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Co-editors Barry J. Cooper, Ian Eggleton & Cheryl Umoh

2008 AFAANZ/IAAER CONFERENCE SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA - 6-8 July

The 2008 AFAANZ/IAAER Conference is fast approaching. Your detailed conference registration brochure is available for download from the AFAANZ website at www.afaanz.org. We look forward to welcoming you in Sydney.



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Support from our platinum sponsors is gratefully acknowledged

Presidents' Message

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2008!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our members, platinum sponsors and institutional members for their continued support of AFAANZ.

Arrangements for our 2008 conference are well advanced. Approximately 300 papers across a diverse range of topics and disciplines were submitted and another exciting program has been put together. We thank David Hay and Robyn Moroney for their significant work in the management of the technical program and also thank the members of the Conference Technical Committee for their time and hard work in reviewing the papers. Our thanks also go to Cheryl Umoh who has continually been working on improving the on-line submission process that has been working extremely well.

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 in Sydney, in early July.

Recently members were advised about forthcoming vacancies on the AFAANZ Board and we look forward to receiving your nomination. Should we receive more than two nominations, then it will go to ballot and if so, we urge you to participate in your Association by voting in these elections. The results will be announced at the Association's Annual General Meeting on 2 May. Hopefully you will be able to attend the AGM at our Melbourne office.

We are very pleased to advise that AFAANZ will be offering a discounted AFAANZ membership fee of \$30 to full time higher degree research students (e.g., Masters by research and PhD) and full time honours students, for the period of their study and the first year after their graduation. This membership category is subject to



Ian Eggleton and Barry J. Cooper

annual verification of student status. A copy of valid enrolment documents or award details must be submitted to cherylu@afaanz.org. Student membership allows attendance at AFAANZ meetings without a vote and discounted AFAANZ annual conference registration.

This year we are introducing a **Student member conference registration fee**. This fee will be the same as that charged to PhD consortium/colloquium participants who attend the AFAANZ conference. To be eligible, the student must be a full time higher degree research student or full time honours student currently enrolled or within the first year of graduating.

We are also introducing a **First Time AFAANZ conference attendee registration fee**. This fee will be the same as that charged to PhD consortium/colloquium participants who attend the AFAANZ conference. To be eligible, this must be the individual's first AFAANZ annual conference registration. For enquiries please contact cherylu@afaanz.org

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

Barry J. Cooper
President
(Australia)

Ian Eggleton
President
(New Zealand)

ICAA's Graduate Certificate in Chartered Accounting Foundations

Since the 2007 AFAANZ Conference, representatives of AFAANZ and Heads of School have met with the ICAA to discuss the ICAA's Graduate Certificate in Chartered Accounting Foundations. This report summarises the discussions and developments that have occurred.

Successful completion of The Graduate Certificate in Chartered Accounting Foundations, offered by Deakin University, enables non-Accounting graduates with a three year bachelor degree, to enter The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia's Graduate Diploma in Chartered Accounting (the CA Program). In response to the accounting academic community's concerns The Graduate Certificate in Chartered Accounting Foundations has been increased from 6 units to 8 units from semester 1, 2008.

AFAANZ also requested, and has been provided with, a statement from the ICAA's Education Board confirming that the professional accountancy knowledge that is required by IES 2 is covered in the CA Program and is not dependent on this knowledge having been completed at the tertiary stage. Further, the ICAA has provided written endorsement for The Graduate Certificate in Chartered Accounting Foundations from the CEOs of the Big 4 firms.

AFAANZ has also requested written confirmation, from an independent person, that each of the units is (academically) equivalent to a full unit, and has questioned the appropriateness of the course assessment being entirely by multiple choice questions. Our understanding is that Deakin University is currently preparing a submission to the ICAA to have the course accredited. AFAANZ has requested that due consideration be given to the following alternatives:

- ▶ Remove the award status of the course and offer the alternative entry pathway as a training program as was originally proposed by ICAA; or
- ▶ Rather than accrediting the course (and other courses that follow), the ICAA allows entry to the CA Program to students studying existing graduate accounting conversion courses that are already accredited, after they have completed those units that cover the ICAA core curriculum. Universities could provide an exit point (as some currently do) from existing Master conversion courses for students not wanting to do more than 8 units.

Keryn Chalmers, Sue Wright and Ian Eggleton
AFAANZ Steering Committee

AFAANZ gratefully acknowledges the support of its Platinum Sponsors for 2008



AFAANZ welcomes its Institutional Members for 2008



Editor's Report

A&F to Publish an Extra (Fifth) Issue in 2008

I am pleased to report that at its last meeting, the AFAANZ Board authorised the publication of a one-off extra issue of *Accounting and Finance* in 2008. This will make 2008 a five issue volume. This initiative is in response to the backlog of accepted papers currently at the journal. We greatly appreciate the encouragement and support that Blackwells has provided and also our Institutional Members that have helped give us the financial backing to take this course of action.

Forthcoming Papers

The following papers have been accepted and are scheduled for publication in Volume 48, Issue 2 of *Accounting and Finance*, due out in June 2008.

