

# List of Speakers

## VICTORIA<sup>at the</sup> CROSSROADS? AUGUST 23-24, 2012 Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

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The Hon Kim Wells, Victorian Treasurer

### MASTERS OF CEREMONY AND CHAIRS

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### SPEAKERS

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George Pappas, Chair, Committee for Melbourne and Chancellor, Victoria University  
Andrew Holden, Editor-in-Chief, The Age

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

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### **The Hon Julia Gillard, Prime Minister**

Prime Minister Julia Gillard is the 27th Prime Minister of Australia. She is the first woman to hold this position, having also become the first woman to serve as Australia's Deputy Prime Minister.

Julia Gillard represents the western Melbourne electorate of Lalor in the House of Representatives. She has been involved in progressive politics throughout her adult life, working as an adviser to the Labor Party, a lawyer at Slater and Gordon, and leading Australia's national student representative body.

She is the number one ticket holder for her beloved AFL team, the Western Bulldogs.

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### **The Hon Kim Wells, Victorian Treasurer**

Kim Wells MP was appointed Victorian Treasurer in 2010. He was first elected to the Victorian Legislative Assembly in 1992 and is the State Member for Scoresby. He was the Victorian Shadow Treasurer from 2006 until his appointment as Treasurer and was also Deputy-Chair of the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee from 2007. Between 2000 and 2006, Kim was Shadow Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Corrections. Prior to entering Parliament, Kim held various positions including Operations Manager within the freight and logistics industry. Kim is a Fellow of the Certified Practising Accountants and holds a Masters of Accounting. His interests include mountaineering, hiking and all sports.

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## MASTERS OF CEREMONY AND CHAIRS

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### **George Pappas, Chair, Committee for Melbourne and Chancellor, Victoria University**

George Pappas has over 30 years' experience advising major international corporations on strategic and organisational issues. He was one of the founders of the Boston Consulting Group's Australian practice and served as a Senior Vice-President until 2002.

George is currently the Chancellor of Victoria University, Chairman Committee for Melbourne, Chairman Defence Strategic Reform Advisory Board, Chairman Energy Matters Pty Ltd, Director Western Bulldogs Football Club and a Senior Advisor to the Boston Consulting Group.

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### **Peter Dawkins, Vice-Chancellor, Victoria University**

Professor Peter Dawkins became the third Vice-Chancellor and President of Victoria University on 19 January 2011. This followed six years in high level leadership roles for the Victorian Government, and 28 years in the university sector, including almost a decade as Director of the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research at The University of Melbourne. He was Deputy Secretary of the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance (2005-2006) and Secretary of the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (2006-2010).

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### **The Hon Lindsay Tanner, Vice-Chancellor's Fellow, Victoria University**

Lindsay Tanner is Special Advisor to Lazard. He is a former Australian member of the House of Representatives having first won the seat of Melbourne at the 1993 federal election. He was a member of the Australian Government from 3 December 2007, serving as the Minister for Finance and Deregulation. He has written several books and been an outspoken commentator on Australian culture and the direction and role of the Labor Party.

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**Peter Sheehan, Professorial Fellow, Centre for Strategic Economic Studies (CSES), Victoria University**

Professor Peter Sheehan was founding Director of the CSES from 1993-2011. Much focus of his recent research has been on the implications of industrialisation in developing countries, in the context of rapid technological and structural change, on the future prospects of global warming and climate change. He was previously an advisor to the Australian and Victorian Governments and Director General, Department of Management and Budget (Victoria) from 1982 to 1990.



**Andrew Holden, Editor-in-Chief, The Age**

Andrew Holden has been the editor of New Zealand's The Press for four and a half years, and prior to that was its deputy editor for four years. Originally from Melbourne, he has 30 years experience in journalism, from daily newspapers to community titles and magazines in three countries. Andrew was appointed editor-in-chief of The Age newspaper in June, 2012.

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## SPEAKERS

### Dinner and debate



#### **Bill Evans, Chief Economist, Westpac**

William (Bill) Evans is a graduate of Sydney University (BEc. Hons I and University Medal) and the London School of Economics (M.Sc.). He has worked as a Research Manager for the Reserve Bank of Australia, Treasurer at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, and prior to joining Westpac in 1991, was Director and Head of Financial Markets at Schroders Australia Limited for 8 years.

Bill joined Westpac in 1991 in the position of Chief Economist and Head of Research. During his time at Westpac he has also spent 2 years in New Zealand as Head of the Institutional Bank with responsibility for Westpac's corporate and financial markets businesses.

He is currently Managing Director Economics. He is the Bank's economic spokesman and is responsible for all of the Bank's economic research. Bill was Chairman of the Australian Business Economists for eight years and is now a life member.



#### **Tim Colebatch, Economics Editor, The Age**

Tim Colebatch has been a journalist on The Age since 1971, and its economics editor since 1993. Born and bred in Melbourne, he holds degrees in Arts and Commerce from the University of Melbourne, and in Asian Studies from the ANU. In earlier years he reported for The Age on issues ranging from State politics to the environment, urban affairs, and investigative reporting. He then wrote editorials and political and economic columns before becoming the paper's Washington correspondent from 1986 to 1989. Since his return to Australia he has been based in the Press Gallery in Canberra, reporting and commenting on economics.



