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Co-editors Bryan Howieson,
Keitha Dunstan & Cheryl Umoh

2007 AFAANZ CONFERENCE THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA - 1-3 July

The 2007 AFAANZ Conference is fast approaching. Your detailed conference registration brochure is available for download from the AFAANZ website. We look forward to welcoming you at the Gold Coast, Queensland.



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Support from our platinum sponsors is gratefully acknowledged

Presidents' Message

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2007! We must apologise for the slight delay in getting this issue out to members. Some matters that we have been involved with in recent months have been very fluid and we have been waiting for events to reach a point of enough stability before reporting to you – but more on that below.

2007 is the beginning of our new sponsorship arrangements. Through the efforts of Keryn Chalmers we have successfully launched our AFAANZ Alliance Circle allowing organisations to become AFAANZ sponsors. Three sponsorship levels exist – Platinum, Gold and Silver. We are pleased to say that the new sponsorship arrangements have been accepted by four professional accounting associations in Australia and New Zealand. Continuing their long and mutually beneficial relationship with AFAANZ, CPA Australia, the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, and the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants have all kindly committed to Platinum sponsorship. We would also take this opportunity to announce and welcome our fourth Platinum Sponsor, the National Institute of Accountants. Our thanks go to the NIA's CEO Roger Cotton for his efforts in building closer ties to the academic community. The AFAANZ Board is looking forward to a strong working relationship with all of our Platinum Sponsors in the coming years.

Arrangements for our 2007 conference are well advanced. Close to 300 papers across a diverse range of topics and disciplines were submitted and another exciting program has been put together. We particularly want to acknowledge the significant work of David Hay and Jenny Stewart for their management of the technical program and also the members of the Conference Technical Committee who put so many hours of work into reviewing the papers. Our thanks also go to Cheryl Umoh who established an on-line submission process that has worked extremely well.



Keitha Dunstan and Bryan Howieson

As always, Gail Fowler and her team at Capital Conferences have provided invaluable advice and assistance in preparation for the conference. Conference registration is now available and we are looking forward to seeing you all at the Gold Coast in early July.

During March members will have received a letter from us outlining a series of concerns that have been raised by the introduction of the ICAA's Graduate Certificate in Chartered Accounting Foundations. This issue has been ongoing since 2005 but matters came to a head early this year when details about the Certificate were finally announced. As mentioned in our letter previously distributed to members and acknowledged by the ICAA, the AFAANZ Board was not kept adequately informed on these developments but we have been very busy over recent weeks lobbying the ICAA on this matter. These efforts include: a personal meeting between the AFAANZ Presidents and the ICAA CEO, Graham Meyer, and education director, Sheena Frenkel, to present the concerns of the academic community; the distribution of information to AFAANZ members about the Certificate and the quality concerns it raises; participation in the meeting held on this issue by the Pacioli Society in Sydney; an interview with Professor Geoffrey Whittington to gain information on the UK experience; and an electronic discussion board. We have also been involved in a very extensive range of personal correspondence with many of our members.

All of the feedback we have received to date indicates that the academic community continues to hold grave concerns about, *inter alia*, the quality of the Certificate and its implications for accreditation. At this stage we are in the process of preparing a formal response to the ICAA in the light of the comments we have received which have also indicated a mandate for the AFAANZ Board to continue its efforts to convince the ICAA that this policy has serious negative consequences for the profession. We thank our members for their willingness to convey their views on this matter and for their support in our efforts to maintain the quality of the accounting profession and education in Australia.

While many of our members are resoundingly against the ICAA's accreditation of this Certificate, we do recognise that there is a skills shortage in the accounting profession. We view this as an important issue and we will continue our dialogue with the profession to seek positive ways of providing the means to resolve this shortage without sacrificing the quality of accounting professionals.

Members will recently have received the voting papers for the upcoming vacant positions on the AFAANZ Board. We are particularly heartened to see such a large number of excellent candidates. We believe this demonstrates the support and enthusiasm of our membership. We urge you to participate in your Association by voting in these elections the results for which will be announced at the Association's Annual General Meeting on 4 May. Hopefully you will be able to attend the AGM at our Melbourne office.

This will be our last newsletter as Presidents of AFAANZ. Our terms finish at the end of May and we wish the incoming presidents, Professors Barry Cooper and Ian Eggleton, every success. We must say that it has been a great honour to represent our members and work on your behalf. We have been especially fortunate to have been able to work with such a dedicated team of Board members (both past and present) who voluntarily expend many hours of effort to promote the Association and the interests of its members. We would also like to acknowledge the efforts of our Executive Director, Cheryl Umoh, who has worked very hard on behalf of AFAANZ to modernise the office operations and support the work of the Board.

Finally we wish AFAANZ and its members much growth and success in the future. AFAANZ serves as a focal point and voice for our academic community and works to promote the quality of education and research in our two countries. Without it we would be very much the poorer and we urge you to continue your support and participation in the Association.

Bryan Howieson
President (Australia)

Keitha Dunstan
President (New Zealand)

AFAANZ gratefully acknowledges the support of its Platinum Sponsors for 2007



AFAANZ welcomes its Institutional Members For 2007



Practice Portfolio Report

AASB
AASB Membership

The primary matter for this report relates to changes in the membership of the AASB. Members will remember that Professor Ken Leo has represented the academic community on the AASB for several years but his term has come to an end. On behalf of the AFAANZ Board and our members I would like to thank Ken for his considerable contributions to accounting standards-setting in Australia.

When the Financial Reporting Council called for nominations to fill vacant positions on the AASB I was aware that at least one excellent nomination from the academic community had been submitted and, on behalf of the AFAANZ Board, I wrote to the FRC to emphasise the importance of having an independent and knowledgeable academic on the AASB. Unfortunately the FRC has decided not to make an academic appointment in this round as they wished to have more input from another sector but have conveyed to me their wish to do so in the next round of appointments. This will be the first time since at least 1983 that the academic community has not been represented on the AASB (or its predecessors) which I view as a very serious concern. AFAANZ will continue to lobby the FRC to ensure that academic representation is restored to the AASB as soon as possible.

