

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

(In order of presentation on the program)

PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

The Hon Neil Andrew AO



Neil Andrew was brought up in the SA Riverland, where his family and later Neil had interests in horticulture. He was an active participant in the SA Agricultural Bureau movement, and was Chairman 1980-82. In 1975, he was awarded a Nuffield Agricultural Scholarship to make an overseas study tour. In 1983, he was elected to the Australian Parliament as the member for Wakefield in the House of Representatives. With changes in the boundaries of his electorate, he later moved to Gawler. He held various positions including that of Government Whip from 1997, and from November 1998, became Speaker of the House of Representatives. Neil retired from the position and from his seat in November 2004. He now lives in Adelaide and became Chairman of the Crawford Fund on the retirement of The Hon Tim Fischer in June 2005.

The Hon Stephen Smith MP



Stephen Smith was sworn in as Minister for Foreign Affairs on 3 December 2007. Mr Smith is a Barrister and Solicitor by profession, and completed his Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws at the University of Western Australia, practised as a Barrister and Solicitor in Perth, then completed a Master of Laws at London University, and subsequently lectured and tutored in Law in London. From 1987 to 1990 he was the State Secretary of the WA Branch of the Australian Labor Party and from 1983 to 1987 he was Principal Private Secretary to the Attorney-General of WA. During 1991 and 1992, Mr Smith was Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Australia and Senior Adviser to the Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer of Australia, Paul Keating. Mr Smith has been the Federal Member for Perth since March 1993. Prior to his appointment as Foreign Minister, Mr Smith held a range of Shadow Ministerial positions.

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Dr Marco Ferroni



An expert in international agriculture and sustainability issues, Marco Ferroni joined the Syngenta Foundation as its Executive Director in 2008, after a career in multilateral institutions and government. Formerly, as a Deputy Manager of the Sustainable Development Department of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), he had responsibility for regional sector policy and technical support to the Bank's country departments. As the Principal Officer in the Bank's Office of Evaluation and Oversight, he directed evaluation studies that assessed the relevance, performance and results of Bank strategies and investments. As a senior advisor at the World Bank, he advised on donor relations and directed work on international public goods and their role in foreign aid and international affairs. Earlier in his career, he was an economist and division chief in the government of Switzerland, working in development cooperation. He holds a doctoral degree in agricultural economics from Cornell University. He has worked in Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Professor Philip Pardey



Philip Pardey, an Australian native, is Professor of Science and Technology Policy in the Department of Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota and director of the International Science and Technology Practice and Policy (InSTePP) center. Previously he was a senior research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute, Washington DC where he led the institute's Science and Technology Policy Program. He is a Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association and a Distinguished Fellow and President-Elect of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society. Author of more than 215 books, articles, and papers, his research deals with the finance and conduct of R&D globally, methods for assessing the economic impacts of research, and the economic and policy (especially intellectual property) aspects of genetic resources and the biosciences. Philip currently co-directs a project funded by the Gates Foundation (details at HarvestChoice.org) designed to inform strategic decisions regarding investments in agricultural R&D worldwide, with an emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa.

Dr Nick Austin



Nick Austin is Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). Dr Austin joined ACIAR in June 2009 from the NSW Department of Primary Industries where he was Deputy Director-General and led the Agriculture, Biosecurity and Mine Safety Division. Prior to that he led the Department's Science and Research Division and undertook or managed research projects across several areas including dairy, cotton, grain, livestock and wool. He has also held senior positions in the Victorian public sector and he has participated in high-level inter-jurisdictional committees and worked collaboratively with a number of peak industry bodies. Dr Austin is a hydrologist by training and has a broad background in agricultural and natural resource research and policy. Educated at the University of Melbourne and University of Sydney, Dr Austin holds a Doctor of Philosophy, a Master of Sustainable Management and a Bachelor of Engineering (Agriculture) degree with Honours.

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Dr Amit H Roy



Amit Roy, IFDC President and CEO since 1992, came to IFDC as a chemical engineer in 1978. Under his leadership, IFDC - an International Center Creating Food Security and Agricultural Sustainability - expanded its mission to address not only food security but also trade, equity, and the environment. Leading IFDC from fertilizer to agribusiness and economic development, he instituted research and development of new or modified fertilizer materials and processes using indigenous sources, especially phosphate rock. Roy encouraged the development of fertilizer industries in many developing countries and provided needed technical assistance. He played a key role in organizing the landmark Africa Fertilizer Summit held in Abuja, Nigeria, in June 2006.

