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SIR ROLAND WILSON FOUNDATION

2015

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THE FOUNDATION

The Sir Roland Wilson Foundation was established in 1998 with a donation from the Wilson family estate and the Australian National University.

The purpose of the foundation is to advance the study and development of public policy in Australia, its regions and the rest of the world.

To achieve this aim the Foundation engages in three main activities within the public policy space:

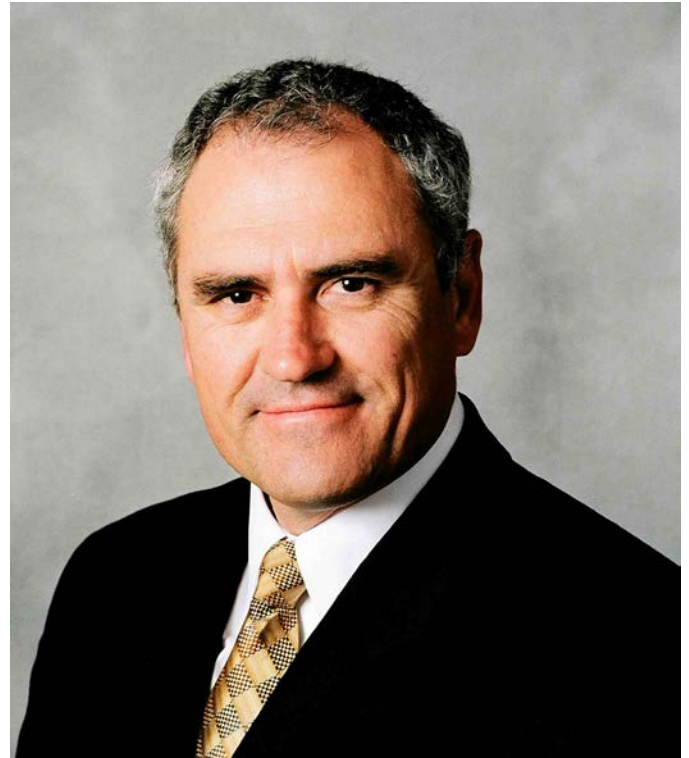
- > The Sir Roland Wilson Scholarship program awards PhD scholarships to high achieving Commonwealth public servants, giving them an opportunity to make an active contribution to academic discourse that is of direct and enduring relevance to the Australian Public Service.
- > The Foundation hosts public lectures and seminars on topics that are of national significance; and,
- > The Foundation develops an interface between the Australian Public Service (APS) and the Australian National University (ANU) by facilitating the exchange of research ideas across the two institutions.

Since its establishment, the Foundation has grown and now supports 17 ANU PhD scholars from a range of Australian Public Service departments across a diverse group of research centres at the ANU. The Foundation has also hosted a number of renowned academics and speakers who have presented the annual Sir Roland Wilson Public Lecture. Working with these presenters, the Foundation has facilitated engagement with the Australian Public Service through seminars and dialogues with senior public servants.

The Foundation will continue to foster the links between the Australian Public Service and the Australian National University through its current activities and Alumni engagement. As policy issues become increasingly complex it is vital to have a cadre of senior public servants who have academic credentials as well as extensive policy development experience. Most importantly, these leaders will be able to reinforce the bridge between academia and the public service.

Dr Ken Henry, AC

Chair, Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Board



SIR ROLAND WILSON (1904-1996)

Sir Roland Wilson was a ground-breaking economist who served as a key economic adviser to the Australian Government.

Throughout his career Sir Roland Wilson displayed academic rigour and tenacity in developing policy for achieving policy outcomes. Attributes which are still recognised as major contributors to his success.

Born in Tasmania, Roland Wilson was awarded a Rhodes scholarship in 1925. He completed a DPhil at Oxford University and then a PhD at the University of Chicago.

From 1936-1940, Wilson was the Commonwealth Statistician for the Australian Bureau of Statistics. In 1940 he was appointed the Secretary to the Department of Labour and National Service and played a part in designing Australia's response to World War II.

In 1951, Roland Wilson was appointed Secretary to the Treasury. At the time, he was the youngest person to hold that position at age 47. He remained in this position until 1966, a tenure which has never been exceeded.

His years at Treasury were extraordinary, characterised by full employment, relative price stability and sustained economic growth.

One of his lasting contributions to the Treasury was the part that he played in taking the Department from performing primarily accounting and budgetary functions, to an institution whose chief responsibility was to provide economic advice to the government.

On retirement of the Treasury, Roland Wilson became the Chair of Qantas and the Commonwealth Bank until his retirement in 1979.

Sir Roland Wilson had a long history with the ANU, serving on its Council during his tenure as Secretary to the Treasury.

Taken from 'Sir Roland Wilson: a biographical essay' by Selwyn Cornish (2002).



Sir Roland Wilson, 1964

“
Wilson's contribution to the Treasury...was that he gave it a sense of being led by an outstanding figure- someone, so to speak, that the department could look up to. He gave it intellectual quality.
”

John Stone

Secretary to the Treasury 1979-1984

THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Sir Roland Wilson Scholarship program began in 2011 in partnership with the Commonwealth Government and offered the inaugural Sir Roland Wilson Foundation PhD scholarships for Australian public servants.

The scholarship program brings together these public servants and some of the best academics at the Australian National University to tackle issues of national significance and enduring interest.

Current scholars are investigating topics ranging from water property rights, criminal justice cooperation between Australia and Indonesia and children's experiences of reconciliation programs in Indigenous Australia.

