new testament” journalism on ABC Local Radio Melbourne, ABC TV’s The World and ABC Radio Late Night Live, where he was joined by John Judis.

Following her op-ed in The Guardian and essay published in the Centre’s journal American Review, Mary Kissel was interviewed for The Conversation and appeared on SKY News Agenda, questioning the role of public broadcasters like the ABC. “How can you have a watchdog that is basically overseen by the government?” she asked. “It just seems to be an oxymoron.”

James Fallows also discussed the issues of the conference on ABC TV’s The Drum and on ABC Radio’s The World Today, saying that the recent influence of technology entrepreneurs into the media business should be viewed as a sign the industry still has life.

The conference itself, including the provocative lunch conversation between Bob Carr and Conrad Black, was reported on by a number of outlets, including The Australian, the Sydney Morning Herald and Fairfax online, The Australian Financial Review, and SKY News Online.

With such high calibre guests, Public Knowledge Forum speakers were in high demand for a range of other topics as well, including gay marriage, the Edward Snowden NSA revelations, and the political crisis plaguing Washington. During their time in Australia, Public Knowledge Forum guests were featured on ABC TV’s News Breakfast and Planet America, SKY News, ABC Classic FM’s Midday with Margaret Throsby, ABC NewsRadio, Radio Australia, the Australia Network, US News & World Report, news.com.au, SBS Radio, 2SER, The Spectator, and a range of ABC Radio National programs, among others.

Find out more at publicknowledgeforum.org.
In 2013 the Centre continued its substantial media presence both in Australia and internationally, while growing its reputation for providing high-quality commentary across TV, radio, print, and online. Targeting agenda-setting news organisations and programs resulted in a record percentage of high impact media and a massive increase in international op-eds.

Centre experts were sought for commentary on many major news stories in the US, such as the government shutdown and the Boston bombings, while the continued release of documents by Edward Snowden and diplomatic crises in Egypt and Syria allowed the Centre to demonstrate its wide-range of expertise on foreign policy, defence, and security issues.

**INTERNATIONAL COVERAGE**

The Centre’s sharper focus on international media coverage paid dividends in 2013, with more op-eds in international publications than in the previous two years combined.

In print, research associate Tom Switzer’s cover story for *The American Interest*, co-written with foreign policy expert Owen Harries, was quoted widely internationally. A series of pieces Switzer co-wrote with research associate Nicole Hemmer on the 100th anniversary of President Richard Nixon’s birth also appeared in *The Spectator UK* and *The Huffington Post*, among others.

Other highlights included a new weekly column by Hemmer for *US News & World Report*, while comments by lecturer David Smith on the US government shutdown reported by *Agence France-Presse* achieved international reach and were reprinted in the *Christian Science Monitor*, *The Huffington Post*, and *The New Straits Times*, among others.

The Public Knowledge Forum in November sparked a vibrant, global Twitter conversation. It also generated international coverage with references by conference participants in *The New Republic*, *The Atlantic*, *PressThink*, and *US News & World Report*.

The ongoing Alliance 21 project attracted strong media attention. In particular, the presentation by former assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs Kurt Campbell saw reporting by China’s Phoenix TV, Japan’s NHK TV, and Radio Australia in addition to domestic coverage including ABC TV’s *Lateline*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Other Alliance 21 coverage included an op-ed by the project’s co-director Geoffrey Garrett in *US News & World Report* coinciding with the project’s Washington DC conference in January 2014.


International TV highlights included Centre guest Bonnie Glaser on Australia Network’s Newsline, Tom Switzer on Al Jazeera, and Edward Blakely giving his thoughts on the post-Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts with New York PBS affiliate NJTV. The Centre also increased its regional TV presence, with appearances on CNBC Asia, Phoenix TV, Asia TV Hong Kong, and Bloomberg TV.


Op-eds continued to be a major source of coverage and thought leadership. Major pieces included extracts of essays from the Centre’s journal American Review by Dennis Blair in The Australian, and Geoffrey Wheatcroft and Clyde Prestowitz in The Age, as well as multiple articles by chief operating officer Sean Gallagher and Geoffrey Garrett on the evolving higher education sector for The Australian.

Other notable pieces included CEO Bates Gill analysing the State of the Union address and head of the Women in Leadership initiative Melissa Grah-McIntosh discussing political and economic gender equality in the Sydney Morning Herald.

