Many Australians feel their nation is overgoverned, and its federal system conflict-ridden and inefficient. Prospects for reform have been limited, however, by Australia's weak intergovernmental machinery, and weak traditions of local and regional government. Since the 1990s, an explosion in regional governance initiatives is now reopening fundamental questions about how our governance institutions should evolve.

What is the best way to institutionalise stronger local and regional governance within the Australian federal system?

Is our federal system broken? In an age of globalization, how can regional governance best contribute to national political and economic goals?

With continuing shifts in federal, state and local roles, and growing pressures on government to meet complex regional needs, how is regional devolution to be cemented in Australia's institutional frameworks?

Who should attend:

- ✔ Policy makers, interest groups and researchers;
- economists, social scientists, lawyers and public administrators interested in an improved federal system;
- ✓ regional scientists, regional policy makers and regional service providers;
- specialists and practitioners in local government and regional governance; and
- ✓ federal, state and local politicians.



Topics for debate include:

The Politics of Federal-Regional Representation

EFFECTIVENESS:

The Return of 'Regions' to Australian Public Policy

EFFICIENCY:

Political Economy of Federal/Regional Devolution

OUTCOMES & ACTIONS:

Priorities and Prospects for Research & Reform

This symposium will:

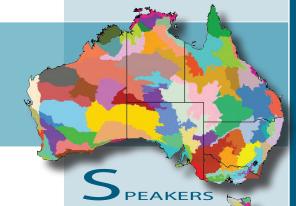
Shape a new research agenda into the scope for adaption of the Australian federal system to include a more legitimate, effective and efficient system of regional governance.

Identify priorities for developing stronger adaptive capacity on the part of communities and governments in the face of current policy challenges.

Present a new national framework for evaluating the differing potential contributions of a range of institutional reforms towards this strengthening.

Cocktail Function & Public Launch

Please note limited spaces are available and places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Please tick the appropriate box on the Registration form if you wish to attend.



Cr Paul Bell

President Australian Local Government Association

Professor Ken Wiltshire AO

Chair

National Commission for UNESCO formerly Commonwealth Grants Commissioner

Mal Peters

Immediate Past President NSW Farmers' Association

Professor Brendan Gleeson

Urban Research Program Griffith University

Professor Christine Smith

Vice-President Australia & New Zealand Regional Science Association

Professor John Wanna

Director of Research Australia & New Zealand School of Government

Dr A J Brown

The Federalism Project Socio-Legal Research Centre Griffith University

REGISTRATION FORM

Event Code: 61FRS

Title First Name
Surname
Position
Organisation
Postal Address
Email
Tel Fax
Special needs
Please tick to be included on the delegate list
REGISTRATION FEES (incl. lunch, refreshments, and 10% GST)
Please register me for:
pre 27 March
PAYMENT DETAILS Method of payment (please tick):
Credit card Cheque Please Invoice CREDIT CARD PAYMENT (please complete details)
Bankcard Visa Mastercard Diners AMEX
Cardholder name
Card No
Amount authorised \$ Expiry date
Signature
Please tick if you wish to attend the cocktail function and public launch.
REGISTRATION ENQUIRIES: IPAA tel: 02 9228 5225

GPO Box 904, Sydney NSW 2001 or fax: 02 9241 1920.

If you do not receive a confirmation email from us within one week of submitting your registration form, please contact us on 02 9228 5225. We must receive your payment before 8 May 2006 for us to assure your place.

Cancellation policy – You must notify us in writing of any changes to your registration or cancellation. If we receive notification before 23 April 2006, we will give you a full refund of the cancellation fee. We will give a 50% refund if we receive notification after 24 April 2006 and before 1 May 2006. No refund will be given for cancellation notifications received after 1 May 2006. You may nominate a substitute to attend the conference in your place. Please note that if you do not cancel in writing and do not attend the event, you are responsible for payment. Please contact the conference secretariat for enquiries.











A joint initiative of:

Griffith University NSW Farmers Association Project

'Regional Devolution & Federal Reform',

Griffith University CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems Project 'Regional Governance Futures',

The Australian Research Council **Discovery Project**

'Towards Sustainable Regional Institutions',

(Griffith University, Charles Sturt University, University of New England and University of Melbourne).

The Australia & New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG) Research Program.

PROGRAM & PROJECT ENQUIRIES:

Dr A J Brown, Griffith University (Chair) A.J.Brown@griffith.edu.au

www.griffith.edu.au/federalism



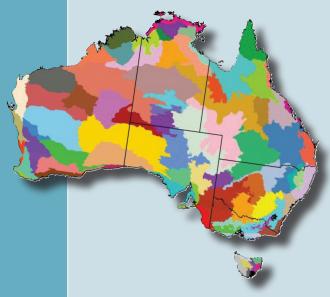
Federalism & Regionalism in Australia

New Approaches, **New Institutions?** A National Symposium

Monday 8 May 2006

8.30am - 5.00pm NSW Parliament House, Sydney

(followed by a cocktail function and public launch)



* Limited places available. Register early to avoid disappointment