Over the next 20 years the Foundation will graduate up to 65 doctorate scholars from the program, many of whom will become crucial in the next generation of leaders in the APS. They will bring to that role an intellectual rigor and appreciation for the place of rigorous research in the context of policy development. These scholars will have first-hand appreciation of the contribution academia can make to important policy deliberations. This can only strengthen the ties between policy makers and academic research.

“

A unique leadership opportunity promoting excellence in public policy and leadership in the Australian Public Service.

”



From left (back row): Nerida Hunter, Angelia Grant, Rick Zentelis, Michael McKenzie, Paul Hubbard, Eliza Murray, Neal Hughes.
From left (front row): Jennifer Chang, Talia Avrahamzon, Suzanne Akila, Agnieszka Nelson.

Scholars, Supervisors and Mentors

PHD SCHOLARS	ANU SUPERVISORS	PUBLIC SECTOR MENTORS
Angelia Grant Crawford School of Public Policy	Professor Warwick McKibbin Chair in Public Policy Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis	Dr David Gruen Deputy Secretary, Economic Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet
Jennifer Chang Australian Centre on China in the World	Professor Jane Golley Associate Director Australian Centre on China in the World	Dr David Gruen Deputy Secretary, Economic Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet
Neal Hughes Crawford School of Public Policy	Professor Quentin Grafton Director Centre for Water Economics, Environment & Policy	Peter Gooday Assistant Secretary Department of Agriculture
Nerida Hunter Australian Demographic & Social Research Institute	Professor James Raymer Director Australian Demographic & Social Research Institute	Rebecca Cross Deputy Secretary Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet
Suzanne Akila Regulatory Institutions Network	Professor Hilary Charlesworth Director Centre for International Governance & Justice	Bill Campbell QC General Counsel (International) Attorney General's Department
Agnieszka Nelson Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research	Professor Matthew Gray Director Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research	Serena Wilson Group Manager Department of Social Services
Eliza Murray Crawford School of Public Policy	Frank Jotzo Director Centre for Climate Economics and Policy	Steven Kennedy Deputy Secretary, Department of the Environment
Michael McKenzie Regulatory Institutions Network	Professor Veronica Taylor Dean College of Asia & Pacific	Katherine Jones First Assistant Secretary Attorney General's Department
Shane Johnson Crawford School of Public Policy	Professor Warwick McKibbin Chair in Public Policy Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis	Dr David Gruen Deputy Secretary, Economic Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet
Rick Zentelis Fenner School of Environment and Society	Professor David Lindenmayer Senior Researcher Fenner School of Environment and Society	Mike Healy Assistant Secretary Department of Defence
Martine Cosgrove Centre for Research on Ageing, Health & Wellbeing	Associate Professor Peter Butterworth Senior Researcher Centre for Research on Ageing, Health & Well-being	David Morton DG Mental Health Department of Defence
Paul Hubbard Crawford School of Public Policy	Dr Shiro Armstrong Co-Director Australia-Japan Research Centre	Rob Heferen Executive Director The Treasury
Talia Avrahamzon Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research	Professor Nicholas Biddle Senior Researcher Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research	Michael Lye Deputy Secretary (A/g) Department of Social Services
Katy Smith Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research	Professor Mathew Gray Director Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research	Michael Lye Deputy Secretary (A/g) Department of Social Services
Marie McAuliffe Australian Demographic & Social Research Institute	Professor James Raymer Director Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute	Janice Wykes A/g FAS Secretary, Department of Immigration & Border Protection
Nathan Deutscher Crawford School of Public Policy	Professor Bob Breunig Senior Researcher Crawford School of Public Policy	Jenny Wilkinson Ag Exective Director, Macroeconomic Group The Treasury
Camille Goodman Centre for International & Public Law	Professor Donald Rothwell Head of School Centre for International and Public Law	David Fredericks Deputy Secretary, Civil Justice and Legal Services Attorney General's Department



Suzanne Akila 2012

Supervisor

Professor Hilary Charlesworth
Regulatory Institutions Network
ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

Mentor

Bill Campbell QC, Attorney General's Department

Suzanne joined the Office of International Law at the Attorney-General's Department in 2010. She worked in the International Human Rights and International Security Law Sections. In that time Suzanne prepared legal advice on domestic legal proceedings relating to Australia's international obligations and matters of international law. She has advised on international refugee law, international human rights, international criminal law, international humanitarian law, constitutional law and border protection.

Suzanne's research examines how and why States intervene to protect their citizens abroad. Informed by her experience as a legal adviser to government, she has undertaken an empirical investigation of three national case studies of State protection. This includes an in-depth study of Australia's consular and protection framework. Her work develops recommendations for government on the protection of Australian nationals abroad based on the comparative case studies in her research.

