

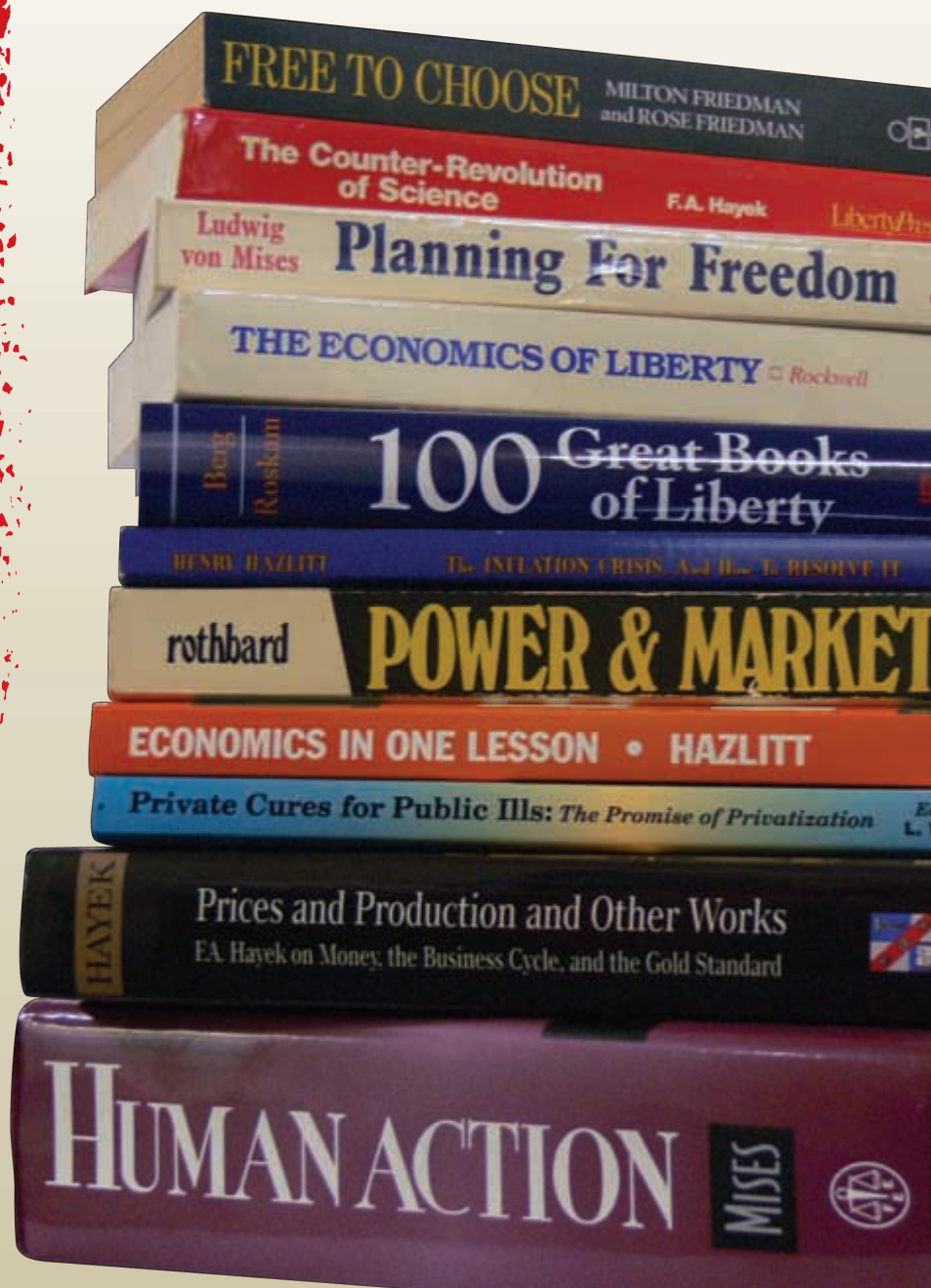
Mannkal's Musings*

MANNKAL FOUNDATION'S
YEAR IN REVIEW

2010

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Upcoming Events

We have an exciting schedule for the latter half of 2010 as Mannkal plays host to a number of prominent international scholars who will be speaking on a range of important issues.

For more details or to confirm a booking for any of these events, please contact Jessica Pandal, Jessica@mannkal.org.

Frank Furedi
July 20, 2010

Johan Norberg
August 5, 2010

The Sun Rises in the West
October 7–8, 2010

Frank Furedi Public Lunch



At this public luncheon, Mannkal will present a highly sought-after commentator and the most widely cited sociologist in the UK press.

Frank Furedi is author of several books on risk aversion in Western societies, most recently *Wasted: Why Education is not Educating*. "The European Lessons for Australia" will be presented in Perth at the Hyatt on Tuesday, 20 July, 2010.

