GSG Graduation Ceremony

In 2006 a large number of students from the Department of Community Services enrolled in the Graduate Diploma of Public Administration. In 2007 nine DoCS staff completed their graduate diplomas, masters and executive masters degrees at Graduate School of Government.

Congratulations to Jody Grima, Simone Czech, Cath Mullan, Clare Donnellan, Phillip Fowler, Sharon Cannard and Cate Thomas who undertook the 18-month, part-time graduate diploma management and leadership development course.

Regional Director, Northern, Susan Priivald who graduated with an Executive Masters said her degree helped her to understand the public sector better from a cross-agency and jurisdictional perspective.

“The highlight for me was having the opportunity to look at a broad range of work issues in a different way,” said Susan.

Jim Brock, Manager Client Services, Grafton CSC who now has a Master in Public Administration said the opportunity for government sponsorship was too good to pass up.

“The course put a number of building blocks in place to make our work more effective and sustainable.”

According to Manager Research to Practice, NSW Parenting & Research, Cate Thomas, the course was an excellent opportunity to challenge her thinking and consolidate her skills.

“It was fantastic to network with people from a range of public service agencies and to learn from their experiences.”

Director, Child & Family, Orana Far West, Cath Mullan, said the course provided a great opportunity to learn and research infrastructure planning, politics and implementation.

“Part of learning how to manage public expenditure involved a fun role play where we played the Premier, cabinet ministers, media and lobbyists.”

According to Manager Family & Community Programs, Phillip Fowler, his co-workers’ support meant he could concentrate on the course.

“My manager’s support and the extra effort made by my team members was crucial in allowing me to make the most of this excellent program.”

Reprinted from DoCS newsletter DoCSVox

International Political Advisors’ Course

The Graduate School of Government has delivered a highly successful 5-day Political Advisors’ Course for Australian Labor Party (International Projects).

Attending the course were senior political advisors from Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Pakistan, Philippines and Mongolia.

The course was structured around three themes - Elections and Political Campaigning, Political and Issues Management and Strategic Government.

Participants were introduced to the work and functioning of Ministerial Offices in New South Wales with visits to the offices of the Hon Verty Firth MP and the Hon David Campbell MP and were given a comprehensive overview of the NSW State Plan.

Lectures and presentations were given by GSG’s Professor Geoff Gallop and Mr Stephen Mills. Guest lectures were provided by Hon. Paul Keating, former Prime Minister of Australia, Professor Alan Dupont (Centre for International Security Studies, University of Sydney), Dr Janet Hartz-Karp (Curtin University), Mr John Utting (UMR Research) and Mr Bruce Hawker (Hawker-Britton).
Student Perspective
Public Sector Leadership

Students in the Graduate Diploma have the opportunity to hear from prominent visiting speakers giving accounts of their experience in public management and administration, policy and leadership. Mick Beltran from NSW Rural Fire Service, writes here on two public figures who spoke about their experience as leaders in the Australian community.

Hon Bob Hawke
A feature of the Public Sector Leadership class is the visit from prominent public figures, on one occasion we were honoured to receive Bob Hawke, an icon of Australian political history.

Mr Hawke spoke generously of his experiences both in his lead-up to and preparation for politics, and as the Prime Minister of Australia.

Matters such as governance and the public service are very central themes to a class made up of public servants, and we were impressed to receive Mr Hawke’s anecdotes, ranging from his post university days to the pinnacle of Australian leadership.

Matters of great national significance became discussion topics and we received instruction on the machinery of government and an insight into deliberations on cabinet decisions such as ‘Coronation Hill’, and ‘The Antarctic Treaty’, and related the necessity for trust and respect between leaders and followers.

Hon Linda Burney MP
Another very prominent guest was Ms Linda Burney, NSW Minister for Fair Trading, Youth and Volunteering, who shared with our class not only insights into the working of government and the role of MPs, but spoke also of her aboriginality and aboriginal issues.

Ms Burney detailed the ‘Welcome to Country’ ceremony and explained the three handfuls of reconciliation:

- A handful of truth
- A handful of social justice
- A handful of inherent rights

And she promptly won the class over with the basic dignity of these resounding values.

The message of her path into a senior political position in the NSW Parliament drew unqualified attention from the class, and we were wisely advised that good leaders should be able to observe and advise beyond their own cultural constraints, have a capacity to stand in the shoes of others, and have a capacity for humility.

Driving excellence through Strategic Government
Sarawak, Malaysia

Professor Geoff Gallop presented a three day course on “Driving Excellence through Strategic Government” for the Malaysian State Government of Sarawak from 24 to 26 October 2007.

The course was attended by 100 members of Parliament, 40 Parliamentary secretaries and several hundred of the state’s most senior public servants.

As part of the course Professor Gallop gave seven lectures:

- Where is government heading in the world today?
- Members of Parliament, Ministers and Strategic Government
- New Public Management and Beyond
- Strategic Government today
- What a Minister expects of the Public Service
- Managing Change/Setting Frameworks
- What is the Public Interest?

