

AFAANZ PRESIDENTS' NEWSLETTER

Ray da Silva Rosa (Australia) and Chris van Staden (New Zealand)

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INTRODUCTION

This newsletter reports change: (a) via new initiatives started, (b) new initiatives being contemplated, and (c) in our organisation.

The context is that we have an Association that, thanks to our predecessors, is well resourced to do more in representing the interests of academics and others with a stake in accounting & finance education in Australia and New Zealand. We build on the good work and dedication of others.

The newsletter also includes regular reports on, inter alia, the annual conference and activities of the special interest groups.

To help AFAANZ better serve your interests, we welcome your views. Please feel free to write to us: ray.dasilvarosa@uwa.edu.au ; chris.vanstaden@aut.ac.nz

NEW INITIATIVES STARTED

AFAANZ Inaugural New Accounting Educators Forum

AFAANZ's formal events have largely focused on research, notwithstanding that teaching is a craft and newcomers can learn much from experienced hands.

Associate Professor Jac Birt, an AFAANZ Board member, has initiated and developed the inaugural Accounting New Educators Forum, a one-day event for academics commencing in 2017 or with less than two years' teaching experience.

This is a program customised for the particular circumstances of people teaching accounting, as shown by a sample of topics addressed: "Pedagogical design in accounting education", "Taking control of a new course and making it a big success!", "Accounting learning standards/Professional accounting standards", "A gamified mobile learning platform" and "Teaching large classes".

Those presenting are academics recognised for their excellence in teaching and include: Associate Professor Nick McGuigan (Monash University), Dr David Bond (University of Technology, Sydney), Professor Phil Hancock (University of Western Australia), Dr Gráinne Oates (Swinburne University), Associate Professor Jac Birt (University of Queensland), Ms Lorena Mitrione (Monash University), Dr Paul Wells (Auckland University of Technology) and Professor Paul De Lange (Curtin University).

We are grateful to CPA Australia for hosting the Forum at CPA Headquarters, Southbank, Melbourne and to Wiley Australia. More information available

http://afaanz.org/images/stories/pdfs/general_pdf/AFAANZ-Inaugural-New-Accounting-Educators-Forum-2016---Program-and-Registration-Form.pdf.

We will report back after the Forum. Our hope is that the inaugural Forum will be successful enough to warrant holding such forums annually and perhaps cater for more experienced academics as well. We will also consider hosting a Finance Educators Forum. Expressions of interest in being involved are very welcome.

Inaugural Women's Mentoring Workshop

Women continue to be under-represented in the senior ranks of accounting and finance academics. A/Professor Millie Chang, an AFAANZ Board member, initiated AFAANZ's inaugural Women's Mentoring Workshop held at the AFAANZ Annual Conference in July.

The stellar cast of mentors included: Ellie Chapple (QUT), Sue Wright (MacqUni), Karen Benson (UQ), Mandy Cheng (UNSW), Baljit Sidhu (UNSW), Juliana Ng (ANU), Michaela Rankin (MonashUni), Janet Lee (ANU), Naomi Soderstrom (UniMelb) and Laura Lindsey (Arizona State University). Professor Lindsey's attendance was facilitated by FIRN, the financial research network.

A total of 28 women "mentees" attended the workshop, which included a panel session titled "My Career" featuring Professors Ellie Chapple, Mandy Cheng, Naomi Soderstrom and Laura Lindsey.

Given the positive feedback, the Workshop will be run against next year. This Workshop need not be the only time we formally attend to providing support for women academics (and other groups). The AFAANZ Board welcomes suggestions for other measures to facilitate equal opportunity.

AFAANZ Doctoral Education Network (AFDEN) - Expansion

AFDEN is a 2015 initiative that received a significant boost in 2016 with expansion of courses offered and range of institutions offering them.

In 2016, stalwarts Tom Smith ("*Finance theory*" and "*Empirical Finance*") and Robert Faff (AFDEN Director, "*The Research Process*") are joined by

- Zoltan Matolcsy ("*Current Issues in CG, Financial Accounting and Economics of Auditing*", University of Technology, Sydney),
- Elizabeth Carson ("*Current Developments in Auditing Research*", University of New South Wales),
- Baljit Sidhu ("*Current Developments in Financial Accounting Research*", University of New South Wales), and

- Doug Foster (“*Behavioural Finance*”, University of Sydney)

AFDEN Director, Robert Faff, welcomes unsolicited suggestions for potential offerings. Please contact Robert directly via email: r.faff@business.uq.edu.au

For more about AFDEN visit: <http://www.afaanz.org/initiatives/doctoral-programs>

AFAANZ Syndicate Membership of European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management (EIASM)

AFAANZ has joined EIASM as a syndicate member which gives up to two members of AFAANZ a 20% discount when attending the extensive list of EIASM Workshops relating to accounting and finance subjects. Doctoral students are also eligible to attend EIASM’s EDEN Seminars, again subject to place limits. Members wishing to take advantage of this offer should send an email to info@afaanz.org

The aim is for AFAANZ members to develop contact and collaboration with their EIASM colleagues. For more about EIASM and the EDEN Workshops and Doctoral Seminars it runs visit:

EIASM: <http://www.eiasm.org/r/about-eiasm>

EDEN: <http://www.eiasm.org/r/eden-introduction>

NEW INITIATIVES CONTEMPLATED

The initiatives in this section are proposals. To realise them, the AFAANZ Board has to confirm they have the support of members.