#### **Elizabeth Proust, Company Director**

Elizabeth Proust, AO, has held leadership roles in the private and public sectors in Australia for almost 30 years. She has worked in local, State and Federal Government, the oil industry and in banking. She has held senior positions in the Victorian Government and was CEO of the City Of Melbourne.

Elizabeth is Chairman of Nestle Australia, and of the Bank of Melbourne. She is a director of Perpetual Ltd, Insurance Manufacturers Australia Pty Ltd, Sinclair Knight Merz Pty Ltd, and the Sports Australia Hall of Fame.



#### **Ian Harper, Partner, Deloitte Access Economics**

Professor Ian Harper is one of Australia's best known economists. He has worked closely with governments, banks, corporates and leading professional services firms at the highest level. As a member of the celebrated Wallis Inquiry, he was at the forefront of financial market reform in Australia.

In August 2008, Ian left academic life to become a Director of the former Access Economics, following a 25-year career, including 16 years in various roles at the Melbourne Business School. In recognition of his service to the University of Melbourne, Ian was elected Emeritus Professor on his departure.

More recently, he joined Deloitte Access Economics as a Partner when Deloitte acquired Access Economics in March 2011.



**Saul Eslake, Economist and Commentator**

Saul Eslake joined Bank of America Merrill Lynch as Chief Economist Australia & New Zealand in December 2011.

He has over 25 years' experience as a financial markets economist, including five years as Chief Economist at McIntosh Securities (1986-91), four years as Chief Economist (International) at National Mutual Funds Management (1991-95) and fourteen years as Chief Economist at the Australia & New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ), one of Australia's four large commercial banks (1995-2009).

Between leaving ANZ and joining BAML, Saul had part-time roles as Director of the Productivity Growth program at the Grattan Institute, a non-aligned public policy 'think tank', and as an advisor in Pricewaterhouse-Coopers' Economics and Policy Practice, as well as writing regular columns for the Melbourne Age and Launceston Examiner newspapers and a number of professional magazines, and serving on a number of boards and government advisory bodies.



**Howard Ronaldson, Secretary, Department of Business and Innovation**

Howard Ronaldson was appointed to the position of Secretary, Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development (now the Department of Business and Innovation), in May 2008. Prior to joining DBI, Howard was the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, a position he held from December 2002. He brings vast experience to DBI, in negotiating complex commercial arrangements between the private sector and government and providing strategic policy advice on key links between infrastructure and the economy.

Howard has also held executive positions in the Department of Premier and Cabinet, and was previously the Director of Gaming, the Director of Crown Lands and the Director of Housing in Victoria. He also worked in Canberra as the Chief Executive and Under Treasurer of the Department of Treasury, Australian Capital Territory



**Adele Ferguson, Senior Business Columnist, Commentator and Writer, The Age**

Adele Ferguson is also author of *Gina Rinehart, the untold story of the richest woman in the world*, which was released on June 26. With more than 20 years in journalism, Adele carries a reputation as one of Australia's most respected commentators. Prior to joining Fairfax, Adele was a senior commentator at The Australian and has worked at BRW magazine as deputy editor and chief business commentator. She has produced numerous ground-breaking stories and won multiple prestigious awards. She has won 6 Quill Awards for best business journalist and columnist, and is a three-time Walkley finalist.





#### **Brad Vann, Partner, Clayton Utz**

Brad Vann is an industry leading lawyer in the delivery of infrastructure projects, having advised governments, sponsors and banks on many of Australia's largest and most complex projects in a career spanning 30 years. He has been a Clayton Utz partner since 1981 and was a Managing Partner from 2000 to 2010.

Brad has regularly advised on transport infrastructure projects around Australia, including City Link, EastLink and Peninsula Link, as well as on social infrastructure projects such as recently the BioSciences and Royal Children's Hospital Projects. He also advised the East-West Study Team which assisted Sir Rod Eddington on his report to the Victorian Government entitled "Investing in Transport" and is currently working with the Victorian Government team developing the East West Link business case.



#### **Bruce Rasmussen, Director, CSES, Victoria University**

Professor Bruce Rasmussen is Director of CSES, having been Deputy Director until 2011. His work has focussed on innovation, business models, business strategy and industry development issues. He has been recently engaged by the Victorian Government on projects seeking to help define new policies for manufacturing and strategies for Victorian firms to extend their engagement with China. He has also been heavily involved in the Centre's Pharmaceutical Industry Project and has completed a monograph on commercialization and innovation in the biopharmaceutical sector. Prior to joining the Centre he was a Chief Manager at the ANZ and a Division head in the Victorian Treasury.



#### **Kate Brennan, CEO, Federation Square**

Kate Brennan was previously the Chief Executive Officer of the Adelaide Festival Centre Trust for 7 years, leading a program of significant change and growth in that time. She has made contributions Melbourne's arts life in her earlier role at the Melbourne City Council and in a range of arts organisations. She has had extensive involvement in a range of capital infrastructure projects and was involved in the original design and activity concepts for Federation Square.

