# SPEAKER PROFILES

# ASU NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2014

17-19 November 2014 • ME Bank Centre, Punt Road Oval, Richmond



### Aunty Joy Murphy Senior Wurundjeri elder

#### Welcome to Country

As an Indigenous Australian and Senior Wurundjeri elder of the Kulin alliance in Victoria, Australia, Joy Murphy Wandin has given the traditional welcome to country greeting at many Melbourne events and to many distinguished visitors where she says in the Woiwurrung language "Wominjeka Wurundjeri Balluk yearmenn koondee bik" (Welcome to the land of the Wurundjeri people).

In 2002 she was awarded the Victorian Aboriginal Women's Award for being involved with Aboriginal Issues for thirty years. In 2006 she was made an officer of the Order of Australia "for her service to the community, particularly the Aborigines, through significant contributions in the fields of social justice, land rights, equal opportunity, art and reconciliation".



### Brendon Gale CEO, Richmond Football Club

#### Welcome to Punt Road Oval and introducing the Korin Gamadji Institute

In his "previous life", Brendon played 244 games of AFL football between 1990 and 2001 with the Richmond Football Club ("RFC"), captaining and vice-captaining the Club between 1994 and 1997.

Upon retirement from professional football, Brendon practiced law with a leading Melbourne commercial law firm in the general commercial and banking and finance areas.

In January 2005, Brendon was appointed CEO of the AFL Players' Association and as CEO, was responsible for representing the collective industrial interests of all AFL players.

Brendon was proud to return to the Richmond Football Club in September 2009, when he was appointed CEO. The RFC competes in Australia's largest elite sporting competition - the AFL, and as CEO, Brendon leads a diverse team of over 130 people.



### Ged Kearney ACTU President

#### Welcome to Melbourne at Welcome Reception

Gerardine (Ged) Kearney commenced as ACTU President on 1 July 2010, and is the third woman to hold the position. Prior to this Ged was the Federal Secretary of the Australian Nursing Federation from April 2008 and had been an elected official with the ANF since 1997.

Ged believes that unions should not just be concerned with the experience of people at work but they should be advocates for change to improve all aspects of Australians lives. Ged's ambition as ACTU President is to build respect from political leaders and the broad community for the values of fairness and the role played by unions in delivering social change.



### Chris Masters Journalist and Broadcaster

#### **Q&A** Panel Moderator

Chris Masters retains the record of the longest serving reporter on Australia's longest running public affairs television program, Four Corners. Between 1983 and 2008 he made over 100 reports, many of them well remembered and some of them nation shaping.

The Big League in 1983 triggered the Street Royal Commission and reforms to judicial accountability. French Connections in 1985, an international exclusive on the sinking of the Greenpeace flagship The Rainbow Warrior earned Chris the highest award in Australian journalism, the Gold Walkley.

His most famous report The Moonlight State investigating police corruption in Queensland initiated the Fitzgerald Inquiry and a raft of reforms that reached well beyond Queensland.

Chris has written three books, Inside Story (1991), Not for Publication (2002) and Jonestown (2006), the latter winning three awards, including Biography of the Year.

### John Osborn



## Director of Economics & Industry Policy, Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ACCI)

#### Q&A Panel Member

John Osborn is a corporate public affairs specialist and advocate for free enterprise. He commenced with ACCI (which represents the interests of over 300,000 businesses) in 2012 and in his current role has broad responsibility for the Chamber's public policy and advocacy.

He has worked with international and domestic clients and major business organisations covering the full spectrum of the economy, including the not-for-profit sector. He regularly appears in the media advocating for economic reform in the interests of business and the broader community.

He has capabilities in public policy, campaigning, change management, corporate communications, brand marketing, media and community engagement. He has worked as a political strategist and media advisor on state and federal election campaigns and is a graduate of the Officers' Training School in the Royal Australian Air Force. John is a 3rd Dan Black Belt Taekwondo Instructor, who has taught self-defence to thousands of students.



### Emma King

**CEO, Victorian Council of Social Service (VCOSS)** 

#### Q&A Panel Member

Since 2013 Emma King has been the CEO of VCOSS, the peak body of the community sector in Victoria, which raises awareness of the existence, causes and effects of poverty and disadvantage.

Emma's qualifications include a Masters in Industrial and Employee Relations, a Graduate Diploma of Education, and a Bachelor of Arts. As an accredited mediator, she is a member of the Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators.

As well as her leadership in the community sector, Emma has an extensive background in government, the public sector, and workforce issues. She began her career as a teacher, was a senior Ministerial adviser for the Victorian Government in the education portfolio, and worked in various industrial and training roles in the Victorian Independent Education Union and the Finance Sector Union.

Emma is passionate about social justice and is committed to working with all stakeholders to improve outcomes for all Victorians.