Jennifer Chang 2012

Supervisor

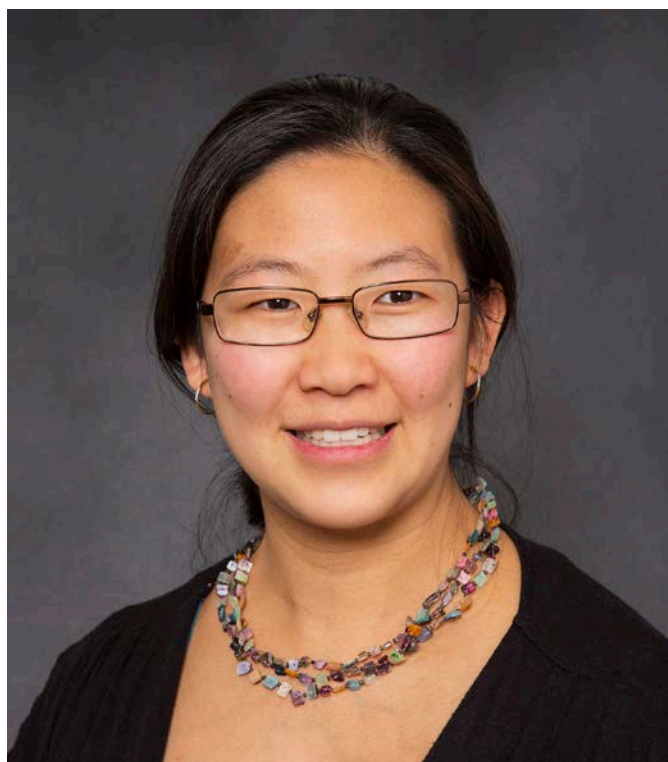
Dr Jane Golley
China in the World
ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

Mentor

Dr David Gruen, Prime Minister & Cabinet

Since starting as a graduate at the Treasury in 2004, Jennifer's work experience has covered a wide range of policy areas including: the rigorous analysis of Asian economies, a deep understanding of the Australian economy and an appreciation of the importance of effective international economic engagement.

Jennifer commenced her Sir Roland Wilson Foundation PhD Scholarship in 2012 and is currently examining the dynamics of the Chinese labour market and linking her findings to an analysis of China's broader economic growth prospects. A deeper understanding of the Chinese economy is of critical policy relevance, with China's overall growth trajectory of particular importance to Australia's prosperity.



Policy Relevance & the Empirical Challenge

Undertaking research that is of enduring national interest requires an approach that keeps policy relevance at the apex of the project. There are a number of different disciplines and methodologies that can be adopted in service of this goal, with one of the most interesting being an empirical study. An empirical approach allows the researcher to connect fully with a problem by engaging directly with those closest to it. The evidence base is therefore acquired practically, not just theoretically.

Empirically studying real-world phenomena presents hurdles. For many scholars, gaining access to the individuals, organisations, institutions and governments that they wish to study is complex and not always achievable. If building trust with participants and negotiating the information exchange is not conducted in a proper manner, it can ultimately result in serious limitations on the project. Investigating the behaviour of governments has long been the work of social science, economics, law and international relations. However, some governments fiercely guard their information and processes and in many cases researchers can only rely on publicly available information or untested theories to base their analyses and draw their conclusions.

The Sir Roland Wilson Foundation PhD scholarship pierces the traditional barriers other researchers face in gaining access to information from the government. Through selecting government practitioners and officials to conduct research, the programme has been able to address issues endogenous to the Australian Public Service. Most scholars selected for the programme have undertaken methods that engage their home departments and agencies. This has included conducting interviews, generating and relying on data from their line areas, using observation and building bridges with stakeholders connected to their work.

In my own research I have adopted an empirical approach to examine the protection of nationals abroad. A legal analysis of the cases concerned could not tell me why States were intervening on behalf of some citizens but not others. Nor could the law explain what political impulses or values a government had, only that there had been legal liability. I have aimed to identify patterns in the way that States protect their citizens abroad by investigating the circumstances and modalities of intervention and non-intervention. I have conducted interviews with government officials in Germany, Australia and Mexico as well as speaking to the Special Rapporteur on Diplomatic Protection, various civil society organisations and academics. By interviewing decision-makers and stakeholders I have been assembling a mosaic of how and why States intervene to protect their nationals. This empirical approach has enabled me to address the lacuna that exists between law on the books and law in action.

The SRWF scholarship has facilitated my study in two ways. First, the generous travel stipend has allowed me to meet with scholars, practitioners and organisations in Germany, USA, UK, Mexico and The Netherlands. Without this funding, I would not have had the opportunity to gather the rich data I required to rigorously examine my topic. Second, I have

been able to harness existing relationships within Australian government departments as well as build connections with other governments due to my position with the Office of International Law. This common connection with domestic and foreign counterparts has been an important first step in obtaining access to the information I required for my study.

However, like with all research projects, there are limitations borne of conducting research that is policy relevant and of enduring national interest. Along with some of the other SRWF scholars, my research on the protection of nationals abroad is a hotly contested area of law and politics with domestic and international constituencies. In some circumstances, gaining access to case information has presented challenges, particularly where governments are concerned about creating expectations or setting precedents. Balancing these competing impulses to gain the best information while also maintaining working relationships remains a significant challenge.

The opportunity to conduct research of this value is a unique one. In the area of protection of nationals, governments often feel compelled to react to public opinion, leaving policy-makers with little room to consider their work from a more systemic standpoint. The SRWF scholarship has allowed me to acquire raw information and synthesise it into theoretical and practical understandings that will ultimately inform policy. This is, no doubt, a skill that the Foundation has hoped to instil in each scholar and one that we will take back in our return to the service.

Suzanne Akila

The water storage problem

For a long time our response to water scarcity has been to invest in large engineering projects, particularly new dams. Increasingly engineering solutions are becoming too expensive and we are turning to economists and institutional reforms.

Economists' main prescription is water trading: place a cap on water extraction and encourage decentralised trading of water rights. While nowhere is water trading perfect (always being subject to transaction costs and externalities), it has been successful in achieving a more efficient and fairer allocation of water during times of shortage, as it did in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) during the recent Millennium drought.