Keynote addresses were also delivered by the Chief Minister of Sarawak, YAB Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud and the State Secretary of Sarawak YB Datuk Amar Wilson Baya Dandot.

The course was delivered as part of Sarawak Public Service Week 2007.
Professor Geoff Gallop was engaged by AusAID in South Africa to deliver a two day program in South Africa and one day program in Mozambique for Australia’s African Alumni Network. The course was held in Pretoria (6-7 November) and Maputo (9 November) and was attended by alumni of AusAID’s Australia Development Scholarships from universities throughout Australia. AusAID hosted the program as part of a commitment to maintain links with alumni providing ongoing professional development and networking opportunities for former students.

Strategic Management and Leadership in the Public Sector
South Africa and Mozambique

Professor Gallop met with representatives from the South African Management Development Institute and Padre Pedro Couto, Rector of Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo.

Lectures covered issues in public administration, public policy, good government and the public interest.

Alumni update
Alumni and Practitioners’ Networking Function

Deloitte hosted GSG’s Alumni and Practitioners’ Networking Function at their offices at Grosvenor Place. Guest speaker was Warwick Watkins, Director General, Department of Lands, who spoke of his agency’s support for the GDPA program encouraging current students and alumni to maintain their links with GSG.

Top: 2007 student cohort; Warwick Watkins.
Middle: Ian Marsh with GSG PhD candidate Yoshi Kadaya; Rory O’Connor and Jan McClelland.
Bottom: Geoff Gallop with Jackie Maupa and Phumi Magubane (AusAID students from South Africa); alumni from 2004 and 2005 cohort; ANZSOG and GSG alumni from Dept. of Premier and Cabinet Peter Connelly, Sharryn Boyd and Ken Dray.

Geoff Gallop with AusAID alumni, incl. MPAadmin graduate Phindi Molopyane (front row, second from right).
Staff Update

Geoff Gallop
In October and November 2007, Geoff went to South Africa, Mozambique and Malaysia to deliver executive courses on Strategic Management and Leadership. In February 2008 Geoff led and presented a program to Political Advisors from the Asia Pacific Region.

During this time Geoff was invited to give a number of public lectures including the Henry Parkes Oration, the Don Aitkin Lecture and Australia Public Service Commission.

Geoff has also made contributions to the *Griffith Review* and a chapter in *Dear Mr Rudd*.

Aside from participating in numerous conference and forums, Geoff was appointed to the Commonwealth Government’s National Health and Hospital Reform commission and the Australia 2020 Summit.

And at time of publication, Geoff has been awarded the Companion of the Order of Australia in The Queen’s Birthday Honours List 2008.

Joanne Kelly
In October Joanne was a Visiting Scholar to IMF (International Monetary Fund) in the Fiscal Affairs Division. Whilst there she was invited to present two papers on associate budget and financial matters to a conference in Washington.

This year Joanne began the project *Shaping the Strategic Centre* with Tom Bentley and Richard Norman. Joanne was also invited by Queensland Treasury and Office of Premier and Cabinet to run workshops on expenditure review capacity.

She has recently fronted the Public Accounts Committee on reporting and the State Plan and was selected to participate in the Governance stream at the Australia 2020 Summit.

As senior lecturer, this year Joanne is co-ordinator of the Work Based Project and continues to support former GSG students in nominating the best and brightest for the NSW Premiers’ Award.

As council member of IPAA (Institute of Public Administration Australia) Joanne is also Chair of the co-ordination committee for the Academic Day at the National Conference.

Join the Alumni and Practitioners’ Network

GSG continues to support all former ANZSOG and GSG students through the Alumni and Practitioners’ Network. The Network is a life long community that connects students, mentors and teaching staff throughout the government, industry and education sectors.

Through this network students and alumni have had the opportunity to take part in the university’s continuing contribution to public debate though talks, conferences and presentations. Recently Professor Gallop took part in a panel discussion with fellow contributors to *Dear Mr Rudd* (edited by Robert Manne) as part of the Sydney Ideas *International Public Lecture Series* at the University of Sydney. The podcast is available on the GSG website.

GSG will be planning its own series of seminars for students and alumni on issues that matter to the public sector featuring local and international speakers.

Register and Update Online

Former students can become a part of the GSG Alumni and Practitioners’ Network by registering your details online at the University of Sydney Alumni Web portal. To ensure current alumni don’t lose contact, the portal can also be used to update your details as well.

http://www.usyd.edu.au/alumni/

When updating your details, ensure that a current email address is provided. Most invitations to events are sent out by email through our Alumni and Practitioners’ Network.

Upcoming Dates

10 July  Information session for potential students
27 July  Semester 2 classes commence
1 Aug    Closing date for Premier and Cabinet sponsored applicants (2009 intake)
10 Oct   Graduation Ceremony
31 Oct   Closing date for self-funded applicants (2009 intake)
13 Nov   Alumni and Practitioners’ Networking Function

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