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Co-editors Paul de Lange,  
David Lont and Cheryl Umoh

### 2014 AFAANZ CONFERENCE AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND, from 6-8 July

The 2014 AFAANZ Conference is fast approaching. You can either register online or download the registration brochure and form from our website at [www.afaanz.org/conferences](http://www.afaanz.org/conferences). We look forward to welcoming you in Auckland, New Zealand.



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## Presidents' Message

Welcome to the June newsletter.

### Conference

We are pleased to inform you that planning for the 2014 conference in Auckland, New Zealand is well underway and registrations are flowing in for what is looking like another very successful AFAANZ conference.

The conference co-chairs, Mandy Cheng and Chris van Staden; the conference technical committee; Jacqui Bates and her team at The Conference Manager; Cheryl Umoh and Tim Jones have been working very hard to ensure the conference runs smoothly. Once again, we have had strong interest from our members in submitting papers and we are looking forward to a very well attended conference as has been the case in the past. The program comprises concurrent sessions with discussants; current sessions without discussants; plenary and panel sessions. We have a couple of hot topics which will be covered in our panel session on Sunday, 6 July from 2.45 to 4pm entitled "Current Issues in Accounting and Finance Research" chaired by Ray da Silva Rosa from The University of Western Australia; and a panel discussion on the same day from 4.30 to 5.30pm entitled "Research Grants and Relevance to Practice", chaired by Millicent Chang from the The University of Western Australia.

Our special interest groups (SIGs), Accounting History, Accounting Standards and Accounting Education groups will be holding their full day symposia on Saturday, 5 July; the Public Sector and Not-for-profit SIG will be running its forum on 5 July from 1 to 5pm. The newly formed Management Accounting SIG; Qualitative Research in Accounting (QualRAN); and the Auditing and Assurance SIGs will be holding their symposia on Sunday, 6 July from 8.30am to 1pm; and the Behavioural Finance SIG will hold their meeting Sunday, 6 July from 12 noon to 2.30pm. For more information on the SIG events, please go to our conference page at <http://www.afaanz.org/conferences>.



David Lont and Paul de Lange

Planning is well advanced for the very popular Doctoral Symposium, being organised by Norman Wong and David Smith. The symposium will be held at The Langham Hotel, Auckland, New Zealand from 2-4 July 2014. This year we have 40 students attending the program, including students from USA, Europe, New Zealand and Australia.

### Research Grants

Once again there has been strong interest from our members in applying for the annual AFAANZ competitive research grants, funded by our institutional members and aimed at assisting developing and mid-career researchers. We received 95 applications. The Committee has begun the process of evaluating the applications and successful recipients will be notified in mid-June. The winners will be announced at the conference in July. Unsuccessful applicants will be provided with feedback to enhance future grant applications for their projects.

After this year's allocation, AFAANZ will have funded research projects in excess of 1.5 million dollars since the research grant scheme was initiated.

This year the scheme is coordinated by Millie Chang, and we thank Millie and her selection committee for the considerable time and effort they put into making the scheme successful.

### Fellow Membership of AFAANZ

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

Fellowships represent a high level award granted to AFAANZ members who have made a significant contribution to the organisation'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.

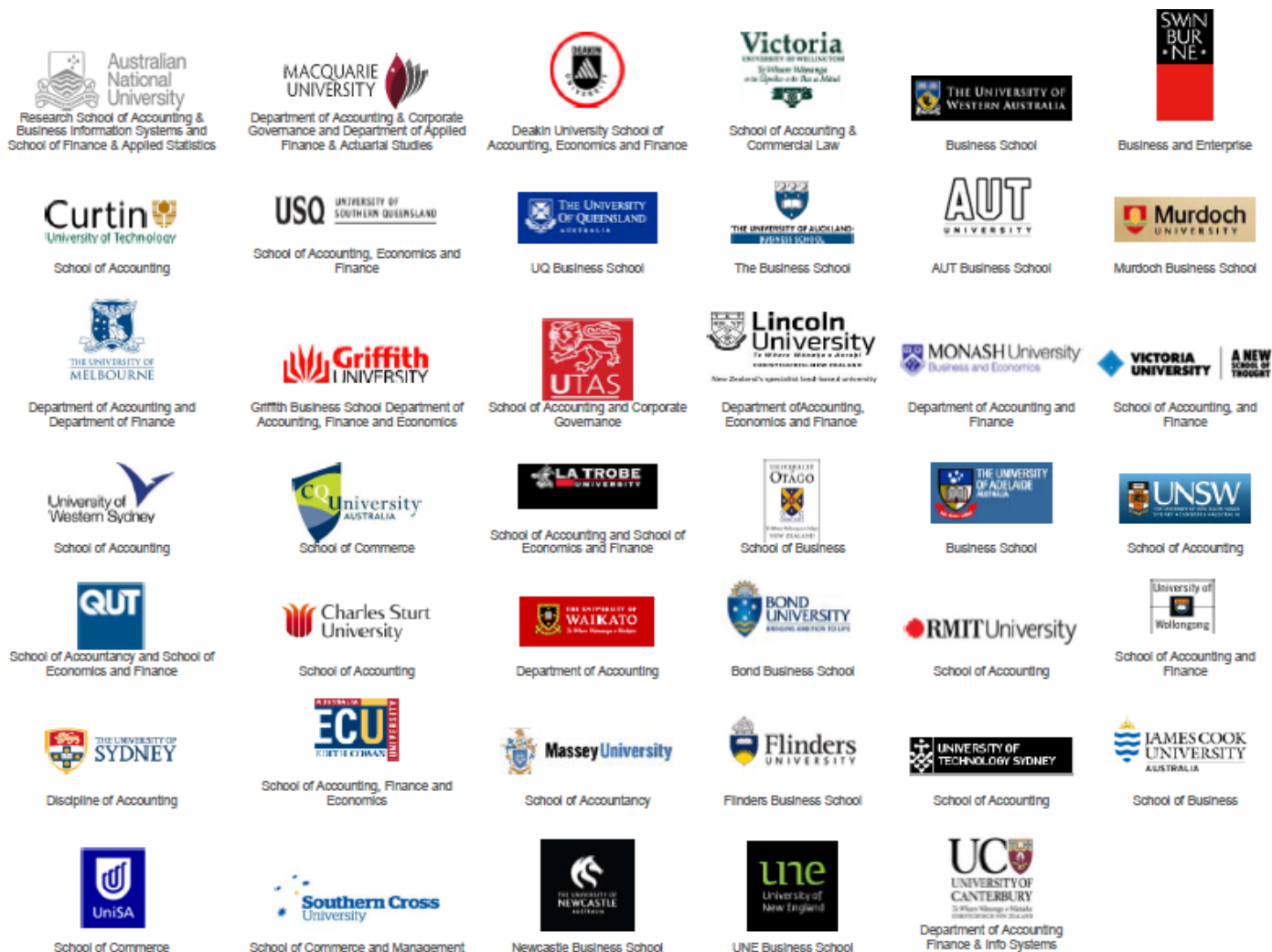
Detailed information about this award is available at [www.afaanz.org/awards](http://www.afaanz.org/awards).

