



Mannkal's Musings*

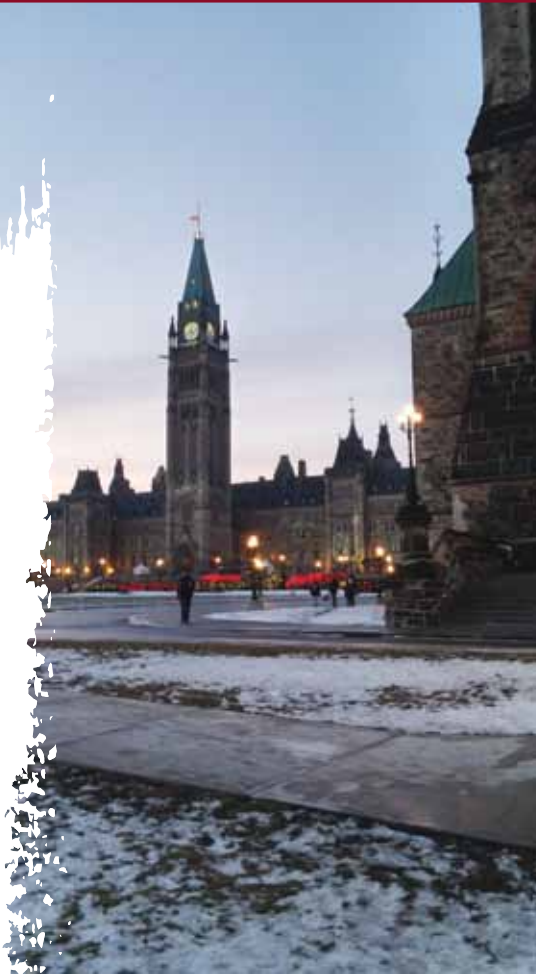
Editor: Genevieve Mitchell

MANNKAL FOUNDATION'S
HALF-YEARLY REVIEW

April 2015 Vol. 9

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*n. mus-ings A product of contemplation; a thought

Events in 2015

It has been a fantastic six months for events at Mannkal, with more still to come! Our monthly newsletter, *e-Focus*, is the best way to keep up to date on events and to receive the latest information about Mannkal's Scholarships. Visit: <http://mannkal.org/subscribe.php> to subscribe.

Year Ahead Event
Economic Freedom of the
World Index
World Conference on Market
Liberalisation ...
and much more!

Ron's Mannerisms

Find out what Ron is discussing each month on his blog "Mannerisms". Ron provides ideas and insights on topics ranging from Kalgoorlie style entrepreneurship to Islamic Terrorism and distant memories of Moscow.

Find us...

Mannkal's Facebook page has grown exponentially over the past year, with constant updates of interesting articles and videos.

Facebook Stats: **March 2015**—826 people like this, 1,700 visits this year, reaching 45 countries.



www.mannkal.org



[Facebook.com/Mannkal](https://www.facebook.com/Mannkal)



[Mannkal97](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMannkal97)



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The Origin of the Word "Mannkal"

"Mannkal" was originally the "cable", then "telex", then "fax" address of our thriving 120-year-old, family company, Manners & Co. / Mannwest Group Pty Ltd. Then for many years the name was used in Mannkal Mining Pty Ltd which was Mannwest's exploration and mining company from 1970 – 1996. When that company was sold as the controlling shareholder of public company Croesus Mining N.L., it was sold without its name which was then available and used for the Mannkal Foundation.

The Mannkal word is a combination of the family surname "Manners" and "Kalgoorlie", the city where we learned the "art of doing business". You might ask, "so, what is the art of doing business?"

Perhaps described as the practical outcome of voluntary transactions (no coercion, by unions or occupational licensing restrictions), resulting in both parties benefiting from their dealings. They are therefore enthusiastic about conducting further transactions together.

Mannkal Volunteers and Staff

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Chairman's Report

Harvesting Ideas from Fresh Fields

About a year ago I had a birthday at which someone who knows me rather well made a few comments. He referred to my mining years back in the '80s/'90s when I was known to employ lots of female geologists, long before it was fashionable to do so. Half the audience assumed that the reason was simply because the female geologists were far more attractive than the males. The other half assumed that it was some form of quota hiring so that I could appear to look politically correct. The real reason was none of the above but rather two specific reasons:



1. Since my mother was the first woman to study geology at the Kalgoorlie School of Mines, back in 1924, I realised that there could be nothing wrong with female geologists.

2. The second and most important reason was simply rational self-interest. I saw female geologists of the 1980s and 1990s being similar, in one way, to black lawyers in the United States. They knew that to be regarded as equal to the white lawyers, they had to be better. So a similar motivation existed with female geologists. To be equal they just had to be better. By being better they started to "show up" the male geologists who, in turn, simply had to lift their game, too. So we all won.

Why I'm telling you all this is because it reminds me of the Mannkal Foundation. Hearing a great group of 18 returning students thank us during their returning presentations, I felt again that we are driven by rational self-interest. These students go out to different points of the globe and "harvest ideas from fresh fields". They bring these ideas back to us and we simply put these ideas to work. As a result, our outgoing student programme for next year will be even better than this year. We all benefit from the input of these freshly harvested ideas, potentially more than even the students benefit from their own experience. The students' experiences, of course, depends very much on how they lever their future careers off their Mannkal experience.

