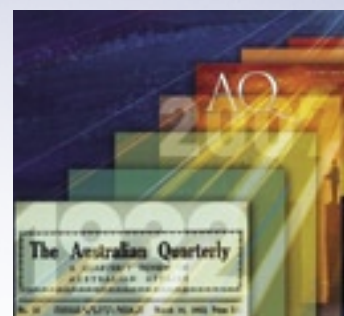


# AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE of POLICY & SCIENCE



Annual Report 2007 - 2008



*engage*  
*achieve*  
*inspire*

**TALL POPPY  
CAMPAIGN**

## Board Members

Professor Rick McLean (Chair)

Ms Gladys Berejiklian MLA  
(resigned 30/07/07)

Mr Leon Beswick

Mr Andrew Goodsall

Ms Chris Jenner  
(resigned 27/03/2007)

Associate Professor Maria  
Kavallaris  
(from 29/11/07)

Professor Ross McKinnon  
(from 29/11/07)

Mr Peter McMahon

Ms Julie Owens MP

Ms Robyn Parker MLC  
(from 30/07/07)

Mr Mike Steketee

Mr Robert Wells

Mr Warwick Wilkinson AO  
(retired 29/11/07)

The Board and staff would like to extend a special thank you to long-time Director Warwick Wilkinson, who served the organisation for 17 years.

## Staff

Dorothy Davis AM, Director  
(until 31/01/08)

Pamela McLeod, Manager,  
Tall Poppy Campaign -  
South Australia (Manager  
- Victoria from 01/10/2007)

Nikki Sullings, Project  
Officer (Manager, Tall Poppy  
Campaign - New South Wales  
from 01/07/2007 and Acting  
Director from 01/02/08)

Karen Strang, Project Officer  
- Victoria

Kylie Krueger, Program Coor-  
dinator - South Australia (from  
01/08/07)

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Front: (left to right) Mark Graham,  
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Back: (far left) David Hunt, (far right)  
Ted Sealey.

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The Australian Institute of Policy and Science was established in 1932, having changed its name in 2006 from the Australian Institute of Political Science to better reflect its focus and objectives. The organisation has continued to be called by its shortened name, AIPS.

AIPS is an independent non-partisan organisation, incorporated as a not for profit company. The Institute initiated its current core activity, the Tall Poppy Campaign, in 1998.

## Objectives

- Provide a forum for the bipartisan discussion of major political, economic, social, educational and scientific issues affecting Australia;
- Promote a greater appreciation of the wealth of Australian scientific and intellectual excellence, through the recognition of outstanding achievers;
- Invest in Australia's future by encouraging young Australians to value science and innovation and to consider careers in these areas.

## Activities

- Publication since 1932 of the public affairs journal *AQ - Australian Quarterly* (first established in 1929) which provides analysis and commentary on contemporary issues.
- Seminars, lectures and educational programs on political, economic, social, cultural and scientific issues of relevance to the Australian general public and specific professional, business, community and government groups.
- The Tall Poppy Campaign which recognises outstanding achievers and encourages younger Australians to follow in their footsteps, currently through the following major activities:
  - The Florey Medal
  - Young Tall Poppy Science Awards
  - Tall Poppies Reaching Students Program
  - Policy and outreach activities

*This Annual Report is printed on recycled paper.*

## FROM THE CHAIR: AIPS turns 75

This year I am pleased to report on the last eighteen months as we bring our Annual Report into line with our financial year reporting. There is much to celebrate and many people to thank, as well as many challenges and opportunities ahead.

This has been a productive period with many highlights. Foremost was our 75th anniversary celebration held in June 2007 at Parliament House, Canberra. The event was attended by present and former members of the Institute with a keynote address by former Chief Justice of the High Court, Sir Gerard Brennan, who appropriately spoke about Australian values and the changes in Australian society over the past 75 years. Demonstrating the bi-partisan nature of the Institute, speeches were given by the Hon Phillip Ruddock, then Attorney-General, and AIPS member; Natasha Stott-Despoja, Democrat Senator; and Julia Gillard, then Deputy Leader of the Opposition. Johnson & Johnson generously sponsored the event.

As the AIPS was founded in Sydney, a smaller 75th anniversary function was held in the Nicholson Museum at the University of Sydney in September. Speeches were given by Dr Anne Summers (political/social commentator), Dr Jack Best (former Chair of AIPS), Dr Tracey Rogers (2005 Young Tall Poppy) and Mike Steketee (National Affairs Editor for The Australian and AIPS Board member), amongst others.

Our Sydney staff made the big move into a new office space so generously provided by the University of Sydney at the new Brain and Mind Research Institute campus in Camperdown in March 2008. The Institute is deeply indebted to Jack Best and Janine Sargeant who maintained us during trying times in the 1980s and early 1990s, including providing us with a home in at least three sites during their perambulations around the Balmain peninsula.

AQ - *Australian Quarterly*, our journal, continues as a platform for discussion of the major issues facing Australia, aiming to provide incisive comment that both informs and challenges readers. My appreciation goes to James Morris who has continued to provide strong editorial leadership over a number of years, including undertaking the thankless task of sourcing articles of excellent quality on a regular basis.

