



A/Prof Martin Hovey  
Head of School (Interim)

Welcome to the UNE Business School News.

News hot off the press - Dr Subba Reddy Yarram's contribution to teaching at UNE was recognised recently when he received a Citation at the 2015 Australian Awards for University Teaching. See photo below and page 2 of the Newsletter for the full story.

Also an outstanding effort by UNE Bachelor of Economics student Scott Tilbury, who was recently named as winner of the 2015 RBA/ESA Economics Competition. This is a prestigious essay competition held annually in conjunction with the Economic Society of Australia. See page 2 for more information.

You may recall that in the June/July issue of the UNEBS News we presented a story about Enactus UNE. Well they have done themselves and us proud, recently winning the national Enactus competition and they will now be competing in the international competition in Johannesburg in October. Best of luck to the team!

A highlight, not only of the past two months, but of the year, was the John Dillon Memorial Lecture given by Professor Chris O'Donnell from the University of Queensland in September. Professor O'Donnell spoke engagingly about production technologies and their use. For more detail see page 15 of the Newsletter.



Dr Subba Reddy Yarram receiving his Citation from the Hon Philip Ruddock MP.

Another exciting initiative, the UNE Business Challenge for schools and school students was launched with the 'Top 20 Challenge' taking place on Friday 20 November. See pages 4 and 6 of the Newsletter for more details.

On 30th September, Gladys Berejiklian MP, Treasurer of NSW, was guest speaker at an Armidale Business Chamber Roundtable, speaking about investment in NSW and the prospects for regional renewal. It was a pleasure to meet her and I also had the opportunity to speak and put forward the case for support for regional universities and highlighted UNE's high levels of student satisfaction. See photo of us right.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the outcomes of the School during this period. I hope you enjoy reading more about the activities of the School in the following pages.

## In this issue:

- 2 Australian Awards for University Teaching
- 2 2015 RBA/ESA Winner
- 3 Game Theory and Biosecurity
- 5 ICAE Report
- 6 UNE Business School Challenge
- 7 Graduate School of Business Update
- 8 3M Thesis Competition
- 9 SSAF E&I Competition
- 10 2016 IFAMA Team
- 11 CRC Remote Economic Participation
- 11 Honours Seminar
- 12 In the News & Calendar
- 13 What we've been doing
- 15 Seminar Series
- 17 Educational Development & Communications
- 18 Research Outcomes

Our students have been busy with extra-curricular activities. On page 9 we announce the winners of the SSAF - UNE Business School Excellence and Innovation Competition; the winner, Jack Hibberd, undergoing some personal sacrifice for a good cause!



Credit: David Doyle

A/Prof Martin Hovey & Gladys Berejiklian MP  
at the Armidale Business Chamber Roundtable

## UNE ACADEMIC RECEIVES NATIONAL TEACHING AWARD



*Dr Subba Yarram (centre), with A/Professor Martin Hovey and Dr Elizabeth Hale (UNE) at the Awards in Sydney.*

On Friday 18th September, Dr Subba Reddy Yarram, Senior Lecturer, Accounting and Finance Discipline, was recognised as one of Australia's finest University lecturers at the 2015 Australian Awards for University Teaching. Subba Yarram received a Citation for an Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning from the Hon Philip Ruddock MP. Subba Yarram's Citation was for developing interactive online resources and formative assessments that support students with diverse prior knowledge and experiences to acquire problem-solving skills in corporate finance. Dr Elizabeth Hale, Senior Lecturer at UNE, collected the other award on behalf of Dr Sascha Morrell, Lecturer in English Literature at UNE.

**Subba was one of only two UNE lecturers to receive a Citation. Congratulations Subba!**

## UNE BUSINESS SCHOOL: BRIDGES TO THE FUTURE

Over the last few months Associate Professor Martin Hovey and Deputy Head of School, Professor Gabriel Donleavy, have had numerous visits to Tamworth meeting with School Principals, Careers Advisors and Business Professionals in Tamworth, raising the profile of UNE Business School and promoting it as a 'university of choice' for students in the area considering a business/accounting/economics degree. On Wednesday 3rd September Martin and Gabriel both presented at a Tamworth Chamber of Commerce meeting. Both speeches were well received at the time and in subsequent correspondence.

Professor Donleavy attended the Annual American Accounting Association in Chicago from 8-12 August. Of particular note was the International Accounting Section which was addressed on the subject of rules versus principles by Andy Fastow, former Chief Financial Officer of Enron. Gabriel was so impressed by the clarity of the speech that afterwards he asked the speaker if he would consider coming to Australia. The former CFO considered this positively and they exchanged contact details. On his return to Armidale, Gabriel wrote to the Presidents of AFAANZ<sup>1</sup>, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and CPA Australia asking if they would be interesting in becoming involved, or leading the organisation of, such a visit. In our next issue we hope to be able to report their responses.

<sup>1</sup>Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand

## UNE BUSINESS SCHOOL STUDENT WINS TOP ESSAY PRIZE

On 25th September, Mr Scott Tilbury, a student in UNE's Bachelor of Economics degree, was announced as the winner of the 2015 RBA/ESA Economics Competition for undergraduate students. Students were asked to discuss the implications of falling commodity prices, and the transition of Australia's mining industry from the investment phase to the production phase. Numerous high quality essays were received from a wide range of universities including students from Monash University and the University of New South Wales who were placed second and third place respectively. Scott's essay 'The Implications of Falling Commodity Prices' also won him \$2,000 in prize money.

The competition was run in conjunction with the Economic Society of Australia (ESA) and the UNSW Economics Society. A presentation ceremony will take place in October at the Reserve Bank of Australia. Congratulations Scott!