However trading can do nothing to prevent water scarcity. Growth in demand and climate change mean that regions like the MDB or the Western US are facing much more frequent scarcity. The costs of water scarcity are concentrated in drought events. Even with efficient trading the costs of droughts can be extremely high. In the absence of an engineering miracle, one of the only things we can do to alleviate droughts is alter storage policy.

Historically, the management of our major water storages has been relatively arbitrary. Storage reserves were accumulated on the basis of simple reservoir operation rules, developed at a time when demands were relatively low and climate change was unheard of. These rules will not be adequate in a future where rainfall and inflows are lower and more volatile and demand frequently exceeds supply.

Central management of storages is now extremely complex. Managers face difficult trade-offs between maintaining storage reserves and releasing water for consumptive use whilst also providing environmental flows and minimising the probability of flood damage. All of this has to be undertaken with very limited information on future inflows and importantly on the preferences of water users.

In response to these challenges we are now seeing a trend toward decentralised management of storages. This has been facilitated by new institutional reforms, specifically the definition of water storage rights. These rights allow users to maintain private storage reserves in public storages (surface reservoirs) and in effect make their own storage-release decisions.

Storage rights are now common place in the MDB. While storage rights have existed here for decades the pace of reform has increased dramatically in recent years in response to drought. Similar arrangements are also evolving in a number of Western US regions.

Recent developments on the Colorado river are particularly instructive. The Colorado river basin study quantified impending shortages and undertook exploratory work on engineering solutions – everything from a desalination plant to a channel from the Mississippi. The general conclusion was that all of these options are too expensive. What's interesting is that all of the major reforms in the Lower Colorado to date (contained in the 'interim guidelines', USBoR 2007) are related to storage policy.

In particular, there is now a form of storage right known as 'Individually created surplus' (ICS), which allows Lower Colorado water contractors (i.e., irrigation districts) to bank

unused allocations in Hoover Dam. While the rules around ICS are somewhat restrictive, significant volumes have been accumulated to date: over 1 million acre feet, almost 10 per cent of the current balance of Hoover Dam.

One of the most sophisticated approaches to storage rights in Australia, if not the world, is at St George in southern Queensland (Hughes and Goesch 2009) where a user level 'Capacity Sharing' system has been successfully implemented, based on the concept of Norman Dudley (Dudley and Musgrave 1988). Capacity sharing involves allocating each user a percentage share of the storage capacity and inflows of a reservoir. Each user can then manage their own water account independently. At St George user accounts are updated daily to reflect new inflows, withdrawals (releases) and even storage and delivery losses.

As with water markets, the problem with decentralised storage is that defining property rights to a commodity as complex as water is difficult and costly. If storage rights are poorly defined they can make matters worse, particularly if the effects of storage decisions on reservoir spills are not internalised, as was recently the case in northern Victoria (Hughes et al. 2013). To avoid this problem storage rights need to adequately reflect hydrological constraints. This is one of the many strengths of sophisticated systems like Capacity Sharing.

Neal Hughes

1. Hughes, N. and Goesch, T. (2009a), Capacity sharing in the St George and MacIntyre Brook irrigation schemes in southern Queensland, Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics.
2. Hughes, N., Gibbs, C., Dahl, A., Tregeagle, D., Sanders, O. and Goesch, T. (2013), Storage rights and water allocation arrangements in the Murray-Darling Basin, Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences
4. United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation (USBoR) (2007), Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead.
5. Dudley, N. J. and Musgrave, W.F. (1988), 'Capacity sharing of water reservoirs', *Water Resources Research* 24(5): 649–658.



Neal Hughes is a 3rd year Sir Roland Wilson Scholar PhD student studying at the Crawford School of Public Policy.



Angelia Grant 2012

Supervisor

Professor Warwick McKibbin
Crawford School of Public Policy
ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

Mentor

Dr David Gruen, Prime Minister & Cabinet

Angelia has been employed by the Treasury since 1999. In that time she has gained broad experience in policy development, having worked in the Macroeconomic, Revenue and Fiscal Groups in Treasury and as an economics adviser in the Prime Minister's Office and Chief of Staff to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer.

Angelia is undertaking research on business cycles and economic fluctuations, with a particular focus on comparing conclusions based on different economic models. She is examining the role of particular structural shocks during the 2001 US slowdown and Great Recession, and whether the assumption of rational expectations or adaptive learning in a large macroeconomic model for the US economy provides a better model fit. Her thesis also proposes a new econometric method for computing a model selection criterion that is rarely used in applied work given its computational burden.

Neal Hughes 2012

Supervisor

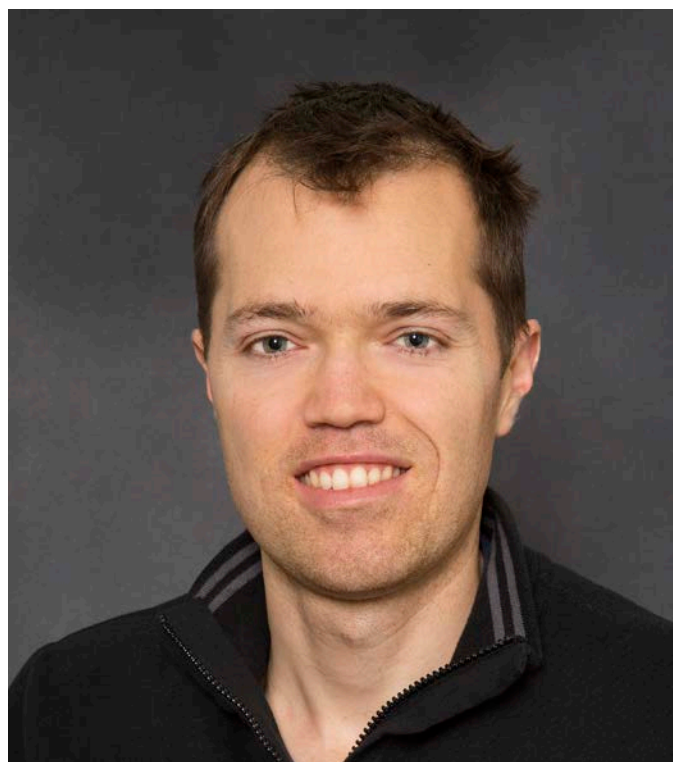
Professor Quentin Grafton
Crawford School of Public Policy
ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