The past period has seen continued achievements for the Institute, both financially and in its public outreach activities. The organisation posted a small surplus in the 2006/07 financial year, and drew on its surplus in the 2007/08 financial year to position us better for development in future years while achieving a balanced budget. The Post Budget Health Briefing events, AQ and Tall Poppy Campaign activities helped to maintain this momentum.

In Victoria, the Tall Poppy Campaign was re-commenced in late 2006 and in the other states there were new programs and an expanded range of activities and quality initiatives.

The 2006 Florey Medal, sponsored by Merck Sharp & Dohme (incidentally, one of the earliest companies associated with the development of penicillin) was presented in February 2007 to Professor Ian Frazer in a ceremony at Scientia at the University of New South Wales. Professor Frazer subsequently took an active role in various AIPS seminars and events throughout the year.

Sponsorship from Johnson & Johnson and MBF supported one of our main outreach initiatives, the annual Post Budget Health Briefing, presented by the respective Ministers for Health and Ageing, the Hon Tony Abbott in 2007, and the Hon Nicola Roxon in 2008.

Since the last report, Professors Maria Kavallaris and Ross McKinnon have joined the Board. Both are previous Young Tall Poppies, and as Maria pointed out recently, their appointment means they are forever young! Ross is also the Chair of the South Australian Tall Poppy Campaign Advisory Committee, whom I thank for their support this past year.



*Professor Rick McLean - Chair*

*strive  
mentor*

Our people make the organisation, and there have been some staff changes. Our Executive Director Dorothy Davis decided to retire in early 2008. Our hope that after a short break she would be lured back part-time for a short period was realised. Her enthusiasm and optimism are infectious and will be sorely missed as she retires.

We are fortunate that former NSW Campaign Manager, Nikki Sullings, stepped into the breach. Nikki has performed most ably as Acting Director since February 2008 along with former South Australian Campaign Manager, Pamela McLeod, who moved to Victoria to head the Melbourne office but still takes an active interest and role for the Tall Poppy Campaign in South Australia. Pamela is a powerhouse without whom the AIPS would be much the poorer. We have also benefited from the presence of Kylie Krueger in Adelaide and the recent employment of Camille Thomson in Sydney. As I write, we have appointed a new Executive Director, Elektra Spathopoulos, whom we all support in the opportunities ahead.

As always, I wish also to acknowledge our Young Tall Poppies who are our greatest asset and continue to make an invaluable contribution in helping to inspire the next generation of young scientists and innovators, as well as addressing the great issues of our day through public discourse and outreach to the younger generation.

I also thank our members and supporters, including the public, government, universities and the corporate sector. Without your support we could not continue to do what we are doing, nor strive to envision and achieve more.

Our work is more important than ever, as current pressing social issues ranging from climate change to an ageing population clearly require scientific research and communications expertise across government, educational and corporate sectors, alongside a future generation equipped to address, whether as science researchers, policy makers or as scientifically literate citizens. Indeed, our vision must become increasingly inclusive and global to grapple with common challenges and in order to pool our resources and policy efforts.

As I write, more than ever, the original aims of AIPS in 1932 in seeking to understand the root causes of the pre-World War II depression and to engage the public in such understanding through rational and non-partisan debate seem once again relevant as we face global market uncertainty. Together, these considerations form the basis for our vision and underscore the importance of our work.



Rick McLean

Chair



*celebrate*



## 2007 - 2008 REVIEW

- Presentation of the 2006 Merck Sharp & Dohme Florey Medal to Professor Ian Frazer and presentations by Professor Frazer at Tall Poppy Campaign events.
- Celebrations for the 75th anniversary of AIPS in Canberra and Sydney.
- Special edition of *AQ - Australian Quarterly* published in June in recognition of the 75th anniversary of AIPS.
- Celebration of the 10th year of the Tall Poppy Campaign in Canberra and Sydney.
- Selection of a further 31 Young Tall Poppy Science Award winners.
- Appointment of an Events/Schools Coordinator in South Australia.
- Significant growth in the Victorian Tall Poppy Campaign.
- Educational seminars on medical research topics for high school and university students held in Victoria, NSW and Western Australia in conjunction with the NHMRC.
- Development of the Tall Poppies Reaching Students' activities in South Australia building relationships between schools and young scientists.
- Contribution to community science promotion and education activities including Young Tall Poppy talks at museums, policy briefings and other community events.
- Key national challenges (environment, medical research, energy) addressed by Young Tall Poppies in the media and public fora.