Please enjoy reading the rest of the newsletter to discover information about important news, events and developments that relate to our members.

**Paul de Lange**  
President  
(Australia)

**David Lont**  
President  
(New Zealand)

## AFAANZ gratefully acknowledges the support of its Institutional Members for 2014



## AFAANZ gratefully acknowledges the support of its Platinum Sponsors for 2014



**Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia**

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Executive Director:	<b>Ms Cheryl Umoh</b> AFAANZ

### Editor-In-Chief's Report

I take this opportunity to highlight two papers in the upcoming June issue of *Accounting and Finance* (volume 54, no. 2) that should be of general interest to the journal's readers. First, Karen Benson, Robert Faff and Tom Smith were invited to write a piece reviewing the contribution of Asia-Pacific based journals to the finance literature. In their review titled "Fifty years of finance research in the Asia Pacific Basin", they analyse four leading regional finance journals – *Accounting and Finance*, *Australian Journal of Management*, *International Review of Finance* and *Pacific-Basin Finance Journal* – in five areas including most cited papers, noted authors, impact on practice, research areas and phases of scientific development. The article high-

lights the contribution of these journals to research and practice both regionally and internationally.

Second, Clive Gaunt has written a piece reviewing authorship and citation trends in *Accounting and Finance* from 2000-2012. Clive documents the significant growth in the number of papers published in *Accounting and Finance* during that period. From 1979-1999, 251 articles were published for an average of 12 articles per year. From 2000-2012, 404 articles were published for an average of 31 per year. In the last year of his analysis, 2012, 65 articles were published (although that includes a one-off supplement). He also breaks down the articles from 2000-2012 by topic area, analyses authorship by geographic area and examines the journal's impact factor over time. One interesting finding is that during the 2000-2012 period, 60% of the papers were in finance while 40% were in accounting. I have not done a complete analysis, but my feeling is that, during my tenure, this distribution has reversed so that there are now more accounting papers being submitted and accepted relative to finance papers.

In terms of submissions, the submission rate at this point of the year is ahead of 2013 and 2012. From 1 January-15 May 2014, 110 new submissions were received. This compares with 104 and 97 for the same period in 2013 and 2012, respectively. In addition, we received 39 resubmissions for a total of 149 papers during the first 135 days of 2014. Not surprisingly, Australia continues to be the largest source of submissions – 31 of the 110 new submissions (32%) were submitted by Australian authors. The second largest number of submissions was received from US-based authors (12 submissions or 10.9%).

Finally, with my term ending on 31 December, the search for the next Editor is on-going, and the new Editor should be announced at the Conference Dinner on 8 July.

**Steven Cahan**  
**Editor-in-Chief**

### CPA Australia

#### Prerequisites to Transformational Higher Education Changes

The Education Minister hailed his higher education Budget announcements as constituting the biggest reforms to the sector in 30 years. The message of the two major professional accounting bodies – CPA Australia and the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia – is that in order for reforms to achieve the transformational changes desired there are a number of important prerequisites. If that means that implementation takes more time than allowed then we suggest that more time should be taken.

Key initiatives announced included:

- extension of the demand-driven system to the sub-bachelor level and to non-university providers;



- an overall decrease to the Commonwealth's contribution achieved through differential adjustments to grants by field of education; and
- fee deregulation.

In a joint submission on the demand driven system we had recommended its retention, extension and the exploration of fees deregulation. Important prerequisites stressed were that the measures be put in place that facilitate the participation of disadvantaged students; discourage excessive cross-subsidisation; and address grant relativities.

The announcements align well with the positions in our joint submission, with a couple of important exceptions: there is no indication that anything will be done to discourage excessive cross-subsidisation; and, while adjustments to the Commonwealth's grant contributions have been identified by field of education, for accounting the changes have been in the wrong direction.

The risk of not addressing the former is that the Government's expectations of gains through competition will be undermined if any revenue growth is not reinvested in the areas of greatest student demand. If this undermines quality, discerning domestic and international students spoilt for choice in an increasingly globalised market will vote with their feet. The trends evident in a recent survey of international student choices ([www.TopUniversities.com](http://www.TopUniversities.com)) provide cause for caution – Australia has slipped down the reputational ladder, and FAME (Finance, Accounting, Management and Economics) subjects, while still most popular, are losing their gloss.

The issue with regard to the Commonwealth's grant contributions is that they fund only 16.5% of the total tuition cost for accounting. This compares poorly with most other fields of education, and better than none. Under new arrangements the contribution for accounting will fall to 14.9%, assuming no fee increases. With increases, its contribution will be even less. This outcome is at odds with the findings of past reviews (Bradley and Lomax-Smith) which identified accounting as underfunded.