## USING GAME THEORY TO IMPROVE BIOSECURITY OUTCOMES

A Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (CEBRA)<sup>1</sup> project, managed by Dr Susie Hester from the UNE Business School, is developing incentive-based approaches to biosecurity inspections. Susie is working with experts in market design and game theory from the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance (Anthony Rossiter and Gary Stoneham). With the second phase of the project commencing in July this year, Susie has provided a timely update on the project.



Dr Susie Hester

Australia's high biosecurity status not only allows domestic agricultural producers access to lucrative export markets but it also benefits many other aspects of the economy, including the environment.

To maintain this high biosecurity status, the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (the Department) spends around \$600 million a year on a range of measures to reduce the risk of entry, establishment and spread of pests and diseases. Inspections of imported products at the border are a key part of this process.

In recent years the Department has been changing the way it inspects plant-product imports and is now using a risk-based approach that acknowledges the different levels of risk posed by consignments and importers on a pathway. Under its new Compliance-Based Inspection Scheme (CBIS), 'good' importers – those with a strong history of compliance – are rewarded through reduced inspections once a certain number of consignments in a row have passed inspection. Since July 2013, 15 plant-product pathways considered low risk, have become subject to CBIS including; dried apricots, green coffee beans, walnuts, and dried dates.



Inspections taking place at the Department's Rosebery inspection facility in Sydney: taro leaves and roots from Fiji (above and left) and roses (right) from Kenya.



The CBIS is based on the Continuous Sampling Plan-3 algorithm (from the quality control literature of the 1940's and 50's). While CBIS was implemented as a technical rule it also has inherent incentive properties that should be recognised – it may provide cost and time advantages to those importers with a good inspection record. It may also create incentive structures that encourage importers to choose suppliers with better biosecurity compliance records or lead importers to try and influence suppliers to improve their biosecurity risk mitigation strategies. Thanks to the CEBRA project, the Department is now recognising the incentive properties of CBIS and other potential inspection rules.

The aim of the project is to design and introduce inspection protocols that better harness the incentive properties of particular plant-product pathways. In the initial phase of the research, the project team interviewed importers and customs brokers on six plant-product pathways (green coffee beans, peat, cut flowers, plant-based stockfeed, vegetable seeds for sowing, and dried vegetables) in order to understand points of influence in the import-supply chain on each pathway. Using approaches from game theory (theory of incentives, incentive regulation and economics of auditing) the project team designed a new set of protocols for the sphagnum peat moss and a subset of the vegetable seeds for sowing pathway. One of these includes offering a 'menu of contracts' where importers choose an inspection regime from a limited number of options. *(Continued next page.)*

## USING GAME THEORY TO IMPROVE BIOSECURITY OUTCOMES cont.

The second phase of the project commenced in July this year, and involves testing aspects of the changed protocols in an experimental economics laboratory. These experiments are currently being undertaken with Andreas Leibbrandt and his team at the Monash Experimental Research Insights Team at Monash University. Results from the experiments will be analysed and, if necessary, modifications will be made to the recommended protocols. The final stage of the project will be to roll out the new protocols in a 'field pilot', commencing in January 2016. Following analysis of the field-pilot stage, the team is hopeful of a more widespread adoption of incentive-based protocols across many other pathways. This could lead to significant cost savings for both importers and the Australian Government.

<sup>1</sup> CEBRA is based at the University of Melbourne see <http://www.cebraz.unimelb.edu.au/> for more information.



### The Panel of Judges



The UNE Business School Challenge steering committee is excited to announce the panel of judges for the TOP 20 Challenge, to be held on Friday the 20th of November, 12pm LT1. All staff are welcome to attend the lunch and competition.

The panel consists of:

- . Ms Emily Thomas-Moore, a UNE graduate and Environmental Activist, Singer, Writer, Public Speaker, and National Young Carer Representative;
- . Mr Adrian Wood, 2015 Business of the Year award winner and micro-multinational director of WHITEHACK;
- . UNE's own Dr Simon Burgess, Lecturer in Management; and
- . Ms Myee Gregory, the Careers Engagement Co-ordinator at Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, also a former UNE student.

This event is kindly sponsored by Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand.

For more information on the Challenge see page 6 of the Newsletter.



# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS: Report



*Professor Oscar Cacho (above) and Adjunct Professor Garry Griffiths (below).*



Two UNEBS staff members, Professor Oscar Cacho and Adjunct Professor Garry Griffiths attended the International Conference of Agricultural Economists in August in Milan, a city famous for its cathedral and high fashion. The conference takes place only once every three years and is the largest gathering of agricultural economists in the world, with representatives from the World Bank, international development organisations, the top universities and government institutions from all over the world.

This year's theme was Agriculture in an Interconnected World. The IAAE describes the theme as 'intended to capture the widespread adoption of new communication technologies. It embraces a broad range of interconnections that are contributing to unprecedented changes in global agriculture, such as:

- links between agricultural and energy markets through biofuels, and inputs of fuel and fertilizer;
- trade policy debates, both when prices are high and when they are low;
- the collective action problems associated with price volatility;
- international investment in agricultural land; and
- climate change and agriculture.'

The conference involved two days of pre-conference workshops on practical topics such as computational economics, using R in economics, innovations in agricultural data collection and others. Then, over a period of five days, many hundreds of papers were presented on all sorts of topics including; value chains, trade, climate adaptation, productivity and economic development, all of them of interest to us here at UNE.



*Duomo di Milano (Milan Cathedral) (left).*

*Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II arcade, central Milan (right).*



Oscar Cacho presented on 'Designing Effective Policies for Climate Smart Agriculture by Combining Evidence and Modelling'. He also participated in a symposium on integrated household modelling for climate adaptation that resulted in the creation of an international group to collaborate by sharing data and models. Garry Griffiths presented on 'Adoption of Genomic Information in Livestock Breeding'.

