

ASU National Conference 2012 Speakers

26-28 November, 2012 • National Wine Centre of Australia - Adelaide

Day One: MONDAY 26 November



Jay Weatherill, MP, LLB BEc GDLP
Premier of South Australia
Government of South Australia

Jay Weatherill is South Australia's 45th Premier.

Jay was born and educated in Adelaide's western suburbs, completing his secondary education at Henley High School.

He is a lawyer with an economics degree and establishing his own law firm in 1995 and practising until he was elected as the Member for Cheltenham in 2002. Jay was subsequently re-elected as Member for Cheltenham in 2006 and in 2010.

He has previously held a range of senior Cabinet portfolios including Education, Early Childhood Development, Environment & Conservation, Aboriginal Affairs & Reconciliation, Minister Assisting the Premier in Cabinet Business & Public Sector Management, Families & Communities, Housing, Ageing, Disability, Urban Development & Planning, Administrative Services, Local Government and Gambling.



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Day Two: TUESDAY 27 November



Paul Schroder
General Manager, Growth and New Opportunities
AustralianSuper

Paul manages AustralianSuper's Growth and New Opportunities department. He was previously the National Secretary of the Finance Sector Union of Australia and has served as both a member elected and employer appointed trustee.

Paul has extensive experience in the finance industry and a strong grasp of the key strategic issues facing the superannuation industry. He is the Director of SuperFriend - IFF Mental Health Foundation and a member of the Federal Government's Financial Centre Task Force. Paul holds a Bachelor of Commerce (University of Melbourne) and was awarded the Shell exhibition prize for Labour economics. He also holds a diploma in Financial Planning.



Tim Lyons
Assistant Secretary
Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU)

Tim Lyons has been the Assistant Secretary of the ACTU since 2008. Tim's responsibilities as an ACTU Officer include management of the organising and union education programs, the industrial and policy unit, superannuation and retirement incomes, and the corporate research/strategic campaigning capacity.

Tim represents the ACTU and unions in discussions with government and business on both industrial issues and the broader policy agenda of Australian unions. He is a member of a range of government committees in relation to workplace relations, the economy, & superannuation including the National Workplace Relations Consultative Council, the Business Tax Working Group, & the Fair Work Building Commission Advisory Board.

Tim is a Trustee Director of HESTA superannuation fund, and sits on various superannuation industry bodies including the board of the Industry Super Network. Tim is the Australian representative on the Global Unions Committee on Workers' Capital where he chairs the working group on shareholder activism.

Before commencing at ACTU, Tim was an official of the National Union of Workers for 13 years, working as a senior industrial officer and organiser.



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Debby Blakey
Deputy CEO
HESTA Super Fund

Debby was appointed to the role of Deputy CEO at HESTA in January 2012, prior to which she was Executive Manager – Member Advice from September 2008. Debby brings more than 20 years' experience in superannuation and financial planning to HESTA. She started her career working on defined benefit mergers and valuations for a consulting actuarial practice in South Africa, before setting up her own business as an employee benefit consultant with a particular focus on superannuation.

Debby has previous retail and industry fund experience in business development, operational management and member advice and is passionate about delivering quality advice to members who have historically not had access to cost-effective advice.

Debby holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Natal, South Africa, is a Certified Financial Planner™ practitioner and a Fellow of The Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees.



Peter JA Sams, AM
Deputy President
Fair Work Australia

Deputy President Peter JA Sams AM was appointed to Fair Work Australia in 2010 after 11 years as a Deputy President of the Industrial Relations Commission of NSW. He was Secretary of the Labor Council of New South Wales between 1994 and 1998, having served as Industrial Officer, Organiser and Assistant Secretary between 1982 and 1994.

Peter was also President of the NSW Branch of the ALP between 1997 and 1998. His responsibilities at Fair Work Australia include membership of the Major Resources/Infrastructure Project Panel and a number of industry panel assignments. He is a former director of Sydney Water Corporation, Federal Airports Corporation, the Maritime Services Board of NSW, Chifley Financial Services and Labour Union Insurance



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Josh Bornstein, BA, LLB (Hons)
Principal
Maurice Blackburn Lawyers

Josh has been recognised as Victoria's and Australia's pre-eminent Employment Law and Workplace Relations lawyer for employees in "*Doyle's Guide to the Australian Legal Profession*", 2010 and 2011 editions.