## 2008 - 2009 OUTLOOK

- Review our strategic plan to position the Institute for the next decade.
- Secure sustainable and diversified support for the Tall Poppy Campaign nationally.
- Garner state government, university and the corporate interest in West Australia and Queensland to expand Tall Poppy Campaign activities.
- Explore the involvement and engagement of indigenous communities within the Institute's programs.
- Investigate the Institute's potential role in promoting the link between science and society and promoting informed public debate through best practice.
- Review the future business direction of *AQ - Australian Quarterly*.
- Award the 2008-09 Florey Medallist and secure sponsorship.
- Expand and innovate in the Tall Poppies Reaching Students program to include successful activities such as lab visits and work experience.
- Develop the Institute's website and use of online technology across all programs.
- Expand policy and 'science in society' outreach activities nationally.
- Explore technology, including production of a pilot DVD serving as an online educational resource for schools based on NSW Youth Tall Poppies.
- Integrate the South Australian Young Tall Poppy of the Year Award with the South Australian State Government Science Excellence Awards and explore integration of our awards with other State and Federal Awards.
- Improve our evaluation and internal learning, and collaborate with like-minded organisations to increase impact in educational and other activities.
- Maintain and expand our policy input and Federal and State government relationships.

*achieve  
aspire*

## CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

The Australian Institute of Policy and Science celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2007, with events held in Canberra and Sydney to mark this significant milestone.

The Canberra celebration was held at the Mural Hall in Parliament House and brought around 150 people together to toast the Australian Institute of Policy and Science's success and longevity including prominent figures in Australian political, economic, scientific, social and cultural affairs. The event focused on the theme 'Australian Values: Changes over 75 years' and speakers included former Chief Justice of the High Court, Sir Gerard Brennan, former Attorney-General, the Hon Philip Ruddock (a long-standing member of AIPS), the then Deputy Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Julia Gillard MP as well as then Democrats Senator Natasha Stott-Despoja. Brief commentaries were also provided by former AQ contributor and former AQ editor respectively, Professors Don Aitkin and Ross Garnaut.

learn  
inform



**Above:** Speakers at the 75th anniversary event in Canberra (left to right) Professor Rick McLean, Julie Owens MP, James Morris, the Hon Julia Gillard MP, Professor Ross Garnaut and Gerard Brennan QC.

Guests of honour for the event were Emeritus Professor Frank Fenner, Patron of the Tall Poppy Campaign, and Mrs Janet Hay, daughter of AIPS co-founder Sir Norman Cowper. Other guests included politicians from across the political spectrum, journalists, lawyers, academics, AQ contributors, Young Tall Poppies and long-standing AIPS members.

This event launched the 75th anniversary commemorative issue of AQ - *Australian Quarterly*. Focused around the theme 'Australian Values: Changes over 75 years', articles in this edition covered topics including health, environmental sustainability, feminism, the constitution, consumerism.

The second event was held at the University of Sydney's Nicholson Museum on September 12, marking the actual date of the founding of AIPS 75 years ago. Around 75 guests attended including many long-standing AIPS members, previous board members and AQ editors and several Young Tall Poppies. Brief speeches on the topics of changes in Australian values over 75 years, the changing role of AIPS and the importance of promoting science were provided by Anne Summers, Mike Steketee, Professor Rick

McLean, Dr Tracey Rogers, Associate Professor Alex Barrett and Dr Jack Best.

This event drew together the old and new faces of AIPS. The older generation, whose priorities had been summer schools, public lectures, AQ and other publications with the purpose of educating the public on issues of political, social and cultural significance in a time before mass media and the internet, met with the Young Tall Poppies whose focus is on science promotion in the public arena, especially schools and the general community as part of the Tall Poppy Campaign.



Photos: Mark Graham

**Above:** Speakers and guests at the 75th anniversary event in Canberra.

## AQ - AUSTRALIAN QUARTERLY

AQ - *Australian Quarterly* has a long history as a public affairs journal that delivers informed comment and analysis on contemporary political, economic, social, cultural and scientific issues. One of Australia's oldest public affairs journals, perhaps now the oldest surviving, the AQ's continuous publication since 1929 has provided a platform for bipartisan debate over some of the crucial issues that have shaped Australia. The Institute took over its publication in 1932 and today the journal continues to provide readers with lively, thought-provoking content that asks essential questions in a style that is accessible to a broad readership.

Articles are sought and selected for publication in AQ according to their relevance to Australian and international public affairs and their contribution to current debates. Recent topics have included themes as diverse as indigenous policy, income inequality, global warming, Islamic education, housing policy, the legacy of the demise of the Liberal Government and internet culture.

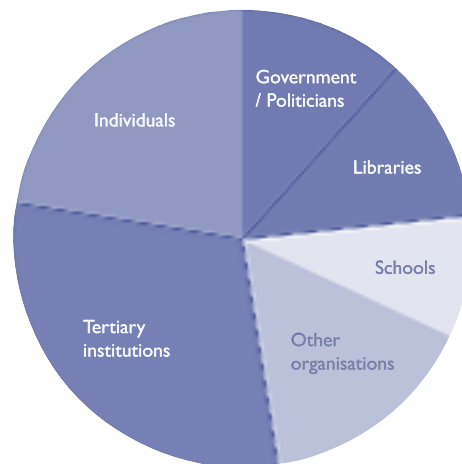
A special edition of AQ on the topic of 'Australian values' was published in June 2007 to mark the 75th anniversary of AIPS, with contributions from distinguished past contributors and prominent contemporary social commentators, including: Professor Larissa Behrendt, Dr Jack Best, Dr Alison Broinowski, Julian Burnside QC, Eva Cox AO, Professor Greg Craven, Rt Hon Malcolm Fraser AC, Clive Hamilton, Barry Jones AO, Dr James Jupp, Sir Arvi Parbo AC, Dr Leigh Sheppard, Senator Amanda Vanstone and Senator Natasha Stott Despoja.