Using an assemblage of models for different future scenarios we plan to produce outputs that help enhance the adaptive capacity of farmers. We also plan to produce papers for the top journals. Overall it was a very productive conference as well as being fun.

*Oscar Cacho & Garry Griffiths*

# UNE BUSINESS SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL CHALLENGE

## Encouraging northern NSW students to enter the business challenge



Budding entrepreneurs across the region have the chance to test their burning business ideas in the UNE Business School's Challenge. The inaugural Challenge offers high school students in Year 7 to 12 across Northern New South Wales the opportunity to submit their best business ideas to a panel of judges.

Students can work on a shared problem, brainstorm ideas for an existing business in their community, or come up with business ideas they have been building in class or at home.

The 20 top ideas will go into a Shark Tank, Dragons' Den-like "TOP 20 CHALLENGE" and the selected students will be invited to UNE on Friday 20th November to work with celebrity coaches to develop a pitch for the ultimate Top 20 Challenge.

Organiser and UNE Business School Liaison Officer, Jade Hauser said the TOP 20 Challenge is an exciting and intensive process. "Students will work together in teams of five under the direction of a panel of dynamic, internationally-connected business coaches to develop ideas and deliver a pitch," Ms Hauser said.

"Participating students will gain valuable skills in the Challenge including: how to solve problems and market ideas; they will meet business professionals while having fun completing a business pitch at UNE; and be in the running to win a cash prize!"

Local multinational business owner and Top 20 Challenge coach, Adrian Wood, said he is very impressed by the UNE Business School's innovative initiative and is looking forward to seeing the array of young talent from the region.

Duval High School Careers Advisor, Lana Hardman has encouraged all students, including Duval student Kathleen Swinton, to enter their ideas into the mix. "I'm very excited about the challenge as it will be a great way to learn how to develop business ideas and pitch them to potential business partners," Ms Swinton said.

Entries opened 1st September and students who are interested to participate can enter up to the closing date of 23rd October here: <http://www.une.edu.au/top20>

The UNE Business School Challenge is a core activity in the UNE Business School's initiative to encourage young people within our region to identify business ideas and to collaborate in building innovative business solutions. For more information contact: Jade Hauser on [jhauser2@une.edu.au](mailto:jhauser2@une.edu.au) or 6773-2303.

UNE Media on 02 6773 2551  
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L:R Jade Hauser (UNE Business School Liaison Officer), Lana Hardman (Duval Careers Adviser), Kathleen Swinton (Duval High Year 12 student) and Adrian Wood, Director of Whitehack (Top 20 Challenge coach)



# UPDATE: GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

## Globally Active Business Students: China Study Tour

UNE Business School is excited to announce that it has been awarded \$45,000 to support 15 students in 2016 to participate in the UNE Business School China Study Tour. This New Colombo Plan funding is a key initiative of the Federal Government to enable Australian university students to take part in a global learning experience within their degree. On Thursday 24th September our students were fortunate to be part of a Cross Cultural training program provided by Asialink Business here at UNE.



*Participants in the cross-cultural pre-departure training for New Colombo Plan Mobility 2015*

Our undergraduate 2015 China Study Tour led by Dr George Chen and Dr Lou Conway, departs on 1st November. Our postgraduate China Study tour, including Hong Kong, led by Dr Tony Ramsay, departs on 14th November. It will be a two-week study program with an exciting blend of business meetings, intensive lectures at Xian University and cultural activities planned. This study tour is undertaken as OSSE500 and provides academic credit. Watch out for our next newsletter for photos and report.



Credit: Myee Gregory

**\*\*Applications for the 2016 China Study Tours will open in February 2016. For further information please contact Caroline Girvin, Program Coordinator, GSB.**

## WE HAVE MOVED!

The GSB office has moved. We are now located in the prestigious main corridor of the UNE Business School - W40! There you will find Caroline Girvin, Anna Simpson and Roger Scott ready to help you. All phone extension numbers remain the same.

## Navigating Successful Career Transitions

In Trimester 3 this year the GSB launches its first Hot Topic unit which offers students credit towards their postgraduate award. This 6 week unit of study, called Navigating Successful Career Transitions offers students the space to examine the theory and practice of their own career transitions. This Hot Topic will be led by an expert career coach, Airlie Bell, and Professor Alison Sheridan and contains a mandatory two-day Weekend School (21st and 22nd November) at UNE's Parramatta Future Campus. For further information about this new initiative contact Caroline Girvin, Program Coordinator.

### GSB Contacts

Program Director - Dr Lou Conway: [mconway@une.edu.au](mailto:mconway@une.edu.au)  
Program Coordinator - Caroline Girvin: [cgirvin2@une.edu.au](mailto:cgirvin2@une.edu.au)

## Marketing our Graduate School of Business

Mr Allastair Hall and Dr Lou Conway attended the Postgraduate Expo events in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane this month and appreciated the opportunity to meet people looking for postgraduate education to build their careers. The Master of Professional Accounting and the Master of Business Administration continue to be in high demand.



*Brisbane Expo: (L-R) Mr Mark Stevens, Dr Lou Conway and Ms Stephanie Low at the end of a long day and a little weary!*

## 3 MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION

On Wednesday 2nd September the UNE Business School held its inaugural 3M Thesis competition. Five PhD students from across the School participated; Kanar Hamza, Kay Hemsall, Maria Cecilia Catubig, Omphile Temeso and Nchinda Valentine Petentsebekwange. All participants provided clear explanations of their projects within the three minute time-frame and using only one slide. Topics ranged from 'Leadership development thinking and practices in Australian Universities' (Kay), 'Economics of improved seed yam in Cameroon' (Valentine) to 'Agricultural productivity in Botswana' (Omphile). The judging results were close; a credit to the work and effort of the participants. However only one person could win and that was Cecilia Catubig from the Philippines who is in the third year of her PhD. The runner - up was Kanar Hamza from Iraq who is halfway through his PhD.