Johan Norberg Public Lunch

Providing a fresh and insightful look at the role of markets and society, this luncheon will give the public the opportunity to hear from young, emerging, Swedish scholar, Johan Norberg.



Author of *In Defense of Global Capitalism*, and the 2009 book, *Financial Fiasco: How America's Infatuation with Home Ownership and Easy Money Created the Economic Crisis*, Johan Norberg will be presenting in Perth at the Hyatt on Thursday, 5 August, 2010.

The Sun Rises in the West

Mannkal is sponsoring an annual, international conference based in Western Australia which focuses on Australia's inheritance, derived from what is known as Western Civilisation.

For the inaugural 2010 conference, Mannkal has partnered with Professor Gabriël A. Moens, Dean of Law, Murdoch Law School; Dr. Augusto Zimmermann, Lecturer, Murdoch Law School; and the International Trade and Business Law Review. The conference will examine the unique traditions of individual liberty and government under the Rule of Law, titled: "Governance and Commercial Structures: Foundations of Western Law and Liberty."

The Conference is to take place on Friday, 8 October, 2010, at the Hyatt in Perth with an optional lunch and a resources industry presentation on Thursday, 7 October. A full program of speakers will be available shortly on the Mannkal website.

"Brown-Bag" Boardroom Lunches

Throughout the year a number of noted individuals visiting the West come in to the Mannkal boardroom for a light lunch and an informal discussion with a small group of invited guests.

We have decided to make these a more regular occurrence but please note that these opportunities fill quickly as the capacity is limited.

2010

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Reflecting on a Great Mannkal Year



I have pleasure in submitting this review of the Mannkal Foundation's activities for the Financial Year.

This report has been designed and compiled by Mannkal's Luke McGrath, after extracting information from other members of our team: Jess Pandal,

Andrew Pickford and Emma Crisp. Luke now heads off to the U.S.A. for 12 months, having received a Neville Kennard Scholarship to spend time at the Mises Institute and other economic Think Tanks.

We wish Luke well in his adventures and look forward to his ongoing input.

The strategic additions to our Mannkal Team have enabled us to expand our range of activities with Western Australian Scholars (from all W.A. universities) and to increase the frequency of Public Lunches and Brown-Bag Boardroom Lunches.

Our expansion has created more workload for my valued co-board members John Hyde and John Corser, who continue to bring their much appreciated wisdom and balance to our organisation.

This is also an opportunity to mention how much we appreciate working with our various partners, in the form of Universities and related Think Tanks.

A Giant Game of 'Pass-the-Parcel'

We encourage our growing numbers of Mannkal Scholars to accept government announcements 'with a grain of salt.'

An example?

'Australia was lucky, because of our Federal Government's stimulus policies; we escaped the Global Financial Crisis.'

Wouldn't we be fortunate if that is true?

This whole Global Financial Crisis can be likened to a 'pass-the-parcel' game with whoever gets 'stuck' with the parcel, when the music stops, simply 'going down the gurgler.'

Defective parcels of financial derivatives originated on Wall Street and were sold off—with a straight

face—all around the world.

These 'ticking time bombs' have brought undone countless companies, countries and individuals.

So, here we are in Australia, having 'escaped' the Global Financial Crisis but ending up with the highest level of household debt in the world.¹

Sounds as though the 'parcel has been passed' to Australia's households in the guise of sending us on a spending spree to 'save the economy'.

So, the moral of the story is simply to make sure that your 'Life's Little Instruction Book' is written by more reliable sources than those who give you the 'daily political spin.'

On a happier note, it is with much appreciated encouragement from so many of you on our e-mail contact list² that we are continuing to expand our program of bringing the 'Adventure of Ideas' to the wide range of generations who populate our list.

Thank you for your comments and encouragement which has resulted in an active program of future events (see facing page for details). Please feel free to forward on the details to friends and colleagues if you think they may be interested.

Your enthusiastic feedback has also resulted in improvements to our *Freedom Focus*³ e-newsletter which will be dispatched fortnightly instead of monthly.

We welcome your ongoing involvement and input.

Ron Manners
Chairman,
Mannkal Economic Education Foundation

¹ Australia has the highest household debt to disposable income ratio in the world (Australian Bureau of Statistics).

² Easy to get onto our emailing list, simply by clicking on: <http://www.mannkal.org/subscribe.php>

³ Mannerisms (Freedom Focus): <http://www.mannkal.org/mannerisms/>

2010

ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Mannkal welcomes Bill Stacey, Mac Nichols and Paul McCarthy to our Advisory Council. The purpose of this newly established committee is to provide guidance and support in our various activities with a focus on events and content.



