

## **Professor Amanda Lynch**

*“Our response to the great challenge of climate change will be most effective if we reassert the empowerment of democracy to engage the common interest of civil societies.”* – Professor Amanda Lynch

Professor Amanda Lynch, Federation Fellow, is head of the Monash University Climate program and a Professor in the School of Geography and Environmental Sciences. Lynch obtained her Ph.D. in Meteorology in 1993 from the University of Melbourne. From 1992-2003 she was in the United States, most recently at the University of Colorado. She was a Fellow of the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Science, a Visiting Scientist at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), and a consultant to Los Alamos National Laboratory. She returned to Australia in 2004.

Lynch's interests lie in the application of climate and meteorological research to concrete problems of policy relevance. Her approaches include regional and global climate models of the contemporary and past climates, weather prediction models, statistical models, and quantitative and qualitative analysis. The relevance of her work to policy applications was demonstrated by her invitation to join the US Society for the Policy Sciences. In addition to her interdisciplinary research, Lynch is an acknowledged leader in regional climate modelling, having developed the first regional climate system model in 1993. Her contributions were recognized when Lynch was awarded the Priestley Medal in 2008.

Amanda Lynch has held numerous leadership positions in Australia and internationally. Current activities include her roles as foundation leader of the Universities Climate Consortium, Councilor of the American Meteorological Society (AMS), member of the AMS Board on Societal Impacts, Councilor of the International Study of Arctic Change, International Polar Year National Representative, Vice President of the Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies, and Deputy Chair of the National Committee on Earth System Science of the Australian Academy of Science.

### **Plenary Talk title**

*Avoiding the unmanageable and managing the unavoidable: the role of democracy in responding to climate change*