

AFAANZ

Accounting & Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand

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NEWSLETTER

September 2002

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NEW website address:
www.afaanz.org

Sponsorship

CPA Australia

Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia

Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand

Support from our sponsors is gratefully acknowledged

Presidents' Message

The 2002 Annual Conference in Perth was a great success with over 350 delegates attending the conference at the Sheraton Perth Hotel. Many contributed to the success of the conference and deserve public recognition. We would like to express our appreciation to the Immediate Past

President, Professor

Gary Monroe for his leadership, organisation, enthusiasm, and efforts in ensuring the success of the conference. We would like also to thank all those people who helped in making the 2002 conference a success. In particular we would like to thank:

- The two plenary speakers, Professors Patricia Dechow and Ron Weber, for their stimulating and insightful presentations. Patricia and Ron also participated in the Doctoral Consortium and the PhD Fellows were highly appreciative of their contribution.
- Professors Stewart Leech, Steven Sutton, Vicki Arnold, and Craig Deegan for their contribution to the lively CPE programme. The sessions were well received by attendees.
- Our sponsors – CPA Australia, the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand. We are always grateful for their financial support, which is very important for the continuing of the activities of our Association.
- Ms Gail Fowler, Capital Conferences Pty Ltd, for her work in ensuring the conference ran smoothly. Capital Conferences will



also be organising the 2003 conference in Brisbane, Australia and we look forward to working with them again.

- Members of the AAANZ who worked so hard to make the conference a quality event. In particular, we thank the technical committee and, Associate Professor Philip Gray who was instrumental in placing the conference papers on the Web. The efficient submission and review process led to a successful concurrent and poster sessions. Phil Gray will chair the technical committee for the 2003 conference.
- Professor Ian Eggelton and his team of visiting and resident faculty at the Doctoral consortium – Professors Patricia Dechow, Ted Mock, Richard Sloan, Kim Langfield-Smith, Ron Weber, Michael Bradbury, Shane Dikolli, and Raymond Da Silva Rosa. Helping the development of new academics in accounting and finance is one of the most important functions of our Association and this year's consortium was a resounding success. Professor Ian Eggelton will be organising the 2003 Doctoral Colloquium. We wish Ian all the success again.

- Effie Margiolis, the conference convenor, for her energy, enthusiasm, and dedication that played a crucial and integral role in the successful management of the conference. An accident prior to the conference and wheel chair bound during the event did not stand in the way of Effie performing her duties in a diligent manner.

The conference would not have been as successful without the significant contributions and strong support of members. All those members who attended the 2002 conference, whether they presented a paper, chaired a session, acted as a discussant, or merely attended sessions.

Our new name – AFAANZ (pronounced AY – FANZ)

In December 2000, the then Council held a strategic planning retreat to consider the direction and the future of the association. As a result, one of the new initiatives embraced was the name change of the organization. Your Council, after receiving a strong support vote from members, announced the new name, Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand (AFAANZ). This name reflects the changing focus not only within the Association but also the education and professional sectors, as well. The new name will broaden the membership base of the Association and ensures it will remain relevant and responsive to its members' needs and their discipline interests.

Life Members

We take this opportunity to congratulate our new life members (announced at the 2002 conference), Professors Michael Bradbury, Ken Trotman and Ron Weber. We are grateful for their long standing and continuing support of the Association.

Institutional Membership

To maintain a viable and visible Association, AFAANZ is establishing an Institutional Membership category. Universities, other academic institutions, and their schools/ departments will be shortly invited to join AFAANZ as an institutional member. The benefits to the participating Schools and their staff include: guaranteed places for eligible

students/staff of participating Schools in the very popular Doctoral Colloquium and Doctoral Consortium programs; Public recognition by AFAANZ of the university in all newsletters, the website and at the annual conference; Access to the AFAANZ Research Grant Scheme when it is established.

The New Council

We farewell Immediate Past President, Professor Gary Monroe, and Council member, Associate Professor Malcolm Miller, and welcome two new members to the Council, Associate Professor Philip Gray and Professor Louise Kloot, who were elected to fill the two vacant positions. We look forward to the contributions of Philip and Louise to the workings of the Council.

Conference 6-8 July 2003

We look forward to welcoming you to the 2003 conference that will be held in Brisbane, Queensland, at the Sheraton Brisbane Hotel. We are hoping for a large contingent from Australia, New Zealand, as well as from other parts of the world. The conference will again be starting on the Sunday afternoon and concluding with the conference dinner on the Tuesday night. Further information about the 2003 conference is available elsewhere in this newsletter and on the AFAANZ website.