Bill Stacey is the Chairman of Hong Kong's leading free-market Think Tank, the Lion Rock Institute. He is on the Advisory Council of the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation and has been involved in financial-market reform for the past 25 years as an executive with leading financial institutions in Asia and globally. Bill has led restructuring initiatives, conducted strategic assessments and provided input to reform proposals. As a senior equity analyst with Credit Suisse, he led research on the three largest China financial-sector IPOs and is a leading commentator on the financial systems in the region. Bill is currently Managing Director and head of the Asia equities business of Keefe Bruyette and Woods, a specialist financial services investment bank.

Mac Nichols earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mining Engineering from the University of Idaho in 1996. Since then he has pursued a range of business, information technology and economic geologic interests and is currently the Managing Director of an Engineering Consultancy in addition to being a member of the Society for Mining Metallurgy and Exploration. Mac has worked in the exploration, mining and mine services industries and has been involved with Mannkal since inception, albeit in a peripheral manner. He has lived and worked in Australia, the USA, and Papua New Guinea.



Paul McCarthy earned his Bachelor of Economics degree from the University of Western Australia in 2003 and his Master of Commerce (Finance) from UWA in 2006. A proven successful energy trader, Paul has played a central role in the procurement of over \$15 billion of electricity supply. He was a Commonwealth Government Election Campaign Manager in 2004 tasked with project management logistics and marketing for the seat of Perth where he was instrumental in achieving a swing of 4.5%. As a dual citizen of both Ireland and Australia, Paul is now locating to London to pursue career objectives.

RON IS APPOINTED TO THE ATLAS BOARD OF OVERSEERS

2010



(L-R) Brad Lips, CEO of Atlas Economic Research Foundation; Ron Manners; Alex Chafuen, President of Atlas Economic Research Foundation.

In May 2010, Ron was appointed to the Board of Overseers for the Atlas Economic Research Foundation in Washington, DC.

For more information about the important role that Atlas has played—and continues to play—in the world of ideas, be sure to check out their new website at: www.atlasnetwork.org

Ron can be followed online on Facebook and these related websites:

www.mannkal.org

www.mannwest.com

www.HeroicMisadventures.com



On Friday, April 9 2010, approximately one hundred people gathered at the UWA Club for the second annual Freedom Factory event—Mannkal's flagship program for introducing students and professionals to the ideas of personal and economic liberty.

The theme for 2010 was *Where to From Here? Economic Survival Post-GFC: The Individual, the State and the Nation*. The day featured a number of speakers who covered many important topics relating to political philosophy, economics and current affairs.

Featured speakers included author and financial commentator, Dan Denning; MP for Stirling and Shadow Minister for Justice, Customs and Border Protection, Michael Keenan; Member for Victoria Park, Shadow Treasurer and Shadow Minister for Federal State Relations, Ben Wyatt MLA; Director in Deloitte's Economics Practice in Canberra and ANU lecturer, Dr. Alex Robson; Thought Broker Events and Publicity founders, Parnell McGuinness and Leonie Phillips; Mannkal Fellow, Luke McGrath; and political satirist and comedy-writer, Benjamin Marks.



Michael Keenan spoke on the challenges of maintaining one's principles in the political arena.

The event was divided into three sessions and covered the notion of the individual and the individual's relation to government, challenges for Western Australia and the future direction of Australia.

Many challenging, interesting and important ideas were raised throughout the various talks which were then discussed (often quite energetically!) over food and drinks during the tea breaks. What should the role of government be in a free society? How much freedom is possible? How do we distinguish between just laws and

unjust laws? Where do we think Australia and the world are headed after the GFC? Is the GFC even over?



Leonie Phillips and Parnell McGuinness discussed how the individual can flourish in contemporary Australia.

Not surprisingly, many of these questions remained unresolved but people undoubtedly came away with a number of fresh new perspectives. The opportunity to meet and discuss with others who are similarly keen to think seriously about such matters is certainly one of the added bonuses for those who attended Freedom Factory.



Attendees enjoyed vigorous debate over lunch.

After a day of presentations, discussions and panel Q & As, the conference attendees and speakers gathered for a sundowner before enjoying an undeniably appetizing three course meal.

During dinner Benjamin Marks gave a very learned and provocative speech on electoral reform. This was not the banal type of discussion that is typically had on such a subject. Rather, Benjamin exposed the many different fallacies used by political apologists and made fun of them by proposing some very radical—yet very reasonable—things.



Benjamin Marks gave a sardonic speech on electoral reform.

Why, for example, do we not elect politicians the same way we elect juries, that is, by selecting individuals at random? Surely that would be more democratic? And think of all the money that would be saved from electoral campaigning! Other proposals broached included extending the franchise to the very young and allowing the dead to be eligible for office, with Benjamin supporting his various suggestions with in-context quotes that included everyone from Aristotle, Hayek, Rawls and Smith to Nock, Mencken, Chesterton and Nietzsche.

