

Edward Acton Cavanough

edward@cavanough.com | www.edwardcavanough.com

Overview

- Public policy researcher and manager, with experiencing leading the policy team at one of Australia's leading think-tanks.
- Writer, analyst and (occasional) journalist with bylines including: Al Jazeera, The Guardian, The Sydney Morning Herald, The Hill, The Lowy Institute, The Huffington Post, The Diplomat and more.
- Passionate about Australian public policy, progressive reform, international development, journalism, and the arts.

Education

- **Master of International Relations - 2016**
University of Sydney - *International Relations / Political Science*
- **Bachelor of Arts - 2014**
University of Adelaide – *History & Political Science*

Key Skills

- Research (Empirical, Qualitative and Quantitative Methods) & Analysis
- Foreign Policy Analysis
- Strategic & Analytical Thinking
- Speech, Briefing & Report Writing
- Public Policy Development & Implementation
- Detailed Understanding of International & Domestic Political / Policy Trends.
- Excellent Written & Verbal Communication / Advanced Computer Literacy.
- Strong Initiative & Leadership

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Selected Experience

Manager of Policy

The McKell Institute

Sydney, NSW. August 2015 – Present

Manager of Policy and senior researcher at one of Australia's leading public policy think-tanks.
www.mckellinstitute.org.au

- Lead in-house researcher, producing a broad suite of public policy reports, focusing on issues such transport, infrastructure, housing affordability and trade policy.
- Chief editor for all published reports, many of which have been cited in the media and referenced by senior political and community leaders.
- Frequent liaising with high-profile stakeholders and members, including state and federal politicians and ministers, senior business and union leaders, as well as leading Australian academics.
- In this role I have overseen a team of researchers and interns, and have been responsible for the delegation of workloads amongst staff, formulating and managing project pipelines, and delivering multiple projects on tight deadlines.
- This role has also required me to present research in public forums and campus events, as well as on radio and television, as well as advocate for my research in the printed press.

Australian Foreign Policy Fellow

Young Australians in International Affairs (YAIIA)

Sydney, NSW. January 2016 – July 2016.

Voluntary fellowship with youth-focused foreign policy think-tank and not-for-profit organization dedicated to fostering the next generation of Australian perspectives and leadership in international affairs. www.youngausint.org.au

- Contributing monthly analysis on issues relating to Australian foreign policy to the YAIIA blog, *Insights*.
- My commentary for YAIIA covered topics such as the Australia-US relationship, the negotiations of the Timor Leste-Australia maritime border, the lessons Australia can learn from the 2016 Brussels attack, as well as the case for a greater Australian diplomatic presence around the world.

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Talent Acquisitions Coordinator

Cognizant Technology Solutions, Australia.

Sydney, AU. February 2015 – August 2015

Human Resources and Recruitment Coordination for the Australian branch of multinational IT and Business Consultancy, Cognizant Technology Solutions. www.cognizant.com

- Authored and implemented recruitment guidelines for a 550-person strong organisation.
- Searched, screened and interviewed candidates for a range of positions, junior to senior, with a direct focus on locating outstanding candidates in the context of nurturing a healthy and productive corporate culture
- Researched and developed new marketing strategies and techniques to increase brand awareness, particularly through social media.
- Developed and implemented graduate recruitment practices, with a specific focus on on-campus recruitment drives.

Campaign Intern

Denny Heck for Congress.

Olympia, WA. September to October, 2014

Internship shadowing the campaign manager, communications director and financial director of the successful re-election staff for Congressman Denny Heck's 2014 US mid-term election campaign. www.dennyheckforcongress.com

- Voter outreach (over 4000 personal phone calls to constituents)
- Donor research (finding, cataloguing and communicating with prospective financial contributors)
- Event organizing and coordination
- Get-out-the-vote field operations
- Secretarial duties.

Electorate Officer

The Office of Hon. Stephanie Key, MP.

Adelaide, AU. September 2012 to January, 2013

Electorate officer working out of the office of my local member of parliament.

- Constituent communications
- Policy research
- Office administration.

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Other Experience

- **Freelance Writer / Analyst / Journalist – 2015 to Present**

Contributing analysis and journalism to a range of publications, including: Al Jazeera, The Guardian, The Age and the Sydney Morning Herald, The Lowy Interpreter, The Huffington Post, The Diplomat Magazine, The Hill, and others.

- **Musician & Tour Manager / Guitar Teacher – 2012-2015**

Performing original instrumental music across Australia, the United States & Iceland, as well as independently teaching guitar to a roster of private students.

- **Labourer, Kitchenhand, Grocer – 2006-2012**

Various supermarkets, bars, cafes & grocers during high-school and undergraduate studies.

References upon request.