At the 2001 conference in Auckland, we introduced panel discussion sessions on interesting and relevant topics as a feature of our conference. These sessions were well received by the conference attendees. At the 2002 conference in Perth, we introduced sessions on teaching and education featuring teaching and learning innovations in accounting and finance. These sessions were also very successful. In 2003, we will be offering again panel discussions on major issues.

We believe the 2002/2003-year will be an exciting year for the newly renamed Association, AFAANZ. We look forward to working with the Council and with the wider membership of the Association. We always welcome your feedback.

**Tim Brailsford
Fawzi Laswad**

2002 AAANZ DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM

The 2002 AAANZ Doctoral Consortium was held on 4-6 July, on the days preceding the AAANZ Annual Conference. It was attended by 40 PhD students from around Australia and New Zealand, along with visitors from as far afield as Singapore, Hong Kong, and the USA. The consortium was an intense couple of days, filled with presentations and lively discussions on a wide range of research topics.

One of the factors that made the consortium such an outstanding success was the quality of the visiting and resident faculty. The visiting faculty were from a range of backgrounds and geographic locations. Professor Patricia (Patty) Dechow (University of Michigan) spoke on Financial Accounting and Professor Richard Sloan (University of Michigan) on Finance. Professor Kim Langfield-Smith (Monash University) on Management Accounting and Professor Theodore (Ted) Mock (University of Southern California) on Auditing. Resident faculty also had vast experience on which we could draw. These were Professors Ian Eggleton, Michael Bradbury, Ron Weber and Associate Professors Raymond da Silva Rosa and Shane Dikolli. Thanks go to all the faculty members for their input at formal sessions and in informal discussions.

The consortium was organised into four main sessions, each involving a talk by visiting faculty. These were followed by discussions in break out groups, where questions and issues were raised and discussed with visiting and resident faculty. Each session concluded with a report back session. In addition, there were a number of social events, presentations and focus groups. The highlight for many consortium members was the focus group sessions. In these sessions we got to talk about our own research topics. Some consortium members were in the early stages of their research, whilst others were more advanced.

Nonetheless, we all benefited from the suggestions and comments from faculty and other consortium fellows. Also, in explaining our own research topics, we benefited from the need to better express and clarify our ideas. Another highlight was the session on managing your dissertation presented by Ron Weber, from which we gained much useful advice.

We would like to thank the sponsors without whom the consortium would not have been possible. These were CPA Australia, The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and The Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand. Representatives of the sponsors were able to join us at the consortium dinner. During the dinner, a number of “volunteers” from the consortium fellows, were able to express our thanks to both sponsors and faculty. One especially big mention and thanks goes to Effie Margiolis. Not only did she do a wonderful job organizing the doctoral fellows, faculty and facilities, but she did it all from a wheel chair. We thank her for her tenacity in overcoming adversity, whilst still maintaining a positive countenance. Thanks also go to the consortium planning committee for giving us this wonderful opportunity. With the motivation and ideas gained from the event, we hope to progress our PhD studies substantially, such that, we all reach the stage where we can attend next year’s doctoral colloquium in Brisbane.

**Eileen Dunkley,
Michele Leong
PhD Fellows
The University of Western Australia**

2002 AAANZ DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM



Front Row: Ms Amanda Wong (UTS); Mr Chris Graves (Uni. of SA); Ms Tracy Martin (UQ). Back Row: Ms Sandra Wallace (UQ); Mr Mark Soliman (Uni. of Michigan).



Assoc. Prof. Shane Dikolli (Uni. of Texas).



Prof. Ian Eggleton (UWA); Mrs Ann Johns (CPA Australia)



Ms Julie Harrison (Uni. of Auckland); Prof. Kim Langfield-Smith (Monash)



Mr Zhihong Chen (Hong Kong Uni. of Science & Tech.); Ms Mazlina Mat Zain (Griffith Uni.); Ms Helen Kang (UNSW); Mr Tianya Zhang (Hong Kong Uni. of Science & Tech.)



Ms Diana Pryde (ICANZ); Prof. Patty Dechow (Uni. of Michigan)



Ms Gwenda Jensen (Victoria Uni. of Wellington); Prof. Ted Mock (Uni. of Sthrn. California);



Mr Bill Robertson (ICANZ).

