



# AUSTRALIAN FABIANS

## A FOOL'S PARADISE? ECONOMICS, EQUITY & TRUST IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

Australian Fabians National Policy Conference 11 & 12 November 2005, Melbourne  
Combined with 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner – 11 November

### PROGRAM

#### Day 1 – Friday 11 November

8.45 - 9.15 Registration

9.15 – 9.30 Welcome - Race Mathews, National Chairman, Australian Fabian Society, Barbara Norman, Deputy Chair, Australian Fabian Society

9.30 -10.15

#### **Plenary : What is to be done? Progressive priorities**

Geoff Mulgan, Director, UK Institute for Community Studies and former Director of the Prime Minister's Policy and Strategy Units and Founder of the Demos Think-Tank

Chair: Race Mathews, National President, Australian Fabian Society

10.15 -10.45 MORNING TEA

10.45 - 12.00

#### **Plenary Challenges facing the Australian economy in the next decade**

Greg Combet, Secretary, ACTU

Heather Ridout, CEO, Australian Industry Group

Wayne Swan, Shadow Treasurer and Member for Lilley

Chair: Evan Thornley, LookSmart Co-founder, National Secretary Australian Fabian Society

12.00 - 13.00

#### **Concurrent 1: How to win the economic debate**

Bill Shorten, National Secretary, AWU

Tony Douglas, EMC

Chair: Evan Thornley, LookSmart Co-founder, National Secretary Australian Fabian Society

#### **Concurrent 2: Future of economics**

Nicholas Gruen, CEO, Lateral Economics

Ashley Hogan, Historian, Senator John Faulkner's Office

Chair: Dennis Glover, Associate Fellow, School of Social Sciences, La Trobe University

#### **Concurrent 3: Impact of the international economy**

John Langmore, Professorial Fellow, Political Science Department, The University of Melbourne

David Bassanese, Journalist, Australian Financial Review

Chair: Peter Fitzgerald

#### **Concurrent 4: Does Australia have a High-Tech Future?**

Joshua Funder, GBS Venture Partners Limited

Mike Georgeff, Australia's leading expert on artificial intelligence and successful Silicon Valley entrepreneur

Chair: Damien Smith

**13.00 - 14.00 LUNCH - PROGRESSIVE THINK-TANKS IN AUSTRALIA** - An informal discussion to explore the need for professional, progressive think-tanks in Australia and how to establish them.

14.00 - 15.00

#### **Plenary: Sustainability: the economic and ethical imperatives**

Professor Ian Lowe AO, President, Australian Conservation Foundation

Chair: Barbara Norman, Deputy Chair, Australian Fabian Society & Program Director, Environment & Planning, RMIT

15.00 - 15.30 AFTERNOON TEA



# AUSTRALIAN FABIANS

## A FOOL'S PARADISE? ECONOMICS, EQUITY & TRUST IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

Australian Fabians National Policy Conference 11 & 12 November 2005, Melbourne  
Combined with 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner – 11 November

### PROGRAM

15.30-16.45

#### **Concurrent 1: Corporate social responsibility**

Penny Wong MP, Shadow Minister for Employment & Workforce Participation  
Caroline Bayliss, Acting Executive Director, Global Sustainability, RMIT University  
Tony Wood, Origin Energy  
Chair: Noel Turnbull

#### **Concurrent 2: Healthy and green cities**

The Hon Kim Carr, Shadow Minister for Housing; Urban Development; Local Government  
Beth Wilson, Health Services Commissioner of Victoria  
John McInerney, Councillor, Sydney City Council  
Mark Spiller, Director, SGS Economics & Planning Institute of Australia  
Chair: Faith Fitzgerald

#### **Concurrent 3: Regional development**

Tricia Caswell, CEO, Victorian Association of Forest Industries  
Simon Crean MP, Shadow Minister for Regional Development  
Julie Hansen, former President of the VLGA  
Chair: Bill Kelty

#### **Concurrent 4: Natural and built heritage**

Barbara Norman, Deputy Chair, Australian Fabian Society & Program Director, Environment & Planning, RMIT  
Anthony Albanese MP, Shadow Minister for Environment & Heritage, Shadow Minister for Water  
Professor Ian Lowe AO, President, Australian Conservation Foundation  
Chair: Helen Sykes

16.45 Close

19.00 for 19.30

#### **TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL AFS REMEMBRANCE DAY DINNER**

Guest of Honor NSW Senator and former Senate Leader John Faulkner introduces and speaks to a new short film based on his celebrated Gough Whitlam TV interview and talks about the Whitlam experience with fellow guest Barry Cohen- former Hawke government Arts Minister and author of "Life with Gough" and "Whitlam to Winston"-and Longtime Whitlam principal private secretary and Cain government minister Race Mathews.

