



2007 Annual Report

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1. Introduction and Significant Contributions in 2007

On behalf of the Executive Committee of GovNet, I take pleasure in providing the third annual report of the Australian Research Council's Governance Research Network.

The timing of activities and initiatives means that some streams will be more active in some years and less active in others. This was a year in which the Corporate Governance and Civil Society streams were particularly active and the International Governance stream was not only active in itself but provided a new sub-network in Health governance.

With experience, there are also changes in strategies. Instead of holding a single national conference, we devoted more significant resources to a range of events. There were some highly successful conferences including one in Health Governance and two in Corporate Governance during the year. It has been decided to continue this approach during 2008 and review the matter for 2009.

One area of particular success was in networking the networks – in which we are connecting up to foreign and international networks and in several cases leading them.

Significant Contributions

The 2007 highlights listed below are GovNet's 'contributions of particular significance' in 2007.

Networking the Networks

1. Prof Justin O'Brien, the Corporate Governance Stream leader, is taking a lead role in a corporate governance networking of Australian, British and American scholars and regulators.
2. The Convenor was invited to become one of the founding members of the Principles of Responsible Investment Research Network.
3. Prof O'Brien and the Convenor have been invited to join the Business Integrity Working Group, the first meeting of which will be held in London on 27 June 2008 (this date was postponed to allow Mr George Soros to attend).
4. The Convenor and Deputy Convenor are members of a new Canadian Refugees Studies network.
5. The Convenor attended the annual conference of ACUNS (the Academic Council for the United Nations System) during 2007 and joint activity was planned and carried out in 2008.
6. The Deputy Convenor established Health Governance as a major cross stream activity. A local group has been established, a global Health Governance consortium has been established and held its first international meeting with the assistance of WHO.
7. We have strengthened links to UN bodies and NGOs – including WHO, UNHCR, and Global Compact. We have also built a special relationship with the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), a \$100m think tank established by the founder of Blackberry in Waterloo, Canada.

Conferences and workshops

8. The Corporate Governance stream was particularly active with one conference, two workshops (one was jointly organised with the Civil Society stream) and one round table.
9. The civil society stream was also very active with two conferences and three workshops (one was jointly organised with the Corporate Governance stream)
10. As part of its work on Health Governance networking, the Health Governance conference was held in December.
11. The international stream prepared for a joint colloquium on re-engaging the United

Nations in conjunction with UNAA, ACUNS and IEGL which was held on March 7 2008.

Publishing

12. The GovNet e-journal was launched and the first two issues published.
13. The GovNet e-newsletter was launched and produced one test and one substantive issue during 2007 and has produced three issues during 2008 so far.
14. The Convenor started to assist young researchers (including later year PhD candidates) to secure book contracts.
15. The website became a place where papers from GovNet and other workshops could be posted and it was used to upload governance materials for Philippines governance courses.

Governance

16. As decided last year, an Advisory Board was established and held its first meeting.

Accommodation in Canberra

17. CSU has completed a new building on their Canberra campus next to Lake Burley Griffin and has provided accommodation for GovNet as promised – involving a large office and the use of meetings rooms and office assistance.

Graham Clark Forum

18. It was with great satisfaction that we see that, of the twenty researchers chosen, the four from the Humanities and Social Sciences were all members of GovNet.

Membership

19. Membership continued to grow, reaching 288 (up from 245)
20. Prof John Dryzek, who has been taking a strong leadership role in GovNet, especially in Deliberative Democracy, has been awarded a Federation Fellowship. He is the third GovNet member to be awarded a Federation Fellowship during the life of the network (Profs Charlesworth and Lindsey) to join the two who had such fellowships at its inception (Profs Braithwaite and Quiggin).

I would like to thank our partners and their host organisations, in particular members of the Executive Group, Professor Howard Adelman (IEGL), Professor John Wanna, Sir John Bunting Chair of Public Administration, ANZOG, Professor Andrew MacIntyre, Director of the Crawford School, Associate Professor Jeannette Kennet (CAPPE, ANU) and Professor Justin O'Brien (CAPPE, CSU). I would particularly like to thank the three Universities involved (Griffith, ANU and CSU) for their continued and valuable support and the significant contribution of the Federal Government for the support provided to the network through ANU.

Professor Charles Sampford
Convenor, ARC Governance Research Network
On behalf of the Executive Committee

2. Meeting the Objectives

2.1 GovNet Networking Objectives

In putting together the network proposal, we addressed the question put by the ARC's network program: how do we add value to the excellent research currently being done by individuals, centres and existing formal and informal networks? We thought that we could add such value through the 8 networking objectives (on right) which we have retained as objectives throughout the period of the grant.

2.2 Consultation Visits

In November 2007 Professor Adelman and Brian Adams began a series of consultation visits with GovNet members. The original strategy was to focus on institutions with a high concentration of network members. The primary purposes of the meetings were:

1. Gain more detail on the research currently is being conducted by GovNet members;
2. Generate new research ideas; and
3. Discuss ways to advance research and connect members to funding.

Following these pilot meetings, it was decided to schedule one on one meetings during 2008. See Attachment 1.

2.3 Increased Scale and Focus

GovNet members are using the network to put together some large grants. In 2006, the greatest successes were in Public Governance where Prof John Wanna secured significant endowment funding and in Regional Governance where Prof Andrew Macintyre secured funding for the Australia Indonesia Governance Research Partnership. These took a great deal of their time during 2007. During 2007, the most significant new large-scale activity came from the International and Corporate Governance streams. In the Corporate Governance stream, Prof Justin O'Brien has been putting together some large events which are helping to form some large international partnerships for networking research and seeking funding. Prof Adelman has been putting together a major cross-disciplinary global health governance network.

GovNet Networking Objectives

1. Encouraging the foment (and ferment) of ideas across the disciplines and subjects of governance involving end-users in planning research directions.
2. Establishing research streams for developing and funding innovative, higher quality (and generally interdisciplinary) projects and programs, researching the governance of particular institutions and sets of institutions.

The five streams cover: global governance, Asia-Pacific regional governance mechanisms, public sector governance, corporate governance and regulation, and the many and varied institutions of 'civil society'.
3. Exploring cross-cutting research themes, based on national priorities and emerging governance issues that cross the traditional institutional boundaries of governance research.

For example, issues concerning corruption in Australia and elsewhere cross over corporate and public sector institutions and the solutions generally involve civil society and the professions.
4. Asia-Pacific governance capacity building. (This diversifies funding sources, reduces reliance on the ARC and exposes researchers to significant governance problems in a range of different contexts.)
5. Improving the techniques of research design and management.
6. Improving communication of results to various audiences and end-users.
7. Strengthening the Network and enhancing future viability.
8. Improving the experiences and employability of RHD students.

2.4 Facilitating the Internationalisation of Research and International Linkages

This was always a primary goal of our activities and has certainly been a feature of almost all of the activities of the network's leaders. As in previous years, almost all workshops involved international collaboration with distinguished individual academics from other countries either presenting or participating in events. The spreading of the resources otherwise devoted to the conference to other large focussed events enabled more high profile international speakers.

However, 2007 particularly focused on 'networking the networks' and led to some major achievements in this field. Prof Adelman (the Deputy Convenor) and Prof O'Brien (Corporate Governance stream leader) are taking the lead in establishing new networks in Health Governance and Business Integrity respectively. The Convenor took a significant role in establishing the Principles of Responsible Investment Research Network. The Convenor and Deputy Convenor are members of the Canadian Refugee Research Network (awarded in April 2008) and the Convenor is one of a small number of international participants in the Canadian Business Ethics Research Network.

