

ARC GOVERNANCE RESEARCH NETWORK (GovNet)

DRAFT RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AUGUST 18th

INTRODUCTION

We thank the ARC for the opportunity to respond in more detail. This was a new report format and we were uncertain of the areas to be detailed. We will take note in future years to ensure that the required detail is provided. In our defence, the timing of the report was more difficult than we had expected. The World Ethics Forum almost doubled in size and more than trebled in funding in March with the late decision by major sponsors to fund more than 100 extra participants from around the world and we only had a month to make the arrangements.

The ARC has indicated a concern about the delay in establishing the network and building its activities to the planned levels. The delays have been of concern to ourselves and we have found this to be by far the most challenging task that we have taken on in. It was not until December 2005 that the agreement between the universities was finally signed and it was not until the new year that funds flowed to the other nodes. This gave the appearance of rather less activity (and expenditure) than had, in fact, occurred.

We were also hampered by the delay in completing the facilities in Canberra that would house the Canberra offices of GovNet so that much more of the interaction was long distance than originally intended.

However, we have focussed on a number of important initiatives and are proud of our successes in them. We have built a strong executive committee and the nodes have been performing well. AusAID had indicated an early interest in the network, sending a senior representative to our February planning meeting in 2004. However, their new white paper¹ and a renewed interest in supporting research has led to some strong links with Network activities.

The further information contained in the response (including reporting some continued and major successes) indicates significant progress since the original report was submitted – an indication of the momentum building in GovNet. Having overcome some major obstacles, we are now looking to increased productivity and a return on the ARC's investment.

Terminological Note:

The original application listed five streams:

- Stream 1 Global, International and Trans-national Governance.
- Stream 2 Asia-Pacific Institutional Reform and Regional Cooperation.
- Stream 3 Public Sector Governance.
- Stream 4 Corporate Governance and Regulation.
- Stream 5 Civil Society Governance: professions, religious institutions and NGOs.

GovNet uses the following short hand which is followed here:

International, Asia Pacific, Public Sector Governance and Civil Society Streams

'GovNet central' involves the headquarters at Griffith along with the other activities led from there.

¹ 'Australian Aid: Promoting Growth and Stability: A White Paper on the Australian Government's Overseas Aid Program' AGPS May 2006

GOVERNANCE

1. **Governance:** please provide details on the management meetings held in 2005. For example, it was stated that 9 meetings were held - please detail the nature of the meetings and the outcomes. Did the management process follow the arrangements outlined in the original proposal? For example, in addition to the Executive Committee is there an Advisory Board? If so, who are the members of the Advisory Board, how often have they met and how have they guided the network?

Executive Committee Meetings

Our report stated that “nine face to face executive meetings have been held”. This was the total that had been held at the time that the report was written. The fact that this statement occurred in a paragraph that stated with ‘Building the Network was a priority during 2005’ might have implied that all of those were held during 2005. Executive Committee meetings were held on:

1. 19th October 2004 (teleconference)
2. 12th November 2004
3. 6th December 2004
4. 21st February 2005
5. 13th July 2005
6. 12th August 2005
7. 20th September 2005
8. 10th November 2005
9. 7th December 2005

Apart from the first, all were face to face

The tenth meeting and ninth face to face meeting was held on

10. 14th February 2006

Please note that subsequent meetings were held on:

11. 1st May 2006
12. 7th June 2006
13. 29th August 2006

These Executive Committee meetings covered a range of issues but the following summarizes the main issues covered and decided at executive committee meetings.

- Prioritizing original objectives given the fact that only 60% of requested funding was received (meetings 1 and 2)
- Reporting requirements (6, 7, 8) and annual report (10, 11, 12, 13)
- Proposal for an international journal and association (9) – considered, postponed and then put on hold
- The inter-university contract (5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
- Payments under the contract (10)
- The replacement as Deputy Convenor for Brian Head (5, 6, 7) – including process for appointment and the appointee.
- The Socratic Forum (1, 2, 5)
- Annual conference – hosts, themes, location, level of support, guest speakers. All these have been decided by executive committee (all meetings to date have had this on the agenda with the conference hosts providing updates and gaining approval for decisions on the above issues).
- Approach to website development (meetings 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13)
- Stream activities – these 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 of funding for the network as a whole rather than for the particular centre/institution/group from which the leader comes. Each meeting has an update on stream activities and the last and first meetings of the year always deal with this issue.

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

GovNet central (which includes the international stream) reported to and sought feedback from the Advisory Board of the Key Centre at all meetings after December 2004.

CAPPE also did the same and has commenced a process of reporting to its board designed to generate feedback

The ANZSOG Research Committee provides strong input into the Public Governance Stream. It met quarterly during 2005. This year, it has been restructured to allow more engagement of the end users with Ken Henry from Treasury as the new Chair.

