

SPEAKERS

Dr David Gruen is Executive Director, Macroeconomic Group, Australian Treasury. Previously, he was Head of the Economic Research Department at the Reserve Bank of Australia. In the early 1990's, he was visiting lecturer in the Economics Department and the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University, USA.

Ross Gittins AM has been Economics Editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald* since 1978. He is also a columnist for *The Age*, Melbourne, and has worked in the parliamentary press galleries in Sydney and Canberra.

Professor Patricia Apps is Professor of Public Economics and Director of Research, Faculty of Law at the University of Sydney. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, and in 2006 was elected the President of the European Society for Population Economics. Her research covers a wide range of areas in Public Economics, and has appeared in the leading international economics and specialist journals.

Professor Bob Gregory AO is Professor of Economics at the Research School of Social Sciences within the Australian National University. He was a member of the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia from 1985 – 1995. He is an elected fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences, and has been President of the Economic Society of Australia.

Professor Raja Junankar is a leading economist from the School of Economics and Finance at the University of Western Sydney. He has previously held research and teaching appointments in the UK, USA, Canada, France, Germany, India and the Sudan. He has published extensively in macroeconomics, labour economics, development economics and immigration.

Professor John Quiggin is Australian Research Council Federation Fellow in Economics and Political Science at the University of Queensland. He is a prominent research economist and commentator on Australian economic policy and has written extensively in fields including environmental economics, risk analysis, production economics and the theory of economic growth. In April 2009 he wrote a bold and visionary paper for the Whitlam Institute's new *Perspectives* series of essays by public intellectuals.

Associate Professor Steve Keen is a prominent public economic commentator, leading researcher and teacher from the School of Economics and Finance at the University of Western Sydney. He is the author of the popular book *Debunking Economics*, and has written over 40 academic publications. His forthcoming book about the instability of finance markets, *Finance and Economic Breakdown*, will be published by Edward Elgar.

Dr Guy Debelle is Assistant Governor (Financial Markets) at the Reserve Bank of Australia. He has also worked at the International Monetary Fund, Bank for International Settlements, Australian Treasury, and as a visiting professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

VENUE

Riverside Theatre
Corner Church and Market Streets
Parramatta

BOOKINGS

www.riversideparramatta.com.au
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TICKETS

Individual Session: \$10.00 (incl. GST)
Seats are limited, so please book early.

School group bookings can be made by contacting the Whitlam Institute directly on +61 2 9685 9187

MORE INFORMATION

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GETTING TO GRIPS WITH THE ECONOMY

**PUBLIC INFORMATION SERIES AT
RIVERSIDE THEATRES, PARRAMATTA**

Presented by The Whitlam Institute and the
UWS School of Economics and Finance

GETTING TO GRIPS WITH THE ECONOMY

The global economic situation in 2009 is complex and rapidly changing. It has been the subject of much debate and examination internationally, but what do we really know about the implications for Australia now and in the future?

The Whitlam Institute and the University of Western Sydney School of Economics and Finance are presenting a series of topical, educational forums to help increase understanding and debate about the state of the Australian economy, the implications for us all, and what Australia's economic options are in the context of the continuing and dramatic global economic turmoil.

Bringing together leading economists with a wide range of backgrounds and viewpoints, Getting to Grips with the Economy will present up-to-date information to inform community discussion and debate. These forums provide a chance to engage with key economic decision-makers and commentators.

This series is for policy-makers, government departments and agencies, business people, civic groups and non-government organisations, researchers, universities, schools and members of the community who have an interest in the economy and the options beyond the GFC.

For those who can make it to Parramatta this will be a unique opportunity to hear from some of Australia's most senior and respected economists and economic commentators. So sign up for the series and be part of this exciting opportunity.

SESSION 1

Australia's Economy: Staying afloat in the global storm

Tuesday 26 May 2009 5-7pm

The Global Financial Crisis or GFC has entered the language but what does it all mean? This opening session of the series provides an overview of the Australian economy and of the challenges confronting it, especially, but not solely, as a result of the global financial crisis. It examines the key elements of the Australian economy – the history, structure, policy determinants, changes and challenges of the past 25 years.

Keynote Speaker:

- Dr David Gruen, Executive Director, Macroeconomic Group, Australian Treasury

Respondent:

- Ross Gittins AM, Economics Editor, *The Sydney Morning Herald*

SESSION 2

Hitting Home: The domestic impacts of economic re-alignment

Thursday 18 June 2009 5-7pm

How do we really know if and when we are better off? This session examines the implications for individuals, workers and households of the emerging economic environment in Australia – taxation, labour market participation, housing, debt, ageing, fertility, gender and income distribution.

Keynote Speaker:

- Professor Patricia Apps, Professor of Public Economics and Director of Research, Faculty of Law, University of Sydney

Respondents:

- Professor Bob Gregory AO, Professor of Economics, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University
- Professor Raja Junankar, School of Economics and Finance, University of Western Sydney

SESSION 3

New Times – New Approaches: Exploring Australia's economic options

Thursday 23 July 2009 5-7pm

What awaits the Australian economy beyond the GFC? This session takes the opportunity to debate whether it should be a case of doing what we've done but doing it better, or whether we need to pursue new options for strengthening Australia's economy. This final session provides an opportunity for bold thought and discussion about the policy decisions and immediate actions that need to be considered and adopted by Australian governments, businesses and individuals amidst the dramas and uncertainties of the global economy.

Keynote Speaker:

- Professor John Quiggin, Australian Research Council Federation Fellow in Economics and Political Science, University of Queensland

Respondents:

- Associate Professor Steve Keen, School of Economics and Finance, University of Western Sydney
- Dr Guy Debelle, Assistant Governor (Financial Markets), Reserve Bank of Australia