



2014 Kaldor Centre Conference Biographies of Speakers and Chairs

Allan Asher



Allan Asher is a barrister and solicitor, and a lifelong campaigner for human rights, fairness and equitable development. Currently serving as Chair of The Foundation for Effective Markets and Governance and as a visitor at the ANU Regulatory Institutions Network, Mr Asher is involved in consumer protection and governance projects across the Pacific and South East Asia. As the Commonwealth and Immigration Ombudsman, Mr Asher was responsible for inquiring into and seeking to improve the processes and practices of the Immigration Department. In that capacity, he directed investigations into the treatment of asylum seekers on Christmas Island, initiated an investigation into the use of force by Commonwealth police following the Christmas Island riots, and established an inquiry into suicide and self-harm among asylum seekers. In addition, he spoke out against features of the then government's proposed asylum arrangement with Malaysia and the treatment of refugees with adverse security determinations by ASIO. Following his resignation as Ombudsman, Mr Asher participated in the international award-winning SBS series *Go Back to Where You Came From* and is an active speaker and advocate on asylum and refugee issues around Australia. Mr Asher was also Deputy Chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and a senior executive of The Australian Consumers Association (*Choice* magazine).

Admiral (Ret'd) Chris Barrie AC



Chris Barrie was the Chief of the Australian Defence Force from 1998 until 2002. His distinguished career in the Royal Australian Navy was recognized when he was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in 1994, promoted to an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in June 1998, and became a Companion to the Order of Australia (AC) in January 2001. Admiral Barrie was a member of the commissioning crew of HMAS *Brisbane* and he later served in her during a seven month tour of duty in Vietnam, in 1969. Later appointments included: commanding officer HMAS *Buccaneer*, operations and navigating officer in HMS *Eastbourne*, HMAS *Perth* and HMAS *Duchess*, executive officer in HMAS *Vampire*, and commanding officer HMAS *Stuart*. In 1990–91, he held an appointment as Defence Adviser, New Delhi, India, and following this post, he served as Director RAN Surface Warfare School and commanding officer HMAS *Watson*; Deputy Maritime Commander and Chief of Staff at Maritime Headquarters in Sydney; Deputy Chief of Naval Staff; and Vice Chief of the Defence Force in 1997–98. Through part-time study, Barrie obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1983, with a special focus on International Relations and Politics, and was awarded a Master of Business Administration degree in 1996 by Deakin University. Admiral Barrie is now a Visiting Fellow, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University; Visiting Associate, Templeton College, University of Oxford; and a Distinguished Visiting Professor, National Defense University, Washington DC.

The Hon Catherine Branson QC



Catherine Branson is the immediate past President of the Australian Human Rights Commission (2008–12) and Human Rights Commissioner (2009–12). She served for more than 14 years as a judge of the Federal Court of Australia, and was the Rapporteur of the Human Rights Nexus Working Party of the International Association of Refugee Law Judges for a number of years. She is a former Crown Solicitor of South Australia and former CEO of the South Australian Attorney-General's Department. Prior to her appointment as a judge, Ms Branson practised at the Adelaide Bar, principally in the area of administrative law, and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1992. She is currently an Adjunct Professor at the University of Adelaide Law School, a Council Member of the University of Adelaide, and a Director of the Human Rights Law Centre in Melbourne. In 2011, she received a Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Adelaide, and in 2012 she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws from Flinders University. She is a graduate of the University of Adelaide in both Arts and Law, and was awarded an honorary DLitt from Macquarie University.

Professor Stephen Castles



Stephen Castles is Research Chair in Sociology at the University of Sydney and a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia. He was formerly the Director of the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford (2001–06) and Professor of Migration and Refugee Studies and Director of the International Migration Institute at the University of Oxford (2006–09). Professor Castles is a sociologist and political economist whose research focuses on international migration dynamics. He has been an advisor to the Australian and British Governments, and has worked for the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration, the European Union and other international bodies. Professor Castles studied sociology at Frankfurt am Main and has a masters and doctorate from the University of Sussex.

Professor Mary Crock



Mary Crock is Professor of Public Law at the University of Sydney. She has worked in the area of immigration and refugee law since 1985. An Accredited Specialist in Immigration Law, she has been Chief Examiner/Head Assessor in various specialist accreditation programmes in immigration law across Australia since 1994. She helped to establish and run the Victorian Immigration Advice and Rights Centre Inc in Melbourne, now the Refugee and Immigration Law Centre (Vic). She is author of eight books and reports and many articles on immigration and refugee law, and is a very busy researcher in this field.

