



Australasian Study
of Parliament Group
Conference Adelaide 2025

ASPG

**1 - 3
OCTOBER
2025** | **MODERN PARLIAMENTS:
CHANGING ROLES,
EXPECTATIONS & CHALLENGES**

HOSTED BY ASPG - SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CHAPTER, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, ADELAIDE, KAURNA COUNTRY

ASPG 2025

MODERN PARLIAMENTS:
CHANGING ROLES, EXPECTATIONS & CHALLENGES

DAY ZERO

TUESDAY
30 SEPTEMBER

Foreword from the ASPG SA Chapter

The 2025 ASPG Annual Conference is fast approaching and we look forward to welcoming delegates to the Parliament of South Australia in Adelaide from 30 September to 3 October. Modern Parliaments: Changing Roles, Expectations & Challenges is this year's theme and we have been fortunate to again receive a strong response to the call for papers.

With 2025 bringing another year of political, social and technological change, presenters at this year's conference will examine how the role of parliaments around the world continues to evolve to meet the demands of the modern age, and with it, the expectations of its Members, staff and the communities they represent, including:

- adopting AI and other new technologies to engage more widely with citizens and to modernise parliamentary procedure;
- managing and combatting misinformation;
- taking responsibility as an employer for the wellbeing of Members and staff and responding to external reviews of workplace culture;
- rethinking the role of committees in engaging with the community;
- changing roles and expectations of the core business of parliament; and
- scrutinising Executive spending and policy decisions.

Please find the final programme included in this circular.

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| 3.30pm | National Executive Committee Meeting Chapter Representatives and Executive Committee | Watarru Room |
| 4.00pm | Optional registration and conference materials collection | Old Chamber |
| 5.00pm | Welcome Reception Hosted by Her Excellency the Governor of South Australia The Honourable Frances Adamson AC | Government House Cnr King William Rd and North Terrace, Adelaide CBD |

DAY ONE

WEDNESDAY
1 OCTOBER

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| 8.30am | Arrive between 8.30am to 8.45am to allow time to pass through security, register and collect conference materials | Old Chamber Lobby |
| 9.00am | Welcome to Country Luke Wilson | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 9.10am | Conference Opening ASPG SA Chapter President - Mr Josh Teague MP, Member for Heysen ASPG President - Dr Isla MacPhail | |
| 9.30am Facilitator: Josh Teague MP, Member for Heysen, Parliament of SA | Plenary Engaging with First Nations People Representatives from the SA First Nations Voice to Parliament and secretariat | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 10.30am | Morning Tea | Balcony Room |
| 11.00am Facilitator: Glen Bennett MP, Member for New Plymouth, New Zealand Parliament | Panel New Technologies & Parliamentary Engagement <i>Bridging the Gap - Using Digital Platforms to Reach New Audiences</i> Anna Ingleton, Parliament of NZ <i>Online Publication and the Accessibility of Parliamentary Information</i> Robin Howlett, Parliament of NSW <i>From Agora to Algorithm: Reinventing the Public Square in the Digital Age</i> Will Coad, Parliament of SA <i>VR, AI, VCs: Embracing Modern Parliamentary Education</i> Natalie Badcock, Parliament of SA | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 12.30pm | Lunch | Balcony Room |
| 1.00pm | Optional Tour of Parliament House | Beginning from Balcony Room |

DAY ONE

WEDNESDAY
1 OCTOBER

| | | |
|--|---|---------------------------|
| 1.30pm Facilitator: Rick Crump, Clerk of the House of Assembly, Parliament of SA | Panel New Technologies & Parliamentary Procedure <i>Tradition v Transformation: Navigating the Tension Between Parliamentary Customs and Modernisation</i> Caitlin Connally, Parliament of Vic <i>Out of Bounds - Parliamentary Privilege Considerations When Witnesses Give Evidence from Outside the State</i> Verity Smith, Legislative Council, Parliament of NSW <i>Harnessing Generative-AI in Parliamentary Research: Balancing Risks and Opportunities</i> Dr Alba Boer Cueva, Parliament of NSW | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 3.10pm | Afternoon Tea | Balcony Room |
| 3.30pm Facilitator - Glenn Ryall, Director, Procedure and Research, Australian Senate | Panel Managing Misinformation <i>We Need to Chat About ChatGPT: A Case Study of a Submission Written by AI</i> Dr Merry Brown, Parliament of SA <i>Managing Misinformation in Electronic Petitions</i> Kate Roggeveen, House of Representatives, Parliament of Australia <i>Combatting Misinformation From Inside the House: the Challenges Faced by Parliamentary Researchers</i> Paige Timms, Parliament of SA | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 5.00pm | Day 1 concludes | |

