



DEAKIN
UNIVERSITY AUSTRALIA



Hard Labor: the crisis of social democracy in the Australian states

A conference organized by the Alfred Deakin Research
Institute, Deakin University

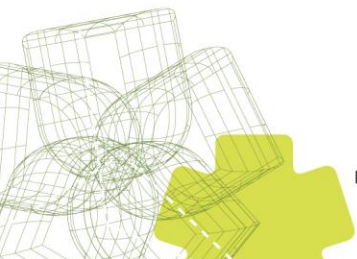
Saturday 5 November, 2011
Deakin University Melbourne City Centre
Level 3, 550 Bourke St (Deloitte building)
Melbourne

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Deakin University
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Attendance is free. Registrations are essential for catering purposes.
Please contact Geoff Robinson to register your interest in attending.

For updates follow us on Twitter at @hardlaborcon

**ALFRED
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RESEARCH
INSTITUTE**



PROGRAM

9.00 am REGISTRATIONS OPEN	
9.15 am WELCOME	
Welcome to country, and welcome on behalf of Alfred Deakin Research Institute (ADRI)	
9.30 am LABOR'S LOVE LOST: THE FALL OF NSW AND VICTORIAN LABOR	
Andrew West	<i>The NSW Election myths & realities</i>
Geoff Robinson	<i>Labor's electoral base in NSW and Victoria 1996-2011</i>
Andrew Giles	<i>Victorian Labor's defeat: inevitable or avoidable?</i>
Trevor Cook	<i>Labor and the unions</i>
Discussion & questions	
11.00 am MORNING TEA	
11.30 am OFF THE RAILS? LABOR AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT	
Penny Sharpe, Andrew West, Carlo Carli	<i>Transport policy roundtable</i>
Discussion & questions	
1.00 pm LUNCH	
1.30 pm GREEN LABOR, BROWN LABOR OR NEITHER?	
Brian Coffey	<i>Victorian Labor and the environment</i>
Troy Whitford	<i>Country Labor: A few sheep short in the top paddock or all foam, no beer</i>
Discussion & questions	
3.00 pm AFTERNOON TEA	
3.30 pm INTERNATIONAL AND AUSTRALIAN PERSPECTIVES	
Rob Manwaring	<i>Mike Rann: Don Dunstan's heir?</i>
Hans Lofgren	<i>The fall of the Left Front in West Bengal</i>
Discussion & questions	

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Carlo Carli

Carlo Carli was a ministerial advisor in the Labor government of Joan Kirner. He was state MP for Coburg and Brunswick in the Victorian parliament from 1994 to 2010. He served on the frontbench in opposition and as a parliamentary Secretary for Multiculturalism and Infrastructure in the Labor government of Steve Bracks. Carlo completed a master's thesis at the University of Melbourne on urban consolidation.

Brian Coffey

Brian Coffey is a Research fellow in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Deakin University. The policy dimensions of sustainability and science – policy relations has been his main research focus. His current role involves investigating the uptake of science in coastal management, as part of a national project funded by the CSIRO. In his PhD he examined how the discourses of neoliberalism and ecological modernization shaped policy making in Victoria, Australia, and the effects this had for the way in which the challenge of sustainability was understood and subsequently responded to. He has previously worked for 17 years in a variety of environmental policy and planning roles within the Victorian public sector. My qualifications include:

- Bachelor of Science (Politics and Economics) Griffith University
- Graduate Diploma (Resource Economics) University of New England
- Master of Social Science (Environmental Policy) RMIT University
- PhD (Policy Studies) University of Queensland

Trevor Cook

Trevor Cook is a PhD student and sessional tutor in Australian politics at the University of Sydney. His (almost completed) PhD dissertation is a re-interpretation of the contemporary relationship between unions and the ALP, it focuses on the national level and draws extensively on interviews with senior union officials and MPs. Before becoming a student again, Trevor spent nearly three decades in politics (as a federal Ministerial adviser), the Australian Public Service (including several years in an Accord body and much later as a senior executive in the Department of Industrial Relations), and as a consultant on employee, corporate and government communications. Trevor holds a Bachelor of Economics (Hons.). He has written extensively for many online publications including ABC Unleashed and The Conversation. His blog address is <http://trevorcook.typepad.com>