Mentor

Peter Gooday, Australian Bureau of Agricultural & Resource Economics and Sciences

Since joining ABARES in 2006, Neal has completed extensive research on a range of water and agricultural productivity issues, including: urban water pricing and investment, reservoir management, water property rights reform and climate adjusted productivity measures. In 2010 Neal took a lead role in ABARES analysis of the Murray-Darling Basin plan.

In 2011 Neal was awarded a Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Scholarship for PhD study at the Australian National University. Neal's PhD thesis focuses on the design of water property rights in rivers with large reservoirs. Neal's research involves the development of computational models of regulated river systems with large numbers of 'artificially intelligent' agents.





Nerida Hunter 2012

Supervisor

Professor James Raymer

Australian Demographic & Social Research Institute
ANU College of Arts & Social Sciences

Mentor

Rebecca Cross, PSM, Prime Minister & Cabinet

Nerida has been working in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) since 2006 and has worked on a wide range of social policy issues. She was the Departmental Liaison Officer in the Office of the Cabinet Secretary in 2008 and 2009.

In 2010 she began her training in demography at the University of California (Berkeley) and subsequently joined ADSRI's PhD program. Nerida is undertaking applied demographic research of Australia's aged and ageing population. She is examining the size, structure and characteristics of the aged population across 328 regions of Australia; healthy life and working life expectancies; lifespan and life course disparity; and projections of growth and settlement of the aged population through to 2031. She is also a student affiliate of the Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research.

Using the SRW Foundation travel scholarship, I attended the International Max Planck Research School of Demography (IMPRSD) hosted by the Max Planck Institute in Demographic Research in Germany in late 2012. The IMPRSD program brings together students and academics to develop skills in demographic analysis. I focused on methods used to explore spatial patterns of demographic change and to analyse changes in the human life span. I have used these methods in my thesis investigating variation in population ageing between more than 300 areas in Australia.

In November 2013 I returned to Europe, this time to the United Kingdom and Austria. I met with specialists in the field of intergenerational transfers, geodemographic classification and modelling the service needs of older people. I presented, during a visit to the University of Southampton, the initial findings of a project on the implications of increasing longevity and changing life course on age-based policy settings in Australia.

I also attended a conference hosted by Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital on 'Health, Education and Retirement Over a Prolonged Life Cycle'.

Building my international networks and connecting into the international dialogue about responses to population ageing has shaped my research. I started with a study of demographic ageing in Australia across the dimensions of space and time. Now I have moved beyond the age-structures and cohort sizes to incorporate the concepts of the life course, active ageing and dependency into my research. These concepts are emerging as highly significant in understanding population ageing and the lived experience of the aged cohort in Australia and will be instrumental in a successful policy response to demographic change.



Building my international networks and connecting into the international dialogue about responses to population ageing has shaped my research.





Shane Johnson 2013

Supervisor

Professor Warwick McKibbin
Crawford School of Public Policy
ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

Mentor

Dr David Gruen, Prime Minister & Cabinet

Shane joined the Treasury as a graduate in 2001 and has worked in a wide range of policy advising roles. Prior to commencing his PhD in 2013, Shane worked in the Department of the Treasury's Macroeconomic Policy Division. In this role, he managed a unit responsible for providing advice on monetary and fiscal policy and financial market conditions. Prior to this Shane was a senior advisor on the Australia's Future Tax System Secretariat, where he primarily focused on the taxation of savings and investment.

Shane's research interests include domestic and international tax policy and fiscal policy. His current research is focused on examining taxpayers' understanding of, and responses to, the Australian taxation system. Shane hopes his research will provide insights for the future design, implementation and administration of the tax system.

Michael McKenzie 2013

Supervisor

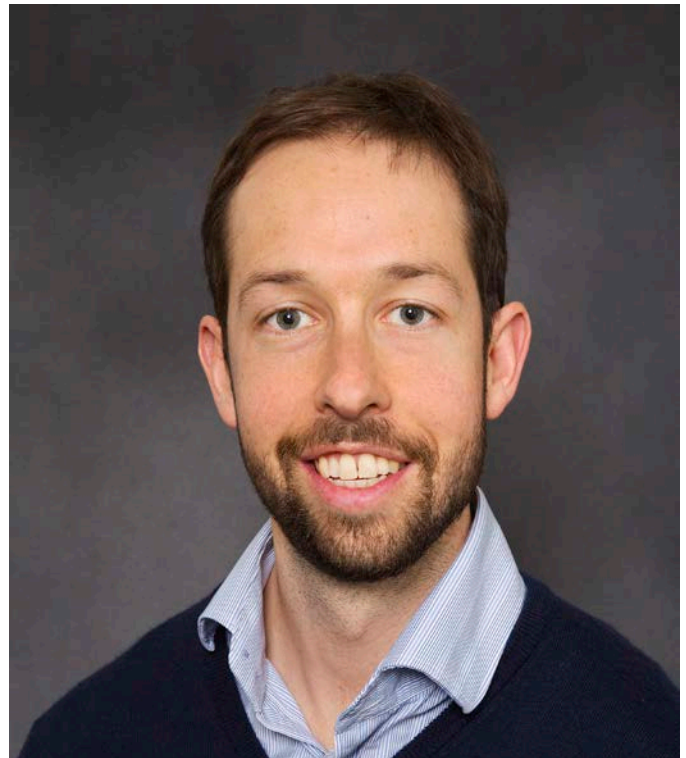
Professor Veronica Taylor
Regulatory Institutions Network
ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