Overall, it appeared that everyone had an enjoyable afternoon and evening. Mannkal hopes all attendees of this year's Freedom Factory profited from the event and we look forward to putting on another great Freedom Factory next year.

“Freedom Factory was a wonderful experience. I found there to be just the right balance of economics and politics to give a broad and intriguing background to the concept of liberalism. The speakers covered a great range of topics, with different levels of entertainment and plenty of food for thought. I found that I was able to acknowledge the varying degrees of liberalism, recognising some views as aligned with my way own of thinking, and having the opportunity to critically analyse other viewpoints.”

Michelle Jack

“I was very impressed with the Freedom Factory event, it provided an informative and well rounded discussion on liberalism from a magnificent background of people. The way in which the event was held, with the afternoon tea breaks and dinner was the icing on the cake. I'll definitely be attending next year.”

Chris Chesky

“I enjoyed Ben Wyatt and Michael Keenan's discussions as Freedom Factory enabled them to discuss matters openly, without being torn along partisan lines. To me, this is the essence of what Freedom Factory stands for; an opportunity to share ideas in an unfettered manner with like minded individuals. The conference is a must see for anyone interested in libertarian thinking, or just keen to see a different perspective on our political, legal and economic system.”

James Parkinson



Discussions of the day continued over dinner.

Powerpoint slides and various transcripts from Freedom Factory 2010 are available online at:

<http://www.mannkal.org/downloads/freedomfactory2010.pdf>

Freedom Factory is going to be held on April 28, 2011

Please hold that date in your diary and check www.freedomfactory.org.au for updates. For any other enquiries about Freedom Factory please contact Jessica@mannkal.org.

Overseas Internships

For the past two years, Mannkal has sent Western Australian students to various free market Think Tanks located all around the world. In 2010, Tahlia Maslin and Shane Lively were given the opportunity to experience the liberty movement in Canada and Hong Kong respectively, and they recount their time overseas below.

Tahlia Maslin – Frontier Centre for Public Policy

I was fortunate enough to be the recipient of a Mannkal scholarship to spend two months in Canada as a policy intern at the Frontier Centre for Public Policy. The Frontier Centre is an independent, western Canada based public policy “Think Tank” with offices in Winnipeg, Regina and Calgary.

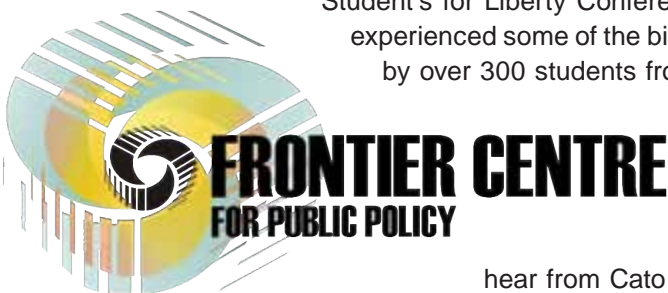
Living in the prairies in Canada was a unique experience in itself, with temperatures often dropping to -28 degrees Celsius with the occasional blizzard. I had the chance to encounter many uniquely Canadian experiences such as ice skating on the world’s longest natural frozen trail, watching the National Curling Championships and ice hockey matches, and generally getting caught up in the hype of the Winter Olympics.

The main project I worked on while at the Centre was the Euro-Canadian Consumer Health Care Index. I compiled the Australian data to add to the index to provide a comparison between Australia, Canada and thirty European countries. Consumer choice is one of the key indicators of a good health care system, so consumer friendliness is a good indicator of how well a health care system is actually working. According to the index, Australia sits about two-thirds of the way down the index, somewhere in between England and Slovenia, suggesting that while we aren’t terrible, we certainly have some work to do before our healthcare system is up to the same standard as countries such as the Netherlands and Germany.



Tahlia Maslin enjoyed the Canadian winter while undertaking her internship!

One of the highlights of my trip was spending the weekend in Washington DC to attend the annual International Student’s for Liberty Conference. Despite being held two days after Washington had experienced some of the biggest snow storms in history, the Conference was attended by over 300 students from all over the world to explore the concepts of individual freedom. Cancelled flights and closed roads proved no obstacle to liberty! It was a great opportunity to be exposed to the libertarian movement in the US and to meet passionate and intelligent students from all over the world. Some of the highlights included a chance to hear from Cato Institute founder, Ed Crane, and former Governor of New Mexico and a long-time advocate of liberty, Gary Johnson.



All in all, my Canadian experience was certainly a once in a lifetime opportunity that I will always remember. Not only did I gain a far greater understanding of the concept of liberty and its application to public policy, but I had a fantastic time and met many wonderful people who I’m sure I will see again one day.

