

Citation for Professor Sue Richardson AM

Distinguished Public Policy Fellow, Economic Society of Australia

Professor Sue Richardson AM has made a major contribution to the development of public policy in Australia and has also been one of the most prominent leading role models for women Australian economists for several decades.

Sue is a leading applied labour and social policy economist, primarily specialising in labour, income distribution and poverty. Sue is also a commissioner of the Fair Work Commission, a prestigious and highly relevant policy position which involves shaping the Australian decisions on minimum wage policy, but also involves conducting national consultations and adjudicating on important disputes surrounding the minimum wage legislation.

Sue has developed a very strong national and international reputation and valuable connections, including her long and valuable contribution to the ASSA as Chair of the Economics Panel, Member of the Executive, Chair of the Research Committee (1994-2003) and as President of the Academy (2003-2006).

Sue has a long history of contributing to Australian public policy. Her contributions, include having acted as Commissioner with the Industry Commission (which is the principal advisor to the Commonwealth Treasurer on strategies for improving the efficiency of the Australian economy, now called the Productivity Commission). She has been a member of policy committees which have advised Ministers in the Governments of South Australia and the Commonwealth, on technological change, energy policy and migration. In 2012 she was appointed to the National Sustainability Council and as a member of the Expert Advisory Group on Australia's adaptation to climate change. In 2014 she was a member of the COAG Ministerial Committee for tertiary education and employment: access and participation committee. She was a member of the National Advisory Council of the Australian Centre for Child Protection from its inception in 2005 until 2015.

Sue Richardson would be a worthy recipient of the award of Distinguished Public Policy Fellow of the Economic Society of Australia.