Please email either or both AFAANZ Co-Presidents with your opinion: ray.dasilvarosa@uwa.edu.au ; chris.vanstaden@aut.ac.nz

We would also like to hear other proposals you may have. They would be run past the Board first and then shared more widely to gauge support. The proposer could remain anonymous in the discussion phase.

University syndicates to sponsoring visiting academics

Australia and New Zealand are the Antipodes to people in the Northern Hemisphere because we’re at the other end of the world. AFAANZ can offer a service to gather expressions of interest from universities wishing to combine their resources to meet the costs of sponsoring visitors.

The benefits of this coordination can include standardisation of level of financial support offered (it can be difficult for the various parties to separately identify a

“reasonable” deal), standardisation of minimum expected level of engagement from the visitor, lowering of coordination costs, and ability for AFAANZ to act as a go-between in potentially sensitive approaches.

Reserved slots in research seminar series for ECRs/PhD candidates

Presenting research in a dedicated seminar series where an expert audience is allowed to ask questions or make constructive comments is an enormously helpful experience, with effects often extending beyond the paper presented. The feedback is also typically more extensive than that obtained at conferences.

Many PhD and ECRs find it difficult to get invited to present at institutions other than their own. It would be useful for Departments to reserve one or two slots in their seminar series for PhD candidates and ECRs from other institutions. AFAANZ could maintain a list of PhD and ECR candidates with well-developed working papers that would welcome an opportunity to present.

AFAANZ Website

We are reviewing the design of the AFAANZ website and also the protocols for our updates of information. One of our objectives is to make specific content easier to find. The broader aim is to make the site one that our members find reason to visit frequently. Naturally, we look forward to hearing from you on tips on how to achieve this goal.

AFAANZ ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

Appreciation: Cheryl Umoh, AFAANZ Executive Director - 2006 to 2016.

As noted in our introduction, thanks to our predecessors, AFAANZ is well resourced and positioned to do more to represent the interests of its members. Ms Cheryl Umoh has been the executive director of AFAANZ over the past ten years and can take great satisfaction in having seen the Association flourish.

As stated in her email to AFAANZ members (19 October 2016), Cheryl has left the role of AFAANZ Executive Director to commence a new chapter in her life. We join our colleagues on the AFAANZ Board in wishing Cheryl all the very best and thank her for her time and attention to the Association over the past ten years.

AFAANZ Review of Operations

We are taking the opportunity, over the next couple of months, to review AFAANZ's operations to decide on two significant operational matters: (a) whether a full-time AFAANZ office is required, and (b) whether AFAANZ requires a full-time administrator. This follows the departure of our Executive director (Cheryl) and the end of our office lease.

Chris van Staden (NZ Co-President) has visited the President of the British Accounting & Finance Association (BAFA), Professor Lisa Jack, whilst on study leave in the UK. BAFA is perhaps the most similar organisation to AFAANZ in terms of scope and range of activities and members. Pertinently, BAFA runs a “virtual office”. Professor Jack has agreed to share details of BAFA’s operations with AFAANZ and more generally to facilitate comparisons of how the two organisations operate.

There are interesting differences. For instance, BAFA runs a series of workshops and events through the year, e.g., “Workshop on Writing Qualitative Research Papers”, “Conference of Professors of Accounting & Finance”, and “Workshop on Accounting and Finance in Emerging Economies”. BAFA’s special interest groups (SIGS) organise some of these workshops, often in association with a host university. This seems a useful model to explore. One question to address is the impact on patronage of the annual conference.

On our side, relative to BAFA, the support that AFAANZ enjoys from the professional accounting associations and institutional members is much more conspicuous. These are relationships that we must take care to attend to as carefully and well as our predecessors have done.

Interim Office Mailing Address

Our lease on the office located at Bouverie St, Carlton, Victoria, has ended. The AFAANZ Board is very grateful to the Department of Accounting at University of Melbourne for kindly agreeing to provide us with office space and a mailing address over the period until we finalise the review of operations indicated above.

Our interim mailing address is:

Accounting & Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand
(AFAANZ)
Department of Accounting, Faculty of Business and Economics
The University of Melbourne
Level 7, 198 Berkeley Street
Carlton Vic 3010

2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

The annual conference is AFAANZ’s flagship event and the Chair of the Conference Technical Committee has arguably the most demanding, time-consuming job of all people on the AFAANZ Board. We are therefore very appreciative for the excellent work that Andrew Jackson, the Technical Chair for 2016, did in organising the July conference at the Gold Coast, Queensland. We thank Charl de Villiers for joining Andrew as Co-Chair for the 2017 Conference.

Some statistics: about 420 delegates attended the 2016 Conference. The main programme included 157 concurrent, 69 forum and 16 research interactive (poster) sessions.

Panel Sessions

The first panel session featured Rob Thomason, Executive General Manager, Education CPA Australia, and Michael Fraser, General Manager, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, speaking on the topics: “Quality and Diversity in Accounting Programs” and “De-Commoditising Accounting Education”.

The session’s content attested the shared interests that AFAANZ has with CPA Australia and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, our two platinum sponsors. The session also underscored the considerable capacity of these two professional accounting bodies to act as “think tanks” and policy influencers. There is scope for AFAANZ to engage on more dimensions with them.