Returning scholars might notice Mark Maciolek's comment about the paper he prepared and presented in New Zealand on philanthropy/charity regulations. We suspect that New Zealand's legislation on charities will be as inadequate as Australia's and we expect to learn much from Mark's paper. The current inadequacies of charities legislation doesn't surprise me as we see this as yet another example of what is called Public Choice Theory which explains most bad government policies.

As Robert Nozick stated, "The illegitimate use of a state, by economic interests, for their own ends, is

based upon a pre-existing illegitimate power of the state to enrich some persons at the expense of others". Public Choice Theory explains how those receiving the concentrated benefits work very hard to capture such legislation, spreading the costs over a far larger group who just accept this as yet another tax.

At Mannkal we understand Public Choice Theory and as I've done in business over the last few years (and our family company celebrates its 120th anniversary this year), if the rules are ineffective, we just find our way around them. With the help of the Mannkal Ambassadors, who have come in with financial support to finance the activities that Mannkal, as a Tax Exempt Foundation cannot finance, Mannkal hosts presentation evenings and other student events.

I'm encouraged by this external support which Mannkal is receiving now as I know, personally, that the show will stay on the road long after I'm gone. We also see the Ambassadors as having a mentoring role with our various students. Paul McCarthy, Mannkal's CEO, working with Rebecca Vidler, our Scholarships Co-ordinator, heads up a great team with tremendous support from our wonderful Mannkal Board, Ambassadors and Advisory Council.

Conclusion

Each team member is vital to Mannkal's performance, so let me say how much we enjoy our challenge at the Mannkal Foundation. We understand that clarity of purpose is critical to success and to an empowered life. We are certainly clear about our purpose and if we are having a positive impact, then that's a bonus on top of simply enjoying ourselves.

Thanks to all concerned.

Ron Manners
Chairman

CEO's Report



2015 will be a bumper year for Mannkal and we have already exploded out of the blocks. From hosting speakers on Bitcoin and higher education reforms, to establishing internships with new hosts in Malaysia, South Korea and the UK, to being invited to the exclusive Antigua Forum – which is the equivalent of the Davos Conference for liberal reformers – the first three months of the year have been both exciting and fruitful.

We also welcomed back 18 scholars from the UK, US, Canada, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Germany, Lithuania and the Eastern States. I can see in each of them the personal and professional growth they experienced over nearly three months and their host think-tanks have been effusive in praising them. Our recent Year Ahead event illustrated the fruits of their time away with speeches, case studies and videos that were of absolutely professional quality. We are very proud of them all and look forward to continuing a close association with these newest additions to Mannkal's alumni.

We look forward to our next round of scholars with many opportunities available in the first half this year, with the Friedman conference and the HETSA conference, both in Sydney, and the Freedom to Choose conference here in Perth. One of the most exciting will be the World Conference on Market Liberalisation to be held in Bali in July – a great excuse to leave the wind and rain of a Perth winter to rub shoulders with some of the world's leading economists! In addition, we are lining up scholarship opportunities for July in locations from Seoul and Rangoon to London and LA. Applications for conference and internship scholarships are open now, closing in late April. I encourage all students to apply and to keep a close eye on our website – which, by the way, will soon undergo a makeover to better showcase our scholars' achievements.

We are looking at a number of exciting opportunities in the next twelve months, with some already in progress. Our recently returned scholars are being lined up with work experience placements in Perth organised by Mannkal with a number of Perth's leading organisations. There are also opportunities we are exploring for students to get credit for their scholarships towards their degrees – swapping the classroom for an international experience!

We will repeat our Freedom of the World Index launch towards the end of the year and are organising some top speakers – stay tuned for names and dates. Most exciting of all, we will sponsor 154 scholars this year – more than double our number from last year – to more destinations than ever before, and with a greater breadth of opportunities to include journalism and digital media.

It's going to be a huge year for Mannkal. We can't wait to see the results and look forward to your support!

Paul McCarthy
CEO



Top to bottom; left to right: Paul McCarthy & Fred McMahon; Paul McCarthy; Tom Camp, Danielle Lukic, Conrad Karageorge; Jenny Manners, Ron Manners & Paul McCarthy

Where Are They Now?



Hannah Berdal

In 2014, I travelled to Austria as an exchange student with the University of Vienna Juridicum. I spent two semesters studying and exploring the beautiful city of Vienna and its surroundings, and found myself completely enamoured with Austrian culture and history.

My particular yearning to visit the country was not based on its food, wineries or famous tortes (although those were high on my list!) but rather its incredible legacy of philosophers, economists, and historians. Hayek, Popper....the list goes on. To me, Vienna seemed like a libertarian utopia.

Once I arrived, I was bitterly disappointed. Where were the statues of Hayek? Why can't I take a university course on the Austrian School? I considered these questions on an almost daily basis. It was as if the Austrian School had vanished from Vienna!

