



June 2017

CONTENTS

Presidents' Message	1
SIG News	3
CAANZ	5
CPA Australia	5
News from Institutions	6
AFAANZ Conference Dinner	8

2017 AFAANZ CONFERENCE Adelaide, Australia from 2-4 July

The 2017 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

We look forward to welcoming you to Adelaide, Australia.



PLATINUM SPONSORS

**Chartered Accountants
Australia and New Zealand**

CPA Australia

Support from our platinum sponsors is gratefully acknowledged

Presidents' Message

Welcome to the June newsletter.

Conference

Planning is well underway for the 2017 conference to be held at the Hilton Adelaide, Australia. We would like to invite members to register for this highly anticipated event.

The conference co-chairs, Andrew Jackson and Charl de Villiers; Jacqui Bates and her team at The Conference Manager as well as Julee McMahon, Tim Jones and Preeta Philip at the AFAANZ office, have been working hard to ensure that the conference runs smoothly. The program comprises concurrent sessions; plenary; and panel sessions. We have a topical subject being covered in the panel session on Sunday, 2 July from 4.30pm to 5:30pm on "What Does the Next Generation Want (or need)?" with Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and CPA Australia, chaired by Ray da Silva Rosa. On Monday, 3 July from 4pm to 6pm, we have a panel session entitled "Insiders Views on the ERA and PBRF Research Assessment" chaired by Baljit Sidhu.

The special interest groups (SIGs), Accounting Education; Accounting Standards; Behavioural Finance; Accounting History; and Management Accounting groups will hold their meetings on Saturday, 1 July. The Auditing and Assurance and Qualitative Research in Accounting Network groups will run their session on Sunday, July 2. The Calibration of Learning Standards will hold their meeting on Wednesday, 5 July, at the University of Adelaide. For more information on the SIG events, please go to our conference page

<http://www.afaanz.org/conferences>.

Doctoral Symposium

Thank you to David Smith and Millie Chang for organizing the Doctoral Symposium program that is being held prior to the conference at the Hilton Adelaide from 28 – 30 June 2017. This year 30 students will at

tend the symposium from USA, Europe, New Zealand and Australia who will participate in 5 study groups led by 10 Faculty.

Rookie Camp

A new initiative by AFAANZ, the Rookie Camp, is being held on Saturday, 1 July 2017 at the Hilton Adelaide. The camp is being run by Andrew Jackson and will provide an opportunity for soon to be completing PhD students who are actively seeking an academic position to showcase themselves to prospective employees.

Research Grants

Yet again there has been strong interest from our members in applying for the annual AFAANZ competitive research grants, funded by our institutional members. The grants are aimed at assisting early and mid-career researchers. We received 100 applications from 31 institutional members with Monash University submitting the largest number (eight), closely followed by RMIT University with seven applications. Total funds applied for was just over \$821,000. 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.

Women's Mentoring Workshop

The second Women's Mentoring Workshop will be held on Sunday, 2 July from 9.30am to 12.30pm. The workshop is part of AFAANZ's Women's Mentoring initiative to help increase the representation and advancement of females in the fields of Accounting and Finance, in Australia and New Zealand. This initiative aims to support women through their challenges via a mentor and peer mentoring network.

The workshop will consist of a Q&A panel session followed by group activities with mentors. We invite our members to register for this workshop by emailing [Millie Chang](mailto:Millie.Chang), the Convenor of the Mentoring Program.

AFAANZ Appointments



Welcome to Preetta Philip who commenced as Manager, AFAANZ mid-May 2017. Preetta is based in the AFAANZ office on Level 8, 198 Berkeley Street, Carlton, Victoria, Australia and can be contacted on info@afaanz.org or preeta.philip@afaanz.org, Phone: +61 3 9035 5530.

Congratulations and a warm welcome to our newly elected board members – Dr David Bond from UTS Business School and Associate Professor Marvin Wee from The University of Western Australia. They will commence on 1 August 2017. We would like to thank Professor David Smith, UQ Business School, and the outgoing Australian president, Professor Ray da Silva Rosa who are finishing their roles on the Board in July 2017. We also congratulate Jac Birt on being elected as the President Elect, Australia.

AFAANZ Doctoral Education Network (AFDEN)

Established in 2015, AFDEN aims to facilitate the broad offering of coursework units/subjects relevant to PhD candidates in Accounting or Finance enrolled in Australian and New Zealand universities.