We will shortly share our views in a letter to the Minister.

### The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia

The Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia is looking forward to launching the latest publication in the Academic Leadership Series at the AFAANZ conference in Auckland.

This year's publication, the fifth in the series, focuses on **The Accounting Profession's Engagement with Asia**. Edited by Elaine Evans, Roger Burritt and James Guthrie, the publication is a collaborative effort with contributions from academics, policy makers and practitioners.

Few subjects could be more topical than engagement with Asia. As members of the region, Australia and New Zealand must consider their role in grasping the opportunities as well as overcoming the challenges that may be faced in developing closer ties with the region.

The accounting profession is at the front line of business transactions and relationships and therefore has the capacity to take the lead in translating between cultures and enterprises and make a real, positive and lasting contribution.

This publication provides analysis and context to an issue often addressed in broad terms. As a nation, Australia must understand that Asia has a major role in driving the growth of Australia and the changing face of what Australia is and as a culture. Both Australia and New Zealand need to consider how best to exploit the opportunities engagement with Asia offers and mobilise meaningful engagement with Asia given that Asian countries are among the top 10 driving forces in the world.

To do so, we need to grapple with the culture of Asia and its extraordinary growth. For example, in Asia today rates of internet connectivity are very high, infrastructure investment is growing rapidly and there is a strong focus on education – both international education and significant improvements in local educational offerings. We need to change attitudes in business, and move away from a Western Eurocentric bias in the accounting profession to appreciate how cultural differences impact commercial relationships.

Australia's higher education system is an important export market, and one that we need to grow and protect in coming years. The majority of international students come to Australia to study management, commerce and accounting. There are some important challenges facing Australia's approach to international education, especially business education, and these are discussed in depth by academics with a depth of experience in this field. But our focus should also be on educating Australian students about Asia – cultural interchange is equally important for Australian students.

There is no doubt that this latest publication will create ongoing dialogue between academics, the profession and policy makers about key challenges facing the profession's engagement with Asia now and into the future.

### SIG News

*Auditing and Assurance Special Interest Group (AASIG1)  
SIG Meeting, Auckland, New Zealand, 6 July 2014*

The AASIG will be hosting its fourth meeting at the AFAANZ Conference in July 2014 in Auckland. Our meeting will be scheduled for Sunday 6 July in the morning prior to the commencement of the conference. Regis-

tration for the AASIG meeting will be through the AFAANZ Conference registration process.

Our meeting will include sessions on the following:

1. Developments in Audit Reporting
2. Panel Panel on Audit Quality and Inspections – Regulator and Practitioner Perspectives
3. Update on the CPA Australia/AASIG Synthesis Projects on Auditor Skepticism and Going Concern

There will be ample time for questions and discussion to facilitate the sharing of ideas.

We look forward to seeing you in Auckland.

**Elizabeth Carson (Chair), Robyn Moroney, Peter Carey, Noel Harding and Nives Botica Redmayne**

### ***Accounting History Special Interest Group (SIG2)***

The 8<sup>th</sup> *Accounting History* International Conference

The eighth *Accounting History* International Conference (8AHIC) on the theme “Accounting’s history in diverse industries and other settings” is being held in Ballarat, Australia during the 19-21 August, 2015.

The 8AHIC is sponsored by the Faculty of Business, Federation University Australia (formerly the University of Ballarat) and Accounting History Special Interest Group of the Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand.

The conference’s plenary speakers are:

- ▶ Professor Rachel Baskerville (Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand)
- ▶ Professor Alessandro Lai (University of Verona, Italy)

While papers will be accepted across the full range of accounting history topics and methodological and theoretical perspectives, authors are encouraged to address topics relevant to the conference theme: “Accounting’s history in diverse industries and other settings”. This involves studying accounting in the distinctive business and non-business contexts in which it is situated and may include, but is not limited to, historical studies of:

- ▶ Accounting innovation within particular industries;
- ▶ Industry specific accounting rules, standards and related regulations;
- ▶ The role of accounting in enabling or inhibiting the growth of particular industries;
- ▶ Transfers of accounting technology between industries;
- ▶ Adaptations to accounting technology made within particular industries;
- ▶ Industry specific textbooks and educational programs;
- ▶ Unique accounting issues within particular industries;
- ▶ Accounting in distinctive non-industrial settings, such as religious orders, hospitals, not-for-profit entities, and government and public sector institutions

Papers written in the English language and complying with the *Accounting History* manuscript style should be submitted in Word format no later than 8 February 2015 to ballarat.ahic@rmit.edu.au. All papers will be subject to a double-blind refereeing process and will be published on the Conference Web site as refereed conference proceedings, unless otherwise advised. A special issue of the journal on the conference theme is scheduled to be published following the event. Notification of papers accepted for inclusion in the conference program will be made by 10 April 2015.

An Emerging Scholars’ Colloquium will be held immediately prior to the conference.

Conference information will be added progressively to the conference website: <http://federation.edu.au/faculties-and-schools/faculty-of-business/the-business-school/8ahic>

Inquiries may be directed to the Conference Convener, Brian West, Faculty of Business, Federation University Australia, at the following e-mail address: [b.west@federation.edu.au](mailto:b.west@federation.edu.au)

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## Accounting History

### Call for Papers

**The eighth *Accounting History* International Conference**

**“Accounting’s history in diverse industries and other settings”**

Ballarat, Australia, 19-21 August, 2015

Sponsored by: Faculty of Business, Federation University Australia (formerly the University of Ballarat) and

Accounting History Special Interest Group of the Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand

While papers will be accepted across the full range of accounting history topics and methodological and theoretical perspectives, authors are encouraged to address topics relevant to the conference theme: “Accounting’s history in diverse industries and other settings”. This involves studying accounting in the distinctive business and non-business contexts in which it is situated and may include, but is not limited to, historical studies of:

- ▶ Accounting innovation within particular industries;
- ▶ Industry specific accounting rules, standards and related regulations;
- ▶ The role of accounting in enabling or inhibiting the growth of particular industries,
- ▶ Transfers of accounting technology between industries;

- Adaptations to accounting technology made within particular industries;
- Industry specific textbooks and educational programs;
- Unique accounting issues within particular industries;
- Accounting in distinctive non-industrial settings, such as religious orders, hospitals, not-for-profit entities, and government and public sector institutions

**Submission and Review of Papers:** Papers written in the English language and complying with the *Accounting History* manuscript style should be submitted in Word format no later than **8 February 2015** to [ballarat.ahic@rmit.edu.au](mailto:ballarat.ahic@rmit.edu.au). All papers will be subject to a double-blind refereeing process and will be published on the Conference Web site as refereed conference proceedings, unless otherwise advised. A special issue of the journal on the conference theme is scheduled to be published following the event.

**Notification of Acceptance:** Notification of papers accepted for inclusion in the conference program will be made by **10 April 2015**.

An Emerging Scholars' Colloquium will be held immediately prior to the conference.

Conference information will be added progressively to the conference website: <http://federation.edu.au/faculties-and-schools/faculty-of-business/the-business-school/8ahic>. Inquiries may be directed to the Conference Convener, Brian West, Faculty of Business, Federation University Australia, at the following e-mail address: [b.west@federation.edu.au](mailto:b.west@federation.edu.au)

The historical Australian city of Ballarat is situated just over an hour by rail or road to the west of the state capital of Melbourne. Ballarat was founded during the gold rush of the 1850s and is often identified as the birthplace of Australian democracy. The city's rich history – both literally and figuratively – is preserved in its historic buildings, streetscapes, tourist attractions and art gallery.

Further information about visiting Ballarat can be found at <http://visitballarat.com.au/>

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## Accounting History

### Call Papers

#### **Accounting and Charities in Historical Perspective**

The growth of charitable activities worldwide for hundreds of years is most often seen either as a response to gaps in or as complementary to government-provided services. Different jurisdictions have very specific rules and practices concerning the definition of what constitute charitable purposes, and the extent to which donors are provided with tax incentives. There is also a complex mix

of stakeholders interested in the proper functioning of charities, representing both a diverse group of funding agencies and beneficiaries. Financial reporting by charities is most often perceived as discharging a stewardship function. Therefore, a need exists for a strong body of historical research to better appreciate the nature of, and prospect for, effective and efficient charities, and related accounting and auditing issues. Cultural distinctions in the role and range of charitable activities in different countries are also pertinent for investigation.

For this special issue, topics may include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- Accounting and accountability in secular or religious charities
- Accounting in the interrelations between charities, local governments and the State
- Social dimensions of accounting in charitable organisations
- Accounting practices in charities dealing with specific situations of misfortune (famine, plague, natural disasters, wars, and so on)
- Charities' accounting and financial reporting regulation
- Auditing practices/financial fraud in charitable organisations
- Accountants in charitable organisations or prominent contributors to accounting development in charities

Potential contributors are encouraged to interpret these themes broadly, adopting diverse theoretical and methodological perspectives. Submissions are particularly encouraged which investigate such topics in the light of the different social and economic elements shaping accounting, accountability and auditing in charities. In turn, researchers are also encouraged to identify the impacts of accounting, accountability and auditing on charities and communities.

Submissions must be written in English and forwarded electronically to the Guest Editors by 30 September 2014. This special issue is scheduled to be published in the first half of 2016. Manuscripts will be subject to the usual double blind review process of *Accounting History*.

Potential contributors are invited to contact the Guest Editors to discuss their proposed topics.

#### **Guest Editors:**

Rachel Baskerville, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, email: [rachel.baskerville@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:rachel.baskerville@vuw.ac.nz)  
Stefania Servalli, University of Bergamo, Italy, email: [stefania.servalli@unibg.it](mailto:stefania.servalli@unibg.it)

#### **Accounting Standards Special Interest Group (SIG3)** **2014 Accounting Standards Forum, Auckland, 5 July**

We have a wonderful day arranged for those who attend

the 20<sup>th</sup> Accounting Standards Forum in Auckland. The programme will commence as usual with reports from the standard setters in Australia and New Zealand. These reports are always of interest as they provide an insider view on current and potential future issues from standard setters. I would once again like to thank the standard setters in New Zealand and Australia for their continuing support of the forum.

We are very fortunate in having Warren Allen the President of IFAC who will attend and present at the Forum. We are also delighted that the newly appointed Chair of the External Reporting Board, Graeme Mitchell and Kimberley Crook the newly appointed Chair of the NZ ASB will be joining us at the Forum. Nikole Gyles, Director – Technical Projects and Board Activities at the AASB and Kimberley Crook will provide the update on activities in Australia and New Zealand. These sessions will be followed by a panel session looking at the IASB Discussion paper on the Conceptual Framework. We are delighted that Ann Tarca now a member of the AASB together with Kimberley Crook and Todd Beardsworth Technical Director at the XRB will participate in the panel session. We have also invited the other professional bodies to participate in the session.

The AGM of the group will be held at the conclusion of the Forum. As usual, the AGM will be followed by refreshments.

#### PhD PRESENTATIONS: CALL FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

For the afternoon session we invite students working on Masters or PhD projects that are likely to have significant relevance to accounting standards present papers on their research. This is an opportunity for academics to get valuable feedback from an audience with a strong interest in financial reporting. It is also an opportunity for the academic community to show the standard setters that some academic research currently in progress in Australia and New Zealand may be very relevant to them as standard setters.