DAY TWO

THURSDAY
2 OCTOBER

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|---------|--|---------------------------|
| 8.45am | Arrive and allow time to pass through security | |
| 9.00am | <p>Panel</p> <p>Modern Parliamentary Workplaces</p> <p><i>Transforming Ministers, Members and Parties Office Accommodation in a Modern Parliament</i> Dave Wills, Parliament of NZ</p> <p><i>Keeping Our People and Members Safe in a Changing Environment</i> Alyson Groves, Parliament of NZ</p> <p><i>Privilege and the Enforcement of Health and Safety in the Parliamentary Workplace</i> Dr Evan Smith, Parliament of SA</p> | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 10.30am | Morning Tea | Balcony Room |
| 11.00am | <p>Panel</p> <p>Modern Parliamentary Committees</p> <p><i>Can Parliamentary Committees Solve Policy Problems?</i> David Monk, ACT Legislative Assembly</p> <p><i>Unpopular Inquiries – Alternative Approaches to Engage with the Public on Complex Topics</i> Dr Chiara De Lazzari, Parliament of Victoria</p> <p><i>Balancing Learning and Legitimation: Public Participation in Select Committees in Aotearoa New Zealand</i> Will Dreyer, Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington</p> | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 12.30pm | Lunch | Balcony Room |
| 1.00pm | ASPG Annual General Meeting | Watarru Room |

DAY TWO

THURSDAY
2 OCTOBER

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| 1.30pm | <p>Panel</p> <p>Changing Roles and Expectations</p> <p><i>Strengthening the Normative Power of Rule of Law in Australia: What is Parliament's Role and Who Else Should Help?</i> Dr Michael Hooper & Dr Sarah Moulds, University of South Australia</p> <p><i>Reimagining parliament - Deepening Feedback Loops to Strengthen Parliamentary Performance</i> Sandy Killick, Democracy Matters</p> <p><i>Parliamentary Diplomacy and the Role of Parliament in Crisis: Analyzing Sri Lanka's 9th Parliament Amidst Political and Economic Crises (2020-2024)</i> Malindu Weerakkody, Victoria University of Wellington</p> | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 3.00pm | Afternoon Tea | Balcony Room |
| 3.30pm | <p>Plenary</p> <p>Reimagining Parliament</p> <p><i>Reimagining Parliament</i> Professor Cristina Leston-Bandeira, University of Leeds (via video conference)</p> <p><i>Five Obvious Engagement Rules and How to Apply them to the Best Element of Parliament – the Committee System</i> Iain Walker, New Democracy</p> | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 4.45pm | Day 2 concludes | |
| 6.30pm | Conference Dinner | Adelaide Zoo |
| <p>Enter via the main entrance on Plane Tree Drive</p> <p>We recommend you Uber or walk in groups up Frome Rd to North Tce at the conclusion of the evening</p> | |  <p>Directions</p> |

DAY THREE

FRIDAY
3 OCTOBER

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| 8.45am | Arrive and allow time to pass through security | |
| 9.00am | Panel Reviewing Modern Parliaments <i>An Attempt at Contemporary Contempt: Victoria's Parliamentary Workplace Standards and Integrity Regime</i> Vaughn Koops, Parliament of Victoria <i>Gender Equality in the Parliament of Victoria? The Long, Unfinished Road to a Gender-Sensitive Parliament</i> Dr Amy Nethery, Deakin University | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 10.30am | Morning Tea | Balcony Room |
| 11.00am | Plenary Life After Parliament <i>Parliamentary Career Exit: Principles of Institutional Design</i> Dr Zim Nwokora, Deakin University Contributions from former Members | House of Assembly Chamber |
| 12.30pm | Lunch | Balcony Room |
| 1.15pm | Panel Scrutiny in Modern Parliaments <i>Citizen Engagement in Parliamentary Oversight of the Executive's Budget</i> Charlotte Lever, Parliament of Victoria <i>Parliamentary Scrutiny and Control of Executive Spending After the School Chaplains Case</i> Glenn Ryall, Director, Procedure and Research, Senate Parliament of Australia <i>Through the Looking-Glass, and What the Legislative Council Found There: The Legacy of the 'Transparency Agenda' in the 58th Parliament</i> Rhea Goundar & Rhia Victorino, Parliament of NSW | House of Assembly Chamber |

DAY THREE

FRIDAY
3 OCTOBER

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| 3.00pm | Conference Wrap Up | House of Assembly Chamber |
| | Dr Isla MacPhail, ASPG President | |
| 3.30pm | Farewell drinks and canapes | Balcony Room |
| 4.45pm | Conference Concludes | |