The Socratic Forum already has an Advisory Board whose responsibility is to advise on suitable topics and speakers. That board includes the co-chairs (Prof Ashley Goldsworthy and Dr Barry Jones, Hon Malcolm Fraser) and Rev. Dr. John I Fleming, Rt Hon Malcolm Fraser AC CH John F Kearney AM QC Prof. Don Nicklin AO, The Hon Margaret Reid, Prof. Charles Sampford, Sir Bruce Watson AC and Dr. Neil Weste. In addition, the patron, the Rt.Hon. Sir Zelman Cowen AK GCMG GCVO QC DCL is consulted for his views. In addition, Prof Ashley Goldsworthy, the founder and a co-chair, is very active in recruiting speakers and sponsors. Ms Melea Lewis is the Griffith researcher in charge of the academic organisation.

However, APSEG (which is responsible for the Asia Pacific and Governance Capacity Building streams) does not have a suitable Advisory Board.

It now appears to the Executive Committee that the original distributed advisory function has been patchy. We have decided that each node will appoint an external advisor and that these advisors will meet once a year at the annual conference (November 2006) to review and direct the research direction of the GovNet streams.

2. Membership: Does membership of the network operate through 'self nomination' or are decisions on membership made by the Executive Committee?

The core of the membership includes those who took part in the original application. Members of the Executive Committee make nominations from time to time and we have received a number of online applications through the GovNet website. The process for new applications requires the web master to pass on applications to the Convenor who either executively approves the new member or refers it to the Executive Committee. There have been no controversial nominees yet.

EXTERNAL FUNDING AND INTERNATIONAL LINKS

3. External funding and international links: please provide more detail on the funding provided by AusAID. Is this to directly fund those in the network or are there other partners? Provide more details on the funding for the World Ethics Forum – was this funded to GovNet and if so who organized it, how many participants were there? Explain how the joint research program with the UN Environment Program will work.

AusAID took considerable interest in the formation of GovNet from the beginning. It sent a senior representative to the meetings in February 2004 that set out the GovNet bid strategy. Its senior management spent most of a day with the Prof Sampford (the nominated Convenor) and other senior members discussing 'values-based governance' in the same month. The network bid placed primary responsibility for developing capacity building work with the stream leader for Asia Pacific Governance (Prof Andrew Macintyre) with secondary responsibility for the central secretariat at Griffith. Both nodes have been very active in working with AusAID and others to develop links and to secure funding for research and infrastructure. AusAID was a major sponsor of the World Ethics Forum and is the sponsor of Governance Research Program as well as supporting Public Sector Linkage Programs. With the Minister's white paper on Aid emphasizing both governance and research, these links have been strengthened and funding significantly increased. As indicated in the network bid, a senior part time staff member is located at the ANU to assist in securing external funding for capacity building work in the Asia Pacific region. The appointee (Mr Simon Cann-Evans) has already assisted network members in achieving significant success – especially after the release of the white paper.

Governance Research Program (GRP)

In 2005, soon after the establishment of GovNet, Professor Andrew Macintyre, the Stream leader for Asia Pacific Governance, approached a number of prominent members of the Network with experience in Indonesia (including Profs Christopher Findlay, Tim Lindsey and Charles Sampford) to join him in seeking government support for GRP to be funded by AusAID. Other stream members have been subsequently involved including Mari Pangestu and Chatib Basri. The Steering Committee for the GRP is convened by stream leader, Prof Macintyre and includes Profs Sampford, Lindsey and Findlay as well as Chris Manning and Indonesian academics. Prof Macintyre was successful in securing \$3,700,000 from AusAID – a figure that has been extended to \$6,000,000 between the March 31st Report and this response.

The GRP will involve a wide array of researchers around Australia and Indonesia, but GovNet members will be centrally involved. The GRP will fund collaborative proposals by Australian and Indonesian researchers and will also support the cultivation of a new generation of researchers (Honours, Masters and perhaps PhD) working on governance issues in Indonesia. A preliminary steering group met in Canberra in March 2006 and a second meeting is scheduled in Jakarta on 2 October 2006.

World Ethics Forum

The World Ethics Forum (WEF) was the brainchild of Tunku Abdul Aziz, formerly Deputy Chair of Transparency International and currently the UN Secretary General's Special Advisor on the establishment of the UN Ethics Office. The inaugural forum was held in Oxford in April 2006. A second meeting is scheduled to discuss the establishment of a Global Integrity Alliance (the first was held in Istanbul in March 2004) and the biennial conference of the International Institute for Public Ethics.