If you are a student working on a higher degree and the topic of your research is likely to have significant relevance to accounting standards and you would like to nominate for the afternoon session you should e-mail an abstract of no more than 300 words to Phil Hancock. ([phil.hancock@uwa.edu.au](mailto:phil.hancock@uwa.edu.au)). If you would like more details, call Phil on 08 6488 1835.

Finally if any academic staff member has a paper they would like to present at the forum please email Phil Hancock with details of the paper and you will receive a decision within 48 hours.

**Phil Hancock** ([Phil.Hancock@uwa.edu.au](mailto:Phil.Hancock@uwa.edu.au))  
*Chair*

#### *QualRAN Special Interest Group (SIG4)* *2014 QualRAN Meeting, Auckland, 6 July*

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Dear Colleagues,

This year the QualRAN SIG has packed a lot into its AFAANZ programme. We are very fortunate to have Professor Lee Parker (now from RMIT University) as our main presenter, and he will speak on his current research on conducting interviews. Anyone who experiencing one of Lee's presentations will surely attest to his dynamic presentation style along with the quality content he delivers.

Our next presenter builds nicely on the writing skills development theme conducted by Professor Helen Sword last year. This year we have the privilege of having Fiona Crawford from the Editorial Collective make a presentation on common copy editing pitfalls she comes across when editing academic writing. Fiona is the copy editor for many accomplished accounting academics most of whom would never submit a publication unless she has first 'polished' the diamond. Fiona's presentation will be of great interest to all budding and accomplished academic writers.

Again, building on the writing theme we have two further presentations from journal Editors. Seeing that we are in New Zealand this year, Professor Jill Hooks Editor of the Pacific Accounting Review has agreed to update us on the journal. Similarly, considering Lee Parker is already here, he has also agreed to put on his Editor's hat and update us on the Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal. An "Ask the Editors" panel will follow called "Publishing qualitative accounting research", where prospective authors can ask questions about any aspect of the academic publishing process. Associate Professor John Dumay will also join the panel as the Australasian Regional Editor of the Journal of Intellectual Capital. The program looks like this:

Date: Sunday 6 July, 2014

8:30 – 9:00	Coffee & Networking
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome
9:10 – 10:10	Lee Parker – Interview interaction modes in management accounting research
10:10 – 10:40	Fiona Crawford – Copy editing academic articles: Some good advice!
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee & Networking
11:00 – 11:15	Jill Hooks - Pacific Accounting Review update
11:15 – 11:30	Lee Parker – Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal update
11:30 – 12:00	Ask the Editors Q&A panel –Publishing qualitative accounting research
12:00 – 12:20	AGM
12:20 – 12:30	Closing



### And the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Qualitative Research Colloquium

One last item of interest is Lee Parker's upcoming annual national intensive qualitative research colloquium, the 7th Colloquium on Qualitative Research Methods in Business and Accounting, to be held on 25-6, August 2014. This is the first occasion where Melbourne is the host city.

More information and registration is available at: <http://www.rmit.edu.au/events/qrcb2014>.

The colloquium has a strong tradition of attendees from around Australia and New Zealand, ranging from doctoral students through to established academic scholars. It caters for business and all other scholarly disciplines. Two leading international qualitative methodology specialists will assist Professor Parker - Professor Kathryn Haynes (University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK), and Professor Judy Brown (Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand).

### Your QualRAN Committee

John Dumay, Gillian Vesty and William Maguire

### Public Sector Not-for-Profit Special Interest Group (SIG6) 2014 Meeting – 5 July, Auckland

Below are some more details about what we have planned for the SIG 6 session on Saturday 5 July, just prior to the AFAANZ conference in Auckland this year. These details are also available on the AFAANZ website: <http://www.afaanz.org/images/stories/2014conference/AFAANZ%20Conference%202014%20SIG%206%20Program.pdf>. The program is looking very interesting!

**Panel Session:** Dr Rowena Sinclair will be chairing our panel session on the topic "Current international standard setting influences on the Public and Not-for-Profit sections". Panellists will be from:

- ▶ **Public Sector:** A representative with experience in Public Sector accounting from New Zealand's External Reporting Board that issues accounting, ethical, and auditing standards on behalf of the New Zealand Government (or Angela Ryan from Treasury, who is also Deputy Chair of the NZ Accounting Standards Board, which issues accounting standards on behalf of the New Zealand Government.)
- ▶ **NFP Sector:** A representative from the Not-for-profit sector.
- ▶ **CA firm:** David Bassett, Manager Financial Accounting Advisory Services with Ernst & Young. He has had experience with both sectors, and has assisted the External Reporting Board with the development of New Zealand Accounting Standards for both sectors.

**AGM.** Professor David Gilchrist will be chairing the SIG 6 AGM. If you have any ideas for future possible SIG 6 initiatives, please bring them along!

**Research Presentations.** At the research segment following afternoon tea and the SIG 6 AGM, David and Dr Carolyn Cordery will present their work:

- ▶ David: Public accounts committees in the Oceania region
- ▶ Carolyn: Accountability and not-for-profit organisations: the implications of an international reporting framework (based on her 2014 CCAB report with Louise Crawford, Gareth Morgan and Oonagh Breen)

There is still room for more participation in this segment, so if you have work you would like to present, or a research proposal for discussion, please contact Dr Joanne Lye, the SIG 6 secretary/treasurer, who is organising that session: [joanne.lye@monash.edu](mailto:joanne.lye@monash.edu)

I will be away on Long Service Leave from 9 May until 30 June, so if you have any queries about the session during that period, would you please contact Joanne.

Hoping to see you at the SIG 6 session!

Helen Irvine

### Behavioural Finance Special Interest Group (SIG7) 2014 Forum – 6 July, Auckland

The behavioural finance SIG will have its first meeting at the 2014 AFAANZ conference and we have an exciting program planned! We are still looking for more members. This is the only finance SIG at AFAANZ so please join us and support this initiative.

