



Public Sector Audit Forum Melbourne, 7 - 10 April 2008

Informal Meeting Schedule

**Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO)
Level 24, 35 Collins Street, Melbourne**

Monday 7 April 2008

10.15am	Reception area, Level 24, 35 Collins Street Merilyn Heritage will meet delegates in the reception area of VAGO on your arrival. Tea and Coffee will be served on arrival.	
10.30am	Briefing to Canadian Auditors General VAGO Performance Audit Program and Approach	Boardroom
11.30am	Briefing to Canadian Auditors General AmP Performance Audit Methodology	Training Room
12.15pm	Break	
12.30pm	Lunch	Level 23 Breakout area
1.30pm	Briefing to Canadian Auditors General IPSAM Financial Audit Methodology	Training Room
2.15pm	Break	
2.30pm	Tour of VAGO Office	Levels 23 & 24
3.15pm – 5.00pm	Free time	



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Welcome Reception and Forum Registration

Queens Hall, Parliament House

Monday 7 April 2008

5.00pm	<p>Parliament House</p> <p>Upon arrival at Parliament House, delegates should make their way up the main steps. A security guard will direct you through the mandatory security check. Once this is completed, delegates should report to the reception desk in the foyer where staff will show you into Queens Hall.</p>
5.15pm	<p>Forum Registration – Queens Hall</p> <p>A registration table will be situated at the rear of Queens Hall for delegates to complete Forum registration and collect program packs and name tags for the evening.</p>
5.30pm	<p>Official Opening of the inaugural ACAG CCOLA Public Sector Audit Forum</p> <p>Dr Frost, Chief Operating Officer, Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) will officially open the Forum.</p>
	<p>Welcome to Parliament</p> <p>Mr Bob Stensholt MP, Chair Public Accounts and Estimates Committee (PAEC), will welcome Australian and international delegates and guests on behalf of the Victorian Parliament and members of the PAEC.</p>
5.45pm	<p>Guest Speaker – Professor Kerry Jacobs B.Com M.Com (Hons) Canty NZ, PhD, Australian National University</p> <p><i>'Partnerships in Accountability - The relationship between Auditors-General and Public Accounts Committees'</i></p> <p>Professor Kerry Jacobs will speak on his observations of different models of interactions between Auditors-General and Parliaments in Australia.</p>
6.15pm	<p>Close of Proceedings</p>
6.15pm	<p>Refreshments</p> <p>Wine, beer, soft drinks and light finger food will be available for guests to enjoy whilst socialising.</p>
7.15pm	<p>Evening Close</p>



Public Sector Audit Forum Melbourne, 7 - 10 April 2008

Welcome Reception, Queens Hall, Parliament House

Guest Speaker

**Professor Kerry Jacobs
B.Com M.Com (Hons) Canty NZ, PhD Edin**

***'Partnerships in Accountability -
The Relationship between Auditors-General and Public Accounts Committees'***

Abstract

From the establishment of the modern Auditor-General and the first Public Accounts Committee by Gladstone in 1861 these two institutions have been partners in the process of public sector accountability. While many aspects of the public sector have changed this central partnership has remained the same. However, it is important that accountability be more than just rhetoric and to achieve that it is necessary to consider the nature of the accountability relationship and power differential from both a vertical and a horizontal perspective. Within Australia the relationship between the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and the Auditor General (AG) has a number of particular features and the nature of that relationship does vary between each state and jurisdiction. Important insights can be drawn from the challenges faced by the smaller Pacific nations and innovations in places such as New Zealand. The high level of turnover in the membership of respective PACs and the lack of formal training in accounting and governance, pose particular challenges to the expectation for the PAC to exercise an effective oversight role. However, the principles and standards of governance which are now expected of the private sector provide a valuable basis to reconsider and evaluate the accountability partnership of the AGs and the PACs.

Profile

Kerry Jacobs is Head of School and Professor of Accounting Professor at the Australian National University in Canberra. He was previously the Head of Department and Professor of Accounting at La Trobe University in Melbourne and was the Founding Director of the Public Sector Governance and Accountability Research Centre at La Trobe. For eight years Professor Jacobs worked at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland and for five years at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand. He was born in Kaikoura in New Zealand, completed his bachelor and masters degrees at the University of Canterbury and his doctorate at the University of Edinburgh.

Professor Jacobs is a qualified accountant, a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in New Zealand and a fellow of the Australian CPA. Prior to becoming an academic, Professor Jacobs worked for the accounting firm Coopers & Lybrand and for Firestone Tire Company.