Overseas Internships

Shane Lively – Lion Rock Institute

In January this year, I was awarded Mannkal Economic Education Foundation's scholarship prize to intern at the Lion Rock Institute in Hong Kong.

Like most people who have an affiliation with Mannkal, I consider myself a libertarian who believes that the role of government is to uphold the rights of the individual to pursue his or her own destiny with minimal government intervention in the form of coercion whether it be through the coercive means of high taxes or a police state that seeks to nanny its citizenry. Prior to the commencement of my internship I had just completed my BA in Politics and International Studies, also majoring in Criminology.



Shane Lively discussed his time abroad at the Mannkal Year Ahead cocktail party in March.

Hong Kong has for some time been regarded as the freest economy in the world as confirmed by its status as number one in the Heritage Foundation's 2010 index of economic freedom. As well as the obvious excitement of experiencing a different culture, I enjoyed being given the opportunity to experience

living in the world's freest economy and to see how the libertarian principles of low taxes and minimal government actually worked in daily life in this city.

During my time in Hong Kong there were a number of policy issues that were high on the news agenda that were of interest to the Lion Rock Institute and to myself. Namely, the construction of a high speed rail line linking Hong Kong to the mainland but displacing villagers nearby, universal suffrage, the proposed implementation of a minimum wage (such a thing doesn't exist in Hong Kong) and proposed options for the reform of the healthcare system.

One thing I learned while in Hong Kong was that the people living in the freest economy in the world did not have a particular individual or cultural commitment to individual freedom. Rather, their democratic system was limited by the enfranchisement of industry groups to have their own seats in the legislature labelled 'functional constituencies' and the limitations that a low taxing government has on social policies like subsidies and other entitlements.

I found Hong Kong to be paradoxical in that while people generally regarded their democratic process to be unrepresentative (I actually got to see a protest outside the Legislative Council where demonstrators were objecting to the displacement of villagers in the new territories in favour of a high speed rail link), it was actually this system of government that enabled people in Hong Kong to pay less tax and enjoy more economic and personal freedom than their mainland counterparts. A very real example of this was when I walked through the centre of town on a Sunday seeing hordes of Filipino women talking, sitting down and chatting to their friends in the streets. I later learned that all of these women were domestic servants who would likely face an uncertain future if a minimum wage was enacted.

During my time at Lion Rock, myself and another intern wrote news summaries of relevant news articles, conducted research on the different models proposed during the healthcare reform consultative process, attended tutorials aimed at teaching us how to write

獅子山學會

The Lion Rock Institute

convincingly in favour of free market reforms and attended their monthly happy hour where I got to meet and talk to Neville Kennard, an influential supporter of the Centre for Independent Studies in Sydney, among other scholars associated with Lion Rock.

Although I was working for the majority of the week, I was given more than enough time to explore local museums, markets, the Big Buddha on Lantau Island and, of course, go to dim sum restaurants.

I was still learning about the Hong Kong healthcare system when I left but, from what I have read and learned so far, Hong Kong and Australia have by international standards very good healthcare systems. I don't necessarily believe that healthcare is 'broken' in either country, but the healthcare debate should not be about changing the physical structure of either system. Rather, we should be having a debate about how our resources should be more efficiently allocated and how we can create greater choice, competition and cost effectiveness by engaging both public and private healthcare providers in those areas where inefficiencies do exist.

My time in Hong Kong has provided me with an experience of a different culture, an opportunity to experience how a Think Tank operates and a greater understanding of how libertarian principles interact with public policy. I also learned a lot about Asian politics, something I had previously no prior knowledge about. Most importantly, however, my time in Hong Kong has given me the opportunity to network and build contacts with people who mentored me and who I intend on keeping in touch with in the future. My time in Hong Kong has also led me to consider what other career or educational opportunities are available in Asia if I wish to pursue them.

I'd like to thank Ron Manners and the Mannkal Economic Education Foundation for providing me with this opportunity and for their interest in individuals like myself.

Opportunities for Students

Mannkal promotes student scholarships and various awards to promote the greater understanding of the concepts which underpin free societies. These scholarships and awards are to students from Western Australian universities as well as exceptional students from other Australian universities.

Samuel Griffiths Society Conference

The Samuel Griffiths Society is committed to the upholding of the Australian Constitution and their prime role is to ensure that proposals to change the Australian Constitution will be subjected to the most intense scrutiny.

In 2009, Mannkal sent three students, James Parkinson, Zach Cole and Claire Vinten to the annual conference held in Adelaide. The central theme of the 2009 Conference was the issue of enacting a Bill of Rights into the Australian political and legal system.

