

SENATOR THE HON ZED SESELJA



Zed Seselja was sworn in as Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs by the Governor-General on 19 July 2016. Zed was first elected to the Senate for the Australian Capital Territory in 2013. Since his election to Parliament, Zed has been appointed to a number of committees including the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme National, the Senate Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committee on Community Affairs, where he served as Chair, and the Senate Select Committee on Health. Zed was born in Canberra to Croatian immigrant parents and was raised in Tuggeranong Valley. He is married to Roslyn and they have five children.

HON. TONY BURKE MP



Tony Burke is the Shadow Minister for Multicultural Australia & Citizenship; Shadow Minister for Environment & Water; Shadow Minister for the Arts and Manager of Opposition Business in the 45th Australian Parliament. Tony's portfolios reflect his lifelong commitments; to modern multicultural Australia, to the environment, and to the arts. He has led the fight against racial hate speech with the iconic Walk for Respect in the heart of his community in Lakemba

SENATOR RICHARD DI NATALE



Dr Richard Di Natale is the leader of the Australian Greens. He was elected to the federal parliament in 2010 and re-elected in 2016. He was the first Greens' first Victorian Senator. His portfolios include health, multiculturalism and sport. Prior to entering parliament, Richard was a general practitioner and public health specialist. He worked in Aboriginal health in the Northern Territory, on HIV prevention in India and in the drug and alcohol sector. His key health priorities include preventative health, public dental care and responding to the health impacts of climate change. Richard became leader of the Australian Greens in May 2015 following the retirement of Senator Christine Milne.

DR. ALEXANDRA LEIPOLD



Dr. Alexandra Leipold is the project manager of the KAUSA Coordination Office for Vocational Training and Migration at the Otto Benecke Foundation e.V. (german: Otto Benecke Stiftung e.V., OBS) in Bonn, Germany. The Foundation is a non-government organization that is active in the areas of migration, immigration and minorities for more than 50 years. Within the project of KAUSA, Alexandra and her team support young immigrants and their parents as well as entrepreneurs and small and medium sized enterprises in their engagement to participate in the German Vocational and Educational Training (VET). The KAUSA project gives specific and multilingual information on all aspects of the VET and helps to fill training gaps. She is also involved in close collaboration with non-government organizations with migrant background to strengthen educational opportunities for everyone. So far, Alexandra worked for the OBS both in the areas of academic and vocational qualifications. She has a PhD in Chinese literature and works as advisor and trainer for academic writing and teaches at universities and colleges. Above all, she has run through the vocational training being a carpenter herself.

ANYA SATYANAND



Anya is Executive Officer of Ara Taiohi, NZ. In her career which spans the education, community and youth development sectors, Anya has demonstrated a big commitment to and vision for interdisciplinary, cross sectoral approaches to working with young people. She's worked in school leadership and sector development on strengths based, youth driven, innovative, restorative and ethical approaches to working with young people. Superdiversity has particular relevance in our changing youth demographics, and our young people's cultural capabilities are what will drive Aotearoa forward into a hopeful future.

DR CLAIRE NAUGHTIN



Dr Claire Naughtin is a Research Scientist in the Insight team at Data61, CSIRO. Claire has been involved in multiple consulting and advisory projects for government and industry clients, covering topics such as health promotion, intellectual property and employment. Prior to her work with CSIRO, Claire was as a Research Scientist at The University of Queensland. Claire has a PhD from The University of Queensland, specializing in behavioral psychology, human factors and neuroscience. Claire has also worked in various advisory roles where she was involved in translating insights from academic research into human factor solutions for business. Claire is passionate about bridging the gap between research and real-world application, and using data to help people make informed, evidence-based decisions.

MEGAN MITCHELL



Megan Mitchell is Australia's first National Children's Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission, appointed in 2013. Megan has previous experience in both government and non-government roles in child protection, out-of-home care, youth justice, disability, and early childhood services. Megan also holds qualifications in social policy, psychology and education. In her role as Commissioner, Megan focuses solely on the rights and interests of children, and the laws, policies and programs that impact on them. Each year, Megan presents a statutory report to federal Parliament on the state of children's rights in Australia. In her work to date, Megan has focused on the prevalence of suicide and intentional self-harm in children and young people, the impact of family and domestic violence on children and young people, and the oversight of children and young people in correctional detention.