Professor Jacobs' research interests are focused on issues of public sector accountability, governance, audit, financial management and reform, particularly the relationship between accounting and politics. He is currently on the editorial board of three journals with an interest in public sector accountability and governance: Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal, Financial Accountability & Management and Journal of Accounting and Organisational Change. Professor Jacobs also has research interests in accounting in religious organisations and the links between culture and accounting.



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Day One

Tuesday 8 April 2008

**Naval & Military Club
27 Little Collins Street, Melbourne**

8.15am	<p>Late Registrations</p> <p>A registration table will be situated adjacent to the Streeton Room for late registrations. Delegates can complete Forum registration and collect program packs.</p> <p>Coffee and Tea will be available on arrival.</p>	
8.50am	<p>Welcome to Naval & Military Club (the Club)</p> <p>General Manager, Major Steve Pilmore will welcome delegates to the Club</p>	Streeton Room
9.00am	<p>Ms Tu Pham, Auditor General ACT and Convenor of ACAG</p> <p>Ms Pham will formally commence proceedings.</p>	
9.00-10.15am	<p>Session One : 'Getting to Know You'</p> <p>Each office will make a 10 minute presentation supported by a PowerPoint slide show.</p>	
10.15am	<p>Morning Tea</p>	
10.30 – 12.00pm	<p>Session One : continued</p>	
12.00 – 1.00pm	<p>Lunch</p>	Garden Terrace
1.00 – 2.30pm	<p>Session One : continued</p>	
2.30 – 2.45pm	<p>Afternoon Tea</p>	
2.45 – 4.30pm	<p>Session Two : 'Getting to know the Regional Associations'</p> <p>ACAG, CCOLA and EURORAI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How each Regional Association operates as a "mutual help" organisation. ▪ What each Regional Association is good at and it's challenges. 	Streeton Room
4.30pm	<p>Day one concludes</p>	
4.30pm onwards	<p>Delegates free time</p>	



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Theatre Evening

Tuesday 8 April 2008
8.00pm

For those delegates who have pre-purchased tickets



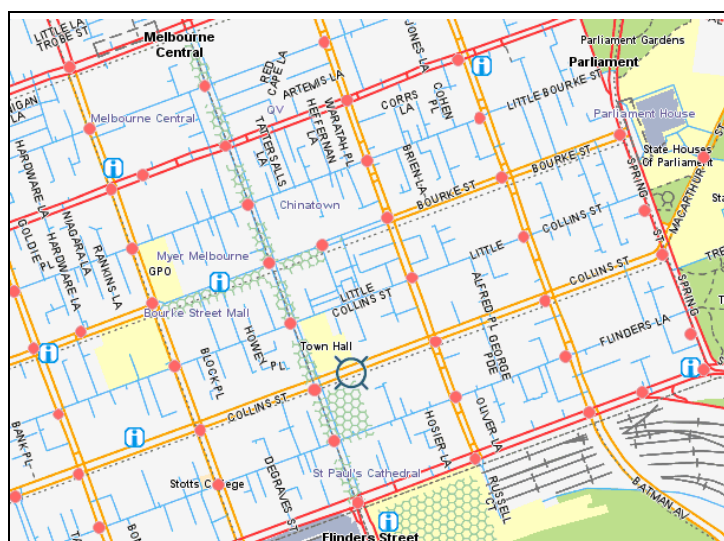
One of the most successful Australian movies of all time is now a dazzling musical spectacular.

The hit musical is based on the Oscar-winning film that blitzed the box office and caused a sensation around the world. Its fun, daring, over-the-top and unforgettable. It's an `on-stage` road movie with attitude and a busload of outrageous costumes and characters.

Seen by over 450,000 people already, *Priscilla* is an all-Australian production quite unlike any other – featuring 20 full-scale production numbers and a sensational song list including disco hit classics *I Will Survive*, *Finally* and *Shake Your Groove Thing*.

Priscilla tells the funny and moving tale of three fish out of water who head west across the desert from Sydney to Alice Springs to perform a drag show. The flamboyant stars, Bernadette, Tick and Adam, are joined on stage by Priscilla the bus, a glittering custom-built, 6 tonne, \$1 million centrepiece. Keeping them all in check and on the road is Bob the mechanic, played by Aussie screen legend, Michael Caton (The Castle).

