

2026 AFAANZ ESG Special Interest Group (SIG) Annual Meeting

Sunday, 5 July 2026 | 8:45 AM to 1:30 PM (AEST) | In-person

Pullman Albert Park Hotel, Melbourne, Australia

Founding Chair: Professor Tracy Wang, The Australian National University

Program Chair: Dr Stanley Choi, QUT Business School

8:45 – 9:15 am	Registration and Arrival Tea
9:15 – 9:20 am	Welcome Professor Tracy Wang, Founding Chair of AFAANZ ESG SIG, The Australian National University
9:20 – 10:05 am Chair: Associate Professor Laura Luo, Macquarie University	Keynote: “We Are on the Same Planet: A Multi-Stakeholder View” Associate Professor Rencheng Wang, Singapore Management University
10:05 – 10:25 am Chair: Dr Fernando Distadio, Griffith University	Keynote: AASB Sustainability Reporting Update Dr Ao Li, Senior Manager, Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB)
10:25 – 10:45 am	Morning Tea Break
10:45 – 11:20 am Chair: Professor Ellie Chapple, QUT Business School	Panel Discussion: “ESG Research, Reporting and Practice: Challenges and Opportunities” Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor Peter Clarkson, UQ Business School• Dr Keith Kendall, AASB Chair• Patrick Viljoen, Sustainability Leader, CPA Australia• Associate Professor Rencheng Wang, Singapore Management University
11:20 – 12:15 pm Chair: Associate Professor Muhammad Nadeem, UQ Business School	Roundtable Discussion: “From Challenges to Collaboration: Future Directions for ESG Research and Practice”
12:15 – 12:20 pm	Closing Remarks Professor Tracy Wang, Founding Chair
12:20 – 12:30 pm	Annual General Meeting (AGM)
12:30 – 1:30 pm	Lunch

Welcome, Closing Remarks and AGM

Professor Tracy (Kun) Wang — Founding Chair, AFAANZ ESG Special Interest Group; Professor of Accounting, Australian National University



Tracy Wang is a Professor of Accounting at the ANU Research School of Accounting. Her research focuses on corporate governance and financial and non-financial reporting and regulation. Her work has appeared in leading journals including the *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, *Contemporary Accounting Research*, *Review of Accounting Studies*, *Journal of International Business Studies* and *Organization Science*. Tracy is Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Accounting & Finance, the founding chair of the AFAANZ ESG Special Interest Group, and a former ANU Academic Board member.

Keynote Speaker



Associate Professor Rencheng Wang — Singapore Management University

Keynote: "We Are on the Same Planet: A Multi-Stakeholder View"

Rencheng Wang is an Associate Professor of Accounting at Singapore Management University. Rencheng joined SMU in 2019. He previously taught at The University of Queensland and the University of Melbourne in Australia. He received his PhD from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Rencheng has a broad range of research interests at the intersection of accounting and finance. His work has been published in *the Journal of Accounting Research*, *Journal of Accounting and Economics*, and *The Accounting Review*. Learn more about Rencheng at <https://acrcwang.github.io/>.

AASB Sustainability Reporting Update



Dr Ao Li — Senior Manager, Sustainability Reporting, Australian Accounting Standards Board

Ao is a Senior Manager in the AASB's Sustainability Reporting team, with extensive experience in sustainability and financial reporting standard-setting. Ao has contributed to the development and implementation of the Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards (ASRS) and currently focuses on supporting their application in practice. Ao leads work on sustainability implementation monitoring and engages with stakeholders and international standard-setters to support consistent application of reporting requirements.

Panellists (By alphabetical order)



Professor Peter Clarkson — UQ Business School, The University of Queensland

Peter Clarkson is currently a Professor of Accounting in the UQ Business School at the University of Queensland, Brisbane Australia and an Adjunct Professor in the Beedie School of Business, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver Canada. He holds a Canadian CPA designation and is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia (2019).

Throughout his career, his primary research interests have been focused on issues relating to voluntary disclosure (both of a financial and a non-financial nature), firm performance and valuation; more recently with particular emphasis on the drivers, economic implications, and valuation relevance of CSR disclosure and CSR performance. His work has been published in leading accounting and finance journals, as well as in professional periodicals. He has also been afforded the privilege over his career of contributing to the profession through editorial responsibilities at a number of academic accounting journals, including CAR, JBFA, BAR, and JCAE. Finally, he was honoured as co-recipient of the 2023 American Accounting Association (AAA) Award for Distinguished Contribution to Accounting Literature.



Dr Keith Kendall — Chair, Australian Accounting Standards Board

Keith Kendall is Chair of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), appointed in May 2020. He is also a member of the Australian Financial Reporting Council and the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board, and is presently Vice Chair of the Asian Oceanian Standard Setters Group (assuming the Chair from November 2025) and co-Chair (with the Canadian Accounting Standards Board) of the International Forum of Accounting Standard Setters. Prior to his appointment to the AASB, Keith worked for over 25 years across accounting and law, including as

a Partner at Rigby Cooke Lawyers, a Victorian barrister, and Senior Lecturer at La Trobe University. He holds a doctorate examining aspects of insider trading.