AASB Conceptual Framework Roundtable

On the 8th September I attended and participated in a AASB Roundtable held in Melbourne on the draft Conceptual Framework documents released to date jointly by the IASB/FASB. The debate was very lively and productive. A major concern raised at the roundtable was the future of the characteristic of "accountability" which many participants believed should be stressed in the new framework – this was especially promoted by those in the non-profit and public sector entities.

AASB Consultative Group Meeting

On the 8th November, Associate Professor Keryn Chalmers kindly attended the AASB Consultative Group meeting on my behalf while I was away overseas. Her report on the meeting is given below:

AASB's Work Program

The AASB's work program reflects

- ▶ less emphasis on IASB monitoring and focus on projects in which the AASB has a lead role (e.g. intangibles, extractives)
- ▶ Focus in recent times has very much been on not-for-profit and public sector issues
- ▶ More involvement with IPSASB
- ▶ The AASB has engaged a consultant to flag not-for-profit issues arising from the IASB/FASB conceptual framework review
- ▶ AASB indicated that they will commit resources to the IPSASB conceptual framework project provided that it proceeds in a timely manner
- ▶ The AASB is attempting to eliminate differences between IFRS and AIFRS. AASB is proposing to allow options (whereas previously options were restricted) as international comparability is desirable

IFRIC Report (Ruth Picker)

IFRIC activities include interpretations dealing with:

- ▶ Service concession arrangements. An interpretation has gone to the IASB dealing with accounting by the operator. Due to the controversial nature of this interpretation a public meeting was held on 13/11/2006. The issue for the AASB is whether to extend this interpretation and require symmetrical accounting treatment by the grantor. There would be significant accounting implications if grantor accounting, symmetrical to operator accounting, was introduced:
- ▶ SB Payments
- ▶ Revenue from real estate agent sales
- ▶ Initial fees received by fund managers
- ▶ Accounting for catalogues

The IFRIC agenda includes:

- ▶ Hedging investments in subsidiaries
- ▶ Demergers (this has actually been added to the IASB combination project)
- ▶ Pension accounting issues
- ▶ Short trading
- ▶ Measuring fair value of immature biological assets

Ruth made that point that she is grateful to receive practical examples of issues on IFRAC's agenda that she can use at the IFRIC meetings.

Review of AAS27, 29 and 31

- ▶ These standards are being reviewed to identify the paragraphs that need to be retained and those that can be housed in other standards.
- ▶ IPSASB is drafting a standard on social policy obligation and heritage assets and the AASB will take notice of the direction coming through these pronouncements

Differential Reporting

The IASB is issuing an exposure draft of accounting for SMEs. This raises a number of issues including:

- ▶ Should the AASB continue with applicability/scope paragraphs? Should the reporting entity concept be retained? A directive on such matters will be required
- ▶ Is the IASB concept of public accountability suitable for Australia?

Financial Reporting Reforms

The Federal Government has released the Corporate and Financial Services Regulation Review Proposals Paper (16 November). Included is a provision for financial reporting reforms. In particular, the proposal increases the thresholds on what constitutes a large proprietary company and therefore the entities that are required to lodge audited financial statements.

(See

<http://www.treasury.gov.au/contentitem.asp?NavId=037&ContentID=1189>)

IAAER Istanbul Meeting

In mid-November I attended meetings of the Executive Committee of the IAAER in Istanbul during the 10th World Congress of Accounting Educators. At the general meeting of IAAER members, AFAANZ was re-elected to the IAAER Executive Committee.

At the conference, the final results were presented by each of the research teams for the IAAER/IASB/KPMG research grants on performance measurement. The Australian/New Zealand team were represented by Associate Professor David Woodliffe who gave an excellent presentation. Also, one of our members, Professor Sid Gray, was awarded an IAAER Founders Award for his contribution to the IAAER and international accounting. Our congratulations go to Professor Gray.

The IAAER will be holding a joint conference in Mexico City 26 – 28 September, 2007 – X International Congress on Innovations in Teaching Accounting and Business International Research Conference for Accounting Educators.

IAAER Institutional Membership

The IAAER has recently established a new 'institutional membership' category specifically for universities. The cost is \$US350 for three years and entitles all members of a university department's staff to membership of the IAAER.

Bryan Howieson Practice Portfolio

Report on the meeting of the IFAC Education Consultative Advisory Group

The Consultative Advisory Group (CAG) for the International Accounting Education Standards Board (IAESB) held its first meeting of 2007 in New York on 26 February. At the meeting, three main issues were discussed:

- ▶ The exposure draft (ED) of the updated version of the International Education Guideline (IEG) 11 on information technology (IT) for professional accountants
- ▶ The ED of the International Education Practice Statement (IEPS) on approaches for developing and maintaining professional values (i.e., ethics education)
- ▶ Review of the framework for International Education Standards (IESs).

IEG 11 on information technology

The purpose of this discussion was to review comments received on the ED of IEG 11 and the IAESB's response to

those comments. The comments received unexpectedly expressed concerns about the ED.

Two main concerns were raised. First, the majority of the respondents were not happy with the three IT related roles (i.e., manager, evaluator, designer) identified in IEG 11. Since 1995 when the original IEG 11 was written, there have been vast changes in the IT environment, and respondents felt that at the point of qualification it would be unlikely that the professional accountant would be involved in these three roles. Instead, respondents felt that emphasis on the user role was adequate. Second, respondents were also concerned about the level of detail in the ED, particularly in the appendices. While these appendices were included to illustrate the IT competencies that qualifying professional accountants would need to attain, respondents felt the lists are overwhelming and add little value. They suggested that the ED should instead focus on issues related to IT education, specifically, how to integrate IT education in the accounting/business curriculum.

The CAG agreed that the IAESB should re-draft and then re-expose the ED to address these two concerns (as well as other concerns) raised by the respondents.

