

Conference Speakers and Moderators



Senator the Hon Zed Seselja

Zed Seselja was sworn in as Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs by the Governor-General on 19 July 2016. Zed was first elected to the Senate for the Australian Capital Territory in 2013. Since his election to Parliament, Zed has been appointed to a number of committees including the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme National, the Senate Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committee on Community Affairs, where he served as Chair, and the Senate Select Committee on Health. Zed was born in Canberra to Croatian immigrant parents and was raised in Tuggeranong Valley. He is married to Roslyn and they have five children.



Hon. Tony Burke MP

Personal: Born 4.11.1969, Sydney, NSW.

Parliamentary appointments: State: Legislative Council (NSW) Representative on the Council of the University of Technology, Sydney from 7.5.03 to 24.6.04.

Ministerial appointments

- Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry from 3.12.07 to 14.9.10.
- Minister for Population from 14.4.10 to 28.6.10.
- Minister for Sustainable Population from 28.6.10 to 14.9.10.
- Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities from 14.9.10 to 1.7.13.
- Vice-President of the Executive Council from 5.3.12 to 18.9.13.
- Minister for the Arts from 25.3.13 to 18.9.13.
- Minister for Immigration, Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship 1.7.13 to 18.9.13



Senator Richard Di Natale

Personal: Born 6.6.1970, Melbourne, Vic.
Leader of the Australian Greens from 6.5.15.
Parliamentary service: Elected to the Senate for Victoria 2010 (term began 1.7.2011) and 2016.
Party positions

- Founding member, Melbourne and Moreland Branches, Victorian Greens.
- State Policy Coordinator, Victorian Greens 2005-06.
- Coordinator, Australian Greens Strategic Plan 2007.
- National Councillor, State Councillor and Regional Councillor, Australian Greens.

Carmel Guerra OAM



CEO and founder of CMY, Carmel Guerra has contributed to a range of research reports relating to multicultural youth. Carmel has served on boards and committees for government and non-government sectors and is currently a member of the Australian Multicultural Council and Refugee Resettlement Advisory Council. She also convenes the national Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN) and is a member of the Youth Parole Board. In 1994 Carmel was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to investigate issues of refugee and migrant youth overseas. In 2003 she earned a Centenary Medal for services to young people, migrant and refugee communities and in 2005 was entered into the Victorian Women's Honour Roll. In the 2016 Australia Day honours list, Carmel was recognised with a Medal in the Order of Australia. In November 2015 Carmel was also awarded the Victorian Premier's Award for Community Harmony.



Professor Helen Cahill

Academic, Melbourne Graduate School of Education
Curriculum studies: Arts education; Use of drama in health promotion
Student attitudes and experience; Mental health
Teacher education: Secondary; Student engagement and pedagogy
Professor Helen Cahill uses poststructural theory to inform participatory and transformative education. She has developed many Australian wellbeing programs addressing gender, resilience and respectful relationships, and a number of gender rights and sexuality education programs for women and young people in developing countries within the Asia-Pacific region.



Professor Fethi Mansouri

Professor Mansouri is the Director of the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation. The ADI conducts innovative multidisciplinary research that addresses problems concerning social, cultural, economic and political inequalities and human rights. ADI research makes a difference through expanding the capacity, depth and quality of knowledge and understanding we generate. The Institute works in collaboration with partners locally, nationally and internationally.



Professor Anita Harris

Anita Harris is a Research Professor in the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation. She is a youth sociologist undertaking a series of projects on youth and citizenship, including the completion of an Australian Research Council Future Fellowship. Prior to joining the Institute, she was a Future Fellow in the Sociology program at Monash University (2011-2015), and a Mid-Career Research Fellow and Deputy Director at the Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies at the University of Queensland (2007-2011).



Dr Tim Corney

Dr Tim Corney is currently an Associate Professor in the College of Arts and Education at Victoria University and Senior Fellow in the Youth Research Centre at the University Melbourne. He sits as a Director and/or Board member on a number of industry and community sector organisations and is a Fellow of the John Cain Foundation.