AIPS acknowledges the tireless contribution of AQ's Editor, James Morris, supported by an editorial committee comprising Mike Steketee, Barry Jones AO, Professor Greg Craven, Emeritus Professor Duncan Waterson, and Professor Julian Disney AO. In ever-changing times and with the demise of similar magazines and the rise of online technology and opportunities for instant engagement with current issues, the Institute will be considering options for the future of AQ and its greater integration into the Institute's other work to ensure its future.

The distribution of AQ continues to see tertiary institutions as the principal subscriber group (both in Australia and overseas), followed by individuals, other organisations, government and politicians, libraries and schools.



*engage*



AQ distribution, 2007





TM



## TALL POPPY CAMPAIGN

### THE TALL POPPY CAMPAIGN: *Investing in Australia's future*

The Tall Poppy Campaign was created by the AIPS in 1998 to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Sir Howard Walter Florey, the Australian-born developer of penicillin, who was later awarded a Nobel prize for his work.

The Campaign was initiated as a response to important social issues identified at the time. The first was the tendency to overlook or denigrate the country's great achievers and the concept of 'excellence' – the so-called 'tall poppy syndrome'.

The Campaign aims to develop an Australian culture that celebrates achievement. Secondly, it aims to address an issue identified a decade ago which remains highly relevant - the shortage of people in scientific professions in Australia, a concern which is increasingly being researched and recognised in its complexity.

Tall Poppy Campaign activities directly address these ongoing issues of national significance, where science and technology will potentially play a critical part in Australia's ability to respond to global challenges.

Our Young Tall Poppy Science Awards recognise outstanding younger scientists with up to ten years post-doctoral research experience, usually aged in their 30s. As well as demonstrating exceptional research achievements, Young Tall Poppies are chosen on the basis of their excellent communication skills and demonstrated commitment to promoting science in the broader community and especially to youth.

Building scientific literacy is critical to our future. As consumers, business professionals and citizens, individuals need to form opinions about science-based issues so as to participate fully in modern society and become empowered to engage in critical and policy debates.

By June 2008 there were 165 Young Tall Poppies across Australia whose research spanned a diverse range of scientific disciplines. Only 40% were female, highlighting an issue we have been trying to address for the long term, such as through 'Women in Science' forums for school students in NSW held in early 2008.

With the growing importance of the knowledge economy and the need for Australia's research capacity to keep pace with other modern economies and global as well as national challenges, our Young Tall Poppies are an Australian resource of science expertise keen to share their knowledge of, and enthusiasm for, the sciences.

Most of these researchers have continued to contribute actively to the Tall Poppy Campaign, through their participation in education programs, policy outreach and with the Institute itself. Their activities largely involve educational outreach for school students and the broader community in which Young Tall Poppies act as role models, inspiring young people to pursue tertiary studies and careers in science.

*strive  
empower*

*The tall poppy is a metaphor for excellence and endeavour and symbolises Australia's pride in its outstanding achievers.*



## Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Tall Poppy Campaign

In 2007 the Tall Poppy Campaign reached its 10th year of operation. This milestone was celebrated in June 2007 at a breakfast event at Old Parliament House in Canberra, to which all Young Tall Poppies were invited.

## Young Tall Poppy Science Awards

A total of 31 new Young Tall Poppies were selected in 2007 through the Young Tall Poppy Science Awards held in South Australia, New South Wales/Australian Capital Territory and Victoria.

The South Australian Young Tall Poppy Science Awards were held at the National Wine Centre in August 2007. Eight Awards were made to high achievers in research and communication. Guest speakers included Professor Ian Frazer and the Hon Paul Caica, Minister for Science and Information Economy, South Australia. Students from Underdale High School Science Club also enjoyed attending given their involvement through the year with our educational program.

In Victoria, ten new Young Tall Poppy Science Awardees were announced in September 2007 at the Awards ceremony at the University of Melbourne's Bio21 Institute. Professor Ian Frazer, our Merck Sharpe and Dohme Florey Medallist, was guest speaker.

The New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory Young Tall Poppy Science Awards were announced in October 2007 at New South Wales Parliament House. Twelve Awards were made to researchers from across New South Wales and one to a researcher from the ACT. The then New South Wales Minister for Education, the Hon John Della Bosca MP, presented the Awards together with the Hon Verity Firth MP, New South Wales Minister for Science and Medical Research as well as Minister for Women, Minister Assisting the Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water (Environment) and Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer).



