



ACADEMY OF
THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
IN AUSTRALIA

2015 SYMPOSIUM

SOCIAL INSURANCE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY?

EXPLORING PATHWAYS
FOR A SUSTAINABLE,
EQUITABLE AND EFFECTIVE
WELFARE SYSTEM

TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2015

SHINE DOME • CANBERRA



Australian Government
Department of Social Services



LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY

SPRC

Social Policy Research Centre



ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

MANY COUNTRIES HAVE HAD SOCIAL INSURANCE SCHEMES FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY. THE FIRST COMPULSORY NATIONAL SOCIAL INSURANCE PROGRAMS WERE ESTABLISHED IN GERMANY UNDER CHANCELLOR BISMARCK IN THE LATE 19TH CENTURY.

SOCIAL INSURANCE HAS NOT BEEN A MAJOR PART OF AUSTRALIA'S WELFARE SYSTEM DESPITE ABORTIVE EFFORTS IN THE 1920s AND 1930s TO INTRODUCE SUCH SCHEMES. HOWEVER, OVER THE LAST SEVERAL DECADES MAJOR ADDITIONS TO THE AUSTRALIAN HEALTH AND WELFARE SYSTEMS HAVE INCLUDED MEDICARE AND THE NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS), AND INTEREST IN INTRODUCING ADDITIONAL SCHEMES PERSISTS. WHERE ARE WE NOW, AND WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

An assessment of social insurance schemes is timely in both the international and Australian contexts. Some countries are making efforts to roll back some social insurance schemes, often encountering spirited resistance, while others are introducing new ones. In Australia, both Medicare and the NDIS are widely supported while some voices can be heard in support, for example, of long-term care, unemployment and other types of social insurance. Debates about the future equity and sustainability of health and welfare systems are necessarily incomplete without a serious discussion about the design, impacts and sustainability of social insurance schemes.

The Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia's 2015 Symposium—*Social Insurance for the 21st Century? Exploring pathways for a sustainable, equitable and effective welfare system* promises to provide an informed and lively discussion on aspects of national and international social insurance schemes. Past and contemporary experience and current priorities will be assessed, and advice from Australian and leading international experts in the field will provide Australia's researchers and policy makers with valuable insights for ongoing reform of Australia's welfare system.



SPEAKERS

CONVENORS & PRESENTERS

Professor Allan Borowski FASSA, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University, Melbourne, and Emeritus Professor, La Trobe University Melbourne.

Emeritus Professor Bettina Cass AO FASSA, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney.

CHAIRS

Professor Rosalind Croucher, President, Australian Law Reform Commission, Sydney.

Mr Michael Borowick, Assistant Secretary, Australian Council of Trade Unions, Melbourne.

Emeritus Professor Murray Goot FASSA, Macquarie University, Sydney.

Professor Jenny Lewis, Public Policy and Australian Research Council Future Fellow (2013-16), The University of Melbourne, Parkville.

Professor Adam Graycar FASSA, School of Social and Policy Studies, Flinders University, Adelaide.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Professor Daniel Beland, Canada Research Chair in Public Policy, University of Saskatchewan, Canada.

Professor Sara Arber, Co-Director, Centre for Research on Ageing and Gender, University of Surrey, United Kingdom.

PRESENTERS

Professor Deborah Brennan FASSA, Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC), University of New South Wales, Sydney.

Professor Peter Whiteford, Director, Social Policy Institute, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University, Canberra.

Associate Professor Siobhan Austen, Head, Economics and Property and Co-Director of the Women in Social and Economic Research (WISER), Curtin University, Perth.

Associate Professor James Gillespie, Deputy Director, Menzies Centre for Health Policy and Director, Master of Health Policy, University of Sydney, Sydney.

Associate Professor Karen Fisher, Disability Research Program, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney.

Ms Jacqueline Phillip, Director of Policy, Australian Council of Social Service, Sydney.

The Hon John Della Bosca, National Campaign Director, Every Australian Counts, Canberra.

Professor Eric Kingson, Professor, School of Social Work, Syracuse University, New York, USA. (via video conference)

Ms Serena Wilson PSM, Deputy Secretary, Social Security, Department of Social Services, Canberra.