The Convenor had secured the agreement of the World Bank to support the inaugural WEF. However, when the NGO that had offered to host the conference struck difficulties, the Convenor had to take on the role of the Chair of the Conference Organizing Committee including administrative responsibility for organising the conference in December to save the conference. He secured vastly increased support from the World Bank (\$150,000 USD by Christmas and eventually well over \$500,000 USD from all sources), liaised with the World Bank, brought Oxford University and the United Nations University into the event as co-sponsors, personally invited and secured the attendance of Mary Robinson and Huguette Labelle

(the new Chair of Transparency International), organized the program and provided support for the local Oxford secretariat from non-GovNet funds. The major contribution was in the Convenor's time and that of the Manager and Webmaster. The direct financial support of GovNet was limited to an airfare to the Convenor of a corporate governance workshop in association with UNEP-FI and Global Compact and a research assistant to assist the workshop Convenor and the GovNet Convenor before, during and after the conference (\$4,000 travel and \$4,000 for the RA's time). GovNet's contribution has been explicitly acknowledged in the conference report available on the WEF and World Bank's websites.

In the end, the conference reached the maximum 250 participants that Keble College could accommodate. The opening ceremony was held in the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford University. The World Bank invited the Convenor to chair the opening ceremony at which Mary Robinson and Dr Labelle delivered keynote addresses.

The World Bank, DFID, USAID, and AusAID provided support. UNU-IEGL provided some underwriting (unnecessary in the end) and limited funding was provided by the Integrity Institute of Malaysia.

The WEF provided great impetus for the establishment of a properly funded Global Integrity Alliance. The Convenor is one of the lead members of the Steering Committee for the Alliance and a meeting is being held to coincide with his visit to Washington on 11th September 2006.

PSLPs (AusAID's Public Sector Linkage Program)

AusAID's Public Sector Linkages Program has been expanded to allow universities to become lead agencies from the Australian end, facilitating the kind of work that GovNet members and associated centres can participate in as researchers. Three large PSLPs have been won this year already.

1. \$350,000 of AusAID funding on Institutional Strategies within APEC will be delivered through 2006-2007 under the leadership of stream member, Professor Peter Drysdale of the ANU.

2. \$125,000 for Sharing the Experience of Australian Public Integrity Systems with Indonesia: A study mission by the Indonesian House of Regional Representatives with follow-on Regional Workshops in Indonesia will be delivered by Griffith University under leadership of stream member, Dr Arthur Shacklock.

3. \$190,000 for a Public Integrity Training Package (for initial delivery direct to partner organisations but designed for inclusion within the mooted Integrity Development Academy (IDA) will also be delivered by Griffith University under leadership of Professor Charles Sampford.

Other Work

Mr Simon Cann-Evans has already assisted in winning \$80,000 AusAID funding for trade capacity-building work (through the TAMPF facility in association with the Indonesian Ministry of Trade). This was delivered in early 2006 under the leadership of GovNet and Asia Pacific stream member, Professor Christopher Findlay from the University of Adelaide.

The Griffith based node won capacity building work from DFAT, the World Bank and DFAT as well as research work from the Soros funded Open Society Institute. This included:

- a national integrity systems assessment of Georgia (May 2005 to September 2006)

- a two week mission to East Timor to advise on governance reforms to the finance department to assist it to spend its budget in favour of the East Timorese people (May 2005)
- two 2-day APEC workshops funded by DFAT in January 2006 – one in Hanoi and one in Manila led by the Convenor and Dr Shacklock – on ‘Fighting Corruption and Ensuring Transparency’.

The Attorney General’s Department invited the Convenor and Deputy Convenor to give advice on the elements of the whole of government response to the white paper that would be co-ordinated by the Commonwealth AG’s Department. This was held on Friday June 9th in Canberra and AG’s funded their attendance with three other researchers (cost \$4,122).

Proposed UNEP-Global Compact Research Program

The Convenor and Dr Berry visited Geneva in October 2005 to discuss a joint research program with the United Nations Environment Program (Finance Initiative) and New York in April 2006 to encourage the Global Compact to join. It was agreed to hold a workshop on corporate governance at the World Ethics Forum and to discuss further plans for research cooperation. UNEP-FI is now taking the proposal through its internal processes and the Director of UNEP-FI, Mr Paul Clements-Hunt, is very hopeful that the program will be given strong support by UNEP and secure funding from members.

Most of the work on the program has been done by Dr Virginia Berry whose time was contributed by Griffith University. GovNet made a contribution to the costs of travel to New York, London, Geneva and Prato by the Convenor and Dr Berry of \$6,000.

Like many other activities within the network, GRP and WEF had a higher chance and degree of success because GovNet has reinforced and extended existing networks and strengthened the profile of network members and the interest of end-users in providing substantial support of these activities.

