

## CRAWFORD SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND GOVERNMENT

# The Government's Radical Changes To Student Income Support



Bruce Chapman

Tuesday 2 June 2009

12.30pm - 1.30pm

Seminar room 4, First floor, Crawford Building

Light lunch will be provided

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In late 2008 the Bradley Review recommended sweeping changes to income support (Youth Allowance) for higher education students, and almost without exception these have been adopted in the May Budget. Bruce Chapman was a consultant to the Review in this area and his talk canvasses the current parlous state of Youth Allowance and analyses the factors behind the radical changes. A particular focus is given to the significant revision of the qualifications for independent status, and some of the data behind this decision are documented and explained. The talk also considers additional ways to improve the effectiveness and equity of student income support through the use of income contingent loans to be operated in much the same way as HECS.

**Bruce Chapman** is an economist and Professor of Public Policy in the Crawford School of Economics and Government. His research interests include higher education financing, risk management instruments for public policy, micro-econometrics and policy responses to unemployment. In 2008 he was a consultant to the Bradley Review into Australian higher education.

# CRAWFORD SEMINAR