Doyle's Guide also ranks Josh as one of 6 "Pre-eminent Industrial Disputes lawyers" in Australia.

Josh provides advice and conducts litigation in a variety of areas, including employment contracts, redundancy, restraint of trade, discrimination and industrial disputation. He has conducted many important anti-discrimination cases with a particular focus on freedom of association and workplace rights. Josh is a passionate advocate for the introduction of federal legislation explicitly addressing workplace bullying. He has also negotiated numerous substantial out of court settlements.

Josh manages the firm's national Employment & Industrial Law practice.



Dr Anne Summers, AO
Author, Journalist

Dr Anne Summers AO is a best-selling author, journalist and thought-leader with a long career in politics, the media, business and the non-government sector in Australia, Europe and the United States.

She is author of several books, including the classic *Damned Whores and God's Police*, first published in 1975, *Ducks on the Pond*, her autobiography in 1999, *The End of Equality*, (2003) *On Luck* (2008) and her most recent book *The Lost Mother* published in 2009 by Melbourne University Press. She writes regularly for the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Sunday Age*, the *Australian Financial Review* and *The Monthly*.



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Dave Oliver
Secretary
Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU)

Dave Oliver is the Secretary of the Australian Council of Trade Unions. He was elected at the 2012 Congress, following the retirement of Jeff Lawrence.

In 2007, Dave was elected National Secretary of the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union. He was re-elected in 2011.

After leaving school in 1977, Dave began his working life as 15 year old apprentice at JR Simpson Engineering in Botany, NSW.

On completing his trade as a fitter, Dave went to work for the Sydney lift company, Johns Perry Lifts (later Boral Lifts).

He first became a union site delegate while working on the construction of the elevator in the new NSW Industrial Relations Commission building at 80 William St, Sydney. After 10 years in the industry, and as a union activist with a passion for safety and asbestos issues, Dave became an organiser with the AMWU in 1988.

As a NSW Branch official, Dave led campaigns to protect workers' entitlements from company collapses before moving to Victoria as the Assistant National Secretary and then becoming Victorian Branch Secretary in 2002.

As AMWU National Secretary, Dave played a key role in the Your Rights at Work campaign and the Manufacturing: Australia's Future campaign, as well as several government taskforces on apprenticeships, skills and the resource sector.

He is currently a director of AustralianSuper and a member of the Prime Minister's Taskforce on Manufacturing.



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Day Three: Wednesday 28 November



Dr Joanna Howe
Lecturer
University of Adelaide

Joanna Howe is a Lecturer in Law at the University of Adelaide. Her main research interests lie in employment law.

Joanna graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours) and a Bachelor of Economics, majoring in Industrial Relations and Human Resource Management.

Joanna is a Rhodes Scholar and graduated in 2012 with a Doctorate of Philosophy in Law from the University of Oxford.

Through her work as a legal practitioner for Harmers Workplace Lawyers Joanna has been involved with the firm's contribution to the Australian Institute of Employment Rights. She has authored 'The Australian Standard of Employment Rights' which is a how-to guide for businesses seeking best practice in people management. Joanna has also been involved in the firm's client work and training of legal practitioners.

Joanna has also worked in the Industrial Team of the Australian Workers' Union and as the Head Researcher for the Pay Equity Project of the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency.



Dr Iain Campbell
Senior Research Fellow
RMIT University

Iain Campbell is a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Applied Social Research (CASR), RMIT University, working on research projects to do with labour restructuring, precarious work, temporary migrant labour, working-time patterns and work-life balance, both in Australia and internationally.

Iain has worked for over 25 years as a researcher for community groups, trade unions and universities and he has appeared as an expert witness in several major industrial cases, including the Reasonable Hours Test Case and the Family Provisions Test Case. His doctoral research was on casual work and casualisation in Australia.

