



GEORGE BUSH

July, 2017

Dear Phil,

Congratulations on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Australian American Leadership Dialogue. The collaborative team of individuals who have come together from Australia and the United States has created a platform on which to continue to build these bilateral ties.

I am particularly pleased that the Young Leadership Dialogue is progressing so well, and that over three hundred young US and Australian leaders, from diverse backgrounds, have graduated from the two-year program and remain engaged in advancing people-to-people ties

After a quarter century, our shared perspectives on Asia Pacific security remain important to the development and evolution of sustained strategies for peace and prosperity. Close ties like our two countries share demand constant nurturing to ensure mutual understanding and avoid surprises. Permanence should never be presumed, and partnerships should never be taken for granted. That is why the Australian American Leadership Dialogue is an important and necessary plank in our platform of official and private diplomatic engagement.

Barbara joins me in wishing continued success to you and Julie, Betty and Mel Sembler, and the many Australian and American leaders who have attached themselves to this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. W. Bush". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

The Honorable Phil Scanlan, AM
Founder
Australian American Leadership Dialogue