

ATN 11TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

4 – 10 FEBRUARY 2006

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Defining the Future Finding Solutions

SPEAKERS



George Megalogenis is the author of *Faultlines* (Scribe 2003) and *The Longest Decade* (Scribe 2006, updated 2008) and a senior journalist with *The Australian* newspaper. He spent 11 years in the Canberra press gallery between 1988 and 1999 before returning to *The Australian's* Melbourne bureau.

He has a small footprint in each area of the media: newspapers, the Internet, television and radio. Apart from his day job, he runs his own blog, 'Meganomics', on *The Australian's* website, is a regular panellist with the ABC's *Insiders* program and appears on Melbourne community radio RRR's *Breakfasters* program.

The Longest Decade created a record of sorts in 2006 when it was launched by John Howard in Canberra and then Paul Keating in Sydney.

The book has been updated and expanded with new chapters covering the end of the Keating–Howard era and the rise of Kevin Rudd. The Prime Minister launched the revised edition in May 2008.

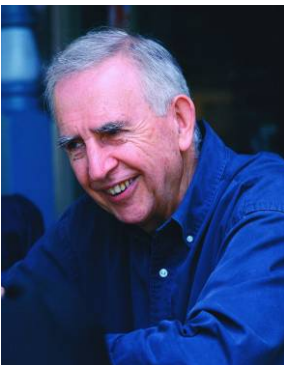


Emeritus Professor Denise Bradley AC is the former Vice-Chancellor and President of UniSA. She was a member of the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission (CTEC), of the National Board of Employment, Education and Training, and Deputy Chair of its Higher Education Council. In 2002 she was a member of the Australian Government's Higher Education Review Reference group.

Her other significant roles have included the following:

- Foundation Director of the Australian Universities Quality Agency
- President and Chair of IDP Education Australia Limited ;
- Member of the Board of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee;
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Australian - American Fulbright Commission ;
- Member of the Board of Directors of IDP Education Pty Ltd and
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Business/Higher Education Round Table

She is currently Chair of the Expert Panel reviewing Higher Education in Australia, President of the Australian College of Educators, Chair of the South Australian Training and Skills Commission, and Chair of VERNET.



Dr Hugh Mackay is a social researcher and novelist who has made a lifelong study of the attitudes and behaviour of Australians. He is the author of eleven books, including five bestsellers in the field of social analysis, and four novels. The second edition of his latest book, *Advance Australia...Where?* was published in September 2008, and his fifth novel will be out in May 2009.

He is a fellow of the Australian Psychological Society and received the University of Sydney's 2004 Alumni Award for community service. In recognition of his pioneering work in social research, Hugh has been awarded honorary doctorates by Charles Sturt, Macquarie and NSW universities.

He is a former deputy chairman of the Australia Council, a former chairman of trustees of Sydney Grammar School, and was the inaugural chairman of the ACT government's Community Inclusion Board. He was a newspaper columnist for almost 30 years and now writes occasionally for *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age* and *The West Australian*. He is a frequent broadcaster on ABC radio.



Professor Trevor Gale is Professor of Education and founding Director of the National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education, which is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and hosted by the University of South Australia. He is also a past president of the Australian Association for Research in Education (AARE) and the founding editor of the journal *Critical Studies in Education*. A critical sociologist, Trevor's research interests are in policy sociology and social justice, which he has pursued in the contexts of schooling and higher education. He is currently directing a project, commissioned by DEEWR, investigating universities' early interventions in school to increase students' later participation in higher education.



Dr Lawrence Stedman is Principal Policy Adviser in the Chancellery at Queensland University of Technology, a position he assumed in April 1995. Prior to his current appointment, he worked in the Federal Government in Canberra in a variety of positions including the Department of Finance (area responsible for higher education) and the Department of Health, where he was Secretary to the Medical Research Committee of the NHMRC.

In his current role he has maintained an active role in monitoring and contributing to QUT policy and public policy on higher education across a wide range of areas. Most recently he was a member of a group contributing to the development of the Federal Government's Learning and Teaching Performance Fund.

In 1998 he co-authored, with Professor Peter Coaldrake, "On the Brink: Australia's Universities Confronting Their Future" (University of Queensland Press), February, 1998, and in 1999 he and Coaldrake wrote "Academic Work in the Twenty-First Century" (DETYA, Occasional Paper Series 99-H).

Lawrence Stedman was a member of a research team which was funded by the Australian government to complete a major project on the matter of borderless education, including the rise of corporate universities.



Professor Vincent Tinto received his Ph.D. in education and sociology from The University of Chicago. He is currently Distinguished University Professor at Syracuse University and chair of the higher education program.