An Editors’ Panel Session, chaired by AFAANZ Board Member, Andrew Jackson, featured, Tom Smith - *Accounting & Finance*, Gary Carnegie - *Accounting History*, James Guthrie - *Accounting, Auditing and Accountability*, Stewart Jones – *ABACUS*, and Baljit Sidhu - *Australian Journal of Management*. In addition to insights about trends in research and publication, a clear message came through about the value of academics citing all relevant research. It is remarkable that studies based on, say, ASX data, often will not reference earlier research on the same market.

AFAANZ Board member, Baljit Sidhu, organised and chaired a panel discussion on research grant funding. Baljit scored a coup in securing the respective chiefs of both the top New Zealand and Australian research granting bodies to participate: Juliet Gerrard, Chair of the Marsden Fund, NZ, and Aidan Byrne, CEO of the Australian Research Council. They were joined by Phil Gray (Monash), member of the ARC College of Experts, and Ken Trotman (UNSW), who has considerable experience in writing successful applications.

The discussion was particularly useful in addressing misconceptions about the success rate of funding applications from accounting & finance academics. One factor accounting for the small number of successful applications is that there aren’t many applications from our area. There was a suggestion it would be helpful if we were kinder to our colleagues in our evaluations.

Special Interest Groups (SIGS)

Jac Birt is the AFAANZ Board's liaison person for the Special Interest Groups, who held their respective forums on Saturday and Sunday (2nd & 3rd July) just prior to the main conference. As evidenced from their reports below, the SIGs contribute significantly to AFAANZ's success as an Association with which academics identify and derive value.

AFAANZ Doctoral Symposium

The Doctoral Symposium has consistently garnered outstanding evaluations from the students who attend. AFAANZ Board members, David Smith and Millicent Chang were the Co-Directors for this year's Symposium which featured 40 students and 10 Faculty (the 4 to 1 student/staff ratio no doubt contributes to the positive ratings). Students were drawn from a wide range of universities across Australia and New Zealand. We also had a student representing the American Accounting Association and another representing the European Accounting Association from Germany. A full report follows later in the newsletter.

2017 Conference

Plans are already underway for the 2017 conference to be held in Adelaide. A call for papers is included in this newsletter and can also be found on our website at www.afaanz.org. The closing date for paper submissions is Friday, 10 February 2017. We look forward to seeing you in Adelaide.

AFAANZ Best PhD Award

AFAANZ 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. A call for this award will be forwarded to Heads of Departments in Australia and New Zealand in early December where more information will be published for this award in an email. The winner of the 2015 Best PhD Award is listed at the end of this newsletter under "Awards".

Fellow Membership of AFAANZ

AFAANZ is now accepting applications for members to be recognised as Fellows of AFAANZ.

Fellowships represent a high level award granted to AFAANZ members who have made a significant contribution to the association's activities over a sustained period of time. The award of a fellowship is a means for AFAANZ to show its recognition and appreciation for such contributions.

The most important consideration for advancement to Fellow is that the member has given a sustained, significant contribution to AFAANZ.

Detailed information about this award and recipients of this award is available at www.afaanz.org/awards.

AFAANZ Research Grants

This year again, with the generous support from our institutional members and SIRCA, \$175,000 was allocated to 41 successful applications. Of these, 26 were in the mid-career researcher category.

The recipients of research grants were announced at the 2016 Conference in the Gold Coast on 5 July. More information including a list of the successful grant recipients can be found at the end of this newsletter under "Awards".

AFAANZ Board Retirements/Appointments

We take this opportunity to thank our retiring board member – Professor Norman Wong (AFAANZ President – New Zealand) for his service to the association, and we wish him the very best.

Congratulations and a warm welcome to our newly elected board member – Associate Professor Carolyn Fowler from Victoria University of Wellington.

Please enjoy reading the rest of the newsletter, to discover information about important news, events and developments. Also take note of the various calls for papers and their deadlines. All the best!

2016 AFAANZ DOCTORAL SYMPOSIUM

Directors' Report

The AFAANZ Doctoral Symposium was held at Jupiters Hotel on the Gold Coast from 3.30pm Wednesday, 29th June to approximately midnight on Friday, 1st July, 2016.

The Symposium is designed for PhD candidates who are approximately 12 months into their doctoral studies and have selected their chosen topic. The main objectives of the Symposium are:

- ▶ to enrich the experience of doctoral candidates from a broad cross-section of Australasian universities;
- ▶ to provide opportunities for participants to present their work in progress in a constructive forum and to receive feedback from other participants and senior accounting and finance academics; and
- ▶ to enable each participant to meet and to interact with recognized researchers in accounting and finance, and with doctoral candidates from other tertiary institutions.

▶

Sponsors

The Doctoral Symposium was largely funded by contributions received by AFAANZ from its two major Platinum sponsors, namely, CPA Australia and the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. The continuing support of these sponsoring bodies is gratefully acknowledged.