He has worked as a youth worker, manager of youth services, researcher and educator and as an adviser on youth affairs to governments and peak bodies across Australia and internationally. His academic research and work with young people is widely regarded.

Dr Helena de Anstiss



Dr Helena de Anstiss is the Program Director for the Bachelor of Social Work and associated double degrees at the University of South Australia. She is one of team a Chief Investigators of the ARC Linkage Project “Pathways to Active Citizenship: Refugee Youth and Their Transition from School to Further Education, Training and Employment”. Helena is involved in a number of research projects in both an academic and industry context to inform the policy and practice context in which government funded services are delivered to multicultural young communities. Her practice experience includes policy development and analysis, service planning, development and evaluation, and industry development and capacity building. Helena presents and advises on multicultural issues in a range of government, non-government and community forums.



Anya Satyanand

Anya is Executive Officer of Ara Taiohi, NZ. In her career which spans the education, community and youth development sectors, Anya has demonstrated a big commitment to and vision for interdisciplinary, cross sectoral approaches to working with young people. She’s worked in school leadership and sector development on strengths based, youth driven, innovative, restorative and ethical approaches to working with young people. Superdiversity has particular relevance in our changing youth demographics, and our young people’s cultural capabilities are what will drive Aotearoa forward into a hopeful future.

Nadine Liddy



Nadine Liddy is the National Coordinator of the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN Australia) and has worked in the youth and multicultural sectors for over 20 years. The MYAN has a specific focus on promoting the rights and interests of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds and supporting their active inclusion in all aspects of Australian society. Nadine has a background in service delivery with young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds and has also worked extensively in policy, advocacy and sector development in relation to multicultural youth issues. Nadine has also worked in the international context, undertaking research and advocacy on refugee and asylum seeker issues and supporting young people in international and regional advocacy opportunities.

Dr Tim Soutphommasane



Dr Tim Soutphommasane has been Race Discrimination Commissioner since August 2013. Prior to joining the Australian Human Rights Commission, Tim was a political philosopher and held posts at The University of Sydney and Monash University. His thinking on multiculturalism, patriotism and national identity has been influential in shaping debates in Australia and Britain. Tim is the author of four books: *I'm Not Racist But ...* (2015), *The Virtuous Citizen* (2012), *Don't Go Back To Where You Came From* (2012), and *Reclaiming Patriotism* (2009). He was co-editor of *All That's Left* (2010). He has been an opinion columnist with *The Age* and *The Weekend Australian* newspapers, and presented the documentary series *Mongrel Nation* on ABC Radio National (2013). Tim is an adjunct professor at the School of Social Sciences and Psychology, Western Sydney University and chairs the Leadership Council on Cultural Diversity. Born in France and raised in southwest Sydney, Tim holds a Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Philosophy from the University of Oxford, and is a first-class honours graduate of The University of Sydney.



Megan Mitchell

Megan Mitchell is Australia's first National Children's Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission, appointed in 2013. Megan has previous experience in both government and non-government roles in child protection, out-of-home care, youth justice, disability, and early childhood services. Megan also holds qualifications in social policy, psychology and education. In her role as Commissioner, Megan focuses solely on the rights and interests of children, and the laws, policies and programs that impact on them.

Each year, Megan presents a statutory report to federal Parliament on the state of children's rights in Australia. In her work to date, Megan has focused on the prevalence of suicide and intentional self-harm in children and young people, the impact of family and domestic violence on children and young people, and the oversight of children and young people in correctional detention.