### CECILIA CATUBIG

Maria Cecilia Catubig's 3MT presentation entitled "Conditional Cash Transfer Program in the Philippines: An Assessment of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)" was based on her PhD thesis. Her thesis focuses on the evaluation and assessment of a policy program which addresses poverty incidence and income inequality in the Philippines - a program that has been supported by AusAid. Specifically, the project aims to evaluate the performance of program managers and implementers, examine the cost efficiency of the program and assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the different payment mechanisms employed in 4Ps.



Cecilia is a student at the UNE Business School under the auspices of the Australia Awards Scholarship funded by AusAid. She is under the supervision of Associate Professor Rene Villano and Professor Brian Dollery. Cecilia is currently on study leave from her post as Associate Professor at the Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology (DOS CST), Philippines. She has been teaching for 25 years in the fields of economics, management and agribusiness management.

### KANAR HAMZA

Kanar's presentation was entitled "Ex-ante impact assessment in improving the dairy value chain in Tanzania: a system dynamics approach" and was based on his PhD research. Kanar's main research focus is on applied research on value chain analysis and animal health economics. He has formerly worked at the Norwegian Institute of International affairs and he has been working on short term projects with the International Livestock Research Institute, the International Food Policy Research Institute, and WorldFish. In the past four years, he has also delivered short term intensive System Dynamics and/or value chain training courses at OSCE academy in Bishkek, the International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture in Cali, Colombia. Kanar is a PhD student under the University of New England's International Tuition Fee and Stipend scholarship. He is under the supervision of Professor Derek Baker and Professor Euan Fleming.



### How did they fare in the UNE wide competition?

Both Cecilia and Kanar participated in the UNE-wide 3M Thesis competition held on Monday 7th September. They did a fantastic job and showed the quality of our research training at UNEBS complemented by excellent HDR students. The first prize however, went to a zoology student working on extinct marsupial lions. It was a tough competition and our students competed strongly. Better luck next year. Congratulations to all five students who entered the 3M Thesis competition for your efforts and we wish you well with your studies. Some of you may have the opportunity to compete again next year.



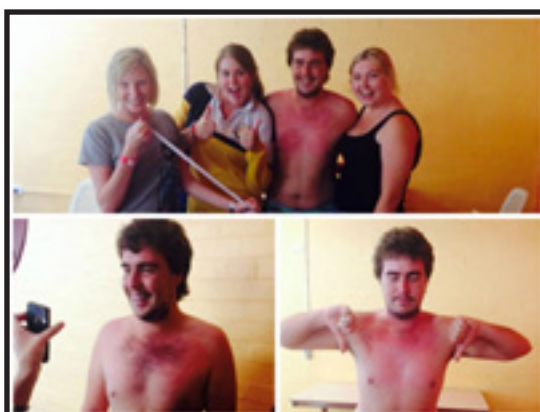
# SSAF - UNE BUSINESS SCHOOL EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION COMPETITION

The Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) committee and the UNE Business School sponsored this competition which aims to provide an incentive for on campus students to develop important skills in addition to the requirements of their course. This incentive is in response to the 2014 SSAFC student survey. The students were required to upload a picture of them demonstrating their involvement in any extra-curricular activity based in the local community and write 150 words about this activity and how it promotes excellence and innovation. Congratulations to all the UNE Business School students that participated in the 2015 SSAF and UNE Business School Excellence and Innovation Competition.



*Participants and winners at the Award Presentation (L-R): Maria Nelson, Conrad Rees (3rd), Judd Newton - UNESA, Jack Hibberd (1st), Associate Professor Martin Hovey (UNE Business School Head), Casey Thatcher and Michael Cursons (2nd).*

## First Place \$1000 - Jack Hibberd



Last year I volunteered to have my chest waxed during the World's Greatest Shave (WGS) at D&S College. College events, such as The WGS, effectively demonstrate excellence and innovation within the community. By raising awareness of blood cancer and promoting the event, community and college members throughout Armidale can contribute and donate to a very meaningful cause. The money raised by D&S College is an excellent initiative for a charitable event, while simultaneously displaying innovation by adopting a well-known function and hosting it within the university and collegial system. It also promotes a fun and well crafted atmosphere in the hopes of finding a cure for cancer.

## Second Place \$500 - Michael Cursons

In my free time I find myself giving back to the Armidale community by coaching sport at The Armidale School. I'm heavily involved in a variety of coaching namely; tennis, soccer, cricket as well as hockey. As a coach I try to innovate and promote excellence in every respect.

Knowing I have played an active role in the improvement and performances of the TAS boys is something I'm certainly grateful for. In 2014 the C grade hockey team I trained ended up winning their league; and in 2015 the TAS cricket First XI, where I was assistant coach, finished joint winners. It gives me great satisfaction to see the TAS boys enjoying their sport with the added benefit of building lasting friendships.



*Michael Cursons (centre in red shirt) and some of the TAS boys he coaches.*

## SSAF - UNE BUSINESS SCHOOL EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION COMPETITION cont.

### Third Place \$250 - Conrad Rees

In 2014 & 2015 I have been a member of the Duval, Drummond and Smith Kayaking Club. Through this club I have been a participant in both the Myall Classic Marathon (47km) and the Hawkesbury Canoe Classic (111km). These races raise money for outstanding charities such as the 'Cure for Life Foundation' and the 'Arrow Bone Marrow Transplant Foundation'. I, alongside the club, undertake a year-long preparation and fundraising campaign throughout the Armidale community.