Our plan for the SIG meeting, scheduled for Sunday 6 July 2014 at 12noon – 2.30PM include:

Welcome and mission and vision of the SIG  
(Professor Ray da Silva Rosa and Dr Maria Strydom)

Panel discussion (panel guests to be confirmed):  
"Is there a distinctive behavioural finance approach?"

SIRCA Presentation by Nicholle McNiece– new data on house prices etc. available to us via SIRCA

Workshop and round table discussion –  
How can the group serve its members best?

AGM and plan for the next year

Close and networking drinks

For more information please contact:  
Maria ([maria.strydom@monash.edu](mailto:maria.strydom@monash.edu)); or  
Ray ([ray.dasilvarosa@uwa.edu.au](mailto:ray.dasilvarosa@uwa.edu.au))

See you in Auckland!



### Management Accounting Special Interest Group (SIG8) 2014 Accounting Standards Forum – 6 July, Auckland

The newly established AFAANZ special interest group called "Management Accounting" (MASIG) will conduct its first Forum meeting in Auckland on Sunday morning 6 July from 9am to 12.30pm. Members are encouraged to register for this SIG immediately. For further details about the MASIG, please contact Associate Professor John Sands at [j.sands@griffith.edu.au](mailto:j.sands@griffith.edu.au). The Forum schedule will be circulated to members in coming weeks.

Many of the senior Australian management accounting academics and researchers have become members of MASIG.

MASIG aims to develop a supportive environment for accounting academics in Australia and New Zealand who are engaged in, or wish to engage in management accounting research and/or teaching. The MASIG aims to support research, education and foster relationships with practice in order to improve the contribution of academics to the management accounting areas.

### News from Institutions

#### Monash University

##### Department of Banking and Finance

The Department of Banking and Finance at Monash is proudly co-hosting (with Trinity College Dublin) the 12<sup>th</sup> INFINITI Conference on International Finance at our campus in Prato, Italy, 8-9<sup>th</sup> June, 2014. This year's conference theme is "Global Finance – Integration or Mere Convergence?"

The keynote speakers are Fabio Canova from European University Institute, Italy, and Dirk Schoenmaker, Duisenberg School of Finance, The Netherlands

There are *four* special journal issues associated with the conference:

- *Journal of Banking and Finance*: "International Financial Integration and Transnational Banking". Guest Editor: Brian Lucey, Trinity College Dublin.
- *Emerging Markets Review*: "Emerging Markets and Global Financial Integration". Guest Editor: Brian Lucey, Trinity College Dublin.
- *International Review of Financial Analysis*: "Research Design and Methodology in International Integration Studies". Guest Editor: Maurice Peat, The University of Sydney, Australia
- *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance*: "Behavioral and Experimental Insights into Financial Crises". [Papers submitted for this Special Issue must be presented at the Society for Experimental Finance 2014 Conference or INFINITI 2014.] Guest Editors: Utz Weitzel, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Nether-

lands, and Jürgen Huber, Universität Innsbruck, Austria.

For more information, please see the INFINITI website: <http://infiniticongress.com/>

#### RMIT University

##### School of Accounting

##### The RMIT Accounting for Sustainability Conference, 2014

On 2 June the School of Accounting hosted the RMIT Accounting for Sustainability Conference, 2014. The conference was convened by Dr Gillian Vesty who was instrumental in making this conference one to remember. The conference was supported with good attendance from our academic colleagues and sponsorship provided by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia. The conference program was led by Tony Wright, CEO of Victoria Water who provided a plenary address. Other key speakers at the conference included Paul Davies, COO/Principal Banarra, Mike Sewell, Clean Technology Innovation Centre and Karen McWilliams, Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia. For more information about the conference program please refer to <http://www.rmit.edu.au/events/asc2014>.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Colloquium on Qualitative Research Methods in Business and Accounting – Registrations Now Open

A reminder that registrations for the 7<sup>th</sup> Colloquium on Qualitative Research Methods in Business and Accounting led by Professor Lee Parker are now open at <http://www.rmit.edu.au/events/qrb2014>

The 7<sup>th</sup> Colloquium on Qualitative Research Methods in Business and Accounting is sponsored by CPA Australia and the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia and supported by the Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand (AFAANZ). The Colloquium will be held on the 25 and 26 August 2014 in the Green Brain, Storey Hall at RMIT University (342 Swanston Street Melbourne). We look forward to seeing you at this colloquium. For more information about the program, speakers and registration details, please visit <http://www.rmit.edu.au/events/qrb2014>

#### The RMIT Accounting Educators' Conference 2014

On Monday 24 November 2014, the School of Accounting will be hosting the Fifth Annual RMIT Accounting Educators' Conference 2014 - themed: '*Responding to the unmet demands of accounting students and employers of accounting graduates: Challenges and advances in accounting education*'. The Conference is supported with sponsorship from CPA Australia. A special issue of *Accounting Education: An International Journal* is dedicated to publishing papers that are presented at this conference. Guest Editor of the conference convenor is Professor Steven Dellaportas.

## RMIT School of Accounting – Recent Professoriate Appointments

The School of Accounting is pleased to welcome Professor Lee Parker as a member of the professorial team. As a world renowned accounting academic, Lee is also an Honorary Professor in the School of Management at the University of St Andrews. Previous academic posts include the Universities of Glasgow, Dundee, Monash, Griffith, Flinders, Adelaide and South Australia, and visiting professorships in the USA, UK, Australasia, Asia and the Middle East. His research appears in over 200 articles and books on management and accounting internationally. Lee is also the joint founding editor of the internationally prominent ISI listed interdisciplinary research journal, *Accounting Auditing & Accountability Journal* and serves on over 20 journal editorial

