



Summit on Academic Freedom and Academic Autonomy

Tuesday 4 and Wednesday 5 December 2018

Program

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The Auditorium, China in the World, Building #188, Fellows Lane

5pm	Keynote Address and Reception	
	Introduction and welcome	Professor Mike Calford, ANU Provost
	Keynote	Professor Glyn Davis AC, Distinguished Professor
	Panel discussion	Professor Jacqueline Lo, ANU Academic Board Chair
		Professor Glyn Davis AC, Distinguished Professor
		Ms Jane O'Dwyer, ANU Vice-President (Engagement & Corporate Affairs)

Wednesday 5 December

The Hall, University House, 1 Balmain Crescent

8.30am	Introduction and welcome	Professor Brian P. Schmidt AC, ANU Vice-Chancellor
8.35am	Welcome address	Professor the Hon Gareth Evans AC QC, ANU Chancellor
8.50am	Scene setting	Professor Mike Calford, ANU Provost

9am The relationship between Academic Freedom and Freedom of Speech

Freedom of speech and academic freedom are different, though related, concepts. However, in debate inside and outside universities, they are often conflated. What is the relationship between the two, and what does that mean for universities?

Chair:	Professor Brian P. Schmidt AC, ANU Vice-Chancellor
Panellists:	Mr Gary Humphries, Former ACT Senator and Chief Minister
	Professor Dianne Nicol, University of Tasmania
	Professor Adrienne Stone, University of Melbourne
	Ms Eleanor Kay, ANU student

**This program may be subject to change.*

10.15am Morning tea

10.30am How should universities protect academic autonomy?

Universities are designed to be places of robust critical inquiry, where we advance humankind through the exploration of new ideas, revisiting old ideas and challenging norms. However, universities do not operate separate from our wider society, and are heavily reliant on funding from government, students, industry, philanthropic interests and foundations. They are also amongst our most heavily regulated institutions. How do universities maintain their autonomy and the autonomy of their academic community in an increasingly tight financial and regulatory environment?

Chair: Professor Jacqueline Lo, ANU Academic Board Chair

Panellists: Professor the Hon Gareth Evans AC QC, ANU Chancellor
Emeritus Professor Stephen Crump, University of Tasmania
Mr Matthew Lesh, Institute of Public Affairs
Professor Carmen Lawrence, University of Western Australia

11.45am Who decides what research is conducted?

Research takes place in a complex environment of ideas, ethics, funding, institutional history, accepted truth and societal expectations. Decisions about what research is conducted are made at intersection of this complexity. How do we decide what is researched, and do those decisions dampen academic freedom?

Chair: Professor Keith Nugent, incoming ANU Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation)

Panellists: Dr Jacqui Hoepner, ANU Centre for Public Awareness of Science
Dr Martin Williams, Monash University
Dr Nigel Strauss, Deakin University

1.15pm Lunch

2.30pm What threatens academic freedom?

A decline in trust of expertise, contested ideas of truth, students demanding speakers not be heard, provocateurs demanding an unchallenged platform for their ideas, public and peer judgements on the legitimacy of research and its interpretation, academic freedom constrained by universities in search of marketing slogan, allegations of foreign influence, and public judgments on what and how universities teach. Is academic freedom really under attack and what does the threat really look like?

Chair: Ms Jane O'Dwyer, ANU Vice-President (Engagement & Corporate Affairs)

Panellists: Ms Helen Trinca, Managing Editor, The Australian
Dr Miriam Bankovsky, La Trobe University
Professor Amin Saikal, Director, ANU Centre for Arab & Islamic Studies
Professor John Fitzgerald, Swinburne University of Technology

4pm Final talk and summit wrap up: The future of research and a commitment to academic freedom

Summary Professor Mike Calford, ANU Provost

Closing Professor Brian P. Schmidt AC, Vice-Chancellor

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