Mr Patrick Viljoen — ESG Lead, CPA Australia — Panellist

Patrick is the Sustainability Leader, working in the Policy and Advocacy team at CPA Australia. Patrick represents member interests on a range of forums including the ASX Corporate Governance Council, the Accounting for Sustainability (A4S) Accounting Bodies Network and Australian Public Policy Committee. Prior to joining CPA Australia, Patrick worked for the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) in London and Shanghai as Regional Finance Manager Africa / Asia. Patrick also lectured in Finance and Investment Management, and prior to that held several key finance positions in the wealth creation industry in both the United Kingdom and South Africa.

Associate Professor Rencheng Wang — Singapore Management University
(See photo and biography under Keynote Speaker)

Session Chairs (By alphabetical order)



Professor Ellie Chapple — Queensland University of Technology — Chair, Panel Discussion Session

Ellie Chapple is Professor of Accounting at QUT Business School. She has over 30 years of experience in Australian business and law schools. Her research and teaching span insolvency, commercial and corporate law, corporate governance, CSR, diversity, forensic accounting, and auditing. She has supervised over 30 research students and published extensively in leading regional journals in accounting, auditing, finance, and law. Ellie's research takes a cross-disciplinary approach, integrating accounting and legal perspectives to inform disclosure regulation, policy, and fraud control. She is active in professional associations including the AAA, EAA, SCoLA, FIRM, and AFAANZ. She is deputy-editor in chief of *Accounting and Finance* and assessor for the Australian Research Council Discovery Research Grant programme.



Dr. L. Fernando Distadio — Griffith University — Chair, AASB Sustainability Reporting Update Session; Member, AFAANZ ESG SIG Executive Committee

L. Fernando Distadio is a Lecturer in Accounting at Griffith University's Business School. His research interests are in sustainability accounting and sustainable finance, and energy finance. His work has been published in peer-reviewed journals including *The International Journal of Accounting*, *The Energy Journal*, *the Journal of Commodity Markets*, and *Finance Research Letters*. He completed his PhD at the University of Technology Sydney, Master's in International Accounting & Finance at Birmingham University, and bilingual undergraduate in Accounting & Finance at FEA-USP (Brazil) and HEC Montreal (Canada). Prior to his PhD, Fernando worked in industry for ten years across Investor Relations and Financial Reporting roles.



Associate Professor Le (Laura) Luo — Macquarie University — Chair, Keynote Session; Treasurer, AFAANZ ESG SIG Executive Committee

Le Luo is Associate Professor in the Department of Accounting and Corporate Governance at Macquarie University, and Co-director of the Faculty Research Centre on Nature Positive Finance and Business. She specialises in corporate sustainability and carbon accounting, with current work on how businesses and capital market participants adapt to emerging environmental regulations and ESG standards. She has authored two books and over 60 papers in leading journals including *the Review of Accounting Studies*, *European Accounting Review*, *the British Accounting Review* and *the Journal of Business Ethics*. From 2021 to 2025, she has been ranked among the top 2% of scientists in Accounting in the Stanford University study led by Professor John Ioannidis.

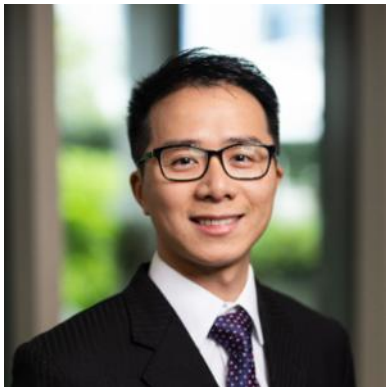


Associate Professor Muhammad Nadeem — University of Queensland Business School — Chair, Interactive Roundtable Discussion; Secretary, ESG SIG Executive Committee

Muhammad Nadeem is Associate Professor of Accounting and Co-lead of the Business Sustainability Initiative research hub at the University of Queensland Business School. Before joining UQ, he held academic positions at the University of Otago and Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand. His research spans corporate governance, corporate social and environmental responsibility, and financial and non-financial disclosures, with a particular focus on climate change reporting. His work has been

published in leading journals including The British Accounting Review, British Journal of Management, Journal of Business Ethics, Journal of Business Finance & Accounting, and Corporate Governance: An International Review. He serves as Associate Editor of Meditari Accountancy Research and is a member of CA ANZ and AFAANZ.

Program Chair



Dr Stanley Choi — Queensland University of Technology — Program Chair, 2026 ESG SIG Annual Meeting

Ka Wai (Stanley) Choi is a Senior Lecturer of Accounting. Before joining QUT in 2024, he served as a Senior Lecturer at The Australian National University. His research interests include financial analysts, social media and their interactions with the capital markets; and the role of the regulator's enforcement strategy in the effectiveness of disclosure regulations. Stanley's research has been published in a number of top-ranked journals including Journal of the Association for Information Systems, Information & Management, Decision Support Science, Abacus,

Accounting & Finance, Australian Journal of Management, The International Journal of Accounting and Communications of the Association for Information Systems. Stanley has received funding for his research including from CPA Australia for his work on big data analytics skills and training for accounting graduates in Australia.