



THE POWER
TO PERSUADE

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE & CAPACITY FOR POLICY CHANGE

POWER TO PERSUADE: SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM 2016

15 August, 2016

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
240-290 Spring Street, East Melbourne

PUBLIC POLICY ECO-SYSTEMS: KEEPING THEM OPEN, HEALTHY & SUSTAINABLE

POWER TO PERSUADE SYMPOSIUM

Public policy eco-systems: keeping them open, healthy and sustainable

The fifth annual Power to Persuade symposium is an interactive forum engaging leaders in government, academia and the community sector to discuss how to create better social policy.

The theme for the 2016 forum is creating healthy eco-systems for public policy. It will examine through keynote presentation and debate:

- Who governs our policy eco-systems?
- Connecting institutions and local level action
- What constitutes a 'healthy' policy eco-system?

The Power to Persuade Social Policy Blog

The Power to Persuade blog is Australian-focused but with a global scope. Like the symposium, it aims to improve understanding and communication between the main groups involved in the social policy process: government, academics and practitioners.

The blog offers diverse voices, a place where anyone can contribute to the knowledge and debate around social policy.

Join the conversation and visit powertopersuade.org.au, follow us @powertopersuade and tag #ptp2016.

The Team:

Reference group: Alice Boyd (Infrastructure Partnerships Australia), Gavin Dufty (St Vincent De Paul), Gemma Carey, (UNSW Canberra), John van Kooy (Brotherhood of St Laurence), Kate Neely (Melbourne School of Government), Kathy Landvogt (Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand), Lauren Siegmann (String Theory), Mary Sayers (Victorian Council of Social Service), Susan Maury (Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand), Jacki Holland (Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand)

Sponsors: Melbourne School of Government; UNSW Canberra, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, Brotherhood of St Laurence, St Vincent De Paul, Infrastructure Partners Australia, Centre for Social Impact Swinburne University, Victorian Council of Social Service.

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM: 2016

Public policy eco-systems: keeping them open, healthy and sustainable through strategic, multi-level collaboration.

Policy is designed and implemented by highly complex networks of actors. Some of these operate at the institutional level, like federal or state governments, large corporations and universities. Others are local actors, such as the community sector or local government. Other actors work through looser collectives, relationships and single-issue social action. Conceptually, we can think of these networks as eco-systems – made up of formal and informal relationships and collaborations. At any one time, changes are occurring in different parts of the eco-system that create 'ripple' effects which are felt in other areas.

How can we make sure public policy eco-systems are healthy and robust? How can we ensure they are sustainable and can survive 'ecological shocks' such as changes in government or policy shifts? Diverse open systems are healthy systems: collaborations are one way to ensure systems are open – or are they?

8.30AM	REGISTRATIONS OPEN	1.15PM	PANEL 2: CONNECTING INSTITUTIONS AND LOCAL LEVEL ACTION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Convenor: Professor Jo Barraket• Professor Evelyne de Leeuw Director, Centre for Health Equity Training Research and Evaluation, University of New South Wales <i>Making the apple fall. Shaping political will in juggling policies, problems and politics</i>• Dr Graham Brown Senior Research Fellow, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University <i>Sex, Drugs and Politics: Enhancing peer-led health promotion's influence in community and policy systems</i>• Ms Christine Flynn Public Sector Management Consultant <i>A practitioner's perspective on complex policy eco-systems</i>• Mr Michael Perusco CEO, Yarra Community Housing <i>Navigating the layered systems in which we operate</i>
9.15AM	WELCOME & INDIGENOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor Jo Barraket (Mistress of Ceremonies) Director, Centre for Social Impact, Swinburne University	2.30PM	Break – Afternoon Tea
9.30AM	KEYNOTE: How do we work with the paradox of concentration of power in parts of government (particularly the centre) and the development of policy networks? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Andrew Tongue Associate Secretary Indigenous Affairs, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	3.00PM	PANEL 3: WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO KEEP PUBLIC POLICY ECO-SYSTEMS HEALTHY? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Convenor: Professor Jo Barraket• Professor Robyn Keast Southern Cross University <i>Different forms of collaborative practice: real and imagined</i>• Mr Brendan Lyon CEO, Infrastructure Partnerships Australia, Honorary Associate Professor, Sydney Business School <i>Monsters only live in the dark</i>• Professor Helen Sullivan Foundation Director, Melbourne School of Government, University of Melbourne <i>5 a day</i>• Ms Sharon Fraser General Manager, Go Goldfields <i>Keeping the lid off the bell jar</i>
10.10AM	OPENING ADDRESS: How does 'Power to Persuade' work to create healthy and sustainable eco-systems? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Kathy Landvogt Head of Women's Research, Advocacy and Policy Centre, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand• Dr Gemma Carey NHMRC Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer, University of New South Wales, Canberra	4.15PM	CLOSING REMARKS AND THANKS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Dimity Fifer CEO, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand• Professor Jo Barraket
10.30AM	WORKSHOP ACTIVITY: Thinking about networks as complex adaptive systems <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr Kate Neely Melbourne School of Government, University of Melbourne	4.30PM	Close
11.00AM	Break – Morning Tea		
11.30AM	PANEL 1: WHO GOVERNS OUR POLICY ECO-SYSTEMS? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Convenor: Mr Paul Smyth Honorary Professorial Fellow, University of Melbourne• Mr David Tennant CEO, Family Care <i>Humans use human services</i>• Dr Ben Spies-Butcher Senior Lecturer and Director Master of Policy and Applied Social Research, Macquarie University <i>What questions should we ask of social policy?</i>• Dr Lesley Russell Adjunct Associate Professor, Menzies Centre for Health Policy, University of Sydney <i>What Australia can learn from the United States</i>		
12.30PM	Lunch		