It was only once I met Dr Barbara Kolm, Director of the Austrian Economics Center (AEC) and President of the Hayek Institut, that I found my answer. Austria and greater Europe had turned away from free market philosophy, and has progressively adopted a series of stifling and disastrous policies that have led to a heavily regulated and politicised Europe. It is now home to some of the highest unemployment and slowest growth rates it has seen in decades. When I was in Vienna, GDP growth was a miserable 0.25%.

I joined the AEC and Hayek Institut as an editor for their digital content and social media platforms, and have since launched a monthly newsletter to its incredible network of libertarian thinkers and free market advocates. I continue to work for the AEC in Australia, although I dearly miss spending time in such a dynamic and interesting workplace. The AEC has attracted some of the most talented researchers and writers from around the world, and also hosts a global intern programme that takes in students every semester.



Working with the AEC also allowed me to meet some incredible people – a highlight of my time working there was definitely sitting in a glass room on top of a hotel, taking notes on a lunch time interview with Deirdre McCloskey while taking in the incredible city below!

If you are ever in Vienna, be sure to look out for their insightful lecture series and programmes that are run in Hayek Saal throughout the year.

Antigua Forum - Guatemala, January 2015

Mannkal Foundation was greatly honoured in being invited to present details of our outgoing student programme to an international gathering of advisors and tutors in Guatemala, this past January.

Much valuable input was received and is being incorporated into our current programmes.

This will ensure that further value is received by both the outgoing students and the growing number of international host think-tanks.

<http://www.antiguaforum.ufm.edu/#about>



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(Ukraine)



Brad Walmsley
(Geneva)

Ambassadors

Mannkal thanks and acknowledges its Ambassadors. They each contribute to Mannkal's running costs. We simply couldn't do what we do without them.

Mr Colin Agnew

Ms Juel Briggs

Mr Ross Cable

Mr Peter Sansom

Mr Jonathon Huston

Ms Shirley In't Veld

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Mr Russell Lester

Mr Geoff McNeil

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Mr Dick Lester

Mrs Gina Rinehart

Mr Maurice Rousset

Mr David Reed

Mr Syd Corser

Mr Bob Berven

Mr Ross Leach

Mrs Jenny Manners

Donors

Mannkal thanks its Donors who contribute vital funds to sponsor student opportunities.

Mrs Gina Rinehart

Mr Willy Packer

Mr Toby Nichols

Mr Ron Manners



Where in the world do
you want to learn?



**Mannkal
Scholarships**

www.mannkal.org



Apply Now!



Where in the World Do You Want to Learn?

The Mannkal Economic Education Foundation is looking for students to intern at a range of internationally recognised research foundations and think-tanks. All internships are financially supported through the Mannkal scholarship programme and open to enthusiastic university students. There are opportunities in the 2015 mid-year university break and the January/ February 2016 end-of-year university break.

Some of the opportunities on offer...

 <p>The Lion Rock Institute's mission is to promote free market ideas throughout Hong Kong to improve the lives of Hong Kongers.</p> <p>Check out: www.lionrockinstitute.org</p>	 <p>The New Zealand Initiative aims to promote sound public policy through a competitive, open and dynamic economy.</p> <p>Check out: http://nzinitiative.org.nz/</p>	 <p>The Institute of Public Affairs is dedicated to strengthening the foundations of economic and political freedom in Australia through the preservation of libertarian values.</p> <p>Check out: http://www.ipa.org.au/</p>
 <p>The Canadian Taxpayers Federation is dedicated to lowering taxes, reducing waste and ensuring government accountability.</p> <p>Check out: http://www.taxpayer.com/</p>	 <p>The Fraser Institute focuses on publishing peer-reviewed research into public policy.</p> <p>Check out: www.fraserinstitute.org</p>	 <p>The Institute for Liberal Studies promotes the discussion of economics, philosophy, history and public policy in Canada.</p> <p>Check out: www.liberalstudies.ca</p>
 <p>FEE's mission is to inspire, educate and connect future leaders with the economic, ethical and legal principles of a free society.</p> <p>Check out: http://fee.org/</p>	 <p>The Atlas Network is a non-profit organisation connecting a global network of more than 400 free-market organisations in over 80 countries to the ideas and resources needed to advance the cause of liberty.</p> <p>Check out: http://atlasnetwork.org/</p>	 <p>AIMS focuses on issues such as health, education, equalisation and energy across the Atlantic Canadian region.</p> <p>Check out: www.aims.ca</p>
 <p>The IEA is an original and iconic British think-tank. Its mission is to improve understanding of the fundamental institutions of a free society by analysing and expounding the role of markets in solving economic and social problems.</p> <p>Check out: www.iea.org.uk</p>	 <p>The Lithuanian Free Market Institute is a private, non-profit, non-partisan organisation established in 1990 to promote the ideas of individual freedom and responsibility, the free market, and limited government intervention.</p> <p>Check out: http://en.llri.lt/</p>	 <p>The Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom is the foundation for liberal politics in the Federal Republic of Germany. It aims to promote the goal of making the principle of freedom valid for the dignity of all people and in all areas of society.</p> <p>Check out: www.en.freiheit.org</p>

Mannkal Scholars Abroad

Friedrich Naumann Foundation – Berlin Friedrich Naumann STIFTUNG FÜR DIE FREIHEIT

Angelyn Seen



“A man may die, nations may rise and fall, but an idea lives on. Ideas have endurance without death.”