For further details on AFDEN, please visit the webpage: <http://afaanz.org/initiatives/doctoral-programs#AFAANZDOCTORALEUCATIONNETWORK>

AFDEN Scholarships

To assist with travel costs from interstate locations, a number of AFDEN scholarships are available for eligible students (up to the value of **\$1500 each**).

Preference will be given students: (a) doing AFDEN courses for credit; and (b) who have not received prior

support from the scholarship program. The scholarship application process requires a 1-page submission, emailed to the AFDEN Director r.faff@business.uq.edu.au, addressing the following criteria:

- Name and contact details
- University, program and year of study
- Thesis topic
- Resources provided by home university, eg PhD-related research funding
- Whether the applicant is taking the course for credit
- Short outline of why the applicant will benefit from the scholarship opportunity

EIASM/EDEN sister programs in Europe

As a complement to AFDEN, students are encouraged to consider the rich vein of doctoral training opportunities offered through EIASM's EDEN program. Visit the following websites for more information:

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

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

Thank you to all members who make AFAANZ who we are! Hope to see you in Adelaide for the AFAANZ conference in July 2017.



Ray Da Silva Rosa
President (Australia)

Chris van Staden
President (New Zealand)

AFAANZ gratefully acknowledges the support of its Platinum Sponsors for 2017



AFAANZ gratefully acknowledges the support of its Institutional Members for 2017



AFAANZ Board of Directors 2016-2017

President (Australia):	Professor Ray da Silva Rosa The University of Western Australia
President (New Zealand):	Professor Chris van Staden Auckland University of Technology
Treasurer:	Associate Professor Millicent Chang The University of Western Australia
Board of Directors:	Associate Professor Jacqueline Birt The University of Queensland
	Professor Charl de Villiers The University of Auckland
	Dr Andrew Jackson UNSW Australia
	Professor Baljit Sidhu UNSW Australia
	Professor David Smith The University of Queensland
	Associate Professor Caroline Fowler Victoria University of Wellington
Editor-in-Chief:	Professor Tom Smith The University of Queensland

SIG News

Auditing and Assurance Special Interest Group (AASIG)

The AASIG will be hosting its seventh meeting at the AFAANZ Conference in July 2017 in Adelaide. Our meeting will be scheduled for Sunday 2 July in the morning prior to the commencement of the conference. Registration for the AASIG meeting will be through the AFAANZ Conference registration process.

One of the big issues facing all of us relates to impact and engagement, particularly in relation to research – we will be joined by Professor Karla Johnstone (current president of the Auditing Section of the AAA) who will share some of her views on the issue of research impact and its importance. We are also lucky to have our very own Professor Roger Simnett who will be joining us in his role of Chair of the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board to share his plans for the AUASB and opportunities for academics to engage with our standard-setting body. To finish off our meeting we will have some members of the profession joining us to share their views of the hot topics in the auditing profession which may stimulate some more opportunities for impact and engagement which we hope will continue over lunch.

We look forward to seeing you in Adelaide.

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

AFAANZ Accounting Education Special Interest Group

The organising committee is incredibly excited to extend an invitation to join us on Saturday 1 July at the Adelaide Hilton for an exploration into 'Accounting Education Post-Neoliberalism'.

By naming the 'elephant-in-the-room' we are seeking to be inspired by the opportunities and creativity it affords us. Drawing on the incredible work of UK-Based writer Paul Mason (amongst others) we have curated a day of engagement, inspiration and opportunity.

Where exactly are the boundaries and edges that once confined accounting, likely to lie in this new external environment? As we transition towards a 'post-truth' era how can we educate for the unknown and unpredictable? What does this mean for Accounting Education and Research more broadly?

With an incredible array of future-focused special guests – Sydney-Based Design duo FICTIONS, Social Entrepreneur and Chief Timekeeper Kristian Martinow, U.S.A based artist Jennifer Lyn Morone™ and Australian academic Dr. Lachlan McDonald Kerr - we extend you the invitation to play at this year's AFAANZ Accounting Education Symposium being held in Adelaide on the **1 July 2017**. Conveniently held just before the main AFAANZ Conference.

Registration available @ <https://tcm.eventsair.com/afaanz-2017/sigs>. Please share and promote through your social networks and platforms - we welcome all and discriminate against no-one.

Please keep the date firmly in mind as we guarantee an enjoyable day full of thought-provoking discussion, followed by an equally stimulating dinner in a secret location! We are very much looking forward to welcoming you all in Adelaide.

