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Contributors

Jack Waterford is Editor-at-large at the Canberra Times, where he has worked as a journalist and editor for 43 years. He currently writes about law, politics and public administration.

James P. Pfiffner is University Professor and Director of the Doctoral Program in the School of Public Policy at George Mason University, Virginia. He has written or edited twelve books on the presidency and American national government.

Dr Aaron Martin is a lecturer in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne and the author of Young People and Politics: Political Engagement in the Anglo–American Democracies (Routledge, 2012).

The Hon. Dr Rosemary Crowley was the first female ALP senator for South Australia, serving from 1983 to 2002. She was the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women in 1993 and Minister for Family Services from 1993 to 1996.

The Hon. Amanda Vanstone was a Liberal Party senator for South Australia from 1985 to 2007. In 1996 she was appointed to the cabinet and remains the longest serving female cabinet member since federation.

Laura Tingle is the political editor at the Australian Financial Review. She has covered politics, policy and economics from Canberra since 1986 for The Australian, The Age, The Sydney Morning Herald and the Australian Financial Review.

Robyn Archer AO is a singer, writer, artistic director, arts advocate, Creative Director of the Centenary of Canberra (2013) and Deputy Chair of the Australia Council.

Michael Maley is an Associate, Centre for Democratic Institutions, Australian National University and ACT convenor of the Electoral Regulation Research Network. He spent more than 30 years as an election administrator before retiring in 2012 from the position of Special Adviser, Electoral Reform and International Services, Australian Electoral Commission.

Glenn Ryall is a Principal Research Officer in the Procedure Office of the Department of the Senate.