Symposium Faculty and Secretariat

The Symposium Co-Directors were Associate Professor Millie Chang from the University of Western Australia and Professor David Smith from the University of Queensland. The Symposium Faculty included the two plenary speakers from the Annual Conference, Professor Mike Shields (Michigan State University) and Professor Tim Fogarty (Case Western Reserve University). The other members of the Symposium Faculty were Professor Henk Berkman (University of Auckland), Professor Mike Bradbury (Massey University), Professor Robert Faff (University of Queensland), Professor Baljit Sidhu (University of New South Wales), Professor Roger Simnett (University of New South Wales), and Associate Professor Mark Wilson (Australian National University).

The Symposium Secretariat comprised Ms Cheryl Umoh, Executive Director of AFAANZ, and Mr. Tim Jones. As usual, the organization of the venue, including accommodation, meals, special events and support of the teaching and learning activities, was of a very high standard.

The Symposium Participants

Forty participants attended the Symposium, drawn from a wide range of universities across Australia and New Zealand. Included in the 40 were Mr Sebastian Firk from the Georg-August-Universitat Gottingen as the European Accounting Association representative, and Ms Jordan Rippy from the University of Alabama as the American Accounting Association's representative. Participants' choice of dissertation topics covered a very broad range; with participants grouped into one of five study areas, namely: Auditing/Environmental

Accounting; Finance; Financial Accounting; Management Accounting/ Education/Public Sector; and Financial Statement Analysis. Participants' research overviews covered a considerable range of jurisdictions and methodologies.

The Symposium Program

The Symposium commenced at 3.30pm on Wednesday with The Symposium commenced on Wednesday with registration, an introduction to the program, informal meetings in the groups with the assigned faculty, and a welcoming reception. On Thursday and Friday, most of the time was allocated to discussions of participants' own research overviews with two plenary sessions interspersed into the program led by Professor Fogarty on Thursday morning and Professor Shields on Friday morning. On Friday afternoon Professor Faff chaired a Question and Answer panel session with a panel consisting of Professors Berkman, Fogarty, Shields, and Sidhu. Professor Faff invited the symposium participants to submit in advance of the symposium a research 'pitch' summarizing their research topic. The winning pitches, selected by Professor Faff, were written by Jordan Rippy from the University of Alabama, and Sebastian Firk from Georg-August-Universität Gottingen. Jordan and Sebastian won a cash prize, donated by the University of Queensland Business School, for their efforts.

The program finished with a formal dinner on Friday night attended by representatives from the Platinum sponsors, the New Zealand President of AFAANZ, Professor Norman Wong, the Symposium Resident Faculty and Secretariat members, and the Symposium Participants. Also present were a number of Head of Departments/Schools. We would like to thank CPA Australia who sponsored the attendance of Heads at the dinner.

Participants' Evaluations of the Doctoral Symposium

Following the final session, Symposium evaluation forms were distributed to the participants. An analysis of these revealed that on a scale of 1 to 7 (very poor to excellent), participants rated their overall satisfaction with the Symposium as 6.33.

Directors' Concluding Comments

This year's Symposium participants are to be congratulated for the dedication and enthusiasm with which they involved themselves in the various Symposium activities. Participants' written comments to the evaluation survey indicate that the overall objectives of the program were met, with participants again valuing highly the opportunities provided by the Symposium to gain timely feedback on their research proposals and to network with other participants and faculty.

We would like to end this report by acknowledging the support of the institutions' Heads of Schools and the Resident Faculty for their enthusiastic participation in the Symposium. Finally, we thank the Board of AFAANZ for the honour of being involved in the running of the AFAANZ Doctoral Symposium.

David Smith and Millie Chang
Co-directors – 2016 AFAANZ Doctoral Symposium

Student Report

The 2016 AFAANZ Doctoral Symposium was a roaring success. As PhD candidates, we came to the Gold Coast to present our work, receive feedback, and interact with other participants and faculty members. Three days later, we left with new perspectives on our work and a deeper understanding of the challenges and issues we face in our doctoral study, as well as general aspects of academic life.

During the symposium, we were divided into 5 interest groups of 8 students with 2 faculty members. We took turns presenting our work and acting as a discussant across the 8 study group sessions. I had the opportunity to be a part of the Financial Statement Analysis group with Professor Millicent Chang and Associate Professor Mark Wilson, both of whom facilitated the discussions and provided valuable feedback. Overall, the level of engagement was high, and as a PhD candidate who is in a relatively early stage of the doctoral program, I greatly benefited from the experience.

The symposium also included two plenary sessions. The first by Professor Tim Fogarty whose main focus was on ‘Sociological Imagination and Accounting’, but he also advocated for a career in academia; having life of the mind, as well as, embracing the ability to leave something behind and contribute to the body of knowledge with the research we do. This was followed by a session by Professor Mike Shields, who discussed about the process of research, the qualities of successful published papers and the hallmarks of interesting research. Both these sessions were brilliant and there were lots to learn from such prolific researchers.

There was also a Faculty session, where Faculty members answered our burning questions and provided advice regarding a whole range of topics relating to academic life — those insights were invaluable. The symposium ended with an amazing dinner and we had the final opportunity to interact Faculty members and other participants before we parted ways. As we go forward, I am sure we will continue to build upon the discussions we have had and the relationships we have formed. I have no doubt that the knowledge we have gained and the friends we have made here in the Gold Coast will have a positive impact on us.

