Citation for Distinguished Fellow Award 2018: Deborah Cobb-Clark

Professor Deborah Cobb-Clark is a distinguished Australian economist. According to the Research Papers in Economics (RePEc) rankings she is among the top 25 Australian academic economists and the second highest ranked female economist working in Australia.

Professor Cobb-Clark is currently a Professor of Economics at the University of Sydney. She is Director of the Program in Gender and Families at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, Germany; a Chief Investigator in the ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course; and an elected Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia.

Professor Cobb-Clark has made a substantial contribution to our understanding of how social policy affects labour market outcomes including immigration, sexual and racial harassment, health, old-age support, education and youth transitions. She has published more than four dozen academic articles in leading international journals such as American Economic Review, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Industrial and Labor Relations Review, and Labour Economics. She is a former co-editor of the Journal of Population Economics.

Professor Clark expertise and leadership skills have been recognised in her appointment to a number of senior leadership positions in Australia. Prior to joining the University of Sydney, she was the Ronald Henderson Professor and Director of the Melbourne Institute at the University of Melbourne. She has also held positions at the US Labor Department, Illinois State University, and the
Australian National University where she was the founding director of The Social Policy Evaluation, Analysis and Research (SPEAR) Centre.

In addition to her academic work, Professor Cobb-Clark has made significant contribution to the Australian economics community. She has been a mentor at the Women in Economics Retreat and had provided substantial support to the Women in Economics Network. Deborah has also spoken at multiple ESA events, including the ESA NSW Branch Emerging Economist seminar series. She is a member of the National Economic Panel and her comment on economic issues is regularly sought by the media.