

# The Detection of Cartels A Symposium

Wednesday 28 September 2005

Le Meridien at Rialto

495 Collins St, Melbourne

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Brought to you by

The Economic Society of Australia

in partnership with the

Department of Economics at the University of Melbourne.

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# *Symposium on the Detection of Cartels*

## *2.00pm Wednesday 28th September*

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The Economic Society of Australia in partnership with the Department of Economics at the University of Melbourne invites you to attend a half-day symposium on the Detection of Cartels on the afternoon of Wednesday 28th September.

Key Note Speakers will be Mr Graeme Samuel (Chairman of the ACCC), Professor Patrick Rey (Institute of Industrial Economics at Toulouse), Dr Stephen King (ACCC Commissioner) and Professor Joshua Gans (Melbourne Business School). The symposium will be chaired by Mr Philip Williams (Frontier Economics).

The ACCC's leniency policy is designed to give them information about illegal cartels. The policy dates from 1998 when the ACCC published a guideline offering partial or complete immunity from ACCC action in return for cooperation from participants in cartels. A formal leniency policy was started in 2003. This offers an automatic offer of immunity where the applicant is the first to disclose the existence of a cartel, providing the applicant is not the instigator of the cartel. The ACCC believes this policy has given it a great deal of information to pursue cartel members.

The leniency policy will become more important with the Government's proposed introduction later this year of criminal penalties for serious cartel conduct. Under the proposed changes, it will now be a criminal offence to fix prices, restrict output, divide markets or rig bids, where the agreement is made with the intention of dishonestly obtaining a gain from customers who fall victim to the cartel. Breaches will attract substantial penalties, up to five years imprisonment and a fine of \$220,000 for individuals, and for corporations a fine that is the greater of \$10 million or three times the value of the benefit from the cartel, or where the value cannot be determined 10 per cent of annual turnover.

This symposium will provide you with the opportunity to hear the perspectives of major figures involved in researching and implementing policies involving the detection of cartels. Question time and a panel session provide the opportunity for further analysis of key issues.

A feature of the Symposium will be an address by Graeme Samuel, Chairman of the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission. His topic will be "The ACCC approach to the detection and prosecution of Cartels".

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### *Location and Timetable*

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The Symposium on the Detection and Prosecution of Cartels will be held in the Bourke and Collins Rooms of Le Meridien at Rialto on Wednesday 28th September, 2005.

The schedule is as follows:

1.00pm-2.00pm	Registration
2.00pm-3.30pm	Presentation of papers by Patrick Rey and by Stephen King & Joshua Gans
4.00pm-4.45pm	Address by Graeme Samuel
4.45pm-5.30pm	Panel Discussion with Graeme Samuel and others.

*The Symposium is sponsored by Frontier Economics.*

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### *To Register*

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Please be mindful that there are a limited number of places available for the Symposium.

For any specific queries please feel free to contact Robert Dixon, Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, phone (03) 8344 5352 or [r.dixon@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:r.dixon@unimelb.edu.au).

This Symposium is only one of a number of activities which form part of the 2005 Australian Conference of Economists to be hosted by the Department of Economics at the University of Melbourne over the period 26th – 28th September 2005. For information about other activities associated with the Conference of Economists please visit the conference home page at <http://www.conferences.unimelb.edu.au/ace2005/>.

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# The Speakers

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**Graeme Samuel AO** was appointed Chairman of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission in July 2003. Prior to his appointment he was President of the National Competition Council, Chairman of the Melbourne and Olympic Parks Trust, a Commissioner of the Australian Football League, a member of the Board of the Docklands Authority, and a Director of Thakral Holdings Limited. He relinquished all these offices to assume his position with the ACCC. He is a past President of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a past Chairman of Playbox Theatre Company and Opera Australia, a former Trustee of the Melbourne Cricket Ground Trust and former Chairman of the Inner & Eastern Health Care Network. Mr Samuel was a Partner of the law firm Phillips Fox & Masel from 1972 to 1980, Executive Director of Hill Samuel Australia Limited and subsequently Macquarie Bank Limited from 1981 to 1986 and co-founder of Grant Samuel & Associates in 1988. Mr Samuel was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1998.



**Stephen King** was appointed ACCC Commissioner on 6 June 2004 from the University of Melbourne where he had been a Professor in the Department of Economics. He was Research Fellow in the Economics Program, at the Australian National University's Research School of Social Sciences from July 1994 to December 1997. Previously he lectured in economics at the University of Melbourne from July 1991 to June 1994, and at Harvard College from 1988 to June 1991. Stephen's specialisation is applied microeconomic theory, industrial organisation and regulation.



**Patrick Rey** is Professor of Economics at the University Toulouse and Research Director of the Institut d'Economie Industrielle. He is a Fellow of the Econometric Society and a Senior member of the Institut Universitaire de France. Patrick has served as consultant for the World Bank (Competition Policy and Economic Development), the OECD (Franchising), and the European Commission (Competition policy towards vertical Restraints). His current research includes the study of the impact of leniency programs on cartels.



**Joshua Gans** has been a member of the Melbourne Business School at the University of Melbourne since 1996. He was appointed Professor of Management (Information Economics) at the MBS in 2000. Before moving to Melbourne he taught at the University of New South Wales. Joshua's research activities focus on areas of applied game theory and specifically in various aspects of the regulation of market power. He has extensive consulting experience in the areas of industrial organisation and regulatory theory.



**Philip Williams** is Chairman of Frontier Economics where he is extensively involved in giving expert advice to leading corporations in Australia and New Zealand in their dealings with government, regulatory authorities and the courts, and giving opinions and appearing as an expert witness for law firms involved in commercial litigation. He was the Foundation Professor of Management (Law and Economics) at the Melbourne Business School from 1987 - 2002. He is a member of the Trade Practices Committee of the Law Council of Australia. Philip is a Professorial Associate with the Department of Economics at the University of Melbourne.

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# Registration Form

Please fax to Attn Bev on (03) 8686 1577 by September 1, 2005  
(or post to NGT Travel per address below)

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Please print clearly:

First/Given Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last/Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile or daytime contact phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Wednesday 28 September**

Please complete as applicable:

Cartel Symposium 2.00pm-5.30pm @ \$150 each      No. of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Cost\$ \_\_\_\_\_

A \$25 per person discount applies if:

The person has registered for the 2005 Conference of Economists.

Or if 2 or more people are attending from the same organisation.

Discount\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Cost\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please POST my tickets to the above address

**OR**

Please HOLD my tickets for COLLECTION ON THE DAY AT THE DOOR

Cheques to be made payable to **NGT Travel** & post to Level 5/606 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne 3004,  
by September 1.

**OR**

Please charge my credit card.

Please circle:      American Express      Diners Club      Mastercard      Visa Card

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Name on Card (pls print) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_