Economic Society of Australia – Tasmanian Branch
Tasmanian Economic Forum
Friday October 16
Hobart Function and Conference Centre, Elizabeth Street Pier

9am Registration

9.20-9.30 Opening: Graeme Wells, President, Economic Society of Australia (Tasmanian Branch)

9.30-10.15 Roscoe Taylor

Chair: Laura Searle, Policy Officer, Department of Health and Human Services.

Where Angels Fear to Tread

Roscoe Taylor is a specialist in public health medicine who until recently was Director of Public Health in Tasmania, with a statutory role to protect and promote the health of the community. His 5-yearly State of Public Health Reports to Parliament have provided a unique commentary on the health status of Tasmanians and ways to reduce health disparities, particularly through a focus on primary and secondary prevention.

10.15-11.10 Amanda Neil

Chair: Rana Roy, Consulting Economist, Consultant to OECD and World Health Organization.

And what of, and where to, for mental health?

Amanda Neil is a health economist at the Menzies Institute for Medical Research, UTAS. Her work is focussed on chronic disease and conditions, particularly mental health and cardio-metabolic health; and the Tasmanian health system. Current collaborations include Primary Health Tasmania and the DHHS; the Survey of High Impact Psychosis (SHIP) Study Group and the Psychosis Australia Trust.

11.10-11.30 Morning tea

11.30-12.25 Stephen Duckett

Chair: Alexis Wadsley, Senior Policy Analyst, Policy Division, Department of Premier and Cabinet

Improving Efficiency in Hospital Care

Stephen Duckett is Director of the Health Program at Grattan Institute. He has a reputation for creativity, evidence-based innovation and reform in areas ranging from the introduction of activity-based funding for hospitals, to new systems of accountability for the safety of hospital care. An economist, he is a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences.

12.25 – 1.40 Lunch
1.40 – 3.10 Panel discussion

*Is Tasmania’s health system fiscally sustainable: Problems and options*

**Chair: Martin Hensher**, Director of Monitoring, Reporting and Analysis, Department of Health and Human Services

**Martyn Goddard**

Martyn Goddard was a journalist and documentary producer for 25 years, mostly at the ABC in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane before becoming involved in the AIDS crisis in Sydney. He was a member of the federal government’s advisory body on AIDS and hepatitis, the first consumer member of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee, and conducted many policy projects for the Commonwealth and for a medical college. He then became the health policy officer for the Australian Consumers’ Association. Since settling in Hobart, Martyn has been concerned with Tasmanian health and hospitals policy and with how fiscal policy affects services.

**John Kirwan**

John Kirwan is currently CEO of the Royal Flying Doctor Service (Tas), having previously served as CEO of Tasmanian Health Organisation – North. John has also been the Commissioner for Public Employment in the Northern Territory, the Executive General Manager responsible for the Acute, Community, Public and Aboriginal Health areas of the Health Department of Western Australia (HDWA), and the General Manager responsible for Health Workforce Reform in HDWA. He was a full time union official in Western Australia for 14 years.

**Rob Grenfell**

Dr Rob Grenfell is a Public Health Physician and the National Medical Director at BUPA Australia New Zealand. Before joining BUPA, Rob was the National Director, Cardiovascular Health at the Heart Foundation. Rob led the Cardiovascular Health Team which included the full spectrum of heart health activities from prevention to clinical care. He has also been the Strategic Health Advisor to Parks Victoria, and a Senior Medical Advisor at the Department of Health Victoria. He is a member of the Safety and Quality Outcomes Committee of the Hospital Innovation Reform Council. He has been a member of the Victorian Quality Council, Chair of General Practice Victoria, Member of the Health Advisory Committee of the National Health and Medical Research Council, physician in charge of travel health BHP, and General Practice.

One of Rob’s highest priorities is reducing the differences in care that Australians receive in different locations and settings, with a focus on Aboriginal and rural/remote populations. Until recently Rob ran a GP in the small isolated rural community of Natimuk, where he still runs a community art space, the Goat gallery.

**Haydn Walters**

Professor Walters graduated in Natural Science and Medicine from Oxford University in 1975 with First Class Honours. He did postgraduate medical training and research in the UK, obtaining FRCP and DM. He was a post doc fellow at CVRI, University of California San Francisco with Fulbright Senior Scholarship. Professor Walters came to Australia in 1992 as Foundation Professor of Respiratory Medicine at Monash University and Director of Respiratory Medicine at the Alfred Hospital. In 2001 he moved to Hobart as Professor of Medicine and Clinical Chief of Medicine at the Royal Hobart Hospital. In 2007-08 Professor Walters served as President of the AMA in Tasmania.

3.10 – 3.30 Afternoon Tea and Close