Mentor

Katherine Jones, Attorney General's Department

Prior to commencing his PhD in 2013, Michael worked in the International Legal Assistance Branch of the Attorney-General's Department. In this role, he assisted countries in South-East Asia to strengthen and implement their transnational crime laws. Michael previously worked at the Australian Government Solicitor, and spent two years on secondment to AusAID helping to establish the Australian Civilian Corps.

Michael's research examines cooperation between Australia and Indonesia on criminal justice issues. Drawing on interviews with over eighty participants in the cooperative relationship, the research seeks to identify the conditions that promote cooperation between the two countries. Michael also hopes the research will provide insights for practitioners and scholars working on international cooperation in other regions and policy domains.





Eliza Murray 2013

Supervisor

Professor Frank Jotzo
Crawford School of Public Policy
ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

Mentor

Steven Kennedy, Department of Environment

Since joining the Department of the Environment in 2007, Eliza has contributed to a wide range of biodiversity and climate change policies, covering everything from national parks and forests to light bulbs and landfills. Before commencing her PhD, she played an instrumental role in the design of Australia's Carbon Farming Initiative. Eliza graduated from the Master of Climate Change course at the ANU in 2012 and was awarded the Garnaut Prize for Academic Excellence.

Eliza is now conducting her research at the Crawford School of Public Policy. She is investigating whether the proliferation of climate change initiatives outside of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is leading to a fragmented, inefficient system, and whether it is possible to establish linkages to deliver a more coordinated and effective global response.

Agnieszka Nelson 2013

Supervisor

Professor Matthew Gray
Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research
ANU College of Arts & Social Sciences

Mentor

Serena Wilson, Department of Social Services

Agnieszka Nelson has been employed by the Department of Social Services since 2001. In her capacity as Director of Evaluations, Agnieszka has worked to strengthen the Department's evaluation capability and culture through provision of training, advice and leading a team of researchers managing major policy evaluations. These include evaluations of income management trials in Northern Territory, Western Australia and in Place-Based sites.

Her thesis—a quantitative enquiry into the impact of welfare conditionality policy levers on youth disengaged from education, training and the labour market— seeks to understand the shifting objectives and effectiveness of welfare conditionality policy initiatives in Australia. Specifically, she is interested in examining the effects of sanctions and incentives on different treatment and comparison groups using longitudinal administrative data from Department of Social Services and Department of Employment—specifically constructed by her for this research.



“

**Thanks to the Sir Roland
Wilson Foundation I
was able to attend the
world renowned Summer
Program in Quantitative
Methods of Social
Research at University
of Michigan.**

**A unique and invaluable
experience.**

”

Agnieszka Nelson

2013 Scholar

“

The travel stipend that comes with the scholarship means that I won't just be studying Chinese State Owned Enterprises from a distance, but spending valuable time with some of China's leading economists and public policy advisors.”

Paul Hubbard
2014 Scholar



Talia Avrahamzon 2014

Supervisor

Professor Nicolas Biddle
Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research
ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

Mentor

Michael Lye, Department of Social Services

Talia has been employed by the Department of Social Services since 2002, primarily in roles that focused on children, family and Indigenous policy, program development and implementation. Key roles included working with communities under the Remote Service Delivery National Partnership Agreement in NSW, developing a workforce development strategy for the Northern Territory Intensive Family Support Services, and undertaking community development with regional communities in NSW to establish the Commonwealth-State Flexible Child and Family Service initiative.

Talia's research aims to use a mixed methods approach to understand children's experiences of reconciliation initiatives. Increasing this understanding is central to designing effective, evidence-informed policies and programs that foster respect and understanding, and not just knowledge of culture and history of Indigenous Australia.

Martine Cosgrove 2014

Supervisor

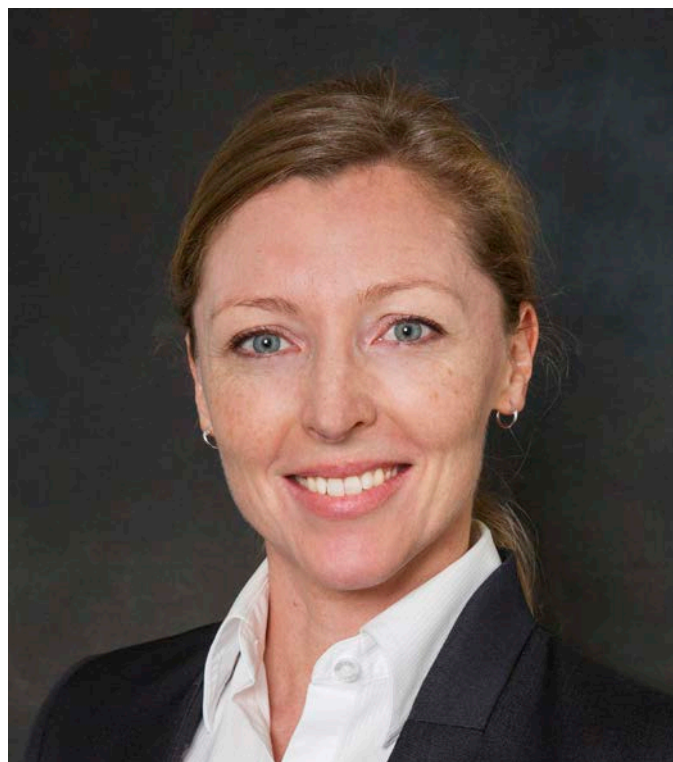
Associate Professor Peter Butterworth
Centre for Research of Ageing, Health & Wellbeing
ANU College of Medicine, Biology & the Environment

