



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

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D17/12442

14 February 2017

Ms Lyn Beverley
Secretary
Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
The Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Ms Beverley

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING – 27 FEBRUARY 2017
DEPARTMENT OF THE SENATE

In response to the Committee's previous interest in the Senate Occasional Lecture Series, I attach information on the planned lectures for the 2017 calendar year and an update on the costs associated with the honorarium and travel for presenters for the 2016-17 financial year.

Yours sincerely

(Richard Pye)
Acting Clerk

Senate Occasional Lecture Series

Each year the department holds a number of lectures which are open to the public.

Seven lectures were held in the 2015-16 financial year:

| 2015 | Lecturer | Topic |
|--------------|---|---|
| July | No lecture | |
| 14 August | Ms Jane Halton | PGPA Act and public sector reform |
| 18 September | Mr Phil Bowen | The role of the Parliamentary Budget Office |
| October | No lecture | <i>(Magna Carta Symposium held on 30 October)</i> |
| 13 November | Dr Chris Sarra | Leadership and Australia's first peoples |
| December | No lecture | |
| 2016 | Lecturer | Topic |
| 5 February | Professor Graeme Orr | Ritual and rhythm in electoral systems |
| 11 March | Professor Cheryl Saunders and Mr Stephen Argument | Delegated legislation |
| 29 April | Professor Russell Trood | Cancelled due to illness |
| 13 May | Professor Simon Tormey | Challenges for representative democracy |
| 24 June | Dr Bede Harris | Constitutional reform |

So far, six lectures have been held in the 2016-17 financial year:

| 2016 | Lecturer | Topic |
|--------------|-------------------------|--|
| 22 July | Ms Leah Armstrong | Reconciliation Action Plans in business and government |
| 2 September | Professor Paul Strangio | The Prime Ministership since Federation |
| 30 September | Professor Anika Gauja | Political parties and reform |

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|--|
| 28 October | Professor Tom Frame | Conscription, conscientious objection and parliament |
| 4 November | Professor Anne Twomey | The Annual Harry Evans Lecture |
| 17 February | Professor Simon Jackman | US and Australia relations |

The department pays an honorarium (except where it is declined or would be inappropriate, such as for Commonwealth officers) and travel costs for the presenters.

The below table sets out expenses incurred in previous financial years and the current total so far for the 2016-17 financial year after 6 lectures:

| Financial year | Honorarium | Travel and associated costs |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2011-12 | \$3,500 | \$2,571 |
| 2012-13 | \$3,500 | \$4,287 |
| 2013-14 ^ | \$4,954 | \$4,414 |
| 2014-15 | \$3,000 | \$2,725 |
| 2015-16 | \$2,500 | \$3,719 |
| 2016-17* | \$3,000 | \$3,657 |

[^] 2013-14 featured two panels with a total of five participants hence the increase in honoraria.

* Total to 20 February 2017 (6 lectures) – includes estimated expenditure