2002 AAA DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM

I recently had the opportunity to represent the AAANZ at the American Accounting Association Doctoral Consortium. The consortium was held at Granlibakken Resort, Lake Tahoe, California from 11-16 June.

The consortium consisted of presentations by the eight visiting faculty, who were well supported in the breakout sessions by the resident faculty of Stephen Ryan, Sarah Bonner, Thomas Hemmer, Ed Maydew and Phillip Stocken. The faculty presentations covered a broad range of areas and the topics and interests of the 73 doctoral students were also highly varied.

After arriving at the resort on Tuesday afternoon we had the chance to explore the grounds and meet other consortium fellows prior to the welcome dinner. Wednesday morning saw us all up for breakfast at 7:30. Bill Beaver, guiding us through a review of financial empirical research, gave the first of the faculty presentations. This was followed by small group discussions of hotly debated topics such as whether or not markets are efficient, whether earnings management is a concern and whether there is a role for the further development of accounting theory. After lunch Peter Easton presented a session on earnings based valuation, followed by a break-out session in which we attempted to evaluate the pros and cons of the various approaches to valuation.

To balance the hard work, free time followed the afternoon sessions. The weather was superb for the duration of the consortium, so we took advantage of this and our free time was spent in outdoor activities including bike riding, bush walking, swimming, tennis and an impromptu volleyball tournament, which the less athletically inclined watched.

After dinner we had an evening panel discussion from the resident faculty on strategies for surviving the doctoral program, followed by a hospitality hour

and an informal survey to determine who had the largest TV in their room for watching the world cup soccer.

Thursday morning saw presentations by Geoffrey Sprinkle and Joel Demski on management accounting and in particular experimental research. The breakout session was devoted to considering what research can help us see and what our professional responsibility as academic researchers should be. Thursday evening saw another discussion panel on strategies for your roadshow, to help doctoral fellows identify the best approach to obtaining a job following the PhD.

By Friday morning the late nights watching soccer were beginning to show and attendance at breakfast was down. However the morning session on analysts, presented by Maureen McNichols was still well attended. Maureen's presentation focused on archival research on analyst forecasts. This was followed by a presentation about experimental research on analysts by Lisa Koonce. The task set for the breakout session that afternoon was a role play in which the group members acted as CEO, CFO, board of directors, auditors, creditors, institutional investors, analysts and regulators in relation to a firm which risked missing analyst forecasts if it did not make aggressive accounting choices. This was one of the most lively sessions and groups struggled to reach a consensus on the "right" choice.

Instead of our usual leisure activities, Friday afternoon was spent cruising on Lake Tahoe. This was followed by a dance party, complete with live band, back at the resort.

Saturday was the last day of the conference. The morning session was on tax research, presented by Doug Shackelford. Doug gave us an overview of US and international papers on tax research. One point that was particularly emphasised was the relevance of taxes in determining optimal corporate structure, a feature which is frequently ignored (for the sake of simplicity) by researchers.

Finally, we had a session on audit research with Bill Kinney. This session focused on changes in the information

assurance environment over the last 30 years and the need for audit practices to evolve. This was a particularly relevant presentation in light of the recent high profile corporate collapses and audit failures.

Notwithstanding the intensive workload of the consortium all the participants had an enjoyable experience and I would encourage all doctoral students to apply for future consortia.

Sarah Taylor
PhD Fellow
University of Technology, Sydney

Accounting Research Methodology Monographs

The publication of the 'series' of accounting research methodology monographs resulted from the (then) Coopers & Lybrand/AAANZ Visiting Research Professor Program. Over the years, the Association has experienced a good response from members and non-members wishing to purchase copies of the monographs.

The first monograph from the 'series' was published in 1994 and the last in 1997.

If members are interested in purchasing copies of one of the monographs or all, please contact the AFAANZ Secretariat via email with regard to pricing and despatch. The email address is effiem@clyde.its.unimelb.edu.au.

Monograph No. 1:

Professor Philip Brown, *Capital Markets-Based Research in Accounting: An Introduction*, 1994.

Monograph No. 2:

Professor Peter Brownell, *Research Methods in Management Accounting*, 1995.

Monograph No. 3:

Professor Ken T. Trotman, *Research Methods for Judgment and Decision Making Studies in Auditing*, 1996.

Monograph No. 4:

Professor Ron Weber, *Ontological Foundations of Information Systems*, 1997.

