

MEDIA RELEASE



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Sara Dowse to present 2014 EMILY's List Oration THIS Friday

Renowned feminist activist and author Sara Dowse will chart the progress of women from the 1970s protest movement into the bureaucracy and government, in the third annual EMILY's List Oration THIS FRIDAY, 1 August.

Timed to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the groundbreaking Sex Discrimination Act, Sara's presentation will also look at how feminism has progressed since and where it might go now.

The EMILY's List Oration features a prominent feminist speaking on issues relating to women in politics.

The inaugural EMILY's List Oration was presented by Australia's first woman Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, and the 2013 Oration was given by Anne Summers AO. Copies of these are available at <http://www.emilyslist.org.au/news/publications>

EMILY's List national co-convenor Tanja Kovac said that Sara's address represents a welcome opportunity to look at women's representation within national and state governments.

"EMILY's List campaigns strongly to increase the representation of women in our national, state and territory parliaments and we have had huge success in raising more than \$4 million over the past 18 years to support the election of more than 155 women into parliament," she said.

"It is equally important that we continue to advocate for women to be equally represented in our key decision-making bodies and these include state and national government bureaucracies, along with boards and committees".

The 2014 EMILY's List Oration will be held from **7pm THIS Friday, 1 August** at ANU's Shine Dome. Tickets are still available at www.trybooking.com/EQKP

Sara Dowse was appointed head of the first national government women's office by Gough Whitlam. Her first novel, *West Block*, was based on her experiences in the Office of Women's Affairs under Whitlam and, later, Malcolm Fraser. She has since written several other books.

Further information:

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EMILY's List Australia is a financial and political support network for progressive Labor women candidates, providing financial support, training, mentoring and gender gap research. Visit www.emilyslist.org.au for more information.