ARC FUNDED CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

4. ARC Funded Conferences and Workshops: please provide information on the workshops for which the GovNet network provided financial support. In each case, the information should include number of attendees, what was achieved and amount of funding provided. The information should also include the number of early career researchers and/or post-graduate students attending, the location of workshops and the affiliation(s) of attendees. In generally much more detail is needed on outcomes of workshops and meetings. For example, under Stream 1, was the visit of Professor Ramesh Thakur supported financially by GovNet? What ‘new directions’ for research were discussed? What were the outcomes of the visit to NY by the network Convenor?

Few workshops are fully funded by funds from ARC GovNet funds. Most involve a mix of funding – with significant support provided by those who host GovNet nodes. During 2005, most of the workshops were carried out by the Civil Society and Public Governance streams.

The major workshops with papers organized by the various streams are set out in Appendix One below.

The various streams adopted different practices in keeping records of attendances (especially where attendance was free) and so the amount of information available varies. Now that we understand the reporting requirements of the ARC, we will ensure that the necessary reports are created and retained.

We can confirm that the visit by Professor Ramesh Thakur was financially supported by GovNet through travel and accommodation support. The total contribution was \$7,947.

Professor Thakur's visit involved discussions with AusAID and DFAT officials as well as the Ambassadors of Japan and the United Arab Emirates. The former showed strong interest in a range of possible governance programs. The latter showed particularly strong interest in a major research collaboration on Islamic governance issues. Prof Thakur and the Convenor met with Prof Amin Saikal to discuss these issues in Canberra in August 2005 and again in Amman in April 2006 (when Prof Saikal was invited to a forum held in conjunction with the annual conference of UNU centre directors). Discussions were held on possible projects from the governance of pharmaceutical companies to the potential contribution of religious organizations to global governance. However, in discussions in Melbourne, Canberra and Brisbane, the three strongest lines of international collaborative research discussed were the Islamic governance issues, institutionalizing the rule of law globally, and international integrity systems.

Prof Thakur suggested that the last two were suitable for joint research with the UNU and relevant UN agencies. Accordingly, the UNU arranged for the Convenor to visit New York and meet with the Undersecretaries General of Management, Legal Affairs and Oversight and Investigations as well as the Secretary General's Special Advisor on the Ethics Office. There was very strong support for the work on international integrity systems starting with the United Nations itself for which we received in principle support from all concerned. The work on institutionalizing the international rule of law generated strong interest, but it was decided to split the project and to commence with a smaller project involving two workshops which the UNU agreed to co-fund. In addition, he met with the Australian and New Zealand Ambassadors to the United Nations, senior officials of the Japanese mission and the American Bar Association. In Washington, he met with senior World Bank and World Bank Institute officials about the upcoming World Ethics Forum and governance collaboration more generally. Follow meetings have been organized in September 2006.

INDIRECTLY FUNDED WORKSHOPS

5. Indirectly Funded Workshops: if other activities, such as workshops, funded by other agencies eventuated as a result of network formation, please list these separately and with similar detail to that requested above under (4).

Information on indirectly funded workshops is included in the Appendices. Most workshops are part funded by GovNet and part funded by others from agreed cash or in kind contributions – in particular the Australian Public Service Commission's contribution to GovNet paid through ANU. The availability of, generally limited, ARC contributions through GovNet has meant that significant academic and administrative time is devoted to organizing them and making them a success.

IMPROVED COMMUNICATION WITH END-USERS

6. Improved communication with end-users: the website is presently limited, so please explain how the network intends to develop this? The Socratic Forum is not sponsored by GovNet (as this is not mentioned on the Socratic Forum) but item 6, page 3 of the annual report seems to suggest that these forums are planned by GovNet. Can you clarify whether these forums are a network activity sponsored by the network? Further, please explain the establishment and trialling of 'a world class governance website'.

The development of the website was the responsibility of the Deputy Convenor. Unfortunately, this was not under way when our first Deputy Convenor took leave of absence to take a senior position with another network. As soon as the new Deputy Convenor arrived, he set about

