



THE BULLETIN

Australian World Citizens Association
 Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Development

<http://www.wcaa.org.au>

<http://igpsg.org/>

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President's Column:



Congratulations to all those elected as office holders at the WCAA Annual General Meeting on 31 July. We have been greatly encouraged by the emergence of the World Government Research Network (WGRN) at Griffith University in Brisbane. The WGRN's line up of international and Australian participants was impressive. The WCAA looks forward to some fruitful collaboration with this new research institute.

Luis Cabrera, the co-convenor, spoke about the campaign for a UN parliamentary assembly at the UNAA's July conference in Sydney. The UNAA Conference was a good opportunity for a number of us in the WCAA to network with likeminded people and update our UNAA colleagues on the latest developments in thinking about world government.

Recently, Peter King, known and loved by many people in activist circles in Sydney, passed away. Peter was an academic at Sydney University, the first President of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, a long-time campaigner for the rights of people in West Papua, and in recent years a passionate advocate for nuclear disarmament. His final activity in the last few weeks of his life was convening a 'People's Tribunal' in which the leaders of nuclear-weapons states were put 'on trial', which received international recognition. Peter will be missed by many in the Sydney community.

On the nuclear topic much has been happening in recent months. The Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) has convened in Geneva in February, May and August this year. The final outcome was a commitment by 107 nations to commence the process for a nuclear weapons ban treaty. A resolution to this effect will go to the UN General Assembly in October this year. Unfortunately, the Australian government has been doing its best to derail this process despite the fact that everyone of Australia's neighbours in South East Asia and the Pacific is committed to securing a nuclear ban treaty.

The WCAA Executive is greatly encouraged by the successful Model Global Parliament that was held in the Legislative Assembly chamber in the NSW Parliament just recently. We had some excellent and very relevant talks to the group. One was by Steven Freeland who talked about the potential use of the ICC to punish those who destroy the environment during war. The other talk was by Talia Hagerty, from the Global Peace Index organisation, who explained how they measure peace and what 'positive peace' is. Once the model parliament was underway there were many robust debates. Many of the university students involved displayed real leadership potential. This annual event stimulates interest in the WCAA and its mission.

Daryl Le Cornu



News and Events

Global News

Poll on Global citizenship

People are increasingly identifying themselves as global rather than national citizens, according to a BBC World Service poll. The trend is particularly marked in emerging economies, where people see themselves as outward looking and internationally minded. However, in Germany fewer people say they feel like global citizens now, compared with 2001.

Pollsters GlobeScan questioned more than 20,000 people in 18 countries. More than half of those asked (56%) in emerging economies saw themselves first and foremost as global citizens rather than national citizens.

In Nigeria (73%), China (71%), Peru (70%) and India (67%) the trend is particularly marked. By contrast, the trend in the industrialised nations seems to be heading in the opposite direction. In these richer nations, the concept of global citizenship appears to have taken a serious hit after the financial crash of 2008. In Germany, for example, only 30% of respondents see themselves as global citizens.

Outline by Naomi Grimley, Global affairs correspondent, BBC

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-36139904>

<http://globescan.com/news-and-analysis/press-releases/press-releases-2016/383-global-citizenship-a-growing-sentiment-among-citizens-of-emerging-economies-global-poll.html>

[**Comment:** This is amazing and hopeful news for our movement – so amazing that I find it hard to believe! How was the question phrased, I wonder? *Chris Hamer*]

The Future of Peace Summit



The Future of Peace Summit on Wednesday June 15 in Washington DC (see <https://globalpeace.splashthat.com/>) heralded a quantum leap in the potential advancement of our cause. The conference was convened to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Global Peace Index, initiated by none other than **Steve Killelea**, founder of the Institute for Economics and Peace and the Vision of Humanity, right



here in Sydney. Participants included heavyweight representatives from the US Department of State, the Congress, and the Peace Corps.

Two key points from the Australian initiated daylong conference were:

A cold war is about to recommence with the USA allocating a trillion dollars to upgrade every aspect of their nuclear arsenal etc.