Paper Title	Author(s)
"The Effect of Different Types of Feedback on the Level of Auditors' Configural Information Processing"	Leung & Trotman
"Is the audit services market competitive following Arthur Andersen's collapse?"	Hamilton, Li & Stokes
"Do student perceptions matter? A study of the effect of student's perceptions on academic performance"	Ferreira & Santoso
"The value relevance of voluntary disclosure in the annual report"	Banghoj & Plenborg
"The Comparative Performance of UK Mutual Building Societies and Stock Retail Banks: Further Evidence"	Shiwakoti, Keasey & Hudson
"What skills and attributes does an accounting graduate need? Evidence from student perceptions and employer expectations"	Kavanagh & Drennan
"Non-audit fees, long-term auditor-client relationships, and earnings management"	Cahan, Emanuel & Wong
"Is There Information Content from Insider Trading Activities Preceding Earnings and Dividend Announcements in Hong Kong?"	Cheng & Leung

Robert Faff

Editor, *Accounting and Finance*

2008 Conference Report

The number of papers submitted to the AFAANZ conference has continued at a high level and is approximately the same as last year, despite many competing conferences. We are pleased to note that we are attracting paper submissions from around the globe, including Africa, Asia, North America and Europe. We think that the number of papers submitted has remained strong due to our conference being in a highly populated city - Sydney - and because of our link with the IAAER conference.

This year, once again, as well as concurrent sessions, we will have research forum sessions. These worked well last year. The forum papers are still accepted papers and provide authors an opportunity to present their work, which the poster sessions of the past did not allow.

The decision to allow people to submit only one paper as presenting author has worked well. It means that more people have a chance to present their research at AFAANZ.

The decision to require one author per paper to act as discussant has alleviated some of the pressure on searching for quality discussants.

The numbers of papers submitted in the areas of finance, financial accounting, auditing and management accounting remain strong. Papers submitted in the areas of critical perspectives, qualitative research and AIS remain small.

Our technical committee members do a wonderful job each year ensuring that authors receive timely notification regarding their submitted paper. An innovation this year is the use of volunteer reviewers, who are reviewing a small number of papers each where necessary to help our technical committee members. We were very pleased by the level of support offered by volunteers, with large numbers of people offering to help in this important process.

Thanks once again to our hard working technical committee members and voluntary reviewers.

David Hay and Robyn Moroney
Joint Technical Committee Chairs
 AFAANZ Conference 2008

2008 AAA Doctoral Consortium

Congratulations to Ms Ching-Hui (Grace) Chuang of University of Sydney who will represent AFAANZ at the 2008 Doctoral Consortium. We look forward to reading about Grace's experience in the September issue of the newsletter.

AFAANZ Board of Directors 2007-2008

President (Australia):	Professor Barry J. Cooper Deakin University
President (New Zealand):	Professor Ian Eggleton University of Waikato
Treasurer:	Dr Sue Wright Macquarie University
Board of Directors:	Professor Keryn Chalmers Monash University
	Associate Professor Paul de Lange RMIT University
	Associate Professor David Hay University of Auckland
	Professor Christine Jubb Deakin University
	Dr Robyn Moroney Monash University
	Professor Jenny Stewart Griffith University
Editor:	Professor Robert Faff Monash University
Executive Director:	Ms Cheryl Umoh AFAANZ

2008 AFAANZ/CPA Australia/ICAA/NIA PhD Scholarships

AFAANZ is pleased to announce that two full-time scholarships valued at \$15,000 each were awarded for 2008. Congratulations to:

Ms Michelle Goyen, The University of Southern Queensland

Topic: *Disaggregating the influences on IPO underpricing.*

Ms Kerry Humphreys, The University of New South Wales

Topic: *Understanding and improving cognitive processing of balanced scorecard information in performance evaluation judgements.*

National Institute of Accountants

NIA signs landmark deal to jointly deliver accountancy training program in China

Australia's National Institute of Accountants (NIA) has signed a landmark agreement with China's major employer organisation, which has more than 430,000 members, to jointly deliver accountancy education programs in China beginning later in 2008.

The deal was signed in Beijing in December 2007 between the NIA and the China Enterprise Confederation – China Enterprise Directors Association (CEC-CEDA); a non-government institution representing employers in China.

CEC/CEDA's 436,000 members are mainly enterprises, companies and entrepreneurs, but also include many provincial and municipal bodies as well as industry and trade associations across 34 industrial sectors in 30 provinces and 260 industrial cities.

CEC/CEDA is dedicated to promoting enterprise reform and development, upgrading management skills and encouraging sustained development.

NIA Deputy CEO Andrew Conway said, "The landmark agreement greatly enhances our involvement with the accounting profession in China.

"Following China's adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards in January 2007, the agreement will provide opportunities to accounting professionals in China to enhance their knowledge of IFRS and the comparison with Chinese Accounting Standards.

"The National Institute of Accountants Australia, as a full member of the International Federation of Accountants, is dedicated to promoting the regional and overall development of the accounting and financial services profession.