Both the club and the races in which we participate, demonstrate both excellence and innovation, as they promote giving back to a good cause through personal perseverance and self-sacrifice in order to achieve a collective goal.



### Participation Awards

Students who received awards for recognition of their participation were:

*Maria Nelson* - Minimbah Project - Enactus UNE

*Tenita Campton* - President of the Armidale Leos Club involved in the organisation and commitment to many activities in the Armidale community

*Casey Thatcher* - Volunteering at TUNE! FM 106.9

*Keiley O'Brien* - Participant in the National All Breeds Junior Heifer Show

*Weisong Zhao* - King of running game

*Yusheng Wang* - Photography

## 2016 UNE IFAMA TEAM ANNOUNCED

Congratulations to **Conrad Rees, Craig McGlashan, Sally Beer and Sarah Rohr** who have been selected to represent UNE in the Student Case Study Competition at the 2016 International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) conference in Aarhus, Denmark. This will be the second time UNE is represented at the IFAMA conference after participating in this year's event in Minneapolis-Saint Paul. Craig and Sarah were part of the 2015 team.

The 2016 conference theme is "A Universe of Food Innovation" focusing on Innovation, Talent, and Technology in 21st Century Agribusiness. The conference will provide students with a broader perspective of global agribusiness and give them an insight into some of the key issues currently confronting decision makers. The event will also provide them with valuable networking opportunities, as they showcase their talents on the world stage, and open up career opportunities that otherwise may not have been possible.

The IFAMA conference gives our students international experience which is a key part of engagement with the local, national and international agribusiness communities. This initiative is an integral part of the UNE Business School's growth strategy for the Agribusiness and Agricultural and Resource Economics degrees and enhances UNE reputation internationally as a quality provider of agribusiness education.

IFAMA 26th Annual World Conference  
Aarhus, Denmark | June 19 - 23, 2016





# UNE BUSINESS SCHOOL AND THE CRC FOR REMOTE ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

**Dr Boyd Blackwell**, a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the UNE Business School has recently been promoted to Principal Research Leader of the 'Enduring Community Value from Mining' (ECVM) research program within the CRC for Remote Economic Participation (CRC REP), managed by Ninti One Ltd.



Boyd recently attended the CRC REP Student Forum in Alice Springs and led a workshop with ECVM PhD students Mr Stuart Robertson (UNE), Ms Anne Fordham (UniSA), and Ms Kate Rampellini (Curtin) on developing a Toolkit for remote communities facing the vagaries of the resource cycle.

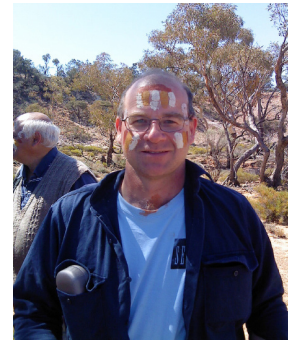
While in Alice, Boyd also negotiated the beginnings of a new contract for UNE and the ECVM Team on developing an Input-Output model for Remote Australia. This work builds on Boyd's previous work on mapping and tracking mining expenditure in remote Australia where he has been working closely with Mr Jim McFarlane (PhD student, UNE Business School) and Dr Andy Fischer (UTas).

For information about the ECVM projects contact Boyd on +612 6773 3279 or [bblackw@une.edu.au](mailto:bblackw@une.edu.au) or via the CRC REP website: <http://crc-rep.com/research/regional-economies/enduring-community-value-mining>



*UNE Business School PhD Student Jim McFarlane (left).*

*UNE Business School PhD Student Stuart Robertson (right) in Alice Springs.*



## UNE BUSINESS SCHOOL HONOURS SEMINAR

On 17th September, five of our current Honours students in Bachelor of Economics and Bachelor Agriculture and Resource Economics degrees presented preliminary findings from their Honours dissertations. The topics covered both microeconomics and macroeconomics and ranged from labour usage in Cambodia, solar farming and farm succession planning in rural Australia, to the wine industry in the Hunter Valley and the asset bubble-monetary policy nexus.

Overall, the seminar was a huge success and our Honours students definitely took away constructive feedback from the audience that will help them during the writing-up stage.



*UNE Business School Honours Students (L-R): Sandy Laurie, Clive O'Connor, Sarah Foster, Peter Lock and Brendan O'Driscoll.*

# IN THE



When Gabriel Donleavy read in the May 2015 issue of the conservative journal *Quadrant*, a memoir by John Carroll describing how he was a radical at Cambridge and moved steadily to become a conservative ever since, he was moved to ask the editor if he would be interested in receiving an article from one of John's contemporaries at Cambridge describing the exactly opposite trajectory through life. The result was an article in the July/August 2015 issue of the journal's First Person section: Donleavy, G. (2015). How I Became A Free Radical. *Quadrant* 59,(7/8), 86-90.