Iain is co-author of *Fragmented Futures: New Challenges in Working Life* (2003) and co-editor of *Gender and the Contours of Precarious Employment* (2009).



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Peter Hampton
Commissioner
Fair Work Australia

Peter Hampton is a Commissioner in Fair Work Australia based in Adelaide, South Australia, having being appointed in January 2010. In that capacity he is also a Member of the Minimum Wage Panel and recently appointed as a Member of the newly established Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal. Immediately prior to that appointment, Peter was Director of Policy and Strategy for SafeWork SA, the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. SafeWork SA is a South Australian Government agency responsible for the administration of Occupational, Health and Safety and Industrial Relations legislation and policy.

Prior to joining SafeWork SA in 2006, he was for 12 years a Deputy President of the South Australian Industrial Relations Commission and in a dual capacity for 10 of those years as a Deputy President of the Australian Industrial Relations Commission. In the 16 years prior to joining the Commission, Peter held various positions in the South Australian business community including as Deputy Director of the SA Employers' Federation Inc and General Manager, Human Resource Management Services with what is now Business SA.

Peter is the National President of the Australia Labour and Employment Relations Association and a former President of the Industrial Relations Society of South Australia.

Peter is an accredited mediator and is a member of various professional bodies, including the Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators, Australian Labour Law Association and the Council of Australian Tribunals.



Professor Barbara Pocock
Director
University of South Australia

Professor Barbara Pocock is Inaugural Director of the Centre for Work + Life, at the University of South Australia. Professor Pocock, who was initially trained as an economist and completed her doctorate in gender studies, has been researching work, employment and industrial relations in Australia for over 25 years and has undertaken considerable analysis of work and its complex intersections with households, families and social life. Barbara has published many books, articles and book chapters and given visiting lectures in the US, Canada, the UK, New Zealand, Switzerland and China.

Barbara is actively involved in policy development and public commentary on work issues in Australia and undertakes many public contributions on these issues each year. Recent books include *The Work/Life Collision* (2003), *The Labour Market Ate My Babies: Work, Children and a Sustainable Future* (2006), *Living Low paid: the Dark Side of Prosperous Australia* (2008) (co-author), *Kids count: Better early childhood education and care in Australia* (2007) (co-edited). *Time bomb: work, rest and play in Australia today* (2012, co-authored with N. Skinner and Philippa Williams).



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Dave Garland
Training and Project Coordinator
National Union of Workers

Dave Garland is a senior official with the National Union of Workers. He moved to Adelaide from Perth in 2010 to become the State Leader of the NUW and prior to that he worked for the ACTU as the Western Australia campaigning and education organiser.

He has worked in the Union movement since 1998 in a range of roles and industries covering white and blue collar, public and private sectors, state and national responsibilities, operational and leadership positions.

He currently has responsibility for NUW Education and Political Organising and works across the South Australian, Queensland and Western Australian offices.



Julie Bignell
Branch Secretary
ASU Central & Southern Queensland Clerical & Administrative Branch

Julie is the Branch Secretary at the Australian Services Union Central & Southern Queensland Clerical & Administrative Branch and is the Assistant General Secretary of Together, the combined ASU/QPSU Union, and has been since Together's formation in 2011.

Julie is the Vice President of the Queensland Council of Unions and over almost 20 years with the ASU has been involved in many bargaining situations across all industries, both small and large. Julie is a Director of Workplace Health and Safety Queensland and was a Director of the North Queensland Bulk Ports Corporation from 2002 to September 2012.

Julie has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Griffith University and a Graduate Diploma in IR/HRM.



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Wil Stracke

Lead Organiser

ASU Victorian & Tasmanian Authorities & Services Branch

In her previous life Wil was employed as an Associate at Slater & Gordon, Solicitors. Since 2004 she has worked at the Australian Services Union, where she is now a Lead Organiser in their campaign team.

Wil is also a performer, having graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts as an actor in 1993. Since then, she has had roles in various TV productions and has also performed on stage in both scripted and improvised shows.

