

**ASPG ACT CHAPTER**

**AUSTRALASIAN STUDY OF PARLIAMENT GROUP  
CONFERENCE**

**5 – 7 AUGUST 2010  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY  
Perceptions of Parliament**

**Thursday, 5 August 2010**

**2.30 pm**

**ASPG Executive Committee Meeting**

**4.15 pm (approx)**

**ASPG Editorial Committee Meeting**

*Venue – Media Conference Room, Legislative Assembly for the ACT  
Civic Square, London Circuit*

**4.30 pm – 6.00 pm**

**Early Registration**

*Venue – Foyer, Legislative Assembly for the ACT  
Civic Square, London Circuit*

**6.00 pm – 7.00 pm**

**Welcome Reception**

Hosted by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly,  
Shane Rattenbury MLA

*Venue – Reception Room, Legislative Assembly*

**Free Evening** *A list of restaurants within walking distance to the  
Legislative Assembly is provided in conference satchels*

**Friday, 6 August 2010**

**8.30 am – 9.00 am**

**Tea and coffee available**

*Venue – Reception Room, Legislative Assembly*

**8.30 am – 9.00 am**

**Registration**

*Venue – Foyer, Legislative Assembly*

**9.00 am – 9.30 am**

**Welcome and Opening**

Kevin Rozzoli AM  
President, Australasian Study of Parliament Group  
  
Harry Jenkins MP  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
*Venue – Chamber, Legislative Assembly*

**9.30 am – 10.00 am**

**Keynote Address**

John Warhurst  
Emeritus Professor, Australian National University  
*Venue – Chamber, Legislative Assembly*

**10.00 am – 10.15 am**

**Conference Photograph**

*Venue – Civic Square*

**10.15 am – 10.45 am**

**Morning tea**

*Venue – Reception Room, Legislative Assembly*

**10.45 am – 12.30 pm**

**Session 1 – Parliament, public opinion and privilege**

*Venue – Chamber, Legislative Assembly*

**Chair: Kevin Rozzoli AM**

- ***Restoring faith in the British Parliament***  
*Phil Larkin, University of Canberra*
  
- ***Paying the police: ‘Greengate’ and parliamentary privilege***  
*Brian Costar, Swinburne University*
  
- ***Maintaining public trust in Parliaments without freedom of information – balancing the right to know with parliamentary privilege***  
*Vicki Buchbach, New South Wales Legislative Assembly*

**12.30 pm – 2.00 pm**

**Lunch**

*Venue – Reception Room, Legislative Assembly*

**2.00 pm – 3.15 pm**

**Session 2 – Conference debate**

*Venue – Chamber, Legislative Assembly*

**Parliamentarians are just ordinary people. It’s the media that creates the impression of ‘the good, the bad and the ugly’**

**Moderator: Shane Rattenbury MLA**

*Affirmative: Judy Maddigan MP, Parliament of Victoria  
Crispin Hull, The Canberra Times*

*Negative: Jeremy Hanson CSC MLA, ACT Legislative Assembly  
Eleri Harris, Canberra City News*

**3.15 pm – 3.45 pm**

**Afternoon Tea**

*Venue – Reception Room, Legislative Assembly*

**3.45 pm – 5.00 pm**

**Session 3 – Parliament, the Executive and the media**

*Venue – Chamber, Legislative Assembly*

**Chair: Marian Sawyer, Emeritus Professor, Australian National University**

- ***Fault lines in the Federal Fourth Estate***  
*Helen Ester, Australian National University*
- ***Media use and its effect on trust in politicians, parties and democracy***  
*Juliet Pietsch, Australian National University*
- ***The Tablecloth and the Long Bell: media perceptions of the New South Wales Legislative Council 1999-2009***  
*Steven Reynolds, New South Wales Legislative Council*

**6.15 pm – 6.30 pm**

**Travel to ASPG dinner**

*Bus will be departing from the front of the ACT Legislative Assembly at 6.15 pm to travel to Parliament House.*