IEPS on Ethics Education

In contrast to the ED for IEG 11, respondents commenting on the IEPS were supportive of the proposed practice statement. However, several issues were discussed. First, in the ED, two approaches to ethical education are discussed. Some respondents favored the stage-by-stage approach and suggested that the other approach (i.e., the topic approach) could be eliminated. The CAG was in favor of retaining both approaches to maintain flexibility as it felt that those providing ethics education (e.g., universities) should be able to decide on the most appropriate approach given their circumstances. Second, there was considerable discussion about the extent to which the concept of ethical courage should be incorporated in the document. Some respondents felt that the candidates needed to be reminded and encouraged to take an ethical stand even if they might face possible adverse consequences (e.g., lose their job). While the CAG agreed with this view, the CAG felt that stage 4 of the ethical education framework (described in the ED), which emphasizes a 'commitment to ethical behavior', was sufficient. Third, some respondents felt, and the CAG agreed, that the ethical education framework needed to emphasize the recursive nature of the education process. The CAG recommended that the IAESB address these concerns before issuing the final draft of the IEPS.

Review of the framework for the education standards

At its September 2006 meeting, the CAG recommended that IAESB should revise the framework for the IESs and the introduction to the IESs as these were originally is-

sued in 2001 before some of the IESs had been issued. Further, since that time, the purpose and role of the IESs have been more clearly identified. The rewrite of the framework raises many fundamental issues, and these were debated at length.

First, the CAG debated the role of the IESs in convergence. While the concept of convergence is clear in terms of auditing and financial reporting standards (i.e., bringing together existing national and international standards), it is less clear in the context of education standards because, generally, there are no national education standards. The IAESB suggested, and the CAG agreed, that in this context, convergence could be viewed as ensuring the implementation of IESs so that education practices and requirements become more similar internationally. This implies that a country's progress can be measured, and the challenge is developing benchmarks that can be used to assess compliance with the IESs. However, this will require the rewriting of existing standards as currently no benchmarks are identified.

Second, an important issue is whether the IESs should emphasize 'good' or 'best' practice. Some CAG members felt it was important to have aspiring standards, especially for more developed countries that already have good practices. However, others felt that the purpose of the IESs was to identify the minimum educational requirements for professional accountants operating in a global environment. Under this view, there is nothing to constrain a country from going beyond the minimum requirements, but it is up to the individual country to decide what is best.

Third, the CAG considered the optimal size and scope for the IESs. Currently, the IESs are relatively short with little or no guidance regarding implementation issues. The latter are described in IEGs or IEPs – or in some cases, not at all. It was asked whether these implementation guidelines should be included in the standards as they may otherwise be overlooked. There was not much support from the CAG for this approach. Instead, the CAG felt the guidelines might be included as an appendix to the standard, rather than as a separate document.

Fourth, it was asked if the IESs should be developed for different specializations given the trend toward specialization within the accounting firms. The CAG felt this would not be a good use of the IAESB's time as it is more important to focus on areas where there are wider common interests and a larger audience.

Fifth, the usefulness of the IESs to 'foster international debate on emerging issues' was questioned. The CAG felt that this was not an appropriate objective for the education standards.

The IAESB will establish a taskforce to address these issues and to start drafting a revised framework.

Next meeting

The CAG's next meeting will be in Dublin, Ireland in September 2007.

Steven Cahan, AFAANZ Rep for IFAC

Editor's Report

Forthcoming Papers

The following papers have been accepted and are scheduled for Volume 47, Issue 1 of *Accounting and Finance*, due out in March 2007.

Paper Title	Author(s)
"An Empirical Investigation of Earnings Restatements by Australian Firms"	Ahmed and Goodwin
"Success of activity management practices: The influence of organizational and cultural factors"	Baird, Harrison & Reeve
"Modelling Exchange-traded Barrier Options Traded in the Australian Options Market"	Easton & Gerlach
"Effects of Taxation for Option Writers: An Australian Perspective"	Alpert & Knight
"Access to Tutorial Solutions Enhance Student Performance? Evidence from an Accounting Course"	Monem
"The Effects of Financial Constraints on Corporate Policies in Australia"	Chang, Tan, Wan and Wong
"Extending the CAPM: The Reward Beta Approach"	Bornholdt
"Evaluating a Method of Integrating Generic Skills with Accounting Content based on a Functional Theory of Meaning"	Sin, Jones & Petocz

The following papers have been accepted and are scheduled for Volume 47, Issue 2 of *Accounting and Finance*, due out in June 2007.

Paper Title	Author(s)
"Liquidity Commonality and the Intervalling Effect"	Hillier, Hillier & Khaw
"Will Investors Change their Superannuation Fund given the Choice?"	Fry, Heaney & McKeown
"Factors influencing Organisations to Improve Data Quality in their Information Systems"	Tee, Doyle, Bowen & Rohde
"Institutional Investment Flows and the Determinants of Top Fund Manager Turnover"	Dishi, Gallagher & Parwada
"Accountability and Value Enhancement Roles of Corporate Governance"	Koh, Laplante & Tong

“Information Content and Recency Effect of the Audit Report in Loan Rating Decisions”	Guiral, Gonzalo & Rodgers
“What Determines Early Exercise of Employee Stock Options in Australia?”	Boyd, Brown & Szimayer
“The Effect of Perceived Conflict among Multiple Performance Goals and Goal Difficulty on Task Performance”	Cheng, Lockett & Mahama

Robert Faff

Editor, *Accounting and Finance*

2007 Conference Report

Paper submission for the conference has now closed and the review process is well underway. We plan to advise authors of the outcome by the end of March.

This year, we will have concurrent sessions as well as research forum sessions. These will include papers that are not accepted for concurrent sessions, but are still very interesting. The forum papers are still accepted papers. There will be a presentation, and a discussion, so we regard them as a much higher level than the poster sessions at previous conferences.

The number of papers received is slightly down from last year, at just under 300.

We are aware of the reasons for this decline:

- ▶ We asked people to submit only one paper per presenting author, and for at least one author to agree to be a discussant. Last year some people sent in three or four papers, and in some areas only, authors were unwilling to be discussants.
- ▶ The timing of a finance conference may also be having an effect this year.

We have good increases in interest from papers in accounting history, ethics, public sector and not-for-profit accounting. Financial accounting and auditing have continued to have very strong numbers, and the area of critical perspectives, interdisciplinary perspectives and qualitative research are continuing to develop. In the other topic areas there are some increases and decreases.