DR TIM SOUTPHOMMASANE



Dr Tim Soutphommasane has been Race Discrimination Commissioner since August 2013. Prior to joining the Australian Human Rights Commission, Tim was a political philosopher and held posts at The University of Sydney and Monash University. His thinking on multiculturalism, patriotism and national identity has been influential in shaping debates in Australia and Britain. Tim is the author of four books and has been an opinion columnist with The Age and The Weekend Australian newspapers, and presented the documentary series Mongrel Nation on ABC Radio National (2013). Tim is an adjunct professor at the School of Social Sciences and Psychology, Western Sydney University and chairs the Leadership Council on Cultural Diversity. Born in France and raised in southwest Sydney, Tim holds a Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Philosophy from the University of Oxford, and is a first-class honours graduate of The University of Sydney.

DR BULENT HASS DELLAL



Dr B. (Hass) Dellal AO is the Executive Director of the Australian Multicultural Foundation and Chairman of the SBS Board of Directors. He has over 25 years' experience in policy, management, community development and programming for cultural diversity. He has extensive experience nationally and internationally in multicultural affairs. He serves on various boards and committees and has spearheaded initiatives for the development of the general community. He was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to Multiculturalism, the Arts and the Community in 1997, and the Centenary of Federation Medal in 2003. In 2015, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to the multicultural community through leadership and advisory roles, to the advancement of inclusiveness and social harmony, to youth, and to the broadcast media.

PROFESSOR FETHI MANSOURI



Professor Mansouri is the Director of the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation. The ADI conducts innovative multidisciplinary research that addresses problems concerning social, cultural, economic and political inequalities and human rights. ADI research makes a difference through expanding the capacity, depth and quality of knowledge and understanding we generate. The Institute works in collaboration with partners locally, nationally and internationally

PROFESSOR HELEN CAHILL



Academic, Melbourne Graduate School of Education Curriculum studies: Arts education; Use of drama in health Promotion; Student attitudes and experience; Mental health Teacher education: Secondary; Student engagement and pedagogy Professor Helen Cahill uses poststructural theory to inform participatory and transformative education. She has developed many Australian wellbeing programs addressing gender, resilience and respectful relationships, and a number of gender rights and sexuality education programs for women and young people in developing countries within the Asia-Pacific region.

PROFESSOR ANITA HARRIS



Anita Harris is a Research Professor in the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation. She is a youth sociologist undertaking a series of projects on youth and citizenship, including the completion of an Australian Research Council Future Fellowship. Prior to joining the Institute, she was a Future Fellow in the Sociology program at Monash University (2011-2015), and a Mid-Career Research Fellow and Deputy Director at the Centre for Critical and Cultural Studies at the University of Queensland (2007-2011).

CARMEL GUERRA OAM



CEO and founder of CMY, Carmel Guerra has contributed to a range of research reports relating to multicultural youth. Carmel has served on boards and committees for government and non-government sectors and is currently a member of the Australian Multicultural Council and Refugee Resettlement Advisory Council. She is a member of the Youth Parole Board in Victoria. In 1994 Carmel was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to investigate issues of refugee and migrant youth overseas. In 2003 she earned a Centenary Medal for services to young people, migrant and refugee communities and in 2005 was entered into the Victorian Women's Honour Roll. In the 2016 Australia Day honours list, Carmel was recognised with a Medal in the Order of Australia. In November 2015 Carmel was also awarded the Victorian Premier's Award for Community Harmony.

DR TIM CORNEY



Dr Tim Corney is currently an Associate Professor in the College of Arts and Education at Victoria University and Senior Fellow in the Youth Research Centre at the University Melbourne. He sits as a Director and/or Board member on a number of industry and community sector organisations and is a Fellow of the John Cain Foundation. He has worked as a youth worker, manager of youth services, researcher and educator and as an adviser on youth affairs to governments and peak bodies across Australia and internationally. His academic research and work with young people is widely regarded.

PROFESSOR AUDREY YUE



Audrey Yue is Professor in Media, Culture and Critical Theory in the Department of Communications and New Media at the National University of Singapore. Before joining NUS in July 2017, she lived in Australia for 30 years where she last held the positions of Professor in Cultural Studies and Director of the Research Unit in Public Cultures at the University of Melbourne. She has published 7 scholarly books and more than 80 refereed journal articles and book chapters in the fields of Sinophone media cultures; cultural policy and development, and; queer Asian studies. She is currently Chief/Partner Investigator in three Australian Research Council funded projects on arts participation in the smart city; young people and multiculturalism, and; Asian media flows in Australia.