My special thanks goes to the symposium directors, Professor David Smith and Professor Millicent Chang, as well as to the AFAANZ planning committee Cheryl Umoh and Tim Jones, for making the symposium such a wonderful experience. I would also like to acknowledge the support from the Platinum sponsors; Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and CPA Australia. Finally, I would like to thank the Monash Business School for its’ nomination and financial support.

Iliyas Yusoff, Monash University

2016 EAA Doctoral - Colloquium Report

It was my great honour to represent AFAANZ at the EAA 32nd doctoral colloquium, which took place on 7-10 May, 2016. This year the colloquium and the following EAA Annual Congress were hosted by the University of Maastricht. The venue of the colloquium was Kasteel Bloemendal, Vaals, a town which is 20km from the city of Maastricht. I received warm and friendly welcome from the other students as well as the faculty members, and was immediately caught by their enthusiasm in accounting research.

The structure of the colloquium is similar to the AFAANZ Doctoral Symposium. 32 doctoral students were divided into 4 groups based on their research areas (Financial Accounting Research, Financial Analysis Research, Management Accounting Research, and Social & Organizational Accounting Research). I was allocated into the MA group. Each group have 8 students and 3 faculty members. Every student has 75 minutes to present and discuss their papers. I am glad to have Prof. Eva Labro (University of North Carolina), Prof. Frank Moers (Maastricht University), and Prof. Mike Shields (Michigan State University) in my group. The comments I received from them are sharp and constructive, which really helped me improve the quality of the papers in my dissertation. The discussion with the other students in my group also helped me improve my communication skills and encouraged me to think my research topics more deeply.

Besides the presentation and discussion, there were three plenary sessions in the colloquium. The topics of the plenary sessions include: Research Contribution and Originality; Editors, Early Career Development; and Reviewers and Getting Published. During the plenary sessions, the faculty members answered the questions patiently and offered useful advice about the issues that a doctoral student or a junior faculty member is likely to meet during their career path. I have learned a lot from these sessions and would like to thank all the faculty members in the colloquium.

The experience in the EAA colloquium has expanded my vision in accounting research. It enabled me to improve my communication skills and to build up social networks with the students and faculty members in many other countries. I have also collected very useful feedback about my papers. I would like to thank AFAANZ for this great opportunity. I also thank my supervisors and the University of Melbourne for supporting me throughout this amazing experience.

Ruidi Shang, The University of Melbourne

2016 AAA Doctoral – Consortium Report

It was an honour to represent AFAANZ at the 2016 AAA/Deloitte Foundation/J.Michael Cook Doctoral Consortium at Westlake, Texas from June

15th to 19th. The Consortium consisted of 92 doctoral students, 14 faculty members and 4 Deloitte representatives.

The Consortium officially began with the welcome and introduction speeches by Lil Mills (The University of Texas at Austin), Tonie Leatherberry (Deloitte Consulting) and the AAA president, Bruce Behn (The University of Tennessee). The daily schedule at the Consortium was a combination of presentations, breakout sessions, panel discussions, interactions and social activities.

Individual presentations by Bill Kinney (The University of Texas at Austin), Mark Nelson (Cornell University) and Dan Sunderland (Deloitte) provided students with an understanding on how to plan for research success, different research methods and most importantly, professional practice relations. Research exemplar talks by Bob Libby (Cornell University), Kristy Towry (Emory University), Jennifer Blouin (University of Pennsylvania), Paul Fischer (University of Pennsylvania), Patty Dechow (University of California, Berkeley), Mohan Venkatachalam (Duke University), Mary Ellen Carter (Boston College) and Florin Vasvari (London Business School) covered various areas of accounting.

Breakout sessions gave students an opportunity to discuss their research questions in a friendly and fun environment and get feedback from the group leaders and fellow group members. There were a total of 11 groups consisting of 7-10 students led by one or two faculty members. The interactive panel sessions enabled students to discuss matters on the topics of 'the job market', 'starting your early career', 'publishing', 'the time management for research, teaching, service, family, spirit'. The final presentation was a humorous and entertaining talk by Steve Stubben (The University of Utah) that summarized all events of the Consortium.

'Interaction time' organized by faculty members, that included activities such as yoga, board games, cycling and tours provided students and faculty members to get to know each other in a relaxed environment. The friendly and polite staff and amazing facilities at the Deloitte University and the way the Consortium was run deserve a special mention. Every day after dinner, the students socialized in the famous restaurant at the University called 'The Barn' that was open until late. Finally, the Consortium concluded with Karaoke, DJ and dancing. It was great to see the normally 'serious' academics let their hair down and have fun.

Attending the Consortium during the mid-way of my PhD journey provided me with the much needed boost of confidence. It was great to discuss my research with the best people in the field and get their feedback. I must say that I was star-struck to finally meet some of the researchers that I admire and respect. I was inspired by stories that the faculty members shared about the rejections that they faced in their early career, the issues they had to deal with while working on papers and how they manage work-life balance.

I would like to thank AFAANZ for selecting me as their representative and I thank Monash University for all their support. Attending the 2016 AAA/Deloitte Foundation/ J.Michael Cook Doctoral Consortium was an invaluable experience that I will look back fondly in years to come.

Dhayani Kirubaharan, Monash University

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Academic Leadership Series

Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand is committed to thought leadership in the accounting profession. Our activities in thought leadership span a range of platforms aimed at providing dialogue on topics and issues shaping accounting education, practice and policy.