BIOGRAPHIES

Power to Persuade Symposium: 15 August, 2016

JO BARRAKET

Professor Jo Barraket is Director of the Centre for Social Impact Swinburne, at Swinburne University of Technology. A political sociologist, Prof Barraket's research specialisations are social enterprise, social innovation and the relationships between state and civil society in public policy design and implementation. She is the author of more than 45 academic publications, including the recent book, *Social Procurement and New Public Governance* (2016). With Power to Persuade convenors Drs Gemma Carey and Kathy Landvogt, Prof Barraket is also co-editor of the recent collection arising from the forum, *Creating and implementing public policy: Cross-sectoral debates* (2016).

GRAHAM BROWN

Dr Graham Brown is a Senior Research Fellow at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University. His research focuses on building evidence with community-led organisations working with gay men, people who use drugs, sex workers, migrant communities, and people living with HIV or hepatitis C. He is currently project lead of the W3 Project – which is applying systems thinking to understanding and enhancing the influence of peer-led programs in their community and policy systems.

GEMMA CAREY

Dr Gemma Carey is an NHMRC Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer with UNSW Canberra. She holds a PhD in social policy and population health from the University of Melbourne. In particular, she has investigated processes of 'joining up' within government and between government and non-government organisations.

Dr Carey has published widely on different aspects of public administration and public health. Recent books include: *Grassroots to Government: Joining-up in Australia*, *Designing and Implementing Public Policy: Cross-sectoral Debates*, and *Managing and Leading in Inter-agency Settings*.

In addition to her academic research, Dr Carey coordinates the Power to Persuade blog and annual symposium. Power to Persuade is sponsored by the Victorian Government and a range of NGOs and peak bodies and is aimed at improving the relationships between policymakers, academics and the community sector.

DIMITY FIFER

Ms Dimity Fifer joined Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand as CEO in early 2016, where she leads a network of community services providing social support, education, microfinance and social justice, with a strong focus on women and girls. Dimity has been delivering visionary and transformational change for over 20 years. She has led organisations known for thought and practice leadership including Pacific Women's Network, Australian Volunteers International, and Victorian Council of Social Service, and has served on the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation.

Focused on ethical behaviour, sustainability and impact, Dimity has led globally-recognised and awarded work across Australia, the Pacific, Asia, Africa and the Middle East. She works with leaders in government, corporate, academic and community life to promote greater wellbeing. She was on the board of the Australian Council for International Development and a co-founder of the Women in Development Network.

CHRISTINE FLYNN

Ms Christine Flynn has held senior executive roles in state and commonwealth public services and is a highly experienced consultant, facilitator and coach. She is an organisational development expert, experienced in organisational diagnostics and dynamics, interventions and leadership development, change management, systems leadership and risk management, with experience with national and international clients. Ms Flynn works successfully with CEOs and their teams to improve organisational and individual performance. She works extensively in the governance field with Boards and executive leaders. She is currently undertaking post graduate research in the field of leadership and change management.

SHARON FRASER

Ms Sharon Fraser is General Manager of the Go Goldfields project at Central Goldfields Shire Council. Prior to joining Council, she held roles as Project Manager for major regional organisations such as Bendigo Health, the Department of Human Services and the Maryborough District Health Service.

