Inequality Measurement: In Pursuit of a Chimera?

Wednesday 27th September 2017 5.30pm–7.00pm

Speaker
Professor John Creedy
Victoria University of Wellington

Location
Innovations Theatre
Anthony Low Bldng #124

RSVP
Please register at Eventbrite: Click here. (Or go to https://www.eventbrite.com.au/ and search for “Goldsmith”.)

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This lecture is free and open to the public and will be followed by a reception.

Inequality is now receiving considerable media attention. Yet, even when empirical indices of inequality are presented, conceptual and measurement difficulties are often ignored. In this talk, Professor Creedy discusses some of the difficulties of providing summary information about inequality changes, stressing the central role of value judgements. Information about changing inequality in New Zealand and Australia from the 1930s is examined. The roles of income dynamics and the time period over which income is measured are also discussed.

John Creedy is currently Professor of Public Economics and Taxation at the Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, where during the years 2011 to early 2017 he was also employed half-time as a Principal Advisor in the NZ Treasury. Before moving to New Zealand John was, from 1987, the Truby Williams Professor of Economics at Melbourne University, having previously held Chairs in the US and UK. His research interests include public economics, labour economics, income distribution and the history of economic analysis. In 2016 he was presented with the ‘Economist of the Year’ award by the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research for ‘contributions to economics and its applications in NZ’.

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