The latest volume in our ***Academic Leadership Series*** was launched at the recent AFAANZ conference. ‘Relevance and Professional Associations In 2026’ considers how professional associations face the challenges of the future. With their traditional business models under increasing pressure from the impacts of major trends such as globalisation, digital disruption and demographic changes, professional associations must continuously re-evaluate their relevance and value to their members. Now in its seventh year, volumes of the Series can be found here:

<http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/News-Media/Reports-and-insights/Academic-leadership-series>.

A video of the highlights of the presentations at this year’s Thought Leadership Forum, on which the publication is based, can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UAlOFDAXpY4&feature=youtu.be>

Research Program

Our **research program** funds academic investigation of key issues affecting society, the business community and the profession. Successful **lead recipients** in the 2016–17 round of research funding are:

Adrian Sawyer	Preparing the Australian and New Zealand profession for enhanced tax reporting requirements under the BEPS Project
Marvin Wee	Managerial remuneration contracts and “gaming” non-GAAP earnings
Colin Higgins	The relationship between a company’s materiality process and risk process for effective integrated reporting

James Hazleton	How will virtual and augmented reality technologies disrupt or benefit the accounting profession?
Max Baker	An investigation into the use of performance measures in private prisons: A national review
Richard Morris	Disclosure overload? An empirical evaluation of ICAS/NZICA's "Losing the Excess Baggage" recommendations

Some of the work funded in our research program is published in our **CAANZ Research Monograph Series**, which can be found here:

<http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Students/Academics/Research-funding/Final-reports.aspx>

The most recent publication in the series is:

ePortfolios In Business Education: A national study of ePortfolio implementation 2013 to 2015 - Kim Watty, Jade McKay, Leanne Ngo, Dale Holt, Nicholas McGuigan, Shona Leitch, Marie Kavanagh

This study explores the transformative potential of ePortfolios in business education. Educators and higher education institutions are increasingly looking for innovative ways to enhance learning outcomes through technology. Given their potential to aid in the development of engaged, reflective lifelong learners, and develop and showcase employability skills, ePortfolios are increasingly being used around the globe. The recommendations and principles in the study provide benchmarks for best practice and practical guidance for embedding ePortfolios into business curricula.

Accounting Frontiers Program

An annual event in our calendar is the **Accounting Frontiers Forum**, held in December. This year's Forum will focus on '**Strategies and Challenges for Expanding Collaboration between Business Faculties and Business In Australia**', which discusses innovation, creativity and research and how collaboration can lead to tangible outcomes.

The event takes place in Sydney on 12 December 2016.

For further information contact James Guthrie at:

james.guthrie@charteredaccountantsanz.com

CPA AUSTRALIA

Skilled Occupation List (SOL)

In June CPA Australia was advised that Accountants had been retained on the SOL for 2016/17. The detail that subsequently came to light is that the cap on the number of Accountants who can migrate independent of employers or family is a low 2500. This is a disappointing outcome that displays both a lack of appreciation of the expected demand for accountants over the medium term, and the implications of skilled migration settings for international education (refer [CPA Australia's submission](#)).

CPA Australia has challenged this outcome at the departmental level. To assist us in our efforts and to evidence our concerns and encourage a rethink, we would be interested in hearing from providers who are experiencing a downturn in international enrolments, and any grounds for suspecting that this is migration-related. Furthermore, any ideas or assistance in advocating for change will be gratefully received.

Meanwhile, the review process for the 2017/18 SOL is about to kick off. As Accountants are a 'flagged' occupation, they will continue to be subject to a high level of scrutiny. We encourage providers to take an active interest and make a submission.

Higher education reforms

Some of you may have spotted in the media commentary from Alex Malley on the Government's higher education reforms. These draw from CPA Australia's submission on the Government's reform proposals, set out in its discussion document, [Driving Innovation, Fairness and Excellence in Australian Higher Education](#). Key messages conveyed are that:

- ▶ the demand driven system should be maintained and enhanced;
- ▶ cross-subsidisation, which cripples the ability of schools and departments of accounting to invest in the quality of their learning experiences offered, should be minimised;
- ▶ transparency and accountability should be enhanced, particularly regarding the sources and uses of funds within each field of education;
- ▶ the Commonwealth's funding contributions to each field of education, which is particularly low for accounting, should be reviewed; and
- ▶ the participation of under-represented groups, notably Indigenous Australians, should be supported.

Global Research Perspective Program (GRPP)

As in previous years, CPA Australia received a large number of stage one applications for support under our competitive research funding pool. A subset of applicants have been invited to prepare a stage two application. As the total ask is many times the size of our funding pool, CPA Australia is being very selective and discerning at every point in our process.

SIG NEWS

Auditing and Assurance Special Interest Group(AASIG1)

The AASIG had a great sixth meeting at the AFAANZ Conference on Sunday 3 July on the Gold Coast with over 45 registered to attend the meeting.

The AASIG Meeting commenced with a panel on innovations in audit education (Amanda White, UTS; Ram Nagarajan, Monash University; Ferdinand Gul, Deakin University; chaired by Peter Carey, Deakin University) and a panel on Current Issues in Auditing (Zowie Murray, CAANZ; Claire Grayston, CPA Australia; Mark Cheffers, Audit Analytics; chaired by: Robyn Moroney, Monash University). Robyn Moroney and Ken Trotman introduced the Audit Quality Research Collaboration Panel which is an exciting initiative for audit researchers to access research participants. We thank Robyn and Ken for their hard work in bringing this initiative to fruition. Further information about this has been provided to AASIG members by email who are encouraged to support this initiative.