### **DAY 2 - Saturday 12 November**

#### **8.45 - 9.15 REGISTRATION**

9.15 -10.15

#### **Plenary: Social investment, relationships and caring**

Brian Howe, Professorial Associate, Centre for Public Policy, The University of Melbourne  
Chair: Mike Hill

#### **10.15 - 10.45 MORNING TEA**

10.45 -12.00

#### **Concurrent 1: Health**

Stephen Duckett, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences, La Trobe University  
Jenny Lewis, Senior Research Fellow, Political Science, The University of Melbourne  
Chair: Vivienne McCutcheon



# AUSTRALIAN FABIANS

## A FOOL'S PARADISE? ECONOMICS, EQUITY & TRUST IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY

Australian Fabians National Policy Conference 11 & 12 November 2005, Melbourne  
Combined with 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner – 11 November

### PROGRAM

#### **Concurrent 2: Tax**

Julian Disney, Professor and Director of Social Justice Project, Department of Law, University of NSW  
John Freebairn, Professor and Director of the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, University of Melbourne  
Chair: John Langmore, Professorial Fellow, Political Science Department, The University of Melbourne

#### **Concurrent 3: Employment and Income**

Wayne Swan, Shadow Treasurer and Member for Lilley  
Alison McClelland, Associate Professor & Head of School of Social Work and Social Policy, La Trobe University  
Chair: Paul Smyth

#### **Concurrent 4: Education**

Jenny Macklin MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition  
Professor Glyn Davis, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Melbourne  
Chair: Barry Jones AO, National President, ALP

**12.00 - 13.45 LUNCH - YOUTH FORUM** "That Young Idealistic People Should Forget About Organised Politics". Ryan Heath, speechwriter and events coordinator for Britain's most senior public servant, Gus O'Donnell, the Cabinet Secretary, will be addressing this contention, which was recently proposed by former Labour leader, Mark Latham. Ryan will also be looking at generational change in Australian politics and society more broadly.

13.45 - 14.45

#### **Plenary: Trust - Dennis Glover, Associate Fellow, School of Social Sciences, La Trobe University**

Chair: Mike Scrafton

#### **14.45 - 15.15 AFTERNOON TEA**

15.15 - 16.30

#### **Concurrent 1: Accountability and Transparency : Who do we believe and what can we know?**

Stephen Mayne, Business Editor, Crikey  
Ian Marsh, Professor of Public Management, Australia & New Zealand School of Government, University of Sydney  
Tony Harris, former Auditor of NSW  
Chair: Jaya Radisch

#### **Concurrent 2: Community: Who is my neighbour?**

Julian Burnside QC  
Guy Rundle, Co-editor, Arena Magazine  
Eric Beecher, CEO, Private Media Partners  
Chair: Pamela McLure

#### **Concurrent 3: The ALP: What to expect and how to relate**

Senator John Faulkner, former Labor Senate Leader  
Michael O'Connor, National Assistant Secretary, Forestry Division, Construction Forestry, Energy & Mining Union  
Robert Manne, Professor of Politics, La Trobe University  
Jim Jupp, Centre for Immigration and Multicultural Studies, Research School of Social Sciences, ANU  
Chair: John Button

#### **Concurrent 4: Civil society: more than economics to life and happiness**

David McKnight, Sydney academic and author of 'Beyond Left and Right: New Politics and the Culture Wars'  
Scott Rankin, Playwright and creative director of Big ART inc  
David Yencken, University of Melbourne  
Chair: Leslie Wood

16.30 - 17.00

**Conference summary and what next?**

Race Mathews, National Chairman, Australian Fabian Society