Online, commentary on the Boston bombings by lecturer David Smith appeared on the smh.com.au home page, while The Conversation continued to be a key outlet for Centre academics, with more than 30 pieces published in 2013.

Many events were recorded for broadcast on the Australian Public Affairs Channel and ABC TV’s Big Ideas on a range of topics including food and nutrition labelling, MOOCs, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and ethical investing.

Centre experts and visitors appeared on a range of TV programs on the ABC, SKY News, SKY Business, SBS, and commercial networks. They were also interviewed by a wide array of radio programs.

IMMERSED IN THE US

“Insight” was the watchword for chief business correspondent for SKY News and 2013 US Studies Centre–World Press Institute fellow Carson Scott as he travelled across the US exploring American culture, business, politics, and the media industry.

In his report on the experience Carson praised the two-month fellowship as an invaluable immersion into the breadth and depth of American life. “Being selected as a World Press Institute Fellow — one of ten recipients worldwide — gave me the opportunity to move from theory to practice by visiting the US for the first time,” he wrote. “My understanding of all things US has been sharpened as never before.”
Barack Obama’s inauguration, gay rights, and the future of media took the spotlight in 2013 at American Review. The US Studies Centre’s quarterly journal on international and domestic affairs, available exclusively on iPad, began the year under the stewardship of a new editor, Tom Switzer. Switzer, a research associate at the Centre and editor of the Spectator Australia, succeeded founding editor Minh Bui Jones.

The February issue put President Obama’s second term under the microscope, looking at the coming four years for the US and the world, with essays by Mary Kissel on the continued slow economic recovery and the influence of a gridlocked Congress by John B. Judis. American Renewal, the May issue, featured Clyde Prestowitz pushing back against predictions of the end of American global dominance, arguing the shale gas revolution had fundamentally changed the outlook for the US.

Meanwhile, the reasons for the dramatic shift in US public opinion on gay marriage were at the centre of Jonathan Rauch’s cover article for the August issue, A Gay Awakening. The widely read essay was joined by pieces by Fred Hiatt examining the many demographic challenges facing the US and an analysis of the Australia–US alliance from the American perspective by former US director of National Intelligence Dennis Blair.

The November issue, Are We Really Informed?, was a special edition published to coincide with the Centre’s inaugural Public Knowledge Forum (see page 32).

Supplementing the digital edition was the magazine’s website, which included daily updates to the Blogbook section.

Visit the website at: americanreviewmag.com
THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

COMMUNITY LINKS

With events held in locations across Australia and the US, more than 5,000 attendees and countless others watching online had the opportunity to hear an international perspective on America from an outstanding mix of Centre and visiting experts.

MINIMAL. CONCEPTUAL. POP.

Kitsch imagery. Minimalism. Text as art. These ideas and more were dissected in an international symposium hosted by the Centre and the Art Gallery of New South Wales in August.

Minimal. Conceptual. Pop. brought leading American experts to Australia to throw new light on the Art Gallery’s collections of American art from the 1960s and 1970s.

Alexander Alberro of Columbia University, Charles W. Haxthausen of Williams College, and Robert Slifkin of New York University presented on ideas ranging from the role of language in 1970s conceptual art to the experiential situations created by works using refracted light and physical space.

The symposium, funded by the US-based Terra Foundation for American Art, was convened by the Centre’s professor of art history Roger Benjamin and also featured presentations by Australian scholars Susan Best, Keith Broadfoot, Rachel Kent, Chris McAuliffe, Meredith Morse, and Ann Stephen.

CHINA: FRIEND OR FOE?

While China has long claimed its intention to pursue a peaceful rise, uncertainties nevertheless persist across the Asia-Pacific about China’s growing power and how Beijing will use it. China’s economy is tipped to overtake the US in the next decade while its military spending continues to grow. Meanwhile, defence budgets in the US and amongst its allies are shrinking. Should America and Australia be worried about China’s growth?
This pressing question was the basis of the Sydney Writers’ Festival event China: Friend or Foe? in May. Bringing together four of Australia’s leading experts on China and US–China relations, including Centre CEO Bates Gill, the event examined how the economic growth of our northern neighbour might influence both domestic environment and regional security in the Pacific.

ENABLING AN ARTIST

Sydney playwright Chris Aronsten was selected from more than 100 applicants as the 2013 Edward Albee Scholarship winner.

