

1325th ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 4 September at 6:30pm

via Zoom webinar

The 1325th Ordinary General Meeting of the Royal Society of NSW will take place at **6:30 pm on Wednesday 4 September 2024 via Zoom webinar**, followed by an open lecture.

AGENDA

- 1. WELCOME** – President, Dr Susan Pond AM FRSN
- 2. MINUTES**
Minutes of the 1324th Ordinary General Meeting will be reviewed.
- 3. CONFIRMATION OF NAMES OF CANDIDATES FOR FELLOWSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP**
At its meeting 21 August 2024, the Council, upon recommendation of the Fellows and Members Assessment Committee, agreed to propose the following candidates for admission as Fellows and Members.

FELLOWSHIP

Professor Natkunam Ketheesan

Laudation – Natkunam Ketheesan is an internationally distinguished researcher and educator in infectious diseases.

Professor Matt Wand

Laudation – Matt Wand is internationally recognised for his contributions to statistics methodology, theory and computing.

MEMBERSHIP

Dr Renee V Goreham

Daniel Bruno Bonatti

Samuel Tensingh

Ryan William Daffurn

Phillip Michael Nyssen

Alan Christopher Wainwright

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Robin Miles

- 4. PRESENTATION OF FELLOWSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES**
The President will present certificates to new Fellows and Members whose nominations were tabled at the previous OGM (or who were unable to attend previously to receive their certificate) at the next face-to-face OGM scheduled for Wednesday 2 October 2024.
- 5. REPORT FROM COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL**
The President will update membership on the key activities underway for 2024.

(cont'd...)

6. OPEN LECTURE

“HECS-HELP: History, effects, international comparisons, and the University Accord”

Emeritus Professor Bruce Chapman AO FASSA

**Sir Roland Wilson Chair of Economics
Research School of Economics
Australian National University**

Professor Chapman will examine the factors that led to the reintroduction of university fees in Australia in 1989, in the form of HECS. HECS was a departure from the typical student loans used worldwide at the time, because repayments depend wholly on a debtor's future income, while in other student loan systems debtors are required to repay their loans on the basis of time (like a bank loan). The income-contingent nature of HECS repayment was designed to provide insurance against loan repayment difficulties due to the exigencies of the labour market.

The consequences of HECS in terms of the expansion of higher education places, including with respect to students from the most disadvantaged backgrounds, will be explored, as will the adoption of the same approach to university loans in around 10 other countries over the last 35 years. International higher education experiences will be compared and contrasted, and commentary will be offered on the recent University Accord HECS-HELP suggestions.

About the speaker

Bruce Chapman is an Emeritus Professor of Economics at the College of Business and Economics, Australian National University. He is an education and labour economist with a PhD from Yale University and is the author/editor of around 300 papers/chapters and several books including on: higher education financing; long-term unemployment; fertility; marital separation; the economics of Don Bradman; immigration; incomes policy; international experience with student loans; domestic violence; and the application of income-contingent loans to policy concerning drought, brain drain reparations, environmentally sustainable agricultural investments, the preservation of endangered species, criminal fines collection, extensions of paid parental leave, and R&D investments. He helped design the Higher Education Contribution Scheme in 1989 and was an economic adviser to Prime Minister Paul Keating, from 1994 to 1996. He likes cricket, bridge and roast potatoes.

7. VOTE OF THANKS

8. CLOSE – President

Dr Donald Hector AM FRSN

Secretary