The second main point is that there is wide recognition that this Australian initiative through Steve Killelea has meant that the peacefulness of a society can be **measured**. This means that hypotheses can be made, experiments carried out and validity determined.

John Hegarty

Global Citizenship Commission

The Global Citizenship Commission, convened under the leadership of former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown to re-examine the spirit and role of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), has launched its landmark report "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the 21st Century: A Living Document in a Changing World."

The Commission recognized the power of human rights education and its centrality to the achievement of the promises of the UDHR. As a result, the report has a 120-page Appendix entitled "Advancing Transformative Human Rights Education [www.openbookpublishers.com]" that offers comprehensive analysis, case studies and insights. The Appendix was written by a team assembled by the Center for Global Justice (University of California, San Diego), including Monisha Bajaj (University of San Francisco), Beniamino Cislighi (Tostan) and Gerald Mackie (University of California, San Diego).

Pera Wells

Pan-African Passport

As the European Union threatens to unravel in the wake of Britain's vote to leave, the African Union is pursuing a path of closer integration through the launch of a common passport that will grant visa-free access to all 54 member states.



The first of the electronic passports were unveiled at the AU summit in Kigali, Rwanda, where they were issued to heads of state and senior officials. The Union aims to distribute them to all African citizens by 2020.

Courtesy Luis Cabrera and CNN

Local News

UNAA NSW Conference, “Making the UN Fit for Purpose in the 21st Century”
Customs House, Sydney, July 22-23



Gillian Triggs addresses the meeting

This was a very lively conference, held in the Customs House at Circular Quay. Congratulations to Daryl, Peter Nadin and their team for all the hard work they put in organizing the conference. It was a very informative and valuable meeting, attended by 150 or so people, including a bunch of schoolboys. Gillian Triggs gave a slashing speech condemning our treatment of refugees in the offshore detention centres. Speakers included Pera Wells on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Peter Nadin on Reform of the UN, and Daryl and I spoke on 'Towards a Global Parliament'. Our covert program of infiltration of the UNAA is in full swing!

Chris Hamer



Workshop, “The Practical Politics of Global Integration”

Griffith University, Brisbane, June 13-14



Luis Cabrera



James Thompson

This workshop was organized by the two co-chairmen of the new World Government Research Network, Luis Cabrera at Griffith and James Thompson at Hiram College in Ohio. That in itself is a new phenomenon of our interconnected age.

This was a relatively small round-table affair, with a mixture of academics and NGO practitioners, and some contributions via Skype from scholars in the US, such as Alexander Wendt, who is apparently credited with reviving world government as a respectable topic for academic study. It was a first in my experience in Australia, and I hope it marks the beginning of close collaboration between the WGRN and the WCAA. Participants on the NGO side included:

Andreas Bummel, leader of the Campaign for a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly (UNPA), from Germany;

James Arputheraj Williams from India, Councillor of the World Federalist Movement and another campaigner for the UNPA, and a long-time aid worker in places like Afghanistan and Sri Lanka;

Joseph Baratta, historian of the world federalist movement and a former Executive Director of the WFM-IGP;

Daryl Le Cornu and myself from the WCAA;

Thich Minh Tam from the IGPSG and IBO.



There was plenty of time for discussion, and the debates were very lively. The main practical routes to global integration discussed by the NGO participants were the UNPA, along the 'Reform the UN' route, and our own proposal for a world security community of democratic states based upon a reformed NATO, along the 'Unite the Democracies' route.

The academic discussions were long and involved, and to someone outside the field, there seemed to be a good deal of hair-splitting going on, involving different (and rival) theories, 'cosmopolitanism', 'communitarianism', 'neo-neo-functionalism' (was it?). Not all agreed a world government was even desirable, but the main point was that the idea of world government is no longer anathema in the field of international relations theory.

