



AFAANZ - Best PhD Award

The **Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand** seeks to advance accounting and finance research by recognising and rewarding outstanding work of early career researchers. AFAANZ currently supports the input of accounting and finance PhD's through the AFAANZ Doctoral Symposium and the AFAANZ Doctoral Education Network. In conjunction with this, a Best PhD Award is being awarded each year to recognise the student of an outstanding accounting/finance PhD completed during the previous calendar year, and to acknowledge the important role that supervisors play in research training. Submitted dissertations will be judged by an Awards Committee appointed by the AFAANZ Board. The committee will be selected to cover a broad range of research interests as appropriate to the submitted nominations in any given year.

In selecting the award recipient, the Awards Committee will be based on, but not limited to, the following criteria:

- The importance of the accounting/finance issue, especially in the Australian/New Zealand setting. The use of data from outside of Australasia will not automatically exclude a thesis from being eligible;
- The quality of execution of the study;
- The contribution of the research;
- The quality of writing; and
- The potential for the conclusions to have practical implications for accounting/finance practitioners, organisations and regulators.
- Papers published from the thesis will be external evidence of the quality of the dissertation.

The **Best PhD Award** will carry with it a certificate for the winner and certificates for the PhD supervisors (up to two). The student will also receive an individual AFAANZ membership for a year. The winner is to be announced and recognised at the AFAANZ Annual Conference in the year of the award. The committee will not be obliged to award a prize if the determination is made that no submissions of suitable quality are received.

Rules and Submission Procedures

The completed PhD must have been examined and awarded during the calendar year prior to the award. The award is open to students who either (i) completed at an AFAANZ institutional member university; (ii) are currently employed at an AFAANZ institutional member university; or (iii) are a paid up individual member of AFAANZ. Authors wishing to be considered for the award should submit the following materials to Professor Michaela Rankin and Associate Professor Marvin Wee

(info@afaanz.org), the Awards Committee Chair, by **31 March** of the year the award will be granted:

1. A dissertation summary in WORD or PDF format, not to exceed 7 pages. The summary should explain the research question addressed in the dissertation, the importance of the research, how the dissertation builds on prior work, samples, hypotheses, methodologies, and research results.
2. A copy of the complete thesis in PDF format.
3. A nomination letter (preferably from the supervisors or Head of Department, but may be a self-nomination), not to exceed 2 pages, attesting that the completed dissertation was examined, and passed, during the prior year. This letter may include an assessment of the importance and quality of the work. The letter should also explain the relative contributions by the student and the supervisor in the dissertation and dissertation summary. Any other awards associated with the dissertation (e.g., Chancellor's medal, students with an ARC grant) should be noted in the nomination.

Where there are a broad range of potential areas of subject matter, the committee will be formed from senior academics with a broad appreciation of a variety of methods and subject matter, and reliance will be placed on the supervisor's report. Only one award is proposed for each year across accounting and finance, not awards for each stream of research.