"The NIA is proud of its strong ties with the accounting profession in China. This agreement will greatly assist in providing China's business leaders with a global accounting context and we look forward to working closely with CEC-CEDA whose members comprise many of China's most talented finance managers.

"The joint program also provides an opportunity to accounting professionals in China seeking appropriate member status with the National Institute of Accountants Australia to broaden their careers on the world stage," Mr Conway said.

Editor's Note: As one of the three recognised bodies for accounting professionals in Australia, the NIA provides guidance and insight into long-term future planning for its 20,000 members and students in Australia and in more than 50 countries around the world as well as quality education and career progression pathways.

NIA Competitive Research Grant Scheme

The National Institute of Accountants has recently determined the recipients of Awards under the NIA Competitive Research Grant Scheme. The recipients for 2008 are:

THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN FINANCIAL REPORTING QUALITY, PROVISION OF NON-AUDIT SERVICES AND SIZE

RESEARCHERS:

Professor Pamela Kent - Bond University
Dr James Routledge - Bond University
Professor Jenny Stewart - Griffith University

This proposal is the recipient of a grant of \$16,000.

The following two proposals have each been awarded an \$8,000 grant.

Students' Opinions and Attitudes to Ethics in the Accounting Profession

Dr Josie Fisher, University of New England
Ms Cathryn McCormack, University of New England

The Impact on Local Government as IFRS is Implemented in Australia

Dr Robyn Pilcher – Curtin University
Professor Greg Tower – Curtin University
Associate Professor John Nielson – Curtin University

The NIA is keen to assist accounting research in Australia through the CRG scheme and will be making a call for submissions for the 2009 CRG scheme later in 2008.

We would like to commend the successful applicants and wish them well in their endeavours. We would also like to commend the unsuccessful applicants as the quality of the proposals submitted was of a high standard.

New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants

100 years serving New Zealand and the profession

The New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2008. An Act of Parliament passed in 1908 established the New Zealand Society of Accountants which more recently became the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants.

From a foundation membership of 2116 people (including several women) the organisation now has over 29,500 members and is a member of a world-wide alliance of nine best-in-country professional bodies representing more than 700,000 members.

The Institute's first centennial activity has been the launching of its centennial website www.nzicacentenary.com to bring members and the public news and information about events, centennial resources and stories about members and their memories of the organisation. The website will be added to and changed throughout the year.

To mark 100 years, the New Zealand Institute will be holding a series of events throughout 2008 at national and branch level to remember the huge contribution to business, government, social and leisure services and the community made by its members as well as looking forward to the next 100 years.

In addition, the *Chartered Accountants Journal* will be running regular articles. There will also be centennial features in branch publications.

In August, the Institute will hold a Centennial Conference and a formal dinner in Auckland, and other major Institute events held during the year will also have a centennial theme, including the Heads of Department Conference which will be held in June at the University of Auckland.

2008 President Graham Crombie says:

"We have a great history to be proud of. We also have a great future. We are well positioned for the changing realities of business and our profession. I'm looking forward to travelling to our branches throughout New Zealand and in three cities around the world to help our members celebrate the last and the next 100 years."

SIG News

International Accounting Standards SIG (SIG4) Update

I have written to all members of the International Accounting Standards SIG (SIG4) indicating that the lack of activity within SIG4 has seen the AFAANZ Board of Directors take the decision to dissolve SIG4. Existing SIG4 members have been urged to join the Accounting Standards SIG (SIG3) as Australia's adoption of IFRS suggests

that SIG3 may be an appropriate alternative for former SIG4 members to engage in meaningful dialogue with regard to the development of Accounting Standards.

This newsletter item should be taken as formal notification that SIG4 shall be disestablished as a special interest group in 2008 pursuant to rules governing SIGs. Finally, your AFAANZ Board remains committed to support all viable SIGs and we urge you to consider joining SIG3 in 2008 if you are not already a member.

Paul de Lange

On behalf of the AFAANZ Board of Directors

Proposal to establish an AFAANZ Special Interest Group to support accounting researchers in qualitative methods

Purpose

It is proposed to seek the approval of AFAANZ for a new Special Interest Group (SIG) titled "Qualitative Researchers in Accounting Network" (QualRAN). To obtain AFAANZ support, at least 25 AFAANZ members are needed to subscribe to the formation of the SIG.

Rationale

Much accounting research in Australia uses quantitative methods and many researchers, particularly those with experience in the UK, Europe and Scandinavia feel that qualitative methods are under-represented and undervalued in academic accounting research in Australia and New Zealand. The UK and European experience of organisations like the Management Control Association (MCA), European Network for Research on Organizational and Accounting Change (ENROAC) and the Performance Measurement Association (PMA) shows that supportive networks promote and encourage experienced and new researchers to carry out qualitative research, and lifts the esteem in which qualitative research methods are seen. No similar network exists to support accounting academics in Australia and New Zealand. As most accounting researchers are members of AFAANZ, it is sensible that any such group of like-minded researchers should be formed under the auspices of AFAANZ.