Mentor

David Morton, Department of Defence

Martine has been employed by the Department of Defence since 2007. Martine's most recent role was coordinating the implementation of the 2011 ADF Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy in Southern NSW. Martine played a pivotal role in delivering a range of mental health services and mental health promotion initiatives to Army, Navy and Air force training in the area. She was involved in practice-policy forums which informed primary mental health care policy development that improved the delivery of mental health services to members of the ADF.

Martine's research will explore the determinants of psychological adjustment and mental health outcomes across the military lifecycle. She will examine the interaction of individual characteristics with institutional conditions at different stages of the individual life-course to determine what factors influence health trajectories at points of occupational and personal transitions. The research will inform the development of policy and interventions which promote and sustain practices to support positive psychological health outcomes.





Paul Hubbard 2014

Supervisor

Dr Shiro Armstrong
Crawford School of Public Policy
ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

Mentor

Rob Heferen, The Treasury

Paul joined the Treasury as a graduate in 2006. In that time he worked on tax policy, including the Australia's Future Tax System review. He was seconded in 2010 to the Office of National Assessments for two years, before returning the Treasury's International Economy Division. In 2013 Paul worked closely with the Indonesian hosts of APEC to launch a pilot Public Private Partnership (PPP) Centre, and managed the team responsible for the Treasurer's attendance at the APEC Finance Minister's Meeting in Bali.

Since commencing at ANU in February 2014, Paul has focused on understanding Chinese state owned enterprises (SOEs). This is important not just for Australian businesses and government dealing with individual Chinese firms, but also for understanding the likely long-term trajectory of the Chinese economy. Paul has presented his early findings back to the Treasury, to a joint ANU-Business Council of Australia roundtable in Sydney, and chronicles his ongoing research at chinasoe.wordpress.com.

Rick Zentelis 2014

Supervisor

Professor David Lindenmayer
Fenner School of Environment & Society
ANU College of Medicine, Biology & the Environment

Mentor

Michael Healy, Department of Defence

Rick has been employed by the Department of Defence since 2005. During this time Rick has been involved in the environmental management of the Defence Estate, developing policies and approaches on biodiversity, heritage, biosecurity, bushfire and erosion. Rick's last position prior to commencing his scholarship was the development and implementation of the Defence Environment Management System – arguably the biggest EMS in the world.

Rick's research is looking at a better way to manage military training areas (MTAs). His unique experience and in depth knowledge of environmental management ideally places him to develop a MTA management model that will increase training utility, reduce costs associated with training area management and increase environmental protection. The model will have wider applicability to sectors such as forestry and agriculture.





Nathan Deutscher 2015

Supervisor

Professor Bob Breunig

Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU College of Asia & the Pacific

Nathan has been working in the Treasury since 2008 in a variety of roles across social and tax policy. He worked as a Departmental Liaison Officer in the Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer's Office between late 2011 and 2013, where he advised on individual income tax, indirect taxes and welfare policy. He is currently Acting Manager of the International Outlook Unit.

Nathan's PhD research, based in the Crawford School of Public Policy, will focus on intergenerational mobility - the extent to which economic outcomes are passed down from parents to children. Using maturing longitudinal datasets, twin studies and administrative data, his thesis will examine how mobility varies across groups in Australian society, and investigate causal mechanisms, such as the role of nature versus nurture, and the potential impact of public policy.

Camille Goodman 2015

Supervisor

Professor Donald Rothwell

Centre for International & Public Law, ANU College of Law

Camille Goodman joined the Attorney-General's Department in 2005, and the Office of International Law in 2007. Camille provided advice to Government on a wide range of public international law issues, has been the Australian Government legal adviser at international meetings and negotiations, and managed litigation before international courts and tribunals. She has a particular interest in maritime law and international fisheries law, on which she provided advice as an out-posted lawyer at the Department of Agriculture from 2010-2012.

Camille's PhD research, based in the College of Law, will examine coastal State powers at sea. Finding a legitimate basis to enact, apply and enforce legislation is crucial for any State wishing to regulate activity at sea – whether in relation to crimes at sea, oil and gas production, fisheries, workplace relations or pollution. This research will analyse the exercise of coastal State powers in the context of the rules-based international order, to ascertain the legitimate bases for, and extent of, coastal State jurisdiction in contemporary international law.





Marie McAuliffe 2015

Supervisor

Professor James Raymer
Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute
ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

Mentor

Janice Wykes, Department of Immigration & Border Protection

Marie McAuliffe commenced in the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) in 2000 and has worked in DIBP's offices in Canberra, Seoul and Moscow. Marie has led branches and sections in DIBP, the Australian Public Service Commission, and the Department of Workplace Relations, and has consulted to the International Labor Organization as well as in the private sector.