Dr Zhiming Cheng, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for the Health Economy, Macquarie University, Sydney.

Professor Peter Saunders FASSA, Research Chair in Social Policy, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney.

2015 CUNNINGHAM LECTURE



FEATURING

THE HON DR ANDREW LEIGH MP, FASSA
SHADOW ASSISTANT TREASURER AND
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FRASER

Andrew Leigh MP is the Shadow Assistant Treasurer and Federal Member for Fraser in the ACT. Prior to being elected in 2010, Andrew was a professor of economics at the Australian National University. Andrew holds a PhD in public policy from Harvard, having graduated from the University of Sydney with first class honours in Law and Arts. He has previously worked as a lawyer and as a principal adviser to the Australian Treasury. He was elected Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, 2011, the only current parliamentarian to be a fellow of one of the four national Learned Academies. In 2011 he received the 'Young Economist Award', a prize given every two years by the Economics Society of Australia to the best Australian economist under 40. His books include *Disconnected* (2010), *Battlers and Billionaires* (2013), *The Economics of Just About Everything* (2014) and *The Luck of Politics* (2015).

Andrew is the father of three sons — Sebastian, Theodore and Zachary, and lives with his wife Gweneth in the Canberra suburb of Hackett. He has been a member of the Australian Labor Party since 1991.

THE LUCK OF POLITICS

When US president Theodore Roosevelt was shot in the chest in 1912, he was saved by the luck of having a folded fifty-page speech in his breast pocket. Two years later, World War I was sparked after Franz Ferdinand's motorcade took a wrong turn onto a narrow street, putting his car into the path of an assassin. John Howard and Gough Whitlam narrowly missed out being elected to state seats — a 'misfortune' that left them able to run for safer federal seats.

In this talk, Andrew Leigh will argue that recognising the importance of luck can profoundly alter the way in which all of us think about politics, and about life. Just as a good health system guards against the bad luck of sickness, and a good unemployment system protects against the bad luck of job loss, so too we need a politics that recognises the role of chance. Luck should make us less inclined to revere the successful and revile the unsuccessful. Putting luck into politics may even let the unlucky have a second chance.

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

8:00 am **REGISTRATION**

8.45 am **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND CO-CONVENER'S INTRODUCTION**

Professor Deborah Terry AO FASSA, President, Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, Canberra

CO-CONVENER'S INTRODUCTION

Emeritus Professor Bettina Cass AO FASSA, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney

9.00 am **PANEL ONE** Key Issues in Reinventing the Welfare State: Social Insurance

PANEL CHAIR: **Professor Rosalind Croucher**, President, Australian Law Reform Commission, Sydney

Professor Allan Borowski FASSA, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University, Melbourne, and Emeritus Professor, La Trobe University, Melbourne

What is Social Insurance and Why Consider it in Welfare State Reinvention?

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Professor Daniel Beland, Canada Research Chair in Public Policy, University of Saskatchewan, Canada

The Fiscal Side of Social Insurance in Historical and Comparative Perspective

Professor Sara Arber, Co-Director, Centre for Research on Ageing and Gender, University of Surrey, United Kingdom

The Gendered Effects of Social Insurance schemes: A Case Study of Ageing and Pensions

Panel Discussion and Q & A

10.15 am **MORNING TEA**

10.40 am **PANEL TWO** Social Insurance over the Life Course

PANEL CHAIR: **Mr Michael Borowick**, Assistant Secretary, Australian Council of Trade Unions, Melbourne

Professor Deborah Brennan FASSA, Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC), University of New South Wales, Sydney

Equity vs Insurance: The Topsy-Turvy World of Australian Parental Leave

Professor Peter Whiteford, Director, Social Policy Institute, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University, Canberra

Assessing Alternative Approaches to Unemployment Insurance and Unemployment Assistance: A Comparative Perspective

Associate Professor Siobhan Austen, Head, Economics and Property and Co-Director of the Women in Social and Economic Research (WISER), Curtin University, Perth

Can Australia Achieve an Equitable Retirement Income System? What Can we Learn from International Models of Social Insurance?