Objectives

The SIG aims to develop a supportive environment for accounting academics in Australia and New Zealand who are engaged in, or wish to engage in qualitative research through ethnographies, field or case studies, where the primary data collection is observation and/or interview (i.e. using research methods that are not in the main, based on applying statistical or other quantitative techniques).

Members may include those with interests in all aspects of accounting (defined loosely) but including financial accounting, auditing, management accounting, account-

ing information systems, corporate governance, performance measurement/management, risk management, whether in private, public or not-for-profit sectors. Many such researchers will have an interest in the social, behavioural and organizational implications of accounting, and may adopt a range of economic, interpretive and critical perspectives.

The SIG will comprise experienced and well-published academics, early and mid-career academics and PhD students. The main activities of the SIG will include:

- providing a forum for the exchange of ideas
- encouraging both new and established researchers in qualitative methods
- initiating, encouraging and facilitating collaborative research
- disseminating information and communicating members' research interests
- providing opportunities to present new research ideas and work-in-progress in supportive workshops with more time than is usually available at a conference.

Members of the SIG will be listed in a database which will include contact addresses, research interests and current research projects. Membership will be by a small additional subscription added to the AFAANZ subscription (as for other SIGs).

A committee will be elected at the first meeting of the SIG, which will hopefully be during the 2008 AFAANZ conference in Sydney.

The initial joint promoters of the Qualitative Researchers in Accounting Network (QualRAN) SIG are:

Professor Paul Collier, Monash University
paul.collier@buseco.monash.edu.au

Professor Deryl Northcott, Auckland University of Technology, and Editor of *Qualitative Research in Accounting and Management* deryl.northcott@aut.ac.nz

What you need to do now

Complete the following information and email it to paul.collier@buseco.monash.edu.au

I support the formation of the Qualitative Researchers in Accounting Network (QualRAN) SIG and wish to be a member of the new SIG. I am a member of AFAANZ.

Name

Title

Institution

Email address

When we have at least 25 AFAANZ members who pledge their intention to join the SIG, we will make a formal application to AFAANZ which will need to be approved by the AFAANZ Board.

Governance, Accountability, Performance and Sustainability Special Interest Group (SIG1)

In 2007 it was decided to change the name of our SIG to "Governance, Accountability, Performance and Sustainability" – or GAPS. We believe this will enable us to encourage a wider range of papers – generating more interest not only in the SIG but in AFAANZ. The change was needed to catch up with the rest of the world and we will be forming ties with similar groups in the UK and USA. We also plan to offer a reviewing process for submissions this year and are also in the process of negotiating an opportunity to send papers to a local journal for possible inclusion in future publications.

This year we will be calling for papers in all the areas of governance, accountability, performance and sustainability. We are very fortunate in that Professor Ron Hodges, Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning from the University of Sheffield, will be our key note speaker this year. Ron's research interests include the regulation of public sector accounting, public sector governance and accountability, accounting for and management of the private finance initiative and other forms of public private partnership and the development of accrual accounting systems in central & local government and the national health service. He has published in ABACUS, FAM and Public Money and Management, just to name a few.

We hope you will support our attempt to revamp GAPS into a worthwhile SIG in which to generate not only a variety of discussion, but to assist younger researchers by providing a review process. Finally, we are in the process of updating the AFAANZ web site so that you will be able to access the latest news on the SIG.

I look forward to seeing you in Sydney this year. If you are considering submitting a paper, please don't hesitate to contact me: r.pilcher@curtin.edu.au. Early submissions are encouraged.

Accounting History Interest Group (SIG2)

Call for Papers

The Accounting History Special Interest Group is pleased to announce that an Accounting History Symposium will be conducted on Saturday, 5 July 2008, immediately preceding the 2008 AFAANZ/IAAER Annual Conference. The Symposium will take place at the Hilton Hotel, Sydney between 10am and 4pm and will feature a distinguished panel of scholars to offer feedback on accounting history projects, including research proposals of planned projects. The panel will comprise:

- Professor Christopher Napier, Royal Holloway, University of London
- Professor Garry Carnegie, University of Ballarat
- Professor Brian West, University of Ballarat

- Dr Margaret Lightbody, University of Adelaide

Abstracts of papers in progress or completed papers and outlines of research proposals for presentation and discussion at the Symposium are due to be submitted no later than the COB on Friday 6 June 2008.

Submission of abstracts/research proposals and any enquiries about the Symposium should be directed to the Symposium Convenor, Associate Professor Jayne Bisman, Charles Sturt University (email: jbisman@csu.edu.au).

Accounting Standards Interest Group (SIG3)

The Accounting Standards Forum in 2008 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 intractable issues of the conceptual framework, performance reporting¹ and debt versus equity persist on the work programmes of the IASB, AASB and FRSB, along with those of other standard setters around the globe. This year we will be providing a forum in which these pervasive issues can be considered from the perspectives of academics, policymakers and practitioners. Come along and have a say in what promises to be a lively debate.

