The world’s greatest peacetime air mystery began on 8 March 2014 when Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 disappeared during a routine flight between Kuala Lumpur and Beijing. Missing flight MH370 triggered what became the world’s largest search and rescue (later becoming a recovery) mission over the Indo-Pacific area. A variety of challenges, such as the unprecedented international media coverage, faced the cooperative, multinational effort that involved Australia, China, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States.

In addition to a multi-agency response, Australia’s Joint Task Force 658 was established on 26 March 2014 to assist with coordination of the search efforts as part of Operation Southern Indian Ocean. The operation involved 2,999 flying hours and a combined total of 480 search days by the 18 vessels involved in surface and subsea operations.

Join a panel discussion on the host of challenges faced during this international, large-scale search for missing Flight MH370.

**Date:** Thursday, 8 October 2015

**Location:** Conference Precinct, Exhibition Hall 4, Sydney Exhibition Centre @ Glebe Island

**Time:** 9.00 am - 12.30 pm

**RSVP:** humanities.curtin.edu.au/indpac
SPEAKER BIOS:

Commodore Lee Goddard CSC RAN
Commodore Lee Goddard is the current Commander Surface Force for the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). CDRE Goddard has spent more than 26 years in the Navy. Prior to taking up his current role in 2014, CDRE Goddard commanded the Anzac Class warship HMAS Perth (III). Throughout his naval career CDRE Goddard has served at sea in RAN, Canadian, Malaysian and US Navy warships, and on operations in the Middle East. His naval service has seen him travel to all continents with the exception of South America.

He was awarded a Master of Arts (International Relations) in 1996, is member of the Australian Naval Institute council and has previously served as councillor with the Australian Institute of International Affairs. He has contributed to a range of professional and academic journals focused on international affairs and security issues. He was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross (CSC) on Australia Day in 2007.

Dr Sanu Kainikara
Sanu Kainikara is the RAAF’s Air Power Strategist at the Air Power Development Centre. He is a former fighter pilot of the Indian Air Force who retired voluntarily as a Group Captain after 21 years of commissioned service. Sanu was decorated for gallantry and is the recipient of the Air Force Cross and two Commendations from the IAF Chief of Air Staff. He has also received the Royal Australian Air Force Chief of Air Force’s Commendation.

After leaving active duty with the Indian Air Force he worked as the senior analyst of a US Training Team in the Middle East, specialising in fighter operations, weapons and tactics, before migrating to Australia.

Dr Kainikara holds two Bachelors degrees (Strategic Studies and Aerospace Engineering), a Master of Science in Defence and Strategic Studies and a PhD from the University of Adelaide. He is currently pursuing further doctoral studies at ANU.

Mr Stan Grant
Stan Grant is the international editor at Sky News and anchors the evening program Reporting Live with Stan Grant on Sky News Live. He returned to Australia in late 2012 following 11 years working for CNN where he began in 2001 as an anchor in Hong Kong, before relocating to Beijing as a correspondent.

The past two decades has seen Stan cover some of the world’s biggest news events including: the war in Iraq, Pakistan and Afghanistan, the release of Nelson Mandela and the troubles in Northern Ireland.

Prior to joining CNN, Stan worked in the United Arab Emirates hosting weekly news program Prism from Abu Dhabi. He has also held positions with ABC TV Canberra, SBS and Seven Network.

His tireless work in the news industry has been continuously recognised with a string of prestigious international and domestic awards.

Mr Gavin Briggs
Gavin Briggs is a lecturer in national security and international relations at Curtin University’s Department of Social Sciences and International Studies. He has 15 years’ experience working in Commonwealth and state government departments, including advisor roles in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of the Premier and Cabinet (WA) and as an intelligence analyst with a federal law enforcement agency. As a public affairs officer in the Air Force Reserve, with the current serving rank of Squadron Leader, he has been on deployments in the Middle East Area of Operations and Southern Indian Ocean. He holds a Master of Strategic Affairs from Australian National University, Postgraduate Diploma of Arts (Political Science) from the University of Western Australia and a Graduate Certificate in Criminal Intelligence from Charles Sturt University. He is presently a PhD candidate with Curtin University.