**Clockwise from top:** Vases and certificates for Young Tall Poppy Science Award winners; the 2007 Young Tall Poppy Science Award winners for South Australia with Professor Ian Frazer; the Awards ceremony reception in Adelaide; and the 2007 Young Tall Poppy Science Award winners for New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory with the then New South Wales Education Minister, the Hon John Della Bosca MP.



Photo: Sugarlove Pictures



**Dr Emma Johnston**  
2007 Award winner

**School of Biological Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales**

Dr Emma Johnston's research focuses on the impact of human activities on marine communities.

In particular, she investigates the effects of contaminants and introduced species on the structure and diversity of indigenous marine species in places as diverse as the Great Barrier Reef and Antarctica.

## Young Tall Poppies

The research work of the 2007 Young Tall Poppy Science Award winners fittingly covered diverse areas of science from podiatry to ophthalmology, and from geodynamics to nanotechnology and environmental sustainability. Working in Australia, these Young Tall Poppies contribute to research of increasing global significance with lasting benefits to society.

### New South Wales / Australian Capital Territory Young Tall Poppy Science Award winners, 2007

Dr Joshua Burns	Podiatry and paediatric neurology
Dr Vanessa Hayes	Medical genetics
Dr Emma Johnston	Marine ecology
Dr Kate Jolliffe	Organic chemistry
Dr Nadine Kasparian	Medical psychology and genetics
Dr Brendan Kelaher	Marine biology
Dr Craig O'Neill	Geodynamics
Dr Matt Taylor	Marine science
Dr James Tickner	Nuclear physics
Dr Nicole Verrills	Cancer research
Dr Carola Vinuesa	Immunology
Dr Charles Warren	Plant and ecosystem function
Dr Lisa Wood	Nutrition and respiratory medicine

### South Australian Young Tall Poppy Science Award winners, 2007

#### South Australian Young Tall Poppy of the year:

**Dr Craig Williams**  
Dr Janet Coller  
Dr Frank Grützner

#### Public health and medical entomology

Clinical applications of genetic testing  
Comparative genome structure, function and evolution  
Lymphangiogenesis  
Obesity and metabolic syndrome  
Clinical psychology  
Biomedical science  
Ophthalmology

Dr Natasha Harvey  
Dr Beverly Muhlhauser  
Dr Reg Nixon  
Dr Emma Parkinson-Lawrence  
Assoc Prof Konrad Pesudovs

### Victorian Young Tall Poppy Science Award winners, 2007

Dr Ben Croker  
Assoc Prof David Dunstan  
Dr Kim Halpin  
Dr Benjamin Kile  
Dr Julie McMullen  
Dr Sarah Meachem  
Dr Paul Stoddart  
Dr Stephen Turner  
Dr Leslie Yeo  
Dr Murat Yucel

Infection and heart failure  
Public Health  
Virology  
Haematology  
Cardiology  
Reproductive health  
Applied optics and nanotechnology  
Immunology  
Biomicrofluidics, nanotechnology, colloid and interfacial science  
Cognitive neuroscience

*achieve*

## Tall Poppy Campaign Patron and Ambassadors

The National Tall Poppy Campaign Patron (a recognised Australian tall poppy in science) and Ambassadors (former Young Tall Poppies who are now leaders in their research fields) take every opportunity in their professional roles to promote the Tall Poppy Campaign and to support Australia's next generation of scientists.



Photo: Bob Cooper

### National Tall Poppy Campaign Patron:

**Emeritus Professor Frank Fenner CMG KBE AC** is our National Tall Poppy Campaign Patron. His outstanding career as a scientist has been marked by two major achievements; the eradication of smallpox and the control of Australia's rabbit plague, amongst numerous other steps forward. After graduating in 1938 from the University of Adelaide he began a remarkable career that has seen him publish some 300 scientific papers and edit, write or co-author nearly 20 books. He has served on many international bodies in the quest to eradicate the world of infectious diseases, and continues to take a very active role in environmental and scientific ethics issues. He is the founding Director of the Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies at the Australian National University and remains an inspirational role model for future Australian tall poppies.



### Tall Poppy Ambassador – Australian Capital Territory:

**Professor Suresh Mahalingam**, Leader of the Viral Research Group in the School of Health Sciences and Associate Dean of Research, at the University of Canberra. Suresh, himself a Young Tall Poppy in 2004, is a passionate supporter for growing the Campaign in the Australian Capital Territory. His contribution will be vital to AIPS plans for 2009 and beyond.



### Tall Poppy Ambassador – New South Wales:

**Associate Professor Maria Kavallaris**, New South Wales Children's Cancer Institute Australia. Maria was a highly effective Ambassador in NSW over this period and was appointed to the AIPS Board in late 2007. Dr Tracey Rogers, School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of New South Wales, a 2005 Young Tall Poppy, has accepted the position for 2009 and is particularly keen to encourage women in science careers.



### Tall Poppy Ambassador – South Australia:

**Professor Alex Grant**, Director, Institute for Telecommunications Research, University of South Australia. Alex was awarded a Young Tall Poppy Award in 2004 - the same year he became the youngest academic ever to be appointed as a Professor at the University of South Australia. Since then he has maintained a high level of involvement in the Tall Poppy Campaign and will continue to do so as a Young Tall Poppy Ambassador.