Dr Doug Gray



Doug Gray is Animal Health Research Program Manager at ACIAR. The program focuses on diseases of regional significance, including transboundary diseases, zoonotic diseases, diseases affecting production and diseases affecting trade and market access. Dr Gray joined ACIAR in June 2008 after five years as a consultant in livestock research and development in Asia and Australia. Between 1998 and 2003 he was based in the Philippines as regional coordinator for the International Livestock Research Institute. Before that he was at the University of New England teaching and researching parasitology, disease control and extension. Dr Gray trained in Scotland as a zoologist and parasitologist and migrated to Australia 'by accident' after some years with the International Atomic Energy Agency in Nigeria and Ecuador.

Dr Jeff Tullberg



Jeff Tullberg is an agricultural engineer with broad experience in research, teaching and consulting on the technical and economic aspects of farm machinery management. He has led a number of projects on machinery impacts on soil, cropping systems and the environment, including 10 years of ACIAR-funded cooperative research between University of Queensland and China Agricultural University on conservation agriculture. His recent publications have been concerned with the effects of heavy wheel traffic on the productivity, sustainability and emission effects of mechanised farming systems.

Dr Peter O'Brien



Peter O'Brien is Managing Director of the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation. He is a scientist with extensive experience as a chief executive and in providing scientific advice to policy. His career includes Executive Director of the Bureau of Rural Sciences and membership of the Executive Leadership Team of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. He is a director of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation, a member of the Expert Advisory Board of the Agriculture Institute of the University of Western Australia, and the advisory board of the Institute of Applied Ecology at the University of Canberra. He is a former Director of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority and the Greenhouse Cooperative Research Centre.

Dr William Niebur



As DuPont Vice President for Crop Genetics Research and Development at Pioneer Hi-Bred International Inc, Dr Bill Niebur drives worldwide crop genetics research strategies to create new value for Pioneer seed and agricultural value chain customers through advanced plant genetics, and has been instrumental in integrating proprietary technologies into DuPont plant genetics product development. He holds Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from Iowa State University and earned his doctorate in plant breeding and cytogenetics from the University of Minnesota. He has served as the chair of CGIAR's Private Sector Committee since September 2006.

Dr Thomas Lumpkin



Thomas A. Lumpkin has served as Director General of the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) since March 2008. Raised on a small farm in Washington State, USA, Lumpkin served in the Peace Corps in India, received a BSc from Washington State University in agronomy, and MSc and PhD degrees in agronomy from the University of Hawaii. He worked at Washington State University as a professor and later as Chair of the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences. Prior to his appointment at CIMMYT, he served for five years as Director General of AVRDC-The World Vegetable Center in Taiwan.

Ms Janice Armstrong



Janice Armstrong is the Vice-President of Corporate Affairs for Asia-Pacific and China for Monsanto, a leading global provider of technology-based solutions and agricultural products that improve farm productivity and food quality. She leads a team of public and government affairs professionals across the region that is focused on ensuring a broad understanding of biotechnology by all stakeholders. This technology enables both small-holder and large-scale farmers to produce more from their land while conserving more of our world's natural resources such as water and energy. Janice has been working in Asia Pacific, China and India since 2006. Before coming to Asia, Janice was Monsanto's Public Affairs Director for North and South America. A native of Canada, Janice has a farm background and has been involved in agriculture most of her career. She holds a Bachelor of Journalism degree with Honors from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada.

C L Laxmipathi Gowda



CL Laxmipathi Gowda is currently Global Theme Leader of Crop Improvement at ICRISAT. He has PhD (in Genetics and Plant Breeding) from IARI, New Delhi, India. He is working at ICRISAT since 1975, and has 35 books, 25 book chapters, more than 60 journal articles and 90 conference papers to his credit. He is also a recipient of several national and international awards and recognitions. Dr Gowda is an internationally renowned Legumes Breeder associated in developing 65 chickpea varieties released in 10 countries that have made significant impacts. He established a viable Cereals and Legumes Asia Network (CLAN) for exchange of technology for enhancing agricultural production, and trained over 2500 scientists from 12 Asian countries. He is one of the main architects for public-private partnership with seed companies that is now a model in other CGIAR Centers.

Dr Dyno Keatinge



Dyno Keatinge is an agronomist with a Doctorate in Agriculture from Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland and is Visiting Professor of Tropical Agriculture at the University of Reading, UK. He has global expertise in crop agronomy having worked at ICARDA in Syria, Pakistan and Turkey, IITA in Nigeria and Cameroon and ICRISAT in India and several countries in sub-Saharan Africa. He was also Professor of Agricultural Systems and Management at Reading University for much of the 1990s and claims to have worked professionally in every continent on earth except Antarctica! Presently, he is Director General of AVRDC – The World Vegetable Research and Development Center based in Taiwan.