“ One word probably summarizes my experience at the Samuel Griffiths Society Conference quite eloquently—amazing. I had the opportunity to meet and dine with esteemed legal professionals from all walks of life; from former Justice of the High Court Ian Callinan through to the man who challenged Kevin Rudd's economic stimulus payments alone in the High Court—Brian Pape.

I would like to say that I thought it was it was an experience no law student should turn down. To be engaged with legal professionals at a social networking level but also to take part in and observe the debates about issues that are centrally relevant to today's political/legal climate are all aspects of this scholarship that appealed to me and I'm sure would appeal to students in the future. ”

James Parkinson

Opportunities for Students

“ Attending the annual Samuel Griffith Society Conference in August 2009 was an experience I will remember for a very long time. The papers presented at the Conference were both entertaining, intelligent and thought provoking. Two of the most fascinating were those by the WA and NSW Attorney-General's, who, although from different sides of the political coin, both talked so passionately against a Bill of Rights.

But unlike what I had expected, the Conference was not a place where opinions were similar. Although all members of the Society support the fundamental notion of upholding the Constitution, each speaker's paper was often hotly debated and the Q and A sessions were often a fiery encounter. This robust debate, the presentation of both arguments and the discussion between speakers was a great learning experience.

The knowledge I absorbed throughout the Conference, the people I met and the conversations and discussion had were the major benefits of the scholarship. I would encourage any student with an interest in constitutional, legal or political affairs to not only apply for this scholarship, but if they have the chance, to attend the Samuel Griffith Society Conference. As the Conference is in Western Australia next year it should be a great opportunity for more Western Australian students to attend. I can only hope that my association with the Society can continue for many years to come. ”

Zach Cole

The 2010 Samuel Griffiths Conference will be held in Perth at the Mercure on August 27–28. We will be sending three students from each Western Australian Law School. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jessica Pandal (Jessica@mannkal.org) for more details. Members of the public are also welcome to attend this event.

HR Nicholls Society Conference

The HR Nicholls Society aims to promote discussion about the operation of industrial relations in Australia, including the system of determining wages and other conditions of employment.

Their 30th annual conference, *From Plato to Julia: Australia's Workers and their Guardians*, was held in Melbourne on April 16–17. Mannkal sent Lana Robinson, a Bachelor of Arts and Commerce student from Notre Dame, to the 2010 event.

“ Attending the HR Nicholls Conference was a great opportunity as it provided me with a different, yet valuable learning experience. Being a commerce student, I had been previously exposed to various Industrial Relations issues and topics and, therefore, the Conference greatly complemented my studies.

Prior to attending the Conference, I was concerned that much of the debate and discussion would be beyond my undergraduate knowledge level. However, the issues discussed were interesting and stimulating, without being overly challenging. Most valuable was the different perspectives that were presented at the Conference, allowing me to gain a diverse appreciation of the issues relating to Industrial Relations.

In particular, the paper presented by Henry Skene was the most interesting as it provided an insight into the real implications that IR legislation holds for workplaces and employers and offered a more practical, rather than theoretical, view of IR. Being a lawyer, he shared his experiences of working within employment law, highlighting how the elements of Australia's IR legislation are practiced in reality and justified why further reform was perhaps needed. Both the people presenting at the conference and other society members were warm, welcoming and approachable, further contributing to a great experience. ”

Lana Robinson

Opportunities for Students

The University of Notre Dame Scholarship

The Mannkal Economic Education Foundation provides scholarships each year for one or two students enrolled at the Fremantle Campus of the University of Notre Dame, Australia.

The scholarship involves the recipient undertaking a Directed Research Project in an area relevant to economic and libertarian concepts and, if he or she is deemed eligible, funds their attendance to the The Centre for Independent Studies' Liberty and Society Conference in Sydney.

In 2007 Lis Costa and Alyce Casseta were awarded the scholarship and undertook a research project entitled *Heritage Listing. Who Bears the Cost?* In 2008 Jason Pasqua was awarded the scholarship, his research project

was on the *Efficient Release of Public Land in Western Australia*. In 2009 Neal Kok was awarded the scholarship, he wrote a paper entitled *Capturing the Regulator: A Case study of the Regulation of the Western Australian Gold Industry*.

This year the University of Notre Dame Scholarship has been awarded to Thomas Parker and Michelle Jack. Thomas and Michelle are both currently studying combined Law/Commerce degrees, majoring in economics. Their area of investigation is on the introduction of minimum wage laws for Aboriginal pastoral workers in the 1960s.

For more information about the scholarship, please contact Associate Professor Greg Moore (gmoore@nd.edu.au) or visit: <http://tinyurl.com/notredame2011>.



(L-R) Ron Manners, Greg Moore, Michelle Jack and Thomas Parker.