**Note:**

***Conference passes must be worn to the dinner and at all other times during your visit to Parliament House. Entrance to the Mural Hall will be through the main entrance of Parliament House only. On arrival staff will be available to escort delegates to the Mural Hall.***

***If delegates misplace their pass they will need to advise a conference coordinator as soon as possible. Unfortunately another pass will not be issued and the delegate will need to be signed in at Parliament House by an official pass holder.***

**6.45 pm – 10.30 pm**

**Australasian Study of Parliament Group Conference Dinner**

*Venue – Mural Hall, Parliament House*

*Dress – Lounge Suit*

**Guest Speaker – Geoff Pryor, former cartoonist, *The Canberra Times***

*Shuttle bus service will be operational from 10.15 pm to the ACT Legislative Assembly.*

Saturday, 7 August 2010

8.30 am – 8.50 pm

**Travel to Parliament House**

*Bus will be departing for Parliament House from the front of the ACT Legislative Assembly at 8.30 am.*

**Note:**

***Conference passes must be worn at all times during your visit to Parliament House. Entrance to the committee rooms will be through the main entrance of Parliament House only. On arrival staff will be available to escort delegates to the committee rooms.***

***If any delegates are planning to leave directly from Parliament House and are wishing to take their luggage with them they should be aware that any baggage larger than a cabin bag will have to be opened and searched pursuant to security guidelines at Parliament House. Opening and searching luggage is quite time consuming so delegates may prefer to leave their luggage at the hotel. Cabin bags can be placed through the security scanner therefore do not require opening. Luggage brought to Parliament House will be stored in a committee room.***

9.30 am – 10.45 am

**Session 4 – Parliamentary principles and performances**

*Venue – Committee Room 2R3, Parliament House*

**Chair: Richard Herr, University of Tasmania**

- ***Ministerial responsibility: reality or myth?***  
*Judy Maddigan MP, Parliament of Victoria*
- ***“Mr Speaker, I withdraw ...”: a comparative analysis of parliamentary standards over time via electronic Hansard***  
*Christopher Salisbury, University of Queensland*
- ***Queensland’s Unicameral Parliament: few principles and even less performance***  
*Scott Prasser, Australian Catholic University*

10.45 am – 11.15 am

**Morning Tea**

*Venue – Outside Committee Room 2R3, Parliament House*

**11.15 am – 12.30 pm**

**Session 5 – Promoting Parliament: Civics education and social media**

*Venue – Committee Room 2R3, Parliament House*

**Chair: Sandra Goudie MP, Parliament of New Zealand**

– ***Perceptions of Parliament: the civic education factor – the 2010 Western Australian findings***

*Harry C J Phillips, Western Australia Legislative Assembly*

– ***Social media, community engagement and perceptions of parliament: A case study from the NSW Legislative Council***

*Beverly Duffy and Madeleine Foley, New South Wales Legislative Council*

– ***Federal parliamentarians and the new media***

*Peter Brent, Australian Parliamentary Library and Australian National University*

**12.30 pm – 2.00 pm**

**Lunch**

*Venue – Outside Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House*

**1 pm – 1.45 pm**

***Viewing of Parliament House [optional]***

*Delegates wishing to view the public areas, or take advantage of the beautiful gardens around Parliament House during the lunch break, will be escorted to the foyer and collected again at 1.45 pm to return to the committee rooms.*

**2.00 pm**

**Trust in the Australian Parliament: Is it too low and what can be done?**

*John Halligan, University of Canberra*

*Venue – Committee Room 2R3, Parliament House*

**Concluding remarks**

*Harry Evans, former Clerk of the Senate or*

*Rosemary Laing, Clerk of the Senate*

**3.00 pm – 3.30 pm**

**ASPG Annual General Meeting**

*Venue – Committee Room 2R3, Parliament House*

**3.30 pm**

**Conclusion of conference program**

*Bus will be departing Parliament House for the ACT Legislative Assembly at 3.40 pm.*