Call for Papers

We invite interested academics, practitioners and others to submit papers on the themes of the conceptual framework, performance reporting and debt versus equity 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 March 31. Applicants will be notified by April 30 in time for conference registration. Full papers for successful applicants will be required by June 23.

PhD Presentations: 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 Interest Group (SIG5)

Call for Papers & Workshop Presentations- Saturday, 5 July 2008 - In conjunction with the 2008 AFAANZ/ IAAER Annual Conference, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
Theme: Building Bridges: Motivating Change

Join us in Sydney for the Annual Accounting Education Special Interest Group Symposium. Each year attendance at this symposium has grown making it a very vibrant, interactive and informative day. This year the symposium is intended to highlight the importance of accounting education research as a vehicle for building bridges between stakeholders with an interest in developing and transitioning students into the workforce; motivating change by illustrating exemplars of collaborative engagement and showcasing ideas, strategies, innovations in teaching and learning that support effective accounting education. The symposium provides a supportive and constructive environment and researchers both experienced and new to the area are encouraged to present their work, gain feedback and learn from discussion with colleagues who are just as passionate about working and researching in this area. This year features of the symposium will be a panel presentation comprising internationally recognised speakers from the UK, US, New Zealand, and Australia discussing "Accounting Education – a global perspective", and a discussion session with senior members of local accounting firms.

Contributions in the form of papers and workshop sessions are invited from both educators and professional bodies. Both abstracts and full papers may be submitted but only full papers will be peer reviewed. All submissions should be made electronically to Associate Professor Marie Kavanagh email kavanagh@usq.edu.au. The deadline for abstract submission is 7 April 2008. Earlier submission is encouraged. Should you require further information please contact Marie Kavanagh or William Maguire email William.Maguire@manukau.ac.nz

Acceptance

Authors will be notified of acceptance by 28 April 2008 and will be required to notify us by 7th May of intention

¹ Stage B

to attend and present. A copy of the proposed program and details of the day will then be distributed.

News From Institutions

Monash University

Faculty of Business and Economics

The Department of Accounting and Finance welcomes the following new staff

Financial Accounting and Auditing

Mr Janto Haman – Lecturer

Ms Christine Contessotto – Assistant Lecturer

Ms Jacqueline Birt – Senior Lecturer

Management Accounting and Accounting Information Systems

Dr Stephen Smith – Lecturer

Associate Professor Ralph Kober

Dr Bereket Redda – Assistant Lecturer

Professor Axel Schulz

Finance

Mr John Vaz – Assistant Lecturer

Dr Charly Sujoto – Lecturer

Dr Banita Bissoondoyal-Bheenick – Lecturer

Ms Tram Vu – Lecturer

Mr Saikat Deb – Lecturer

Mr Mihn Do – Lecturer

Congratulations to the following staff who have been Promoted:

Victor Borg - Lecturer

Professor Paul Collier

Professor Farshid Navissi

Associate Professor David Smith

Greg van Mourik - Lecturer

Queensland University of Technology

School of Accountancy

Staff Appointments

We are pleased to welcome Associate Professors Helen Irvine, Stuart Tooley and Marion Hutchinson, lecturers Dr Jodie Nelson and Phil Lignier, and associate lecturers John O'Brien, Cary Clarke and Rhonda Robinson to the School.

Call for Papers/Special Conference Issue of Accounting Research Journal

QUT Faculty of Business will host the *16th Annual Conference on Pacific Basin Finance Economics Accounting and Management* (PBFEM 2008), in Brisbane, Australia, 2-4 July 2008.

Authors who have their papers accepted for presentation in the Accounting Discipline stream of the conference will

be invited to submit their papers for consideration for publication in a special conference issue of *Accounting Research Journal*. Papers on topics in any area of accounting or related disciplines are welcome.

Conference Details

The theme of the conference is 'Innovation for a Sustainable Future: Visions for 2020'. Submissions of papers for presentation at the conference were due by **3 March 2008**. A Doctoral Colloquium will be held in conjunction with the conference. Doctoral students who are beyond the confirmation stage of their program are invited to present their work-in-progress and receive feedback from experts in the relevant disciplines. Please see the PBFEM 2008 website at <http://www.pbfem2008.bus.qut.edu.au/> for further details about the Conference and Doctoral Colloquium and the paper submission process.

RMIT University

School of Accounting and Law

The School of Accounting & Law congratulates the following staff on the successful completion of their PhDs:

- ▶ Tom Rowles – “Development of Concepts of Capital and Income in Financial Reporting in the Nineteenth Century”
- ▶ Antony Young – ‘Accountants’ Acceptance of a Cashless Monetary System using an Implantable Chip’

New Appointments

Associate Professor Donald Feaver commenced at RMIT University, School of Accounting & Law in December 2007. Don previously worked at the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane. His main area of interest is in International law and business (transnational law).