The Convenor worked on the establishment of possible governance research centres in other countries in the region to institutionalize research co-operation. The Jakarta centre is on hold following a call to the agreed Centre Director to work as a senior advisor to the Vice President. However, the flourishing Australia Indonesia Governance Research Program has done a great deal to stimulate regional research linkages. The hold on the Jakarta centre has allowed more time to be spent on the proposal to establish a Centre in Manila, and more progress than expected has been made during the year under an AusAID Public Sector Linkage Program grant with the Philippines Ombudsman.

One of the highlights of the 2006 year was the much lauded inaugural meeting of the World Ethics Forum. The Forum endorsed the establishment of a Global Integrity Alliance (GIA) to support the development of coalitions of ethical leaders in developing countries. During 2007, the GIA's Program Committee set out a range of important initiatives that the GIA should seek to pursue. The first of these were regional dialogues, the first of which was in Africa and which the Convenor attended. The next World Ethics Forum is now scheduled for May 2009 and will again have the support of the World Bank.

Two international book series in governance are edited from GovNet central - Routledge's "Challenge of Globalisation" and Ashgate's "Law, Ethics and Governance". A call for submissions to the latter book series in early 2007 and ongoing editorial assistance will be provided in kind by Griffith University.

2.5 National Benefit

The beneficial effects of governance reform tend to be subtle and long term. If the major beneficial effect of governance research is through governance reforms suggested by that research, its beneficial effects are one stage further removed.

However, the network has certainly been researching issues that have turned out to be of signal importance. The March workshop on the Dynamics of Capital Market Governance included a number of voices warning against the enthusiasm for leveraged 'private' equity which was picked up by the media who attended. The Health Governance sub-network is dealing with issues of health workforce development and immigration. The Australia Indonesia Governance Research Program is providing research inputs across most governance issues. The Philippine based Centre for Asian Integrity and the Global Integrity Alliance may yet provide support to coalitions of ethical leaders in Australia's region. The importance of the financial governance issues tackled by the corporate governance stream

were underlined by the problems that emerged towards the end of the year in global markets.

With the accession of the new government there has been a much more positive environment for ideas.

2.6 Meeting the Originally Stated Objectives

The originally stated GovNet objectives are set out below with comment on activities to 31 December 2007 in italics. Details are provided under Section 5 – GovNet Achievements.

1. Encouraging the foment (and ferment) of ideas across the disciplines and subjects of governance involving end-users in planning research directions.
This objective is the overall goal of GovNet stated in most general terms and it is largely achieved through the other measures listed below.
2. Establishing research streams for developing and funding innovative, higher quality (and generally interdisciplinary) projects and programs, researching the governance of particular institutions and sets of institutions. The five streams cover: global governance, Asia-Pacific regional governance mechanisms, public sector governance, corporate governance and regulation, and the many and varied institutions of ‘civil society.’
This is always the objective to which most time and effort is given. Most streams have been highly active this year as is seen in section five. The most pleasing development was the very strong program in corporate governance which had previously been the least active program.
3. Exploring cross-cutting research themes, based on national priorities and emerging governance issues that cross the traditional institutional boundaries of governance research. For example, issues concerning corruption in Australia and elsewhere cross over corporate and public sector institutions and the solutions generally involve civil society and the professions.
During 2007, all activities had cross-cutting elements built in at the planning stage.
4. Asia-Pacific governance capacity building.
The main means of pursuing this objective, through the employment of a consultant on a fixed monthly rate to assist putting in capacity building grants, has not been as productive as expected. From 2008 onwards consultant support will be engaged on an ad hoc basis. However, the AIGRP has been very significant in building Indonesian governance research capacity. The proposed Philippines based Centre for Asian Integrity would institutionalize this kind of work in the Philippines and elsewhere in the region.
5. Improving the techniques of research design and management. Once won, grants need to be used as efficiently as possible.
The Deputy Convenor visited cities with significant numbers of GovNet members to discuss potential research projects and research management issues.
6. Improving communication of results to various audiences and end-users.
2007 was a major year for such developments. The website was fully operational all year and was used to host governance materials for Philippines based governance training. The GovNet e-journal and e-newsletter were launched and have reached their second and fourth issues respectively. Socratic forums have been held and this is we are widening members’ opportunities to publish monographs.
7. Strengthening the Network and enhancing future viability. *Networking with other networks helps to strengthen GovNet and enhance the viability of the network that has been put in place.*

8. Improving the experiences and employability of RHD students.
We are seeking to ensure that RHD students take part in relevant workshops and conferences. A new approach in 2008, is to assist completing PhD students to achieve book contracts to publish their theses. The convenor provides advice and entrées into three separate book series. Carmel Connors provides models and some advice on the presentation of material.

2.7 Meeting Quantitative KPIs

In our last report, we were requested to set some quantitative KPI targets. The ten targets are set out below and comments on achievements made in italics:

1. Maintain and increase the number of members – aim for at least 260 members as at December 31. *Exceeded – 288 members.*
2. 10% of participants in workshops to be ECRs and/or post-graduate students. *This figure was not recorded by most of those organising GovNet events. However, of those which did, an average of 14% was achieved.*
3. Generate capacity building consultancies – aiming for at least 6 submitted and 3 won and in which all will have either more than one university or with both academic and practitioner participation. *The arrangement for support during 2007, was under-utilized and has been terminated (see s5.2). Nevertheless, four bids were submitted. One was successful, two were unsuccessful and one is still in play. We were offered work in Zambia but those requested to participate were unable to meet the required timetable.*
4. Establishment of Advisory Board and holding at least one meeting. *Done.*
5. Strengthening the intensity of cross stream activities with the aim that a majority of GovNet activities throughout the year involve issues relevant to more than one stream. *All activities have at least some cross-stream involvement.*
6. Maintain the number of workshops but aim to increase their international character by
 - a. Securing at least 20% international participants on average. *This figure was not recorded for all but for those it was the average was 24%.*
 - b. Holding at least 3 workshops overseas in collaboration with international partners. *Postponement of some workshops meant that this figure was not achieved in 2007 – though the WHO funded Health Governance workshop in Toronto is a notable achievement. The number will increase during 2008 and particularly 2009.*
 - c. Securing collaborative funding for at least 30% of the cost of such international workshops. *This was achieved with the above mentioned Toronto workshop where the \$50,000 WHO grant dwarfed our own contribution. The postponed workshops will have at least 30% funding. While not directly relevant, a feature of the 2007 workshops was the number held in Australia that had significant overseas funding – including ESRC for ‘The Dynamics of Capital Market Governance’ and ‘When the Music Stops’ and two New Zealand bodies for ‘Fair Trade’. This does not take into account the fact that the structure of the support for the Public Governance stream involves New Zealand as well as Australian government support that is channelled through ANZSOG.*
7. Hold three Socratic forums. *Done (although the last two were postponed from November 2007 to February/March 2008 because of the elections).*
8. Deliver at least two issues of the e-journal. *Done.*
9. Secure at least 4 book contracts for GovNet members from the Ashgate and/or Routledge series. *The call we put out has resulted in a high level of enquiry from*

network members and the students they supervise and at least five are likely to be published – including two from PhD students.

10. Completion of survey of Network participants to seek guidance on usefulness of website and preferred areas of development.

Additional KPI requested by ARC

In commenting on the 2006 Report, the ARC sought information on the percentage of attendees who were from the three participating universities and how many were from outside.

This request was received mid year and, although communicated to all stream leaders, not all were able to comply. Nevertheless, most organizers did record this figure and it showed 19% from the three partnering universities and 81% from elsewhere. This reflects a very strong governance principle articulated early on, that the networking funds were to be used for the benefit the network as a whole and not for particular universities. However, we welcome the request to quantify this.