Presented by Australian arts body Inscription with the support of the Centre, the scholarship enabled Aronsten to travel to the US to be mentored by a leading American playwright and be introduced to a range of contacts in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

Aronsten has worked across theatre, film, and television in his 15 year career and used the time overseas to complete his latest script for stage.

13 ROOMS

One hundred and forty performers, 12 international artists, 11 days. These are the incredible numbers behind 13 Rooms, an exhibition by Kaldor Public Art Projects held in Sydney in April with the support of the US Studies Centre.

Originally commissioned as 11 Rooms for the Manchester International Festival, the show was a curated collection of “living sculpture” with performers from all walks of life inhabiting purpose-built spaces. Performances ranged from the shocking to the surreal and included a human revolving door, a man learning English from a tanning bed, and a room full of identical twins.

The Centre co-presented a free discussion on the penultimate day of the exhibition to debate how daily performances and interpretations by actors affected the work. The Centre’s professor of art history Roger Benjamin moderated the discussion.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL IN SYDNEY

In August, the Centre sponsored the National Club Championship, a showdown to determine the best American football team in Australia. In a closely fought match New South Wales’s Sydney Uni Lions won against Queensland’s Gold Coast Stingrays.
Launched in late 2012 by US secretary of state Hillary Rodham Clinton, the Perth USAsia Centre is already taking steps towards achieving its vision to be the leading policy think tank on Australia–Asia–US strategic and economic relations.

Based at the University of Western Australia (UWA), the newly-established Perth USAsia Centre is working closely with the US Studies Centre to promote deeper understanding and stronger ties between Australia, Asia, and the United States through its programs, research, and teaching.

The new centre marked an important milestone in 2013. Chairman Malcolm Binks AO convened the first board meeting with founding directors US Studies Centre CEO Bates Gill, and UWA vice-chancellor Paul Johnson and registrar Peter Curtis. Since then, former minister for foreign affairs, minister for trade, and minister for defence the Hon. Stephen Smith has joined the board.

The Centre also appointed its first staff members and hosted various events in 2013 including:
- Public lectures by Bonnie Glaser from the Center for Strategic and International Studies (see page 6).
- In partnership with the Lowy Institute for International Policy, a public lecture featuring US Ambassador to Australia Jeffrey Bleich, one of India’s leading strategic thinkers C. Raja Mohan, and director of the Lowy Institute’s international security program Rory Medcalf.
- A farewell for US Ambassador Jeffrey Bleich and welcome to newly-arrived US Consul General Cynthia Griffin.
- A roundtable and lectures by Brad Glosserman, the executive director of the Pacific Forum Center for Strategic and International Studies.
- A business roundtable co-hosted with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade featuring president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Richard Fisher.

The Centre's first study abroad and internship programs kicked off in 2013 with UWA students participating in the US Studies Centre's Washington DC and Los Angeles Placement Programs, as well as the UCLA Study Abroad Program (see page 12). In July, three students were awarded scholarships at a ceremony featuring WA Premier Colin Barnett and US Consul General Aleisha Woodward.

The Perth USAsia Centre also awarded its first round of seed funding grants to establish and define some of its early research activities. Representing a number of institutions including UWA and the US Studies Centre, the seven winners will examine topics ranging from immigration and pop culture to economic interdependence.

**FOUNDING CEO APPOINTED**

After an extensive global search, the Perth USAsia Centre appointed its inaugural chief executive officer in 2013. L. Gordon Flake was previously the executive director of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation in Washington DC.

American-born, Flake completed his undergraduate degree in Korean language studies at Brigham Young University in Utah and his master's in international studies at Brigham Young's David M. Kennedy Center for International and Area Studies. He speaks fluent Korean and Laotian.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Malcolm Binks AO (Chair)
Chairman of the American Australian Association

David Anstice (Deputy Chair)
Former Senior Executive at Merck & Co., Inc

Lucy Turnbull AO (Deputy Chair)
Former Lord Mayor of Sydney

Mark Baillie
Non-Executive Deputy Chairman of Folkestone Limited

The Hon. John Brumby
Former Premier of Victoria

Chris Eccles
Director General of the New South Wales Department of Premier and Cabinet

Stephen Garton
Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney

Bates Gill
Chief Executive Officer of the United States Studies Centre

Kevin McCann AM
Chairman of Macquarie Group Australia

The Hon. John Olsen AO
Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the American Australian Association

Dennis Richardson AO
Secretary of the Department of Defence

Joseph Skrzynski AO
Managing Director of CHAMP Private Equity

Ezekiel Solomon AM
Senior Partner of Allens

Michael Thawley AO
Former Australian Ambassador to the United States

MARK BAILLIE JOINS CENTRE BOARD

The Centre has welcomed the appointment of prominent Sydney businessman Mark Baillie to its Board of Directors.