Ms Fraser was appointed in late 2011 to oversee the State funded Go Goldfields project – a landmark community initiative that targets the needs of children, young people and families throughout the shire and tackles social disadvantage.

ROBYN KEAST

Professor Robyn Keast is a professor in the School of Business and Tourism at Southern Cross University. She has led several industry and academic collaborative research projects. Her diverse research portfolio covers integrated service delivery, government/community relations, innovation and asset management. She is best known for her research on networked arrangements and collaborative practice, much of which has been translated into applied tools, including fact sheets and collaboration decision support tools. Her co-authored books include: *Network Theories for New Public Management*, *Negotiation in the Business Environment*, and *Social Procurement in the New Public Governance*, and forthcoming is *Researching Networks and Collaboration in the Public Sector: A Guide to Approaches, Methodologies and Analytics*.

Prior to her academic career Prof Keast worked in the Queensland and New Zealand government and not-for-profit sectors. She maintains strong cross-sectoral connections; linking research to policy and practice. Currently she is a Social Policy Whisperer for Power to Persuade.

KATHY LANDVOGT

Dr Kathy Landvogt is Head of the Women's Research, Advocacy and Policy (WRAP) Centre at Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand, overseeing the organisation's policy analysis, research agenda and service evaluations. The WRAP team engage with diverse partners to build knowledge for policy influence and practice innovation. Recent research projects include investigations into economic abuse, forced marriage, parent-school engagement, and networked service delivery systems. She is a social worker with experience in service delivery, management and consultancy and has been an educator in tertiary, vocational and community settings. Her PhD explored feminist group-work and social citizenship.

Dr Landvogt is co-editor of the recently published *Designing and Implementing Public Policy: Cross-sectoral Debates* (Routledge 2015), along with Power to Persuade colleagues Drs Gemma Carey and Jo Barraket.

EVELYNE DE LEEUW

Professor Evelyn de Leeuw is Director of the Centre for Health Equity Training Research and Evaluation (CHETRE). She is based at the interface of health research, policy and practice at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) and the South Western Sydney Local Health District. Since its initiation in 1986, she has been active in the international Healthy Cities movement. From 1992 to 2001 she held the position of Director of the World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Research on Healthy Cities. Prof de Leeuw has established Schools of Public Health in The Netherlands and Denmark; advising such endeavours in Kazakhstan, Estonia and El Salvador, and negotiated a world class public health program in the Medical School at Deakin University. She is currently WHO European Research Director for Healthy Cities.

Prof de Leeuw has published several books, articles, and book chapters. Her scholarship and writing focus on methodologies for complex local health evaluations; policy and governance for health innovation at the local level; and action at the nexus between research, policy and practice.

BRENDAN LYON

Mr Brendan Lyon is the CEO of Infrastructure Partnerships Australia (IPA), the peak infrastructure policy partnership between Australia's Commonwealth and state governments, and the business sector. Joining IPA on its formation a decade ago, he initially led the policy and research team, before being appointed CEO in early 2008. Through evidence-based public policy, good research and strong relationships across the business, media and government sectors, IPA has developed into a respected and trusted voice on economic and social infrastructure policy. Mr Lyon is currently serving on the Board of Transport for NSW and on the NSW Government's Expert Advisory Panel on social housing reform. He is a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and holds a Master of Business Administration with Distinction. In 2013, he was appointed an Honorary Associate Professor at the Sydney Business School.

Mr Lyon has a strong interest in infrastructure and economic policy, and has authored and contributed to a large number of research and policy papers, considering different aspects of infrastructure market regulation.

KATE NEELY

Dr Kate Neely is a researcher in the Melbourne School of Government and has qualifications in chemistry, biology, adult education, international development and sociology. She has worked as an educator and researcher in the Kingdom of Tonga, Timor-Leste and the Northern Territory of Australia. Her doctoral research was based in Timor-Leste and applied complex adaptive systems theory in order to understand the robustness (or otherwise) of spring-fed water systems. Dr Neely's work currently focuses on understanding and developing techniques for the translation or mobilisation of transdisciplinary research to practise and policy environments.

MICHAEL PERUSCO

Mr Michael Perusco is the CEO of Yarra Community Housing in Melbourne. Prior to joining YCH, he was CEO of St Vincent de Paul Society NSW. His experience also includes nine years as CEO of Sacred Heart Mission VIC, an organisation that works with people experiencing homelessness.

