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PRESENT:



ANU PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES 2008

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# THE EVOLUTION OF ECONOMIC POLICY ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Richard Carson

Professor of Economics, University of California



Thursday 21 August, 4.30–6pm

Lecture Theatre, Innovations Building 124, Eggleston Road, ANU

This lecture is free and open to the public.

A reception will follow the lecture.

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The lecture will trace the outlines of economic thinking on climate change. Two competing paradigms are reviewed: 1. modelling of greenhouse gases mitigation as a dynamic optimal control problem and 2. the willingness to pay of the present generation to ensure future generations against the potential adverse impacts of climate change. The presentation will also examine the challenges of the economics of international co-operation, the choice of economic instruments for climate mitigation, uncertainty, climate adaptation, abrupt climate change, induced technological change, discounting, and equity considerations.

Richard Carson is Professor of Economics at the University of California, San Diego. He is immediate President of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists. Carson specialises in assessing the benefits and costs of public policies, particularly in areas involving energy, environment, transport and urban issues. Carson has worked on a wide-range of studies including the valuation of the benefits of the US Clean Water Act and served as the government's principal investigator for the economic damage assessment of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. He is published widely in major economics journals and is a well cited environmental economist.

Carson has served as a consultant to government agencies, international organisations and major corporations around the world.

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