— John F. Kennedy

A mere 25 years ago, the Berlin Wall embodied the division of two different systems, ideas and visions. The subsequent fall of the Berlin Wall ushered in a new exchange of ideas, culture and lifestyles; a unique opportunity to pursue change. This bold spirit characterised my experience at the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF). During my time with FNF, not only was I exposed to new ideas, I was challenged to apply these ideas to create change, to critically assess policy and to seek improvement when due.

The most valuable feature of an overseas internship is the exposure to a different perspective, culture and language. I was fortunate to work on a range of projects during my time at the FNF, including research on tertiary funding in Australia and Germany, immigration policy and the Economic Freedom Index. The comparative nature of these projects facilitated a rich exchange of ideas, highlighting how similar values can be realised on a policy

level. The guidance of the enthusiastic and expert team at the FNF was invaluable. From talks about energy policy, the role of the religious clergy, to impromptu German lessons, their enthusiasm exposed me to a set of new perspectives. It was interesting to see how similar ideals crossed cultural and linguistic differences.

Importantly, my responsibilities at the FNF were not conducted in a vacuum. Tumultuous events, including the Charlie Hebdo shooting, the election of a new Greek Government, and anti-Islamist protests served as timely reminders of the importance of the Foundation's work on economic, social and political freedom.

Being fortunate enough to be placed in Berlin also afforded opportunities for personal growth. Seemingly simple tasks such as grocery shopping to ordering coffee became small adventures – the first time I successfully ordered a meal in German (albeit basic, broken German) was a huge achievement! The proximity of neighbouring Europe made travel convenient, expanded my cultural horizons and formed the basis for new networks. The experience enabled me to pick up a wide range of skills – from operating Excel in German, to navigating the train system of Europe!

Lithuanian Free Market Institute – Lithuania

Rebecca Lawrence



While I thoroughly enjoyed all of my time at the Lithuanian Free Market Institute (LFMI) in Vilnius, the highlight of my trip was probably my very first day in Europe. I was lucky enough to spend a very cold Saturday listening to three lectures by the famous Steve

Horwitz, who had travelled from New York as a guest speaker in the LFMI's "Realistic Analysis of Economics" lecture series. Horwitz spoke to an audience of Lithuanian university students about a range of contemporary social and political issues from an Austrian economics perspective, explaining how basic free-market theories create solutions to different policy issues.

I was particularly taken by Horwitz's speech about "Capitalism and the Family", in which he explained how the free-market evolution of the family structure has empowered women in recent centuries. Horwitz is

a prominent "bleeding-heart libertarian" (a person who believes that the best way to achieve social justice is through the free market) and is famous for his online "Do Women Earn Less Than Men?" presentation on the "LearnLiberty" website. It was amazing to see him outline his arguments in person, drawing on concepts as diverse as Maslow's "Hierarchy of Needs" to Hayek's free-market economics.

Horwitz's presentation was inspiring because it applied simple free-market concepts in a way that anyone could understand, with the goal of promoting greater economic and social freedom. Much of the LFMI's work has a similar focus. It is evident that both Horwitz, as an international presenter, and the LFMI are pioneers in the free-market sphere because they are prepared to use their arguments in the broader battle of ideas.



Institute of Economic Affairs – London

“Friedrich Hayek once told Antony Fisher to establish a body (IEA) that would foster freedom, preventing the spread of socialism and central planning. We all, as young adults, now take on this responsibility to create a free-market society. It all starts with a belief and an idea. As Margaret Thatcher once stated, ‘It started with Sir Keith and me, with the Centre for Policy Studies, and Lord Harris at the Institute of Economic Affairs. Yes, it started with ideas, with beliefs. That’s it. You must start with beliefs. Yes, always beliefs.’”

– Alexandra Colalillo



Lauren Tait



Alexandra Colalillo



Garrick Garvey

Lauren Tait: The opportunity to intern at the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA) proved more rewarding than I could ever have imagined. As a research intern, not only did I have the freedom to pursue a research project of my own interest, but also the pleasure of engaging with a network of intelligent and motivated individuals. A diverse group of interns hailed from all corners of the globe, from Russia to Poland, Texas to Minnesota, and Guatemala to Bolivia. My existing opinions and perceptions were expanded and challenged, as I was able to gain a local insight into home politics and public opinion in various countries.

The IEA, which is situated around the corner from the Houses of Parliament in the heart of Westminster, is nestled amongst numerous libertarian think-tanks. Events and lectures at the IEA and surrounding initiatives provided a forum for interesting discussion on a range of topics, from the social underworld of prison gangs, to the birth of capitalism in early Islam, and the criminalisation of extreme pornography. On one occasion, I heard first-hand details of the relationship between Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan from Ed Meese, a close advisor and confidant of Reagan throughout his political career.