On Tuesday 18th August, Dr Joseph Drew, a member of UNE's Centre for Local Government, spoke at the NSW State Inquiry into Local Government and was quoted in a related ABC News story 'Local government academic criticises reform process'. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-08-18/local-government-academic-criticises-reform->

On Saturday 12th September, quotes by Dr Theresa Smith- Ruig regarding the need for diversity of council members were included in a Sydney Morning Herald article 'Who are your councillors? Largely old, white men.' <http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/who-are-sydneys-councillors-largely-old-white-men-20150909-gjiku5.html>

## Calendar

### October

- 19 Examinations end
- 19 T2 ends
- 19 - 23 ANZEE Conference
- 24 Graduation
- 30 T3 Orientation Day

### November

- 1-14 UG China Study Tour
- 2 T3 lectures start
- 14-29 PG China Study Tour
- 20 UNE Business School Top 20 Challenge

### December

- 24 T3 break starts
- 25 - 3 Jan UNE closed

### January

- 4 T3 lectures recommence
- Intensive Schools start
- 19-20 PG Research Conference
- 22 T3 lectures end
- 25 T3 exams start

### February

- 8 T3 exams end
- 12 Orientation
  - International students
- Intensive Schools end
- 15 Orientation
  - Domestic Students
- 22 T1 lectures start

## UNE Business School News

To view earlier issues:

<http://www.une.edu.au/about-une/academic-schools/une-business-school/about-us/newsletters>

Send your contributions to: [rchilds2@une.edu.au](mailto:rchilds2@une.edu.au)



## What we've been doing.....



Professor Brian Dollery is on SSP at the Faculty of Economics at Yokohama National University where he is working with Professor Keiichi Yamazaki on research projects in local government. Together with Professor Yamazaki, he has completed a comparative analysis of structural reform through municipal mergers in Australian and Japanese local government. A second project focuses on mitigation of earthquake damage by Japanese local government following the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake.



In August, Emeritus Professor Amarjit Kaur was invited as a guest speaker by; the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (NUS), the Hong Kong Baptist University, and the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS Centre) in Singapore, to present at a Forum on *Reporting Migration*, held in conjunction with the Wee Kim Wee School of Communications. The 13-14 August conference is an event of the Asia Journalism Forum, an annual gathering of journalists from across Asia. E/Prof Kaur presented the paper “Economic Migration in Southeast Asia - Historical and Contemporary Perspectives”.

E/Prof Kaur then attended the 22nd International Congress of the Historical Sciences (ICHS) in Jinan, China held from 23-29 August 2015. E/Prof Kaur is the Asia-Pacific Board Member of ISHA and she presented a paper ‘The Globalisation of Social History’ at the International Social History Association Meeting of the ICHS. President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory message to all Congress participants in which he wrote that “The world today develops from its past and...history ...is our best teacher”.

On the 15th September, E/Prof Kaur was invited to speak at a joint forum - The Royal Society of NSW and Four Academies Forum - *The Future of Work*, hosted by the Society's Vice-Regal Patron, the Governor of NSW, His Excellency General The Hon David Hurley AC DSC (Retd). E/Prof Kaur's speech was on “The Globalizing Labour Process, the Rise of the Precariat and Labour Outsourcing” and focused on ASEAN. One of the main themes centred on technological angst and long-established unemployment becoming “structural” and harder to correct.

The proceedings will be published in the *Journal and Proceedings of the Royal Society of NSW (UNSW)*.



Associate Professor Rene Villano attended the 13th International Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) Conference at Technische Universität (TU) - Braunschweig, Germany from 24 - 27 August. He presented a co-authored paper with Ms Carolyn Tran, UNE Business School Postgraduate Student and Casual Academic, regarding the application of bootstrap directional distance function in the measurement of performance of Vietnamese private higher education institutions. The conference is an annual event organised by the International DEA Society. A/Prof Villano acknowledges and thanks the support provided by the School to attend this conference.

The Technische Universität - Braunschweig is the oldest technical university in Germany founded in 1745. Braunschweig is a member of TU9, an incorporated society of the most renowned and largest German institutes of technology.

*A/Prof Rene Villano (pictured left) in front of the historical TU's House of Science.*

## What we've been doing cont.....



UNEBS' Professor Derek Baker and Institute of Rural Future's Research Fellow Dr Philip Morley are working on a \$500,000 FAO-funded project which develops and tests new methods for livestock data recording in developing countries. This is being implemented in Tanzania, Botswana and Indonesia. As Team Leader, Prof Baker recently visited some of the sites. UNE alumna Ms Rebecca Downie (B Agr/BBus 2014) (pictured below right) is handling dairy and poultry fieldwork in Morogoro, Tanzania and UNE MSc student Hussein Al-Moadhen is working in Dodoma, Tanzania. The project will be completed in mid-2016.



UNEBS' Dr Emilio Morales (pictured right with a course participant) and Professor Baker travelled to Dakar, Senegal to participate in a small project held by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). This project provides training in agricultural policy analysis to a selected group of prominent young agricultural economists from across the African continent. The partnerships established are likely to lead to greater UNE involvement in professional development in agricultural economics in Africa.



Dr John Anderson, Senior Lecturer in Accounting and Finance, is regularly trading the quiet academic life for something a bit more lively and has been actively involved in the re-establishment of Wright College Rugby Club. John has also been elected President and will serve as Forwards Coach for the fledgling team of very motivated and talented young students, driven largely by Shane Ryan and Aaron Fox. Wright College Rugby was very active having won its first premierships in 1963 and remained a powerful force until the college was closed in the mid/late 1990s. The newly established Wright College is now firmly back on track reviving many of the traditions of the college and looks forward to providing a very competitive 3rd Grade team in 2016. With help from Wright College old boys including; Jim Pennington as head coach, former Wallaby Prop Fletcher Dyson and Rob Drinkwater (former coach of the England Women's team) and a host of other old boys, the team is well placed to build a solid platform for 2016.



# UNE BUSINESS SCHOOL SEMINAR SERIES

## John Dillon Memorial Lecture - Friday 11th September

The Annual John Dillon Memorial Lecture is a highlight of each year's seminar series. This year we were fortunate to have Professor Christopher O'Donnell as the speaker; a theoretical and applied econometrician with more than 30 books and papers in international refereed journals. For the last several years, Professor O'Donnell's research has focused on methods for decomposing measures of productivity change into measures of technical change, environmental change and efficiency change.

