



THE CRANLANA PROGRAMME

Perth Colloquium

Sunday 20 – Friday 25 November 2011

OVERVIEW

The Cranlana Programme is delighted to again offer the Colloquium in Perth, in partnership with Curtin University of Technology.

Based on the highly successful Colloquium model offered in Melbourne and Canberra, the Perth Colloquium has been running since 2003.

INTRODUCTION

I found myself rhetorically asking: did anyone stand back and ask themselves the simple question, is this right?

- Justice Owen, *The Failure of HIH Insurance*

Business leaders are increasingly called upon to make decisions in complex environments, where competing perspectives and seemingly incompatible values are at play. Decisions are often made under pressure and in volatile settings. These judgments can have significant long-term moral and ethical ramifications.

The Cranlana Programme can help better equip corporate leaders with a set of value-based frameworks for making difficult decisions where there may not always be a clear choice between right and wrong, and where tensions exist between social, economic and environmental forces, and indeed, public expectations and business interests.

Through moderated roundtable discussions drawing upon the ideas from influential texts, participants can broaden their perspectives and strengthen decision-making capability. They will be challenged to consider the underlying values, principles and assumptions that determine their actions. The Colloquium gives participants the time to reflect on matters of responsibility and ethical behaviour in an independent and confidential environment.

ORGANISATION BACKGROUND

The Cranlana Programme (TCP) is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organisation, initiated by The Myer Foundation in 1993. The broad objective of TCP is to cultivate wisdom in leadership. It offers senior leaders the opportunity to enhance their understanding of the philosophical, ethical and social issues central to creating a just, prosperous and sustainable society in Australia.

Since its inception, the organisation has run some 60 high-level colloquia, 30 two-day symposia on topics such as justice and society, power and ethics, the value of democracy and business and ethics, plus a number of issue-specific seminars, lectures and roundtable policy dialogues. More than 1900 senior-level public servants in the federal and state governments, business and community leaders have participated in our seminars.

Since 2003, The Cranlana Programme has offered a high quality professional development experience to Western Australia's public and private leaders, in conjunction with Curtin University. This programme provides an engaging environment for active reflection, informed discussion and respectful debate on matters of public responsibility, corporate accountability and ethical behaviour.

OBJECTIVES

Providing a rare opportunity for corporate leaders to examine their roles and responsibilities, the broad objectives of the Perth Colloquium are to:

- Critically reflect on the role of leadership and ethics in a confidential and respectful environment
- Consider the values and principles underpinning Australia's liberal democracy and the practical application of these in a corporate context
- Examine the tensions and trade-offs between notions of community, prosperity, liberty, equality and sustainability in decision-making
- Enhance the capability of corporate sector leaders to exercise informed, ethical and effective judgement

METHODOLOGY

The Perth Colloquium will be led by expert moderators, who are highly conversant both with TCP's method of structured roundtable discussion. It is designed for a maximum of 20 participants.

Each participant will receive a set of selected readings which provides common ground for discussion and consideration. These are taken from a number of influential texts that have shaped the foundations of Australian society, from classical philosophers to contemporary 21st century writers. Participants are able to consider the practical application of ideas canvassed in the readings to their own business context. The method is not prescriptive or training based but designed to encourage shared enquiry among peers to stimulate new and adaptive thinking.

BENEFITS

This is an opportunity to invest in the leadership capability of the corporate sector. The Colloquium provides an environment for critical reflection, inquiry and knowledge building in order to further refine the decision-making capability of our senior leaders. It is specifically designed to assist those in positions of responsibility to respond to challenges that require careful deliberation and management of competing tensions.

QUOTES FROM PAST PARTICIPANTS OF THE PERTH COLLOQUIA

- The colloquium was both intellectually challenging and stimulating. It required participants to think about issues that are not necessarily at the forefront of daily issues in the workplace and in a manner that you don't usually apply in the workplace.
- It was a great opportunity to reflect on some fabulous content and to apply it in a concentrated and informed way.

- The diversity of perspective provided through the readings and ensuing discussions challenges participants to review the ways they lead others, respond or react to work situations and the opinions of others. The activities of the colloquium provide a space in which participants can create new and lasting approaches to work and life issues.
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- Rare opportunity to reflect deeply on leadership values in a constructive way.
- Stepping out of a busy job for a week to sit and talk and reflect was an absolute gift.

DETAILS FOR REGISTRATION

The colloquium is non-residential and is conducted at Mt Eliza House, Kings Park, Perth. Positions are limited so early booking is recommended.

Queries regarding the colloquium can be directed to:

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