Professor Dennis Taylor commenced at School of Accounting & Law in January 2008

Dennis previously worked at the City University of Hong Kong as head of school of accounting and gained his PhD through the University of Hong Kong. Since then he has held professorial, associate dean, and head of school appointments at Curtin University of Technology, The University of Adelaide and University of South Australia. He is the author of over 100 publications in areas of corporate financial disclosures, public sector accountability, management control systems and accounting education.

Lincoln Holland commenced at School of Accounting & Law in December 2007. Lincoln previously worked at Holmes Institute and at Southern Cross University. He has a wealth of knowledge in the Corporate and Institutional Banking areas of both domestic and foreign banks.

Benedict Sheehy commenced at School of Accounting & Law in February 2008. He is a graduate of Canadian uni-

versities and the University of Queensland, Australia. He practised law for several years in Canada prior to returning to the academy. He has taught in tertiary institutions in Canada, Mexico and Australia, primarily in the areas of corporate law, business law and professional ethics. His main areas of interest are corporate and commercial law, corporate governance, jurisprudence, globalization, and law and economics. He has published and presented papers in various international forums.

The Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education is funding a project in accounting education entitled, 'Enhancing Assessment Feedback Practices in Accounting Education: Issues, Obstacles and Reforms'.

This project which has the full support of **CPA Australia** and **AFAANZ** aims to achieve a discipline-wide improvement in feedback practices by:

- ▶ Specifying current practice in student feedback within accounting programs nationally.
- ▶ Identifying the various factors that have resulted in below sector average scores on CEQ for accounting in Australia in the area of student feedback.
- ▶ Identifying workable solutions to the present deficiencies in the area through engaging with accounting schools, AFAANZ as the peak academic body for the discipline and CPA Australia as the key stakeholder in the accounting profession.
- ▶ Raising awareness of and implementing workable solutions that will result in an improved student experience and systematic sectoral change.

To find out more about this exciting project or to register your interest in participating in the project please contact Leona Campitelli, the project officer at RMIT Leona.campitelli@rmit.edu.au or any of the project team member.

Professor Brendan O'Connell - James Cook University
 Professor Colin Ferguson - The University of Melbourne
 Associate Professor Paul de Lange - RMIT University
 Associate Professor Bryan Howieson - The University of Adelaide
 Associate Professor Kim Watty - The University of Melbourne
 Ms Audrey Milton - James Cook University
 Mr Ben Jacobsen - James Cook University

Swinburne University of Technology *Faculty of Business and Enterprise* Accounting Staff Changes

Professor Louise Kloot has taken up the position of Associate Dean Research for the Faculty of Business and Enterprise, and she has been replaced as Head of Accounting by Associate Professor Irene Tempone. Dr

Julie Foreman is Deputy Head Assurance of Learning, and Dr Tony Whitefield is Deputy Head Resources.

During 2007, Dr Denis Vinen was promoted to Associate Professor, and Dr Julie Foreman and Dr Evangeline Eljido-Ten were promoted to senior lecturer.

To accommodate the growth in student numbers, there has been growth in staff numbers. In 2008, Dr Judy Oliver from University of Tasmania joined the group as a senior lecturer, and Janine Muir and Grainne Oates joined as assistant lecturers.

The University of Melbourne *Department of Accounting & Business Information Systems*

The Department of Accounting & Business Information Systems says goodbye to its Head of Department, Professor Stewart Leech, who stepped down as Head of Department on 31 December 2007. Stewart hopes to take the time to concentrate more on his research, and will remain a part of the Department in his role as a Professorial Fellow. It is also with great pleasure that the Department announces that Professor John Lyon has taken up the headship as of the 1 January 2008.

Staff Appointments

The Department welcomes the following new staff to the Department:

- ▶ A/Prof David Emsley – Associate Professor in Management Accounting
- ▶ Mr Warren McKeown – Teaching Fellow in Financial Accounting
- ▶ Dr Albie Brooks – Senior Teaching Fellow in Management Accounting
- ▶ Ms Sandra Wallace – Lecturer in Management Accounting
- ▶ Dr Richard Chen – Lecturer in Financial Accounting.

Sadly, the Department said goodbye to the following staff at the end of 2007:

- ▶ Dr Trevor Wise
- ▶ Dr Susanna Ho
- ▶ Dr Nena Lim
- ▶ Dr Mohammed El Bashir

Visitors

The Department looks forward to the following visitors for the first part of 2008:

- ▶ Professors Steve Sutton and Vicky Arnold from the University of Central Florida,
- ▶ Professor Jere Francis from the University of Missouri.
- ▶ Professor Eli Amir from the London Business School
- ▶ A/Prof Hiroyuki Ishikawa from Osaka City University
- ▶ Professor Stephen Zeff from Rice University

Staff Awards

Congratulations go to Professor Stewart Leech who was recently awarded the Meritorious Service Award from the Institute of Chartered Accountants for his contribution to education within the Institute.

Congratulations to Professor Anne Lillis who has been invited to join the editorial board of *Behavioral Research in Accounting* (BRIA).

University of New South Wales

School of Accounting

ARC Grant Successes

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

Professor Roger Simnett and **Dr Elizabeth Carson** obtained a Discovery Grant for **Consistency of going concern audit report modifications over time, audit firms and countries**.

