

Occasional Seminar Series: Modern Finance - Insights from Academia

"Leadership, collective decision-making, and pension fund governance"

*with Prof Gordon Clark, Director, Oxford University Centre for the Environment and co-author of books
The Geography of Finance (OUP, 2007) and Pension Fund Capitalism (OUP, 2000).*

Date and Time: Monday 23rd June 2008, 5.00pm for 5.30pm – 7.00pm (light refreshments provided)

Venue: Monash Conference Centre, Seminar Room 1, Level 7, 30 Collins St, Melbourne

Gordon Clark is an Australian academic success story with a strong a record of achievement across and within a range of disciplines. His current work on retirement income shows that our responsiveness to the environment (broadly defined) is a key driver of success. Furthermore, it is argued that the governance of pensions funds is an essential ingredient in realising promised retirement income security.

Gordon L Clark, BEcon MA Monash; MA DSc Oxf, PhD McMaster, AcSS, FBA, is the Halford Mackinder Professor of Geography and Head of the Oxford University Centre for the Environment. Prior to his appointment in 1995, he held teaching and research positions at Harvard University (John F. Kennedy School of Government), the University of Chicago, Carnegie Mellon University (Heinz School of Public Policy and Management) and Monash University. At Oxford, he also holds a Professorial Fellowship at St Peter's College. Professor Clark has been UK representative on the European Commission DG Research TMR Panel, is a member of the Advisory Board of the ESRC Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation (Warwick University), serves on the strategic advisory board at Lund University (Sweden), and is an Honorary Professor at the University of Melbourne.

He is the co-author with Dr Dariusz Wójcik of *The Geography of Finance* (OUP, 2007) which brings together papers on finance, path dependence, and the market for European corporate governance. Other recent books include *Global Competitiveness and Innovation* (Palgrave Macmillan 2004) with Dr Paul Tracey of Warwick Business School, *Pension Security in the 21st Century* (co-editor, OUP 2003), *European Pensions & Global Finance* (OUP 2003) - a study of the intersection between the European pensions crisis and global financial imperatives, *Pension Fund Capitalism* (OUP 2000) - a study of the evolution of pension funds in advanced economies, their structure and management, investment strategies and decision making relevant to urban economic development, and *The Oxford Handbook of Pensions and Retirement Income* (co-editor) (OUP 2006).

His current research combines economic geography with finance and includes corporate governance, finance markets and decision-making, pensions and government regulation. Aspects of this programme have been supported by the British Academy, Rockefeller and Ford foundations, the ESRC, the European Science Foundation, the NAPF, the SSHRC (Canada), Allianz, Mercers, Watson Wyatt, AIG, and Credit Suisse. With colleagues he has developed a research programme devoted to the governance of finance institutions and pension funds and the nature and logic of financial decision-making. Related research from this project and other projects can be found on the Finance, Behaviour and Pension Fund Governance webpage. <http://www.geog.ox.ac.uk/research/transformations/projects/governance.html>. His *Trustee Decision - Making Assessment Workbooks* are at <http://www.geog.ox.ac.uk/research/transformations/projects/governance-workbooks.html>.

This occasional series of seminars highlighting leading edge financial research is arranged by Melbourne Centre with the objective of facilitating knowledge transfer and improving industry-academia contacts.

Please note that there is a **limit on the number of attendees** but there is no charge. If you are interested in attending and participating, please indicate by an email to info@melbournecentre.com.au with the subject header of "Academic Seminar – Prof Gordon Clark" by **4pm on Friday June 20th 2008**.