Andrew Giles

Andrew Giles joined the ALP 1992, at Melbourne University - from where he graduated BA (Hons - History and Political Science) and LLB. He worked for State Labor in Opposition in the mid nineties before undertaking articles of clerkship and working as a solicitor at Holding Redlich. He left the law to work as a senior adviser and chief of staff to Ministers Jennings and D'Ambrosio until the defeat of the Brumby Government, and has continued to advise Gavin Jennings in his capacity as Shadow Minister for Health and Mental Health. Throughout Labor's time in office Andrew served on the Administrative Committee of the Victorian ALP. He was a member of the Campaign Committees for the 2006 and 2010 State Elections.

Hans Lofgren

Hans Lofgren is Senior Lecturer and Associate Head (International and Community Engagement), School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Deakin University. He has a longstanding interest in the international labour movement and Left politics. His principal research interest is the political economy of pharmaceuticals and biotechnology but he also teaches Indian Politics and has travelled widely in India. Recent publications include Lofgren, H and Benner, M (2011) 'A Global Knowledge Economy?: Biopolitical Strategies in India and the European Union', *Journal of Sociology*, 47 (2) 163-180; and Lofgren, H, de Leeuw, E & M Leahy (eds) (2011) *Democratising Health: Consumer Groups in the Policy Process*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham.

Rob Manwaring

Rob Manwaring is a lecturer in the Department of Politics and Public Policy at Flinders University. Previously Rob worked for the UK's Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) as a senior policy adviser in the public sector division. Rob worked with a range of central government departments in the UK on their race equality work, and was a key member of the CRE's high profile investigation into racism in the police service. In 2007, Rob worked as a social justice policy officer for the South Australian Council of Social Service, and updated and wrote their 'Blueprint for the elimination of poverty in South Australia'. Rob was also a researcher for Adelaide 'Thinker in Residence' Dr Geoff Mulgan.

Geoff Robinson

Geoff Robinson is senior lecturer in Politics and Australian Studies at Deakin University, Geelong. His publications include *When the Labor Party Dreams: Class, Politics and Policy in New South Wales 1930-32*. He is regular commentator for the media on Australian and American politics.

Penny Sharpe

Penny Sharpe has been a Labor member of the NSW Legislative Council since 1995 and is currently the Shadow Minister for Transport. Penny served as the Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and Roads for the last two years of the Labor government. Within the Labor Party, Penny has taken a special interest in policy development and party reform. She was Deputy Chair of the Building a Modern Labor Party consultation held in 2009. In 2000 she was an editor and contributor to *Party Girls - Labor Women Now*. Her web address is <http://www.pennysharpe.com>.

Andrew West

Andrew West is a journalist and broadcaster. He is a senior reporter at *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and produced and presented the ABC documentary, "The New Politics", on the way the global financial crisis was influencing political trends in Australia, the United States and Britain. He is the author of *Bob Carr: A Self Made Man*, a biography of the former NSW premier (HarperCollins, 2003) and *Inside The Lifestyles of the Rich and Tasteful*, a study of social class in contemporary Australia (Pluto/Pan Macmillan, 2006). He has been a political correspondent for *The Australian*, a reporter at *The Sun-Herald* and his work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The South China Morning Post* and *The Christian Science Monitor*, where he wrote from locations as diverse as Turkey, the West Bank, the Georgian Republic and coup-torn Fiji. In 1997 and 1998, Andrew was an editor and writer with United Press International in Washington, D.C., covering the Clinton White House. Andrew is a graduate of the University of Sydney (B.A. Hons, politics and modern history) and Columbia University, New York (M.Sc.).

Troy Whitford

Troy Whitford lecturers in History and Politics at Charles Sturt University. His research interests include rural policy and politics along with comparative studies of South-East Asian politics. He is a director of the Page Research Centre.