He has carried out research and has written extensively on higher education, particularly on student retention and the impact of learning communities on student growth and attainment. He has consulted widely with Federal and State agencies, with independent research firms, foundations, and with two and four-year institutions of higher education on a broad range of higher educational issues, not the least of which concern the retention and education of students in higher education.

He serves on the editorial boards of several journals and with various organizations and professional associations concerned with higher education. He chaired the national panel responsible for awarding \$5 million to establish the first national center for research on teaching and learning in higher education and served as Associate Director of the \$6 million National Center on Postsecondary Teaching, Learning, and Assessment funded by the U.S. Office of Education.

As a member of the Pathways to College Network he is currently engaged in a national effort to increase access to college. He also works with the Council for Opportunity in Education, the Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Education, the European Access Network, and the Dutch government to develop programs to promote access to higher education for disadvantaged youth in Europe. His current research, funded by grants from the Lumina Foundation for Education and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation focuses on the impact of learning communities on the academic achievements of under-prepared college students in urban two and four-year colleges.



Professor Margaret Sheil took up the position of Australian Research Council (ARC) Chief Executive Officer on 17 August 2007.

Before joining the ARC, Professor Sheil held the post of Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) at the University of Wollongong (UOW) for five years, where she was responsible for the whole spectrum of research and development, including commercialisation.

While at UOW, Professor Sheil attracted more than \$5 million in external research funding, a large portion of which was awarded to the university from ARC-administered schemes under the Australian Government's National Competitive Grants Program. She has had a long association with the ARC as a member of the Expert Advisory Committee for Physics, Chemistry and Geosciences and the ARC Quality and Scrutiny Committee.

Professor Sheil's research interests encompass the study of biomolecular interactions and applications of mass spectrometry to biological problems. She is a former President of the Australian and New Zealand Society for Mass Spectrometry and Australian representative to the International Mass Spectrometry Foundation and was an Editor of Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry in 2006-07.

Professor Sheil is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. She is now a member of National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS), Cooperative Research Centres (CRC) Committee and PMSEIC, The Prime Minister's Science, Engineering and Innovation Council and was Chair of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee Deputy/Pro Vice-Chancellors' (Research) Group in 2006 and a member of the RQF reference committee in 2007.

Previous positions held by Professor Sheil include Dean of Science at UOW (2001-02); Lecturer/Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry at UOW (1990-1999); Research Fellow in the Research School of Chemistry at The Australian National University (1989-1990); and Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Utah, USA (1988-89).

She is a former director of the Cooperative Research Centre for Smart Internet Technology Pty Ltd and several technology start-up companies. Professor Sheil holds a B.Sc. (Hons) and a PhD in chemistry from The University of New South Wales. She has 85 publications in international journals.



Jessie Borthwick is the Head of Division, Science and Research in the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, adding to her previous responsibilities for science those of research policy and management within the Australian Government. Ms Borthwick was earlier Group Manager, Science, in the Department of Education, Science and Training, a position she took up in May 2005. In this role Ms Borthwick was responsible for a range of major science programmes and policy areas including international science, cooperative research centres, the Office of the Chief Scientist, nuclear waste management, science awareness programmes and relationships with key stakeholders including portfolio science agencies. Ms Borthwick joined the Department in 2002 as Group Manager, Strategic Analysis and Evaluation, having worked earlier as Deputy Director at the National Centre for Vocational Education Research for five years. She has held senior policy positions in State and Federal Governments for over twenty years and holds a Bachelor of Arts (Asian Studies) from the Australian National University.



Ben Sowter is Head of Research at QS and has led the THE - QS World University Rankings project since its inception in 2004. Graduating from the University of Nottingham in Computer Science, Ben spent two years working for international student charity - AIESEC - the latter as UK National President before joining QS in 2002.



Professor Stuart White is the Director of the Institute for Sustainable Futures situated at the University of Technology Sydney. He has worked and undertaken research in sustainability for over twenty years, specialising in the use of least cost planning for utilities and the advocacy, design, implementation and evaluation of programs for improving resource use efficiency. At the Institute, and previously as Director of Preferred Options (Asia-Pacific) Pty Ltd, he designed or implemented three of Australia's largest water efficiency programs, in Kalgoorlie Boulder in Western Australia, in northern New South Wales and in Sydney. In 1998 he was appointed as a member of the NSW Task Force on Water Conservation and in 2001 as a member of the Expert Panel on Environmental Flows for the Hawkesbury Nepean. In 2000 he was requested by the NSW Minister for the Environment to undertake an Independent Review of Container Deposit Legislation and has written and presented widely on sustainable futures including taxation, participatory decision-making and public policy.