Professor David Dixon



David Dixon has been Dean of UNSW Law since January 2007. Previously, he was Senior Associate Dean in 2006 and Associate Dean (Research) from 1995 to 2005. His strong commitment to interdisciplinary research is indicated by his education: undergraduate law at Cambridge, postgraduate criminology in the Department of Social Policy at Hull, then a doctorate on the social history of gambling regulation in the Department of Sociology at University College, Cardiff. He has acted as adviser to the Home Office (England & Wales), the (then) Criminal Justice Commission (Queensland), the NSW Police, and the Royal Commission into the NSW Police Service (NSW). He has published a number of books, and was co-editor of *Criminal Justice: An International Journal of Policy and Practice* and editor of the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*.

Associate Professor Michelle Foster



Michelle Foster is Associate Professor, Associate Dean (Research) and Director of the International Refugee Law Research Programme in the Institute for International Law and the Humanities at Melbourne Law School. Her teaching and research interests are in the areas of public law, international refugee law, and international human rights law. Michelle has published widely in the field of international refugee law, including *International Refugee Law and Socio-Economic Rights: Refuge from Deprivation* (CUP 2007) and, with James Hathaway, *The Law of Refugee Status*, second edition (CUP 2014). She holds LL.M and SJD degrees from the University of Michigan Law School, where she was a Michigan Grotius Fellow, and degrees in Law and Commerce from UNSW.

Professor Guy S Goodwin-Gill



Guy S Goodwin-Gill is Emeritus Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford and Emeritus Professor of International Refugee Law at the University of Oxford. He also practises as a barrister from Blackstone Chambers in London. He has held academic appointments in the United Kingdom, Canada and the Netherlands, and has been a Visiting Professorial Fellow at the Université Libre de Bruxelles, the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, the European University Institute in Florence, and UNSW. He has published widely in the areas of international refugee law, human rights law and humanitarian law, child soldiers, and free and fair elections. Professor Goodwin-Gill is a Patron of Asylum Aid in the United Kingdom, was the President of Refugee & Migrant Justice (London) for 13 years, President of the Media Appeals Board of Kosovo from 2000–03, and the Founding Editor and Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of Refugee Law* (1988–2001). Between 1976–88, he worked for UNHCR in various roles, including as Senior Legal Research Officer, Legal Adviser (Europe and North America Bureau), Deputy Chief Resettlement, and Legal Adviser (Australia and New Zealand). He obtained his BA (Honours), MA and doctorate from the University of Oxford.

Dr Claire Higgins



Claire Higgins is a Research Associate at the Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law at UNSW. She completed her doctorate in Economic and Social History as a Clarendon Scholar at Merton College, University of Oxford, writing on the development of Australian refugee policy from 1976 to 1983. Her current research concerns refugee status determination in its historical context, and alternative policies for the processing of asylum seekers. Dr Higgins was awarded the 2014 Margaret George Award by the National Archives of Australia, which funded her archival research into the Australian Government's previous in-country refugee programmes.

Previously, she worked at the Victorian Parliamentary Library Research Service and completed a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) and a Master of Arts at the University of Melbourne.

Professor Graeme Hugo AO



Graeme Hugo is ARC Australian Professorial Fellow, Professor of the Discipline of Geography, Environment and Population, and Director of the Australian Population and Migration Research Centre at the University of Adelaide. His research interests are in population issues in Australia and South East Asia, especially migration. He is the author of over 300 books, articles in scholarly journals and chapters in books, as well as a large number of conference papers and reports.

In 2002, he secured a five-year ARC Federation Fellowship for his research project 'The new paradigm of international migration to and from Australia: Dimensions, causes and implications'. His recent research has focused on migration and development, environment and migration and migration policy. In 2009, he was awarded a five-year ARC Australian Professorial Fellowship for his research project 'Circular migration in Asia, the Pacific and Australia: Empirical, theoretical and policy dimensions'. He was Chair of the Demographic Change and Liveability Panel of the Ministry of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities and was appointed to the National Housing Supply Council in 2011. In 2012, he was named an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for distinguished service to population research, particularly the study of international migration, population geography and mobility, and through leadership roles with national and international organizations.

Andrew Kaldor AM



Andrew Kaldor AM is the founder and Executive Chairman of ASI Pty Ltd, a group of privately held companies. He has been a Director of a number of publicly listed companies and community organizations, and is currently a Non-Executive Director of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra (SSO). He has commissioned four works by Australian composers for the SSO and in 2013 was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to the arts, in particular to orchestral music through advisory roles and philanthropy. He holds a Bachelor of Economics (Honours) from the University of Sydney and an MBA (Dean's Honours list) from Wharton at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a teaching fellow. Mr Kaldor and his immediate family were accepted by Australia as refugees after WWII. In 2013, he and his wife Renata founded the Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law at UNSW.