Thanks once again to our hard working technical committee members:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Karen Benson | Peter Green |
| Jac Birt | Kathleen Herbohn |
| Jayne Bisman | Stewart Lawrence |
| Garry Carnegie | David Lont |
| Keryn Chalmers | Neale O'Connor |
| Larelle Chapple | Jenny Stewart |
| Andrew Ferguson | Greg Tower |

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| Karen Van Peurse | Paul Wells |
| Norman Wong | Sue Wright |

Jenny Stewart and David Hay
Co-Chairs, Conference Technical Committee

2007 AAA Doctoral Consortium

Congratulations to Dorothea Zakrzewski of University of Western Sydney who will represent AFAANZ at the 2007 Doctoral Consortium. We look forward to Dorothea’s experience in the September issue of the newsletter.

AFAANZ Board of Directors 2006-2007

President (Australia):	Associate Professor Bryan Howieson University of Adelaide
President (New Zealand):	Professor Keitha Dunstan Victoria University of Wellington
Treasurer: (President-Elect Australia)	Professor Barry Cooper RMIT University
Board of Directors: (President-Elect New Zealand)	Associate Professor Keryn Chalmers Monash University
	Associate Professor Paul de Lange RMIT University
	Professor Ian Eggleton University of Waikato
	Associate Professor David Hay University of Auckland
	Professor Jenny Stewart Griffith University
	Dr Sue Wright Macquarie University
Editor:	Professor Robert Faff Monash University
Executive Director:	Ms Cheryl Umoh AFAANZ

2007 AFAANZ/CPA Australia/ICAA PhD Scholarships

AFAANZ is pleased to announce that four part-time scholarships valued at \$7,500 each were awarded for 2007. Congratulations to:

Ms Ching-Hui (Grace) Chuang, Discipline of Accounting, University of Sydney

Topic: *Management incentive and voluntary disclosure: The incremental information provided by non-GAAP earnings measures and their relationship with executive compensation.*

Ms Michelle Goyen, Department of Accounting, University of Southern Queensland

Topic: *Disaggregating the influences on IPO underpricing.*

Mr Michael T. Lee, Accounting and Business Information Systems, University of Melbourne

Topic: *Supplier initiated eCommerce, dependency power and partnership benefits.*

Ms Samantha Sin, Department of Accounting and Finance, Macquarie University

Topic: *Generic skills in accounting: Conceptions, development and curriculum*

National Institute of Accountants

CFO Essentials: Financial Reporting

Master Class

Sydney

Chief Financial Officers and other finance professionals are under continuous pressure to stay informed on contemporary reporting issues. To help you eliminate the risks of non-compliant reporting the NIA in association with PricewaterhouseCoopers is presenting this master class in financial reporting and compliance featuring representatives from the International Accounting Standards Board, Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. This unique program also features an interactive workshop with accounting experts and our international guests aimed at easing your anxieties related to implementation of new reporting rules. The program will be accompanied by a comprehensive guide to regulatory changes that you will be able to use in your organisation to take account of all of the recent changes. This event is expected to attract large numbers. Book early to avoid disappointment!

June 6, 2007 is the date of the event and AFAANZ members should monitor the web site of the National Institute of Accountants (NIA) at www.nia.org.au in the coming weeks for further details.

SIG News

Accounting Standards Interest Group (SIG3)

The Accounting Standards Forum in 2007 will be held at the same venue as the AFAANZ conference venue and registration will be through the AFAANZ registration process. The format will be similar to last year with members of the various standard setting bodies providing reports to participants in the morning session.

The issue of differential reporting is on the AASB work program in conjunction with the debate about the proposed standard on small and medium size entities. This includes identifying publicly accountable entities. Differential reporting/SMEs is also an important issue for New

Zealand. Related to this topic is the issue of defining a not-for-profit entity and the authors of a recent report available on the CPA Australia web site will discuss the findings of their survey.

Call for Papers on Differential Reporting

We invite interested authors to submit papers on the theme of differential reporting for presentation at the forum. Successful papers will be offered fast track review for the SIG's journal Financial Reporting, Regulation and Governance (<http://www.cbs.curtin.edu.au/business/research/journals>). Full papers or abstracts of 300 words maximum will be considered for acceptance. These should be sent to J.Loftus@econ.usyd.edu.au no later than 30 April. Applicants will be notified by 15 May in time for conference registration. Full papers for successful applicants will be required by 22 June. Also on the agenda will be a report from the team of academics from Australia and New Zealand who received one of the first IAAER research grants to conduct a study on reporting financial performance to inform the IASB as they deliberate on this topic. The research team has completed the project and has submitted their paper for re-view for the Journal of Accounting Research. The presentation will revolve around the experience and offer recommendations for academics interested in research in financial reporting matters relevant to the standard setters."

Call for Submission of Abstracts

For the afternoon session we will continue the practice started in 2005 and have students working on Masters or PhD projects, which 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 (phancock@biz.uwa.edu.au). If you would like more details call Phil on 08 6488 1835.

Phil Hancock, Chair

Accounting Education Group (SIG5)

The Accounting Education SIG symposium will be held on Saturday, 30 June in the Coolangatta Room of Jupiters Casino in conjunction with the 2007 AFAANZ Annual Conference, at the Gold Coast, Queensland. The theme

for this year's symposium will be *"Turn the Lights On: Advancing Accounting Education through Research"*.

We are extremely lucky to have as the keynote speaker for the symposium Dr Michael Prosser who is Director, Research and Evaluation, in the Higher Education Academy in the United Kingdom. From June 1 however, he will commence an appointment as Professor and Executive Director of the Centre for the Advancement of University teaching in the University of Hong Kong. Mike also holds honorary research appointments at the Universities of Oxford and Sydney. His teaching, research and academic development interests are in the field of student learning in higher education. Within that field, his primary work has focused on students' experiences of learning and its relationship to teachers' experiences of teaching. He has been, and is, a Chief Investigator on several Australian Research Council research grants. It will be great to have Mike attend the day and share with us his wealth of experience and knowledge. Just to give you a little insight, the abstract for his presentation is listed below.

