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## THE AUSTRALIAN APEC STUDY CENTRE

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The Australian APEC Study Centre was established as a result of the APEC Leader's Education Initiative of 1993. The Australian Government awarded the contract for the establishment of the APEC Study Centre in Australia to a consortium consisting of Monash University and The University of New South Wales. Since 1998 the Australian APEC Study Centre has been operated solely by Monash University.

The primary objectives of the Australian APEC Study Centre are to:

- Inform the broader Australian community of the growing importance of economic development and relations in the Asian Pacific region.
- Develop programs that strengthen links between academic, government and private sectors in Australia and the region regarding matters of importance to APEC.
- Manage Australia's involvement in APEC activities in as much as they relate to the university sector and the APEC Study Centre network.

The Centre aims to involve government, academic and private sectors in its activities.

The issues to which the Centre has recently given prominence include:

- Trade and investment liberalization in APEC economies
- Trade and environment issues
- Regional financial services including the life insurance and pensions industry
- Telecommunications
- Infrastructure financing and provision

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## THE CAPABILITIES OF THE CENTRE

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The Australian APEC Study Centre has demonstrated its expertise in the following activities

### *TRAINING PROGRAMS*

Conducts executive training courses for government officials from APEC economies on a wide range of APEC related issues.

### *KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT*

Networks with academic, government and private sector bodies in Australia and throughout the region to promote awareness and discussion of APEC, its activities and objectives. The publication of APEC information for broad public consumption includes the *APEC Currents* newsletter, papers and reports.

### *RESEARCH*

Conducts high-level research and analysis relevant to the objectives of APEC, often in collaboration with APEC Study Centres in other economies.

### *CONFERENCES*

Conducts conferences and other forums to facilitate communications and exchange between the private sector, government officials and the academic world.

### *PUBLIC POLICY*

The Centre organises and participates in policy debates in a number of fora. It is a frequent contributor to media

### *EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS*

The Centre produces a range of information resources and curriculum material for short courses and degrees focusing on APEC related issues to meet the needs of school level, undergraduate and postgraduate students, academics and business people.

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## EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING PROGRAMS

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The Centre has developed expertise in the design and delivery of specially targeted and highly effective management capacity building training programs.

The Centre has successfully implemented training programs, which have

- Responded to the economic development needs of the region as identified by APEC and other regional bodies
- Emphasised a practical approach by including practitioners and government officials as well as academics in the faculty
- Used the expertise from the Centre as well as from its Australian and international networks including the International Consortium of APEC Study Centres
- Targeted developing APEC economies including China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, The Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam
- Supported APEC's aims of capacity building by adding value to its Economic and Technical Cooperation (ECOTECH) Agenda
- Concentrated on short courses for selected officials in key government agencies in the region.

A listing of the activities mounted over the past three years is included at the end of this publication. (Appendix 1, Page 12)

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## PERSONNEL

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### **CHAIRMAN: ALAN OXLEY**

Alan Oxley is Chairman of the APEC Study Centre and one of Australia's most authoritative advisers on international trade. Before establishing his consultancy in 1990, Alan was a career diplomat. He represented Australia in Singapore, at the United Nations in New York and in Geneva. He transferred to the Trade Department in 1985 and served as Australian Ambassador to the GATT, the predecessor of the World Trade Organisation until 1989. He played a key role in creating the groundbreaking coalition of agricultural exporters, the Cairns Group. He was the first Australian to serve as GATT Chairman.

He has expertise in all areas of international trade, from agriculture to services, from intellectual property to government procurement, as well in particular in provisions of international trade agreements. He is internationally recognised as a commentator on trade issues and has advised developing economies on the structures and policy needed for WTO accession.

Alan was author of the influential "An Australia-USA Free Trade Agreement: Issues and Implications" (2001), a report for the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He also published "Seize the Future" (2000), "International Trade and Environment Agreements on CD ROM"(1995) "The Challenge of Free Trade" (1990).

Alan graduated from Monash University with honours in 1970 where he studied Asian history and politics. He was born in Australia in 1947.

### **Director: Professor Jeffrey Waincymer**

Jeff Waincymer, holds joint appointments with the Faculty of Law and the Australian APEC Study Centre, Monash University.

Professor Waincymer was appointed Professor of International Trade Law, Monash University in January 2002. Prior to this appointment he was Professor of Law at Deakin University. He is a Director of the Australian APEC Study Centre and is a Member of the Designated List of Non-governmental Panelists of the World Trade Organization.

