



**national social
cohesion conference**

Conference Program

Enrichment through a socially inclusive society: challenges and solutions

Date: Sunday 9th to Tuesday 11th of October 2011
Venue: UWS Bankstown Campus
Cost: \$100 for 3 days, \$15 for Sunday or \$90 for Mon and Tues workshops (Inc lunch + tea/coffee)
Registrations: info@affinity.org.au; www.affinity.org.au;
(02) 9702 0789

Conference Synopsis

The Australian community has undergone great changes in the last 25 years, including our emerging Muslim communities. However, this reality has not always been well understood or accepted. As a framework for living with cultural diversity, the idea of multiculturalism has lately come under increasing criticism, both in Australia and overseas.

Should Australia narrow its diversity and multiculturalism?
Or do we choose to enrich it towards a universal pluralism, building on the challenges presented to us by the multi-faith and multi-cultural nature of our societies?

This conference seeks to explore how to work towards a socially cohesive society in the context of contemporary realities and challenges.

Issues to be addressed are:

- Multiculturalism and Social Inclusion: Similarities and Differences
- Diversity in Australian Social Landscape
- Citizenship in a Pluralistic Society
- Islamic Law and social cohesion

Organised By:





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Day 1 – Keynote Lecture: Sunday, 9 October 2011

Time	Activity	Presenter
7pm	Conference Chair Opens	Chair - Prof Julia Howell (UWS)
7:05pm	Welcome	The Hon Victor Dominello NSW State Minister for Citizenship
7:15pm	Keynote Address	Professor Desmond Cahill Global Studies, Social Science & Planning, RMIT University
7:45pm	Respondent 1	Prof Gary Bouma (Monash University)
8:00pm	Respondent 2	Mehmet Ozalp (Charles Sturt University)
8:15pm	Break	Coffee/Tea
8:45pm	Sufi Music	Australian Tasawwuf Ensemble
8:55pm	Q&A	Chair plus 3 panelists
9:25pm	Vote of Thanks	Mehmet Saral NSCC Organising Committee Chair
9:30pm	Close	

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Day 2 – Conference: Monday 10 October 2011

Time	Workshop 1	Workshop 2
10:00am to 12:30pm	<p><i>Education in Social Cohesion</i></p> <p>Chair : Prof Emeritus Gary Bouma (Monash University)</p> <p>Speaker 1: A/Prof Marion Maddox (Macquarie University)</p> <p>Speaker 2: Prof Rosemary Johnston (UTS) – TBC</p> <p>Speaker 3: Emeritus Prof Abe Ata (Deakin University)</p>	<p><i>How shall the refugee issue be handled from a Humanitarian perspective</i></p> <p>Chair: Prof Jake Lynch (University of Sydney) - TBC</p> <p>Speaker 1: Hon Catherine Branson (AHRC) - TBC</p> <p>Speaker 2: Dr Sverre Molland (Macquarie University) – TBC</p> <p>Speaker 3: Prof Andrew Jakubowicz (UTS)</p>
12:30pm to 1:30pm	Lunch	Lunch
1:30pm to 4:00pm	<p><i>Islamic Law and social cohesion</i></p> <p>Chair: A/Prof Adam Possamai (UWS)</p> <p>Speaker 1: Ms Jamila Hussain (UTS)</p> <p>Speaker 2: Prof Jim Richardson (University of Nevada, Reno, USA)</p> <p>Speaker 3: Dr Salim Farrar (University of Sydney)</p>	<p><i>Citizenship in a pluralistic society</i></p> <p>Chair: Ahmet Keskin (Affinity)</p> <p>Speaker 1: Prof Desmond Cahill (RMIT)</p> <p>Speaker 2: Ms Helen Szoke (AHRC)</p> <p>Speaker 3: Dr Sonja van Wichelen (UWS) - TBC</p>

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Day 3 – Conference: Tuesday 11 October 2011

Time	Workshop 1	Workshop 2
10:00am to 12:30pm	<p><i>Diversity in Australian social landscape</i></p> <p>Chair: A/Prof Marion Maddox (Macquarie University)</p> <p>Speaker 1: Prof Kevin Dunn (UWS)</p> <p>Speaker 2: TBC</p> <p>Speaker 3: Dr Chris Hartney (University of Sydney)</p>	<p><i>How does Media affect social cohesion?</i></p> <p>Chair: Peter Manning (author, academic, broadcaster)</p> <p>Speaker 1: Dr Douglas Golding (University of Queensland)</p> <p>Speaker 2: Mrs Zuleyha Keskin (Charles Sturt University)</p> <p>Speaker 3: Mehal Krayem (UTS) - TBC</p>
12:30pm to 1:30pm	Lunch	Lunch
1:30pm to 4:00pm	<p><i>Importance of Interfaith Dialogue in creating social cohesion</i></p> <p>Chair: Mehmet Saral (Affinity)</p> <p>Speaker 1: Prof Gary Bouma (Monash University)</p> <p>Speaker 2: Prof Suzanne Rutland (University of Sydney)</p> <p>Speaker 3: Mehmet Ozalp (Charles Sturt University)</p>	<p><i>Multiculturalism and social inclusion: Similarities and Differences</i></p> <p>Chair: Prof Gail Whiteford (Macquarie University)</p> <p>Speaker 1: Prof Jake Lynch (University of Sydney)</p> <p>Speaker 2: AFP - TBC</p> <p>Speaker 3: Prof Christine Inglis (University of Sydney) – TBC</p>

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Latest update on 24/09/2011

This program is subject to change.

For the latest version of the program, please visit www.affinity.org.au