ECOMS Essay Competition

The Mannkal ECOMS Essay Competition, run in conjunction with the Economics and Commerce student society of UWA, is an annual competition that gives students the opportunity to write on a variety of free market issues.



The winning papers were chosen based on their promotion of free-market concepts coupled with how well they were researched and written.

Jess Carlon was chosen as the overall winner for 2009. Jess discussed the proven failures of Keynesian policies and asked why governments around the world expected them to be successful in saving their respective economies from deep recession.

Mannkal also selected four runner-up winners. Virginia Gogan discussed the various reasons intellectuals distrust capitalism and the history behind this development. Phillip Christopher wrote a philosophical essay on the impediments to welfare maximisation in Christian Australia and the interaction between religion and politics. Karina Travaglione outlined how legislation and regulation could result in censorship of the internet in Australia. James Crowe-Hardy wrote his essay on the historical conditions which lead to prosperity and their prevalence in the Western Australian economy.

Congratulations to all winners and thank you to all those who participated in the competition. The competition is running again this year with entries due on the 23rd of July. For essay topics, prize details and more information, please see <http://www.mannkal.org/competitions.php>.

2010

100 GREAT BOOKS OF LIBERTY
EDITED BY CHRIS BERG & JOHN
ROSKAM WITH ANDREW KEMP

100 Great Books of Liberty is a joint project of Mannkal and the Institute of Public Affairs. We have produced a comprehensive and accessible guide to the books which made liberty the most important idea of Western Civilisation.

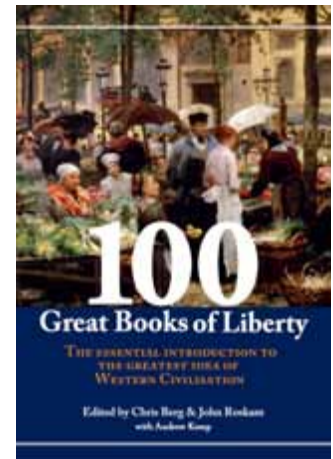
Some of the works featured include Plato's *The Republic*, *The Wealth of Nations* by Adam Smith, Ayn Rand's *The Fountainhead* and *A Clockwork Orange* by Anthony Burgess. The book was formally launched in April 2010 at the Western Australia Club in Perth by Tom Switzer, the editor of Spectator Australia and an IPA Research Fellow.

Review of 100 Great Books of Liberty

Ideas matter. For four thousand years, or rather more, most substantial groups of people were ruled by whoever controlled the weapons and whose authority was limited only by the attenuated possibility of revolt. This was better than Hobbes' war of all against all: life was less nasty, less brutish and less short than it could have been. Some authority of men who could see the big picture was needed to protect against internal and external aggression but that authority was never the most pervasive rule within successful societies. These are governed in most daily activity by a widely accepted body of ideas, a moral code, that is and was remarkably similar in all societies.

The men who could see the big picture, even if they were benign and many were not, could not, however hard they tried, see the little pictures. They could never assemble information about the preferences, aptitudes and resources of differing individual people. Nor could they enact and enforce rules that took these differences to account. By accident or design some societies experimented with top-down rule that interfered less with individual choice thus relying more on the moral code to ensure that people do not take unfair advantage of each other. These more-free societies prospered. Within them life became less nasty, less brutish and longer. From the Western World: Athens, the North Italian city states, Britain and the Low Countries offer examples.

Gradually a body of ideas concerning liberty and the proper limits of authority developed and were committed to paper. With particular emphasis upon Australia, 100 Greatest Books of Liberty offers short accounts of the essential ideas expressed by 100 authors. In spite of the dismal failure of the socialist states, the whole idea of order arising from below among relatively free people of limited knowledge is, it seems, still counter intuitive to many people. The central idea of these 100 authors matters!



To order this great book please go to www.mannwest.com/bookshop.php



Photos from the book launch in Perth on 12 April, 2010.

Ideas For A Free Society CD



Mannkal was a co-sponsor of the IPN “Ideas for a Free Society CD” project, in which 75,000 CDs were put together containing more than 100 texts on liberty and freedom.

The CD is designed for those who are interested in what the beneficial economic and political arrangements are that lead to economic growth and have the

capacity to eliminate poverty. It does not pretend to provide a definitive answer but rather to point people in the right direction. The title of the CD, “Ideas for a Free Society,” was inspired by the observation that the political and economic arrangements that seem to be most conducive to peace and prosperity are those that exist in free societies.

The contents are not intended to be a comprehensive review of the literature of the subject, which is enormous. Instead, the CD contains a selection of contributions by some of the primary scholars and thinkers who have developed ideas which relate to the free society.

Why a CD? Surely the Internet has made CDs irrelevant?

