As Senior Advisor to President Barack Obama, Mr DeSeve oversaw the successful implementation of the $787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, coordinating the US economic stimulus package at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Prior to this appointment, Mr DeSeve’s career has included work in finance, academia and government. He was Managing Director at Merrill Lynch Capital Markets and the founder and president of Public Financial Management - the nation’s largest independent financial advisor to governments. He served as a tenured professor of public management and finance at the University of Maryland where he is currently a professor emeritus and has also held positions at the University of Pennsylvania. Under President Clinton, Mr DeSeve was Controller and Deputy Director of OMB as well as the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). He was also the Director of Finance for the City of Philadelphia and served as a Special Assistant to the Governor of Pennsylvania.

At each level of government, Mr DeSeve oversaw complex fiscal affairs. He was instrumental in balancing Philadelphia’s budget during two fiscal crises. At OMB, he helped balance the federal budget for the first time in more than a generation.

He is the author of numerous publications including The Presidential Appointees’ Handbook (Brookings 2009). At the National Academy of Public Administration he served as Vice Chair and co-authored its first Fiscal Future Report, warning of the coming federal deficits. He was awarded the Kenneth Howard award for career public service in financial management by the American Society of Public Administration.

He is a graduate of Cornell University’s School of Labor Relations and has a Masters in Public Finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

In this public lecture, his only public speaking engagement in Canberra, Mr DeSeve will share his insights and experience in economic leadership and take questions from the audience. Mr DeSeve’s participation has been facilitated in collaboration with Carnegie Mellon University - Australia.

Presented by
HC Coombs Policy Forum and Carnegie Mellon University - Australia

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This lecture is free and open to the public.
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