### Tall Poppy Ambassador – Victoria:

**Professor Peter Rathjen**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), University of Melbourne. Peter has served us well having been appointed Tall Poppy Ambassador for both South Australia and Victoria, owing to the fact that he originally won his Young Tall Poppy Award in South Australia and later moved to Melbourne. In 2007 a new Ambassador for South Australia was appointed; Professor Alex Grant (see above).

*question  
discover*



**Dr Stephen Turner**  
2007 Award winner

**Department of Microbiology and Immunology,  
University of Melbourne**

Dr Stephen Turner studies how our immune systems control viral infections. His research includes helping to improve current vaccine strategies, and developing new vaccine and immunotherapy strategies for diseases such as HIV, malaria, pandemic influenza and cancer.





**Dr Reg Nixon**  
2007 Award winner

**School of Psychology,  
Flinders University**

Dr Reg Nixon's primary interest is child and adult responses to critical incidents such as car accidents, assaults and war-related trauma. He is specifically interested in understanding how acute stress disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder develop following a traumatic event, and developing better treatments.

## Tall Poppies Reaching Students

During 2007 through to end June 2008, education outreach programs spanning Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria involved Young Tall Poppies in a wide range of activities including school visits, science-themed seminars for students and workshops for teachers.

In 2007-2008 alone, our program:

- Reached 4.670 individual school students
- Visited 46 schools, including 12 in regional areas
- Engaged teachers in workshops in New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria

Highlights of this year included a series of topical health and medical research seminars for students, participation in 'Science at the Lakes', a workshop day in South Australia for students and the broader community, participation in career expos at the Science Education Centre in Victoria and 'Science and the Law: A Day in Court', a workshop activity for students in Queensland, as well as numerous visits to schools across the three states. Education programs in 2007 and 2008 continued to emphasise involving schools in regional and rural areas where there is traditionally a very limited progression of students into higher education.

New South Wales Young Tall Poppies visited schools in regional and outer metropolitan areas including Dubbo, Forster, Wollongong and Gosford. The 'Working Scientifically at the Zoo' workshop for primary school teachers was held again, this time at Taronga Zoo, with Young Tall Poppies presenting to primary school teachers to help improve their knowledge and teaching skills in science. A series of 'Women in Science' seminars attracted strong interest from school students and their teachers in metropolitan and regional areas. Educational activities also attracted much interest from local newspapers and radio stations as a result of a strategy to attract publicity for the campaign.

In South Australia, Young Tall Poppies made visits to schools across the state throughout the year, including schools in the regions of Loxton, Riverland, Port Lincoln and Tumbly Bay. Activities with the Underdale High School Science Club continued for students in years 8 and 10, with more than 100 students taking part. National Science Week in August 2007 was marked in South Australia by participation in 'Science at the Lakes' at which Young Tall Poppies gave workshops for school students and the wider community. Young Tall Poppies also gave a series of public lectures at the South Australian Museum and over a hundred students participated in the highly successful 'Where is the Maths in your Mobile?' seminar in March 2008. South Australia also innovated with career days and laboratory visits, paving the way for program development plans.

In Victoria, Young Tall Poppies visited schools in various regions across the state, including Melton, Altona and Mount Waverley as well as partnering in a careers expo for high school students at the Victorian Space Science Education Centre attracting 150 participants. The Victorian program also expanded its laboratory visits and work experience activities, including visits or placements with the Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre, Monash University and the Baker Heart Research Institute. Primary school outreach was also initiated, initially involving Bannockburn Public School and Footscray Primary.

Activities were also held in other states, including 'Science and the Law: A Day in Court', a workshop activity that took students into the real world of forensic science. Held in a court room, the students played the role of the jury, listening to and discussing expert evidence to reach a verdict on the case. This event was held first in Sydney in 2006 as part of National Science Week and was repeated in 2007 in Rockhampton, Queensland, in association with Central Queensland University (CQU), with an additional forensic science contribution from former Young Tall Poppy now at CQU. The project made a connection between studies in science and opportunities in

*explore  
encourage*

science-based careers displaying the professional application of scientific evidence to court cases. Participants included secondary and university students, university staff, lawyers, scientists and the public.

A series of three medical research themed seminars was also held in Melbourne, Sydney and Perth in conjunction with the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Designed for senior secondary science students and teachers, the seminars focused on important – and controversial – health and medical issues and career possibilities in science, including presentations by Young Tall Poppies and interactive workshops for students. In Perth, the topic was immunology and fighting disease, with talks on immunology, while in Melbourne, the focus was on the controversial area of stem cell research and the Sydney seminar delved into the latest research on the human brain. Presenters at these seminars included numerous Young Tall Poppies who hold NHRMC Fellowship positions as well as leading senior researchers, Professors Ian Frazer, Martha Hickey and Peter Schofield.

