

The Friday Forum

To be held by Teams Meeting

30th October 2020

3.30pm - 5.00pm

Looking Back, Looking Forward: The US Presidential Election in Perspective

The 2020 election promises to be one of the fiercest and most important elections in decades. President Trump was elected on a promise to 'Make America Great Again', but the past four years have not gone according to script, and Trump's re-election prospects look bleak: his job approval rating puts him in the company of Jimmy Carter, and in 1980 Carter suffered one of the most humiliating political defeats in US history. While Trump has received positive ratings for economic management for much of his presidency, his handling of the COVID-19 pandemic and the protests that followed the killing of George Floyd has seriously wounded him and made this year's election Joe Biden's to lose. With Kamala Harris, the first black woman to be selected as the vice-presidential nominee of a major party, as his running mate, Biden has pledged to 'restore dignified leadership at home and respected leadership on the world stage'. With a keen eye on history, this panel will explore some big political topics from a variety of angles, including Trump's first-term legacy, the twists and turns of the 2020 campaign, and what is at stake in this election for America and the world.

Chair: Dr. Rachel Busbridge - School of Arts, ACU

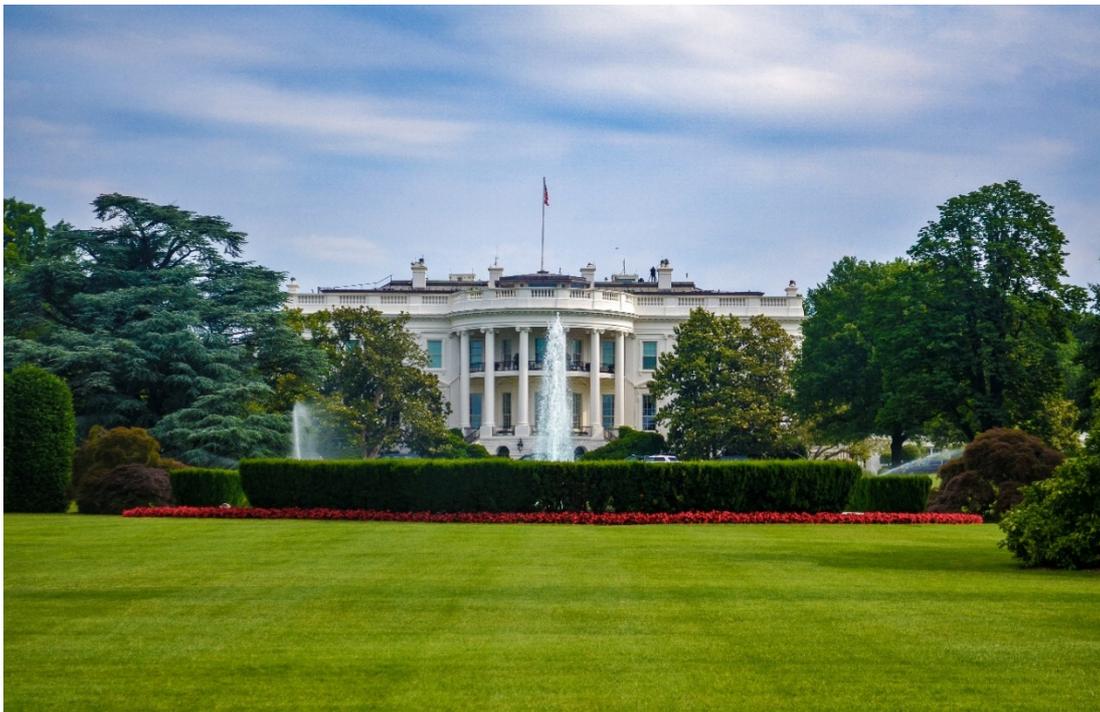
Speakers:

Prof. Paul Kenny - IHSS, ACU

Prof. Michael Ondaatje - IHSS, ACU

Assoc. Prof. Clare Corbould - Deakin University

Prof. James Curran – University of Sydney



The White House (photo David Everett Strickler)