He lectures on international trade regulation and his research interests include:

International Trade Law

International Economic Organisations

International Commercial Arbitration and ADR

Dispute Settlement

Taxation.

Recent consultancies include: International Trade Courses on Trade Policy, APEC Study Centre, Melbourne, 1996-2000 funded by AusAID. The academic co-ordinator of the AusAID Training Course for Indonesian Government Officials on Facilitating Trade and Services, Monash University, 2002. General Consultancy, Department of Industry, Science and Resources 1999/2000.

Jeff has recently published the authoritative text WTO Litigation, (London, Cameron May) November 2002. His other book, A Practical Guide to International Commercial Arbitration (with R Garnett, H Gabriel and J Epstein), New York, Oceana, 2000, 213 pp is regularly cited.

Recent contributions to Chapters in Books include: 'China and the World Trading System' in V Taylor (ed) Asian Laws Through Australian Eyes, The Law Book Co Ltd, 1997. 'The Australian Tax Avoidance Experience and Responses: A Critical Review' in G Cooper (ed) Tax Avoidance and the Rule of Law, International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation Publications, 1997, pp 247-306. 'Implementation of the World Trade Organisation Agreement in Australia' in J H Jackson and A O Sykes, Implementing the Uruguay Round, Clarendon Press, 1997, pp 285-332

#### **DIRECTOR: PROFESSOR JOHN MCKAY**

John McKay has been the Director of the Australian APEC Study Centre since 1995. He is also a professor in the Monash Asia Institute, of which he was the Director of from 1989 to 2000. He was awarded undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from the University of Durham (UK) and has held a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the Ohio State University. He has held teaching and research appointments at the University of Liverpool and the University of Dar es Salaam as well as at Monash University, and has undertaken visiting appointments at Clark University, the Australian National University, the University of Lund, the Expert Group in Regional Studies in Stockholm and the Korean Institute of International Studies. His current research is concerned with:

1. The relationships between rapid economic growth in Asia and social, political and demographic change.
2. Technological change and Industrial restructuring in Northeast Asia, the changing relationships between government and the private sector, especially in Korea and Taiwan, and the changing roles of large and small firms.
3. The dynamics of economic and political change on the Korean Peninsula.
4. Economic integration in the Asia-Pacific, and the development of APEC and other groupings in the region.

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICER: SHAYNE WALSH**

Mrs. Shayne Walsh is the Executive Officer and Manager for the Centre and is responsible to the chairman for supervision of Centre activities, training courses curricula and business development. She has expertise in learning organisations and networking, with a particular focus on management and training of international students, which, together with her breadth of experience has resulted in extensive bureaucratic and professional contacts.

Before joining the APEC Study Centre in 2002, Shayne was a consultant on offshore

development of TAFE courses. Previously, from 1998 to 2001, she was the Director of the Australian Student Services in Asia (ASSIA), where her work primarily related to the recruitment and management of international students and associated business and co-operative opportunities for a number of prominent universities in Melbourne. From 1996 to 1998 she was the Education Consultant to the Director of IDP Education Australia, Hong Kong Office.

From 1988 to 1995 Shayne worked as a member of the Registrars Division at the ANU. She commenced as Centre Secretary of the National Centre for Development Studies and was responsible for the Centre's financial and student management. Her last appointment was as an Assistant Faculty Secretary in the Faculty of Economics and Commerce. Previous to this, Shayne held various positions at the Commonwealth Department of Resources and Energy, Canberra.

Shayne has also been responsible for researching, writing and editing many publications including research reports, program booklets, training modules, facilitator's guides and country fact sheets.

#### **DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND INFORMATION MANAGER: DARBY HIGGS**

Darby Higgs is Deputy Director of the Australian APEC Study Centre, with special responsibility for developing APEC related information resources. Darby, a former Science and mathematics teacher, has qualifications in Agricultural Science, Education and Information Management. During the late 1980's Darby was a political adviser to the Australian Minister for Science.

During the 1990's he had experience in the development of electronic information resources in the fields of agriculture and road transport research. Since his appointment to the Australian APEC Study Centre in 1996, Darby has been involved in the assembly of internet based information resources dealing with Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, trade and investment liberalisation, globalisation, trade and environment.

Darby's expertise in information management was further developed as the Study Centre developed Studying APEC on CD-ROM, a resource for secondary students and Globalisation Guide, an Internet based resource. Darby has also been involved in a number of training courses for government officials from developing Asian economies in a wide range of development related topics.