During his presentation 'Is Productivity Growth Bad?', Professor O'Donnell demonstrated that increases in productivity are not always associated with increases in profit. The outcome depends on production technologies and how they are used. In the case when technologies exhibit decreasing returns to scale and firms are technically efficient, productivity growth will be associated with decreases in profits. In contrast, if technologies exhibit constant returns to scale, productivity growth will be associated with increases in profits. Therefore, whether productivity growth is good or bad is an empirical question and maximising Total Factor Productivity does not guarantee higher profits.

Professor O'Donnell is Professor of Economics at the University of Queensland. He is Director of the UQ Centre for Efficiency and Productivity Analysis and a Distinguished Fellow of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society.

## Powerful CEO and Stock-Price Crash Risk

On **Friday 7th August**, Professor Balasingham Balachandran, Professor of Finance, Department of Economics and Finance at Latrobe University presented his seminar 'Powerful CEO and Stock-Price Crash Risk'. His seminar highlighted that: powerful CEO leads to firm-specific crash risk by manoeuvring channels to hoard bad news, drawing market attention through taking excessive risk, and rendering governance mechanism ineffective. These findings are consistent with the agency theory argument that a higher CEO power increases the potential for engaging in various opportunistic behaviour including rent extraction, bad news hoarding and short-termism. Therefore, the current corporate governance mechanism is not a strong deterrent to reverse the impact of powerful CEO on stock price crash risk.

## Self-Exciting Effects of House Prices on Unit Prices in Australian Capital Cities

On **Thursday 10th September**, Professor Abbas Valadkhani from Swinburne University of Technology (SUT) presented the seminar 'Self-Exciting Effects of House Prices on Unit Prices in Australian Capital Cities'. In his presentation, Professor Valadkhani examined the relationship between house and unit prices in the eight capital cities of Australia. Johansen and Hansen tests indicate that the series are co-integrated during the period under analysis, and the results of the Granger causality and generalised impulse responses suggest that short-run changes in houses prices can indiscriminately affect unit prices in all capital cities, whereas the reversal of causality holds true in the case of Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and to a lesser degree Perth. Based on the result of the estimated self-exciting threshold models, after a certain price growth threshold, an increase in house prices exerts a significantly larger positive impact on unit prices.



Professor Abbas Valadkhani (left) with Dr George Chen, Senior Lecturer - Economics, UNE Business School

Professor Abbas Valadkhani is Professor of Macroeconomics at the Faculty of Business and Law, SUT. He has published more than 75 articles in prestigious journals. His recent research interests lie in Australian macroeconomic policy issues, asymmetric pricing behaviour of Australian bank and non-bank financial institutions in the retail lending market, and retail petrol pricing.

## UNE BUSINESS SCHOOL SEMINAR SERIES cont...



*Mr Kodjo Kondo, UNE PhD Student (centre), with two of his supervisors, Professor Oscar Cacho (left) and A/Professor Rene Villano (right).*



*L:R Professor Chris O'Donnell (UQ), Professor Abbas Valadkhani (SUT), Dr John Rice (UNE) and Professor Oscar Cacho (UNE).*

### PhD Seminar - Mr Kodjo Kondo

On **Friday 18th September**, Mr Kodjo Kondo, a PhD student at the UNE Business School presented the seminar 'Count model selection and post-estimation to evaluate composite flour technology adoption in Senegal-West Africa'. In his presentation, Kodjo presented the Stata estimation and post estimation analyses in identifying determinants of the probability and extent of adoption of composite flour technology in bread baking in the Dakar Region of Senegal (West Africa). Findings indicate that the ownership of a 50 kg mixer, training programs on composite flour production and the number of bakeries owned positively affect adoption decisions, while the quantity decisions are influenced by membership in the baker federation and the expected output. In addition, the wheat and millet flour price ratio positively affects both decisions. These results imply that efforts to increase the adoption rate and its extent should promote the 50 kg mixers, intensify the professional training on composite flour production, institutionalise the use of composite flour and contribute to making local flour cheaper.

Kodjo's supervisors are Emeritus Professor Euan Fleming, Professor Oscar Cacho and Associate Professor Renato Villano.

### Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society - New England Branch Dinner, 11th September - hosted by UNE Business School members

*Left to Right:  
Dr Gudrun Dieberg,  
Ms Adrienne O'Donnell,  
Professor Chris O'Donnell,  
A/Professor Phil Simmons,  
Ms Sue Blair,  
Dr L. Emilio Morales,  
A/Professor Martin Hovey,  
Dr Delia Hovey,  
A/Professor Rene Villano,  
Dr David Hadley (hidden),  
A/Professor Vic Wright,  
Ms Edie Wright,  
Professor Oscar Cacho*





# Educational Development & Communications



**Naomi McGrath**  
Educational Development  
& Communications  
Team Leader

## Trimester 3 Unit Development

Trimester 2 has now completed and we are well underway with prep for Trimester 3. If you haven't already been contacted by a member of the EDC Team, keep an eye out in your inbox as T3 unit development is now underway. Throughout the next couple of months the EDC Team will be organising staff professional development activities in relation to teaching and learning. Thank you to everyone who filled out our survey, and with the feedback from you we can organise sessions around the topic areas you are interested in. Also don't forget we are just a phone call away for any one-on-one training or advice moving forward with your unit development.

