

## **Economic Society of Australia Awards 2022**

*The ESA Distinguished Fellow Award honours a distinguished Australian economist for their contribution to the development of economics.*

The Women in Economics Network (WEN) nominates **Professor Elizabeth (Beth) Webster** for this honour.

Professor Beth Webster has made a significant contribution to the knowledge and practical implementation of economics, particularly in the fields of innovation, R&D policy, firm performance, productivity, intellectual property policy, industry dynamics, knowledge spillovers, markets for technology, and labour economics. Beyond her academic contributions, Professor Webster has also contributed to the advancement of the profession of economics in Australia in her service to the Economic Society of Australia, as a member of the Victorian Council of the ESA, as a member of the National Economic Panel, as a contributor to various ESA initiatives, and a role model for women in the profession.

Professor Webster's expertise is in the economics of knowledge creation and diffusion. She has authored over 100 articles in outlets including *RAND Journal of Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Oxford Economic Papers*, *Journal of Law and Economics*, *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, and *Journal of Law, Economics and Organisation*. She has held Editorial roles at *Australian Economic Review*, *Industry and Innovation*, and *Journal of Economics and Management Strategy*.

In her current appointments at Swinburne University, Professor Webster serves as the Director of the Centre for Transformative Innovation and as Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research Impact and Policy. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences Australia and holds honorary research positions at the Universities of Melbourne, Oxford and Tasmania.

She has been appointed to several committees and advisory councils throughout her career, including the Bracks' review of the automotive industry, the Lomax-Smith Higher Education Base Funding Review, CEDA (Committee for Economic Development Australia) Advisory Council, and the Advisory Council for Intellectual Property. Among her previous appointments, she has previously served as President of the European Policy for Intellectual Property Association and General Secretary of the Asia Pacific Innovation Network.

Professor Webster has been a Lead Investigator on multiple ARC Linkage Grants and an IP Australia Research Grant worth \$2 million for the 'Centre of Intellectual Property'.

Professor Webster holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Cambridge, a Master of Economics from Monash University, and a Bachelor of Economics with Honours from Monash University.