

**The Institute of Australian Geographers
Rural Studies and Economic Geography Study Groups
in association with
The Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, The University of Newcastle**

Neoliberalism and Australia's Regions

Schedule

Tuesday November 11

09.00 to 09.30

Registration

09.25 to 09.30

Welcome

Phillip O'Neill, University of Newcastle

09.30 to 10.45

Session 1

Neoliberalism in (regional) theory and practice

Chair: Neil Argent, University of New England

Key speaker: Wendy Larner, University of Auckland

Discussion

10.45 to 11.15

Morning tea

11.15 to 12.00

Session 2

Neoliberalism and institutional/planning responses

Chair: Pauline McGuirk, University of Newcastle

Key speaker: Andrew Beer, Flinders University

Andrew will introduce his new co-authored book, *Developing Locally: Lessons in Economic Development from Four Nations*, Policy Press: Bristol

12.00 to 13.15

Lunch

13.15 to 14.40

Session 3: Rural Development in the Neoliberal Frame

Framing Rural Development under Neoliberalism

Chair: Richard Willis, Victoria University of Wellington

Each speaker 20 minutes max.

Tony Sorensen, University of New England, Also Spracht Zarathustra? A Nietzsche Metaphor for Regional Australia...or a tale of two Friedrichs

Chris Gibson, University of New South Wales, Reinventing regional economies through 'creativity'? Critiquing the 'cultural' turn in regional economic development discourse

Neil Argent, University of New England, The Seduction of Neoliberalism: Why “Community-Led Development” is flavour of the month in rural regeneration.

Discussion

14.40 to 15.00

Afternoon tea

15.00 to 16.30

Session 3 continued

Neoliberalism and rural labour markets and communities

Chair: Bob Fagan, Macquarie University

Each speaker 20 minutes max.

Rae Dufty, University of New South Wales, Rural labour geographies: a case study of Griffith’s citrus industry

Shahbakhti Rostami, University of New South Wales, The Need for Measuring Rural Transportation Needs in Rural NSW

Kate Hartig, University of Newcastle, Place, Identity and Opportunity: A Cultural Faultline in the Cessnock Area.

Discussion

16.30 to 17.30

Session 4

Postgraduate research updates

Chair: Phillip O’Neill, University of Newcastle

Postgraduate students not presenting papers are invited to speak briefly about their research work.

18.00

Drinks (Delaney Hotel, Darby St Newcastle)

19.30

Dinner (Three Monkeys, Darby Street, Newcastle)

Wednesday November 12

09.30 to 11.00

Session 5

Blurring the Great Divide: a place for metropolitan regions under neoliberalism

Chair: Tony Sorensen, University of New England

Each speaker 20 minutes max.

Pauline M^cGuirk, University of Newcastle, Planning a prosperous Sydney: the challenges of planning urban development in the new urban context

Bob Fagan, Macquarie University, Neoliberalism, globalisation and the suburbs: Western Sydney in the 1990s

Kristian Ruming, University of Newcastle, Planning, population and the market: the Central Coast since the 1970s

Discussion

11.00 to 11.30

Morning tea

11.30 to 13.00

Session 6

Institutions and institutional change

Chair: Chris Gibson, University of New South Wales

Each speaker 20 minutes max.

Richard Willis, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, Regional Policy in New Zealand: The Journey Through Neoliberalism and Back Again?

Natalie Moore, University of Newcastle, Local practices and a long history of public service reform

Phillip O'Neill, University of Newcastle, Contingent neoliberalism in Australian government

Discussion

13.00 to 14.10

Lunch

14.10 to 15.30

Session 7

Panel discussion of key themes

Chairs: Neil Argent, University of New England, and Phillip O'Neill, University of Newcastle

Panelists:

Wendy Larner, University of Auckland

Donald McNeill, Kings College London
Andrew Beer, Flinders University

Discussion

15.30 to 15.50

Afternoon tea

15.50 to 17.00

Business meeting and wrap up.