Darby has an interest in the insights provided by complexity theory into the problems of international economic relations and economic development.

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## **MANAGING REGULATORY CHANGE IN LIFE INSURANCE AND PENSIONS: A KEYNOTE PROGRAM**

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The Managing Regulatory Change (MRC) Program has been a major activity of the Centre over the past three years. It was developed in the aftermath of the Asian Financial Crisis when there was wide recognition of the urgent need for strengthening the financial services sector.

APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders endorse the MRC Program as a major capacity building initiative. It is a response to their views that governments, industry and multilateral agencies should work together to support institutional and human resource development in the region.

The Programs' aim is to create long-term confidence in life insurance and pension industries in regional economies through the establishment of sound supervision and regulation.

The Program's sponsors include AusAID, the Asian Development Bank, the Australian APEC Study Centre, the Commonwealth Banking Group and AXA Asia Pacific Holdings. An Advisory Committee, which includes key Australian financial regulators, the sponsors, and business practitioners overseas the program.

The 3-year Program covers two distinct levels: 3 High Level International Symposia and six specialised intensive 2-week Training Programs.

Regulators and industry representatives from China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, PNG, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam participate in the program. Regulators in Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, Korea and the MRC Program sponsors support the program.

Symposiums have been held in Manila (2000), Beijing (2001), and Singapore (2002). They have been attended by the regional regulators from all participating economies.

The Training Program was designed and is delivered by an expert team, which includes academics, practitioners and regulators from Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore.

The Program has trained 132 regulators to date and nearly 100 senior regulators have participated in the Symposiums.

Details about the program can be found at [www.apec-finsecreg.org](http://www.apec-finsecreg.org)

Value of the project: \$1,615,326.00

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## RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE

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### FACILITATING TRADE TRAINING PROGRAM

The Centre with Monash International Pty Ltd conducted an eight-week training course *Facilitating Trade in Products and Services Training Program* for sixteen Indonesian government officials in June and July 2002. The program was delivered under the auspices of the Indonesia Australia Specialised Training Project (IASTP II), managed by Melbourne Enterprises International (AMC).

Participants were selected from Indonesian Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs. The Course was designed to give participants an enhanced knowledge of the economics of international trade including technical understanding of the international and regional processes of trade liberalisation.

### TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT ACTIVITIES

In February 2002 a two-week training course was held for 18 officials from trade and environment ministries from China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines Thailand and Vietnam. Its aim was to assist developing APEC economies in the current negotiations in the WTO where trade and environment issues have become more prominent. AusAID funded this activity.

The training course was followed by a high level seminar for Australian and overseas officials, which was mounted in conjunction with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Participants included Australian and international officials and experts with an interest in the WTO negotiations on trade and environment.

### AUSTRALIA/USA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT CONFERENCE – FOREIGN POLICY CHALLENGES AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

In August 2002 the Centre conducted its second conference on the proposed Free trade agreement with the United States. The conference coincided with renewed interest in the FTA and was followed by the launch of negotiations. Over 90 government and business policy makers attended the conference. It was mounted in conjunction with AUSTA a business group in favour of developing a free trade agreement.

### LAW AND E-COMMERCE COURSE

The *Legal Frameworks and E-commerce* training course was held during June 2001. The two-week course was designed by the Centre in conjunction with the Centre for Law in the Digital Economy (CLIDE), unit of the Faculty of Law, Monash University. The 18 participants included government officials from legal and telecommunications departments and academics from APEC Study Centres in China, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam. This course was funded under AusAID's APEC Support program.

## **BIOTECHNOLOGY COURSE**

In June –July 2001 the Centre mounted *Reaping the Benefits of Biotechnology*, a training program for 21 officials and academics from China, Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam. The two- week course was designed and mounted in response to initiatives in several APEC fora, which highlight the need for human capacity building in the development of effective public policy to deal with this emerging technology. This course was also funded under AusAID's APEC Support program.

## **FREE TRADE AGREEMENT CONFERENCE IN CANBERRA**

In June 2001 the Centre sponsored a conference *An Australian/US Free Trade Agreement: Opportunities and Challenges*. The Conference, held in Canberra, featured presentations by Australian and US experts and covered a wide range of issues related to a possible FTA including agriculture, the new economy, competition policy, media as well as the overall national interest in developing such an agreement. Over 65 government officials and business representatives attended.

