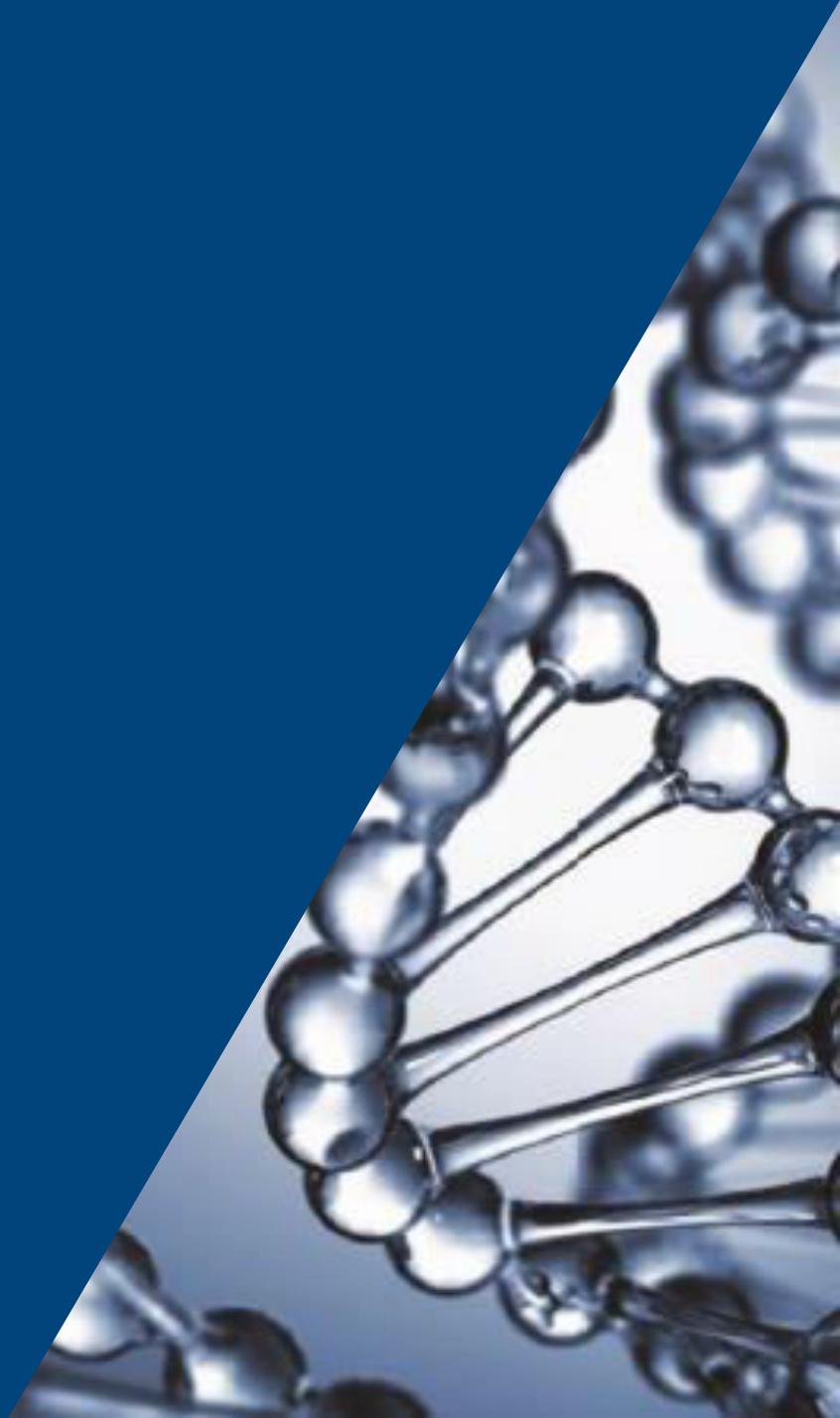


Policy in a Post- Globalisation World

A. Abigail Payne

Director and Ronald Henderson Professor

21 July 2017



“In election after election we have seen conventional politics left standing at the polls. Entrenched cynicism. Widespread disconnection. Broad based economic frustration and disempowerment. Distrust of whether the system is working for them.” The Honorable Scott Morrison, Treasurer, 2017

If voters think about their own economic circumstances ...

What are some policy responses that promote a feeling of positive economic well-being?

Lessons from this Conference:

From birth to schooling

-- Jeff Borland Presentation (Session 7A): Early Child Development

- Programs that nurture children in their early years → positive effect on development
- Studying program that focuses on families where primary caregiver is under potentially great stress from a financial and well-being perspective

-- Chris Ryan Presentation (Session 7A): Middle Achievers & Gonski

- Delivering education to support cognitive and non-cognitive skills is what matters
- Returns to education can be strong across the ability spectrum
- Might be better to use policies/approaches such as Gonski 2017 to learn what works v. directing the work

-- Work by Barbara Broadway (Session 4B) and other work by Guyonne Kalb & her team

- Labour force participation by mothers differs based on migrant status
- Supporting parents with schemes such as paid parental leave and support for child care can result in parents returning to employment

Lessons from this Conference: In the workplace

- Session 2 and John Haisken-Denew Presentation (Session 4C): Work & Cities
 - How should we think about the future of work .. And what does it mean for schooling & employment?
 - Dynamics of cities are changing in terms of industry and population
 - If there are job losses by existing workers – how can we encourage them to be retrained?
- Paul Jensen Presentation (Session 8C) & Session 2: Innovation
 - Innovation matters ... and for innovation we have to think about high skilled labour and diversity in skills
- Roger Wilkins Presentation (Session 7B)
 - Income inequality and what is happening at the top ... there is a difference between inequality is relates to **opportunity** v. **outcomes**.
 - Consider the distributional effects policies and institutions
 - Consider how to address issues stagnant income mobility

Lessons from this Conference: The other stuff

-- Healthcare (Session 4C)

- It is not just about the funding of healthcare but also about supporting medical practitioners – we should be thinking both about demand and supply of services for a unique industry

-- Migration & Population Growth(Session 4B)

- Migration and population growth can be good things
- But when we factor in changes that are going on in Australia – what is the right level of migration?

-- Session 7C: Data ... understanding of issues faced by the population and not just a few ... evidence based reform & evaluation

- Creating and working with data is not an inexpensive proposition ... but using the power of the information held in data we collect and create is worth it.

What does this all mean?

-- *If voters care about their economic circumstances*

- It is not simply about looking at voting patterns and linking it to incomes

-- *What is the nexus between good politics and good policy?*

- A good evaluation of existing policy and issues will positively shape what we want in reform
- When we reform or create new policy – evaluation and assessment will keep the cycle of good policy going.

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