
D Speaker and discussant profiles

Fred Argy

Visiting Fellow, Public Policy Program, Australian National University and occasional consultant.

Fred is a former Director of the Office of the Economic Planning Advisory Council, 1986–91. Other positions include Commissioner at the Commonwealth Grants Commission, Deputy Secretary at the Department for Employment, First Assistant Secretary at the Commonwealth Treasury and Australian Ambassador to the OECD. Fred was the Secretary to the Campbell Inquiry into the Australian Financial System (1979–81), has been a Research Adviser to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA) and past President of the Economics Society of Australia.

Fred has written many articles. Two well read books include: *Australia at the Crossroads: radical free market or a progressive liberalism?* (1998) and *A Vision for Australia* (CEDA, 1993).

Malcolm Gray

Director, Analytic Outcomes Pty Ltd.

Before becoming a consultant in 1997, Malcolm worked as the Group Economist for CRA Ltd. He has held senior positions in the federal bureaucracy including Deputy Secretary of the Department of Industrial Relations, Deputy Secretary (acting) in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and Senior Economic Adviser to the Prime Minister from 1990 to 1991. Malcolm has also been a Senior Research Fellow and Lecturer at the Australian National University and a board member of the Construction Industry Development Agency. Malcolm has publications covering the demand for financial assets, expectations theory and macro-economic modelling.

Wolfgang Kasper

Professor of Economics, University College, Australian Defence Force Academy.

Prior to taking up his present position in 1977, Wolfgang held senior positions at the Australian National University and Reserve Bank of Australia. Wolfgang has had extensive experience overseas including positions with the German Council of

Economic Advisers, the Kiel Institute of World Economics and adviser to the Malaysian Treasury. Wolfgang serves on the Board of the International Schumpeter Society, and is a member of advisory committees at the Centre for Independent Studies and the Centre for the New Europe in Brussels.

Wolfgang has published extensively on topics ranging from economic liberalism, federalism, international trade and finance, innovation and the economies of East Asia. Some key publications include: *Institutional Economics — Social Order and Public Policy* (1998); *Free to Work — The Liberalisation of New Zealand Labour Markets* (1996); *Our Industrial Future — by Council or Competition?* (1985); and *Australia at the Crossroads: Our Choices to the Year 2000* (1980).

Elizabeth Savage

Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Sydney

Elizabeth has been with the University of Sydney since 1979. She has held a variety of visiting appointments with Australian and overseas universities. She was an economic adviser to ACOSS at the 1985 National Tax Summit and has worked in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Elizabeth has worked as a consultant for clients ranging from the Office of EPAC, the Public Sector Management Institute, the NSW Social Policy Directorate, to the World Bank.

Elizabeth's research interests cover tax and social security (with particular emphasis on welfare measurement and analysis of inequality), the pricing of public utility outputs and various labour market issues. Some of Elizabeth's many publications include: 'Trends in economic policy for the aged: an evaluation of user pays, cost recovery and means testing' in *Who Pays? the impact of user pays and economic policy on older people*, NSW Committee on Ageing (1998); 'An evaluation of income splitting with variable female labour supply', *Economic Record* (1996); 'Environmental Economic Policy in a Second Best Environment', *Economic Papers* (1995); 'The economics of User Pays: a second best perspective', in *User Payers: Emerging Gains and Losses for the Public Sector*, J Coulter (ed) Public Sector Research Centre, University of NSW (1994); and 'Modelling Australian indirect tax reforms: a welfare consistent approach' in J.G. Head (ed) *Australian Tax Reform in Retrospect and Prospect* (1989).

Cliff Walsh

Professor and Executive Director, South Australian Centre for Economic Studies.