Well, if you can recall how slow and expensive internet connections were in the early 1990s, you'll have a sense of what people experience now in many poorer parts of Africa and Asia. Indeed, the speed and cost of an internet connection is more or less proportional to economic freedom – because freer countries have more competition in telecommunications. So the very places these texts are most needed are the places they are least accessible online.

Another challenge is that many influential texts are still under copyright. The Ideas for a Free Society CD contains materials by Ayn Rand, Milton and Rose Friedman, Friedrich Hayek, Julian Simon, Peter Bauer and others which the owners have very generously licensed to the IPN – but which are not (and may not be) published online.

Mannkal and the IPN have sought to disseminate these important ideals right across the world, and in February 2010 the Mannkal Foundation sent a copy to every Federal Politician, Western Australian State Politician, Western Australian High School and Local Library.

The CDs have since been distributed in almost 50 countries from Australia to Afghanistan to Tanzania and have been translated into a number of different languages.



Mannkal staff had their hands full distributing thousands of CDs all throughout WA!

The Year Ahead

In March, Mannkal held The Year Ahead annual event which brings together supporters and scholars of the Foundation, giving them the opportunity to meet and talk with one another.

This year Shane Lively and Tahlia Maslin, back from their recent sojourn overseas, presented their thoughts on the health systems in Hong Kong, Canada and Australia, and John Roskam spoke on the forthcoming publication of 100 Great Books Liberty.



(L-R) Elena Douglas, Greg Moore, Michelle Jack, Luke McFadyen.



(L-R) Tahlia Maslin, Marcus Suresh, Anne-Marie Valimaki.



(L-R) Mark Creasy, Joanne Nova, Vic Bullo, Dinny Grimwood.



(L-R) James Parkinson, Warrick Hazeldine, Thomas Parker.



(L-R) John Corser, James Basden, David Stevens, Jim Keogh.



(L-R) Ron Manners, Geoff McNeil, Dinny Grimwood.

Freedom To Choose

On Friday, July 2 2010, Mannkal held its inaugural Freedom To Choose conference at Notre Dame University in Fremantle, Western Australia. The purpose of this one-day economics event was to consider the degree to which free-market policies should be pursued in Australia.

Attended by approximately 60 students and professionals, the event featured a line-up of well-regarded economists and policy experts from both Australia and New Zealand. Though all interested parties were welcome to attend, it was specifically designed for undergraduate, honours and postgraduate students who were encouraged to interact with the guest speakers and to discuss with them the merits of pursuing higher qualifications in the discipline of economics and careers in economics more generally.

A wide range of issues and topics were covered by the speakers in their formal presentations throughout the day which included economic policy, methodology, monetary economics and liberal philosophy.

The conference culminated with a keynote address by Henry Ergas who provided the attendees with a very detailed and thorough analysis of the philosophy and strategy of the Federal Australian Labor Party. This was followed by drinks and a light supper.

The Objects of Choice: Lessons from Mickey Mouse
Jeremy Shearmur

Freedom of Choice and the Economics of the Preventative Health Taskforce Report
Alex Robson

Currency Choice: A Hayekian Perspective on International Monetary Integration
Anthony M Endres

Oceana, Utopia and Reform
William Coleman

Why Choose Economics?
Ken Clements

Why your Grandfather's Choice of Economics Was Better than Yours. On The Catastrophic Disappearance of Say's Law
Steve Kates

Accident and Design: the Economics of Ruddism
Henry Ergas



William Coleman.



(L-R) Vaya Bode, Michael McLure, Tony Endres, Steve Kates, Emily White, Tess Jack.



Steve Kates.

Mannkal aims to strengthen the free market system in Western Australia and Australia, by promoting ideals of voluntary co-operation, choice, personal rights, limited government and responsible resourcefulness of individuals.

Mannkal finances and organises:

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.

An **alternative book store** for economic and Australian history books.

“ Western Australia was settled by pioneers with deeply entrenched beliefs in political freedom. To maintain that freedom in the new colony, our pioneers established important institutions - courts, universities, parliaments, churches, a free press and other public and private organisations which they believed were necessary to preserve their way of life.

The freedom of average citizens to pursue their own ambitions has been dramatically curtailed - primarily through the inordinate growth of government regulation and taxation.

The collapse of the Soviet Union saw socialism as an economic doctrine completely discredited. However, its various social permutations and its central planning devotees are still in existence and are active within many of Australia's educational institutions - including those in Western Australia.

Because national prosperity and other forms of well-being are driven and sustained only by the resourcefulness and creative energies of its citizens, it is essential for Australia's future that these traditions of freedom are rediscovered and re-established.

The Mannkal Economic Education Foundation will employ its resources to assist in the rediscovery and refurbishment of the traditions which form the basis of national prosperity and personal freedom. ”

Ron Manners