



**DAY 2: Sunday 24 November, 13.15–14.45**

## **22 Social workers/therapists: Thinking about multiple professional identifications and how we describe ourselves**

**Tom O'Brien FACSWS – College Foundation Fellow**

**Associate Professor Carmel Flaskas – College Foundation Fellow/Social Work, School of Social Sciences, University of NSW**

**Dr George Karpetsis – School of Social Work, Charles Darwin University**

**Flora Pearce – Private practice and Victorian Clinical Genetics Service**

Many social workers have highly developed skills in counselling and therapy, and train and work effectively alongside other clinical professionals in a range of services and in private practice. How do we describe to others who we are, and what are our key identifications as clinical professionals? Are we “social workers who specialise in therapy and counselling”? Are we “therapists who originally trained as social workers”? Are we “social workers and therapists”? What influences our choices and what might be at stake? Four panel members will canvas issues relating to this question of identities, to prompt broader thinking and discussion with participants about what it might mean for us as individuals and as a profession.