2.8 Carry Forward

As indicated in the first two reports, delays in signing the inter-university agreement until the end of 2005 meant that we had 18 months of income before expenditure started for most activities. The Corporate Governance stream was largely inactive for another year because of a change of direction of its original hosts who returned the funds provided. This has meant large carryovers. The carryovers have been increased because much GovNet expenditure has been in the form of underwriting workshops and conferences that have ended up costing very little. The carryovers were exacerbated by late journaling of much of the expenditure. Last year, there was a total of \$71,702 from 2006 that was still to be journalled when the report was completed. Of these figures all but \$22,000 was journalled for the purposes indicated. Of that figure \$20,000 was journalled to other (legitimate) expenses with \$2,000 not journalled. Accordingly, we decided to reverse the \$22,000 and record the relevant expenses in this year's report.

While last year's report gave a better picture of overall expenditure, this experience meant that we decided not to include any 'to be journalled' amounts in this year's accounts even though \$13,600 was journalled in January. Although we have records of this journaling, we have decided for ease of reporting to list these figures in the 2008 report. The effective carryover once commitments are taken into account has accordingly been reduced by \$13,600 to \$275,144.

3. GovNet Management and Governance

GovNet is managed by an Executive Committee comprising the Convenor, the Deputy Convenor and the Stream Leaders. Three of the Stream Leaders have other GovNet responsibilities (Professor MacIntyre manages both the Asia Pacific Governance Stream and the capacity building objective. Professor John Wanna is the Stream Leader for Public Governance and also manages the cross-cutting themes. Prof Howard Adelman manages the international stream and objectives 5 and 6). Objectives 7 and 8 are shared.

During 2007, we held four face to face Executive Meetings: March 13, September 7, October 29, November 28. This was one less than the five held in 2006. This is unsurprising given the maturity of the network.

The Executive Committee meetings held in 2007 covered a range of issues. The following summarises the main issues covered and decided at Executive committee meetings.

- a. As in earlier years, stream activities are proposed by the Stream Leaders for feedback from other members of the Executive. The Executive Committee does not micromanage the activities of the streams and will rarely reject a proposal. However, the requirement to present the plans to the members of the Executive is to ensure that the proposed expenditure benefits the Network as a whole rather than for the particular centre/institution/group from which the stream leader comes. Each meeting has an update on stream activities to stimulate the cross fertilization of ideas. The last and first meetings of the year always deal with this issue.
- b. Reporting requirements and annual report – first and final meeting.
- c. Payments under the contract – first meeting.
- d. As the corporate governance and social responsibility stream was under new leadership and was engaging in catch up work, more time was spent on its activities. There was also agreement to spend more on this stream than others, involving a re-allocation of budget – all meetings.
- e. Annual conference – the decision not to have an annual conference in either 2007 or 2008 was confirmed. First and last meetings.
- f. E-journal and website. All meetings.
- g. Increasing publication outputs of GovNet events. This, and participation in future grants, was seen as important for increasing the commitment and enthusiasm of the academic participants. If avenues for publication are provided for the events and (through the Ashgate book series) generally, engagement can increase.

In addition a meeting of the ‘administrators’ (i.e. those who handled the accounts and put together information for the annual report) was held on October 29.

Advisory Board

The original application sought to centre the advisory function on the individual nodes with each stream taking advice from advisors drawn from its own. The advantage of this is the avoidance of duplication and more direct communication. The disadvantage is that the approach is uneven and one stream did not have an advisory board.

Early in 2007, the Executive decided that, while nodes could continue to seek advice where they wished on an informal basis, it would be better to have one Board take on the formal responsibility. As the Institute for Ethics, Governance and Law was establishing an Advisory Board, it was decided that that Board would be tasked with providing advice. The Executive Committee made recommendations on the members of the Board and the following were invited and accepted:

Hon Justice Margaret McMurdo, President of the Court of Appeal in Queensland.

Hon Justice Michael Kirby, High Court

Lt Gen (ret) John Sanderson, former UN Force Commander in Cambodia and WA governor

Mr Ken Smith, Director General of Premier and Cabinet, Queensland

Dr David Solomon

Ex officio members are the Convenor who is also the Director of IEGL and the Directors of the three member centres within IEGL, the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance at Griffith University, the Centre for International and Public Law (CIPL) at the Australian National University and the Law and Justice Research Centre (LJRC) at the Queensland University of Technology.

The first meeting of the IEGL Board was held on March 10, 2008 and will meet two to three times a year.

4. GovNet Membership

As indicated in Attachment 2, after strong growth in 2006, numbers grew from 245 to 288 during 2007.

5. GovNet Achievements

5.1 Stream Achievements

5.2 Asia-Pacific governance capacity building (Objective 4)

5.3 Annual GovNet International Conference

5.4 Socratic Forums

5.5 Communication

5.5.1 E-Journal and E-News

5.5.2 Website

5.1 Stream Achievements

Stream 1: Global, International and Trans-National Governance

Stream Leader: Professor Howard Adelman, Deputy Convenor, Griffith University

2007 was a busy year. The most significant activity was in the development of a Health Governance sub-network and the launching of a major international research consortium.

Health Governance networking

The Deputy Convenor devoted a great deal of his time during 2007 on establishing a sub-network on Health Governance as a prelude to establishing a global network of regulators and researchers interested in the governance of the global health workforce. This received a preliminary WHO grant of \$50,000 USD and led to the establishment of the International Network, the International Consortium for Research on the Governance of the Health Workforce (ICR-GHW) at an international meeting in Toronto in October 2007. Collaboration has commenced. Some grants have been won, and many more are in preparation.

Background

In December 2005, Howard Adelman and Daniel Klass wrote a paper entitled, "Governance of Physicians in a Globalized World: developing a transnational research program for medical regulation". The proposed program addressed the commonalities and inconsistencies of standards, methods and understanding in the world of medical regulation. They proposed that a transnational perspective is necessary in order to provide a more orderly regulatory system in a world of increasing professional mobility, keeping in mind that 'competence' must be assessed according to universal standards. The program's objective was to focus critical attention on the governance (ethical and regulatory structure) of global medical care delivery by fostering research networks. The networks would be focused on developing evidence-based understanding of the relative strengths and weaknesses of diverse regulatory regimens in order to inform new policy and standards development, as well as to allow for the preservation of important local values while enhancing transnational relevance.

The paper was well received at the International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA) 7th International Conference on Medical Regulation in Wellington, New Zealand, November 2006. A research consortium, that would include IAMRA's participation, was proposed. The goal was to develop an evidence based approach that aimed to evaluate

and strengthen the process of policy decision-making by medical regulators, and thus to promote a culture of evidence based regulation.

Meetings and Events

The Health Workforce Governance (HealthGov) sub-network has grown very quickly and can now be recognized as a significant achievement. What began with originally three members has bloomed to over 70 in Australia, an international meeting to establish the ICR-GHW in Toronto in October, followed by a successful international conference in December 2007.

Attachments 3 and 3a provide details of the Toronto Meeting and the HealthGov Conference.

Initial grants

The World Health Organization provided a \$50,000 USD grant to help develop the consortium. Further grants have been won from the Ontario Ministry of Health. York University in Toronto offered to provide in kind support. Prof Klass has been appointed an Adjunct Professor at Griffith and York and the Convenor has been appointed an Adjunct Professor at York to provide further paths for the networking and collaboration. Significant grants are also in preparation in Australia, Canada, UK and USA. HealthGov has received an AIGRP grant led by Prof Stephanie Short to work with Indonesian health and governance researchers to compare governance issues and solutions in Indonesia and Australia. The Queensland Department of Health has promised a minimum of \$100,000 per annum and appropriate in kind for a linkage project on collaborative training with the Philippines that would increase the supply of nurses in Australia and the Philippines.

