



2015 Annual Report

The Williams Foundation undertook a range of activities during calendar year 2015 which were planned and delivered in accordance with the fundamentals and intent of Air Force Plan Jericho. By working within the broad sub-themes of Jericho, 5th generation capability and concepts, jointery, and future warfighting more generally, the Foundation was able to deliver interesting, challenging, and indeed very well attended, events. A brief overview of the key activities follows.

Seminar 3 June 2015: *Live Virtual and Constructive (LVC) – training for an integrated ADF*

This seminar explored the issues associated with interoperability and how government, different branches of the ADF and industry need to work together in order to operate in an increasingly complex and evolving environment to maximise fifth generation technology opportunities. The seminar was supported by senior Defence and Defence Industry personnel who attended as presenters and participants, in addition to over 100 registered participants. The Defence and industry experts provided insight into, and encouraged discussion in relation to, the current and future state of joint collective training and the advancement of LVC. The seminar highlighted the relevant authorities responsible for facilitating LVC collective training and what systems and platforms were being used and provided by industry to help support this capability.

A report was produced following this seminar which captures the key messages from the day as well as providing an insight into the challenges and opportunities for the ADF's training concepts into the future. This report can be read at:

<http://www.williamsfoundation.org.au/Resources/Documents/LVC%20seminar%20report%20Williams%20Foundation%20June%202015%20300615.pdf>

CAF Dinner 10 June 2015: *Outgoing Chief's Reflections and Vision*

A formal dinner was held at the National Gallery to mark the occasion of the retirement of Air Marshal Geoff Brown as Chief of Air Force. The outgoing Chief provided an excellent insight into the Air Force achievements during his tenure and spoke of his aspirations for the future transformation under Plan Jericho. The dinner was very well attended by Industry, senior Defence leadership, Foundation members and selected Air Force personnel.

Seminar 4 August 2015: *Plan Jericho Design-Led Innovation*

In building on the Jericho and 5th generation themes, this seminar was structured in two parts: an open public session, and an invitation-only workshop. The afternoon workshop was designed to achieve a hard outcome for the Plan Jericho team to enable ongoing implementation of the Jericho Program of Works. Feedback from GPCAPTs Chipman and Campbell would indicate that this objective was a success.

The keynote speaker for the open session was Lt. Gen Lofgren from the USAF. He provided an exceptional insight into the necessity for design-led innovation in the operational arena and the number of questions following his presentation was an indication of the resonance he achieved with his talk.

Dr Robbin Laird, from Second Line of Defense, again travelled to Australia to support the Foundation and Air Force to ensure the ongoing messaging in relation to 5th generation capabilities. Dr Laird is a strong supporter of Plan Jericho, and the interviews he conducted during his time in Australia for the seminar, and a comprehensive report he produced following the seminar, have been published widely around the world. His seminar report can be read at:

<http://www.williamsfoundation.org.au/Latest-Papers/3527145>

Other presentations from the seminar are also available on the Foundation website.

Member Lunches

The member luncheon series is a highlight of the Foundation's annual program and provides an avenue for senior leaders, military specialists and industry partners to brief Foundation members in a relaxed, private environment. The lunches for 2015 were:

- 15 April – AIRCDRE 'Zed' Robertson provided an overview of RAAF air power in Operation Okra
- 8 September – RADM Tony Dalton discussed the introduction into service of the Seahawk Romeo helicopter

Summary

The Sir Richard Williams Foundation continues to explore air power issues and to ensure a balanced and intelligent discussion of these issues across the wider community. The Foundation has an ambitious program under development for 2016 which will broaden the perspective of 5th generation warfighting into the joint and coalition environments.

AIRMSHL Errol McCormack (Retd)

Chair

The Sir Richard Williams Foundation Inc

16 December 2015