Mr Peter Baxter



Peter Baxter is an experienced senior career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). He joined the Department in 1988. He has been on a number of overseas posting, most recently as Deputy Head of Mission in Washington from 2002 to 2005. Prior to moving to AusAID, Mr Baxter headed DFAT's Consular, Public Diplomacy and Parliamentary Affairs Division. His previous Canberra assignments have included senior management roles heading the Consular and Passports (2000), Corporate Management (2000 to 2001), Market Development (2001 to 2002) and North Asia (2005 to 2008) Divisions with DFAT. Mr Baxter holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the Australian National University.

Dr Namanga Ngongi



Namanga Ngongi has had extensive experience in agriculture and management of international organizations. He worked in Cameroon as an Extension Officer and deputy head of projects in the ministry of agriculture before being assigned in 1980 as Representative to the UN food agencies in Rome. He joined the World Food Program in 1984 and became Deputy Executive Director in 1994. In 2001 he was appointed Special Representative of the UN Secretary General to the Democratic Republic of Congo, and led the peace keeping mission (MONUC) for two years. He helped put together the transitional government. Dr. Ngongi retired from the UN in 2003. He joined the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) as its President, in November 2007. Namanga obtained a BS in agriculture from the California State Polytechnic University in 1968, and MS (1973) and PhD (1976)

degrees, from Cornell University.

Dr Peter Horne



Peter Horne is Research Program Manager (Livestock Production Systems) at the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). He has spent more than 20 years in Asia involved in research-for-development, with a particular focus on forages and livestock systems. From 2006-2008, he coordinated an adaptive research program in eastern Indonesia for ACIAR as part of the ongoing Smallholder Agribusiness Development Initiative. He has a strong interest in exploring practical approaches to linking smallholder farmers with markets.

Mr Michael Taylor



Mike Taylor was appointed Chair of the Murray Darling Basin Authority on 14 May 2009. He is an experienced, senior public administrator serving as Secretary for the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, and Local Government (2004–2009), Secretary for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (2000–2004), Secretary for the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Victoria (1996–2000), Secretary for the Department of Agriculture, Energy & Minerals, Victoria (1995–1996) and Secretary for the Department of Agriculture, Victoria (1992–1995). He was educated at the University of Melbourne (B. Agricultural Science) and at the University of New England (Dip. Economics).

2009 SIR JOHN CRAWFORD ADDRESS PRESENTER

The Hon Kevin Rudd, MP



Kevin Michael Rudd was sworn in as the 26th Prime Minister of Australia on 3 December 2007. He joined the Australian Labor Party (ALP) at the age of 15. Prior to entering Parliament in 1998, Mr Rudd worked as a diplomat, as a senior official in the Queensland Government, and as a consultant helping Australian firms to establish and build their business links in China. He gained his Bachelor of Arts (Asian Studies) degree with First Class Honours in 1981 from the Australian National University. Following the November 2001 election, Mr Rudd was appointed Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, subsequently adding responsibilities for International Security (2003) and Trade (2005). On 4 December 2006 Mr Rudd was elected as the 19th leader of the ALP. On 24 November 2007 he led the ALP to government.

PARLIAMENTARY BREAKFAST SPEAKERS

Dr Prabhu Pingali



Dr Prabhu Pingali is Deputy Director of Agricultural Development at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Formerly Director of the Agricultural and Development Economics Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations, he co-chairs the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Panel's working group on Future Scenarios and is the editor of the e-Journal of Agricultural and Development Economics (e-JADE). Pingali has over 25 years of experience in assessing the extent and impact of technical change in developing country agriculture in Asia, Africa and Latin America. He was Director of the Economics Program at CIMMYT and also worked at the International Rice Research Institute and the World Bank's Agriculture and Rural Development Department. Pingali was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences as a Foreign Associate in May 2007, was the President of the International Association of Agricultural Economists from 2003-2006, and was elected Fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association in 2006.

Dr Joanne Daly



Dr Joanne Daly is an evolutionary biologist who was appointed Group Executive, CSIRO Agribusiness in April 2007. She was the inaugural Chair of the Management Committee for the developing Atlas of Living Australia and head of Australian delegation to, and is on the executive committee of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility. Her early work was on population genetics of small mammals. After a PhD at the Australian National University she was a Fulbright post-doctoral fellow at Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, at University of California Berkeley. Daly joined CSIRO Entomology in 1983. From 2001 to 2003 she was on secondment to the Australian Government in the area of international relations in science and technology. In 2003 she was head of the National Research Priorities Taskforce that supported the Australian Government's initiative to set national research priorities. Dr Daly returned to CSIRO as Chief of Entomology in February 2003. In 2003 she received the Public Service Medal.