



## List of Speakers

**Andrew Coleman** *Senior Researcher Motu Economic and Public Policy and Research*  
Andrew specialises in the analysis of the way government policies affect the interaction of different cohorts in the housing market. He previously worked at the Reserve Bank of New Zealand and the University of Michigan.

**Len Cook** *Senior Associate, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University of Wellington*  
Len was head of the United Kingdom Office for National Statistics from May 2000 until August 2005, and was Government Statistician of New Zealand from January 1992 to May 2000. He was a member of the New Zealand Royal Commission on Social Policy in 1987-88, and in 1997 was a member of the Review Committee on Social Science Research in New Zealand. He is Visiting Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at University College London.

**Judith Davey** *Senior Associate, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University of Wellington*  
Judith is a consultant on social policy and social research. She was Director of New Zealand Institute for Research on Ageing (NZIRA) from 2002 to early 2007 and was the Deputy Director of the New Zealand Planning Council. Her personal focus for research is the ageing of the population and its policy implications. She has researched income, transport and housing issues for older people and has published several papers and reports on home equity release and intergenerational issues.

**Peter Harris** *Policy Adviser*  
Peter was the economic advisor to the Minister of Finance between 1999 and 2003. A former university lecturer, Peter was also employed in the trade union movement for more than 20 years, first with the PSA and then as Director of the Technical Services Division of the CTU. He chaired the Ministerial Savings Product Working Group, who reported on options to introduce generic work-based savings products. This report was the founding document for what evolved into the KiwiSaver scheme.

**Peggy Koopman-Boyden** *Professor of Social Gerontology, Population Studies Centre, University of Waikato*  
As a sociologist Peggy has taught and undertaken research in the areas of social policy, demography and family sociology, but especially gerontology. Her research began in the 1970s with a publication setting out an Agenda for Research on the Elderly in New Zealand. She is currently working part-time on the FRST-funded research programme Enhancing Wellbeing in an Ageing Society (EWAS).

**Gabriel Makhoul** *Deputy Chief Executive, The Treasury*  
Gabs is a UK civil servant whose career has been in HM Inland Revenue, HM Treasury and HM Revenue & Customs. He has chaired the tax rule-making body at the OECD, was Principal Private Secretary to former Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown, and led one of HMRC's biggest operational directorates.

**Ganesh Nana** *Chief Economist BERL*  
Ganesh has 25 years of experience in the field of economics. His experience has included a variety of contract project work for BERL, research, tutoring and lecturing at Victoria University, as well as macroeconomic policy analysis and forecasting during a four-year stint in the UK using the IMF Multimod model. In his role as editor of BERL Forecasts he has been responsible for regular monitoring and assessments of the situation and prospects for the New Zealand economy.

**Alison O'Connell** *Consultant and PHD student*  
Alison is a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries and a former Director of the UK Pensions Policy Institute, where she was a major commentator on the Turner Review. She has made significant contributions to the work of the NZ Retirement Commission and the OECD on financial education, and was involved with producing the Commissioner's 2007 review of retirement income policy.

**Nigel Pinkerton** *Economist, Infometrics*  
Nigel joined Infometrics in May 2008 after a short stint analysing housing data for Statistics New Zealand. He graduated the previous year with a Bachelor of Management Studies (Honours) in economics from Waikato University. Nigel is involved in preparing Infometrics' regular forecasts and assists the consulting team as the need arises. His core responsibilities revolve around the transport sector, fiscal policy, and the international economy.

**Geoff Rashbrooke** *Senior Associate, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University of Wellington*  
Geoff is a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries, and was NZ Government Actuary 1997-2001. From 2004 to 2009 he worked for the Ministry of Social Development Older People's Policy unit specialising in retirement income policy.

**Susan St John** *Associate Professor and Director of the Retirement Policy Research Centre, Auckland University*  
Susan's research and teaching interests are focused on retirement policy issues, macroeconomics and the economics of the public sector. She was a member of the advisory board for the 2007 Retirement Commission's Review of Retirement Policies in New Zealand, and deputy

Chair of the 1997 Periodic Report Group which reviewed the NZ retirement income framework. Susan is a regular contributor of papers to the Australian Superannuation Researcher Colloquiums hosted by the University of New South Wales.

**Suzanne Snively** *Partner, PriceWaterhouseCoopers*  
Suzanne is an economist who specialises in government, financial services and governance advice to the private sector. Before becoming a Partner, she served as a director on several Boards including the Reserve Bank of New Zealand.

**Bob Stephens** *Senior Associate, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University of Wellington*  
Bob retired as Associate Professor in Public Policy at Victoria University in January 2010. His research has been largely in the areas of social and public policy and tax reform. He helped develop a poverty measure suitable for the current economic and social policy environment in New Zealand. Bob is a foundation Member of New Zealand Poverty Measurement Project, a Member of the Social Policy Reference Group, Ministry of Social Development and also a committee member for the New Zealand Study of the Non-Profit sector.

**Ralph Stewart** *Chief Executive Officer, AXA New Zealand*  
Ralph has over 20 years experience in the financial and investment industries, including General Management, Marketing and Strategic Development roles. His directorships have included Financial Telephone Company Limited (FinTel), TOWER China Insurance Limited and the Investment Funds Association of New Zealand. Ralph is a former member of Victoria University's Faculty of Commerce and Administration Advisory Board and currently serves as Deputy Chairman of the Investment Savings and Insurance Association (ISI).