Baillie is the non-executive deputy chairman of Folkestone Limited, a real estate funds manager and developer, and was previously with the Macquarie Group. He is also a director of the American Australian Association.

Chairman of the US Studies Centre Board Malcolm Binks said Baillie’s international business experience and strong commitment to Australia–US relations makes him a great asset to the Centre board.
COUNCIL OF ADVISORS

Mark Johnson AO (Co-Chair)
Chairman of the Australian Financial Centre Task Force

Robert Joss (Co-Chair)
Dean Emeritus of the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University

Richard Armitage AC
Founder of Armitage International

Maria Atkinson AM
Former Global Head of Sustainability at Lend Lease

The Hon. Michael Baume AO
Former diplomat and federal minister

The Hon. Kim Beazley AC
Australian Ambassador to the United States

Gina Despres
Former Senior Vice President of Capital Research and Management

Stephen Fitzgerald
Former Chairman of Goldman Sachs Australia and New Zealand

Fleur Harlan
Trustee of the Manhattan Institute

The Hon. Bob Hawke AC
Former Prime Minister of Australia

The Hon. John Howard AC
Former Prime Minister of Australia

Jim Johnson
Businessman and Democratic Party strategist

Roy Krzywosinski
Managing Director of Chevron Australia

Andrew Liveris AO
President, Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer of Dow Chemical

Michael McRobbie AO
President of Indiana University

Lachlan Murdoch
Chairman of Illyria

Don Nutbeam
Vice-Chancellor of the University of Southampton

Judy Olian
Dean of the University of California, Los Angeles Anderson School of Management

Anthony Pratt
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Pratt Industries

Stephen Roberts
Chief Executive Officer of Citi Australia

Thomas Schieffer
Former US Ambassador to Australia and Japan

Michael Spence
Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney
INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dennis Altman AM
Professorial Fellow in Human Security at La Trobe University

Jeff Borland
Professor of Economics at the University of Melbourne

Nigel Bowles
Director of the Rothermere American Institute at the University of Oxford

Deborah Brennan
Professor at the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales

Lyn Carson
Professor in Applied Politics at the University of Sydney Business School

Paul Giles
Challis Chair of English at the University of Sydney

Faye Ginsburg
Director of the Center for Media, Culture, and History at New York University

Michael Hiscox
Clarence Dillon Professor of International Affairs at Harvard University

Simon Jackman
Professor of Political Science at Stanford University

Margaret Levi
Director of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University

Andrew MacIntyre
Deputy Vice-Chancellor International and Vice President at RMIT University

Brendon O’Connor
Associate Professor in American Politics and Director of Teaching and Learning at the US Studies Centre

Joellen Riley
Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Sydney

Gary Segura
Professor of American Politics at Stanford University

Krishna Sen
Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Western Australia

Bruce Western
Professor of Sociology at Harvard University

Shane White
Challis Professor of American History at the University of Sydney

SWEDEN HONOURS CENTRE CEO

Centre chief executive Bates Gill has been awarded one of the highest honours Sweden can give a foreigner, the Swedish Insignia of Commander of the Royal Order of the Polar Star.

The award, a chivalric order bestowed by King Carl XVI Gustaf, recognises Gill’s distinguished service to Sweden during his five years as director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.
CENTRE STAFF

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Bates Gill, Chief Executive Officer and Professor of Politics

PROFESSORS

Roger Benjamin, Professor of Art History
Edward Blakely, Honorary Professor in Urban Policy and disaster recovery expert
Lyn Carson, Honorary Professor and Professor in Applied Politics at the University of Sydney Business School
James Fallows
Visiting Professor and National Correspondent for The Atlantic
Geoffrey Garrett
Visiting Professor and Dean of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania
Murray Goot, Visiting Professor and ARC Australian Professorial Fellow at Macquarie University
The Hon. Robert Hill AC, Adjunct Professor in Sustainability
Michael Hiscox, Visiting Professor and Clarence Dillon Professor of International Affairs at Harvard University
Simon Jackman, Visiting Professor and Professor of Political Science at Stanford University
Linda Jakobson
Visiting Professor
Margaret Levi
Visiting Professor and Director of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University
Susan Pond AM, Adjunct Professor in Sustainability
Russell Trood, Adjunct Professor in Defence and Security