Members please note our NEW website address is:
www.afaanz.org

Life Membership

At this year's annual conference in Perth, Western Australia, the Association was pleased to present three Life Membership Awards to members who have made a significant contribution to the organization's history and greatly influenced the discipline of accounting in the education sector and the profession.

Life Membership was awarded to Professors Michael Bradbury, Ken Trotman and Ron Weber.

On behalf of AFAANZ, we congratulate all recipients on receiving their award. This year's awards are indeed a fitting tribute, as we see the development of the Association from the AAANZ to what is (now) AFAANZ.

Professor Michael Bradbury



Professor Michael Bradbury is a first-class scholar, who is highly regarded and respected for his broad interests and abilities. He is Professor of Accounting at UNITEC, Auckland. Previously he taught at the University of Auckland, University of Sydney and the Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor Bradbury holds a FCA and CMA and is currently a member of the Financial Reporting Standards Board of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand.

At present, Professor Bradbury's research focus is on financial instruments, which relates to his work on the Joint Working Group of Standard Setters. He has made several contributions so far to this field, including identification and testing of theoretical reasons as to why accounting firms use derivative financial instruments, and has given numerous presentations and developed articles on the use of fair-value accounting for financial instruments.

Professor Bradbury is on the editorial boards of *Abacus, Accounting and Finance, Journal of Accounting and Public Policy, New Zealand Journal of Taxation Law and Policy* and the *New Zealand Investment Analyst Journal*. He is past editor of the *Pacific Accounting Review*. He is also an ad hoc reviewer for a number of other journals including *Accounting Horizons, Contemporary Accounting Research, Journal of Accounting and Public Policy* and *The Accounting Review*.

In 2001, Professor Bradbury was awarded the AAANZ Outstanding Contribution to Practice Award in recognition of his significant contribution to practice.

Professor Bradbury has made a significant contribution to the AAANZ as a past President and Executive Committee member, and as a member of faculty on a number of doctoral consortia and colloquia. We are honoured that he continues to strongly support the Association.

Professor Ken Trotman



Scientia Professor Ken Trotman was awarded Life Membership of AAANZ in recognition of his many contributions to the Association and to accounting research and education. Over the years, Professor Trotman has been past President, recipient of the AAANZ Outstanding Contribution to Accounting Research Literature Award, past Plenary Speaker and faculty member of the Association's doctoral consortia. He was the Coopers and Lybrand (now PwC)/AAANZ Visiting Research Professor in 1993-94 and subsequently wrote the research monograph, entitled *Research Methods for Judgment and Decision Making Studies in Auditing*, published in 1996. This monograph by Professor Trotman was the third in the series.

Professor Trotman has been a long-time member of the editorial board of *Accounting and Finance*. He also has many years of service on the editorial boards of major international journals including *The Accounting Review, Accounting Organizations and Society* and *Abacus*. Professor Trotman has just completed a three-year term as editor of *Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory*.

Professor Trotman's contribution to accounting education has also been acknowledged on an international scale. He was awarded the 2001 Outstanding Education Award from the Audit Section of the American Accounting Association.

We are honoured to count Professor Trotman as one of our own!

Professor Ron Weber



Professor Ron Weber is one of those rare individuals who excels at everything he does. He is internationally known for his scholarship in the area of information systems research. For three decades, he has been at the forefront of IS research, breaking new ground and pushing the frontiers in deep structure and ontology.

Professor Weber's work has transcended traditional disciplinary barriers making advances in audit, accounting, IT and of course his *passion* in the IS field. In addition to peer recognition through various manuscript awards, fellowships and professional prizes, his status has been recognized through the membership of editorial boards of journals such as *The EDP Auditor, The Accounting Review, Information Systems Research* and more recently as Editor-In-Chief of the leading journal *MIS Quarterly*.

Professor Weber has shared his research experience with numerous



2002 Conference Plenary Speakers: Professors Patty Dechow (Uni. of Michigan) and Ron Weber (UQ)



Mr Jeff Coulton, Mr Andrew Ferguson and Ms Caitlin Ruddock (UTS)



Prof. Keitha Dunstan (Victoria Uni. of Wellington); Dr Alan Teixeira (Uni. of Auckland); and Prof. Michael Bradbury (UNITEC)

AAANZ CONFERENCE 2002

Over 350 delegates attended the AAANZ conference at the Sheraton Perth Hotel.



