



PRESS RELEASE

AMERICAN & AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS LEADERS DISCUSS TRADE & INVESTMENT

Washington, DC—On April 16, 2019 the American Australian Business Council (AABC), a program of the American Australian Association (AAA) hosted over 40 American and Australian CEOs and United States Administration officials, at its annual AABC CEO Summit.

The Summit focused on the strong U.S. - Australia economic relationship, offering in-depth insight into the global and domestic economic and trade environments from officials and initiated a proactive discussion on ways Australia and the United States can continue to work together to strengthen the bilateral relationship.

“The American Australian Business Council remains on the cutting edge by convening a full range of important business and senior government leaders to discuss critical current events affecting trade and the economic health of both nations.” said Ambassador John Berry (Ret.), President of the American Australian Association/Business Council.

A focal point of the summit included the launch of *Australia & the United States: State of the Economic Union*, an in-depth report commissioned by the American Australian Business Council highlighting the deep and multifaceted U.S. - Australia economic relationship. The report was produced in partnership with the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney and Indiana University.

“Indiana University, through its Kelley School of Business and its O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, was extremely pleased to have worked with the AABC and the United States Studies Centre in the preparation of this report which will help launch future substantive conversation and collaboration between government officials, business leaders and members of the academic community in Australia and the U.S.,” said Indiana University President, Michael A. McRobbie.

“This new report provides a deeper understanding of the extensive economic impact of the longstanding relationship between the U.S. and Australia. It also highlights the outsized role that the Midwest U.S. plays in this partnership and the major investments that Australian firms have made in the Midwest over the past decade that have generated new capital and new jobs.”

According to CEO Simon Jackman, “At the United States Studies Centre, we’ve made trade and investment a key area of research, teaching and outreach. This report with Indiana University is a continuation of that effort. A point we’ve made in Australia is that when you put the U.S. - Australia investment relationship into the mix along with the substantial U.S. - Australia trade relationship, it’s clear that the United States is Australia’s most important economic partner.”

A full copy of the report *Australia & the United States: State of the Economic Union* can be downloaded [here](#).

Co-Chaired by Lachlan Murdoch (FOX Corporation), Maureen Dougherty (Boeing), Brett Himbury (IFM Investors) and Ben Scott (Morgan Stanley), the AABC was founded to deepen the dynamic economic bond between Australia and the United States. It serves as a resource for business on both sides of the Pacific by highlighting the businesses and their leaders who are key to this relationship. The AABC is made up of C-suite leaders who seek to foster active dialogue, encourage innovation, improve trade and support growth on both sides of the Pacific.

The American Australian Association is the leading privately funded non-profit organization dedicated to deepening and strengthening cooperation and understanding between the institutions and people of the United States and Australia.

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