"Australia is about to introduce a research assessment exercise, loosely based upon the RAE in the United Kingdom. In the UK, the RAE has raised a number of issues with the assessment of pedagogic research within the disciplines in higher education. In this presentation I will outline the way in which the UK is assessing discipline based pedagogic research, relate this to broader issues of the scholarship of teaching and learning, and outline the results of one example of such scholarship in the teaching and learning of Accounting in Australia".

As the theme would indicate, the symposium is intended to highlight how research can advance accounting education; providing an interface between theory and practice by showcasing ideas, strategies, innovations in teaching and learning that support effective accounting education. As always, the symposium will provide a supportive and constructive environment and researchers new to the area in particular are encouraged to present your work, gain feedback and learn from others who are established in the field.

There has been a good response to the call for paper and workshop sessions. Authors will be notified of acceptance by 23 April 2007. The program for the day will be finalised and published on the AFAANZ website by 27 April. If you require further information about the symposium please contact Marie Kavanagh m.kavanagh@business.uq.edu.au or Paul Wells paul.wells@aut.ac.nz. We look forward to meeting and catching up with many of you at the symposium.

News From Institutions

Australian Catholic University

School of Business and Informatics

Accounting Professorial Appointment at ACU National

Adam Steen has recently been appointed as Professor of Accounting and Director of the Institute of Business and Informatics, within the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at ACU National.

Professor Steen joins ACU National from Swinburne University of Technology where he was Associate Professor of Accounting in the Faculty of Business and Enterprise. Previously, Professor Steen has held positions at Melbourne Business School (Mt Eliza Centre for Executive Education), Mt Eliza Business School, Monash University and La Trobe University. In addition he has been Adjunct faculty at ASGM and Adelaide Graduate School of Business.

Adam's recent publications appear in the Pacific Basin Finance Journal, Family Business Review and Tourism Management and he has also presented at leading conferences.

Professor Steen is an active member of CPA Australia, contributing to the CPA Finance and Treasury Unit in the CPA program and a member of the Finance and Treasury COE for the past 7 years. He has lectured internationally and conducted consulting assignments with the World Bank, the Government of Indonesia and other local and global organisations.

Deakin University

School of Accounting, Economics and Finance

Staff Appointments

New Appointments:

Professor Mohamed Ariff Chair in Finance

(w.e.f. 1 March, 2007)

Professor Paresh Narayan Chair in Accounting

(w.e.f. 26 March 2007)

Professor Barry Cooper Chair in Accounting

(w.e.f. 23 April 2007)

Mr Russell Vinning Associate Head of School (Teaching and Learning)

Professor Gerard Gannon Chair in Finance and Associate Head of School (Research)

New Contract Appointments:

Dr Raylene Pierce-Maberly Senior Lecturer

Mr Michael Clemens Lecturer

Mr Nihal Mudalige Lecturer

Mr Ray Mathews Lecturer

Mrs Navjot Kaur Associate Lecturer

Mr Paul Zarebski Associate Lecturer

Resignations

Dr Beverley Jackling Associate Professor
 Mr Mark Buchanek Associate Lecturer
 Mr Marc Olynyk Senior Lecturer

Retirements

Mr Allan Purnell Lecturer

Supernumerary Appointments

Dr Ronald Oaxaca Honorary Professor

Visiting Professor

Professor Richard Wilson Distinguished Visiting Professor – February 2007

Macquarie University*Department of Accounting*New Appointments

We are very pleased to welcome Professor Hector Perera, lecturers Brett Consadine and Raymond Young, and associate lecturer Chadi Aoun to our department. In the past year, we have promoted Lorne Cummings, Geoff Loudon, Sujatha Perera and Renee Radich to Associate Professors, Bill Blair to senior lecturer, Kym Boon, Barbara Nevicky and Parmod Chand to lecturer, and Charlene Chen, James Chun Lau and Steven Hai Wu to associate lecturer.

Departures

Sadly, we have farewelled Ron Day to the University of Sydney and Julie McElroy to the University of Newcastle. Associate Professor Herb Schoch has retired from a full-time position, but remains with us on a part-time basis.

Congratulations

Dr Susan Greer, who was awarded her PhD in 2006, had her paper chosen by the Editor(s) of the *Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal* and their judging panel, as the winner of the 2006 Emerald/EFMD Outstanding Doctoral Research Award in the category of Interdisciplinary accounting research.

Professor Graeme Harrison was recognized in a recent paper in *Accounting, Organizations and Society* as one of 5 "elite" researchers from Australia, who have published the most prolifically in the four most prestigious journals in accounting for the period 1963 through 1999, and also as the author of one of the top 20 articles in the same four journals over this period.

Dr Cindy Davids and Gordon Boyce won an External Collaborative Grant of \$30,000 from the Victorian Ombudsman's Office and Macquarie University for their project, "A preliminary examination of the nature and extent

of conflict of interest problems in the Victorian public service".

7th Annual Conference of the Asian Academic Accounting Association

A major highlight for 2006 was hosting the 7th Annual Conference of the Asian Academic Accounting Association in Sydney, September 2006. Alan Kilgore, as Chair of the Organizing Committee, was ably supported by members of the department serving on the committee, reviewing submissions and other support roles.

The conference was truly international and attracted approximately 130 academics from the US, Canada, Austria, Czech Republic, China, Malaysia, Thailand, Korea, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Britain, Indonesia, Singapore, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates, South Africa and Australia. The conference was an important element in the Department's strategy to build stronger links with universities throughout the Asia – Pacific region.

Queensland University of Technology*Department of Accountancy*Staff Appointments

The School of Accountancy welcomes Belinda Luke (lecturer) and Chrisann Palm (Lee) (associate lecturer) to the School in 2007. Belinda joins us from AUT and Chrisann from Charles Sturt.

Grants

Gavin Nicholson, with Professor Amy Hillman (Arizona State University), Professor Geoff Kiel (Notre Dame Australia) and Associate Professor Malcolm Alexander (Griffith University), has been awarded funding for a 5 year ARC Discovery Grant entitled "Director Identity, Identification and Information Flows as predictors of board monitoring resource provision and organisation performance."

