



Garvan Institute of Medical Research

Leaders in Science & Society



Rev Tim Costello

Chief Advocate
World Vision Australia

“Tackling our greatest global challenges: Hope for a fragile world”

Monday 5 December 2016 12PM, AUDITORIUM

Host: Prof John Mattick

Rev Tim Costello is one of Australia’s best known community leaders and a sought after voice on social justice issues, leadership and ethics. For 13 years until October 2016, Tim was Chief Executive of World Vision Australia, placing the challenges of global poverty on the national agenda. In his current role as Chief Advocate, Tim continues to use his public profile to affect change.

In earlier roles Tim was National President of the Baptist Union of Australia and Mayor of St Kilda. He has been Baptist Minister at St Kilda Baptist and Collins Street Baptist in Melbourne, as well as Executive Director of Urban Seed. In these roles he spearheaded public debate on problem gambling, urban poverty, homelessness, reconciliation and substance abuse.

Initially Tim studied law and education at Monash University, followed by theology at the International Baptist Seminary in Rueschlikon, Switzerland. He also received a Masters Degree in Theology from the Melbourne College of Divinity.

In 2004, Tim was named Victorian of the Year; in June 2005 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO); and in 2006 was named Victoria’s Australian of the Year. His books include *Faith* (2016), *Hope* (2012), *Another Way to Love* (co-edited with Rod Yule); *Streets of Hope: Finding God in St Kilda*; *Tips from a Travelling Soul Searcher*; and *Wanna Bet? Winners and Losers in Gambling’s Luck Myth* (co-written with Royce Millar).

Tim and his wife Merridie have three adult children, Claire, Elliot and Martin.