## **REPORT ON AUSTRALIA-US FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

In August 2001 the Centre researched and published *An Australia-US Free Trade Agreement- Issues and Implications*. The report was commissioned by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. It became a major resource, which informed and extended the subsequent debate on the topic on both sides of the Pacific.

## **JOINT RESEARCH WITH CHINA ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT**

The Australian APEC Study Centre is partnering Peking University in a joint research project on trade and environment issues. The aim of the project is to compare attitudes of developed countries and developing countries on trade and environment. The project is part of a larger program funded by AusAID to enhance China's capacity to participate in the World Trade Organization. The project was completed in June 2002 and several papers were published on the APEC Centre website.

## **APEC INFRASTRUCTURE PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR DIALOGUE**

The Centre conducted a roundtable in December 2000 as a contribution to the APEC Infrastructure Experts group. It involved delegates from sixteen APEC economies who discussed regulatory frameworks and risk management as applied to public and private participation in infrastructure provision. The Dialogue reported with recommendations to the APEC Economic Committee.

## **APIAN PROCESS**

Professor John McKay has continued to represent the Centre on the APEC International Assessment Network (APIAN). This network is a collaborative independent project based on a group of more than a dozen Academics from APEC Study Centres. It provides valuable policy advice to the various APEC fora with particular emphasis on encouraging the fulfillment of APEC objectives. He has contributed a chapter to the publication, "APEC as an Institution" which will be launched at the APEC Study Centre Consortium in Thailand 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May 2003.

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## PUBLICATIONS

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The Centre has proven expertise in electronic and print publications. It has a well-developed database of over 3000 Australian and international policymakers, business leaders, government officials and academics in a range of relevant disciplines.

### **APEC CURRENTS NEWSLETTER**

APEC Currents is the primary vehicle for dissemination of APEC related news and opinion to Australia and the international community. It is the only publication dedicated to reporting APEC activities. Since 2002 APEC Currents has been published electronically. It is distributed to 3000 recipients in Australia and throughout the Asia Pacific region. See our website for the latest edition.

### **ISSUES PAPERS**

The Centre publishes the occasional Issues Papers series, which address current topics related to the Centre and its work.

### **REPORTS**

Major reports published over the past two years have included

- *A study of the trade and environment issue* by Alan Oxley and Kristen Osborne, June 2002
- *The WTO Doha Development Round: the threat to international business of the spread of environmental trade sanctions* by Alan Oxley, February 2002
- *The environmental threat to development in the Doha Development Round*, by Alan Oxley, January 2002
- *An Australia-US Free Trade Agreement- Issues and Implications*, by Alan Oxley, August 2001
- *Bridging the Digital Divide: refocusing on a market based approach, an APEC perspective* by Patrick Xavier, August 2001

### **INTERNET PUBLISHING**

The Centre publishes a wide variety of material on its website including newsletters, issues papers, conference papers and reports. The website includes an extensive bibliography of resources on APEC related resources. The Australian APEC Study Centre's site is widely recognised as the leading information source about APEC and related issues.

As a contribution to the globalisation debate the Centre maintains *Globalisationguide.org* an Internet based resource aimed at secondary students and undergraduates. The site has wide recognition and is featured in a number of educational publications.

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## APPENDIX 1

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### LIST OF APEC STUDY CENTRE ACTIVITES

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Activity type</b>
*2000-2003	Managing Regulatory Change in the Life Insurance and Pensions Industry	Symposia and Training courses
*2001-2002	Trade and Environment	Research and Training course
2002	3rd Monash APEC Lecture: Dr Ken Henry	Lecture
2001	Biotechnology training course	Training Course
*2001-	An Australia/US Free Trade Agreement	Conferences and Resources
*2001-2002	Globalisation Guide	Resources for Students
2000	2nd Monash APEC Lecture - Warren Maruyama	Public Lecture
1999	Telecommunications Training Course	Training course
1998	Customs and Quarantine in China	Training course
1999	Infrastructure public /private dialogue	Seminar
1999	1st Monash APEC Lecture - Kim Beazley	Public Lecture
1998	Kyoto: The Impact on Australia	Conference
1998	The WTO Millennium Round (CITER 4 Conference)	Conference
1997	Infrastructure Management Training Course for APEC Economies	Training Course
1997	Countdown to Kyoto	Conference
1997	Studying APEC on CD-ROM	Resources for Students
1996	Environmental Priorities in Latin America and Asia	Research paper
1996	Conference on International Trade, Education and Research	Conference
1996	Trade policy training course	