AFAANZ Council 2002/2003

Front Row (L to R): Prof. Fawzi Laswad (Lincoln Uni.); Assoc. Prof. Phil Gray (UQ); Mr Bruce Benett (UNITEC); Prof. Ian Eggleton (UWA) Seated: Prof. Louise Kloot (Swinburne Uni.) Second Row (L to R): Mr Bryan Howieson (Uni. S.A.); Professors Barry Cooper (RMIT); Robert Faff (Monash); Colin Ferguson (UQ) and Tim Brailsford (UQ)



Ms Sue Jackman (Christchurch College of Educ.); Mrs Velma Clarke; Mrs Quita McNally (Uni. of Canterbury) and Mr Graham McNally (Deloitte, Christchurch)



Delegates at the Conference Welcome Reception



Ms Diana Pryde, CEO, ICANZ



Mr Greg Larsen, CEO, CPA Australia



Mr Geoff Brayshaw, President, ICAA



Prof. Stewart Leech (Uni. of Melb.) and Mr Peter Green (UQ)

colleagues and PhD students, notably at the AAANZ doctoral programmes in 1997 and 2002. He is also recognised for his scholarly contributions through participation in the (then) Coopers and Lybrand/AAANZ Visiting Research Professor Program (1994-95) and the subsequent publication of the monograph entitled, *Ontological Foundations of Information Systems*; and in the year 2000, the AAANZ Outstanding Contribution to the Accounting Research Literature Award.

In that same year he was also acknowledged for his significant contribution to teaching by being awarded the *inaugural* AAANZ Outstanding Contribution to Education Award as well as being nationally recognised through winning the Prime Minister's Award for Individual University Teacher of the Year - a magnificent year for a very worthy member of the Association.

Professor Weber also served on the Executive of the AAANZ for several years: 1984-85, Secretary; 1985-87, Treasurer; and from 1987-89 as President. During his time as a Divisional Councillor for (now) CPA Australia between 1984-88, he played a key role in maintaining strong links between the AAANZ and the accounting profession.

Professor Weber remains a loyal and staunch supporter of our Association and for that, we are truly thankful.

Once again, congratulations to all.

**AFAANZ/
CPA AUSTRALIA/ICAA
2002 PhD
SCHOLARSHIPS**

Sponsored by CPA Australia and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.

See Application Form insert in this issue, outlining the instructions, terms and conditions for the PhD Scholarships.

**Peter Brownell
Manuscript Award**



Robert Faff receives the award from Tim Brailsford (absent, co-author, Warren Dean).

On behalf of the Editor, Professor Margaret Abernethy, Professor Tim Brailsford, AFAANZ President (Australia), presented the Peter Brownell Manuscript Award for 2001, at this year's conference in Perth, Western Australia.

The recipients of the award were Warren G Dean and Robert W Faff for their article entitled "The Intertemporal Relationship Between Market Return and Variance: An Australian Perspective", published in *Accounting and Finance*, Volume 41, Number 3, November 2001.

Congratulations Warren and Robert. We look forward to further contributions to the Association's journal.

**Opportunity to Improve
Research Skills Seminar**

**Capital Markets/Financial
Accounting
13-16 January 2003
Level 28, 385 Bourke Street,
Melbourne**

AFAANZ is pleased to announce that, it is sponsoring a special four-day seminar in January 2003 that will help participants to improve their research skills related to capital markets and financial reporting. A leading international researcher in the area, Professor Greg Clinch (Melbourne Business School) will present the course.

The course will provide an overview of capital markets research in financial accounting. The focus will be on thinking and talking about research methods employed in capital markets research, the problems encountered, and possible "solutions" to these problems.

It is intended that the course will be pitched at the PhD level. AFAANZ members enrolled in a relevant PhD or staff wishing to update or extend their knowledge of contemporary capital markets research may find the course particularly valuable.

Two approaches will be taken to achieve the course objectives: discussing existing and ongoing research in the related literature, and hands on analysis with real data. Participants will be formed into groups to investigate specific financial accounting research questions using actual Australian data. It is expected that some of these analyses might lead to publishable research papers.

Given the intensive nature of the course over the four days, there will be an amount of preparatory work that will be expected of participants in advance of the course. The class size will be limited to 20 participants.

Course Fee: \$660 (inclusive of GST)

Nomination Procedure: HoDs in Australia and New Zealand are invited to nominate one person by 15 November 2002. Please include a short (or full) CV of the nominated person. Send CV and nomination to Effie Margiolis, Executive Director, AFAANZ, GPO Box 2820AA, Melbourne, VIC 3000. The course fee does not cover travel, accommodation or incidental costs.