**John Yeabsley** *Senior Fellow, New Zealand Institute of Economic Research*  
John has been at the New Zealand Institute of economic Research since 1994. He worked in the public sector for 25 years mostly advising on and managing the delivery of economic policy, but was also in general management, acted as director of an investment bank and served as a trade diplomat.  
He has degrees in philosophy, mathematics and economics. He has taught economics, management, law and economics and risk management, and currently contributes to the teaching of public policy management as part of the Master of Public Policy course at the Victoria University of Wellington.



# Retirement Income Policy and Intergenerational Equity

Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 July 2010

Hosted by the Institute of Policy Studies, School of Government, Victoria University of Wellington, in association with the Retirement Commission

## Keynote Speakers

**Professor Kent Weaver** of Georgetown University, USA  
**Professor Peter Whiteford** of the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales

## Purpose

Retirement income policy affects everyone. It also raises big issues and questions of fairness, adequacy and intergenerational equity.

This year, the Retirement Commissioner is carrying out its mandated three-yearly review of retirement income policies. To contribute to this work, the Institute of Policy Studies, in conjunction with the Commissioner, is organising a conference to discuss retirement income policy from an

intergenerational perspective. The Treasury report "Challenges and Choices: New Zealand's Long-term Fiscal Statement", released in October last year, sets the relevant context for the conference.

The conference will provide a platform for experts from New Zealand and overseas who will set out the key issues and lead discussions on how these issues may be addressed.



## To register contact

Institute of Policy Studies,  
Victoria University of Wellington  
PO Box 600  
Wellington,

E: ips@vuw.ac.nz,  
T: +64 4 463 5307

There is no cost for registration



## Day 1 – Wednesday 21 July

Rutherford House, 23 Lambton Quay, Wellington

5:30 pm Reception

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6:00 pm **Welcome** Diana Crossan, Retirement Commissioner

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6:05 pm **Opening Remarks:** Hon John Carter, Minister for Senior Citizens

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6:15 pm **Keynote speech:** Kent Weaver, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.  
*The political economy of retirement income policy*

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7:00 pm **Discussants:** John Yeabsley, NZ Institute of Economic Research and Peter Harris, Policy Advisor

7:15 pm **General discussion**

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7:30 pm **Closing Remarks:** Jonathan Boston, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University

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## Day 2 – Thursday 22 July

Holiday Inn, 75 Featherston Street, Wellington

8:30 am Registration

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9:00 am **Opening remarks from the Chair:** Diana Crossan

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9:10 am **Keynote speech:** Peter Whiteford, Social Policy Research Centre, University of New South Wales,  
*Retirement income policy and intergenerational equity: an international perspective*

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9:55 pm **Discussants:** Andrew Coleman, Motu Economic and Public Policy Research and Professor Susan St John, Retirement Policy Research Centre, Auckland University

10:15 am **General discussion**

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10:30 am **Coffee break**

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### Background One: Fiscal Perspectives

11:00 am **Introduction** Diana Crossan

11:05 am Gabs Makhoul, The Treasury *The view from the Treasury*

11:45 am **Discussants:** Suzanne Snively, PriceWaterhouseCooper and Ganesh Nana, BERL

12:05 pm **General discussion**

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12:20 pm **Lunch break**

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### Background Two: Social Perspectives

1:20 pm **Opening remarks from the Chair:** Jonathan Boston

1:25 pm Alison O'Connell, Consultant *Expectations of retirement*

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1:45 pm to be confirmed

2:00 pm Judith Davey, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University, *What are we saving for? Using assets in retirement.*

2:15 pm Bob Stephens, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University, *The difference differences make*

2:30 pm **General discussion**

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2:45 pm **Coffee break**

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### Strategies and options

3:15 pm **Introduction**

3:20 pm Len Cook, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University, *Improving healthy life expectancy*

3:30 pm Peggy Koopman-Boyd, Population Studies Centre, University of Waikato  
*Encouraging longer working lives*

3:40 pm Ralph Stewart, AXA New Zealand, *Innovation in financial products and services*

3:50 pm Susan St John, *Acknowledging intra-generational differences*

4:00 pm Geoff Rashbrooke, Institute of Policy Studies, Victoria University, *Extending the age of eligibility*

4:10 pm Nigel Pinkerton, Infometrics, *Getting buy-in from the young*

4:20 pm **Questions from floor**

4:50 pm **General discussion**

5:15 pm **Summing up:** Diana Crossan

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5:30 pm **Closing Remarks:** Jonathan Boston

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## Keynote Speakers

### Professor Kent Weaver

Kent Weaver is Professor of Public Policy and Government at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Before coming to Georgetown, he spent almost two decades at the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank. His major fields of interest are American and comparative social policy, comparative political institutions, and policy implementation. Much of his work has attempted to understand when and why politicians undertake actions that appear to offer more political risks than rewards, and how they attempt to avoid blame when they do so. He is currently completing a book on what the United States can learn from the experiences of other advanced industrial countries in reforming their public pension systems. He received his Ph.D in Political Science from Harvard University.

### Professor Peter Whiteford

Peter Whiteford is an expert on social security policy, particularly pension policies, family assistance policies, and welfare reform. His research has concentrated on international comparisons of systems of social protection and comparisons of poverty and income distribution, and his areas of interest include: child poverty; family policy; international comparisons of income inequality and poverty; comparative social policy and the welfare state; reconciliation of work and family life; social policy and the life course; social assistance policies; pension policies; social policy and income disparities in China; Australian social policy, especially social security policy. In July 2008, he was appointed by the Australian government to the Reference Group for the Review of the Australian Pension System.