After three months living in London I no longer felt like a tourist, yet, with the ever-evolving, never-ending abundance of museums, markets, bars, restaurants and iconic landmarks, I suspect no length of time could do justice to this incredible city. As well as exploring London, I capitalised on my proximity to Europe, travelling to Krakow, Vienna, Budapest and Bratislava during my stay.

Alexandra Colalillo: I was extremely fortunate to meet Christina Hayek, the daughter of the inspirational figure and Nobel Prize-winning economist Friedrich Hayek. Usually, such economists are only mentioned in university texts books, so it was a pleasure to gain insight into the workings of her father first-hand! After all, Hayek was a primary motivator of the establishment of the IEA, an organisation that engages in research and reaches intellectuals with reasoned argument.

A second stand-out moment was attending a panel debate, which coincided with the publication of the IEA’s new monograph, *Brexit: Directions for Britain outside the European Union*. Panellists included Dr Gerard Lyons, Chief Economic Advisor to the Mayor of London; Douglas Carswell, UKIP MP for Clacton; Ronald Stewart-Brown, Director of the Trade Policy Research Centre; David Campbell-Bannerman, Conservative MEP for the East of England; and Mark Littlewood, Director General of the IEA. The discussion concerned Britain’s membership of the EU, and possible directions should they decide to leave. In this book, former Minister Denis MacShane explores the history of Britain’s troubled relationship with Europe, looking at key issues of immigration, the economy and media influence, which have heightened Eurosceptic feeling in the UK. As one of the biggest current political issues, this book should be on everyone’s essential reading list as Britain makes its choice on Europe. It was fascinating to sit in a room surrounded by such important leading figures!



Atlas Network – Washington DC



Emma Dyce

“Opportunities”

If I had to use one word to describe my Atlas experience, it would be “opportunities”. Through the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation and the Atlas Network I was gifted an incredible world of endless opportunities to learn, to experience, and to grow.

I loved every day in the Atlas office, working with a team of people who wholeheartedly believe in libertarian ideals and are dedicated to sharing those values with the world. The staff would take time to talk with me about their work and share their projects on topics such as free trade in India, the Greek economic and political struggles and the effectiveness of think-tanks. The international nature of the office also meant everyone loved to share and compare cultures, so whilst we taught them about life in Australia, they taught us about life in America, France, Brazil, Ecuador and China, to name a few.

I was also given incredible freedom to explore the unique city that is Washington DC. Nowhere else would I be able to visit the Lincoln Memorial on my lunch break, or read the morning news headlines about CIA reports being declassified for the Government only to be in the Capitol hours later and see the actual documents, at the same time gaining invaluable technical and practical research skills working remotely for the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies.

Educational opportunities like the Cato intern lecture series, Brookings Institute talks, and Leadership Institute courses gave me direct contact with international experts and I built up a network of contacts working in government, economics, academia, and not-for-profits. Dr Tom G Palmer was particularly impressive and an inspiration to me. His seminar on the philosophies of John Locke and the influence they had on the original draft of the Declaration of Independence provoked an intelligent debate and thoughtful discussion amongst the Cato/Atlas intern class and was an experience I will always remember.

My mind has been opened to a whole new way of viewing the world. I have been taught to think and act independently, I am more confident in my opinions and abilities, and I was able to learn from some of the best in the world. I am truly grateful to Mannkal for this life-changing experience.



“This scholarship had so much to offer from attending events with prominent speakers, to the Washington DC Car Show.... All in all, I met some terrific people, worked on a project that enhanced my skillset and had a fantastic time.”

— **Conor Ransome**

More Snippets from North America ...

"Driving into cold Ottawa on the night of 3 January, I knew that this internship would be like nothing I had ever experienced. Snow whipped around the corner of the low, stately buildings, our windscreen was frozen opaque and there was not a single person in sight. I could already feel my excitement growing and was looking forward to immersing myself in this new city and exploring all of the opportunities that the snowy capital of Canada had to offer."

— **Isabella Hancock**, Institute for Liberal Studies, Ottawa



"Interning at the Foundation for Economic Education (FEE) over my summer break completely challenged everything I had been taught about economics. The highlight of my experience was learning about Austrian economics, a stream of economics that is not taught in Australian high schools or universities. Through helping to develop a curriculum for high school students on entrepreneurship, economics and the ethical principles of a free market, I learnt so much more about economic history and economists that developed some of the key economic concepts that are so relevant today. I was able to read and learn about the contribution from economists such as Ludwig Von Mises, Friedrich Hayek, Joseph Schumpeter and Frederic Bastiat – important economists whose ideas or names have never once been mentioned in my four years of studying economics."

— **Ruby Clohessy**, Foundation for Economic Education, Atlanta

"My Scholarship provided rewarding opportunities to attend educational talks and seminars throughout Canada and America. The most poignant of these was being part of an intimate talk with Jang Jin-sung, a former propaganda poet for the North Korean dictator, Kim Jong-il. After defecting in 2004, Jang Jin-sung has now dedicated himself to raising awareness and promoting the discussion of human rights issues in North Korea and beyond. He believes that the current North Korean regime will fall in the next five to seven years; a result of the growing proliferation of markets loosening the influence of the government's power over the people of North Korea."