Disclaimer: AFAANZ reserves the right to change any or all of the January 2003 Research Skills Seminar program.

**2003 AFAANZ
Outstanding Contribution
to
Practice Award**

Previous recipients of this prestigious award have included:

- Professor Graham Peirson, Monash University
- Professor Michael Bradbury, UNITEC
- Professor Ken Leo, Curtin University of Technology.

Please see elsewhere in this newsletter for details on the call for nominations for the 2003 award.

Accounting History Interest Group

The third Accounting History International Conference

Following successful conferences held in Melbourne in 1999 and in Osaka in 2001, the third *Accounting History International Conference* will be held in Siena between 17-19 September 2003.

The conference is being hosted by the Italian Society of Accounting History and will be held at the University of Siena. Professor Angelo Riccaboni of the University of Siena is the conference convenor. Papers for consideration for presentation at the Congress should be submitted to Professor Riccaboni at: Riccaboni@unisi.it

Papers should be submitted for review no later than 1 May 2003. Early submission is encouraged. Notification of papers accepted for inclusion in the program will be made by 23 June 2003.

Garry Carnegie
Editor, *Accounting History*.

Accounting Standards Interest Group

Report on the Accounting Standards Forum, Perth, July 6, 2002

This year's AAANZ conference again saw a very successful full day session run by ASIG on the Saturday prior to the main conference.

Apart from the usual update on current issues facing the AASB, UIG and New Zealand's FRSB, the two main themes for this year's ASIG Forum were Asset Impairment and Independence of Auditors.

Keith Alfredson (Chairman of the AASB and UIG) and Lay Wee Ng (a Director at the FRSB) provided a comprehensive overview of the latest developments in Australian and New Zealand standard setting including the recent decree by the Financial Reporting Council on the adoption of International accounting standards in Australia by 1 January 2005.

Keith was then joined by two distinguished businessmen, David Moroney (Chief Financial Officer, Wesfarmers CSBP) and Bryce Denison (Group Accountant, Wesfarmers Ltd and member of the Group of 100) for a preparer's perspective on the issues associated with accounting for asset impairment.

After lunch, the proposed changes for ensuring independence of auditors were reviewed and debated by a panel consisting of: Geoff Brayshaw (President ICAA), Jim Dixon (CPA Australia), Dr Christine Jubb (Senior Project Manager AARF), Grant Robinson (Partner, Assurance & Advisory Leader, KPMG), and Tom Ravlic (journalist extraordinaire).

Those who attended the forum were able to participate throughout the day via questions and a series of open forums. Feedback received about the day suggested that attendees found it to be an enjoyable and highly informative event. Comment was also made that the Forum is an excellent opportunity to gain insights into the day-to-day practicality of applying accounting standards in the 'real world'.

We would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the presenters at this year's Forum for so readily giving up their valuable time to share their expertise with the participants.

2003 Accounting Standards Forum Brisbane, Queensland

Ken Leo, Phil Hancock and Bryan Howieson are beginning to plan next year's Forum and we invite you to join us for what should be another interesting opportunity to access information on contemporary issues in financial reporting.

The 2003 accounting standards forum will, as usual, be held on the Saturday preceding the AFAANZ Conference.

With the recent decision of the Financial Reporting Council to adopt International Accounting Standards from 1 January 2005, the *theme* for the forum will be - what is the impact of this very significant decision for us as accounting academics. Once again, we will have the support of the standard-setters from Australia and New Zealand.

In addition to the general theme concerning what the adoption of International Accounting Standards (or International Financial Reporting Standards as they will now be called) and the impact on accounting academics, other specific topics likely to be discussed are Financial Instruments, Business Combinations and Intangibles. We are also looking at including a session on Not-for-profit entities. Look for more detail in the next issue of the AFAANZ newsletter.

Phil Hancock

Accounting Education Special Interest Group

2002 Education SIG report:

The annual symposium held prior to the main conference continues to be well supported with 23 registrations and a few visitors over the day from other activities. The interaction, participation and constructive comments of participants was commendable, indeed keeping to planned time over the day was a challenge!

The website for the SIG5 continues to be developed and, we are currently in the process of including the presentations from the 2002 symposium. Thanks to Jim Murdoch for his on-going work on the site.

Jac Birt and I will continue as co-convenors of the group.

The Education Committee of IFAC (The International Federation of Accountants), which is the umbrella body for professional accountancy bodies worldwide, is currently calling for tenders for research looking at the range of assessment methods that should be considered when determining the competence of individual professional accountants. More information can be found on the SIG5 web site.