## The University of Melbourne

### *Department of Accounting*

#### *Professor Colin Brian Ferguson (1949-2014)*

Professor Colin Ferguson passed away peacefully after a short illness in his native Warrnambool at the age of 64. Colin had an international reputation for work encompassing auditing, forensic accounting, and accounting information systems. Raised in Warrnambool where he completed his secondary education at the Christian Brothers (now Emanuel) College, he commenced tertiary studies at what was then the Warrnambool Institute of Advanced Education (now Deakin University), graduating with a Diploma of Business Studies in 1971. This was the modest start to what turned out to be a brilliant academic career. After working in the Melbourne office of Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co (now KPMG) in the early 1970s, he commenced teacher training and taught commercial subjects, including typing, for two years in state secondary-schools before completing a Bachelor of Business degree at Swinburne University. A Master of Economics at the University of New England followed in 1980 and a Graduate Diploma of Computing at Deakin University in 1985. The die was cast – Colin had entered the nexus of computing and accounting, a sub-discipline of accounting that has been described affectionately by more than one scholar as “lunaticfringe”. In the meantime, he had obtained a lectureship at Deakin where he completed his PhD in 1994, under the supervision of Professor Peter Wolnizer, who went on to become an eminent Dean of Business at the University of Sydney. Colin’s interest in both accounting and computing was reflected in his choice of PhD topic – “An investigation of the effects of microcomputers on the work of professional accountants”. It was hardly a surprise when Colin was recruited by the University of Queensland (UQ) the following year – one of his examiners was Professor Ron Weber, an eminent professor at UQ in the field of information systems and accounting.

Drawing on his PhD and with the stimulus of one of Australia’s leading departments in accounting and information systems at UQ, he commenced publishing prolifically in top-tier accounting and information systems journals, leading to a professorial appointment as Professor of Accounting Information Systems in 2001. At UQ, he had the top echelon of professors with which to work, including Frank Finn, Ian Zimmer (whom he had known at Swinburne and Deakin in the 1970s), Paul Bowen, Fiona Rhode, Peter Green, and of course Ron Weber, to name but a few. At the same time, he maintained a close relationship with Deakin university, continuing to work with his close friend, Professor Graeme Wines, where he held an Honorary Professorship from 2003. While happy in Queensland, Colin always maintained that he was an avowed ‘Victorian living in Queensland’. He said this once too often to Professor Stewart Leech at a meeting of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia’s (ICAA) Education Board in Sydney in 2003, who promptly replied: “if we create a Chair of Business Information Systems at the University of Melbourne, will you move to Melbourne?” The chair was created and the move was made, despite some misgivings at the time from his wife Yvonne, who was also happy in Queensland.

At the University of Melbourne, Colin continued to publish regularly in top-ranking journals, facilitated by his outstanding success in gaining competitive linkage research grants (with industry partners) through the Australian Research Council. To his Melbourne colleagues he was known as an excellent teacher, higher-degree supervisor, program director and mentor to junior staff. He played a major role in strengthening the ‘town and gown’ links of the University’s Department of Accounting and Business Information Systems (now Department of Accounting) through his Directorship of the Department’s Centre for Accounting and Industry Partnerships and his instrumental roles in the creation of the Australian Accounting Hall of Fame and the highly successful executive-in-residence program. He served on a variety of University committees, including positions as Associate Dean Research and Associate Dean Knowledge Transfer in the Faculty of Economics and Commerce (now Business and Economics), as well as Deputy Head of the Department of Accounting.

Colin was always in demand to present his research at a wide range of seminar programs, symposia and conferences. He had a natural brilliance about him – often it was more about his research philosophy than the topic at hand – often frustrating a session chair to keep him on track! But his depth of knowledge and highly-tuned presentation skills always meant that the audience was entertained and rewarded. At one academic conference, his co-author, who was to present the paper, was missing. Colin presented the research – no paper, no PowerPoint

slides, no notes (in fact it was doubtful if he had seen the paper for six months or so). The resulting oration held the audience in awe – it was no less than brilliant.

A long-time friend of historian Dr Peter Yule, he was interested in a broad range of histories and initiated the publication of a history of the University of Queensland's Department of Commerce. At Melbourne he was similarly supportive of histories of the University's accounting discipline and of its longest-running annual lecture series: the University of Melbourne – CPA Australia Annual Research Lecture.

He served on a variety of committees of CPA Australia and the ICAA and was President of the Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand for 2004–2005.

Earlier he had been president of the Western District Branch, Victoria, of CPA Australia. His academic activities also extended to the membership of several editorial boards, including the *International Journal of Accounting Information Systems* and *Accounting & Finance*.

The son of a builder, Colin's handyman skills were of tradesman standard and he had just completed major

renovations to the family's historic Warrnambool house in preparation for retiring there with his wife, Yvonne. The couple's gardening enthusiasms were evident in their frequent gifts of fresh produce to friends and colleagues. A fine golfer, his handicap had slipped out from single-figures in recent years only due to other activities restricting him to occasional rounds of golf. He took great satisfaction from the performance on the US PGA tour of his Warrnambool club-mate, Mark Leishman, and was sadly deprived of his ambition of returning his own handicap back to single-figures.

Colin's death is an enormous loss to academia and the accounting profession. A gentle person who was always positive and could always see the best in people, he will be missed but never forgotten by all his academic and professional colleagues, friends and ex-students. All our sympathy is extended to Yvonne, and their children, Sam, Katherine, Joseph and Patrick, and to the wider Ferguson family.

**Geoff Burrows and Stewart Leech**  
**Department of Accounting**  
**The University of Melbourne**

## Welcome...

The Board of the Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand (AFAANZ) formally invite you to attend the 2014 AFAANZ Conference at The Langham, Auckland, New Zealand from 6-8 July.

The AFAANZ conference continues to provide a variety of outstanding speakers and topics including keynote addresses from Professor Paul Griffin, University of California, Davis, USA, and Professor Christopher Chapman, Imperial College Business School, London.

There will also be a panel session on "Current Issues in Accounting and Finance Research" and a panel discussion on "Research Grants and Relevance to Practice".

