

2022 Guest Speakers List



Dr Mochekoe Stephen Rametse has taught African and Australian History, Politics, and International Relations for more than 20 years in Australian High Schools (Melbourne and Perth) and at Murdoch University.

He is a sessional lecturer and a secondary school teacher registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching. He is an independent researcher on the South African Political Economy and the settlement challenges of the African diaspora in Australia. His PhD study focused on the ideological tensions in the post-apartheid government's policies. He has presented Conference Papers at various academic forums. He was the convenor of the South African Community of Western Australia (SACAWA) in 2012. He was twice elected as the President of the Africa Day Australia, Secretary of the Nelson Mandela Day Commemorative Committee, and a Board member of the African Think Tank.

He was appointed a member of the African Ministerial Advisory Group which helped with the formulation of the "African Communities Action Plan" (ACAP), which was recently adopted by the Victorian government. His draft Working Paper in progress: "Dissecting Race, Racism, Difference, and the 'new' African Diaspora in Australia" using the Auto ethnographical method.



Vasyl Myroshnychenko Ukrainian Ambassador to Australia

After 20 years of experience helping international clients develop solid relationships with the stakeholders in the government, civil society, and local community in Ukraine, he joined Ukraine's foreign service.

Myroshnychenko current role is focused on enhancing Ukraine-Australia bilateral relations with a focus on military cooperation, trade and investments, culture, education, and tourism.

https://www.linkedin.com/in/vasylmyroshnychenko/





Kathleen Lively is a career American diplomat currently serving as U.S. Consul General in Melbourne, Australia. Ms. Lively was the Minister Counsellor for Management Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya from 2019 – 2021. Prior to that, she served three years as the Dean of the Foreign Service Institute's School of Applied Information Technology. Ms. Lively has also represented the United States in Romania, The United Kingdom, Japan, Poland, and Afghanistan.

In Washington, she worked for the Undersecretary for Management and in the Bureau of Information Resource Management. She started her thirty plus years of government service as a Presidential Management Intern at the National Institutes of Health and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Ms. Lively is a Washington D.C. native. She holds Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees in Public Policy from the University of Chicago as well as a Master of Science degree in Resourcing National Security from the National Défense University's Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington D.C. She is the recipient of a Presidential Rank Award as well as numerous State Department Superior and Meritorious Honour awards. She enjoys her family, sports, music, animals, teaching English as a second language, chocolate, and the outdoors. She is married with two adult sons. ff

https://au.usembassy.gov/embassyconsulates/melbourne/consul-general/



Daniel Bull is an Australian adventurer, mountain climber, and professional speaker. He has climbed the Seven Summits and the Volcanic Seven Summits. He also holds the world record for the highest altitude kayaking. He currently works as a motivational speaker

https://www.linkedin.com/in/-danielbull-/?originalSubdomain=au





Amanda Wendt

Amanda is Vice-chair of the Rotary International Communications Committee, District 9800 Assistant Governor (Stonnington), Rotary Melbourne's Membership Director and Past President of the Rotary Club of Melbourne Park.

With over 15 years' experience in brand, marketing, and communication, she has worked internationally across diverse industries including financial and professional services, health, retail, not-for-profit and the public sector. Amanda is a proud Rotarian and in 2016 was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow from Rotary District 9800. She has travelled internationally with Rotary and has spoken at many conferences on how to activate members, in particular millennials.



Lara OlsenManaging Director, Southeast Water

Experienced energy and utility executive with proven ability to drive performance, deliver growth and lead teams.

Passionate leader with experience across Government, energy utilities, international technology companies and start-ups.

https://www.linkedin.com/in/lara-olsen-709445/?originalSubdomain=au





Victor Perton is **Chief Optimism Officer at The Centre for Optimism. He** has served as Senior Adviser in the Australia G20 Presidency, supporting Australian Treasurer Joe Hockey's leadership of the Finance Track of G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors. He played a vital engagement role in the Brisbane G20 Leaders' Summit. Victor is a former Commissioner to the Americas building investment, trade, global supply chains & supporter networks. His life experience includes 18 years as a parliamentarian, practice as a barrister, mediator, arbitrator, businessman, board service and mentor in the public and private sectors. Victor is a compelling lecturer & motivational speaker on leadership, policy advocacy, governance, networking & social media. His professional qualifications and experience include law, economics, education, technology & innovation, and environment. He is Editor and Publisher of the Australian Leadership blog, Principal of Victor Perton Global Partners; Board Member of Yarra Valley Water; Advisory Board Member of Lifeguard Health Network Inc; Global Integrity Summit hosted by Griffith University and Australia Centre for Financial Studies hosted by Monash University.