Panel discussion and Q & A

12.00 pm **LUNCH**

12.50 pm **PANEL THREE** Health, Disability and Care

PANEL CHAIR: **Emeritus Professor Murray Goot** FASSA, Macquarie University, Sydney

Associate Professor James Gillespie, Deputy Director, Menzies Centre for Health Policy and Director, Master of Health Policy, University of Sydney, Sydney

The End of Universal Health Coverage? The Principle of Universalism and the Politics of Retrenchment

Associate Professor Karen Fisher, Disability Research Program, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney

Enabling Active Citizenship? Disability Services Insurance in Australia and Some Lessons from International Experience

Emeritus Professor Bettina Cass AO FASSA, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney

'Long-Term Care Social Insurance Internationally: From the Margins to the Australian Policy Agenda?

Panel discussion and Q & A

2.00 pm **AFTERNOON TEA**

2.25 pm **PANEL FOUR** Social Insurance and Advocacy

PANEL CHAIR: **Professor Jenny Lewis**, Public Policy and Australian Research Council Future Fellow (2013-16), The University of Melbourne, University of Melbourne, Parkville

Ms Jacqueline Phillips, Director of Policy, Australian Council of Social Service, Sydney
Policy Advocacy in the Australian Context

The Hon John Della Bosca, National Campaign Director, Every Australian Counts, Canberra
Advocacy for the NDIS

Professor Eric Kingson, School of Social Work, Syracuse University, New York, USA
(via video conference)

Social Insurance Advocacy in the United States

Panel discussion and Q & A

3.25 pm **PANEL FIVE** The Future of Social Insurance in Australia and Internationally

PANEL CHAIR: **Professor Adam Graycar** FASSA, School of Social and Policy Studies, Flinders University, Adelaide

Ms Serena Wilson PSM, Deputy Secretary, Social Security, Department of Social Services, Canberra

Dr Zhiming Cheng, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for the Health Economy, Macquarie University, Sydney

Professor Peter Saunders FASSA, Research Chair in Social Policy, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales, Sydney

Panel discussion and Q & A

4.30 pm **CONCLUSION & THANKS**

Professor Glenn Withers AO FASSA, President-elect, Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, Canberra



PROGRAM OF ANNUAL EVENTS

DAY 1 MONDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2015

Event	Date and Time	Venue
Book Launch: Australia's Comparative Advantage, launched by Professor John Hewson AM	Monday 16 Nov at 5.30pm	Common Room, University House, Canberra
Presentation by New Fellows	Monday 16 Nov at 7.00pm	Common Room, University House, Canberra

DAY 2 TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2015

Event	Date and Time	Venue
Annual Symposium	Tuesday 17 Nov at 8.45am	Shine Dome, Canberra
President's Drinks	Tuesday 17 Nov at 4.30pm	Shine Dome, Canberra
Book Launch: The Social Sciences in the Asian Century	Tuesday 17 Nov at 5.00pm	Shine Dome, Canberra
2015 Cunningham Lecture by the Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP, FASSA <i>The Luck of Politics</i>	Tuesday 17 Nov at 5.30pm	Shine Dome, Canberra
Fellows Dinner, recognition of Jubilee Fellows and induction of New Fellows	Tuesday 17 Nov at 7.45pm (Pre-drinks at 7.15pm)	Great Hall, University House, Canberra

DAY 3 WEDNESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2015

Event	Date and Time	Venue
New Fellows Induction Breakfast	Wednesday 18 Nov at 7.45am	Fellows' Bar, University House, Canberra
Panel Discussions	Wednesday 18 Nov at 9.00am	Panel A - Seminar Room, University House, Canberra Panel B- Scarth Room, University House, Canberra Panel C - Ian Wark Theatre, Shine Dome, Canberra Panel D - Becker Room, Shine Dome, Canberra
Annual General Meeting (AGM)	Wednesday 18 Nov at 10.45am	Shine Dome, Canberra
Lunch following AGM	Wednesday 18 Nov at 1.00pm	Shine Dome, Canberra



ACADEMY OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES IN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER ONLINE:

<https://www.assa.edu.au/registration/2015/>

FOR ENQUIRIES AND GROUP BOOKINGS:

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