Renata Kaldor AO



Renata Kaldor AO has been involved in business, education and community affairs. She is currently a Director of ASI Pty Ltd, a private company involved in office products, home textiles and property development. She is Director of the Sydney Children's Hospital Network, a member of Chief Executive Women, and a member of the Advisory Council of Alzheimer's Australia NSW. Ms Kaldor was previously a Trustee of the Sydney Opera House, a Judicial Commissioner of NSW, Chair of the NSW Women's Advisory Council and Deputy Chancellor of the University of Sydney. She was an inaugural Board Member of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and has also held Board positions on the NSW State Rail Board, the Sydney Olympic Bid Committee and the Garvan Medical Research Foundation. She received her Officer of the Order of Australia in 2002 and was awarded an Honorary Fellowship from the University of Sydney in 2005. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education from UNSW. In 2013, she and her husband Andrew founded the Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law at UNSW.

Professor Walter Kälin



Walter Kälin is Professor of Constitutional and International Law at the Faculty of Law at the University of Bern (since 1985), Director of SKMR/SCHR (Schweizerisches Kompetenzzentrum für Menschenrechte/Swiss Centre of Excellence in Human Rights), and Envoy of the Chairmanship of the Nansen Initiative on Disaster-Induced Cross-Border Displacement. He was formerly a Member of the UN Human Rights Committee (2003–08, 2012–14), the Representative of the UN Secretary-General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (2004–10), and Special Rapporteur of the UN Human Rights Commission on the Situation of Human Rights in Iraqi-Occupied Kuwait (1991–92). Professor Kälin was Co-Rapporteur of the International Law Association Committee on Refugee Procedures (1995–2002) and is currently a Member of the International Law Association Committee on Sea-Level Rise. He is a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. He holds a doctorate from Bern University and a LLM degree from Harvard Law School.

Assistant Professor Kelley Loper



Kelley Loper is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Law at the University of Hong Kong and serves as Director of the LLM in Human Rights Programme, Deputy Director of the Centre for Comparative and Public Law (CCPL), and Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Asia-Pacific Journal on Human Rights and the Law*. She has published widely on the implementation of international human rights law in Asian contexts. Her recent work explores how advocates in Hong Kong have relied on international human rights standards and judicial review to secure a *non-refoulement* screening mechanism even in the absence of the Refugee Convention's application. Ms Loper has also written on the rights of refugees in other East Asian jurisdictions. She is a member of the Advisory Committee of Justice Centre Hong Kong, formerly the Hong Kong Refugee Advice Centre, a non-profit organization that works to protect the rights of forced migrants, including refugees. Previously, she served as the organization's Chairperson. Ms Loper has also advised a number of other international and local organizations on a range of issues, including UNHCR, UN Women, Amnesty International, and the Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor. She holds a BA from Yale and an LLM from Hong Kong University.

Professor Jane McAdam



Jane McAdam is Scientia Professor of Law and the Director of the Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law at UNSW. She is an Australian Research Council Future Fellow, a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington DC, and a Research Associate at the University of Oxford's Refugee Studies Centre. Professor McAdam is joint Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of Refugee Law* and has published nine books. She is the Co-Rapporteur of the International Law Association Committee on International Law and Sea-Level Rise; a member of the Consultative Committee of the Nansen Initiative on Disaster-Induced Cross-Border Displacement; an Advisory Board member of the Asia-Pacific Migration and Environment Network; and a former Associate Rapporteur for the International Association of Refugee Law Judges. She has undertaken consultancies for UNHCR and a number of governments, and in 2013 was appointed as a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum. Professor McAdam holds a doctorate in Law from the University of Oxford, and first class honours degrees in Arts and Law from the University of Sydney.

Emeritus Professor Gillian Triggs



Gillian Triggs is the President of the Australian Human Rights Commission, taking up her appointment in 2012. She was Dean of the Faculty of Law and Challis Professor of International Law at the University of Sydney from 2007–12, and Director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law from 2005–07. She is a former barrister with Seven Wentworth Chambers and a Governor of the College of Law. Professor Triggs combined an academic career with international commercial legal practice and worked with governments and international organizations on offshore insurers, World Trade Organization law and human rights. She graduated in Law from the University of Melbourne in 1968 and gained her PhD there in 1982.