— **Samuel Kitchen**, Canadian Taxpayers Association



"In one weekend I got to personally meet Ron Paul, listen to a webcam address from Edward Snowden and explore all the sights of Washington DC. When completing my semester two exams I could have never imagined I would have these opportunities, but thanks to a Mannkal Scholarship, I got to experience this and more!"

— **Sean Taggart**, Fraser Institute, Vancouver

"In the 100 days I spent in North America, I've heard the stories of many, not only sharing the message of liberty and freedom, but of tales of human growth, persistence, heroism and compassion. In reflection of my time here, I can honestly say that Mannkal has allowed me the freedom to grow through education, experience and generosity."

— **Tim Goodier**, Atlantic Institute for Market Studies, Halifax



Lion Rock Institute – Hong Kong



Tom Ledger: I nervously sat in my leather seat and turned up the volume of the English interpreter booming through my headphones. That was better. The fast-paced Cantonese being heard by the Chairman of the Legislative Council slid into the background. Now I could hear in English, “The third runway ... will undoubtedly ... create loss of life for the dolphins ... an important part of Hong Kong tourism....”

The parliament room, full of eager academics, professionals and government representatives were clinging to every word. “Your time is up”, interrupted the Chairman.

Silence followed. I looked around to the other speakers in the parliament room. Who was next? I corrected my tie and waited for whoever was holding up proceedings. A heart-stopping realisation hit me when I fixed eyes with the Chairman, who was staring directly at me.

Somewhat blushing, I stood up, took a deep breath and began my speech. I had prepared this speech for weeks, with strong research and careful consideration. The third runway debate had divided the city, and had dominated news outlets. Do they or don't they add another runway? The continued expansion of Hong Kong as a global centre demanded one, but the financial burden on taxpayers – coupled with the inevitable destruction of the Chinese white dolphin – created the perfect rebuttal for anti-government supporters and greens advocates. Of course, the libertarian approach from Lion Rock ensured we were promoting the funding of a third runway – just not with government funding. Too many times had Hong Kong seen a government project blow into yet another “white elephant”.

Before I knew it, my three minutes were over. The opportunity to speak on behalf of the Lion Rock Institute at the Hong Kong Legislative Council on a real-life policy debate was undoubtedly a highlight for me. The

preceding weeks of research and intellectual discussion with Research Director Peter Wong were invaluable, and were something that could not be attained elsewhere. Just a few days earlier, I was dining in the prestigious Foreign Correspondents Club with Peter and his associates, and I learnt just as much in these informal settings as I did in the office.

Equally, I felt privileged to later attend the Asia Liberty Forum, working at the Samridhi Foundation on behalf of Mannkal. This forum was held in Nepal from January 8–10, and attracted the very best libertarian minds from around the world in a convergence of ideas, tributes and friendship. I was lucky enough to listen to the likes of libertarian legend Dr Tom Palmer speak on the values of Austrian Economics, and join in on discussions regarding how libertarianism can actually drag people out of poverty.



The backdrop of beautiful, but poverty-ridden Kathmandu provided the perfect setting for any discussion on policies that actually improved people's lives. I was responsible for drafting up key policy recommendations, such as providing education subsidies for parents in Nepal, and I reflect on how unique and rewarding this experience was. I left Nepal with the satisfying realisation that, although it was ever so small, I had contributed to making a difference.

New Zealand Initiative – New Zealand



Mark Maciolek: Friedrich Hayek once famously said, “the mind cannot foresee its own advance”. As I reflect on my time at The New Zealand Initiative, I realise that Hayek's vision is right. Beginning the journey, I underestimated the power of thought and ideas, often believing that I was a student, so who would really listen to my ideas? I was completely wrong. Through the generosity of Ron Manners and the entire team at the Mannkal

Economic Education Foundation, this scholarship, provided me with the ability to contribute to the forefront of economic research in New Zealand... and people listened.



Institute of Public Affairs – Melbourne



Michael Petrut: When I first applied to Mannkal for a scholarship, I wrote in the covering letter that I wanted to intern at the IPA, because they were one of the few think-tanks promoting and advancing classical liberalism, while at the same time holding the Liberal Party to account for their compromises. As IPA director John Roskam brilliantly noted at the Australian Taxpayers Alliance event “Lessons From The Victorian Election”, the Liberal Party needs to stand for something – its founding values – and stop toeing the line of political mediocrity. He went on to make the most important note of all (in my opinion), that the Liberal Party was fighting a public spending war

against the Labor Party that it was (and is) never going to win.

Thanks to Mannkal I was given the opportunity to see the inner workings and operations of the IPA, an organisation I have long admired and followed. I was able to conduct research for some of my favourite columnists and writers, as well as produce my own submission to a Senate Select Committee on behalf of the Institute. Working in a free-market think-tank gave me a richer appreciation for the values of free markets, individual liberty and natural rights. I am certain that these ideas and values would disappear from Australian political discourse without the hard work of Mannkal and organisations like the IPA.