The second round of CPA Synthesis projects on Going Concern and Professional Scepticism have been accepted for publication in Australian Accounting Review (September 2016). A third round has commenced with David Hay, Jenny Stewart and Nives Botica Redmayne examining the relationship between corporate governance and audit quality. David Hay provided an update on the findings of the synthesis project to date. We thank CPA Australia, in particular Claire Grayston, for their support of this initiative and we note the very positive feedback on the prior two rounds of synthesis projects. It was great to see so many audit researchers from institutions across Australia, New Zealand and further afield. The quality of the panels was excellent and the discussion lively and we look forward to continuing this in future years. We plan to meet at the usual time (Sunday morning) in Adelaide in 2017 so keep an eye out for future announcements of the schedule or contact one of the leadership team with your suggestions for speakers or panels.

Noel Harding retired from the AASIG organising committee and we thank him for his efforts in supporting the AASIG from its inception. We welcome Christine Contessotto to the organising committee. We thank the AFAANZ Board for their support of the AASIG and Cheryl Umoh for all her assistance in helping our meeting run smoothly.

Elizabeth Carson (Chair), Robyn Moroney, Peter Carey, Christine Contessotto and Nives Botica-Redmayne

Accounting History Special Interest Group (SIG2)

The 9th Accounting History Symposium

The 9th Accounting History Symposium was successfully held on Saturday, 2 July 2016 at Broadbeach on the Gold Coast. A number of working papers and research proposals were presented and discussed. The papers and proposals addressed diverse topics including the evolution of accounting practices in a sharing economy, management accounting practices in Utopian Socialist Organisations with a focus on the Royal Factory of Silk of San Leucio and the household accounts of the Reverend John Clay, who was given the moniker of “the experienced chaplain of the gaol” by Charles Dickens. In addition, a presentation about the “world’s oldest profession” was also delivered. The symposium provided the opportunity for the presenters to obtain feedback from the audience to further develop their ideas.

The keynote speaker for the symposium was Laura Maran of the RMIT University. Laura gave an insightful presentation entitled, “Old versus Ancient” demonstrating the challenges of conducting historical archival research. She discussed the richness of archival data available in places such as Italy and the difficulty in gaining physical access to this data, which may have been damaged in a series of wars or natural disasters or may not have been preserved appropriately. She also addressed the international differences in publishing these works.

Next year, the Department of Business Administration, University of Verona, Italy is hosting with the support of the Accounting History Special Interest Group, the ninth Accounting History International Conference on the theme “Accounting and governance in diverse settings”. This conference is being held in Verona, Italy, 6-8 September, 2017. Papers on any topic and using any methodology are to be written in the English language, complying with the Accounting History manuscript style, and submitted in Word format no later than 1 March 2017 to: verona.ahic@rmit.edu.au. For more information about the conference, visit the following web site: <http://www.univr.it/9ahic>.

A reminder that the submission date for papers for the Accounting History special issue on the theme “Accounting History and the Enlightenment” being guest edited by C. Richard Baker has been extended to 1 February 2017. Potential contributors are encouraged to contact Richard to discuss possible or planned submissions via email: Baker3@Adelphi.edu.

The 10th Accounting History Symposium will be held in Adelaide on Saturday, 1 July 2017. We look forward to seeing you there and a call for working papers and research proposals will be made in due course.

Daniella Juric

AHSIG Convenor

Accounting Standards Special Interest Group (SIG3)

2016 Accounting Standards Forum

The 22nd Accounting Standards Forum was held on the Gold Coast on July 2, 2016. The forum was very worthwhile for the 25 members who attended. The forum started with reports on the work of the standard setting boards in Australia and New Zealand. Angus Thomson reported on the AASB and Kimberley Crook on the NZ XRB.

This was followed by a report by Ann Tarca on the AASB Academic Advisory Group:

<http://www.aasb.gov.au/Research-Centre/Academic-Advisory-Panel.aspx>.

Ann is Chair of the group and its role is to assist the AASB research centre in identifying opportunities for academic input to help progress its research work program in a way that provides benefits to both parties. Those opportunities would involve working with the AASB staff on particular research projects of mutual interest.

The session was followed by a panel session on the new leasing standard. The session was facilitated by Ann Tarca and we heard from Warrick Van Zyl who considered the impact of the standard from a practitioner perspective and discussed the potential implications for a number of ASX listed companies. Kimberley Crook then spoke from a standard setter perspective. Kimberley touched on the treatment of short term leases and leases for which the underlying asset is of low value. Finally, Demi Chung talked about the challenges for teaching the new standard. This session provoked a lot of discussion and was very worthwhile.

In the afternoon session we had a presentation by PhD student Jessica Moonhee Yi, University of Adelaide, on her thesis 'Identification of Determining Covariates of Loan Default'. The objective of the study is to develop models for the prediction of loan default. With the identification of determining covariates of loan default, the model of this study is aimed to support credit risk management at financial institutions. It was an interesting presentation and Mike Bradbury from Massey University provided some useful suggestions for Jessica. There were also a number of useful suggestions and comments from the audience.