planning a major website development. A report on the current and planned developments is appended (see Appendix 3). At the same time, the Convenor is seeking alliances with others to pool resources to establish a major governance website rather than 'just another' relatively ordinary one. The thinking behind this approach is that, like most other products related to the computer age, the number of successes is very small and the number of 'also rans' is very large. A small number of well funded well thought out computer programs, computer games – and websites – succeed and the rest achieve very little. The most successful programs sell many multiples of the 'also rans' and the best websites receive hits that are many multiples of other websites. If one can create the website that an interest group goes to first and in preference to others ('a website of choice'), its recognition, effectiveness and profile can be many times that of its rivals. We are accordingly seeking further funding and alliances to promote the kind of website that would attract worldwide interest and possibly become the 'governance website of choice.' An example of such a website is 'Jurist' run by the University of Pittsburgh (jurist.law.pitt.edu/) that is the website of choice for law professors. Another example is the MERIA (Middle East Review of International Affairs) website which is an e-journal with a circulation of 22,500 as of July 2006. The current plan is to build the website as a service for members and then to move to achieve a world class e-journal. In the mean time, we are seeking resources from other sources to enhance the website over the next year or two. Our first success is the development and uploading of governance materials as part of an AusAID Public Sector Linkage Program (\$23,000 out of a \$194,000 project). We hope to include funds for additions to the website from other grants and capacity building projects. The largest and most ambitious of these is to secure funding for a major governance website as part of the World Bank funded Global Integrity Alliance that arose from the World Ethics Forum held in Oxford. The location of the major website is still to be determined, but there is a good chance that our website will become at least the Asia Pacific node for the main website with significant cash input from the World Bank.

The original GovNet application cited the Socratic Forum as one of the means for improved communication with end users and the Executive Committee approved the interstate extension of the Forum in its second meeting and in subsequent budget discussions.

See Appendix 3 for detailed discussion of the website development plans.

Two of the organisations that lead the nodes have their own forms of dissemination which are used to communicate the work of GovNet funded activities. CAPPE provides its long standing quarterly (*Res Publica*). ANZSOG produced a quarterly colour newsletter (available on line from [www://:anzsog.edu.au](http://www.anzsog.edu.au)) which provides news on teaching and research to the six member governments and 13 university members. This goes out to all students and alumni of ANZSOG. In addition we have a dedicated website for ANZSOG which has details of ongoing research, events, international speakers, executive programs. This also contains schedules for upcoming events and fora. This communication is provided and paid for by ANZSOG.

In addition Political Science at RSSS, ANU, has extensive information about activities, seminars, half day postgraduate workshops (4 per year) and public lectures. We also advertise regularly GovNet and ANZSOG events in the Australian Journal of Public Administration and through IPAA's website. The APSC regularly sends around on its APS intranet details of ANZSOG research and events.

NURTURING ECRs

7. Nurturing ECRs: how many ECRs and RHD students are members of the network or supported by it? Apart from sponsoring RHD students attendance at the annual conference (how many of these were sponsored?) how are the ECRs in the network being mentored and

supported to build research leadership and management skills as per the original application (p. 19)?

As of July 31, 2006 there were six ECR and 4 RHDs. These numbers are expected to increase significantly and rapidly as the GovNet website has reached a stage of maturity to manage the fruits of growing awareness and interest through word of mouth and the implementation of a publicity/outreach campaign currently planned. It is anticipated that RHD students will be heavier users of the website than senior professors.

The annual report indicated that we were retaining all objectives but prioritizing and staging their achievement. These priorities were determined by the Executive Committee in its first meetings.

“As the original plan was based on \$500,000pa rather than the \$300,000 received, it is difficult to achieve all the outlined objectives to the same extent. All objectives have been retained but priorities had to be set. We have concentrated on Objectives 2-4 in the first year. ... Objective 5 [“Improving the techniques of research design and management”] will begin in late 2006. The extent to which GovNet can achieve Objective 8 [“Improving the experiences and employability of RHD students”] is limited to sharing of best practice under Objective 5.”

The benefit to ECRs will be as part of the work on Objective 5 and the strategies set out therein. This work will not begin until late 2006. RHDs will also benefit from this process in the medium term. The other benefit for RHDs is extra subsidies for attendance at GovNet annual conferences.

However, stream leaders continue to build ECRs and RHDs into their individual projects and programs. Most notable are the dedicated PhD scholarships funded by the Australian Public Service Commission that form part of the Public Governance Stream. Five of the six planned PhD students have already been enrolled. The first will complete PhD in late 2006. These candidates are fostered within a strong research culture and regularly meet with government agencies and practitioners in departments. The APSC has a close relationship with these researchers. Second, we have been growing ECR through the appointment of young scholars fresh from their PhDs to become ANZSOG appointments (eg A. Tiernan, A. Gash, C. Donovan, C. Althaus, L. Botterill, and J. O’Flynn). This is a serious commitment to providing research based opportunities for early career researchers. The Public Governance stream is to establish a secondment or practitioner in residence scheme with the Australian parliaments, executive agencies and departments. This will be arranged under ANZSOG and enable potential researchers to work in team relations with senior academic researchers at the universities.

However, further support for RHD students is being generated. The GRP led by Andrew Macintyre includes a Young Scholars Workshop and a Young Scholars Mentoring Program. More than a dozen ECRs attended the East Asia political economy workshop and were able not just to interact with the senior researchers, but take part in a dedicated clinic with Stephan Haggard (UC San Diego) to go over the design of their doctoral research.