The number of excellent papers submitted from Australia and New Zealand, Asia, Europe and the United States of America is indicative of increasing international interest in our conference. Over three days, the conference offers you a brilliant opportunity to network with colleagues from around the globe as well as giving you an update on the latest developments in accounting, finance and business related disciplines.

The AFAANZ conference continues to dedicate itself to a quality program, renowned speakers and interactive social functions. We are looking forward to welcoming you to the 2013 AFAANZ Conference in Auckland.

Our special interest groups (SIGs), Accounting History, Accounting Standards and Accounting Education groups will be holding their full day symposia on Saturday, 5 July; the Public Sector and Not-for-profit SIG will be running its forum on 5 July from 1 to 5pm. The newly formed Management Accounting SIG; Qualitative Research in Accounting (QualRAN); and the Auditing and Assurance SIGs will be holding their symposia on Sunday, 6 July from 8.30am to 1pm; and the Behavioural Finance SIG will hold their meeting Sunday, 6 July from 12 noon to 2.30pm. The SIGs provide valuable professional development and excellent networking opportunities with leading members of the profession.

**Paul de Lange (Australia)**  
**David Lont (New Zealand)**  
**Presidents**

**Cheryl Umoh**  
**Executive Director**

AFAANZ gratefully acknowledges the generous support of CPA Australia and The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia

## Preliminary Program

**Saturday, 5 July 2014 - 0830-1700**

0830-1700 *Accounting History (SIG2) Symposium*

0830-1700 *Accounting Standards (SIG3) Forum*

0830-1730 *Accounting Education (SIG5) Symposium*

1300-1700 *Public Sector & NFP Accounting (SIG6) Meeting*

**Sunday, 6 July 2014**

0900-1230 *Auditing & Assurance (SIG1) Meeting*

1200-1430 *Behavioural Finance (SIG7) Meeting*

0830-1230 *Qualitative Research in Accounting Network (SIG4)*

0900-1230 *Management Accounting (SIG8) Inaugural Meeting*

1000-1700 **Registration**

1330-1430 **Heads of Departments Meeting**

1430-1445 **AFAANZ President's Address by David Lont**

1445-1600 **Panel Session**

1600-1630 **Afternoon Tea/Coffee**

1630-1730 **Panel Discussion**

1800-1900 **Welcome Reception**

**Monday, 7 July 2014**

0830-1000 **Concurrent Session with Discussants 1**

1000-1030 **Morning Tea**

1030-1200 **Plenary Session 1**

1200-1300 **Concurrent Session without Discussants 1**

1300-1400 **Lunch**

1400-1530 **Concurrent Session with Discussants 2**

1530-1600 **Afternoon Tea**

1600-1730 **Concurrent Session with Discussants 3**

1800-1900 **Happy Hour**

**Tuesday, 9 July 2014**

0830-1000 **Concurrent Session with Discussants 4**

1000-1030 **Morning Tea**

1030-1200 **Plenary Session 2**

1200-1300 **Concurrent Session without Discussants 2**

1300-1400 **Lunch**

1400-1530 **Concurrent Session with Discussants 5**

1530-1600 **Afternoon Tea**

1600-1730 **Concurrent Session with Discussants 6**

1930-2000 **Pre Dinner Drinks**

2000-1145 **Conference Dinner**



## 2014 AFAANZ CONFERENCE PLENARY SPEAKERS



### PLENARY SESSION 1

Monday, 7 July 2014  
10.30am-12.00 noon

#### **Paul A. Griffin**

Professor at University of California  
Davis, USA

The Market for Credit Default Swaps: New Insights into Investors' Use of Accounting Information?

The market for credit default swaps has developed into a highly efficient and transparent global multi-trillion dollar market, wherein investors trade and price corporate financial instruments purely on the basis of credit risk. The theory and evidence of how investors price such credit risk includes a unique role for the quality of information in financial statements. In this address, I explain how this unique role of financial statement information in credit pricing offers new testable propositions for research in accounting. While still in its infancy, I discuss the developing accounting literature in this area.



### PLENARY SESSION 2

Tuesday, 8 July 2014  
10.30am-12.00 noon

#### **Christopher Chapman**

Professor at Imperial College Business School  
London, UK

Researching Accounting in Healthcare

Health is a matter of pressing concern to everyone. In considering the delivery of healthcare services a wide array of issues concerning the financing, co-ordination of purchasing and delivery, and performance evaluation arise. These matters offer many possibilities for accounting researchers to demonstrate the value of extant knowledge in the discipline as well as to develop that knowledge. In offering a sketch of some of our progress to date and possibilities to come I will also consider the underpinnings of the very different forms of research that are required to live up to such a challenge. In relation to this research diversity a matter for concern is the threat posed by the simplification of rankings as a means to avoid more engaged and appropriate ways to consider research quality.



Presents a

PANEL SESSION

on

**CURRENT ISSUES IN ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE RESEARCH**

**Sunday, 6 July 2014, 2.45-4.00pm**

**At: The Great Ballroom Section IV**

**Moderator: Professor Ray da Silva Rosa  
The University of Western Australia**

**Speakers:**

**Mr Warren Allen  
International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)**

**Professor Robert Faff  
The University of Queensland**

**Professor Peter Kajüter  
University of Münster**

**Mr Michael Wells  
International Accounting Standards Board (IASB)**



Presents a

PANEL DISCUSSION

on

**RESEARCH GRANTS AND RELEVANCE TO PRACTICE**

**Sunday, 6 July 2014, 4.30-5.30pm**

**At: The Great Ballroom Section IV**

**Moderator: Professor Millicent Chang  
The University of Western Australia**

**Speakers:**

**Professor Millicent Chang  
The University of Western Australia**

**Professor Larelle Chapple  
Queensland University of Technology**

**Professor Tyrone Carlin  
CPA Australia**

**Professor James Guthrie  
Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia**