



**Australasian Study of Parliament Group  
New South Wales Chapter**

## **2014 Annual Conference**

***How Representative is Representative Democracy?***



**SYDNEY**  
**1 – 3 October 2014**



Hosted by the Parliament of New South Wales



## **Australasian Study of Parliament Group**

**NEW SOUTH WALES CHAPTER**

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1-3 OCTOBER 2014, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY**

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### **Conference speakers**

<b>Professor Richard Herr</b>	Academic Coordinator, Parliamentary Law and Practice, Law Faculty, University of Tasmania
<b>Professor Jon Fraenkel</b>	Professor in Comparative Politics, School of History, Philosophy, Political Science and International Relations, Victoria University of Wellington
<b>Mr Peter Topura</b>	Director – Procedures, Autonomous Region of Bougainville House of Representatives
<b>Mr Antony Green</b>	Australian Broadcasting Commission Election Analyst
<b>Dr Therese Arsenau</b>	Senior Fellow, Political Science, University of Canterbury, New Zealand
<b>Ms Louise Upston, MP</b>	Chief Government Whip, National Member for Taupo, Parliament of New Zealand
<b>Ms Louisa Wall, MP</b>	Labour Member for Manurewa, New Zealand Parliament
<b>Professor Anne Twomey</b>	Professor of Constitutional Law, University of Sydney
<b>Mr Tim Wilson</b>	Human Rights Commissioner, Australia
<b>Ms Helen Minnican</b>	Clerk-Assistant, Committees and Corporate, NSW Legislative Assembly
<b>Dr Liam Weeks</b>	Department of Government, University College Cork, Ireland; Honorary Fellow, Department of Politics and International Relations, Macquarie University
<b>Mr David Blunt</b>	Clerk of the Parliaments, NSW Legislative Council
<b>Professor Geoff Gallop</b>	Director, Graduate School of Government, University of Sydney; Former Premier of Western Australia
<b>Professor Simon Tormey</b>	Professor and Head of School, School of Social and Political Sciences, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney
<b>Dr Anika Gauja</b>	Honours Coordinator, Department of Government and International Relations, Faculty of Arts, Sydney University
<b>Mr Ben Franklin</b>	State Director, NSW National Party
<b>Hon Tony Smith MP</b>	Federal member for Casey; Chair, Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters
<b>Senator Nick Xenophon</b>	Independent Senator for South Australia
<b>Senator David Leyonhjelm</b>	Liberal Democratic Party Senator for New South Wales
<b>Mr David Gibson MP</b>	Member for Gympie, Queensland Parliament
<b>Mr Michael Tatham</b>	Clerk, Northern Territory Legislative Assembly
<b>Professor Marian Sawer</b>	Editor, <i>International Political Science Review</i> School of Politics and International Relations, Australian National University



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### **Day 1: Wednesday, 1 October 2014**

- 3:15pm – 5:00pm      ASPG Executive Meeting & APR Editorial Board Meeting (Waratah Room)
- 5:30pm – 7:00pm      Welcome Reception – including conference registration  
*(Reception location to be advised)*



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NEW SOUTH WALES CHAPTER

ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1-3 OCTOBER 2014, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY

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### Day 2: Thursday, 2 October 2014

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and tea and coffee

9:00 – 9:10 Conference opening remarks

#### ***Session 1: Emerging Parliamentary democracies in the Pacific Islands***

9:10 – 9:30 **Professor Richard Herr** Cultural adaptations of the Westminster model in Fiji and Samoa

9:30 – 9:50 **Professor Jon Fraenkel** The hidden order in Melanesian 'disorderly democracy'

9:50 – 10:19 **Mr Peter Topura** Making the standing orders work for the people

10:10 – 10:40 **General Discussion**

10:40 – 11:00 *Morning tea*

#### ***Session 2: Parliaments and elections***

11:00 – 11:20 **Mr Antony Green** The limits of preferential voting – lessons from the 2013 Australian Senate election

11:20 – 11:50 **Dr Therese Arsenau**  
**Ms Louise Upston, MP**  
**Ms Louisa Wall, MP** The impact of MMP on representation in New Zealand's Parliament – a view from inside and outside Parliament

11:50 – 12:20 **General Discussion**

12:20 – 1:30 *Lunch*

1:00 – 1:30 *Optional Parliament House Tour*

#### ***Session 3: Election funding***

1:30 – 1:50 **Professor Anne Twomey** The High Court on election funding

1:50 – 2:20 **Mr Tim Wilson,**  
Panel of **MPs and MLCs from**  
**the NSW Parliament** Panel discussion

2:20 – 2:50 **General Discussion**

2:50 – 3:10 *Afternoon tea*

#### ***Session 4: Decision making in Parliament***

3:10 – 3:30 **Ms Helen Minnican** Representation revisited – former members on Parliament and the role of elected representatives

3:30 – 3:50 **Dr Liam Weeks** Parliaments without parties

3:50 – 4:10 **Mr David Blunt** Parliamentary speech and the location of decision making

4:10 – 4:40 **General Discussion**

5:00 – 6:00 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Macquarie Room – all members welcome)**

***Conference Dinner at Pavilion Restaurant, Art Gallery Road***  
***Pre-dinner drinks at 7:30 pm***  
***Featuring Mr Quentin Dempster, broadcaster, journalist and author***



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### Day 3: Friday, 3 October 2014

8:30 – 9:00 Tea and coffee  
9:00 – 9:10 Final day opening remarks

#### ***Session 5: Alternative representative and decision-making models***

9:10 – 9:30 **Professor Geoff Gallop** Democracy – is there a third way?  
9:30 – 9:50 **Professor Simon Torney** From representative to ‘post representative democracy’?  
9:50 – 10:20 **General Discussion**  
10:20 – 10:40 *Morning tea*

#### ***Session 6: Selecting representatives for representative democracy***

10:40 – 11:00 **Dr Anika Gauja** Candidate selection methods and candidate diversity in Australia  
11:00 – 11:20 **Mr Ben Franklin,** Community pre-selection –The Nationals  
11:20 – 11:40 Representative from the NSW Branch of the Australian Labor Party Community pre-selection – Australian Labor Party  
11:40 – 12:10 **General Discussion**  
12:10 – 1:10 *Lunch*

#### ***Session 7: Non-government parliamentary majorities***

1:10 – 1:50 **Hon Tony Smith MP,** Panel discussion  
Panel of Senators including  
**Senator Nick Xenophon**  
**Senator David Leyonhjelm**  
  
1:50 – 2:15 **General Discussion**  
2:15 – 2:40 *Afternoon tea*

#### ***Session 8: Representation and diversity***

2:40 – 3:00 **Mr David Gibson MP** Disability, inclusion and democracy – An uncomfortable fit  
3:00 – 3:20 **Mr Michael Tatham** Participation and power – Aboriginal members of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly  
3:20 – 3:40 **Professor Marian Sawer** Beyond numbers: The role of specialised parliamentary bodies in promoting gender equality  
3:40 – 4:10 **General Discussion**

**ASPG President closes the Conference – followed by farewell drinks**