The GovNet Convenor suggested to the World Bank that a young leaders program should be included in the World Ethics Forum. The World Bank endorsed the proposal and USAID provided over \$100,000 USD to bring 20 young leaders from around the world for a discussion. This included one Australian, Dr Mohamad Abdullah.

FUTURE PLANS

8. Future Plans: a list of activities and strategies for 2006 and 2007 should be detailed in full with a timeline.

Plans for 2007 have yet to be finalized as they have to be signed off at the next GovNet executive meeting (an essential element of our governance procedures). However, the following 2007 activities have been proposed by the stream leaders and are supported by the Convenor and Deputy Convenor.

2006 GOVNET ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The conference will be held between Nov. 29-Dec. 1, 2006 with pre- and post- workshops on 28th November and 4-5th December. Details of the annual conference and associated workshops are listed in Appendix Four. This year, the conference is a joint venture between two of the streams (Asia Pacific Governance and Public Governance). This is part of a deliberate strategy to strengthen links between the streams. The growth of the conference into a full week reflects the expansion of the range and reach of GovNet's activities.

In addition to the standard allocation of \$27,000 GovNet funds to ensure free registration for all GovNet members and support for invited speakers, stream funds are being used to hold stream planning workshops, to subsidize ECRs and RHDs and bring further speakers to the conference. A total of \$30,000 has been allocated to this.

INTERNATIONAL STREAM

2006 activities

In addition to the activities listed in the March report, the Convenor and Deputy Convenor visited a range of UN, USAID and World Bank officials in New York and Washington during April and will again be visiting New York and Washington to follow up on collaborations and funding. GovNet funds will provide \$4,000 to support these initiatives. They will be joined in New York by Professor Thakur who will be seeking support from the Ted Turner's UN Foundation. They will also explore collaborative possibilities with the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) in Waterloo Canada. The latter have received over \$CAD100m in support from the Blackberry Foundation and are very interested in discussing joint work with the Convenor. Indeed, they have offered to pay for the Convenor's return airfare plus expenses. There will be a stream meeting of the international stream at the annual GovNet conference in November to be followed up by a stream meeting at the 2007 ANZIL conference in late June 2007.

The **plans for 2007** are centred around the following:

- a) workshop on historical conceptions of sovereignty funded by Princeton University
- b) workshop on ethical supports for the international rule of law co-funded by UNU
- c) preparation for workshop on institutional supports for the international rule of law co-funded by UNU to be held in 2008
- d) development of closer ties with Transparency International (TI) and Mary Robinson's Global Ethics Initiative with follow up meetings. The links to TI are long and deep but have been reinforced by the invitation to the new Chair of TI, Dr Huguette Labelle at the World Ethics Forum.
- e) beginning the initial phase of the international project on political governance between Australian researchers and researchers in the UK, Canada and the USA on detainee policy;
- f) completing the research application in the first half of the year on the international project on professional governance between Australian researchers and those in Canada, the USA, the UK, Romania, the Philippines and two other developing countries still to be named on the issue of "medical governance." Professors Howard Adelman (Deputy Convenor of GovNet) and Dr. Daniel Klass will be presenting a paper outlining the research program to the international conference of IAMRA in New Zealand on 28 November 2006;

- g) developing a new project connecting Australian researchers and others internationally undertaking work on some aspect of e-governance;
- h) meeting with stream members in each Australian city where there are two or more stream members to consider preferred and feasible linkage and international linkage projects.
- i) workshop on the meaning of liberty in a globalising world to be held jointly with George Mason University Washington.
- j) workshop on the meaning of rights in a globalising world to be held jointly with Oxford University

Dates for these activities have not been firmed yet.

SOCRATIC FORUMS

The topic for 2006: 'that we should keep religion out of politics.'

The first forum was held in the Legislative Council Chamber of the Queensland Parliament on 3rd May 2006. The speakers were: Dr David Solomon, Mr James Crowley QC, Dr Noel Preston, Mr Ray Campbell, Prof Wayne Hudson, Dr Mohamad Abdullah. Griffith University's Vice Chancellor opened the event and the Hon. Rod Welford, Minister for Education and Minister for the Arts facilitated the forum's discussion. A second forum will be held in Sydney jointly hosted by the University of Sydney and supported by the Vice Chancellor on September 14th. Confirmed speakers include: Rt Rev Robert Forsyth, Ms Jamila Hussein, Dr Stephen Mutch, and Professor Suzanne Rutland. The third Socratic Forum is scheduled for November 15th, in Melbourne, and will be jointly hosted by the Australian Catholic University, with support from the Vice Chancellor.

The topic for 2007 will be set by the Advisory Board of the Socratic Forum. It is intended to hold forums in Brisbane, Melbourne and Canberra (to mark the opening of the Canberra offices of GovNet).

