

Associate Professor Ruth Beilin



Ruth Beilin is the Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning) in the Faculty of Land and Food Resources, and a Senior Lecturer in the School of Resource Management, Faculty of Land and Food Resources, Parkville, University of Melbourne.

With a combined educational background in biophysical and social science, Ruth completed a Diploma of Horticulture at the University of Guelph in Canada, and a Masters of Science in England focussing on agricultural policies and nutrition status. Her PhD was completed at RMIT in Melbourne and involved examining conservation on rural private land in Victoria through research into the meanings and understanding of landscape that farmers evoke when considering and implementing conservation and production regimes.

The focus of her work to-date has been on everyday landscapes and 'ordinary' people, and has covered frameworks, planning institutions, resource use and a landscape context centred on human interaction with 'place'. Ruth has researched and written extensively on issues relating to landscape, conservation and environment, community development programs, participatory research methods, gender analysis and women in development, and in agriculture extension. As a social scientist working with ecologists, epidemiologists, hydrogeologists and other traditional science disciplines, she is particularly concerned to assure in that stakeholder issues, including their genuine participation in scientific risk assessment are part of our research design and modelling.

Ruth has also has extensive involvement in AusAID-funded projects, Greenfleet, Landcare and Australian Women in Agriculture. She is the Deputy Director of the Office for Environmental Programs at the University of Melbourne, which focuses on environmental education and research.