Regent Theatre, 191 Collins Street Melbourne





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Day Two

Wednesday 9 April 2008

Naval & Military Club
27 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

7.15 – 9.00am	<p>IPAA Breakfast Session : Public Sector Reform and Implications for Accountability – Comparative Perspectives</p> <p>Professor John Halligan will address Forum delegates and Victorian public sector leaders at a breakfast seminar on Wednesday 8 April, presented in partnership with the Institute of Public Administration Australia.</p> <p>Professor Halligan is Research Professor of Government and Public Administration, School of Business and Government, University of Canberra, Australia.</p>	<p>Grand Ballroom, Hotel Windsor</p> <p>111 Spring Street Melbourne</p>
9.00 – 9.10am	<p>Windsor Hotel to Naval & Military Club</p> <p>The Club is a short walk from the Hotel Windsor.</p>	<p>Naval & Military Club</p>
9.10 – 9.30am	<p>Coffee and tea will be available on arrival at the Club</p>	
9.30 – 12.00pm	<p>Session Three : Chaired Working Groups</p> <p>Delegates break into three working groups to deal with the “Top 3 Challenges” identified prior to the Forum.</p> <p>Issue One : How to meet the challenge of recruiting & retaining the right staff in an era of global talent shortage.</p> <p>Issue Two : How to maintain audit quality when changes to accounting & auditing standards & legislative & compliance requirements are rapidly increasing.</p> <p>Issue Three : How to maintain key stakeholder relationships when expectations are increasing at the same time as audit capacity is constrained & public sector complexity is increasing.</p>	<p>Blamey Room</p>
12.00 – 1.00pm	<p>Lunch</p>	<p>Monash Room</p>
1.00 – 3.00pm	<p>Session Four : Plenary Session</p> <p>Delegates re-form into Forum as a whole group. Chairs of each working group will provide a summary of the outcomes of their respective groups.</p>	<p>Blamey Room</p>
3.00pm	<p>Afternoon Tea</p>	
3.15 – 4.30pm	<p>Session Four : continued</p>	
4.30 – 6.30pm	<p>Free time</p>	
7.00 – 11.00pm	<p>Official Forum Dinner</p> <p>Number 8 Restaurant is located at Crown Promenade, within the cultural precinct of Southbank, on the banks of the Yarra River.</p>	<p>Ground Floor Crown Promenade</p>



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Day Three

Thursday 10 April 2008

**Naval & Military Club
27 Little Collins Street, Melbourne**

8.30 – 9.00am	Coffee and tea on arrival	Streeton Room
9.30 – 10.00am	Session Five : Forum Wrap-Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Key learnings from the Forum ▪ Forum evaluation ▪ Wording of communiqué ▪ Future arrangements 	Streeton Room
10.00 – 10.15am	Morning Tea	
10.15 – 12.00	Session Five : continued	
12.00	Forum Close	
12.00 – 1.00	Lunch	Streeton Room



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Delegates

ACAG		
Mr Des Pearson	Auditor-General	Victoria (VAGO)
Dr Peter Frost	Chief Operating Officer	VAGO
Mr Peter Achterstraat	Auditor General	New South Wales (NSW)
Mr Glenn Poole	Auditor-General	Queensland (QLD)
Ms Tu Pham	Auditor-General	Australian Capital Territory (ACT)
Mr Rod Nicholas	Director, Performance Audits & Corporate Services	ACT
Mr Colin Murphy	Auditor-General	Western Australia (WA)
Mr Simon O'Neill	Auditor-General	South Australia (SA)
Mr Ian McPhee PSM	Commonwealth Auditor-General	Australian National Audit Office (ANAO)
Ms Dianne Rimmington	Corporate Services	(ANAO)
Mr Frank McGuinness	Auditor-General	Northern Territory (NT)
Mr Mike Blake	Auditor General	Tasmania (TAS)
Mr Terry McLaughlin	Executive Director	Audit New Zealand (NZ)
Mr John Rosier	Executive Director	ACAG
Mr John Doyle	Auditor-General	British Columbia
Mr Errol Price	Deputy Auditor General	British Columbia
Mr John Wiersema	Deputy Auditor General	Canada
Mr Andrew Lennox	Assistant Auditor General	Canada
Mr Harvey Mead	Assistant Auditor General & Sustainability Commissioner	Quebec
Mr Gary Peall	Deputy Auditor General	Ontario
Mr Alan Horgan	Deputy Auditor General	Nova Scotia
Mr John L Noseworthy	Auditor General	Newfoundland and Labrador
Mr Wayne Loveys	Deputy Auditor General	Newfoundland and Labrador
Mr Christian Melly	Director of Audit Office and President of EURORAI	Valais Canton, Switzerland
Mr Joan Colom	Auditor General of the Public Audit Office (former President of EURORAI & current Board Member).	Catalonia,

Other Attendees

Mr John Findlay	Assistant Auditor-General, Policy Planning & Technical	VAGO
Mr Stuart Kells	Assistant Auditor-General, Performance Audit	VAGO
Mr Andrew Greaves	Assistant Auditor-General, Financial Audit	VAGO
Ms Jenni Lillingston	Executive Director, Corporate Services	VAGO
Prof. John Halligan	Research Professor of Government & Public Administration	University of Canberra