APAJOK BIAR



Born in a refugee camp in Kenya, Apajok arrived in Australia with her family as a 2 year old. At 22 years of age she is already making a difference to many. Apajok recently completed a Bachelor of Social Work at Western Sydney Uni. She volunteers at her local community centre engaging with refugee young people and is Chairperson and Co-founder of South Sudan Voices of Salvation Inc, a not-for profit youth run and led organisation. A youth advisor for Multicultural NSW and a MYAN NSW Multicultural Youth Ambassador, Apajok is passionate about advocating for South Sudanese youth and speaking up against all forms of injustice and violations of human rights and racism. Apajok is currently involved in projects that promote multiculturalism and social cohesion in Australia. Last June she was the Australian and New Zealand refugee youth representative to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Geneva Switzerland, where she presented on a panel on refugee youth inclusion. Apajok was the Western Sydney Refugee Youth Award in community leadership & is a finalist for Women's Weekly 'Women of the future' award 2017.

DR HELENA DE ANSTISS



Dr Helena de Anstiss is the Program Director for the Bachelor of Social Work and associated double degrees at the University of South Australia. She is one of team a Chief Investigators of the ARC Linkage Project "Pathways to Active Citizenship: Refugee Youth and Their Transition from School to Further Education, Training and Employment". Helena is involved in a number of research projects in both an academic and industry context to inform the policy and practice context in which government funded services are delivered to multicultural young communities. Her practice experience includes policy development and analysis, service planning, development and evaluation, and industry development and capacity building. Helena presents and advises on multicultural issues in a range of government, non-government and community forums.

ROD GLOVER



Rod is an expert in large-scale innovation. He believes that to create new regimes, you sometimes have to break the old ones. He has been Senior Adviser to an Australian Prime Minister and Deputy Secretary for Innovation in Victoria's DPC. He has also worked for the world's leading innovation agencies in London and San Francisco. Rod was chair of the education charity Hands on Learning Australia (breaking the cycle of educational disadvantage) and is co-founder of a tech startup that seeks to radically expand access to tertiary education. He was a Director of the Centre of Excellence in Intervention and Prevention Science (in public health) and a member of the National Sustainability Council. He is now on the Board of Save the Children Australia. Rod has driven major new policy frameworks in Australia, including the COAG National Reform Agenda, the Australian Industry and Innovation Statement, and a new approach to entrepreneurship in Victoria. Rod studied at Melbourne University, with Executive Education at the Australian and New Zealand School of Government, the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and the Sloan School of Management at MIT.

CARLA WILSHIRE



Carla Wilshire is the CEO of the Migration Council Australia (MCA) – Australia's national research and policy institution on migration, settlement and social cohesion. Carla has a background in policy development, corporate governance and tertiary research. Throughout her career in public policy, she has worked as a public servant and advisor to Government, principally in the area of migration and resettlement. Prior to establishing the MCA, she was Chief of Staff to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs. Carla is a member of the Judicial Council on Cultural Diversity, which provides advice to the Council of Chief Justices of Australia on improving access to justice for culturally and linguistically diverse Australians. She is a member of the National Anti-racism Strategy and co-founded the Friendly Nation Initiative, which aims to link corporate Australia with the settlement community to improve employment outcomes for refugees. Carla is also deputy chair of the Migrant and Refugee Women's Health Partnership.

AMNA KARRA- HASSAN



Amna Karra-Hassan is an activist and advocate for diversity, inclusion and gender parity. She works for the Australian Federal Police in the Reform, Culture and Standards portfolio which is responsible for engaging the workforce in cultural change. Amna is also the Founder and President of the Auburn Giants Australian Football Club and has pioneered programs for women of minority communities in Western Sydney. She uses her influence to change the conversation on gender, culture, faith and representation. Amna holds a Bachelor in Organisational Learning from the University of Technology Sydney. She is currently enrolled in an Advanced Leadership Program with the Applied School of Management. Amna shares her experiences on collaborating with community leaders, small business owners, local government, traditional and social media and thought leaders.