*inspire*



Photo: David Hunt



Photo: David Hunt



Photo: David Hunt



**Above:** Tall Poppies reaching students across New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria.

## THE FLOREY MEDAL



The Florey Medal is a prestigious biennial award made to an outstanding Australian biomedical researcher, or group of researchers, for a milestone achievement in biomedical science and human health advancement, arising from research carried out in Australia. In addition to the silver medal, the award carries a \$25,000 prize.

Since 1998, the medal has been awarded to six scientists, two of which were awarded jointly. In 2006, with the generous support of Merck Sharp & Dohme, the Florey Medal was awarded to Professor Ian Frazer, for his work on the development of vaccines for Human Papillomaviruses including cervical cancer and genital warts. Professor Frazer generously gave much of his time to promoting science through Tall Poppy Campaign activities over the course of the last year.

### 2006 Merck Sharp & Dohme Florey Medal winner, Professor Ian Frazer

Professor Ian Frazer, 2006 Merck Sharp & Dohme Florey Medal winner, former Australian of the Year and most recently the 2008 recipient of the prestigious Prime Minister's Prize for Science, was an important advocate for the Tall Poppy Campaign over the past two years. Professor Frazer believes that promoting science to the next generation is critical:

*We live about 25 years longer now than we did 100 years ago. We do that because, 100 years ago, people invested the time and the energy in doing the research that has led to the large measure of control of infectious diseases in the twentieth century. [...] Our lives depend upon the products of science and medical research and I think we really have a duty and a responsibility to get out there and make sure that the next generation is experienced in science.*

*The Tall Poppy Campaign is a great initiative. It is critical that we obtain as much recognition for our smart thinkers as we give our sports personalities, entertainers and politicians if we are to encourage the next generation to use their talent for the benefit of the community as well as themselves.*

Professor Ian Frazer, 2007

*aspire  
discover*

**Below:** Professor Ian Frazer accepting the 2006 Merck, Sharp & Dohme Florey Medal (centre), speaking at the South Australian Young Tall Poppy Science Awards (left) and with students from Underdale High School (right).



Photo: Tex Whitney Productions





## POLICY AND OUTREACH

The Institute continues its commitment to policy impact through activities beyond publication of *AQ*. This is a sphere in which AIPS seeks to expand in coming years.

### Post Budget Health Briefing

The Post Budget Health Briefing is an annual breakfast event organised by the AIPS that gives health professionals and stakeholders an opportunity to receive a first-hand briefing from the incumbent Federal Minister for Health and Ageing.

The briefing takes place shortly after the Federal Budget is delivered, giving the health and medical audience, one of the most significant industries in Australia, the opportunity to interrogate the Federal Government's latest policy initiatives and question the Minister on directions and changes in health funding. Attendees include executives and representatives from research institutes, universities, hospitals, government departments, private industry and peak health organisations, amongst others from across the health sector.

Over 180 people attended the briefing in 2007, held in Sydney in May the morning after the Federal Budget was delivered, with the then Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon Tony Abbott. In 2008, the briefing was held in Canberra and the Hon Nicola Roxon MP, Minister for Health and Ageing, presented to around 160 guests from the health and medical sector. This event was generously sponsored by Johnson & Johnson and MBF.

### 'Up Close and Personal' events

'Up Close and Personal' events, held by the AIPS in South Australia and Victoria in 2007, provided an opportunity for a small number of representatives from the corporate, scientific and education sectors to meet and talk with leading scientists.

At the South Australian event, held in Adelaide in October 2007, talks were given by the state's Tall Poppy Campaign Ambassador, Professor Alex Grant, and DLA Phillips Fox Adelaide Leader, Joseph DeRuvo. This cocktail event was hosted by DLA Phillips Fox, with special guest the Hon Paul Caica, South Australian Minister for Science and Information Economy and around 40 others in attendance.

In Victoria, Merck Sharp & Dohme Florey Medal winner Professor Ian Frazer and Victorian Tall Poppy Campaign Ambassador, Professor Peter Rathjen, gave addresses to an intimate gathering of around 40 guests in Melbourne in July 2007. This event was supported by Merck Sharp & Dohme.

**Right:** At the 2007 Post-Budget Health Briefing in Sydney (top), Minister for Health & Ageing in 2007, the Hon Tony Abbott (centre), and Minister for Health & Ageing in 2008, the Hon Nicola Roxon (bottom).