Commencement of international collaborative research, education and capacity building

The first of the international linkages is an education program with the University of Aberystwyth, Wales, which has been planned in cooperation with the British Health Council for May 2008. A second is with York University, Toronto and CIGI scheduled for November 2008.

Other activities

While the above constituted the largest and most sustained effort, a range of other networking activities were pursued within the stream.

- a. A background paper on “Conceptions of the Good Life” was developed and further discussions were held with the World Institute for Development Economic Research and other United Nations University (UNU) centres for a larger international program.
- b. The papers from the 2006 World Ethics Forum were published with a grant of \$20,000 from AusAID. It was loaded on the GovNet website and a selection were included in the first edition of the GovNet e-journal.
- c. We prepared for four major co-funded workshops:
 - historical conceptions of sovereignty funded by Princeton University now to be held in early 2009;
 - ethical supports for the international rule of law co-funded by UNU and CIGI and to be held in mid 2009;
 - institutional supports for the international rule of law to be co-funded by UNU and CIGI and to be held late in 2009;
 - sovereignty and global health – to be funded by CIGI and held in November 2008

In each case the concept was laid out and funding secured during the year in meetings with those involved.

- d. We sought to strengthen ties with multilateral agencies and international NGOs including the UN secretariat, the World Bank, CIGI, Transparency International (TI), UNHCR, WHO. The Convenor was responsible for developing relations with the first four and the Deputy Convenor for the last two. Some of the more significant developments are:
- The Convenor met with the USG (Under Secretary General) and ASG (Assistant Secretary General) for Legal Affairs and met several times with the leaders of the newly formed 'Rule of Law Unit' that is trying to bring together the frequently disparate approaches to the rule of law within the UN;
 - The World Bank contacts are largely around the World Ethics Forum the Global Integrity Alliance;
 - The Convenor met with the Chair of the TI Board in Ottawa and it was agreed that TI would work more closely with GovNet researchers. The Chair of TI invited the Convenor to meet with the new CEO of TI to discuss details (this was done in April 2008);
 - The Deputy Convenor strengthened ties with UNHCR and WHO.
- e. The Convenor attended the annual conference of the Academic Council of the United Nations System in New York. ACUNS approached GovNet to host a joint closed symposium with the United Nations Association of Australia and IEGL on how Australia might re-engage with the United Nations – which was held at Griffith on March 7, 2008. The resulting proposals were provided to the Prime Ministers office in time for his visit to the United Nations. Full details will be provided in the 2008 report.

The GovNet support for these activities was largely in the time of the Deputy Convenor and in travel for Deputy Convenor, the Convenor and Prof Stephanie Short, the leader of the Health Governance sub-network. The participants all paid their own way to Toronto and the organisation of the meeting was paid for out of the WHO grant.

Stream 2: Asia-Pacific Institutional Reform and Regional Cooperation

Stream Leader: Professor Andrew MacIntyre, Crawford School of Economics and Government, ANU

Asia Pacific Stream Workshops

The Asia-Pacific Stream funded two workshops in 2007, both of which carried forward to 2008 for actual implementation. It also funded a small pilot-exercise for engagement with a potentially much broader virtual network – PolicyNet – hosted by the Center for International Governance Innovation, in Canada.

a. Federal-State Relations in Australia, Asia and Beyond

This is a major cross-disciplinary issue area of high importance in Australia, Asia and a range of developing countries around the world. The workshop is led by Professor Christopher Findlay and other colleagues at the University of Adelaide. It will link up economists, political scientists, and legal specialists, and include both senior scholars and early career researchers. The organisers will link in not just Asia-Pacific stream members, but also others (most notably ANZSOG stream members) as well drawing new researchers into the GovNet community. Seed funding of \$19,000 from the Asia-Pacific Stream for this event will be supplemented with funds directly from the University of Adelaide. Because implementation of this initiative has spilled into 2008, details on outcomes achieved will be presented in the next reporting cycle.

b. Australia-Japan Law conference

The Asia-Pacific Stream has also provided modest funding to support an initiative of stream member, Dr Luke Nottage (Sydney University) to supplement efforts by a sub-network – the Australian Network for Japanese Law (ANJeL) – to co-host a major Japan law conference in Kyoto with Ritsumeikan University. ANJeL proposes to co-fund participation by one researcher from each of several Australian universities with the most promising proposals for developing research links between Australia and Japan. Stream funding of \$6,000 to ANJeL, while modest, will supplement other resources and allow this creative initiative to go ahead. As with the Federal-State Relations project, because implementation of this initiative has spilled into 2008, details on outcomes achieved will be presented in the next reporting cycle.

c. Pilot-exercise participation in PolicyNet

The Center for International Governance Innovation at the University of Waterloo in Canada (CIGI) is hosting a new global virtual network of scholars, graduate students, and practitioners interested in governance issues. Following an approach by Professor Anne-Marie Slaughter of Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School to help support the birth of this initiative we have invested USD\$1,500 (\$1,867.30) of Stream funding to trial membership benefits. This initiative is only in its infancy. If it succeeds, it holds out the promise of being a framework to enable GovNet members to engage in an even larger community beyond the life of GovNet itself.

Stream 3: Public Sector Governance

Stream Leader: Professor John Wanna, Sir John Bunting Chair of Administration, ANU

a. Governing by Looking Back: How History Matters in Society, Politics and Government

This conference was held on 12 - 14 December 2007: VENUE: Manning Clark Centre, ANU Campus

Conference theme

Governing proceeds by 'looking back' as much as by 'looking forward'. The importance of the former is often underappreciated. In the early postwar decades the policy sciences focused on planning, scenarios and strategies. As the limits of this approach to governance have become clearer, the past has made a comeback. Scholarly attention has now shifted to governing by looking back. There has been an explosion of studies on collective memory, public accountability, path dependency, policy evaluation and social learning.

This conference organized by the Research School of Social Sciences of the Australian National University taps into that trend. It draws on the new Thematic structure around which the School itself is organized. It brings together scholars from across the social sciences in and beyond Australia who study how societies and organizations remember, forget, frame and cope with the past in their efforts to govern themselves. Its aim was to foster academic and policy dialogue about how to assess and improve societies' institutional capacities for remembering and learning from the past.

The conference featured more than 100 papers/presentations, in conventional panels as well as a number of more in-depth and intensive 1-1.5 day thematic workshops.

Attachment 4 provides details including the list of speakers.

b) Leadership Workshop

In December a Leadership Workshop organised by Paul Hart attracted 50 participants including 30 senior staff and 20 practitioners and postgraduate students. Professor Hart is publishing an ANZSOG monograph on Public Sector Leadership.

c) Governing Through Collaboration: Managing Better Through Other

This was originally planned as a workshop but was expanded to become the main theme of a conference held 28-29 June 2007 at the Hyatt Hotel in Canberra. The conference addressed four key themes aimed at illustrating the complexity of relations and the prospects for improved delivery and policy outcomes:

- Collaboration in the implementation of public policy—service delivery and business model challenges;
- National and international collaboration—in national security, disaster recovery and emergency crises to provide effective and timely responses to meet community expectations;
- Collaboration with targeted clients—indigenous communities, regional and remote communities, welfare groups, disadvantaged groups, and those with disabilities; and
- Collaboration with the community—bringing the people back into the policy sphere through engagement, consultation, and shared responsibilities.

This was an example of a GovNet supported activity that was underwritten by GovNet but which did not require financial support. There was, however, a great deal of in-kind support by the stream leader, GovNet members and support staff.