One thing I found dismaying was the realization how fragile and thin our world federalist movement now is. The heyday of the movement was in about 1947-8 when the fear of atomic annihilation was at its height, and the worldwide membership exceeded 150,000. Now the numbers are a small fraction of that. Just recently, the Citizens for Global Solutions in the US, the current version of the World Federalist Association there, has imploded financially, so that they have had to let go all their paid staff, and rely entirely upon volunteers. They are planning to sell their headquarters building. The Canadians are also struggling to raise funds, apparently. The world umbrella body, the WFM-IGP, still has an annual budget about \$3 million, but it is tied to their two big projects, the ICC and R2P, and has been shrinking recently. Andreas Bummel, the spearhead of the UNPA campaign, has been living on a shoestring, and his current funding will run out in August, it seems.

One might have thought that the movement would recover after the end of the Cold War, and its ranks would begin to swell, but it hasn't happened. Perhaps that's because we haven't been able to show a clear way forward to the public. But we must keep our chins up, and keep on battling on! Right and logic are on our side, and must eventually prevail!

See also the report by Joseph Baratta in the Articles section.

Model Global Parliament 2016

The 4th Sydney Model Global Parliament took place in the Legislative Assembly chamber of the New South Wales Parliament on Monday September 12th. The themes this time were human rights, reform of the UN, the environment and nuclear issues. The motto adopted for the day was '**We Are One**'. Some brief initial talks were given by our President, Daryl Le Cornu; Pera Wells, the Director of the MGP program; Talia Hagerty, on the Global Peace Index; and Steven Freeland, Professor of International Law at Western Sydney University.





Members of the Model Global Parliament on the steps of Parliament House

Some vigorous debates took place, and time was insufficient to debate all the motions in full. The morning session was spent on the topics of human rights and reform of the UN. MPs were particularly concerned with the current refugee crisis, and called for more humanitarian action to aid the millions of refugees in desperate need around the globe, and more particularly in Australia's detention centres. The afternoon sessions dealt with the environment, particularly the problem of climate change, and nuclear policy.

For a full report, click [here](#).

Coming Events

[Global Week of Action for a World Parliament, October 16-25](#)

A program of events around the world. Our Model Global Parliament was a little early, due to timetable exigencies.



www.worldparliamentnow.org



Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday July 31st at Radhiga Dey's house, 9 Weaver Place in Minchinbury. Minutes have been circulated, and many news items are given elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Election of Officers

As no other nominations for the Management committee were received, the previous committee was re-elected unopposed.

Aid Project Report

Our aid project for the primary school in Char Khabulia has been going since 2007, and we are currently committed to providing \$900 per quarter towards the running costs of the school. This aid was suspended for almost a year while we waited for accounts from Bangladesh, and we now have a backlog to catch up. A new report on the school activities has now been prepared by Wali Islam, Aid Project Director, and Radhiga Dey.



A teacher addressing the students at the 2016 Annual Function



Books, education materials and dry food are distributed to the children

There are currently 225 students enrolled in the age group 3-9 years attending regularly with 4 staff members tending to their education and nutritional needs. The school provides annual awards, scholarships, sports competitions and cultural events for students to actively engage them. The school was formally accepted to become sponsored by the Bangladeshi State Government in January 2011.

To see the full report, [click here](#).

Wali Islam and Radhiga Dey

Website



Rafia Hussain has been helping update the WCAA website, and it is in nearly final form.

Online course

I have just started my new online General Education course in Session 2 at UNSW, entitled “*Nuclear Arms, Peace and Global Governance*”.

Chris Hamer

Institute for Global Peace and Sustainable Governance (IGPSG)

Chairman’s Report

I have been trying to adapt the IGPSG website to make it less “political”, but it needs further work.

I have also been working to set up a Paypal account for the IGPSG Trust, and Rada has been doing the same for the WCA Aid Project Fund.

Finally, I have donated some money to provide a little regular income for the WCAA and IGPSG, and with Rada I am currently working to invest the money in a suitable fund.

