



AUSTRALASIAN STUDY OF PARLIAMENT GROUP
TASMANIAN CHAPTER

2017 Annual Conference, Parliament of Tasmania
27-29 September 2017, Hobart, Tasmania

CALL FOR PAPERS

The principal theme of the 2017 ASPG Conference is to consider 'Engaging Parliament: Fostering Parliament's relationship with its stakeholders'. In theory, it is the role of the Parliament to make laws and hold the Government of the day to account for its policies, actions, and spending. But to what extent are these roles shaped by the relationship between the Parliament and its stakeholders?

This conference will explore themes regarding the Parliament's relationship with the other arms of power i.e. the Executive and the Courts. It will also explore ways to better engage the public, minority groups and the next generation. In addition it will explore the role the media has in shaping the public's perception of Parliament and whether they are accountable.

Accordingly we are seeking expressions of interest for papers on this broad topic with a particular focus on the following sub-themes:

THEMES:

Westminster revisited – keeping the power separate

How adequate are mechanisms designed to balance the power between the Parliament and the Executive?

Which is more effective an Opposition or a House of Review?

How can Parliament hold Ministers and Public Servants to account?

What impact have court decisions had on the sovereignty of Parliament?

Cabinet confidentiality versus parliamentary scrutiny.

The Parliament's role in maintaining the independence of Statutory Officers

The People's Parliament – Is this in name only?

Are the public adequately informed of decisions being made by Parliament?

How can the Parliament improve the public's perception of the institution?

Deadline for submitting an expression of interest: Friday, 5 May 2017

What is the impact of electorate boundary adjustments on Parliament and Parliamentarians relationships with their constituencies?

Are Parliaments and Parliamentarians really accountable to the people or to the polls?

Have petitions had their day?

Parliamentary committees – people in the process or mere lip service?

The ‘Trump’ Factor – social media engagement v ‘fake news’

What is the role of the media in influencing public attitudes to Parliament and Parliamentarians?

Is there a correlation between the death of objectivity in the media and the diminishing public perception of Parliament and Parliamentarians?

Social media use by Members versus traditional media avenues.

Inclusive Parliament - Rethinking conventional engagement strategies to give minorities a voice

How can Parliament better engage with under-represented groups?

How electoral systems influence representation?

High-Tech Parliament - Engaging the Millennials

How can Parliament make learning about the democratic process and parliamentary democracy more attractive to a high-tech generation?

How can Parliament attract young people to stand for election?

Are young people engaged by Members use of social media?



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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN PRESENTING A PAPER
GENERAL INFORMATION

Timeline:

Deadline for submitting an Expression of Interest:	Friday, 5 May 2017.
All acceptances will be advised by no later than:	Friday, 14 June 2017.
Title, Abstract (300 words) and biographical details required by:	Friday 11 August 2017.
Electronic copy of the finalised conference paper and any audiovisual material required by:	Friday 8 September 2017.

Papers:

Papers should be 4,000 to 5,000 words in length and use endnotes for references.

Abstracts should be no more than 300 words.

The Editor of the ASPG's journal *Australasian Parliamentary Review* has the final say on whether conference papers are published in the journal. At the request of authors, their article can be subject to the double-blind review process. In such cases, it is the reviewers who recommend publication or not.

Presentations

Presentation time is 15 to 20 minutes depending on the number of presenters per session. Following presentations, time is allocated for a Q & A session and general discussion. It is anticipated that presenters will speak to their paper rather than read it.

Audiovisual equipment is available.

Registration:

It is not necessary to have registered for the conference at the time you express an interest in presenting a paper. We understand that some conference delegates cannot register until their proposed paper has been accepted.

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN PRESENTING A PAPER

TITLE AND NAME:

POSITION:

TELEPHONE:

EMAIL:

PROPOSED TOPIC:

PLEASE RETURN EOI TO:

Stephanie Hesford
Parliament House
HOBART 7000
stephanie.hesford@parliament.tas.gov.au

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