Marie's own research focuses on the conceptualisation of international migration, and irregular maritime migration specifically. She has recently published papers on migrant decision-making, Sri Lankan irregular migration, global irregular maritime migration and environmentally-related international migration.

Her PhD research examines the migration patterns, processes and factors involved in irregular maritime migration to Australia of Afghan Hazaras and Sri Lankan Tamils between 2008 and 2013.

Katy Smith 2015

Supervisor

Professor Matthew Gray
Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research

Katy commenced work in 2006 at what is now the Department of Social Services. An interest in the well-being of Indigenous people, particularly in remote areas led her to take on work for the Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (OATSIH) in the Northern Territory, and also with the Indigenous Coordination Centre. In 2009 Katy moved to Canberra to take on a role in evaluating policy. Since 2012, Katy's work has been on the evaluation and policy development of income management.

Katy's PhD will explore the historical, political, social and economic context of the non-attendance of Indigenous primary school-age children. It will examine policies implemented domestically and internationally, particularly in regard to those that employ welfare conditionality at their core, and endeavour to find the policy responses to this issue that may be suited to Indigenous children in the Northern Territory. It will take a mixed-method approach, investigating attendance trends through use of school attendance data, and will use qualitative data to explore on individual and community levels the reasons why some policies may, or may not, work.



PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

Over the past ten years, the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation has hosted a number of policy based Public Lectures. Recent highlights include presentations by Professor Barry Eichengreen from UC Berkeley, and Professor Jeffrey Sachs from Columbia University.

Professor Jeffrey Sachs

The Earth Institute, Columbia University



Professor Sachs is a world-renowned economics professor, leader in sustainable development, senior UN advisor, bestselling author, and syndicated columnist. Professor Sachs serves as the Director of The Earth Institute.

Australia in the age of sustainable development

Professor Sachs discussed challenges and opportunities in the next 20 years when there will be an unprecedented focus on sustainable development. Humanity has entered a new era of both risk and possibility.

Jeffrey Sachs discussed the new age of sustainable development, and Australia's role in achieving sustainable development both domestically and globally.

This lecture was presented by the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation in partnership with the Treasury.

Professor Barry Eichengreen

University of California, Berkeley



Professor Eichengreen is the George C. Pardee and Helen N. Pardee Professor of Economics and Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley, where he has taught since 1987.

The Euro Crisis: The long view

The Euro crisis never seems to end. One reason why Europe is chronically unable to draw a line under its crisis is a failure to understand how it got into that crisis in the first place. In this lecture Professor Eichengreen presented a long view of events, starting with the birth of the European Union and advent of the euro and concluding with recommendations for resolving the crisis.

This lecture was presented by the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation, and was supported by the Economics Society of Australia, the ANU Research School of Economics and the Crawford School of Public Policy.

Public lectures presented by the Sir Roland Wilson Foundation over the past 10 years

Copies of these presentations are available at the SRW office upon request

YEAR	SPEAKER	TOPIC
2014	Professor Jeffrey Sachs, The Earth Institute, Columbia University	Australia in the age of sustainable development
2013	Professor Barry Eichengreen, University of California, Berkeley	The Euro Crisis: The long view
2012	Professor Jagdish Bhagwati, Columbia University	The global economy: Implications of world trade and emerging economies in the Asia Pacific
2008	Ian McFarlane AC, former Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia	Financial shocks and the macroeconomy
2007	Dr Ken Henry AC, Secretary, The Treasury	Achieving and maintaining full employment
2006	Margaret Jackson, Chairperson, Qantas Ltd	Australia's Qantas: Bold, brave and innovative
2005	Dennis Trewin, Australian Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics	100 years of official statistics: with special reference to the contribution of Sir Roland Wilson

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Sir Roland Wilson Foundation provides a number of opportunities to scholars for leadership development over the course of their PhD studies at the ANU.

These include regular meetings with their public sector mentors; networking events with senior public servants; and development activities both within the Foundation and their research centres.

Australian Public Service Commission

Each year the Public Service Commissioner, Mr Stephen Sedgwick invites the SRW scholars and their Departmental Secretaries to an informal reception at the Commission to hear progress updates and also keeps the scholars connected to their departments.

Kioloa Retreat

The scholars attend an annual retreat to provide them with the opportunity to discuss their theses in detail with members of the SRW Foundation Board.

Mentoring Program

Every Sir Roland Wilson Scholar has a senior public servant who mentors them for the duration of their PhD program.

These mentors assist to keep the scholars connected to their departments and with the transition back into the department at the completion of their studies.

The SRW Scholars, their academic supervisors and their mentors from within the APS meet twice a year as a group.

The purpose is:

- > to give mentors the opportunity to listen to the progress reports of the students;
- > for there to be a discussion on a topic relevant to the students in terms of either their academic or leadership development; and
- > for the academics and mentors to meet together in support of the scholars.

These mentor meetings demonstrate the Foundation Board's continuing interest in the scholarship scheme and the progress of the scholars in attaining their PhD.



Michael McKenzie (2013 Scholar) with APS Commissioner Stephen Sedgwick at the APSC Commission reception.



Angelia Grant (2012 Scholar) and Dr Paul Grimes (Secretary to the Department of Agriculture) at the APSC Commission reception.

“

It was great to get an inside view on policy making from leading figures in government and academia at the Kioloa annual retreat. It opened up discussion about some of the complexities of developing public policy responses.”

Michael McKenzie
2013 Scholar

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