

## Chair of the Council

### Professor Julian Disney AO



Julian Disney has been Chair of the Council since December 2009. He is a Professor of Law and Director of the Social Justice Project at the University of New South Wales. He has previously been Professor of Public Law at the Australian National University and Director of its Centre for International and Public Law.

Prof Disney is Chair of the National Affordable Housing Summit and the National Community Tax Forum and is the founder and National Co-Chair of Anti-Poverty Week. He is also a member of the Board of Governors of the Committee for the Economic Development of Australia, and of the Asialink Advisory Council and the Chair of the Energy and Water Ombudsman Council in New South Wales.

Prof Disney has previously been Coordinator of the Sydney Welfare Rights Centre where he worked for six years assisting people who were unemployed or experiencing other forms of hardship. He has also been President of the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS), which represents social welfare organisations throughout Australia. From 1996-2000 he was President of the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW), which represents social welfare and development organisations from more than 80 countries.

Prof Disney was a Law Reform Commissioner in New South Wales for seven years and a member of the Australian Government's Economic Planning Advisory Council (EPAC) for a similar period. He has been chair or member of Australian Government advisory committees in fields such as education, employment and training, social security, public administration, literacy, housing, superannuation and immigration. He is currently a member of the Australian Government's Advisory Committee on Housing Assistance

During the last two decades he has been a policy consultant to a number of social welfare and business groups, a regular speaker at national and international conferences, and a frequent media commentator. He has also been the principal author or editor of books and articles relating to aspects of the legal profession, taxation, housing, social welfare, governance, national development and international organisations.

Julian Disney was the Rhodes Scholar for South Australia in 1970. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) in 1995 for services to the development of economic and social welfare policy, and to the law. In 1999, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws (LL.D) by the University of New South Wales.

#### Previous Chairs

Sir Frank Kitto AC, KBE, PC (1976-82)

Prof Geoffrey Sawer AO (1982-84)

The Hon Hal Wootten AC (1984-86)

Prof David Flint AM (1987-97)

Prof Dennis Pearce AO (1997-2000)

Prof Ken McKinnon AO (2000-09)

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