- Nick McGuigan and Mary Low, Co-Chairs

Accounting Standards Special Interest Group

We have a wonderful day arranged for those who attend the 23rd Accounting Standards Forum in Adelaide. The programme will be a little different this year as we are joining the morning session of the conference of the Journal of International Accounting Research being hosted by the University of Adelaide, and held at the Crowne Plaza Adelaide. This will mean we get to attend the keynote speaker session being delivered by Professor Mary Barth on the topic "How International Accounting Research Influences Policy and Standard Setters?" We then can attend any of the plenaries from 11am and then lunch.

After lunch we will move to a separate room at the same venue and the afternoon will be run by our group. We will as usual have reports from the standard setters in Australia and New Zealand. We have a representative from the Australian Accounting Standards Board and David Bassett from the External Reporting Board in New Zealand. These reports are always of interest as they provide an insider view on current and potential future issues from standard setters. We would once again like to thank the standard setters in New Zealand and Australia for their continuing support of the forum.

After we hear from the standard setters we have a presentation on "Is financial reporting still an effective tool for equity investors in Australia?" The paper is written by Nikole Gyles, Dean Hanlon and Matthew Pinnuck. We will finish as usual with the AGM of the SIG 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 to 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). If you would like more details, call Phil on 08 6488 1835. **Please note places are limited.**

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, Chair

Chartered Accountants Australia New Zealand

Improving Collaboration and Innovation Between Industry and Business Schools in Australia is the latest edition of the *Academic Leadership Series*, an annual publication produced by Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. This year's volume, published in conjunction with RMIT University, is the eighth in the series. Focusing on key issues for business and society in Australia and New Zealand, the work is a collaborative effort with contributions from academics, policy makers and practitioners.

What value could be realised if universities and industry collaborated? This is the key question discussed in the eighth volume of the *Academic Leadership Series*. The aim of the *Series* is to challenge preconceived ideas about contemporary issues. Given that stereotypes about the seemingly different worlds of the university and industry abound, the articles in this volume are very timely.

A recent parliamentary inquiry into Australia's future in research and innovation found that Australia's level of research collaboration between universities and business is amongst the lowest in the OECD. The exchange of knowledge and developing relationships between universities and industry has significant potential to create meaningful change. The articles in this latest volume in the *Series* provide a range of insights into the boundaries that prevent universities and industry working together and how these can be overcome.

Overcoming these boundaries will position Australia for what lies ahead, with the next decade marked by both immense disruption to the Australian economy and speed of transformation. In adapting, the corporate and public sectors will have to be active and sustainable players in the knowledge economy. And this requires the utilisation of our most valuable asset – the knowledge and capabilities of our business schools.

In Australia, higher education invests billions of dollars in research and has a capable workforce supported by skills, knowledge and infrastructure. Business schools have significant expertise in research but they are often disconnected from the challenges facing industry and the public sector. The future requires an approach based on innovation in management, finance and accounting, technology and other business disciplines. How this can be achieved? The contributions featured in this volume should generate discussion and debate that stimulates fresh ideas and new and enhanced collaborations and further innovation.

Volume 8 in the *Academic Leadership Series* will be launched at AFAANZ 2017 conference in Adelaide. Please join us at the launch!

- James Guthrie, CAANZ

CPA Australia

New focus for supported research

Prompted by concerns regarding the quality and relevancy of applications for research grants under CPA Australia's Global Research Perspectives Program (GRPP) the [potential focus areas identified on the CPA Australia website](#) have been revised to provide more expansive and contemporary descriptors. And we have gone one step further to include 'Hot Topics for 2017' under each area to give applicants an indication of specific areas of interest. Applications outside of these areas will continue to be accepted but must clearly communicate the relevancy and uniqueness of the proposed research project in order to progress. [Application forms](#) are available online, due on 31 July.

Emerging Academics Forum highlights

In the previous edition of this newsletter CPA Australia was eagerly anticipating its inaugural Emerging Academics Forum – a three day intensive for early career accounting educators designed to expose transformative teaching strategies. We are thrilled to report that the Forum was an overwhelming success, and even more thrilled to share that planning has already commenced ahead of next year's Forum. The highlight of the Forum was the opportunity for participants to share with peers their pedagogical innovations and benefit from their feedback. An unanticipated benefit was the opportunity for participants with a passion for accounting education but too often feel alone to network and form friendships with likeminded peers facing similar challenges. Next year's Forum will be held over 14 to 16 February 2018.