Stream 4: Corporate Governance and Regulation

Stream Leader: Professor Justin O'Brien, Corporate Governance, CAPPE, CSU

The corporate governance and regulation stream has embarked on an ambitious series of national and international initiatives. Our broader aim was to expand the range of exploratory lenses on the contemporary crisis of confidence in global debt markets. The implications of what Joseph Schumpeter once famously described as the creative destruction of capitalism offered governance and regulatory scholars an opportunity to make a positive contribution to the evolution of public policy in relation to capital market governance. This was achieved by simultaneously examining the internal dimensions of specific problems, mapping how policy preferences frame public policy discourse and measuring the impact of this framing on regulatory dynamics.

a. Holding of Major Public Events

1. Conference: Dynamics of Capital Market Governance: Evaluating the Conflicting and Conflating Roles of Compliance, Regulation, Ethics and Accountability.

In March GovNet hosted this major conference at the Australian National University. The conference mapped out the research agenda, which was itself designed to have immediate public policy relevance. This was underscored by the presence of Malcolm Rodgers, the Executive Director of Strategy at the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. The conference also included contributions from a range of internationally renowned academics in corporate governance, regulatory studies and compliance. The rise of private equity was the focus of the second event, which was primarily sponsored by the ESRC World Economy and Finance Program. Australian researchers featured prominently in the organisation of a high profile panel addressed by Brendan Barber, the General Secretary of the TUC and featuring contributions from Professor Ian Ramsay and Professor Justin O'Brien. The success of this event was instrumental in the decision by the ESRC to co-fund a final event in Sydney in December.

Outcome: Selected papers from the ANU event were published in the Govnet EJournal. They were published in revised form in *Private Equity, Corporate Governance and the Dynamics of Capital Market Regulation* (Imperial College Press, 2007).

Attachment 5 provides full details including the list of speakers, participants and outcomes.

2. Workshop: Fair Trade, Corporate Accountability and Beyond: Experiments in 'Globalising Justice'

This workshop took place in Melbourne on 19-20 December 2007. It was jointly organised by the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics (CAPPE), the Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law (CELRL) and Fairtrade Labelling Australia and New Zealand (FLANZ), and hosted by CELRL at the University of Melbourne. In addition to financial support from the workshop's major sponsor (GovNet/CAPPE), the workshop received complementary financial support from AusAID and CELRL, as well as extensive in kind and administrative support from CELRL and the Fair Trade Association of Australia and New Zealand (FTAANZ).

Attachment 6 provides details including the list of speakers, participants and outcomes.

3. Workshop: When the Music Stops: Private Equity, Securitisation and the Future of Capital Markets

This international workshop co-sponsored by GovNet, the ESRC and the Ross Parsons Centre of Commercial, Corporate and Taxation Law was held at the University of Sydney Law School on 14 December 2007. Leading international political scientists and academic corporate lawyers travelled to Australia in December for this major one-day conference to examine the corporate governance implications of a tumultuous year on global financial markets. The event was co-sponsored by GovNet and the Economic and Social Research Council World Economy and Finance Program. It was the third in a series that significantly leverages the capacity of Australian researchers to tap into global research networks.

Attachment 7 provides full details including the list of speakers.

4. Private Equity, Securitisation and Corporate Governance Roundtable

This roundtable discussion was held at Freehills Moot Court, College of Law, ANU, on Wednesday 12 December bringing together some of the key experts from the United Kingdom, United States and Australia to discuss what has been a tumultuous year on global financial markets. The panelists represented a strong cross section of influence from the world of corporate governance and financial regulation, with key academics accompanied by Stephen Lamb, the Vice Chancellor of the Delaware Court of Chancery, the most important corporate law jurisdiction in the United States.

Attachment 8 provides details including the list of speakers.

b. Development of Research Linkages

The sequence of public events embeds a network that now includes significant nodes the United States and United Kingdom as well as Australia. Our key collaborators in the United States include the Boalt School of Law at the University of California (Professor Lauren Edelman and Professor Eric Talley) and the University of New Hampshire (Professor Melvin Dubnick). In the United Kingdom, we have developed links with the Institute of Governance at Queen's University Belfast (Professor Sally Wheeler) and the School of Law at the University of Glasgow (Professor Iain MacNeil). Close relations have been fostered, for example, with a working group on financialisation, a virtual research network housed at the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Sydney.

Three members of the GovNet Executive (Justin O'Brien, Charles Sampford and Andrew MacIntyre) have joined the former director of CAPPE, Professor Seumas Miller, in submitting an ARC Linkage grant application in conjunction with our industry partner, TIRI. The grant, 'Corporate Governance, Regulation and Accountability: The Role of Multinational Corporations in Developing Commercial Advantage from Institutional Integrity' was submitted in November and we await the outcome. Professor O'Brien and Professor Ramsay (along with Professor Talley from Berkeley) are named researchers on an ESRC grant application submitted by Professor MacNeil of the University of Glasgow.

Outcome: Professor O'Brien appointed to a five-year term as Visiting Professor at the School of Law, University of Glasgow. He has also secured a visiting position at the Department of Political Science in the University of New Hampshire.

Professor O'Brien has been working to establish an international Business Integrity Working Group. He and the Convenor will attend the first meeting in London on June 27 2008. This date was set so that George Soros could attend.

The Convenor was part of a successful application for the establishment of a Canadian Business Ethics Research Network (one of only three non-Canadian participants) led by Prof Wes Cragg of York University. The first conference was held in September 2007 (with the date set to allow the Convenor's participation).

The Convenor was invited to become one of the founding members of the Principles of Responsible Investment Research Network. Three tele-conferences have been held and the first face to face meeting will be in Maastricht on September 18 2008. The Convenor will bring Prof O'Brien and Prof Wes Cragg into the network at that stage.

c. Enhancing Wider Engagement

Professor O'Brien has developed ongoing relationship with leading corporate law and regulatory practitioners. He spoke at a private equity roundtable organised by the Corporations Section of the Law Council of Australia in Adelaide in July 2007. In addition, he was the sole academic invited to attend a roundtable between the European trade union movement and representatives of private equity, which was convened by the Trades Union Congress in London in July. The Australian Securities and Investments Commission invited Professor O'Brien to write a paper on how to calibrate its key performance indicators. In addition, he was invited to present his findings at 'The Future of Audit' symposium, convened at Parliament House in September. In addition, Professor O'Brien has written extensively for the national and international press, including the Australian Financial Review and the Irish Times. He has also contributed to radio and television programs on the ABC and SBS, thus enhancing the visibility of the research agenda being carried out by the stream.

Outcomes: These connections have been instrumental in developing two ARC linkage applications. The first, which was submitted in November 2007, focuses on developing markets. The second, to be submitted in May 2008, focuses on how to enhance business integrity in developed markets, with particular reference to Australia.

Stream 5: Civil Society Governance: Professions, Religious Institutions and NGOs

Stream Leader: Associate Professor Jeanette Kennett, CAPPE, ANU

As planned the following events were held in 2007. These are reported as follows:

a. Ethical Questions for NGOs involved in International Relief and Development

This GovNet/CAPPE sponsored workshop planned in 2006 and reported in the 2006 GovNet Annual Report to the ARC was held on 18-20 July 2007 at the University of Melbourne. Organisers were Keith Horton (University of Western Australia) and Chris Roche (Oxfam Australia).

Outline

In recent decades there has been a great expansion in the number, size and influence of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working in the fields of international relief and development. This growth has led to increased scrutiny, and such scrutiny has focused attention on a number of difficult ethical questions such organisations face. The purpose of this Workshop was to bring together an interdisciplinary group – including specialists in development studies and related disciplines, moral and political philosophers, and reflective practitioners – to tackle some of those questions.

Attachment 9 provides full details including the list of participants, themes and future developments.

b. Psychology and Ethics of New Marketing

This workshop postponed from 2006 was held on **6-7 August 2007** at the University of Melbourne. It involved researchers and advocates from across disciplines to develop a broad understanding of the philosophical, empirical, ethical and governance issues that arise from the use of new marketing strategies. The workshop was also of public interest and articles based on the workshop presentations were placed in the media.