Menzies Research Centre – Canberra



Anjali Chopra: My internship was the first time I was away from family and friends for such a long period. It was short compared to the internships of other scholars but it was still a challenge for me – a challenge I was quite happy to accept and I am glad that I did. Canberra is a well-planned and liveable place with many exciting and educational things to see. My time at the Menzies Research Centre (MRC) was an interesting and fruitful experience. In my time there, I met many friendly people and learnt about the inner workings of a think-tank through immersing myself in the important work that they do.

The Menzies Research Centre is an independent think-tank that creates and publishes works on conservatism and libertarianism. Headed by Executive Director Nick Cater and Deputy Director Kay Gilchrist, I found the organisation to be open and welcoming. I was exposed to the many facets of the libertarian notion and gained a greater understanding of political ideas and the best ways of delivering those ideas to capture and persuade the public. It was a privilege to be part of a team that helps create ideas to better serve the libertarian notion.

Alex Scaife: Being introduced to the inner workings of think-tanks was a major experience of my internship. I was able to sit in on meetings with high-level politicians and policy advisers that determine and shape public policy. In particular, I experienced how Liberal philosophy such as limited government under the rule of law and the promotion of civil liberties is translated into public policy. The MRC held an event, attended by the Finance Minister Mathias Cormann, to launch a paper detailing how the conservative government in New Zealand has reformed its economy by shrinking the size of government. Senator Cormann spoke about the need for reform in Australia and how the New Zealand model could be applied in Australia. If Australia does not reform, it risks falling behind other countries and although reform takes time and is politically difficult, it is worth it in the long run.





**Economic Freedom of
the World Index**

**Mont Pelerin Society
Conference**



**Year Ahead
Event**

**Mannkal
Events**



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& much more...



Year Ahead Event, March 2015



Left to right: Ruby Clohessy, Sean Taggart, Alexandra Colalillo, Isabella Hancock, Lauren Tait, Tim Goodier, Anjali Chopra, Mark Maciolek, Ron Manners, Paul McCarthy, Angelyn Seen, Samuel Kitchen, Rebecca Lawrence, Alexander Scaife, Becky Vidler, Tom Ledger, Conor Ransome and Michael Petrut.

In early March, Mannkal hosted its annual Year Ahead Event. This event is an opportunity for Mannkal to celebrate the successes of the past year, recognise avenues for progress in the future and welcome home its 18 scholars who interned at economic think-tanks around the globe over the December 2014 to February 2015 period. Mannkal scholars took to the

stage providing informative speeches and captivating videos. The night also allows Mannkal to thank its ever-expanding base of Ambassadors and Donors who continue to provide much-needed support to Mannkal's scholarship programme. The night was a roaring success paving the way for Mannkal's successful year ahead!

Freedom of the World Index, October 2014



Kate Fitzgerald and Thiago Brandao



Paul McCarthy and Fred McMahon



Mukuka Kasonde

Mannkal, in conjunction with the Institute of Public Affairs, hosted the Perth launch of the Freedom of the World Index in October last year. The Economic Freedom of the World Index measures the degree to which the policies and institutions of countries are supportive of economic freedom. Mannkal scholar Thiago Brandao introduced the evening with a first-hand account of interning at the Fraser Institute. He was followed by another Mannkal scholar, Makuka Kasonde, who provided an intriguing insight into the

gradual development of economic freedom in Zambia.

Fred McMahon, Fraser Institute Resident Fellow and Manager of the World Project, was the keynote speaker for the event. To appeal to a largely youthful audience, Mr McMahon employed graphics to show correlations between economic freedom and civil rights, literacy and even happiness (life satisfaction). The highlight of the evening was the recognition of Western Australia as the third-most economically free place in the world!

Mont Pelerin Society General Meeting

August–September 2014

"Imagine a week full of networking events with prominent intellectuals and businesspeople from around the world. Couple this with engaging lectures by some of the brightest minds in academia, politics and commerce. This is exactly what my time at the Mont Pelerin Society Conference entailed, each day being equally informative and interesting."

— **Arohi Kaila**

"Having dinner alongside a mining magnate, the chairman of a prominent think-tank, a famous TV presenter and an ex-CIA agent while overlooking Hong Kong was definitely a pinch-me moment. Such was a typical evening at the Mont Pelerin Society General Meeting. I was exposed to a network rich in knowledge and influence, including a plethora of world-class academics, Nobel Laureates and senior political figures."

— **Matthew Bunny**



Vaclav Klaus

"I hope we feel the enormous responsibility to continue fighting for freedom, democracy and classical liberal ideas to keep the legacy of the founding fathers of our society alive."

This sentence in Vaclav Klaus's introduction outlined a prevalent theme in his lunchtime address to the Mont Pelerin Society; that of frustration at the current state of liberal ideas. Klaus has been a member of the society for a quarter of a century. He recalled his first meeting since the dissolution of the Soviet Union:

"I remember the atmosphere of victory, which prevailed at the first Mont Pelerin Society meeting after the fall of communism."

Since then, Klaus has seen the Czech Republic through its transition from communism to capitalism, from a closed collectivist state to an open liberal state and to Klaus's disdain, from the Soviet Union to the European Union.

