

First international graduates from Intelligence program

The Leadership in Criminal Intelligence Program (LCIP) has reached a milestone with its first international participant graduating from the Intelligence Management Development Program (IMDP).

At a recent ceremony held at the Australian Embassy in Beijing, Deputy Director of the Public Security Research Institute Sheng An Wang (Sam) said he was very honoured to be the first international participant to be granted the Graduate Certificate in Applied Management of IMDP.

“All the teachers were very experienced in the subjects they were presenting. We gained enormous insight of the role of intelligence in the development of new ideas to meet our new challenges and the managing of our complex environment.”

Mr Wang joins a select group of 18 who have graduated from IMDP since its inception in 2006. The program operates on a mix of residential and distance education. To date six intakes with a total of 118 participants representing 18 countries and 31 different agencies have passed through its doors.

Mr Wang said he found the program demanding, yet instructive and very rewarding. “The knowledge and abilities gained from the program are very useful and inspiring for my police work and can be applied practically in our working environment. IMDP emphasises the practicality of the subject and the implementation of ideas.”

The importance of his graduation was highlighted by the attendance of other representatives of the Ministry of Public Security International Cooperation Department (MPS ICD): Section Chief



Mr Wang Liqiang and Director Mr Hu Binchen.

Through LCIP and initiatives like the IMDP, the AFP is leading the way in intelligence-led policing. The success of this approach depends on the successful integration of intelligence into the strategic, operational and tactical decision-making processes. And in an era of global partnerships, international relationships are the key to the successful management of transactional crime.

The IMDP, jointly developed with the Australian Institute of Police Management (AIPM), is the result of a recognised need to support the AFP’s approach to intelligence-led policing through the development of a pool of leaders with relevant capabilities. The program develops awareness of the issues managers face on a daily basis;

further develops the understanding and respect between intelligence and operational units; and optimises the integration of intelligence at all levels of decision making. The program shares knowledge and experience by engaging national and international representatives in an interactive, participative learning environment.

According to Ms Ingrid Tomanovits, Acting Director of AIPM Academic Programs, the attendance of national and international participants is a significant strength of the AFP-sponsored training.

Above (from left): Representatives of the Ministry of Public Security International Cooperation Department—Section Chief Wang Liqiang, Director Hu Binchen and Deputy Director Sheng An Wang with AFP Senior Liaison Officer Beijing Ian McCartney and LO Daisie Beckensall.



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“The attendance of international participants on programs at the AIPM, including the IMDP, provides a rare opportunity for Australian participants to hear first hand the different perspectives and approaches of their counterparts from law enforcement agencies around the world.

“This adds a depth and richness to the experience of all participants that would be otherwise unavailable. Likewise, our international participants are able to gain insight and understanding of the Australian environment and operating context,” Ms Tomanovits said.

A strong feature of the program, which leads to accreditation at graduate level certificate, is this opportunity to expand their professional networks. “These relationships are becoming increasingly

critical to the success of operations,” she added.

Ms Tomanovits commented that as the requirement for information and intelligence sharing continues to grow, developing trusted networks will remain a vital feature of our operating environment. The IMDP provides a rare opportunity for the face-to-face interaction that so often is the foundation of such relationships. Any steps we can take to encourage and support improved knowledge and understanding across borders can greatly assist us in our efforts against transnational crime,” she said.

Representatives of Australian State police forces have also benefited from the diversity aspects of the IMDP. Detective Acting Inspector Brooke Hall, an IMDP graduate from Victoria Police, recently

pointed out that the IMDP develops a higher awareness of the value of cultural diversity and the mixture of skills that diversity brings to the team.

“The knowledge and skills that I have gained allow me to be more informed in thinking and decision making. The course stirred a desire for further study which in turns benefits my organisation,” Detective Acting Inspector Hall concluded.

For more details about LCIP or IMDP, contact Mike Hawley on (02) 6275 7518 or email to Michael.Hawley@afp.gov.au

Above: Detective Acting Inspector Brooke Hall of Victoria Police (centre) displays his certificate with Superintendent Wendy Steendam (left) and Manager of AFP Melbourne Office Commander Alan Scott.