What do the higher education reforms mean for accounting?

It is difficult not to be aware of the headline higher education reforms announced ahead of the Federal Budget – fee increases, less Commonwealth contributions and a requirement to pay back loans earlier – none of which are palatable to students or providers alike.

A big win that you will not have read about in the newspapers is that the Government will work with the higher education sector to establish a more transparent framework for the collection of financial data from higher education providers in order to regularly report on the cost of teaching and research by field of education. This is a 'big win' from the perspective that it will make transparent and thereby act as a disincentive for the excessive cross subsidisation which currently plagues accounting programs. Greater transparency regarding the sources and uses of government funding has been a key focus of CPA Australia's submissions and discussions with government for some time.

- Meagan Courtney, Brand Experience Manager, CPA Australia

News from Institutions

The University of Melbourne *Department of Accounting*

Accounting Hall of Fame: Nominations for the 2018 Australian Accounting Hall of Fame Awards are now open. The awards seek to identify and recognise individuals whose achievements, both alone and in combination with others, have been significant and whose impact on the discipline of Accounting has been profound. The prestigious awards, now in their 9th year, are hosted by the Centre for Accounting and Industry Partnerships in the Department of Accounting at the University of Melbourne. Nominations are open until 22 October 2017. For further information and to download a nomination form visit the website at:

<http://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/accounting/caip/aahof>

- *Annie Dolan, Engagement Coordinator, Department of Accounting, Faculty of Business and Economics*

Australian Accounting Standards Board: 2017 Research Forum

Hosted by the University of Melbourne's Department of Accounting, the 2017 AASB Research Forum will be held on Friday 24 November. The forum will explore the topic of effective communication of financial and narrative reporting. The following research papers will be presented for discussion:

- *Is financial reporting still an effective tool for equity investors in Australia?* Nikole Gyles, University of Melbourne; Dr Dean Hanlon, Monash University; Professor Matthew Pinnuck, University of Melbourne
- *Recognition, measurement and disclosure of intangibles* Professor Reza Monem, Griffith University; Professor Asheq Raman, Auckland University of Technology; Dr Humayan Kabir, Auckland University of Technology
- *The communication of accounting information in summary financial reports* Dr Tom Scott, University of Auckland; Professor Michael Bradbury, Massey University; Pei-Chi (Kelly) Hsiao, University of Auckland

AASB Research Director, Professor Ann Tarca said, "We congratulate the research teams for proposing research topics that are relevant to the AASB's work, and we know these papers will generate in-depth discussion between academics, practitioners and regulators at the forum". For further information and updates on this event, please visit [the AASB website](#) or email stand-ard@aaasb.gov.au.

- *Susie Brown, Communications Manager, Australian Accounting Standards Board*

University of New South Wales Business School *School of Accounting*

A very warm welcome to three new colleagues joining us at UNSW in 2017: in Semester 1: **Lili Dai** (previously Australian National University) joined us as a Senior Lecturer and **Hien Hoang** (PhD, UNSW) joined us as a Lecturer. In Semester 2, **Lei Zou** (PhD candidate, Maastricht University) will be joining us as a Lecturer.

Congratulations to:

- **Roger Simnett** for his appointment as the Chair of the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AUASB) and a part time member of the Financial Reporting Council (FRC). These are truly significant appointments that will see Roger play a critical role in setting the auditing and assurance standards and overseeing the effectiveness of the financial reporting framework in Australia.
- **Jane Baxter**, for her appointment as the Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of *Australian Journal of Management*, after **Baljit Sidhu** has stepped down after many years of outstanding achievements as the EIC (thank you for all your work, Baljit!)
- **Clinton Free** and **Paul Andon** for their successful ARC Linkage Grant (project title: serious workplace fraud: How it is sustained and how organisations respond). This is the only successful Linkage grant in FoR1501 this year.
- **Kerry Humphreys** for her appointment as a *UNSW Scientia Fellow*. This appointment is in recognition of Kerry's stellar research performance as well as her role as one of the future leaders at UNSW.

In June we are co-hosting **ISAR** (International Symposium on Audit Research) and **GMARS** (Global Management Accounting Research Symposium), with a combined attendance of over 200 participants. Thank you for all of your support in making these conferences so successful.

