

Details available online at http://www.nicta.com.au/nicta_events/big_picture

National ICT Australia invites you to the Victoria Research Laboratory Big Picture Seminar Series Monday June 18, 2007

The talk will be followed by light refreshments and an opportunity to meet the speaker.

REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR THIS FREE EVENT
RSVP to vr1ss@nicta.com.au by Friday June 15, 2007

Public Parking is available at an hourly rate at the University Square car park. Enter via Bouverie Street. Local street parking is also available.



When: 4-5pm, Monday June 18, 2007

Where: Theatre GM15, Law School (Building 106), University of Melbourne, Parkville

Barry Jones AO, FAA, FAHA, FTSE, FASSA, FACE. Vice-Chancellor's Fellow, University of Melbourne The promise of the Information Revolution. Has it been delivered?

ABSTRACT: The Information Revolution should have been an instrument of personal liberation and an explosion of creativity. Instead, it has been characterised by public policy dominated by managerialism, replacement of 'public good' by 'private benefit', decline of sustained critical debate, and 'dumbing down' of mass media; it is linked with celebrity, substance abuse and retreat into the personal, the rise of fundamentalism and an assault on reason. The Knowledge Revolution ought to have been a countervailing force: in practice it has been the vector of change. I urge you to commit yourselves to enlightened, passionate scepticism, involvement and detachment, reflection, enthusiasm, knowledge and balance – an odd mixture, but an essential one.

BIOGRAPHY: Dr Barry Jones, AO, is a writer, broadcaster and former Labor Minister. He served as a federal MP from 1977-98, and became Australia's longest serving Science Minister 1983-90. He was a Victorian State MP 1972-77 and National President of the Australian Labor Party 1992-2000 and 2005. He is the only person to have been elected as a Fellow of all four Australian learned Academies: Technological Sciences and Engineering in 1992, the Humanities in 1993, Science in 1996, and Social Sciences in 2003. His books include the bestsellers *Sleepers*, *Wake!: Technology and the Future of Work*, and the *Dictionary of World Biography*, as well as his autobiography, *A Thinking Reed*. In June 1990 he was part of an international think tank invited to investigate 'perestroika' in the USSR. He was a member of the Executive Board of UNESCO in Paris 1991-95, Vice President, World Heritage Committee 1995-96 and a consultant for OECD. In 1999 he was appointed an Adjunct Professor at Monash University and elected as a Visiting Fellow Commoner at Trinity College, Cambridge. He has been a Vice Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Melbourne since 2005.