Associate Professor Peter Best has been awarded a 4 year ARC Linkage Grant for a project titled "Integrated Financial Fraud Detection in Enterprise Applications" with investigators from QUT's Information Security Institute.

Professors Natalie and Gerry Gallery have been awarded an ICAA research grant for "The impact of Mandatory Quarterly Cash Flow Reporting".

Dr Conor O'Leary has been awarded a 1 year grant from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia for a project titled "The Effectiveness of Ethical Studies on Final Year Accountancy Students".

Visitors

During semester 2 2006 Professor Win Van Grembergen visited the School. Professor van Grembergen is Professor

and Chair of the Information Systems Management Department at the Economics and Management Faculty of the University of Antwerp in Belgium, and a world leader in the field of IT governance models and tools.

Appointments

Professor Natalie Gallery has been appointed to the AASB's Register of Potential Interpretation Advisory Panel Members for financial reporting issues in relation to superannuation funds.

Professor Myles McGregor Lowndes has been appointed to the AASB Not-for-profit (Private Sector) Focus Group and also to the Register of Potential Interpretation Advisory Panel Members for nonprofit issues.

Professor Myles McGregor Lowndes has been appointed to the Australian Taxation Board as a consulting member.

University of Adelaide

Adelaide Graduate School of Business

Bryan Howieson has transferred from the Adelaide Graduate School of Business to the School of Commerce, where he is Associate Professor and Head of the Accounting Discipline.

The University of Melbourne

Department of Accounting and Business Information Systems

Staff Appointments

Dr Susanna Ho and Dr Gary Pan were appointed as Senior Lecturers in the Department in the second half of 2006. The Department welcomed Ms Gillian Vesty and Dr VG Sridharan who have joined as Lecturers. Congratulations also goes to Anne Lillis, who was appointed Professor of Management Accounting in late 2006.

Staff PhDs

Congratulations to Ms Carlin Dowling who graduated with her PhD entitled: *"The antecedents of appropriate audit support system use"* in December 2006.

Staff Awards

Congratulations to:

- 1) Associate Professor Michael Davern, Professor Colin Ferguson and others who were awarded an ARC grant for their project: *"Modelling factors affecting the long term demand for and supply of professional accounting and allied services in rural and regional Australia."*
- 2) Professor Stewart Leech, whose paper (co-authored with Sev Grabski) won the best paper award at the International Conference on Enterprise Systems and

Accounting (in Greece). Professor Leech also gave a keynote address at this conference

- 3) Professor Stewart Leech, who was awarded the Artificial Intelligence/Emerging Technologies (AI/ET) Section of American Accounting Association 2006 Outstanding Researcher award. The award recognizes a researcher for his/her outstanding published research in the field of AI / ET.

Events

Professor John Lyon held his inaugural public lecture on 30th August 2006 with the title *"Passive Profits from Accounting Indicators"*. This lecture was well attended by all members of the community and the Department would like to congratulate John.

August 2006 also saw the launch of the book 'Promise Fulfilled: The History of the Accounting Department at The University of Melbourne 1925 – 2004' authored by Geoff Burrows, former Head of Department. This book traces the history of the Accounting discipline at the University of Melbourne. Attendees included ex members of staff and students as well as their families. The book is available for purchase through the Department.

University of New South Wales

School of Accounting

ARC Grant Successes

Congratulations to UNSW staff on their successes in the recent round of ARC grants.

Prof Wai Fong Chua and **A/Prof Jane Baxter**, with Dr N. Sawabe, obtained a Discovery Grant for **Strategizing and Management Accounting Control: Comparing and Contrasting Australian and Japanese Practices**.

Ms Christina Boedker obtained a Linkage Grant, with Prof J Guthrie, Prof CA Adams, Prof J Mouritsen and Prof G Roos, for **Visualising Value in Australian Organisations: Case Studies in Extended Performance Management, Measurement and Reporting**.

Staff Appointments

Former Head of School, **Prof Wai Fong Chua**, is congratulated on her new role as Senior Associate Dean of the UNSW Faculty of Business (incorporating the AGSM).

Congratulations also to **Dr Maria Balatbat** on her promotion to Senior Lecturer.

Welcome to new Lecturers, **Mr Jeffrey Knapp** and **Mr Wen He**. Joining UNSW from Macquarie University, Jeffrey has a strong technical financial accounting background and 11 years' lecturing experience, and is a co-author on earlier editions of a leading text book on consolidation accounting. Wen has an MBA from University

of Lancaster (UK) and is close to completing his PhD at the National University of Singapore. His research work is in the area of management of accounting accruals and institutional trading, and his teaching interests are in financial accounting and financial statement analysis.

Welcome also to new Associate Lecturers **Ms Phua Yee Shih** and **Dr Ming Wu**. Yee has recently submitted her PhD at the University of Melbourne. Ming has completed her PhD at UTS, and has teaching experience at Macquarie University.

Mary Parker Follett Award

Prof Wai Fong Chua, with Dr Maria Dyball (Macquarie) and A/Prof Chris Poullaos (Sydney), has co-authored the paper awarded the Mary Parker Follett Award (MCB University Press Award for Excellence) for most outstanding paper published in 2006 in *Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal*.

The award is for the paper, **Mediating between colonizer and colonized in the American empire: accounting for government monies in the Philippines**.

Congratulations to the authors.

John V. Ratcliffe Memorial Lecture

UNSW hosted its annual John V. Ratcliffe Memorial Lecture at the Westin Sydney on 14 November 2006. The purpose of the lecture is to bring together the worlds of academia, commerce, the professions and the public to explore an issue of public interest. Speakers at the 2006 Ratcliffe Lecture were Prof Roger Simnett, Mr Kim Smith (Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers) and Prof Ken Trotman, with each speaker giving a different perspective on issues and opportunities affecting the future of the audit profession.

University of Otago

Department of Accountancy and Business Law

The Pan Pacific Business Association Conference XXIV, with a theme of Digital Convergence and e-Globalization, will be held in both Dunedin and Queenstown, June 1-3 2007.