### Tim Lyon ACTU Assistant Secretary

#### **Q&A Panel Member**

Tim Lyons has been the Assistant Secretary of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) since 2008. Tim's responsibilities as an ACTU Officer include management of the organising and growth agenda, union education programs, the industrial and policy unit, and superannuation and retirement incomes.

Tim is a Director of HESTA superannuation fund, Industry Super Australia and The Union Education Foundation. He is a member of a range of government committees including the National Workplace Relations Consultative Council, the Business Tax Working Group, & the Fair Work Building Commission Advisory Board.

Tim was previously an official of the National Union of Workers for 13 years.



### Innes Willox CEO, Australian Industry Group (Ai Group)

#### **Q&A** Panel Member

Innes Willox is Chief Executive of the Australian Industry Group, a leading industry organisation representing businesses in a broad range of sectors including manufacturing, construction, defence, ICT and labour hire. Innes joined Ai Group as Director International and Government Relations in 2008. He was appointed Chief Executive in May 2012.

Prior to joining Ai Group he held a number of senior roles in both the public and private sectors. He served as the Australian Consul General to Los Angeles from 2006 to 2008, Chief of Staff to the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Alexander Downer, from 2004 to 2006 and earlier was Manager of Global Public Affairs for Singapore Airlines based in Singapore (2000-04).

Innes began his career as a journalist. His positions included Chief of Staff at The Age newspaper in Melbourne and Chief Political Correspondent for The Age in Canberra.



### Deputy President John Kovacic Fair Work Commission

#### **Industrial Relations Panel Member**

Mr Kovacic was appointed as a Deputy President of the Fair Work Commission in August 2013. He has over 30 years' experience in workplace relations.

Prior to his appointment to the Commission, Mr Kovacic was Deputy Secretary -Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy in the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

As a senior executive in the Australian Public Service he provided advice to successive governments on range of workplace relations issues, including the WorkChoices reforms, the Fair Work reforms (including the bullying provisions) and the harmonisation of work health and safety laws.



### Professor Anthony Forsyth RMIT University

#### **Industrial Relations Panel Member**

Professor Anthony Forsyth is Director of Juris Doctor Programs at RMIT University in Melbourne. He has a Bachelor of Jurisprudence/Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from Monash University, and a Graduate Diploma in Labour Relations Law and a PhD, both from the University of Melbourne.

His main area of academic research is the Fair Work Act collective bargaining framework and collective bargaining laws in the UK, Canada and USA.

He recently completed a Fair Work Commission-funded study of the tribunal's involvement in the enterprise bargaining process, and an in-depth study of the 2011–12 Qantas bargaining dispute.

Anthony also works as a Consultant with the Corrs Chambers Westgarth Workplace Relations Group.



### Dr Keith Suter Futurist, thought leader & author

#### Keynote Speaker – The Future of Work

Dr Keith Suter is a global futurist, thought leader, author and media personality, recognised and highly respected in the areas of social policy and foreign affairs.

Dr Suter is a progressive and insightful thinker with many interests, notably in the areas of society and international affairs. He holds three doctorates and can frequently be heard discussing politics and international affairs on radio and television. He's also a member of the prestigious 'Club of Rome' whose members share a common concern for the future of humanity and the planet.

One of the world's great thinkers and exemplary communicators Dr Keith Suter has extensive experience in speaking, lecturing and teaching. He has the ability to make complex issues understandable and absolutely fascinating.



### The Hon Brendan O'Connor MP Shadow Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Federal Member for Gorton

#### **Dinner Speaker**

A belief in education being the cornerstone of national growth and individual development underpinned by the principle of equal opportunity for all, led Mr O'Connor to commence his career in a union. He represented the interests of Victorian workers before becoming Assistant National Secretary of the Australian Services Union (ASU).

Elected to parliament in 2001, he has since headed several portfolios including Employment Participation, Home Affairs, Small Business, Immigration and Citizenship, and finished the term as Minister for Employment, Skills and Training. Mr O'Connor oversaw many overhauls and improvements in his portfolios, and many noteworthy achievements.

Mr O'Connor has degrees in Arts and Law from Monash University and a Diploma in Industrial Relations from Harvard University.

He currently serves as Shadow Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations as a member of Bill Shorten's Labor frontbench team.



### Dr Veronica Sheen Monash University

#### Workshop Speaker – ASU 2030 – unions of the future

Research Associate, School of Social Sciences at Monash University

Dr Sheen has a career background in policy and research specialising in employment and social issues. Her recent research focus has been in the area of insecure employment and its role in creating social inequality.

Most recently Dr Sheen has presented papers based on her research at the ACTU National Community Summit: Creating Secure Jobs and a Better Society in March 2013, and at a conference on 'decent work' at the International Labour Office (ILO), Geneva, July 2013.

Her research interrogates the future of work and employment, the effects for various groups, and the implications for policy.



### Associate Professor Janis Bailey Griffith University

#### Workshop Speaker – ASU 2030 – unions of the future

Janis Bailey is an Associate Professor in the Department of Employment Relations and Human Resources, Griffith University, Gold Coast, Australia.