Carla Wilshire



Carla Wilshire is the CEO of the Migration Council Australia (MCA) – Australia’s national research and policy institution on migration, settlement and social cohesion. Carla has a background in policy development, corporate governance and tertiary research. Throughout her career in public policy, she has worked as a public servant and advisor to Government, principally in the area of migration and resettlement. Prior to establishing the MCA, she was Chief of Staff to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs. Carla is a member of the Judicial Council on Cultural Diversity, which provides advice to the Council of Chief Justices of Australia on improving access to justice for culturally and linguistically diverse Australians. She is a member of the National Anti-racism Strategy and co-founded the Friendly Nation Initiative, which aims to link corporate Australia with the settlement community to improve employment outcomes for refugees. Carla is also deputy chair of the Migrant and Refugee Women’s Health Partnership.

Dr Bulent Hass Dellal



Dr B. (Hass) Dellal AO is the Executive Director of the Australian Multicultural Foundation and Chairman of the SBS Board of Directors. He has over 25 years’ experience in policy, management, community development and programming for cultural diversity. He has extensive experience nationally and internationally in multicultural affairs. He serves on various boards and committees and has spearheaded initiatives for the development of the general community. He has prepared programs on community relations, social cohesion and integration and prevention strategies on behalf of Government authorities and the private sector. He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to Multiculturalism, the Arts and the Community in 1997, and the Centenary of Federation Medal in 2003. In 2015, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to the multicultural community through leadership and advisory roles, to the advancement of inclusiveness and social harmony, to youth, and to the broadcast media.

Professor Audrey Yue



Audrey Yue is Professor in Media, Culture and Critical Theory in the Department of Communications and New Media at the National University of Singapore. Before joining NUS in July 2017, she lived in Australia for 30 years where she last held the positions of Professor in Cultural Studies and Director of the Research Unit in Public Cultures at the University of Melbourne. She has published 7 scholarly books and more than 80 refereed journal articles and book chapters in the fields of Sinophone media cultures; cultural policy and development, and; queer Asian studies. She has received more than AUD\$6m in competitive research grants, and is currently Chief/Partner Investigator in three Australian Research Council funded projects on arts participation in the smart city; young people and multiculturalism, and; Asian media flows in Australia.

Dorcas Utkovic



Dorcas is change-maker, digital storyteller, Producer & Host of OZ AFRICAN TV, a lifestyle TV show about people of African Diaspora in Australia. Born in South Africa, migrated to Australia 10 years ago where she lives with her two gorgeous children and supportive husband. Her interest in Film/TV has seen her fulfil an array of roles including but not limited to Production Assistant, Production Researcher, Art Department personnel, Head of Department (Costume Dept.) and Actor. She believes that Media is a powerful tool and when used responsibly it can change people's perceptions of others. Beyond OZ AFRICAN TV, she is very active within the community. Some of her recent work includes Coordinator for the vibrant event 'One Beat - One Love' which is part of VMC's Cultural Diversity Week. She is also the current Coordinator of Nelson Mandela Day Celebrations. She studied Fine Art in South Africa and recently completed Master of Art in Writing through Swinburne University.



Associate Professor Amanda Third

Associate Professor Amanda Third (PhD) is Principal Research Fellow in Digital Social and Cultural Research in the Institute for Culture and Society at the Western Sydney University, Australia. Amanda's research focuses on the socio-cultural dimensions of young people's technology use, with particular emphases on children's rights in the digital age, the intergenerational dynamics shaping technology practice, and vulnerable young people's technological engagements. From 2011-2016, Amanda was Research Program Director in the Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre (youngandwellcrc.org.au), which united young people with 75+ organisations across sectors to explore how to harness young people's technology practices to support their wellbeing. She currently co-directs the Young and Resilient Living Lab in Western Sydney, and is lead author of *Young People in Digital Society: Control Shift* (with Philippa Collin, Lucas Walsh and Ros Black, forthcoming 2018). Amanda is a member of the Australian-based Technology and Wellbeing Cross-Sector Roundtable; a member of the international Digitally Connected Network; Expert Advisor to Global Kids Online; and Expert Advisor to the UNESCO/Google Asia Pacific Regional Digital Citizenship Framework. In 2015 she was awarded the Western Sydney University Vice Chancellor's Medal for Engagement and Sustainability