Budgeted GovNet support includes time for a Research Assistant (\$5,000) and speaker costs (\$6,000).

ASIA PACIFIC GOVERNANCE STREAM

2006 Workshop: The Political Economy of East Asia a decade after the financial crisis

The regional element of this program and the time taken to align the diaries of key people and the collaborative funding from other bodies has meant that it took some time to organize the first major workshop for this stream. However, a commitment of \$15,000 from Asia-Pacific stream funds were used to leverage funding from two other sources (\$40,000 from the new East Asia Forum and US\$30,000 Berkeley's East Asia Institute) to enable GovNet members to network with a group of researchers from Australia, North America, and Asia gathering in Canberra to discuss the political Economy of East Asia a decade after the financial crisis. This was the primary stream-specific research networking activity for 2006. GovNet members gathering in Canberra for the event on July 21-22 included TJ Pempel (UC Berkeley), Stephan Haggard (UC San Diego), Gary Rodan (Perth), Jenny Corbett (ANU), Ann Capling (Melbourne), Andrew MacIntyre (ANU), Iyanatul Islam (Griffith), John Ravenhill (ANU), Luke Nottage (Sydney), Peter Drysdale (ANU) and Peter Gourevitch (UC San Diego).

Feedback from GovNet participants after the event was extremely positive. The first workshop was held in July using the \$15,000 of GovNet funds and \$40,000 of EAF funds. These funds were

entirely exhausted as the workshop ran over-budget. (The remaining US \$30,000 is for a second workshop in Berkeley in November 2006.

Asia Pacific Governance Capacity Building:

One of the major goals was to assist GovNet researchers contribute to governance capacity building in the region. This has already commenced through active engagement with AusAID through PSLP and other schemes. However, the original proposal envisaged the development of dedicated resources to assist researchers deliver the results of their research to end users via capacity building work. Griffith University has provided some of Dr Shacklock's time for this purpose but the major effort will be through the appointment of Mr Simon Cann-Evans on a part time basis. During 2006, he has commenced this work and this will cost around \$22,000 for his salary and at least \$10,000 on a series of seminars around the country to determine where GovNet members might make the greatest potential contribution. This will become a major focus during 2007.

The capacity-building initiative which the Asia-Pacific stream manages on behalf of all of GovNet will continue and is scheduled to expand in 2007 as we are able to routinise its operations and, in particular, get active engagement with it for researchers outside the Sydney-Canberra-Melbourne corridor. Specifically, it is planned that the outputs of this initiative will be:

1. Create email list for interested academics. Email sent regularly (probably fortnightly) or as needed (urgent call for proposals) to distribute opportunities and news.
2. Provide general advice to applications, potential sources of funding etc.
3. Provide specific advice and writing tasks to certain applications (subject to resource constraints).
4. Provide liaison between GovNet with potential clients (i.e. AusAID, ADB) for certain applications, but pass on other general intelligence.
5. Be available for face-to-face meetings in Canberra as requested.
6. Create further means of outreach to members – Canberra based seminars, “road shows” to states/members, website page with specifics on it (password access), attendance at GovNet annual events where workshops on funding can be run, etc.

2007:

Stream-specific plans for Asia-Pacific researchers for 2007 are under discussion now. Two ideas have been advanced thus far: an event focusing on legal reform issues and an event focusing on governance reform in China. The final decision will be governed by the extent to which interested stream members are able to generate core funding from other sources which can then be supplemented by stream funds.

PUBLIC GOVERNANCE STREAM

The current plans for the public governance stream are as follows:

2006

- Aust & NZ workshop on competing approaches to policy analysis (Scott & Baehler Convenors);
- One-day international forum on Policy Capacity in Government (Canada, NZ, Aust, Hong Kong) in November
- International workshop on Deliberate Democracy (Prof John Dryzek) at ANU in December.

Each involves a contribution of \$10,000 from GovNet funds and much of the remainder from APSC funds.

2007

- IPAA/ANZSOG conference on New Centralism in Government and Intergovernmental Relations to be held in May. Combining practitioners and academics – with intention to build knowledge and publish outcomes.
- June/July major ANZSOG conference on Connecting Government – Delivering Services and Policy through Other providers (involving PM&C, APSC, State Premier’s Dept); this is intended as a conference to involve end-users in framing research and deliberating future policy options. It will also seed new research opportunities and collaborations.

The first will involve a contribution of \$10,000 from GovNet funds. The latter will involve a higher contribution.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STREAM

CSU’s newly appointed research professor in corporate governance, Prof Justin O’Brien, will be taking a major role in GovNet and has already organized a major ESRC/ARC funding bid on negotiated prosecutions involving GovNet researchers from CSU, ANU, Griffith, Monash and Melbourne as well as from Queen’s Belfast and Oxford University. This was submitted in June. With his formal arrival on July 1st, this stream will become much more active. Plans for the remainder of 2006 and for 2007 have not yet been finalized.