Organization for the 5 July 2003 Symposium in Brisbane is under way. The *theme* for the symposium is 'Student Diversity in the Classroom', and call for papers and workshop presentations are detailed below.

**ACCOUNTING
EDUCATION
SYMPOSIUM
SATURDAY 5 JULY 2003**

**Call for Papers and
Workshop Presentations**

***Theme: Student Diversity in
the Classroom***

Papers and presentation of workshop sessions are invited for participation in a one-day symposium to precede the Annual Conference of AFAANZ to be held in Brisbane, Australia.

The symposium will feature workshop presentations and also forum sessions to explore aspects of student diversity, including innovations in teaching.

Possible topics include:

- Diversity issues, including and not restricted to culture, learning style, experience, age, language and resource availability
- Integrating diversity of learning style into the classroom and curriculum
- Student and professional expectations

Contributions are invited from both educators and professional bodies.

If you are interested in contributing to or attending this symposium please contact Dianne McGrath at d.mcgrath@aw.latrobe.edu.au, or Jacqueline Birt at Jacqueline.Birt@anu.edu.

**Submissions must be received by
31 January 2003.**

Presenters will be advised by e-mail if the paper has been accepted or rejected by the end of March 2003.

Accepted submissions will require a 500 to 1000 word abstract/summary in an electronic form for publication prior to the symposium

**Dianne McGrath, Co-convenor
2003 Symposium**

News from Institutions

University of Melbourne

**Master of Business and Information
Technology**

The Faculty of Economics and Commerce will introduce a Master of Business and Information Technology (MBIT) in 2003. The course is designed to provide a combination of the business knowledge and skills necessary to the understanding of business applications using information technology. The MBIT forms part of a suite of Masters courses in IT being offered by the University of Melbourne.

New Appointments

**Department of Accounting and
Business Information Systems**

Michael J. Davern, currently with the Information Systems Group at the Stern School of Business, New York University, has been appointed Associate Professor with the department. He will take up his appointment in January 2003. Michael graduated from the University of Tasmania with first class Honours in Accounting Information Systems. He went on to complete his PhD at the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota.

Michael T. Lee, formerly a consultant with Tier Consulting, has joined the department as a lecturer. Michael completed his Master of Commerce in Strategic Management Information Systems at Monash University. He has lectured in a range of areas at Monash and at the Securities Institute of Australia and has had several years' diverse industry experience.

University of Wollongong

Professor Michael Gaffikin has been appointed the Associate Dean (Research) for the Faculty of Commerce.

Name Change: The Department of Accounting and Finance has changed its name to the School of Accounting and Finance.

Assoc. Professor Bob Williams is the Head of School. Assoc. Professors Chris Poullaos is Head of Discipline Accounting and David Johnstone is Head of Discipline Finance.

University of Western Sydney

**History of Accounting
In Australian Universities**

Professor Roger Juchau has recently received a grant from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and CPA Australia, Pearson Education and UWS to write a History of Accounting in Australian universities. The history is to mark the 50th anniversary (2003/2004) of the appointment of the first full-time professor in accounting and the first full degree in accounting. The project will involve extensive archive research in universities and Professor Juchau welcomes the assistance of mentors who may have some treasured anecdotes and illuminating documents, which amplify the progress of accounting at their universities. The project is scheduled to produce a monograph by late 2004.

Contact with Roger can be made through UWS, c/- Accounting History Project, UWS, Locked Bag, 1797, Penrith South DC, 1797, NSW
Email: r.juchau@uws.edu.au
Ph: 61 3 9852 4202

AFAANZ WEBSITE

Dear AFAANZ Members,
Please note that the existing AANZ site is currently being re-developed under our new name
AFAANZ.

All content links are still available. We will contact you by email in the next few weeks with an update of the site's progress.

**New web address:
www.afaanz.org**

Call for nomination for: 2003 AFAANZ OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO PRACTICE AWARD

The aim and conditions of the award are set out below:

AIM

The aim of this award is to recognise outstanding contributions to practice by members of AFAANZ. The award recognises the vital links between academe and practice and seeks to acknowledge outstanding contributions to practice in the professional areas of accounting and finance.

An award will be made every two years provided nomination(s) are of a sufficiently high merit and meet the selection criteria. There is no limit on the number of such awards that can be made to an individual member.