The official conference website can be found at <http://www.cba.unl.edu/outreach/ppba/index.html>

In 2008, *Accounting Education: an international journal* plans to publish a themed issue dedicated to the interface between Academic Education and Professional Training for Accountants. Invited Guest Editors for this themed issue are Elaine Evans (Macquarie University, Australia) and Roger Juchau (University of Western Sydney, Australia), AE's usual editorial policies will apply. The revised deadline for final submissions is 30 June 2007. Submission

in hard copy or electronically can be made to either. For more information please email eevans@efs.mq.edu.au or r.juchau@uws.edu.au

Ralph Adler, at Otago, announces that *Accounting Education: an international journal* will be publishing a special issue in 2008/2009 dedicated to Enhancing Generic Skills in Accounting. Invited Guest Editors for this themed issue are Beverley Jackling and Kim Watty, both from RMIT University, Australia. AE's usual editorial/review policies will apply. The editors strongly encourage notification of interest by potential contributors and are pleased to discuss ideas and proposals at any stage. The deadline for submissions is 31 December 2007.

University of Queensland

Second Call for Papers

M Third Asia/Pacific Research Symposium on Accounting Information Systems, Brisbane, Australia, Friday, 29 June 2007

The Business School at the University of Queensland will host the Third Asia/Pacific Research Symposium on Accounting Information Systems. The Symposium will be held on Friday, 29 June 2007, in Brisbane immediately prior to the 2007 AFAANZ conference which will be held on the Gold Coast 1-3 July.

The Symposium is sponsored by the Special Interest Group for Accounting Information Systems (SIG-ASYS) of the Association For Information Systems (AIS) and the *International Journal of Accounting Information Systems* (IJAIS).

The Symposium will feature research papers, advanced PhD proposals and one or more panels that focus on the nexus between accounting and information systems research. The Symposium is particularly interested in interdisciplinary papers that draw from accounting, psychology, cognitive science, behavioural science, economics, and/or information technology. High quality, insightful and theoretically sound studies are encouraged.

All submissions to the Third Asia/Pacific Research Symposium on Accounting Information Systems must represent original work that has not already been published in a journal or conference proceedings (in complete form - abstract publication is permissible). If the work has been presented at another conference or is currently under consideration for publication or presentation elsewhere, the authors must disclose this fact. We would encourage participants attending AFAANZ to also submit papers to the Symposium that are at the intersection of accounting/auditing/finance and information systems research. The Symposium closing dinner will be held following the sessions on 29 June, allowing AFAANZ participants

plenty of time to travel to the Gold Coast on either 30 June or 1 July.

At least one author for every accepted paper and all members of every accepted panel must register for the symposium and present their ideas in person.

Submissions may be of three types: Completed research papers, research-in-progress papers/advanced PhD proposals and panel proposals.

Completed Research papers

Papers should conform to IJAIS format, which is consistent with MISQ.

Research-in-progress papers and Advanced PhD proposals

Submission of promising research in its formative stages does not require complete analysis of results. Submissions should include a one-page abstract and a paper that includes the following sections: research objectives and questions, theoretical foundations of the study, research methodology being used, current status of the project, and a description of what the authors propose to present at the conference.

Panel Proposals

Panel proposals should include a general description of the panel, names and affiliations of all panel participants, a statement to the effect that all participants have made a commitment to serve on the panel (if it is accepted), a brief description of each participant's background and expertise related to the panel topic, and a description of each participant's views on the topic.

For completed paper and research-in-progress/advanced PhD proposal submissions, authors should identify them-

selves and provide contact information only on the cover page, as these submissions will be blind reviewed. The second page of the paper should consist of an abstract plus a list of key words describing the main topics of the manuscript (the MISQ keyword list should be used). Papers and panel proposals should be double-spaced to facilitate editing. The manuscript or proposal plus any supporting documentation (such as survey instruments) should be sent as e-mail attachments (in Word format, 12 point font with a minimum of 1 inch margins) **to the Symposium Co-ordinator:**

Ms Sheenagh Kelley

s.kelley@uq.edu.au

The Technical Committee will consist of (amongst others) Peter Green, Fiona Rohde, Jon Heales, Stewart Leech, and Colin Ferguson.

Submissions to the Symposium:

Submission Deadline: Now closed

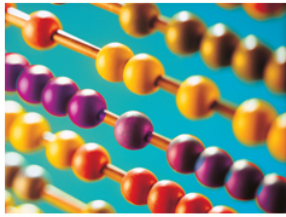
Notification of Decision: 8 May 2007.

Symposium Registration Deadline: 21 May 2007. Registration Forms will be available on the AIS SIG-ASYS website at: www.sigasys.org.

University of Western Sydney

School of Accounting

Dr Phil Ross has taken on the role of Head of the School of Accounting from 1 January 2007. Phil takes over from Associate Professor John Ryan who is to be congratulated on his three year term in the role. The School is in the market for quality staff at all levels so if you are interested please contact the Head of School to discuss the range of possibilities.'



ACCOUNTING & FINANCE LECTURER OF THE YEAR AWARD

expect
more



Proudly supported by AFAANZ

Pearson Education Australia is pleased to announce that the *Pearson Education Australia/Finance Lecturer of the Year Award* will be again be offered to Australian and New Zealand members of AFAANZ in 2007. The aim of the award, which was created in 2001, is to encourage and recognise innovative teaching practices in Accounting or Finance at a university level.

Nominations will be accepted from tutors, lecturers and senior lecturers, whose primary activity is teaching in undergraduate or postgraduate accounting or finance courses. The *Pearson Education Accounting/Finance Lecturer of the Year Award* is judged by the Education Directors of CPA Australia, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Australia and the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants.

The award consists of \$3,000.00 and a plaque, to be presented at the AFAANZ conference in July 2007.

Selection Criteria

The award recipient must be a current member of AFAANZ and will have:

- ▶ interest and enthusiasm for teaching and for promoting student learning
- ▶ ability to organise course material and to present it cogently and imaginatively
- ▶ command of subject matter, including the incorporation in teaching of recent developments in the field of study
- ▶ provisions of appropriate student assessment, including the provision of worthwhile feedback to students on their learning
- ▶ professional and systematic approach to teaching development
- ▶ participation in professional activities and research relating to teaching

Applications

To apply for the *Pearson Education Accounting/Finance Lecturer of the Year Award* simply download the Rules, Criteria and Nomination Form (<http://www.pearsoned.com.au/CommunityAndAwards/AFAANZ/Rules.pdf>) and complete it using the Rules of Entry as a guideline. Nominations must be submitted using the Nomination Form, with all details completed. **Three copies** of all materials should be submitted. Applications should be received no later than **5:00pm, Friday, 20 April 2007**.