Kate has always been an active member of business and community organisations. She is currently a member of the Board of the Melbourne Convention and Visitor Bureau (Chair, Risk Committee), Deputy Chair of the Executive Board of the Committee for Melbourne, as well as being a member of several groups with education and community improvement objectives.



#### **Jennifer Cunich, Executive Director, Property Council of Australia**

Jennifer Cunich is the Executive Director of the Victorian Division of the Property Council of Australia. The Victorian Division of the Property Council represents around 500 member companies. Members of the Property Council are involved in the entire property investment cycle; the financing, design, development and maintenance of property, and the services that underpin the industry.

Jennifer is the principal advocate and lobbyist for the organisation on all matters within the state of Victoria, and is responsible for administering the affairs of the Victorian Division under policies set by the national Board and Division Council. Jennifer sits on a number of agency committees while also participating on a number of boards:

Jennifer has held the position of Victorian Executive Director for 9 years while previously she held the position of executive director for the Property Council in the Australian Capital Territory for 6 years.



**Pru Sanderson, Global Business Leader, City Development, GHD**

Pru Sanderson is an Urban Strategist who specialises in creating new benchmarks in urban planning and public infrastructure. She has held senior roles in the development of Melbourne's Museum and Federation Square and has worked internationally managing property affairs and the delivery of major infrastructure in South Africa and Malaysia.

More recently she has served as CEO of Vic Urban, the Victorian State Government urban development authority (now Places Victoria), including the introduction of placemaking principles into Melbourne Docklands.

While at Vic Urban, Pru also introduced a series of initiatives to improve liveability and sustainability of Melbourne's urban growth areas. At GHD she is working on Urban Strategies across Australia introducing new paradigms in Urban form.



**Justin Bokor, Executive Director, Performance Improvement, Ernst & Young**

Justin Bokor has 15 years experience as an advisor to public and private sector organisations, with a focus on strategy and growth. His area of focus is the education sector. Justin has consulted extensively to education sector clients in Victoria and nationally, including the Victorian Department of Education (DEECD), the Federal Department of Education (DEEWR), Victorian high schools and TAFE providers, dual sector universities including Victoria University and RMIT University, the Group of Eight, and more than a dozen other universities around Australia.

Justin is on Ernst & Young's national education sector executive management team and is a regular presenter on higher education reform and the impact on higher education institutions.



**Jürgen Schneider, Regional General Manager, Siemens**

Jürgen Schneider currently holds the role of Regional General Manager for Siemens Ltd in Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania, which he has held for the past seven years. Jürgen is also responsible for the Pacific "Siemens One" Corporate development program.

In his current role, Jürgen is strategically involved in the business development across the Siemens Business Sectors of Infrastructure and Cities, Industry, Energy and Healthcare. As 'Executive Sponsor' he has a special focus on developing the Siemens Marine Defence portfolio.



**Nicholas Gruen, CEO Lateral Economics, Commentator and Entrepreneur**

Dr Nic Gruen is a policy economist, commentator and entrepreneur and writes a regular column in The Age, Sydney Morning Herald and the Brisbane Times, and is a prolific blogger at Club Troppo.

In 2000 he founded economic policy consultancy Lateral Economics of which he remains CEO and Peach Financial which he chairs. He is Chairman of the Australian Centre for Social Innovation, Online Opinion and medical ICT startup HealthKit.com. He was the founding chairman of Kaggle, a Melbourne 'big data' start up now based in San Francisco. He is also a board member of the Federal Government's innovation advisory body, Innovation Australia.

He was a member of the Cutler review into Australian Innovation and chaired the Federal Government's internationally acclaimed Government 2.0 Taskforce.



**Rodney Maddock, Professor and Vice Chancellor's Fellow, Victoria University**

Professor Rodney Maddock has spent the last decade as a senior executive at Australia's second largest company, the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, where he managed the Group Strategy team for the last six years. Earlier he had spent periods as Chief Economist at the Business Council of Australia, as Head of Economic Policy in the Victorian Cabinet Office, and as a Professor of Economics at La Trobe University. Rod has consulted extensively both inside and outside Australia, particularly on infrastructure and network issues. He has published extensively with his books including *Unlocking the Infrastructure*, *The Australian Economy in the Long Run*, and *Rational Expectations*.



**Peter Rohan, Partner, Performance Improvement, Ernst & Young**

Peter Rohan has extensive experience both locally and internationally. Peter's key expertise is in public policy reform, operational strategy and improvement and organisational change. He has over 25 years experience in leading and managing important projects across a variety of organisations and a diverse range of stakeholder groups.

His work in the higher education (HE and VET) sector has encompassed strategic planning, operational reform, market repositioning, partnership negotiations and business cases, as well as being joint author of published papers on the impact of the new funding model on universities and how they should respond strategically.

He has also served on school councils and worked with departments of education on a range of operational improvements.