Mr Perusco has been Chairperson of the Council to Homeless Persons and Australians for Affordable Housing, and a member of the NSW Premier's Council on Homelessness. He has experience in the commercial sector sector, including at KPMG and Arthur Andersen, and has worked at the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, where he had responsibility for a range of social policy areas including the social inclusion and not-for-profit reform agendas. Mr Perusco is currently on the Board of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare and the Community Housing Federation of Victoria.

LESLEY RUSSELL

Dr Lesley Russell is an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Menzies Centre for Health Policy (MCHP) at the University of Sydney. Dr Russell was previously a Senior Research Fellow at the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute at the Australian National University. From 2009–12 she worked in Washington, DC on the enactment and implementation of President Obama's health care reforms, initially as a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for American Progress and later as a Senior Advisor to the Department of Health and Human Services. From 2007–10 she was the inaugural Menzies Foundation Fellow at MCHP and a Research Associate at the US Studies Centre at the University of Sydney. Prior to that she was a health policy advisor to the Australian Labor Party. She worked for seven years as health policy advisor on the Energy and Commerce Committee in the US House of Representatives.

Dr Russell's research interests include health care reform in Australia and the US, mental health, Indigenous health, addressing health disparities and health budget issues.

PAUL SMYTH

Professorial Fellow Paul Smyth is an Honorary Professorial Fellow in Social Policy at the University of Melbourne, where he founded the Master of Social Policy program. From 2004–13, he was also General Manager of the Research & Policy Centre at the Brotherhood of St Laurence, Melbourne.

Hon Prof Smyth's diverse career combines academic and social action experience. He was previously the Director of Social Policy at the University of Queensland. Prior to this he was senior researcher at the Jesuit Social Research and Action Centre at Kings Cross, Sydney. A former Catholic priest, he worked for 20 years in youth and family care. His research areas include contemporary Australian social policy, local governance and social inclusion, and international perspectives on social and economic inclusion. He is currently a member of the Australian Catholic Social Justice Commission.

BEN SPIES-BUTCHER

Dr Ben Spies-Butcher is a Senior Lecturer and Director of the Master of Policy and Applied Social Research in the Department of Sociology at Macquarie University. He received his PhD in Economics from the University of Sydney and his research focuses on the political economy of social policy. He is a Research Associate at the Retirement Policy and Research Centre at the University of Auckland, a Policy Advisory Group member for COTA, NSW, and Board Member of Shelter, NSW. He regularly contributes to Power to Persuade as one of the Social Policy Whisperers.

HELEN SULLIVAN

Professor Helen Sullivan is Foundation Director of the Melbourne School of Government (MSoG) and incoming Director of the Crawford School of Public Policy at ANU. A public policy scholar, her research and teaching explores the changing nature of state-society relationships including the theory and practice of governance and collaboration, new forms of democratic participation, and public policy and service reform. Prof Sullivan's work reflects a long-term commitment to finding new ways to bridge the gap between research and policy. She has published widely in academic and practitioner media. She is a Fellow (Victoria) of the Institute of Public Administration Australia.

DAVID TENNANT

Mr David Tennant was appointed CEO of Shepparton-based FamilyCare in May 2010. FamilyCare has been a major provider of community services in Victoria's Goulburn Valley since 1984. Mr Tennant joined the community sector in 1995, establishing a legal practice for Care Financial Counselling Service. He was the Consumer Member of the Australian Code of Banking Practice Compliance Monitoring Committee for its first five years of operation and, prior to joining FamilyCare, was Civil Practice Manager with Legal Aid ACT. He has been a Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University and has held various representative roles, including terms as Chair of the Consumers Federation of Australia and the Australian Financial Counselling and Credit Reform Association (now Financial Counselling Australia). Mr Tennant is currently a Trustee of the Jan Pentland Foundation and a member of the Law Help Assessment Panel for the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations.

ANDREW TONGUE

Mr Andrew Tongue is Associate Secretary Indigenous Affairs at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Prior to returning to Canberra, he ran the Victorian Premier's Department. Mr Tongue has worked as a Deputy Secretary in a number of Commonwealth Departments. In 2011, he was awarded the Public Service Medal for outstanding public service in the development of public policy, particularly in the areas of aviation security, Indigenous affairs and social housing. Mr Tongue is also a National Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration.



ABOUT THE POWER TO PERSUADE

The Power to Persuade is an online forum and annual symposium that builds knowledge, capacity and networks across different sectors.

The symposium brings together practitioners, policymakers and researchers to share knowledge, develop networks and build capacity for social change.

Now in its fifth year, the symposium tackles different aspects of the policy-practice-research nexus with a goal of enhancing collaboration and understanding between the different sectors involved.