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

Brendon O’Connor, Associate Professor in American Politics and Director of Teaching and Learning

LECTURERS

Thomas Adams, Lecturer in History and American Studies
Gorana Grgic, Lecturer in US Politics and Foreign Policy
Aaron Nyerges, Lecturer in US Studies
Adam Lockyer, Lecturer in US Politics and Foreign Policy
Jane Park, Senior Lecturer in Contemporary American Media
Rebecca Sheehan, Lecturer in US History
David Smith, Lecturer in American Politics and Foreign Policy
Rodney Taveira, Lecturer in American Studies

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

John Ahlquist, Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison
Thomas Barlow, Research Strategist specialising in Science and Technological Innovation
John Barron, Journalist and American Election Commentator
Sandy Burgoyne, Project Manager, Urban Environments
James Curran, Research Associate in the History of the Australia–US Alliance
Leah Farrall, Research Associate in Counter Terrorism
Sean Gallagher, Researcher specialising in American Higher Education
Pete Hatemi, Researcher specialising in the Neurobiological Mechanisms of Social and Political Behaviours

Andrea Koch, Project Manager, Soil Carbon Initiative

Rebecca Nelson, Lead Researcher, Comparative Groundwater Law and Policy Program at Stanford University

Marc Palen, Research Associate

Tom Switzer, Editor of American Review

VISITING SCHOLARS

Nicole Hemmer, Media and the Modern Conservative Movement

Adam Lockyer, US Politics and Foreign Policy

Huw McKay, Executive Director and Senior International Economist at Westpac

Shawn Treier, Lecturer at the Australian National University

TUTORS

Malcolm Jorgensen, PhD candidate in US Foreign Policy and International Law at the US Studies Centre

AFFILIATED ACADEMICS

Rowena Braddock, Lecturer, The American City

Bruce Isaacs, Lecturer, American Film and Hollywood

Kurt Iveson, Senior Lecturer, The American City

David Johnstone, Lecturer, US Financial Institutions and Culture

Martijn Konings, Lecturer, US Economic Policy and Regulation

Harry Melkonian, Senior Lecturer, US Constitution

Michael Ondaatje, Lecturer, US Politics: Competing Centres of Power

Ian Tyrrell, Lecturer, American Exceptionalism

ADMINISTRATIVE

Sarah Amr, Internal Auditor

Luika Bankson, Admissions and Marketing Manager

Susan Beale, Web and Communications Manager

Jonathan Bradley, Media Officer

Lauren Brown, Project Manager, Behavioural Exchange

Nina Fudala, Director of Media

Sean Gallagher, Chief Operating Officer

Melissa Graham-McIntosh, Director of Events and Project Management

Max Halden, Media Officer

Annabel McGilvray, Media Projects Officer

Kathryn McNulty, Events Coordinator

Emily Neo, Internal Auditor

Craig Purcell, Human Resources and Operations Manager

Cindy Tang, Finance Manager

Amelia Trial, Student Affairs Officer

Meghan Walters, Office Coordinator and Personal Assistant

Harriet Whyte, Research Assistant, Future Cities Collaborative

Peter Yoon, Finance Assistant
FINANCIAL REPORT

UNITED STATES STUDIES CENTRE
ACN: 122 586 341
ABN: 85 122 586 341

Summary of the Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2013

The following information has been extracted from the United States Studies Centre’s Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2013.

REVENUE

In 2013 total revenue decreased 6 per cent compared with the previous year. This is largely a result of a scheduled reduction in members’ contributions.

Revenue from non member sources continues to grow, from 3 per cent in 2007 to 57 per cent in 2013. The Centre received grants from the Australian and New South Wales governments, together with grants from Dow Australia, the Pratt Foundation, and Boeing Australia to develop think tank programs. Revenue from teaching and training programs increased by 7 per cent with more than 1,200 students enrolled in the Centre’s undergraduate and postgraduate units, and more than 100 students participating in study abroad and internship programs.