CPACS to DPACS

Our partner organization the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at Sydney University has run into some financial difficulties, and has been reduced in status to a Department of Peace and Conflict Studies within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. The CPACS Council is being renamed as the Council for Peace with Justice. They are looking for contributions to a scholarship program, so as to help restore their financial viability.

Chris Hamer

Election of Officers

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Advertisement

We need a volunteer to act as Editor of the Bulletin. If you are interested, please contact Daryl at djlecornu@hotmail.com



Financial statements

IGPSG Statement of Income and Expenditure For the Financial Year Ended 30 December 2015

	2014	2015
INCOME		
Interest	\$ 1.41	0.70
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1.41	0.70
EXPENDITURE		
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$ 0.00	0.00
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	\$1.41	0.70
Accumulated Funds at the Start of the Year	\$ 102.69	104.10
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	\$ 104.10	104.80

IGPSG Trust Statement of Income and Expenditure For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2016

	2015	2016
INCOME		
Donations	\$ 3197.69	5000.00
Interest	\$ 0.55	0.11
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 3198.24	5000.11
EXPENDITURE		
Project support	\$4247.69	5000.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$ 4247.69	5000.00
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(\$1049.45)	0.11
Accumulated Funds at the Start of the Year	\$ 1150.94	101.49
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	\$ 101.49	101.60

The sole activity during the year was a donation of \$5000 to the scholarship program at the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Sydney.

Editor's Corner

I have an optimistic feeling that the '*change in our way of thinking*' that Albert Einstein called for is finally arriving! In particular, the concept of '*global citizenship*' really seems to be taking hold. Some of the pointers are referred to in the news items above.

First of all, there are new associations springing up everywhere with a global focus. Ariel Salleh has just drawn my attention to the "**Great Transformation Initiative**", which wants to convert us all to a sustainable lifestyle and halt climate change. Secondly, one of my students mentioned '**Global Citizen**', an association to end global poverty, which was (co-)founded by one Hugh Evans from Melbourne! Their



achievements during their brief lifespan look enormously impressive – see their website for more details.

Lastly, there is the recent **BBC poll**, which found a **majority** of respondents counted themselves world citizens before national citizens! I found this amazing, and almost impossible to believe! But accepting it at face value, it means a majority of us are already accepting that we are all citizens of this one small planet, and need to take action together to deal with our global problems. Another feature was that the feeling is strongest in the developing nations such as China, and less strong in developed nations such as the US. We have noticed a similar trend with our Model Global Parliaments, in that interest is greatest among foreign students, rather than the locals.

This broad-based interest in global citizenship has to be a hopeful signpost towards our goal of an eventual global parliament!

Chris Hamer

Articles

Collision Course! - Economic Growth and the Survival of Humankind as a Species

Michael de Mol

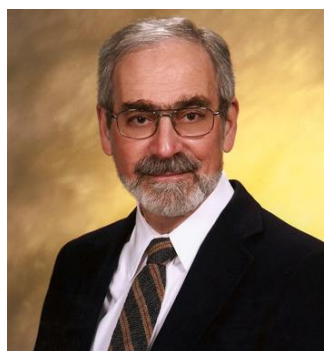


A 2014 Oxfam Report “Working for the Few” tells us that our current economic system is promoting extreme inequality. The report says “extreme economic inequality is morally questionable, can have negative impacts on economic growth and poverty reduction and can multiply social problems” The report goes on to say that “unless bold political solutions are instituted to curb the influence of wealth on politics, governments will work for the interests of the rich, while economic and political inequalities continue to rise”.

[Read more](#)

Conference on the Practical Politics of Global Integration

Joseph Preston Baratta



A report to World Federalists on the Inaugural Conference of the Post-Cold War Movement for World Government, by Joseph Baratta. He is an historian of the world federalist movement and of efforts to strengthen the United Nations. He has been a world federalist all his life, and directed the New York office of the WFM in 1985-88. Here are his reflections on the Brisbane meeting.

[Read more](#)

