

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN AUTHOR

NILSS OLEKALNS

Associate Professor Olekalns received his BEc with Honours in economics from the University of Adelaide in 1982 and completed an MEd at the Australian National University in 1984. He was awarded his PhD in economics in 1993 from LaTrobe University. He began teaching in the Department of Economics at the University of Melbourne in 1994 where, for the last six years, he has lectured to first year students in Macroeconomics. He has been a visiting scholar at the International Monetary Fund, a guest lecturer at the Monetary Authority of Singapore and an invited lecturer for the Australian and New Zealand School of Government.

Associate Professor Olekalns has published on a variety of macroeconomic topics including fiscal and monetary policies, exchange rates, output and inflation volatility, and interest rates. He has also written articles on applied microeconomics, including an analysis of the impact of anti-smoking policies in Australia that was awarded the Economic Society of Australia's prize for the best paper published in the *Economic Record* in 2000. His papers have appeared in *The Journal of Political Economy*, *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, *The Journal of Macroeconomics*, *The Journal of International Money and Finance*, the *Southern Economic Journal*, *The Economic Record*, as well as many other international journals. He has also received numerous awards for his teaching including the inaugural Edward Wood Prize for Teaching Excellence. He is currently the Director of the Centre for Macroeconomics at the University of Melbourne.