We extend a huge vote of thanks to all our speakers for giving their time and ensuring the success of the Accounting Standards Forum and we look forward to your participation in Adelaide next year.

The AGM of the SIG was then conducted, including the endorsement of the report from the treasurer.

The current office bearers were re-elected and they are:

Phil Hancock - Chair
Tony van Zijl - Deputy Chair
Bryan Howieson
Janice Loftus
Tracy Artiach
Demi Chung

Phil Hancock
Chair

NEWS FROM INSTITUTIONS

Swinburne University of Technology

Dr. Gráinne Oates, a Senior Lecturer in accounting, has developed 'Quitich' a gamified learning platform. Quitich, initially designed for use in the first year accounting unit, is a mobile learning platform which allows tailored content to be delivered to students in a way in which they like to communicate.

Its design uses the elements of gamification to engage students, through earning points, a ranked leaderboard (students do not need to identify themselves) and the ability to earn badges. Through a push notification to students' mobile devices, a multiple choice or click and drag question is delivered to students' devices each day. While the platform was initially developed for accounting students, it can be used by any discipline through a design that allows an academic to 'drop in' their own specific content. It is currently being used across fourteen disciplines at Swinburne and has been adopted by 74 other educational institutions around the world and a number of secondary schools.

If you would like to access a free trial of Quitich please contact Gráinne Oates at goates@swin.edu.au

2017 AFAANZ OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE EDUCATION AWARD

Call for Nominations

Sponsored by



Past Recipients

- Inaugural Award, 1999: Professor Graham Peirson, Monash University
- 2001: Professor Michael Bradbury, Unitec New Zealand & Professor Ken Leo, Curtin University of Technology
- 2003: Associate Professor Malcolm Miller, University of New South Wales
- 2005: Professor Tony van Zijl, Victoria University of Wellington
- 2008: Professor Jayne Godfrey, Monash University
- 2011: Professor Roger Simnett, The University of New South Wales

Aim

The aim of this award is to recognise outstanding contributions to accounting and finance practice by members of AFAANZ. The award recognises the vital links between academe and practice. This award may be made to more than one recipient provided nomination(s) are of a sufficiently high merit and meet the selection criteria.

Eligibility

Only current (financial or life) members of AFAANZ are eligible for nomination. The contributions to accounting and finance practice this award seeks to recognise will typically be those provided by a member on a voluntary basis. Contributions made by way of consultancies where members are paid at competitive rates will not normally be considered. Nominees for this award should demonstrate outstanding contributions over a sustained number of years. An individual recipient may receive this award once.

Criteria

An outstanding contribution to accounting and finance practice may be demonstrated in several ways. The primary criterion for judging nominations will be the extent to which nominees can demonstrate sustained involvement in activities which seek to advance the discipline and impact practice. More specifically, such activities may include:

- Active contribution to relevant state, national or international professional accounting and/or finance professional associations through membership of state or national committees, the preparation of reports and submissions, through presentations or through key roles played in the management of accounting, finance and/or business conferences and programs;
- Contribution to the committees, groups or boards involved with the development, implementation and enforcement of legal or best practice standards in the accounting and finance fields;
- Contribution to the committees, groups, or governing boards of governments, statutory authorities and other regulatory bodies;

- The establishment and/or strengthening of key links between academe and practice;
- The dissemination of accounting and/or finance research to the profession and wider community through professional publications.

Nominations

Each nomination shall be in writing and received by the deadline. Nominations must be made by two current members of AFAANZ and must contain the signed consent of the nominee. Applications should address the criteria for the award and where appropriate, include examples of contributions and supporting documentation. This may include for example, detailed examples of contributions to committees, information about key reports prepared and other activities and the receipt of honorary awards and memberships bestowed by relevant professional organizations. It is envisaged that the text addressing the criteria be no more than 5 single-sided A4 pages excluding supporting documentation. Nominations must also include the current vitae of the nominee.

Nominating committee

Nominations for this award will be reviewed in the first instance by a nominating committee. The nominating committee will comprise the current and immediate past presidents of AFAANZ and a current board member who will be Chair for this award. The nominating committee will determine the nominations to be forwarded to the advisory panel for consideration. The decision to forward the nominations to the advisory panel will be made based on a majority vote by the members of the nominating committee.

The Advisory Panel

The nominations will be reviewed by an advisory panel appointed by the AFAANZ Board. The panel comprises the Chair for this award; one Australian and one New Zealand representative from the Platinum Sponsors of AFAANZ, and past award recipients. The advisory panel will recommend to the AFAANZ Board as to whether the award should be made in respect of any nomination received. In order for the panel to recommend to the AFAANZ board that the award be made, a 75% majority vote of advisory panel members is required.

Whether the award is made in any year remains the responsibility of the AFAANZ Board. For the award to be made in any year, a 75% majority vote of the AFAANZ Board is required

Nomination deadline

Nominees will be finalised by way of written submissions from proposers addressing the selection criteria.

Nominations for the 2017 award are to be received by the AFAANZ office by **16 December 2016**.

Please email all nominations to the AFAANZ Co-Presidents at info@afaanz.org.

Award

The award will be presented at the 2017 Annual Conference.

AFAANZ BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017

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