"The main threats [to liberty] these days are the accelerating shifts to transnationalism and global governance."

Klaus is of the view that a more distant and central power causes a much more untouchable and undemocratic state. He believes in the preservation of the nation-state, not as "a sanctuary of nationalism and a fertile

land for wars and hatred among nations" but instead to re-establish real citizenship. With this he believes "responsible citizens anchored in domestic realities" will ensure democracy and liberty.

Undoubtedly Klaus's view is based on his country's experience of decades under the control of the Soviet

Union, which gives him a cautious approach on distant rule. This doesn't detract from the relevance of his thinking, as we can see its significance with protests over Chinese rule in Hong Kong and current debates over the independence of Scotland from the umbrella of British rule in the UK. With this in mind, what implications should Klaus's argument have on our views on the current growth of the European Union? Thinking locally, to what extent can this narrative be applied to Western Australia's relationship with the Federal Government?



— **Alexander Dixon**

Free Speech 2014 Symposium

August 2014

On 7 August 2014, the Australian Human Rights Commission hosted a one-day symposium on the issue of free speech. Mannkal was pleased to send Lyndsay Barrett to attend the symposium.

Does Defamation Law Deserve Ridicule?

Lyndsay Barrett

Australia is seeing a gradual erosion of freedom of speech, the causes of which are varied and often done under the pretences of good intentions or security concerns. As such, the Australian Human Rights Commission's Free Speech 2014 Symposium sparked academic debate across a range of issues pertaining to free speech in Australia. The symposium gathered leading experts in the field who examined the history, symptoms, causes and unintended consequences of this assault, and highlighted remedies available to policy makers and the broader public to protect the free speech, which is a cardinal tenet of every democratic society.

One of the speakers concerned with ameliorating unreasonable encroachments on free speech was Dr Roy Baker.



Left to Right: Brigadier Jim Wallace AM, Senator David Leyonhjelm, Dr Augusto Zimmermann, Lyndsay Barrett

Dr Baker is a lecturer at Macquarie School of Law. His primary fields of teaching are Australian, International and European law and jurisprudence. On the topic of "accommodating rights to free speech", Dr Baker presented a speech entitled "Does defamation law deserve ridicule?"

Defamation law is faced with the arduous task of balancing the competing interest of protecting reputation with protecting the right to freedom of expression. Under Australia's current defamation laws, a defendant's right to defend himself or herself is severely limited because the tests for establishing defamatory conduct are objective and motive is irrelevant.

So does it proceed that defamation law is deserving of ridicule? For Dr Baker, "the traditional common law cause of action doesn't deserve ridicule, but deserves heavy reform".

In Australia, the notion of reforming established common law is sporadic practice. Dr Baker claims that Australia stands alone on its faithfulness to what is arguably no longer "good law", with most common law jurisdictions having already "seen the need to heavily reform the common law" in order to "meet the requirements of the Constitution or international obligations".

Dr Baker proposed a number of reforms, which would "vastly simplify defamation law". These were based quite substantially on the United Kingdom's approach to defamation law, and include:

- **Repealing the "single meaning rule"** – because "reasonable minds can vary as to what publications mean";
- **Inserting a right of clarification;**
- **Inserting a right to correction of innocent mistakes;**
- **Inserting a public interest defence** – similar to s 4 of the Defamation Act 2013 (UK);
- **Introducing a single publication rule;**
- **Removing trial by jury;** and
- **Reintroducing a limited right for corporations to sue** – where there has been reputational damage to a corporation's "dignity rights".

The object of Dr Baker's proposals is to protect our inalienable right to free speech, and to subsequently limit the prominence of full-scale litigation in defamation cases. At the heart of these reforms Dr Baker advocated for a "discursive remedy, whereby speech becomes the remedy to harmful speech".

I would like to thank Ron Manners, Becky Vidler and the team at Mannkal for giving me the opportunity to attend the Free Speech 2014 Symposium. It was an enlightening event and a truly fantastic experience. I have now become much more aware of the ongoing threats to freedom of speech in Australia, as well as the need for us to protect this basic right of Australian citizens.



Apply Now!

Mannkal is pleased to announce that it is offering a wide range of international scholarships over the 2015 university winter break and the 2015–16 university summer break.

All scholarships are financially supported through the Mannkal Scholarship Programme.

To apply for scholarships at one of the destinations listed below, please email your resume, statement of academic record and a one-page cover letter detailing why you are the ideal candidate for a Mannkal scholarship to scholars@mankal.org

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES TO:



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9 x Friedman Conference Scholarships

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20 x Freedom to Choose Scholarships

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10 x Samuel Griffith Society Scholarships

30 x Freedom of the World Index Scholarships

2014 41 Scholarships

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2012 13 Scholarships

Mannkal Scholarships will reach a record high in 2015

Mannkal works with universities and institutions to support:

- **Events** that allow individuals to exchange ideas defending free markets.
- **Seminars and student scholarships** to promote the greater understanding of the concepts that underpin free societies.
- **Policy papers** on relevant topics pertaining to Western Australia.