DORCAS UTKOVIC



Dorcas is change-maker, digital storyteller, Producer & Host of OZ AFRICAN TV, a lifestyle TV show about people of African Diaspora in Australia. Born in South Africa, migrated to Australia 10 years ago where she lives with her two gorgeous children and supportive husband. Her interest in Film/TV has seen her fulfil an array of roles including but not limited to Production Assistant, Production Researcher, Art Department personnel, Head of Department (Costume Dept.) and Actor. Beyond OZ AFRICAN TV, she is very active within the community. Some of her recent work includes Coordinator for the vibrant event 'One Beat - One Love' which is part of VMC's Cultural Diversity Week. She is also the current Coordinator of Nelson Mandela Day Celebrations. She studied Fine Art in South Africa and recently completed Master of Art in Writing through Swinburne University

KAVITA BEDFORD



Kavita Bedford is an Australian-Indian writer, social researcher, and media commentator. Her belief in the power of storytelling and alternative narratives as forms of resistance has led her to work for the World Bank's Justice for the Poor team in Indonesia, as a journalist in Santiago de Chile, and working for various NGOs, including Bankstown Youth Development Service. She is currently the Editor of The Point Magazine, that looks at the impact overseas conflicts have on local communities and countering violent extremism. She is the Creative Producer of a website for grassroots storytelling in western Sydney, Mapping Frictions. She was the recipient of The Walkley Foundation's Women in Media mentorship program and the Cultural Fund's Emerging Writers Fellowship and was recently awarded Australia Council Career Development fund to complete her first novel. She has published both nationally and internationally on a range of issues in The Guardian, Griffith Review, Junkee, Roads & Kingdoms, and Crikey.

ADAM MOSTOGL



Adam Mostogl is passionate about embracing creative and innovative solutions to common problems, with experience in retail, heavy industry, tourism, hospitality, and brand management. Since 2010, over 4100 young Australians have undertaken entrepreneurial education programs lead by Adam as the Founder / Inspirer of illuminate Education & Consulting, which focuses on inspiring students to recognize how they can be the job creators of the future. Adam is also the Executive Director of the Van Diemen Project, which was announced in 2016 as Tasmania's Most Innovative Startup. Adam was announced the 2015 Tasmanian Young Australian of the Year – and a finalist for Young Australian of the Year – for his endeavours in entrepreneurial programs, education more generally as well as community development. He was also given an honourable mention (and was the only Tasmanian) in the 30under30 list for young Australian entrepreneurs for 2015.

ALECIA RATHBONE



Alecia is passionate about social justice and how we can all play an active role in shaping and contributing to the communities in which we live. Alecia joined the FYA team in 2012 and during this time has also held the roles of Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Prior to her role at FYA, Alecia was the Chief Operating Officer of Girl Guides Victoria, which is part of the largest organisation for girls and young women in the world. Alecia is currently a non-executive director and Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of YWCA Victoria and a member of the CPA Australia Public Sector and Not for Profit Committee. Alecia has a Bachelor of Commerce, is a Certified Practising Accountant, and has a Graduate Certificate in Management of Not for Profit Organisations.

NADINE LIDDY



Nadine Liddy is the National Coordinator of the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN Australia) and has worked in the youth and multicultural sectors for over 20 years. Nadine has a background in service delivery with young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds and has also worked extensively in policy, advocacy and sector development in relation to multicultural youth issues. Nadine has also worked in the international context, undertaking research and advocacy on refugee and asylum seeker issues and supporting young people in international and regional advocacy opportunities.

ROSS WORTHAM



Ross Wortham is the CEO of the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia, which is WA's peak body representing young people and all those who support young people in WA. Ross is well known in the youth sector in WA for being a strong advocate, fighting for human rights, equality and social justice for young people. Whilst he holds a Bachelors degree in International Humanitarian Aid from the University of North Texas and a Masters degree in International Community Development from the University of New South Wales, Ross spends most of his time working to give young people, of all backgrounds, the opportunity to influence social policy and take on leadership roles within the community sector.

ALEXANDRA LONG



Alexandra Long is the Executive Officer of the Multicultural Youth Affairs Network (MYAN) NSW. A passionate social justice advocate, her experience spans the youth, multicultural and education sectors both in Australia and overseas, with a focus on young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds. She has worked as a high school teacher, a youth worker and an adolescent sexual health educator in Uganda and has a passion for capacity building and sector development. In 2012, Alex co-authored the school resources accompanying the SBS series, Go Back To Where You Came From.