Outline

TV advertising of junk food to children has attracted a lot of attention in the light of evidence of an obesity epidemic and there have been calls for tighter regulation of such advertising. But overt advertising is losing ground to covert forms of marketing and marketing methods which undermine or bypass the ability of consumers to evaluate the messages they receive *as advertising*. What are these techniques and what kinds of regulatory regimes might be desirable or even possible to govern their use? This is an important issue not just in the area of health but in the political realm where there is a concern that such techniques pose a threat to deliberative democracy. The workshop examined the techniques and considered some of the ethical and governance issues raised by their use.

Attachment 10 provides full details including the list of speakers, participants and outcomes.

c. Religious Citizenship Program

Negotiating the Sacred IV: Tolerance, Education and the Curriculum

This two-day conference was held on 1-2 September 2007 at Old Canberra House, Research School for the Humanities, Australian National University.

Outline

Twenty people met to discuss the role of the education system in teaching tolerance in a liberal society at a conference on Tolerance, Education and the Curriculum. Held at the Old Canberra House, Australian National University, the conference was attended by teachers,

philosophers, lawyers, political scientists, sociologists and education specialists from around the country. Keynote speakers included Susan Mendus, Professor of Political Philosophy at York University, UK, James T. Richardson, Professor of Sociology and Judicial Studies, University of Nevada, USA, and Philip Cam, Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of New South Wales, and President of the Asia-Pacific Philosophy Education Network for Democracy. Professor Mendus discussed the head scarves affair in France, and suggested that the difference in the responses to such symbolic acts between the UK and French education systems is a reflection of different ideas about liberalism and the role of the education system in preparing students to become citizens. Professor Richardson provided an overview of the ongoing battles between religious groups and the State in America, highlighting the variety of issues that may confront education systems including the use of the Bible and prayer in classrooms, public support for private religious schools, requirements for patriotic displays such as flag salute cases, as well as battles over curriculum in sex education and the teaching of evolution. Associate Professor Cam argued that we cannot effectively educate for tolerance without reforming our current educational practices, many of which unwittingly help to sustain intolerant attitudes and habits of thought. Over the two days, participants discussed the differences between students attending religious and state-run schools, what values should be taught in schools, and how they should be taught: should education for tolerance be explicit and knowledge-based through programs on specific minorities or values, implicit in school programs, or does it require different teaching techniques altogether? The conference was supported by the ANU Research School for the Humanities, the Freilich Foundation, GovNet (an Australian Research Council Research Network) and CAPPE (an ARC funded Special Research Centre). The conveners, Elizabeth Burns Coleman (Monash University) and Kevin White (Australian National University) intend to bring out an edited collection on the theme, including papers presented at the conference. Attachment 11 provides full details including the list of speakers and abstracts of their papers.

d. *The Governance of Science and Technology conference*

This two-day conference, postponed from 2006, jointly sponsored by GovNet, CAPPE and UNESCO, was held on 9-10 August 2007, The Hall, University House, Australian National University.

Outline

The conference examined ethical issues related to the governance of scientific research and technological development. Actual and potential developments in nanoscience and technology together with developments in related converging technologies such as biotechnology, information technology, cognitive science and neuroscience have led to calls for moratoria on certain research and development, and for the precautionary principle to be applied more often in these fields. There have been correspondingly strong attacks on these calls, reiterating the view that there should be no controls on research and development. This conference examined the arguments underlying these positions for example at arguments about freedom of speech, dual use, the precautionary principle, cost-benefit analysis and risk assessment, and the rights and responsibilities of scientists and technologists. On the basis of these examinations it explored the role of governments in controlling or regulating research and development and the viability of self-regulation.

Attachment 12 provides a report from the conference organiser, the program, a list of participants, and speakers' topics and bios.

e. *Workshop: Fair Trade, Corporate Accountability and Beyond: Experiments in 'Globalising Justice'*

This joint workshop is reported under Stream 4: Corporate Governance and Regulation.

5.2 Asia-Pacific Governance Capacity Building (Objective 4)

Asia Pacific Capacity Building Activities

A grants officer for Asia Pacific Capacity Building was appointed on a 2 days a week basis. The grants officer responsibility has been to liaise with network members around the country to assist with identification of funding sources and funding applications. This was undertaken in two ways: electronic communication with network members alerting them to prospective funding opportunities; and travelling workshops to various university campuses around the country. The first was to Griffith University in Brisbane in March. A second meeting was planned for Sydney University late in 2007, but was cancelled for lack of interest.

The grants officer role has been a mixed success in 2007. As in 2006 there have been some real achievements, principally supporting the preparation for a bid for AusAID funding by Peter Drysdale of the ANU ("Institutional Strategies within APEC for Improving the Micro Economic Policy Foundations of East Asian Economies' Performance Phase 3"), overall network members have found it easier to pursue funding opportunities through the research support infrastructure of their own universities, rather than through GovNet. Or more precisely, compliance with internal rules at universities around the country seems to make it costly for researchers to work through external support services.

Nonetheless, we will be engaging another to assist with a few projects on a case by case basis.

Other work

Indonesia

Good progress was made on the establishment of a centre in Jakarta to be led by Professor Azyumardi Azra with support of the President and especially the Vice President. The Vice President met with Professors Azra and Sampford on 4 April 2007 and it was agreed that we should go forward.

Unfortunately, the Vice President then decided that he wanted Prof Azra to take on a senior role within his office. Another highly distinguished Indonesian has been suggested and we will be holding discussions with him. However, the AIGRP may be a better vehicle than a separate centre – at least for the next year.

Philippines

The Philippines was thought to be a later prospect for a governance centre. However, arising out of a major collaborative project with the Ombudsman, it has been agreed that a Centre for Asian Integrity be developed with USAID and millennium challenge funding. While there are many potential slips that might prevent this happening, planning for a major Philippines-based centre, we are hopeful that it will be launched during 2008.

5.3 Annual GovNet International Conference

No annual conference was held in 2007 as resources were devoted to some intermediate sized conferences with significant cross cutting themes.

5.4 Socratic Forums

The Socratic Forums are for the general public designed to enhance non-partisan debate on key issues facing the Australian people by encouraging thoughtful contributors to speak their minds free from the constraints of political, religious and other affiliations. Founded and Co-chaired by Professor Ashley W. Goldsworthy AO OBE FTSE FCIE (former President of the Liberal Party) and Co-chaired by the Hon. Dr Barry O. Jones AO FAA FAHA FTSE FASSA FRSA (former President of the Australian Labor Party) the Socratic Forums are an initiative of the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance and co-sponsored by GovNet. The Forum topic for 2007 was, *“That Canberra is taking too much power from the states.”*

Since 1901 there has been support and opposition by both major political parties at different times for increased centralised power vested in the Commonwealth. Issues of relevance today, such as taxation, health, infrastructure, nuclear power, water and licensing, among others ensure that the issue of Australian federalism continues to be of considerable significance to the wider Australian community. This Socratic Forum aims to examine what the roles of the states and Commonwealth should be in the early part of the 21st century in a rapidly globalising world.

Three forums were planned for 2007, however, due to the federal election and the change of government the two forums scheduled for the second half of 2007 were postponed to February and March 2008. One forum was held on 29 August 2007 in the Legislative Council Chamber, Parliament House. Speakers were: **Senator the Hon George Brandis SC** – Minister for the Arts and Sport; **Senator Andrew Bartlett** – Australian Democrat Senator for Queensland; **Hon Justice Ian Callinan AC** – Justice of the High Court of Australia; **Hon Andrew Fraser MP** – Minister for Local Government, Planning and Sport; **Professor John Quiggin** – Australian Research Council Federation Fellow; **Professor Charles Sampford** – Director, The Institute for Ethics, Governance and Law; **Mr Jim Soorley** – Former Lord Mayor of Brisbane.