Professor Ken Trotman and **Dr Noel Harding** obtained a Discovery Grant for **Improving the 21st Century Audit**.

AAA Awards to Professor Ken Trotman and Dr Elizabeth Carson

Scientia Professor Ken Trotman received an award announced at the January 2008 American Accounting Association Mid-Year Meeting for "**Notable Contributions To The Auditing Literature**". The prize winning paper is *The Audit Review Process: A Characterization from the Persuasion Perspective*, J. Rich, I. Solomon and K. Trotman, *Accounting, Organisations & Society*, (Vol.22, No.5, 1997), pp.481-505.

The award recognizes a published work of exceptional merit that has made, or has the potential to make, a direct contribution to auditing or assurance research, education, and practice. Professor Trotman is the first recipient of this award outside of North America.

Dr Elizabeth Carson has been named winner of the *American Accounting Association Auditing Section Outstanding Dissertation Award* for 2008.

Dr Carson is the first person outside the USA to receive this very award, which recognizes the dissertation judged to make the most outstanding contribution to auditing knowledge. Dr Carson's PhD titled **Global Industry Specialization by Audit Firm Networks** examines the role of global audit firms in the market for audit services at a time when global audit firm networks dominate the provision of audit services to large corporations throughout the world.

Staff Appointments

The School of Accounting welcomed one new lecturer and two new Associate Lecturers in February 2008. Mr **Jerry Wei Chen** joined us as a lecturer from Hong King Polytechnic University. The new Associate lecturers are **Ms Candie Tu** from the University of Adelaide and **Mr Yang Li** who is currently undertaking a PhD at UTS.

In January 2008, **Dr Caitlin Ruddock** resigned to take on a position in the city.

At the end of 2007 we farewelled **Ms Shrutika Chugh** who has accepted a scholarship to pursue a PhD at Macquarie University.

John V. Ratcliffe Memorial Lecture

The 2008 **John V Ratcliffe Memorial Lecture** took place at 6.15pm on Tuesday, 11 March, with **Professor Ira Solomon** delivering his address entitled **Public-Company Auditing Post Sarbanes-Oxley: A Focus on Financial Statement Fraud**. The lecture was held at the Australian School of Business at UNSW.

University of Otago

Department of Accountancy and Business Law

Ralph Adler, at Otago, announces that he will be guest editing a forum on the topic "Government-initiated research assessment exercises and stakeholder outcomes" for the *Australian Accounting Review (AAR)*. The likely publication date of this forum is late 2009. Critical essays and empirical work is invited. Submissions may consider (but are not limited to) the following topics: evaluation of these programs' advantages/disadvantages, the nuances of measuring research quality, issues of academic freedom, effects on teaching, insights into the next evolution/revolution. Interested authors should submit extended abstracts (about 1,000 words) by 30 September 2008. Based on the results of a double blind review using at least two reviewers, a subset of the abstracts will be progressed further. Authors of the chosen abstracts will be invited to submit a full paper. Full papers will be due by 31 March 2009 and will be subject to a double blind review by at least two reviewers. At this point, an editorial decision about a paper's acceptance (full or provisional) or rejection will be made. Papers not selected for inclusion in the Forum may be forwarded to the editor of the *AAR* for consideration and inclusion in a future, regular issue of the *AAR*. A fuller description of the call for papers can be found at

<http://www.business.otago.ac.nz/acty/AARCall%20for%20papers.doc>

University of Sydney

Discipline of Accounting

Staff Appointments

The Discipline is delighted to congratulate the following staff members on their promotion late last year: Associate Professor John Roberts to Professor and Isabel Gordon, Gary Oliver and Sandy van der Laan to Senior Lecturers.

The Discipline is also very happy to welcome Max Baker who has recently been appointed as Lecturer.

Staff Departures

David Emsley left us and the Discipline would like to acknowledge his contribution over the past three years and wish him all the best in his new role of Associate Professor at the Faculty of Accounting and Law, University of Melbourne.

Visitors

Since the commencement of 2008 we have been fortunate to have already welcomed the following visitors to the Discipline: Prof. Carol Adams (La Trobe University), Prof. Riccardo Silvi (University of Bologna, Italy), Prof. Michael Hommel and Denise Pauly (Johann Wolfgang Goethe University) and Prof. Geoffrey Whittington (Judge Business School Cambridge).

Further visitors planned for this year include: Prof. Ken Peasnell (University of Lancaster), Prof. Stuart McLeay (University of Wales), Prof. Michael Bradbury (Massey University, NZ), Prof. Federica Ricceri (University of Padova), Prof. John Holland (Glasgow University, Scotland), Assoc Prof. Matti Skoog (Stockholm University), Prof. Richard Laughlin (Kings College London) and Prof. Jane Broadbent (Roehampton University).

Events

From 2-4 December the CSEAR 2007 Conference was hosted by The University of Sydney addressing a wide range of issues. According to the feedback we received it was a great success. The conference attracted 72 dele-

gates including delegates from New Zealand, Fiji Islands, Nigeria, Malaysia, Austria and the UK.