Her research interests include union strategy and campaigning, vulnerable workers including youth and women, and teaching and learning in industrial relations.

She is currently working on projects on comparative retail union strategy, gender equity in universities, employment relations in the SACS sector, and workplace relations in hotels.

Janis is a former union industrial officer, and is currently a delegate and office-bearer for the National Tertiary Education Union.

She currently teaches into Griffith University's Master of Employment Relations degree, offered online via Open Universities Australia.



### Anne-Marie Corboy CEO, HESTA

#### Workshop Speaker – Superannuation – investing workers' capital

Anne-Marie Corboy is Chief Executive Officer of HESTA - the largest national superannuation fund for the health and community services sector.

HESTA manages over \$29 billion with over 785,000 members and 165,000 employers. Over 80% of HESTA's members are women.

Anne-Marie is also a Director of Industry Super Australia Ltd (ISA), Australian Council of Superannuation Investors Ltd (ACSI) and Netball Australia and a member of the Superannuation Complaints Tribunal Advisory Council.

Anne-Marie has held numerous Chair and Board positions in the superannuation, health, sport and education sectors and is a member of Chief Executive Women.

She received the Fund Executives Association Limited (FEAL) Fund Executive of the Year award (2008), listed as one of Australia's True Leaders by the AFR (2011) and recognised as one of Australia's 100 Women of Influence by the AFR/Westpac (2013).

Anne-Marie began her career as a primary teacher, working also with Victorian education unions.



### Cate Wood FAIST Chair, CareSuper

#### Workshop Speaker – Superannuation – investing workers' capital

Cate is a member representative trustee director and Chair of CareSuper.

She is Deputy President and a member of the Board of Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees (AIST), a member of the ACT Treasury Investment Advisory Board, a Director of Industry Superannuation Property Trust (ISPT), and a member of the Board of Industry Super Australia (ISA).

Cate is the National Chair of Women in Super and Chair of the Organising Committee for the Canberra Mother's Day Classic, an annual event established to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer research.

She was formerly CEO of AGEST Super, CEO of the Trade Union Training Authority and Assistant Secretary of the Victorian Branch of the Australian Services Union. Cate holds a Bachelor of Arts in social sciences from La Trobe University and is a Fellow of AIST.



### Paul Schroder Group Executive – Membership, AustralianSuper

#### Workshop Speaker – Superannuation – investing workers' capital

Paul is responsible for AustralianSuper's Membership Group, which ensures the fund has the products and relationships in place to effectively attract and retain members today and into the future.

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 of Defined Benefit staff schemes. He has extensive experience in the finance sector and a strong grasp of the key strategic issues facing members. He is a 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.

### Mark Irving Barrister

#### Workshop Speaker – Unionism in a hostile environment

Mark Irving has been a barrister for 16 years. He works for employees and their unions.

In 2012 he represented the union and the delegate in the leading High Court case on union discrimination. In 2014 he represented the employee on the leading High Court case on the employer's duty of trust and confidence.

He authored "The Contract of Employment", an 1100 page long tome that was recently awarded the Centenary Book Prize. He co-edited a book on the Australian Charter of Employment Rights.

In recent years he has acted for the HSU in multiple proceedings against officials including Michael Williamson, Craig Thomson and Kathy Jackson. He appeared for the HSU in the Royal Commission.

Mark Irving is a former ASU delegate and has been a member for over 20 years.



### Associate Professor Andrew Scott Deakin University

#### Workshop Speaker – Unionism in a hostile environment

Dr Andrew Scott is Associate Professor in Politics and Policy at Deakin University, Melbourne.

He is a former trade union research officer and his fifth book, *Northern Lights: The Positive Policy Example of Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Norway,* will be published on 25 November 2014.

Andrew's previous books and other publications are in the fields of politics, policy and history, and have frequently involved international comparisons.

For several years Andrew has been researching English-speaking nations' past interest in – and lessons they can learn from – the policy achievements of the Nordic European nations.



### Nicole Livingstone OAM Swimming great and media personality

#### **Motivational Speaker**

Known as one of Australia's most accomplished backstroke swimmers, Nicole Livingstone won nine consecutive national titles in the Women's 100m backstroke event, two bronze medals and a silver at Olympic level, as well as six gold, two silver and one bronze medal at Commonwealth Games.

Upon retiring from the sport in 1996, she began an illustrious television career. Hosting programs such as Wide World of Sports and Sports Saturday for Australia's Channel Nine, Nicole has commentated on a variety of events, including the Commonwealth Games.

She was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)(1997), the Australian Sports Medal (2000) and was inducted into the Victorian Women's Honour Roll (2006).

She sits on the board of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA), Swimming Australia and the State Sports Centre Trust. She also chairs the Victorian Government's Community Advisory on Body Image, is patron of Ovarian Cancer Australia.