### Trimester 3 Key dates:

- Mid-September: T3 Unit material was due
- 26 October: T3 Units LIVE to students
- 2 November: T3 Lectures Commence

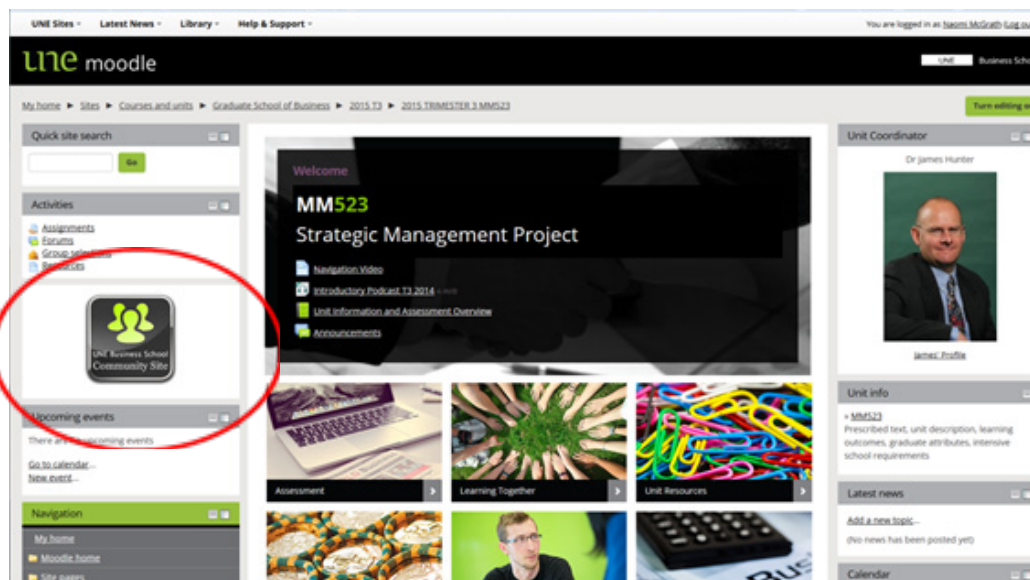
## Echo360 – Trimester 3 Units

Reminder for Trimester 3 Unit Coordinators, before you can start recording with Echo360, you will need to submit an Echo360 [ServiceNow Request Form](#) so your unit can be setup for presentation capture. The link below will take you through all the steps necessary for requesting Echo360 setup for your unit.

For more information on ECHO360 HD Lecture Capture and ECHO360 Personal Capture including tutorials, copyright compliance and cheat sheets click on the link below from the TaLS Teaching Online at UNE Moodle page. <http://moodle.une.edu.au/course/view.php?id=2&topic=3>

## UNE Business School Community Site

This site was created for Business students to provide a community of practice, a general place to request for help and find resources to use while studying. The site is positioned in ALL Moodle units in the Business School. All Unit Coordinators should have access to the site, if not please self-enrol or contact a member of the EDC Team to add you as a Unit Coordinator to the site (this way you can edit the site). If there is any information you would like to see on this site please let Naomi know so she can incorporate it. We want this site to be engaging and helpful to students while they are studying. The site is a self-enrol site and any student across the Business School can access it. We hope you will promote the site in your units.



# Research Outcomes

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

### A ranked

Martin, N., Rice, J. & Martin, R., (2015). Expectations of Privacy and Trust: Examining the Views of IT Professionals. *Behaviour and Information Technology*. DOI: 10.1080/0144929X.2015.1066444. Published online 31 July 2015, 1-11.

### B ranked

Dollery, B. (2015). Obituary: Philip Andrew Black: 1947 – 2015. *South African Journal of Economics*, 83(3), 472-474.

Khan, A.A. (2015). Compromising the Organization's Identity: Pressured Organizational Submission to Externally Dictated Change. *Academy of Taiwan Business Management Review*, 11(2), 111-124.

Adapa, S., Sheridan, A. & Rindfleish, J. (2015). Career enablers for women in regional and metropolitan accounting SMEs. *Australasian Journal of Regional Studies*, 21(2), 178-201.

### C ranked

Adapa, S. (2015). The extent of corporate social responsibility engagement in Malaysian banks offering Islamic banking services. *Journal of Internet Banking and Commerce*, 20(2). DOI 10.4172/1204-5357.1000113. Published online 19 August 2015, 1-9.

Bahta, S. & Baker, D. (2015). Determinants of Profit Efficiency among Smallholder Beef Producers in Botswana. *International Food and Agribusiness Management Review*, 18(3), 107-130.

Baker, D., Ochola, W. & Cadilhon, J. (2015). Identification and Analysis of Smallholder Producers' Constraints: Applications to Tanzania and Uganda. *Development in Practice*, 25(2), 204-220.

Donleavy, G. D. (2014). Away From the Numbers. *International Journal of Critical Accounting*, 6(5/6), 469-489.

Donleavy, G. D. (2015). Usefulness Unfulfilled: A Performance review of Value Added Statements. *International Journal of Critical Accounting*, 7(4), 315-334.

### Unranked

Griffith, G., Gow, H., Umberger, W., Fleming, E., Mounter, S., Malcom, B. & Baker, D. (2015). Refocusing on the Value Chain Perspective to Analyse Food, Beverage and Fibre Markets. *Australasian Agribusiness Perspectives*, (Paper 104), 1-19.

## BOOK CHAPTER

Kaur, A. (2015). Demography of Race and Ethnicity in Southeast Asia. In R. Saenz, D. G. Embrick & N. P. Rodriguez (Eds.), *The International Handbook of the Demography of Race and Ethnicity*, Volume 4 of the series International Handbooks of Population (pp. 171-187). New York, London: Springer Netherlands. DOI: 10.1007/978-90-481-8891-8

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GRADUATION NEWS AND PHOTOS!