Enquiries

Mail

Shileen Costain
Marketing Manager
Pearson Education Australia
Level 3, Unit 14, 14 Aquatic Drive
Frenchs Forest NSW 2086
AUSTRALIA

Email

shileen.costain@pearsoned.com.au

Phone

61 2 9454 2216

Conditions

Applicants must be current members of AFAANZ

- ▶ The judges' decision is final and they reserve the right not to make an award if the criteria are not met
- ▶ Entrants must be currently employed within an Australian or New Zealand university
- ▶ Accounting and Finance teaching being evaluated must have taken place within Australian or New Zealand university during 2006/7
- ▶ Winner and entrants may be requested to be available for publicity purposes
- ▶ Previous winners are not eligible to apply.

2007-2008 Call for Applications

Background and Purpose

The AFAANZ Research Fund (ARF) Annual Grants Program is designed to encourage and support AFAANZ members by providing funding for research projects. The grants are competitive. At this stage, the grants are primarily intended to support small-scale projects of up to one year's duration or to assist in seed funding for larger scale projects. Applicants must demonstrate their ability to conduct the research proposed and show how the project will benefit the research profile of the individual and the discipline. The pool of funds comes directly from fees paid by institutional members. As such, access to the ARF is limited to staff based at an institutional member.

Eligibility

All applicants must be full-time academic staff at one of the Institutional Members of AFAANZ.

The first named applicant must be a current member of AFAANZ.

Successful applicants in 2006 are eligible to apply again in 2007, but priority will be given to applicants who did not receive funding in 2006.

Research Priority for 2007

The 2007 round will continue to focus on "mentoring of developing researchers". Specifically, this means that all applications under the "developing researcher" category must involve at least two applicants – one applicant will be a "developing researcher", while the second applicant will be an "established researcher" taking on the role of research mentor in the context of the grant proposal.

A developing researcher is someone who has graduated with their PhD within the last 3 years or is within the first 5 years of their employment at a university or equivalent tertiary institution at lecturer (level A/B or New Zealand equivalent position) or above (i.e. prior employment at Associate Lecturer is irrelevant). A developing researcher may also include someone who has been employed at a university at level A/B (or New Zealand equivalent) or above, for a longer period and who does not have more than three publications in refereed journals.

Whilst a major aim has been to encourage "developing researchers", consideration will nevertheless also be

given to quality proposals from "experienced researchers" in the 2007 round. Such applications may be individual or team based.

Funding

- Grants in the range of \$2,000 to \$7,500 will be considered.
- Time and resource support will be permitted, including teaching relief where permitted by the relevant university policy.
- Funds will be available for twelve months after the award of the grant from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 and must be fully expended within that period.
- A final report on the use of the funds and the outcomes of the project will be required within 60 days of the completion of the project or 30 November 2008 at the latest. Future grants to the applicant will be conditional on the timely receipt of this report.
- Only one application per developing researcher will be eligible (although the mentor may be associated with more than one grant).

Selection Process

A panel of assessors (normally comprising the Research Portfolio of the Board, Editor of Accounting and Finance, AFAANZ Treasurer and a fourth member of senior standing appointed by the Board) will rank all applications. They will then make allocations on merit, to the limit of the annual funding pool (which may vary with financial circumstances from year to year).

The criteria upon which the grants will be examined include:

- The quality of the research and the likely research outcomes
- The extent to which the research project will enhance the applicant's and discipline research profile
- The extent to which the project will result in publishable output
- The quality and clarity of the research application.

The application must include written support from the Dean/Head of the relevant university organisational unit. Applications will not be accepted without this letter of support. A maximum of three grants will be made to each institutional member in this round.

Application Process

Complete applications comprise three components:

- (1) The Research Proposal (see section titled “CONTENT AND FORMAT OF RESEARCH PROPOSALS”, on the following page);
- (2) A Dean/Head supporting letter (signed electronically); and
- (3) A supporting statement (signed electronically) of not more than two (2) pages from the established researcher. This statement should highlight key features of this applicant’s research history and her/his ability to successfully undertake the research. The statement should also indicate a willingness, and demonstrate an ability, to mentor the project.

Applications must be submitted electronically, in a ‘pdf’ file, via email to info@afaanz.org with the subject: “AFAANZ Research Grant Application 2007”.

Critical Dates

- ▶ Closing Date for Submissions: 20 April 2007
- ▶ Applicants Notified: 25 May 2007
- ▶ Formal Announcement of Successful Grants: AFAANZ Conference Dinner, 3 July 2007

Enquiries

Enquiries should be directed to Dr Sue Wright by email at swright@efs.mq.edu.au

CONTENT AND FORMAT OF RESEARCH PROPOSALS

All applications must be typed, single-sided on A4 paper using a minimum of 11-point font and minimum 2cm margins. Each proposal should have a title page followed by the project details as prescribed below:

Title Page

The proposal is to have a title page, which should contain the following headings:

AFAANZ RESEARCH FUND – GRANT APPLICATION 2006

- ▶ (1) Project Title
- ▶ (2) The name of the researcher/s*
Developing Researcher:
Established Researcher:
- ▶ (3) AFAANZ Institution Member(s)
- ▶ (4) Funds Requested
- ▶ (5) Project Summary (100 words)

(*At least one of the researchers must quote their current AFAANZ membership number on the application form.)

Project Details

The main body of the proposal is not to exceed four (4) typed pages in length. It should contain the following headings:

TITLE OF RESEARCH PROPOSAL

- ▶ (6) Aims and Intended Outcomes
- ▶ (7) Background and Research Question(s)
- ▶ (8) Research Methods
- ▶ (9) Research Plan
- ▶ (10) Budget and Budget Justification*

(* Each budget item must be justified and other sources of income are to be indicated.)