

PRE-EVENT BRIEFING



2026
AFAANZ
DOCTORAL
SYMPOSIUM

SYMPOSIUM CO-DIRECTORS

Associate Professor Lily Chen
The Australian National University
(li.chen1@anu.edu.au)

Associate Professor Julie Harrison
The University of Auckland
(j.harrison@auckland.ac.nz)

AGENDA

- Symposium objectives & expectations
- Guide for discussants on critiquing a research overview
- Guide on critiquing other research overviews
- Guide on doing a presentation
- Information on panel sessions
- Q&A

SYMPOSIUM OBJECTIVES & EXPECTATIONS

- OBJECTIVES

- Enrich the experience of doctoral candidates who are from a broad cross-section of universities.
- Provide opportunities for participants to present work-in-progress in a constructive forum and receive feedback from others.
- Enable participants to interact with doctoral candidates and with recognised leaders in accounting & finance education and research → participants will be exposed to a range of issues with respect to doctoral study and wider aspects of academic life.

SYMPOSIUM OBJECTIVES & EXPECTATIONS

- EXPECTATIONS

- Attendance is required at all sessions.
- Active participation is required at all study group sessions.
- What to prepare for the Symposium
 - Your presentation in PPT that you can share with your study group;
 - Your comments in PPT on the research overview assigned to you as discussant;
 - Your questions and comments on all the other research overviews in your study group;
 - Any readings for the keynote sessions; and
 - Questions for the faculty sessions.

SYMPOSIUM VENUE

PULLMAN MELBOURNE
ALBERT PARK

65 Queens Road

Melbourne, 2004

Australia

Phone: +61 3 9529 4300



BEING A DISCUSSANT

Guide on critiquing assigned research overview



The first read-through

What is the main question addressed by the research? Is it relevant and interesting?

How original is the topic? What does it add to the subject area compared with other published material?

Is the research design sound?

Is the review well written? Is the text clear and easy to read?



Before the second read-through

Read key papers in the area

- (1) guided by the overview, and
- (2) do your own research.

Can I use AI to prepare my critique?

GUIDE ON CRITIQUING A RESEARCH OVERVIEW (cont'd)



Indicate the work's strengths, its quality and completeness



Briefly summarize what the project is about (WHAT & HOW)



Try to put the project into the context of the existing literature and current knowledge



Indicate the significance of the work (motivation) and if it is novel or mainly confirmatory (WHY)

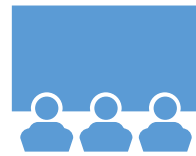


State any major flaws or weaknesses and note any special considerations.



Further suggestions to help improve the project

GUIDE ON CRITIQUING A RESEARCH OVERVIEW (cont'd)



Prepare slides for a 10-minute presentation.



Your primary role is judging the research content. Don't spend too much time commenting on formatting, grammar or spelling. But do comment on the clarity of the language and content.



Be considered, respectful and constructive! Treat each other as you would be expected to be treated. However, expect to be challenged about your research choices.



GUIDE FOR CRITIQUING OTHER RESEARCH OVERVIEWS

- You are expected to read all the research overviews in your study group in detail.
- For the other overviews where you are not the discussant, make notes using the critique process previously discussed. Include key comments or questions you have for the presenters.
- Be prepared to actively provide feedback in your study group for every presentation.

One Hour Student Presentations



20-30 mins Student
Presentation



10 mins Assigned Student
Discussant



20-30 mins General Feedback
(Faculty and Students)



GUIDE ON DOING A PRESENTATION

- Helpful tips...
 - Review slides and prune unnecessary material/words.
The minimalist approach is best.
 - Practise your talk before-hand.
 - Try to avoid reading notes.
 - Be confident... the audience are on your side.
 - Dress comfortably for making a presentation.

GUIDE ON STUDENT PRESENTATION

- Focus on:
 - Aims and significance
 - Research question(s)
 - Relevant background literature (keep this brief)
 - How does your research add to the literature?
 - Major hypotheses/theories for quantitative research; theories/research context for qualitative research
 - Proposed research design
 - For quantitative research – proposed sample, measures, data sources etc.
 - For qualitative research – methodology, methods, data collection and analysis, research credibility, etc
 - Key areas where you are seeking feedback

INFORMATION ON PANEL SESSIONS

- Faculty panels on the following topics:
 1. Journal Reviewing
 2. Your Career Post-PhD
- We welcome suggestions and questions from you!
- Email them to: Lily (li.chen1@anu.edu.au) or Julie (j.harrison@auckland.ac.nz) by **Friday 19 June**.



