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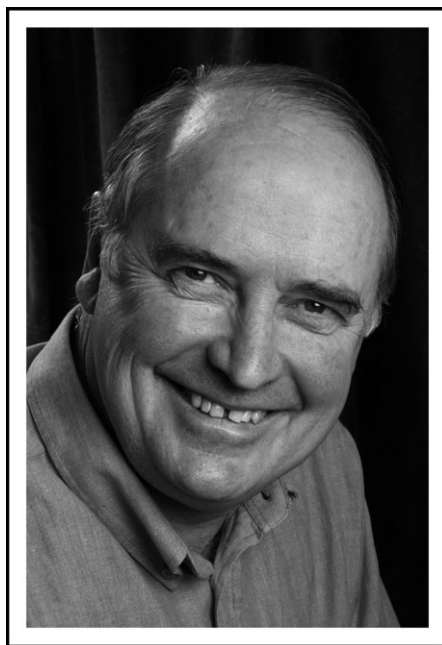
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## **2013 AARES Distinguished Life Member**

### **Ross Garnaut**



Distinguished Life Member of AARES is the highest award conferred by the Society and is designed ‘to recognise members of AARES who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of agricultural and resource economics through extraordinary service to the administration and advancement of AARES, extraordinary service to the community more generally or the achievement of some other great distinction in agricultural and resource economics.’ Professor Ross Garnaut clearly meets the criteria for this award.

Professor Garnaut is Vice-Chancellor’s Fellow and Professorial Fellow in Economics at The University of Melbourne. He is also Distinguished Professor of Economics at The Australian National University (ANU). His past appointments include Professor of Economics, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, ANU (1989–2008) and Head of the Economics Department and Division of the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at ANU for over a decade from 1989.

He was Chair of the Board of Management of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research from 1994 to 2000 and Chair of the

Board of Trustees of the International Food Policy Research Institute (Washington D.C.) from 2006 to June 2010.

Ross was Australian Ambassador to China (1985–1988) and principal economic adviser to Prime Minister Bob Hawke in the 1980s.

He was also Chairman, Primary Industry Bank of Australia Ltd (1989–1994) and Chairman, Bank of Western Australia Ltd (BankWest) (1988–1995). In addition to that, he has held a number of other company appointments as a director or board chairman.

Ross was Chairman of the Papua New Guinea Sustainable Development Program Limited from 2002 to 2012 and held a number of senior Government positions, including head of the Financial and Economic Policy Division of the Papua New Guinea Department of Finance in the years straddling Independence in 1975.

He has led many high-level Australian Government Reviews and Commissions, including the preparation of the Report to the Australian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister on *Australia and the Northeast Asian Ascendancy* (1989); a Review of the Wool Industry (1993); a Review of Commonwealth-State Funding (2002); and the Garnaut Review of Climate Change Policy (2008).

Ross was appointed as an independent expert advisor to the Multi-Party Climate Change Committee in September 2010 and was commissioned in November 2010 by the Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency to update significant elements of his 2008 Climate Change Review.

Ross has been a prominent contributor to the debate on economic opportunities in the Australian economy, a vocal advocate for the adoption of sound economic decisions in resource management and a frequent contributor to AARES events. His concern about government policy on climate change affecting productivity in the utilities industry and in agriculture was spelled out in his recent book, *Dog Days: Australia after the Boom* (2013). In a chapter on climate change, he pointed out how international cooperation on climate change depends on each individual country contributing its fair share to the international effort to prevent global temperatures from rising excessively. In other contributions, he has evaluated the radically different policy approaches to dealing with climate change available to Australia from government and opposition parties. Both sides of politics in Australia ought to have benefitted from his clear thinking about the potential cost to industry and the nation of alternative policy options to achieve climate change mitigation.