WA Road Safety Research Forum

Speaker Biographies



Professor Lyn Beazley: Facilitator

Professor Lyn Beazley AO FTSE will be the facilitator for the 2018 Road Safety Research forum. Professor Beazley was Chief Scientist of Western Australia from 2006 to 2013 and is a respected ambassador for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in the community. Professor Beazley serves on several boards including the Federal Government's Bionic Vision Australia and the State Government's Technology and Industry Advisory Council. Professor Beazley was awarded Officer of the Order of Australia in 2009, was inducted into the inaugural Western Australian Women's Hall of Fame in 2011 and the Western Australian Science Hall of Fame in 2015, and became the WA Australian of the Year for 2015.



Rick Howe: Road Safety Council

Rick Howe was appointed Deputy Chief Executive of the Insurance Commission of WA (ICWA) in February 2015. He has more than 25 years' experience in senior executive and consulting roles in financial services. He has over 10 years' experience in general insurance with previous roles including General Manager Insurance with ANZ, and Chief Manager, Distribution and Aggregated Products with Westpac Insurance. Mr Howe is accountable for the insurance operations of the Insurance Commission, including the Fraud Investigations and Business Improvement functions.



Phyllis Bennell: Welcome to Country

Phyllis Bennell was born at Roelands mission. She is the daughter of Ted and Ruby Wallam (nee Windi). Phyllis married Glen Bennell and they had three children. Phyllis has been a strong supporter of the Noongar Language Project and is undertaking a Noongar language course at Djidi Djidi Aboriginal school. Her father, Ted Wallam spoke Noongar language from around the Kojonup, Bridgetown area. He moved around for work and settled in Harvey.



Melissa Watts: Practitioner

Melissa Watts has 25 years experience working for the Government developing social and public policy, as well as strategy. Melissa is currently the Assistant Director Strategy at the Road Safety Commission in WA. She is responsible for strategy and policy development, data intelligence gathering and analysis for road trauma and the road safety research and evaluation program. Melissa and her team will coordinate the development of the state's next Road Safety Strategy on behalf of the Road Safety Council to follow on from Towards Zero. To that effect, the Road Safety Research Program that Melissa manages is integral to inform the future of road safety outcomes in Western Australia.



Terri-Anne Pettet: Practitioner

Terri-Anne has a background in health-related disciplines, with a keen interest in public health approaches that empower communities for optimum health and wellbeing. She has past experience in clinical settings and hospitality and more recently, roles in: research, policy development, strategic and operational program planning and delivery, and working closely with the Local Government sector. Since 2002 Terri-Anne has managed WALGA's RoadWise which works with communities, across Western Australia, to take action to reduce road trauma.



Bernie Miller: Practitioner

Bernie Miller commenced with Main Roads in 1978 as Trainee Surveyor. He then moved into Project Management area after 17 years surveying. In 2005, he was promoted to Regional Manager in while located in Goldfields Esperance Region. He has subsequently worked in Wheatbelt Region and is currently Regional Manager Mid West-Gascoyne. The last 32 of his 40 years in Main Roads were spent in regional areas in four different regions.



David Moyses: Practitioner

David Moyses is the Manager for Road Safety at Main Roads Western Australia. David has worked at Main Roads for 26 years and has spent the past 11 years in the field of Road Safety. He is a member of the National Road Safety Task Force, a Board Member of The Curtin Monash University Accident Research Centre, and was selected to represent WA on an Austroads International Safe System study tour of Europe in 2008. More recently David has played a pivotal role in embedding Safe System principals within Main Roads through establishing a Road Safety Management system.



Scott Higgins: Practitioner

Scott Higgins joined the WA Police in 1986 and served in a variety of local policing and detectives' roles across the Metropolitan area. His operational roles included five years investigating homicides as a Detective Sergeant in the Major Crime Squad and later as an Inspector identifying officers at risk of misconduct. His operational leadership roles include the position of Director of the State Intelligence Division before he was appointed District Officer of the South Metro Police District and later District Officer at the Central Metro Police District. Scott has also undertaken the role of Principal of the WA Police Academy and in 2015 acted as the Director of Human Resources for WA Police. In December 2016, Scott was appointed to the role of Commander of the State Traffic Command, responsible for traffic enforcement activities across the state.



John Brereton: Practitioner

After completing a Bach of Nursing John Brereton started his career as a registered nurse at King Edward Memorial Hospital, and with a passion for primary patient care spent the next 12 years working as a paramedic for St John Ambulance WA. During this time he acquired a Masters of Medical Science, Post Grad Dip of Health Science (Critical Care Paramedicine) and a Post Grad Dip of Occupational Health and Safety. This led to a career for the past 11 years in Health and Safety working for large and small companies in construction and mining, where he currently holds the role of Health and Safety Manager for Atlas Iron Ltd. He is a representative on the Safety committee for the Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC) and is also the current Chairperson of the Pilbara Industry Road Safety Alliance (PIRSA).



Ayden Mackenzie: Practitioner

Ayden has been the Youth Development Officer for the Town of Bassendean for the past 11 years. Ayden is the RYDE Coordinator and handles the Program's development and implementation.



Dr Jacqueline Haupt: Researcher

Dr Jaqueline Haupt is a civil engineer and holds a PhD degree from the University of Western Australia. In addition to her extensive experience in research, she has worked in private consulting and for the WA government. Dr Haupt has been with Main Roads Western Australia as a Road Safety Research and Data Coordinator since January 2018. In this period, she has developed Main Roads Guidelines on Conducting Road Safety Research and coordinated a number of road safety studies. She is also a member of Main Roads Innovation & Research panel.



Peter Palamara: Researcher

Peter Palamara is a Research Fellow with C-MARC. He has an Honours degree in psychology and a Masters degree in Public Health. Peter has worked full time in road safety research since 1995 when he first joined the Road Accident Prevention Research Unit (later named the Injury Research Centre) at The University of Western Australia. His main research interests are youth, risk taking and driving; impaired and distracted driving; policing and enforcement; road safety program design and evaluation; and the development of road safety policy. Peter undertakes road safety projects for the Road Safety Commission and is the current Secretary of the WA Chapter of the Australasian College of Road Safety.



Max Cameron: Researcher

Max Cameron is a part-time Professor (Research) in the Monash University Accident Research Centre where he has worked since 1990. He is also Director of Camcomp, a private consultancy he established in 1996. He holds B.Sc. and M.S.c. degrees in statistics and a PhD. For his thesis on methods of evaluation of road trauma countermeasures. Max has worked in the road safety field in Australia since 1965, with extensive experience in road safety research and its management, and in road safety policy formulation and strategic planning. He has special skills in road crash data analysis and countermeasure evaluation in the behavioural, vehicle and road environment safety areas. His research interests have included optimum speeds, evaluations of speed enforcement, random breath testing and mass media publicity, and economic analysis of these road safety measures. In recent years, he has developed comprehensive speed enforcement strategies for Western Australia and Queensland, and a drink and drug driving enforcement strategy for Western Australia.



Stuart Newstead: Researcher

Associate Professor Stuart Newstead is an Accredited Statistician, Deputy Director of Monash University Accident Research Centre and leads the Centre's Injury Analysis and Data team. He has over 20 years' experience in analytical based road safety research with specific focus on road safety data systems, program evaluation, police enforcement programs and vehicle safety analysis. Associate Professor Newstead will share his knowledge on how data driven evidence can be used to best support road safety leadership and policy development.