APIRA 2010

The Discipline is looking forward to participating in the organisation of the 6th Asia Pacific Interdisciplinary Research in Accounting Conference which will be held in Sydney from 11–13 July 2010. Further information can be obtained via <http://apira2010.econ.usyd.edu.au>

Pacioli Society

On 28 February a dinner meeting was held at the University of Sydney. Professor Geoffrey Whittington, Emeritus Professor of Financial Accounting, University of Cambridge will discuss "The Great IFRS Muddle over 'Fair Value'".

Proposed future dinner meeting dates are : 1 May, 31 July and 27 November 2008.

Should you wish to become a member please contact Dr Nonna Martinov-Bennie n.martinovbennie@econ.usyd.edu.au or Mr John Edwards j.edwards@econ.usyd.edu.au.

The most recent topics included:

Superannuation funds – a giant awakes on corporate activism
Phillip Spathis, Executive Officer, The Australian Council of Superannuation Investors (14 November 2007)

How effective is APRA?

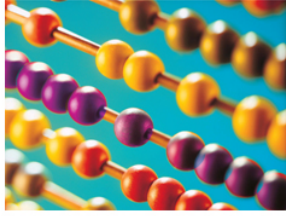
Dr John Laker, Chairman, APRA (11 September 2007)

Why do media releases and statutory reports contain different indicators of profits?

Annette Kimmitt, Ernst & Young (14 August 2007)

RJ Chambers Lecture

The annual Chambers Research lecture will be held in mid September and will be presented by Professor Ken Peasnell, University of Lancaster. The lecture will review academic research regarding financial reporting practices over recent decades.



ACCOUNTING & FINANCE LECTURER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Proudly supported by AFAANZ

Pearson Education Australia is pleased to announce that the *Pearson Education Australia/Finance Lecturer of the Year Award* will again be offered to Australian and New Zealand members of AFAANZ in 2008. 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 2008.

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, 25 April 2008**.

Enquiries

Mail

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Pearson Education Australia
Level 3, Unit 4, 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

- ▶ No correspondence will be entered into
- ▶ Previous winners are not eligible to apply
- ▶ 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 2007/8
- ▶ Winner and entrants may be requested to be available for publicity purposes

2008-2009 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 2007 are eligible to apply again in 2008, but priority will be given to applicants who did not receive funding in 2007.

Research Priority for 2008

The 2008 round will focus on the quality of the proposals, whether they are individual or team based applications. All areas of accounting and finance research are encouraged.

As in previous rounds, favourable consideration will be given to applications that focus on "mentoring of developing researchers". Such applications will involve at least two applicants – one applicant will be the "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 does not have more than three publications in refereed journals.

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 2008 to 30 June 2009 and must be fully expended within that period.
- ▶ Only one application per developing researcher will be eligible (although the mentor may be associated with more than one grant).

Accountability

- ▶ 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 2009 at the latest. Future grants to the applicant(s) will be conditional on the timely receipt of this report. The reporting format is provided below.
- ▶ Any working papers or published papers resulting from the research grant must acknowledge AFAANZ's funding.

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, including a research plan and a proposed budget.

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 two (three) components:

- (1) The Research Proposal (see section titled “Content and Format of Research Proposals”, below);
- (2) A Dean/Head supporting letter (signed electronically), including confirmation that teaching relief is permitted under university policy (if applicable); and
- (3) (For developing researchers) a supporting statement (signed electronically) from the established researcher of not more than two (2) pages. This statement should highlight key features of this applicant’s research history and her/his ability to success-

fully 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 2008”.

Critical Dates

- ▶ Closing Date for Submissions: 28 April 2008
- ▶ Applicants Notified: 2 June 2008
- ▶ Formal Announcement of Successful Grants: AFAANZ Conference Second Plenary Session, 8 July 2008.

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 on A4 paper using a minimum of 11-point font and minimum 2cm margins, and include the following details:

Title Page

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

AFAANZ RESEARCH FUND – GRANT APPLICATION 2008

- ▶ (1) Project Title
- ▶ (2) The name of the researcher/s*, their AFAANZ membership number (if applicable), and their employer-institution (each of which must be a current AFAANZ institutional member)
- ▶ (3) Funds Requested
- ▶ (5) Project Summary (100 words)

(*identifying the developing research if applicable)

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.)

Reporting Format for Grants

- ▶ (1) Name, Position, Contact Details for each applicant
- ▶ (2) Project Title
- ▶ (3) Updated Project Summary (500 words) including any variations between the project undertaken and the original application
- ▶ (4) Funds Granted
- ▶ (5) Detailed Report on Expenditure of Funds against Budget Items, with variations explained
- ▶ (6) Outcomes, for example, working papers, presentations and publications (give full details, including abstracts)
- ▶ (7) Future Intentions for this Project (give full details)
 - Conference submissions
 - Journal submissions
 - Grant applications
 - Projects
- ▶ (8) Summary of Outcomes and Benefits.