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## AFAANZ Board Election

Voting is now open for the 2022-2024 AFAANZ Board, which closes 30th April at 5.00pm AEST. There are five nominations for two vacant positions on the Board:

- Searat Ali
- Nives Botica-Redmayne
- Craig Deegan
- Sumit Lodhia
- Dewan Rahman

The biographies of the nominees can be found below.

To vote, please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/86CSWXQ>

It is necessary that you are a current 2022 AFAANZ Member and you will be asked to enter your 5-digit membership number (note that membership numbers beginning with AF no longer exist). If you do not know your number or would like to join/renew your membership, please either log into your [AFAANZ account](#) or email [info@afaanz.org](mailto:info@afaanz.org). All votes are checked for a valid AFAANZ number and that membership is current for 2022.



**Searat Ali**

**University of Wollongong**

**Career highlights:** Searat Ali is a Senior Lecturer in Finance at the University of Wollongong. Searat's research examines the role of corporate governance, boardroom diversity, and ESG disclosure in Australian and international capital markets. His work has been published in top tier Finance journals including *Journal of Financial Markets* and *Journal of Business Finance and Accounting*. Searat has been a recipient of national competitive grants from AFAANZ, Australian Academy of Science, and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and is currently the Vice President 'Communications' in the *International Society of Pitching Research for Responsible Science*. Searat's teaching has earned him the Vice Chancellor's Outstanding Contributions to Teaching and Learning Award at UOW. Searat has benefited immensely from AFAANZ through conferences, grants, doctoral network, and education

forums and welcomes the opportunity to serve on the board.

**Philosophy Statement:** *“Completing my PhD as a Pakistani international student and now working at an Australian university, I am aware of the unique challenges faced by some in the AFAANZ community. At the same time, I have benefited from many AFAANZ initiatives in teaching and research through my membership. If I am fortunate enough to join the board, I am committed to giving back to AFAANZ through supporting diverse and inclusive programs in teaching and research.”*

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## **Nives Botica-Redmayne**

**Massey University**



Nives' doctoral research was an investigation into the effects of political risk and corporate governance on audit effort in the production of audit services in the NZ public sector. Her main area of research and expertise is assurance, in particular the economics and production of assurance services. Nives' other area of research and expertise is in financial reporting; in particular, financial reporting in for-profit and not-for-profit/public sector, assurance services market regulation, varying levels of assurance and assurance in public and not-for-profit sectors as well as governance in for-profit and not-for-profit sectors.

Nives teaches undergraduate, postgraduate students and supervises doctoral students in advanced auditing and advanced financial accounting and is a member of a several academic journals editorial boards.

Nives contributes to the development of professional standards, guidance and policies for practicing auditors and accountants in New Zealand by informing regulators, based on her research and expertise in financial reporting and auditing.

Nives is a Fellow of the Chartered Accountants of Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) and she was the CAANZ President in 2021. She is also a member of the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board and a member of the New Zealand Financial Market Authority Audit Oversight Committee. She is the Executive Board member of the Comparative International Governmental Accounting Research (CIGAR) Network. Nives is a longstanding member of AFAANZ, the Executive Committee Member of AFAANZ AASIG as well as she is the Vice-Chair of that SIG.

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## **Craig Deegan**

**University of Tasmania**

I am Professor of Accounting at UTAS. Across my career I have been fortunate enough to win various prestigious research and teaching awards and to be highly cited in the area of social and environmental accountability. I have a passion for writing material that engages and encourage critical thinking and many accounting students within Australia and New Zealand (and many internationally) would have used at least one of my three accounting textbooks.

Some of my current roles include being a member of the United Nations sponsored organisation, Education for Sustainability (EFS), a member of the University of Tasmania Sustainability Committee, as well as being very recently appointed as a member of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) Academic Advisory Panel. I am also now responsible for developing a Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Business at UTAS.

I have a long history with AFAANZ having presented papers at about 20 AFAANZ Conferences as well as being the inaugural recipient of the *Peter Brownell Manuscript Award* presented by AFAANZ. I have been a 'member of Faculty' at several AFAANZ Doctoral Colloquiums and have presented at SIG forums.

I believe I can, and should, make 'a difference' to our community. I have a passion for embedding sustainability-related issues across an entire accounting education program and I would take this passion, and many related suggestions, to AFAANZ. I also have a passion and many ideas for mentoring early career researchers, in particular, encouraging them to undertake research that makes meaningful contributions to various stakeholders within society.

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## **Sumit Lodhia**

**University of South Australia**



Sumit Lodhia is a Professor of Accounting in UniSA Business where he leads research focused on sustainability accounting, reporting, and governance. Sumit was presented with the annual Australasian - Centre for Social and Environmental Accounting (A-CSEAR) Hall of Fame Award for 2017. The award is given to researchers who show leadership and make a significant contribution to research on sustainability accounting and reporting. For the most recent years (2019 and 2020), Professor Lodhia was ranked in the top 2% of cited researchers globally in accounting (Stanford University Top 2% World Scientist Ranking).

Sumit has completed a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Master of Arts (MA) at the University of the South Pacific, and a PhD from the Australian National University (ANU). He has published over 70 articles in a range of prestigious refereed journals and authored a book and several research reports. He is the co-editor of Accounting Forum, an associate editor of Meditari Accountancy Research and a member of the Editorial Board of several international journals. Professor Lodhia is the author of the "Qualitative Pitch", a research template for pitching qualitative research ideas.

Professor Lodhia has presented his research at conferences nationally and internationally and is often a mentor at PhD Doctoral Symposium associated with various conferences. He currently serves on the AFAANZ Board and is the co-chair of this year's AFAANZ conference. At the industry level, Sumit is currently a member of the Chartered Accountants of Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) Sustainability Management Advisory Committee (SMAC).

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## **Dewan Rahman**

**University of Queensland**



I am Dewan Rahman, lecturer in Finance from UQ Business School and I am seeking your support for my application to the AFAANZ Board.

I believe I can bring a fresh change to the AFAANZ Board that is grounded in a strong and passionate research and teaching background. I would like to see AFAANZ have greater influence in academia to advance the interests of academics in Accounting and Finance. I would like to see AFAANZ build a stronger membership base and reconnect with academics.

I started my university teaching career in 2008 in Bangladesh and have gained considerable experience in academia both here and overseas. Since joining UQ, being the lead investigator in most of the projects, I have successfully initiated 15 research projects with domestic and international collaborators. Over the last two years I have published a good number of papers in A\* and A ranked journals. Some of these have received considerable media attention. In term of achievement and impact, I was awarded the 2020 ECR excellence in research award from UQ Business School for significant research contributions. As mentioned, my research has also received significant media attention being syndicated across 10 outlets including The Conversation, Business News Australia and featured in UQ Business School's industry research magazine, Momentum.

My research interest is in the domain of insider trading, corporate disclosure, corporate finance, and corporate governance. I will use my expertise to enhance AFAANZ's research initiatives.

My lecturing and tutoring skill is always regarded positively by students and the university alike.

I have also been taken over many different administrative roles including seminar convener, reviewer, advisor, selection committee member of a scholarship committee, and member of the strategic initiative – research portfolio among others. With my research expertise and leadership roles on different capacities, I firmly believe that I could positively contribute to the AFAANZ.

I trust that we can make our AFAANZ better together! If you wish to know more about me, please find the details on my webpage: <http://researchers.uq.edu.au/researcher/23628> or contact me at UQ on +61 7 344 31245 or [d.rahman@business.uq.edu.au](mailto:d.rahman@business.uq.edu.au).

I thank you in advance for your support.

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