Speaking for the proposition was Andrew Fraser raised the point of financial capacity of the various levels of government as a way of illustrating that the federal government has the power to force the states to behave a certain way without actually seizing power from them through the use of the corporations' power. Senator George Brandis spoke against the proposition by arguing that the states in the past have ceded power to the central government, for example, the power to collect income tax. Brandis views the problem as a conflict between Sections 51 and 109 of the Constitution. The next reply came from recently retired High Court Justice Ian Callinan who proposed that if three states can agree on wording for a question it should be put forward as a referendum. John Quiggin illustrated the States-Canberra issue with the analogy of a dysfunctional household in which dad earns the money and mum spends it. Former Lord Mayor Jim Soorley argued that the federalist model was no longer an appropriate interpretation of modern Australian make-up and hence the constitution should be overhauled. Charles Sampford spoke about the shift in power in Australia. He then raised the idea of 'subsidiarity': the notion that decisions should be made at the lowest level of government possible.

The same topic was scheduled for forums in Melbourne and Canberra during November 2007, on the initial expectation that the election would be over by then! The timing of the election meant that these had to be postponed to February and March 2008 but these were held with strong panels and robust discussion.

5.5 Communication

5.5.1 E-Journal and E-News

In addition to the website, GovNet's online presence extends to the publication of an online journal. The GovNet e-Journal has completed its first year of publication that included two issues. In 2008 two more standard issues are proposed with the addition of a special issue. The special issue will be comprised of a select number of presentations at the December conference of Health Workforce Governance (HealthGov) held in Brisbane. The first standard issue will be selected papers from the May conference run by Professor John Weckert on ICT and the role of professional bodies. The second standard issue will be the proceedings of the workshop held in September on network governance and evaluating ICT-assisted research networks.

5.5.2 Website (www.griffith.edu.au/govnet)

GovNet's online presence continues to grow both in terms of practicality and relevance to the governance research community.

First, this past year has marked a number of international linkages to be noted on the website with the Canadian Business Ethics Research Network, the Development Academy of the Philippines, and the Health Workforce Governance (HealthGov) research network.

Second, due to feedback from member users, a pilot usability study was organized using a random on-line survey. The survey was designed to be easily and quickly completed. Ease was facilitated through the use of an online format accessed directly through a hyperlink. No logging in was required nor was there any requirement of resources on their part (e.g. paper, postage other than Internet access). The interface was designed for users with very little experience in online environments by providing clear directions such that if the user could navigate through webpages, they could comfortably complete the survey. Limiting the survey to only ten questions, most of which were multiple-choice questions, enhanced response speed. However, the response was too low (12% of 100) to give reliable data but did provide some pointers to issues that will be taken up in the consultation visits (see section 2.2 and Attachment 1). We thought that these would be a better vehicle for eliciting further information than repeated requests for the same survey.

Nevertheless, we took note of the following responses. When asked, "why did you join GovNet?", a clear majority of respondents reported doing so to increase their contacts. Secondary responses to this question included access to funding and an interest in conferences and publications. On familiarity with the website, respondents split between those who felt that they had low and medium familiarity. Usage of the website was largely a source of passive information – largely made unnecessary by the fact that we provide emailed notification of events.

This does raise questions about whether the use of online tools to facilitate collaboration should remain a goal of this network. The development of those tools was a significant part of the website development, though constituting a very small part of the expenditure of time and funds in the network. Have we overestimated the importance of information and communication technologies in a network such as this? If not, should we seek to publicize the availability of these online tools to the general membership and seek to train them in their use? Or is the use of such tools only likely to arise from the use of a website that is frequented for other reasons?

These questions are being addressed in 2008. We have begun the development of an internal evaluation process that will continue throughout 2008. The Convenor supports efforts to increase members' familiarity and comfort in working within the website. To achieve this objective two steps have been implemented. First, a usability study has been

contracted with a particular focus on the collaboration site. The second step has been to include a one-on-one introduction to the website during face-to-face meetings with government members referred to in Attachment 1.

6. Future GovNet Activities

6.1 Stream Activities

6.2 Capacity Building

6.3 Other GovNet Central Activities

6.3.1 Global Integrity Alliance and World Ethics Forum (WEF)

6.3.2 Improving the techniques of research design and management

6.3.3 GovNet Website

6.3.4 E-Journal and E-Newsletter

6.3.5 Book Series

6.3.6 Socratic Forums

6.4 Quantitative KPIs for 2008

6.1 Stream Activities

Stream 1: Global, International and Trans-National Governance

Planned Activities and Outputs for 2008

- a. A colloquium on Re-engaging the UN was held in conjunction with UNAA, ACUNS and IEGL. This was held on March 7 with a select group of invitees. The recommendations were taken to the Foreign Ministers advisors in time for the Prime Minister's first visit to the United Nations. It is planned that the President of the UNAA and the Convenor will meet with the Foreign Minister later in the year to follow up.
- b. Health Governance will again be the major theme. A number of meetings of the Australian group is planned with an international meeting to be held in Capetown in October. In May a joint teaching and capacity building program was planned (and held) with Aberystwith. In November a conference and workshop will be held in Waterloo, Canada on international health governance. The establishment of a Health Governance unit in York University will assist GovNet take maximum advantage of the assistance of Professor Danny Klaas who is located there. This will help build the International Consortium for Research on Governance of the Health Workforce (ICR-GHW).
- c. GovNet is supporting the Brisbane Model UN Conference in May 2008 and will look to support the Asia Pacific Model UN conference in 2009
- d. GovNet will be supporting the holding of a conference on East Timor during 2009 and will do preliminary work towards it during 2008.

Stream 2: Asia-pacific institutional reform and regional cooperation

Planned Activities and Outputs for 2008

The main Stream activities funded in 2007 are being delivered in 2008. In addition, a major new Stream activity is being planned for the 2008 cycle. This initiative will focus on the political economy of political change in China. This is a major undertaking that has been mooted from the outset of GovNet and is now gathering momentum. It will involve economists and political scientists from around Australia as well as China and the United States. Preliminary discussions have already been held with the Central Party School in Beijing and foundation funding has been sought from AusAID. AusAID has already funded a senior delegation from the Central Party School to visit Australia to discuss research collaboration possibilities. It is envisaged that in addition to funding from the Asia-Pacific Stream of GovNet and AusAID, major funding would be sought from the ARC, the Ford Foundation or other premium research-funding bodies. This would be the primary activity supported by the Asia-Pacific Stream from 2008 funding.

Stream 3: Public Sector Governance

Planned Activities and Outputs for 2008

In 2008 this stream will hold three workshops with networked scholars.

The first will be a workshop on the aftermath of public sector reform focussing on what has improved/changed and whether we are better managed. This will be held in June 2008 in conjunction with the University of Leiden, The Hague. There will be participants from 12 OECD countries plus some postgraduates mainly based in Netherlands. GovNet funds contribution \$10,000.

The second will be a workshop on public sector innovation to be held in September 2008 at ANU. The workshop will focus on how we can better innovate in government - having moved from bureaucratic modes to more facilitative ones and entrepreneurial ones. GovNet funds contribution \$10,000.

The third will be a workshop on Loss of Corporate Memory across Government. As agencies become more NPM, less interested in research, corporate memory, more expedient policy and politics it raises questions such as "What have we lost? Are we doing anything about it? Are there signs that agencies are recovering memory in other ways?" This workshop will develop into an ARC application with the British participants.