ELIGIBILITY

Only current (financial or life) members of AFAANZ are eligible for nomination.

The contributions to practice the 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 should not normally be included for consideration. Normally, nominees will have made considerations over a sustained period of years.

CRITERIA

The selection criteria consists of:

- Representation and active contribution to state or national committees of CPA Australia, ICAA or ICANZ, and any other contribution to a relevant state or national professional body such as CIMA, SIA, AIBF, AIM, FMA and ACMAD or relevant overseas counterpart to such organizations;
- Contribution to the activities of relevant professional organizations such as reports, submissions, reviews, presentations, conference activity, education and lobbying;
- Membership of committees, groups or boards involved with accounting pronouncements such as the AASB, PSASB, FRSB, ASRB, UIG, Auditing Standards Board;
- Contribution to international organizations such as the IASC;
- Evidence of the establishment and/or strengthening of links between academe and practice;
- Competitive grants awarded for practice activities
- Contributions to research via journal articles, research assignments, specialist reports, preparation of monographs or the like, for bodies such as AARF, ICANZ, CIMA, SIA, AIBF, AIM, FMA, ACMAD;
- Honorary awards and membership bestowed by relevant professional organizations;
- Work for relevant governments and government committees at all levels of government;
- Contributions by way of committee work, reports, submissions and lobbying to statutory and other regulatory bodies (eg. ASIC, AFMA, APRA, ASX, SFE);

APPLICATION

Each application 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 from appropriate practitioners. It is envisaged that the text addressing the criteria be no more than 10 single-sided A4 pages excluding supporting documentation. Applications should also include a current vitae of the nominee.

NOMINATION DEADLINE

Nominees will be finalised by way of written submissions from proposers addressing the selection criteria. Nominations for the 2003 award are to be received at the AFAANZ Secretariat, GPO Box 2820AA, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, by 16 December 2002.

Send all nominations to Ms Effie Margiolis, Executive Director, AFAANZ
GPO Box 2820AA, Melbourne, Victoria 3001 by 16 December 2002.

2003 AAA DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

POLICY

The AFAANZ Council 2002/2003 may nominate a PhD student from Australia and New Zealand who has met the eligibility criteria stated below to attend as the Association's representative at the 2003 AAA Doctoral Consortium in the USA. This Consortium is targeted at US accounting PhD candidates who have completed the coursework component of their doctoral programs and are about to commence their dissertation.

The Consortium is held in June at Lake Tahoe, USA.

Applicants **must** be members of AFAANZ at the time of applying and in the year of representing the Association.

AWARD

The nominated representative will be advised of the outcome of the nomination as soon as the Council receives advice from AAA. AFAANZ will award an A\$2500 honorarium to the successful applicant to attend the consortium.

PROCEDURES

Any student enrolled in an Accounting PhD program and who, by the time of attending the Consortium would have made substantial progress towards completion of the dissertation is eligible to nominate as the AFAANZ Representative. It is expected that the nominee would have completed all necessary coursework for the PhD and would have a reasonably well-developed dissertation proposal.

Nominations in writing **must** reach the AFAANZ Secretariat, GPO Box 2820AA, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, no later than **Friday, 15 November 2002**. Applicants must submit an application package (**eleven copies**) containing the following:

- ❖ curriculum vitae, including the names of three academic referees, one of which is the applicant's supervisor;
- ❖ undergraduate results (including honours) and results relating to any coursework undertaken as part of the doctoral program;
- ❖ a detailed report on applicant's progress with the PhD;
- ❖ a personal statement expressing how the Consortium will benefit the applicant; and,
- ❖ certification from the Head of Department confirming that the Department is willing to pay the Consortium registration fee of US\$550.00, if the applicant is successful.

The AFAANZ Council shall consider evidence of an applicant's eligibility having regard to demonstrated excellence in research. In considering an applicant's research, the Council shall take note of the:

- ❖ Quality of the nominated representative (based on undergraduate and post-graduate results);
- ❖ Quality of the work being completed in the PhD;
- ❖ Significance of this work; and,
- ❖ Record of research activities undertaken by the applicant.

The Council's decision on the nominated representative will be announced in December to the American Accounting Association and to all applicants.

Each representative must provide a detailed report to the AFAANZ Council following the AAA Doctoral Consortium.

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Level 28, 385 Bourke Street
Melbourne, VIC 3000, Australia
Phone and Fax: 61 3 9642 0227

Email: effiem@clyde.its.unimelb.edu.au Website: www.afaanz.org

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