**Below:** At the 2008 Post-Budget Health Briefing in Canberra.



Photo: David Hunt



Photo: David Hunt



Photo: www.geoffcomfort.com



Photo: www.geoffcomfort.com

# FINANCIAL REPORT

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF POLICY & SCIENCE

(a company limited by guarantee) ABN 71 000 025 507

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

	2008	2007
<b>INCOME</b>	\$	\$
Conferences/seminars	14,904	18,592
Sponsorship	128,818	163,134
State and federal government grants	285,136	350,425
Interest	1,621	2,670
Subscriptions	34,923	34,774
Other income	2,732	1,821
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<u>468,134</u>	<u>571,415</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Expenditure on conferences/seminars	21,221	39,705
Audit and accounting	9,131	9,309
Bookkeeping and administration expenses	16,034	14,450
Annual leave and LSL provisions	1,188	11,780
AQ expenses	53,056	57,191
Advertising and promotion	2,982	1,305
Bank charges (including merchant charges)	1,843	1,729
Consultants fees	11,200	24,704
Fringe benefits tax	0	1,706
General expenses	10,394	6,561
Insurance	4,386	4,404
Loss on sale of fixed assets	44	703
Postage and couriers	2,012	3,374
Design, printing and stationery	16,250	34,395
Program expenses	25,749	53,293
Telephone and fax	9,768	10,656
Travel and accommodation	43,894	47,742
Salary and superannuation	229,322	172,596
Website maintenance	2,723	6,619
Workers compensation insurance	2,505	843
Depreciation	3,279	3,107
Rent and storage	28,392	20,748
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<u>495,371</u>	<u>526,920</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR YEAR BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>	<u>(27,236)</u>	<u>44,495</u>
<b>Plus (Less): Transfer of Surplus on Grants Received for Specific Projects</b>	27,294	(11,835)
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR YEAR</b>	<u><u>58</u></u>	<u><u>32,660</u></u>

explore

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2008

	2008	2007
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	\$	\$
Cash assets	37,374	89,120
Receivables	125,519	154,798
Inventories	0	1,546
Other	39,097	11,349
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>201,990</u>	<u>256,813</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	8,625	9,189
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>8,625</u>	<u>9,189</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>210,615</u>	<u>266,003</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Payables	36,475	46,791
Provisions	17,707	18,059
Other current liabilities	76,663	122,981
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<u>130,845</u>	<u>187,831</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Provisions	8,416	6,876
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<u>8,416</u>	<u>6,876</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>139,261</u>	<u>194,707</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u>71,354</u>	<u>71,296</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Retained profits	71,354	71,296
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<u>71,354</u>	<u>71,296</u>

### Audited Financial Statements

The Australian Institute of Policy and Science's accounts for 2007-08 were audited by St George & Associates, Chartered Accountants, Burwood NSW. The audited financial statements are available from the Institute's Sydney office, or online at [www.aips.net.au](http://www.aips.net.au)



## OUR SUPPORTERS

We thank all of our supporters without whom we could not operate as a not-for-profit company. From January 2007 to June 2008, AIPS received support from a number of organisations for specific purposes or projects. This support included grants, sponsorship and in-kind support.

AIPS thanks all the agencies involved, and acknowledges the numerous individuals who helped to make these partnerships meaningful and effective. We also thank our individual members and subscribers to *AQ* for their interest and support.

The AIPS partnership with the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing over the past seven years has ensured the development of the educational component of the Tall Poppy Campaign. In future, funding will hopefully be available to be directed towards expanding the Tall Poppy Campaign to operate in all states and territories and to improve the quality and sustainability of our outreach programs.

Nationally, Merck, Sharp & Dohme provided invaluable sponsorship for the Florey Medal, while Johnson & Johnson and MBF generously sponsored the Post-Budget Health Briefings for 2007 and 2008.

In New South Wales, the Office for Science and Medical Research has provided an increased amount of funding over three years, supplemented by the Department of Education with its significant in-kind support and partnership. The University of Sydney has come on board to provide much needed in-kind support by hosting our operations at the Brain and Mind Research Institute. Macquarie University has just joined us as a supporter for the 2008-2009 year, and we will be looking to increase such university support especially in regional areas of NSW.

The significant level of funding and partnership (including hosting our office) provided by the South Australian Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology (DFEEST), together with the three South Australian universities have set the foundation for ensuring a particularly vibrant program continues in South Australia. The South Australian Government (DFEEST in particular) and three universities there continue to provide support for a growing, innovative and self sustaining program, including prospects for attracting further corporate support.

Strong support from the Victorian Government largely through the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, as well as five Victorian universities, has enabled the Tall Poppy Campaign to continue to grow in that state. Significantly, the University of Melbourne provides our Victorian operation with office accommodation.

AIPS is committed to building innovative partnerships and to increasing the diversity of its support base to ensure sustainability of current programs and the development of new program initiatives.

*foster  
engage*

We acknowledge and thank our supporters in 2007-2008:

## Tall Poppy Campaign

### National

Australian Government  
Department of Health & Ageing



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health and Ageing**

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### New South Wales

Principal:  
Office for Science and Medical  
Research, New South Wales  
Department of State and Regional  
Development



### South Australia

Principal:  
Office of Science and Innovation,  
Department of Further Education,  
Employment, Science and Technology



**Government of South Australia**  
Department of Further Education,  
Employment, Science and Technology



### Victoria

Principal:  
Victorian Department of Innovation,  
Industry and Regional Development



## Policy, outreach & events

### AQ - Australian Quarterly



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Finance and Deregulation**

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### Florey Medal



**MERCK SHARP & DOHME**  
Finding better ways

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### Health and medical issues seminars



**Australian Government**  
**National Health and Medical Research Council**

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### Post-Budget Health Briefing



### Up Close & Personal events





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