Stream 4: Corporate Governance and Regulation

Planned Activities and Outputs for 2008

Professor O'Brien will spend much of the early part of 2008 overseas. He will take up a Visiting Position at the School of Law at the University of Glasgow and a second at the Department of Political Science at the University of New Hampshire. During this time we will collaborate with colleagues to further research grant applications. In addition, he will write a monograph on the unfolding global credit crisis. The book, *Engineering a Financial Services Bloodbath*, will be published in late 2008 by Imperial College Press.

The stream will continue to develop linkages with industry partners in Australia and overseas. It will host a symposium on Sovereign Wealth Funds in August 2008 and is

seeking to secure co-financing from another Australian university. It is anticipated that this symposium will result in an edited book.

Prof O'Brien will engage with *The Financial Times* in building a series of conferences to be held in Dubai.

A good deal of the networking the networks will involve this stream – including continuing networking with the Canadian Business Ethics Research Network, the first meeting of the Business Integrity Working Group in London on June 27 and the first face to face meeting of the Principles of Responsible Investment Research Network in Maastricht on September 18.

Stream 5: Civil Society Governance: Professions, Religious Institutions and NGOs

Planned Activities and Outputs for 2008

a. Religion in public life/Religion and the family

This symposium will explore new approaches to religion and public life. It will be held at the Australian National University at the end of April or May. The format will be: one public lecture on Friday night to be held in the Manning Clark Lecture Theatre; and papers and a roundtable on the Saturday-semi-closed participants plus a few invited persons.

Costs will need to be covered for speakers from overseas including two Indonesians (Asia-Pacific Funding); one from Iran or Turkey; and possible one keynote from the USA.

Planned outcomes include a book of papers with Routledge or Ashgate, and preparations for an ARC Linkage grant with welfare agencies and the Australian churches to be led by Professor Tom Campbell.

The management of the symposium will be undertaken by Professor Wayne Hudson (UQ and UTas) and Andrew Long for CAPPE.

The Civil Society Stream will contribute \$10,000, and \$5000 from CSU with a possible \$5000 from APSEG.

b. Conference: Negotiating the Sacred V: Governing the Family (Monash University)

This conference is planned for 15-16 August 2008. The Stream will provide \$3390 towards payment for the Keynote Speaker Chandran Kukathas, Chair in Political Theory, London School of Economics. Other Keynote speakers will be Associate Professor Lori Beaman, Canada Research Chair in the Contextualization of Religion in a Diverse Canada, University of Ottawa; and Emeritus Professor Gary Bouma, Professor Emeritus of Sociology and UNESCO Chair in Intercultural and Interreligious Relations – Asia Pacific at Monash University, and Chair of Board of Directors for The Parliament of the World's Religions 2009.

This interdisciplinary conference will explore how ideas of the sacred inform our concepts of what the family should look like, how we relate to each other as family, and how these family structures are recognised, or fail to be recognised, in law and structures of governance. It seeks answers to questions about the appropriate role of the state in the governance of family. Papers are sought on the following themes:

- Representations of the family, marriage and gender roles in religious traditions
- Recognition of religious law
- Recognition of alternative family structures
- Social justice and the rights of women and children
- Health, reproduction and the family

Conveners for the conference are: Dr Elizabeth Burns Coleman, Monash University; and Dr Joanna Kuwaja, Monash University.

c. Governance of science

The Civil Society Stream will contribute \$6500 towards this ET GOVICT2008 - A Conference on the Ethical Governance of ICT and the Role of Professional Bodies. This two-day conference is to be held on 1-2 May 2008 at University House, Australian National University.

The conference will examine issues related to the ethical governance of Information and Communication Technology, and the role of professional bodies. The conference will cover issues related to the governance of ICT in particular, the industry as a whole, industry businesses, ICT within organisations, ICT projects, and ICT professional bodies.

Individual topics may include: licensing and accreditation of ICT professional; education of ICT professionals; governance of policies and procedures concerning ethics in the ICT industry; the ethical content of standards, methodologies, and the processes used by the ICT industry; the place of government regulations; and the role of professional organisations.

d. New Technologies and the Military Profession

This event is to be held at the University of Melbourne in August 2008. The Civil Society stream and CSU will contribute \$10,000.

6.2 Capacity Building

The major capacity building work will be the attempt to establish a Centre for Asian Integrity in Manila during 2008. In Jakarta a new round of grants have been awarded and will be acted on during 2008. In Australia, we will be seeking opportunities to put together two or three capacity building grants with some independent ad hoc personnel support funded by GovNet.

6.3 Other GovNet Central Activities

6.3.1 Global Integrity Alliance and World Ethics Forum (WEF)

We will be working towards a planned WEF2 in Manila in May 2009. This will involve continued liaison with the World Bank in Washington, bi-lateral donors and Philippines collaborators including the Ombudsman.

6.3.2 Improving the techniques of research design and management

The visits under 1.2 will continue. GovNet leaders will continue to develop multi-country studies funded by the local funding agencies. One focus is on managing networks themselves. A session was held in the International Studies Association (ISA) conference in San Francisco on March 29 to discuss network organisation and management. While we will be reporting on this fully in the 2008 report, it did lead to a proposal that will be followed up this year – a proposed global portal discussed below.

6.3.3 GovNet Website

More materials will be uploaded as a result of the work in the Philippines. We will be looking for opportunities to utilize the website for other organisations. However, the main thrust involves linking our website into a global network of such websites.

To this end, GovNet has begun work on a global governance portal in conjunction with the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) in Waterloo, Canada and their online organisation, IGLOO. The goal is to create an online portal of global reach through which anyone can go to find specific governance researchers and practitioners as well as

governance research networks and initiatives. Several early partners have signed on including the Canadian Business Ethics Research Network (CBERN), GARNET, the Network of Excellence on global Governance, Regionalisation and Regulation, Human Rights Information and Documentation, International (HURIDOCS), and U-channel out of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University. We will be co-sponsoring a symposium in Waterloo, Canada November 19-20, 2008 to bring together the working partners and incorporate the results of the September workshop on network evaluation. GovNet will be committing at least \$15,000 to this initiative.

6.3.4 E-Journal and E-Newsletter

Two more editions of the e-journal and a bi-monthly newsletter will be produced.

6.3.5 Book series

The Ashgate Law, Ethics and Governance book series will be further developed as a vehicle for the publication of monographs and edited collections by GovNet members. This will be particularly promoted to PhD students nearing completion as a way of kick-starting their publication career.

6.3.6 Socratic Forum

Two of the forums were held over from November 2007 and were held in February and March 2008.

It has been decided to hold Socratic Forums in conjunction with major conferences, choosing topics that have an appeal beyond the conference goers. It is proposed to hold them in association with the annual UNAA conference, the annual Australian Study of Parliament Group and an environmental conference.

6.4 Quantitative KPIs for 2008

ARC GovNet has decided to continue with much the same KPIs for 2008. These are:

- 1 Maintain and increase the number of members – aim to maintain membership at around the current level;
- 2 10% of participants in workshops to be ECRs and/or post-graduate students;
- 3 At least one further meeting of the Advisory Board;
- 4 Strengthening the intensity of cross stream activities with the aim that at least 60% of GovNet activities through the year involve issues relevant to more than one stream;
- 5 Maintain the number of workshops but aim to increase their international character by:
 - a. Securing at least 20% international participants on average;
 - b. Holding at least 3 workshops overseas in collaboration with international partners;
 - c. Securing collaborative funding for at least 40% of the cost of such international workshops;
6. Hold at least two Socratic forums in addition to those carried over;
7. Deliver at least two issues of the e-journal;
8. Secure at least 4 book contracts for GovNet members from the Ashgate and/or Routledge series;
9. Aim to ensure that workshops and conferences include a majority of participants from universities other than Griffith, ANU and Charles Sturt;
10. Reduce the carryover into 2009.