EXPENDITURE

In 2013, more than 70 per cent of the Centre’s expenditure was directed towards strategic outcomes (teaching, research, and outreach activities).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching &amp; Training</td>
<td>$1,596,016</td>
<td>$1,796,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research &amp; Analysis</td>
<td>$3,404,665</td>
<td>$4,276,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach &amp; Events</td>
<td>$1,443,490</td>
<td>$1,790,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$2,341,358</td>
<td>$1,899,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,785,529</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,762,965</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue from continuing operations</td>
<td>$9,438,404</td>
<td>$10,038,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses from continuing operations</td>
<td>$8,785,529</td>
<td>$9,762,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPERATING RESULT FOR THE PERIOD</td>
<td>$652,875</td>
<td>$275,824</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td>$6,815,319</td>
<td>$6,586,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current assets</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$6,815,319</td>
<td>$6,586,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current liabilities</td>
<td>$1,216,568</td>
<td>$1,640,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>$1,216,568</td>
<td>$1,640,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>$5,598,751</td>
<td>$4,945,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EQUITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained earnings</td>
<td>$5,598,751</td>
<td>$4,945,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EQUITY</strong></td>
<td>$5,598,751</td>
<td>$4,945,876</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RETIRED EARNINGS**

The Centre had a surplus during 2013; retained earnings increased to $5.60M which will be directed towards growth in following years.

**UNUSUAL ACTIVITY**

During the period covered by this report, there was no unusual activity evident in either Income or Expenditure.

NOTE: Full copies of the Audited Financial Statements are available on request; please contact the Company Secretary.
PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

AIRSHOW 2013
American Australian Association
American Chamber of Commerce
American Enterprise Institute
Art Gallery of New South Wales
Asia Foundation
Asialink at the University of Melbourne
Australian Consulate-General in Los Angeles
Australian Government
Australian National Maritime Museum
Australian National University
Aviation Aerospace Australia
B. Riley & Co.
Biennale of Sydney
Boeing Australia
Business Industry Political Action Committee
Cappello Capital Corp.
Center for American Progress
Center for a New American Security
Center for Strategic and International Studies
Charles Perkins Centre
Chevron
City of Santa Monica
Congressman John Shimkus
Congressman Paul Cook
Congressman Peter Roskam
ConocoPhillips
Consulate General of the United States, Perth
Consulate General of the United States, Sydney
Councilman Tommy Wells
CREO Capital Partners
DC Office of Planning
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Destination NSW
Dow Chemical Company
Downtown Business Improvement District
East-West Center
Embassy of Australia, Washington DC
Embassy of the United States, Canberra
Faculty of Agriculture and Environment at the University of Sydney
Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning at the University of Sydney
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Sydney
Festival of Dangerous Ideas at the Sydney Opera House
G’Day USA
Gehry Technologies
GE International
GlobalGiving

Global Ocean Commission
Grattan Institute
Harvard University
Humane Society International
International Economic Development Council
Kaldor Public Art Projects
Larrickin Entertainment
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
Low Carbon Living CRC
M&C Saatchi
MacArthur Foundation
Maritime Union of Australia
McCafferty & Company
Morgan Stanley
National Foreign Trade Council
New Century Capital Partners
New South Wales Government
New York University, Sydney
News Corporation
Perth USAsia Centre
Pratt Foundation
Qantas
Raytheon
Reason Foundation
Relief International
Revolution Capital Group
Rio Tinto
ROAR Asia-Pacific
Senator James Inhofe
Senator Tim Scott
Sony DADC
Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment
Starworks Group
Sydney Ideas
The Bill Lane Center for the American West at Stanford University
The Sydney Institute
The Turnbull Foundation
Tourism Australia
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Los Angeles Extension
University of California, Washington Center
US Chamber of Commerce
US Department of State
Virgin Australia
Warner Bros.
Whitlam Institute at the University of Western Sydney
MISSION

Our mission is to increase understanding of the United States in Australia and around the world.

Spanning the study of politics and policy, economics and business, and culture and society, the core activities of the Centre include:

- Postgraduate degrees and undergraduate teaching
- Academic research and research training
- Policy analysis and commentary
- Business leadership forums
- Public education and community outreach.

VISION

Our ambition is to become the leading institution outside America for the study of the United States.

Our principal objectives are to:

- Undertake analysis, research, and teaching of the highest quality
- Be the international hub for the study of the United States
- Build networks with pre-eminent American institutions and scholars.

CONTACT

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E: us-studies@sydney.edu.au
W: ussc.edu.au

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