



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

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18 May 2015

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

Dear Ms Beverley

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING – 25 MAY 2015
DEPARTMENT OF THE SENATE

In response to the Committee's interest in the Senate Occasional Lecture Series, I attach information on the planned lectures for the remainder of the 2014-15 financial year and an update on the costs associated with the honorarium and travel for presenters.

Yours sincerely

(Rosemary Laing)

Senate Occasional Lecture Series

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

Eight lectures have been held so far in the 2014-15 financial year.

2014	Lecturer	Topic
11 July	Professor Megan Davis	Competing notions of constitutional recognition
8 August	Professor Linda Trimble	"Abolition difficult, reform impossible, status quo unacceptable": Can Canada fix its Senate?
12 September	Dr Brendan Nelson	The role of the Australian Parliament when going to war
24 October	Professor Helen Irving	Pulling the trigger: the 1914 double dissolution election and its legacy
28 November	Mr Colin Neave	An exploration of the role of the Ombudsman in relation to Parliament
5 December	Professor Ross Garnaut	Global development: the long term context of Australian development
2015	Lecturer	Topic
20 February	Mr Simon Longstaff	Democracy, Trust and Legitimacy
March	No lecture	
10 April	Mr Aaron Pegram	Politicians at war: the experiences of Senators and Members in the First World War

Two more are planned for the remainder of the 2014-15 financial year.

2015	Lecturer	Topic
29 May	Dr Andrew Moore	The Fitzpatrick and Browne Affair and parliamentary privilege
19 June	British High Commissioner	Magna Carta

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

The below table sets out expenses incurred in previous financial years and the current total so far for the 2014-15 financial year after 8 lectures:

Financial year	Honorarium	Travel and associated costs
2011-12	\$3,500	\$2,571
2012-13	\$3,500	\$4,287
2013-14 ^	\$4,954	\$4,414
2014-15	\$2,500	\$2,223

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