Apajok Biar



Born in a refugee camp in Kenya, Apajok arrived in Australia with her family as a 2 year old. At 22 years of age she is already making a difference to many. Apajok recently completed a Bachelor of Social Work at Western Sydney Uni. She volunteers at her local community centre engaging with refugee young people and is Chairperson and Co-founder of South Sudan Voices of Salvation Inc, a not-for profit youth run and led organisation. A youth advisor for Multicultural NSW and a MYAN NSW Multicultural Youth Ambassador, Apajok is passionate about advocating for South Sudanese youth and speaking up against all forms of injustice and violations of human rights and racism. Apajok is currently involved in projects that promote multiculturalism and social cohesion in Australia. Last June she was the Australian and New Zealand refugee youth representative to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Geneva Switzerland, where she presented on a panel on refugee youth inclusion. Apajok was the Western Sydney Refugee Youth Award in community leadership & is a finalist for Women's Weekly 'Women of the future' award 2017.

Rod Glover



Rod is an expert in large-scale innovation. He believes that to create new regimes, you sometimes have to break the old ones. He has been Senior Adviser to an Australian Prime Minister and Deputy Secretary for Innovation in Victoria's DPC. He has also worked for the world's leading innovation agencies in London and San Francisco. Rod was chair of the education charity Hands on Learning Australia (breaking the cycle of educational disadvantage) and is co-founder of a tech startup that seeks to radically expand access to tertiary education.

He was a Director of the Centre of Excellence in Intervention and Prevention Science (in public health) and a member of the National Sustainability Council. He is now on the Board of Save the Children Australia. Rod has driven major new policy frameworks in Australia, including the COAG National Reform Agenda, the Australian Industry and Innovation Statement, and a new approach to entrepreneurship in Victoria. Rod studied at the University of Melbourne, with Executive Education at the Australian and New Zealand School of Government, the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and the Sloan School of Management at MIT.

Kavita Bedford



Kavita Bedford is an Australian-Indian writer, social researcher, and media commentator. Her belief in the power of storytelling and alternative narratives as forms of resistance has led her to work for the World Bank's Justice for the Poor team in Indonesia, as a journalist in Santiago de Chile, and working for various NGOs, including Bankstown Youth Development Service. She is currently the Editor of The Point Magazine, that looks at the impact overseas conflicts have on local communities and countering violent extremism. She is the Creative Producer of a website for grassroots storytelling in western Sydney, Mapping Frictions. She was the recipient of The Walkley Foundation's Women in Media mentorship program and the Cultural Fund's Emerging Writers Fellowship and was recently awarded Australia Council Career Development fund to complete her first novel. She has published both nationally and internationally on a range of issues in The Guardian, Griffith Review, Junkee, Roads & Kingdoms, and Crikey.

Adam Mostogl



Adam Mostogl is passionate about embracing creative and innovative solutions to common problems, with experience in retail, heavy industry, tourism, hospitality, and brand management. Since 2010, over 4100 young Australians have undertaken entrepreneurial education programs lead by Adam as the Founder / Inspirer of illuminate Education & Consulting, which focuses on inspiring students to recognize how they can be the job creators of the future.

Adam is also the Executive Director of the Van Diemen Project, which was announced in 2016 as Tasmania's Most Innovative Startup. The organisation is focused on empowering Tasmanian businesses and entrepreneurs to do great things globally and practically supports the community to see self-employment and entrepreneurship as an employment possibility, business advice and mentoring, short intensive courses as well as hosting Tasmania's first youth business incubator. Adam was announced the 2015 Tasmanian Young Australian of the Year – and a finalist for Young Australian of the Year – for his endeavours in entrepreneurial programs, education more generally as well as community development. He was also given an honourable mention (and was the only Tasmanian) in the 30under30 list for young Australian entrepreneurs for 2015.