Prior to joining the Centre in 1992, Cliff was a Professor and Director at the Federal Research Centre, Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University, the Professor of Economics at the University of Adelaide, and in the early-1980s, the Principal Economic Adviser to the Prime Minister. Cliff has been

involved in several government committees and inquiries, including the Industry Commission's inquiry into *Impediments to Regional Industry Adjustment* (1993), the Committee for the Review of State Taxes and Charges (Tasmania, 1993), the Committee to Review Australia's Overseas Aid Program (1997) and the Advisory Panel for preparing the White Paper *In the National Interest: Australia's Foreign and Trade Policy* (1997). He is currently a member of the Foreign Affairs Council, the SA Government's Local Government Boundary Reform Board, the Deputy Chair of the Taskforce on Regional Development in SA and is the Adviser to the SA Premier on Commonwealth-State issues.

Cliff's major research, consultancy and publication fields include: public sector economics; intergovernmental fiscal, political and administrative relations; international trade and aid; government finances and taxation; and regional economic policy. Some of his many presentations and publications include: *What is Good Social Policy?* (paper presented to a NARU workshop, 1998); *Hilmer Competition Policy: How its Implementation will affect South Australia* (1995); *Intergovernmental Relations and Public Policy* (1991); *Issues in State Taxation* (ed, 1990); and co-authored with John Freebairn and Michael Porter three books — *Savings and Productivity: Incentives for the 1990s* (1989); *Spending and Taxing II: Taking Stock* (1988) and *Spending and Taxing: Australian Reform Options* (1987).

Peter Forsyth

Professor of Economics and Head, Department of Economics, Monash University

Prior to joining Monash University in 1997, Peter was Professor of Economics at University of New England and lectured in Economics at the Australian National University and the University of New South Wales. He was a member of the National Grid Management Council Consultative Working Group (1990–94). Peter is well known for his work in applied microeconomics, notably in the areas of the economics of transport and tourism and the economic effects of privatisation and regulation. He has many publications in these areas and edited the widely read book *Microeconomic Reform in Australia* (1992).

Peter Saunders

Director, Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales.

Peter has been with the Centre since 1987. Prior to joining the Centre, Peter taught economics in universities in Britain and at the University of Sydney. He has also worked for the OECD and been a consultant for the IMF, the New Zealand Royal Commission on Social Policy and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. His main research interests include inequality and income distribution, poverty, social security and the economics of the welfare state. His book, *Welfare and*

Inequality, National and International Perspectives on the Australian Welfare State, was published in 1994. Among his recent research interests are a study of the development of indicative budget standards for Australia, further analysis of the meaning and measurement of poverty, an investigation into the links between poverty, income inequality and health in Australia and the development of social security protection in the countries of East and Southeast Asia. He was elected a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia in 1995.

Andrew Stoeckel

Executive Director, Centre for International Economics (CIE).

Andrew has headed the CIE — one of Australia's leading private economic research consultancies — for the last ten years. He was formerly the Director of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Andrew is a specialist in policy analysis and the international economy. He has initiated and directed programs of research which have included studies of European agricultural policies and international trade. Andrew provides regular briefings for major Australian clients on the short and longer term world outlook and implications for commodity prices. Major industries that he has undertaken extensive policy analysis on include tourism, health, water, food processing, beef and wool. He has led economic missions to overseas countries as well as briefing foreign governments on trade policy.

Glenn Withers

Professor of Public Policy, Asia-Pacific School of Economics and Management, Australian National University.

Prior to taking up his present position, Glenn was Commissioner of the Economic Planning Advisory Commission, 1991 to 1996. He has held a number of academic positions and has consulted widely for government and the private sector. Glenn has been on various public committees and inquiries including being the Chair of the *Private Provision of Infrastructure* inquiry (1994–95) and inquiries on immigration and population. He has been the Chair of the National Population Council and the Migrant Skills and Qualifications Board. Glenn is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia.

Glenn has published on a number of topics including immigration, labour markets, competition policy, industry policy and the performing arts. Some of his recent works include: *Policy for Australia's Industrial Future* (with Margaret Mead, CEDA) and *Immigration and Australia: Myths and Realities* (with Castles, Foster and Iredale).