Cross-cutting Conference

One conference that crossed over both public and corporate governance streams was the Integrated Governance Conference organized by the Monash Governance Research Unit which was Monash University’s in kind contribution to GovNet. There were 33 participants and 22 papers were delivered. GovNet contributed to the cost of travel and accommodation for the Convenor and Dr Berry to visit New York, London and Geneva to build links with UNEP-FI and Global Compact and prepare for the World Ethics Forum (see reference to UNEP-FI p6).

CIVIL SOCIETY STREAM

March 2006: Integrity Governance in Australian Sports Workshop (to coincide with the Commonwealth Games)

A one day workshop was held to examine the state of integrity governance within Australian sports. This workshop was the precursor to, and foundation for, a much larger study into integrity governance in Australian sports industries. It examined and built on recent work done in this field, highlighted important areas that need scrutiny, and developed a plan which might be used as a platform for future research projects.

The outcome of the workshop was a list of research questions that are appropriate to the Australian sports bodies that have a stake in the governance of Australian sports. A follow-up ranking of the value and priority of these questions was carried out by the participants about a week after the workshop concluded. A further workshop is planned for later in the year.

GovNet funding support was limited to \$2,000 but significant in kind support was provided by CAPPE.

July 2007: Ethical Questions for Non-Governmental Development Organisations

This workshop will bring together an international and interdisciplinary group of experts – including specialists in development studies and related disciplines, moral and political philosophers, and reflective practitioners – to tackle these questions. As well as making progress with the substantive issues, the Workshop would foster a variety of important links: between academics in different disciplines, between academics more generally and practitioners, and between national and international networks.

The Workshop will take place in July 2007. This date would allow enough time to secure the attendance of an ideal group of participants, and for drafts of papers to be written and distributed in timely fashion prior to the Workshop. The resulting papers, revised in the light of discussion during and after the Workshop, will then be edited, collected together, and offered to a leading international publisher.

August 2007: The Psychology and Ethics of New Marketing

New forms of marketing function outside of traditional commercial contexts. A product may be marketed, not in a print or broadcast advertisement, but via previously non-commercial routes. For example, a product may be implicitly marketed by a friend (buzzing), an actor or writer (product placement), a celebrity (product seeding), web-blog sites (brand blogging), action group (evangelist marketing), personal email (viral marketing) mobile phone message, on-line game, or interactive website.

New marketing techniques such as these raise important issues for philosophers, psychologists and advocacy groups concerned with consumer protection. One important feature of new marketing techniques is that the marketing intentions of the advertiser (or agent) are often not revealed. This lack of disclosure puts the consumer at a disadvantage in evaluating the trustworthiness of the message. In cases of undercover marketing by a friend, it also threatens the values on which friendship are based.

By bringing together researchers and advocates from across disciplines, the workshop aims to develop a broad understanding of the philosophical, empirical, ethical and governance issues that arise from the use of new marketing strategies. Together, the papers will provide a cross-disciplinary and critical analysis of a pressing social issue.

CARRY FORWARD

9. Carryforward: as this is such a large sum, please provide an itemized budget for 2006.

A good deal of the carry forward results from the fact that the late signing of the inter university agreement (largely due to the difficulties of getting the lawyers of the various universities to come with a common text). For this reason, it was not possible to invoice for the various expenditures which had already been made.

The fact that the agreement had not been signed meant that there was some caution in expenditure and a tendency to delay expenditure until after the signing. Accordingly, 2006 is the year that activities are being built up with the 2006 conference being the most substantial and 2007 being an even more active year as plans can be put in place well in advance. In the case of the Asia Pacific Capacity Building stream, a substantial component is based around the employment of an expert in generating capacity building work and arranging for him to meet GovNet members around the country. In this case, it was critical to select the right person.

See Appendix Five for the summary of 2005 expenses journalled in 2006 and 2006 expenses. The major expenses for 2005 that were journalled in 2006 were (to the nearest \$1,000).

Salaries	44,000
Workshops	25,000
2005 Conference	31,000
Other expenses (mainly travel)	6,000

With the other expenses journalled through Griffith by 31st December and recorded in the annual report, that indicates a total expenditure to 31st December of around \$165,000 – just over half a years expenditure.

During 2006, the total expenditure is likely to be between \$275,000 and \$300,000
This will cut the carryover by at least \$150,000.

During 2007, we expect expenditure to be about \$350,000.

Given the fact that we could not commence any activities until December 2004, it is our preference to spread the total expenditure over five years to the end of 2009 and to spread that expenditure largely over the remaining period.