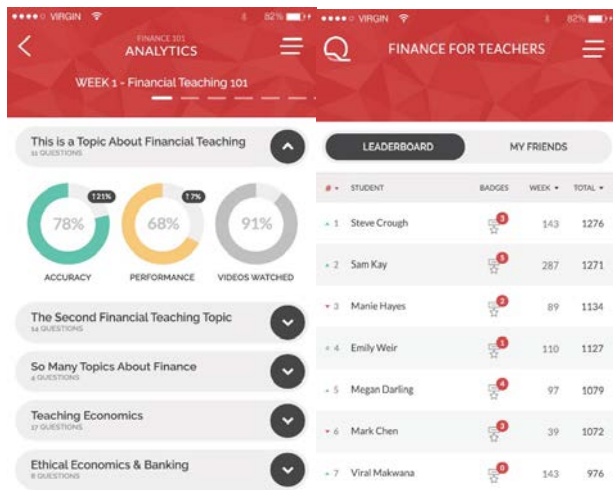
- *Mandy Cheng, Head of School, UNSW Business School*

Swinburne University of Technology Swinburne Business School

Are you ready to Quitch?

Quitch is a gamified, mobile learning platform, for teaching across educational sectors. It is the first general-purpose mobile learning platform that provides for instruction and assessment, together with a gamified motivational feedback system and robust data analytics.

Quitch supports a combination of video, text and audio instructional content formats; clear, simple progression paths for learners; and a range of assessment types including multiple choice and drag-and-drop questions. Teachers use push notifications to student phones to direct student attention to specific instructional or assessment content at specific times, or students can use progression pathways to direct their own learning. Gamification elements include timed questions, progression trees, badges, points, and leaderboards.



The platform is available for Android and iOS devices, and operates with a highly scalable cloud architecture for the backend. It has a simple-to-use web interface to the backend, allowing teachers to easily develop or re-use educational content. The platform supports a range of pedagogical styles including flipped learning, blended learning, and competency-based (self-directed) learning.

Quitch provides real-time analytics for teachers and administrators, focused on metrics that address student engagement, time-on-task, and comprehension. A range of data dashboards are available to assist teachers and

administrators to understand how their students are progressing. The platform has been successfully deployed in a range of disciplines, including accountancy, management, law, chemistry, biology, human resources, and engineering. It is currently being used in high schools, universities and private higher educational providers in Australia, and is being trialled in the United States, South East Asia, the United Kingdom, Europe and the Middle East. Thousands of students are currently using Quitch.

Product history

Quitch was originally invented by Dr Gráinne Oates, a Senior Lecturer in Accounting at Swinburne University of Technology. In creating the platform, Dr Oates sought to address three core problems facing educators:

- **Student retention rates** – On average, 25% of students drop out of each university subject within the first four weeks of teaching.
- **Student engagement** – Students are surrounded by fun distractions, many of which are available on their mobile devices, making it a challenge to engage them in academic learning.
- **Timeliness of data** – Educators do not receive meaningful feedback as to levels of student comprehension until the conclusion of student assessment tasks, which often occur at the end of the teaching period.

The intent of the platform was to use gamification – the application of game elements and game design techniques in non-game contexts—to motivate students to continue to engage with academic course material outside of the class room. Quitch uses the same tools that usually distract students to re-engage them with study and course material, through:

- Push notifications, which ‘push’ information and questions out to students on their mobile devices; and
- Game elements like timed questions, points for successful completion of questions, leaderboards to encourage competition, and badges to show achievements.

For further information and access to Quitch, please contact: Grainne Oates, CEO – Scapegrace Pty Ltd. grainne@quitch.com Ph: + 61 432 908 388 and visit our website: <http://quitch-app.com/>
- Associate Professor Mary Dunkley and Dr Grainne Oates, Swinburne Business School.

The background of the entire page is a vibrant red carpet scene. A red carpet runs down the center, flanked by gold stanchions connected by red ropes. Silhouettes of people in formal attire are scattered across the carpet, some with their arms raised. The background is dark with numerous bright, starburst-like lights and bokeh effects, creating a glamorous, Hollywood-style atmosphere.

We're
rolling out
the Red Carpet
for the

*AFAANZ 2017
Conference
Dinner*

Date: Tuesday 4 July 2017

Time: 7.30pm pre-dinner drinks, dinner
at 8.00pm

Location: Ballroom, Hilton Adelaide

Dress theme: Hollywood