

BEPP Newsletter

JANUARY 2012



HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Head of School Report

I hope you all had a relaxing and rejuvenating break over the Christmas period. I did, and feel the better for it.

In 2012, we have a number of major projects ahead of us. Our first trimester will begin on 20 February, 2012 for all our undergraduate and post graduate students taught from UNE. This alignment of our teaching periods is something we have worked towards for the past six months and we hope that our new processes will enable staff to transition to the new routines easily and effectively. Just a reminder that the Educational Development and Communications team, led by Sue Whale, and made up of Naomi Blackburn, Terry Barnett and Kerry Towns are working with our academic staff in developing and implementing our online units. They are located in W39, so if you want to drop in you can find them there.

There will be four units offered through Pearson's Learning Studio in the first trimester, and I would like to thank Theresa Smith-Ruig, Brent Gregory, Fredy-Roberto Valenzuela and Josie Fisher for their openness in working with this new platform. These pilot units have been very useful in bedding down the process of transferring units between Moodle and Learning Studio and will hold us in good stead for Trimester 2 when more of our units in the MBA and the MPA will be offered through Learning Studio.

Another project for 2012 will be the launching of the new School name and developing our School tagline and external marketing materials. We began this process in late 2011, and the feedback received from members of the School and our external advisory panel will be important to the shaping of our messages. I have been liaising with the Communications and Marketing Managers within Marketing and Public Affairs and will continue to do so as we refine the tagline, develop the external messaging and communications plan. I will keep the School informed through our monthly School meetings, and if you would like to be more involved in this process, please let me know. Rather than rushing this through for first trimester, I want to get it right and will be aiming for a launch at the beginning of Trimester 2 (June 2012).

Another project for 2012 will be more interaction with our Chinese partner institutions through videoconferencing. This will be particularly relevant to those unit coordinators teaching units for which we grant advanced standing (eg our core units in the Bachelor of Business and the Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting)). I hope we can strengthen the relationships with our Chinese partners through guest lectures and/or workshops through our innovative use of technology. If you would like to be involved in this project, please let me know.



Alison Sheridan
Head of School

Research Outcomes

Book

Dollery, B. E., Grant, B. and Kortt, M. (2012). *Councils in Cooperation: Shared Services and Australian Local Government* (in print).

Book Chapter

Kaur, A. (2012) Rubber Plantation Worker, Work Hazards, and Health in Colonial Malaya, 1900-1940, *Dangerous trade: histories of industrial hazard across a globalizing world*, Eds Christopher Sellers and Joseph Melling, Temple University Press, Philadelphia, USA, pp. 17-32.

Journal Articles

Gow, J., Grant, B. and Colvin, M. (2012) Socio-Economic Characteristics of HIV in a South African Prison, *International Journal of Business and Management*, 7(5), (in print).

Hester S.M. and Cacho, O.J. (2012) Optimising search strategies in managing biological invasions: a simulation approach. *Human and Ecological Risk Assessment*, 18(1), pp. 181-199.

Siriwardana, M. (2011), Role of Agriculture in the Proposed Free Trade Agreement between Australia and China: Challenges and Opportunities, *Academy of Taiwan Business Management Review*, Vol. 7, pp.16-27.

Smith, G. and Grant, B. (2012) Reply to Friedman. Discussion Paper, *Journal of Interdisciplinary Economics and Business Law*, 1(3), (in print).

Conference Papers

Siriwardana, M., Meng, S. and McNeill, J. (2011), Effects of the Proposed Carbon Tax: A CGE Assessment, *World Business and Economics Research Conference*, Auckland, New Zealand, 12-13 December, 2011 http://www.wbiconpro.com/NEWZEALAND_ECOdec2011.htm.

Renewed Honorary Appointments

Associate Professor Vincent Hughes

Adjunct Associate Professor

24 October 2011 – 24 October 2014

Educational Development & Communications Team Update

Please note that we have changed our blog site and the new address is <http://blog.une.edu.au/businessdevcomms/>.

Posts pre 2012 have been moved to <http://blog.une.edu.au/businessdev/> but there may be some problems with linking to resources. If you are unable to access a link on this site, please let us know. We will be moving relevant content from the old site to the new one, but this may take a while!

January Notices (click on the links below)

[Happy New Year](#)

[Moodle Profiles](#)

[Printing Assignments](#)

[Academic Calendar](#)

[January Update](#)

February

- 3 Special/ 2011-2012 Summer examinations end
- 6 Teaching and Learning Committee Meeting
- 10 International students' orientations starts
- 13 New students' orientations starts
- 19 Intensive schools end

AARES

The New England Branch of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) held its AGM on Tuesday 17 January 2012. The Branch enjoyed a very active year in 2011, well supported by members and others. Activities were reported in the December 2011 Newsletter. Membership is currently 33. The outgoing Executive Committee was thanked for their effort, and the incoming Executive Committee was wished all the best for their term.

Executive Committees

Position	Outgoing	Incoming
<i>President</i>	Robyn Hean	David Hadley
<i>President-Elect</i>	David Hadley	Euan Fleming
<i>Secretary</i>	Kirrily Pollock	Vic Wright
<i>Treasurer</i>	Rene Villano	Rene Villano
<i>Councillor</i>	Terence Farrell	Terence Farrell
<i>Committee</i>	Stuart Mounter	Robyn Hean
	Fiona Scott	Fiona Scott
	Susie Hester	

Following the AGM, Bligh Grant, Stuart Mounter and Euan Fleming presented the first seminar in the 2012 series of joint AARES/Agricultural and Resource Economics UNE Seminars. Their paper, co-authored with Garry Griffith, was entitled "Losing their competitive edge?: Australian wine exports in the noughties". The Branch then hosted a tasting of wines from Australia, New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, South Africa and the USA.

Stuart Mounter, Bligh Grant, Garry Griffith and Euan Fleming: *Losing their competitive edge?: Australian wine exports in the noughties*.

Abstract

Australia led the way in the global wine market in the 1980s in developing wine as a lifestyle beverage, eroding the share of the global market supplied by the traditional (so-called 'Old World') producers. Australia's strategy was imitated to varying degrees and at different intervals by other Southern Hemisphere New World (SHNW) wine-producing countries, notably Argentina, Chile, New Zealand and South Africa. The hunter had become the hunted as the Australian wine industry came under increasing competitive pressure from other SHNW producers during the noughties. A symptom of this trend was a decline in revealed comparative advantage in wine production during this period. This paper addresses the questions: why Australia experienced this decline, and to what extent it reflected growing competitive pressures from other New World producers. The productivity with which wine industries in SHNW countries transform wine grapes into wine export value while supplying wine volume into their domestic markets is used as a proxy for competitiveness. Evidence suggests that, except for South Africa, productivity in Australia was generally lower than in other countries, and only in New Zealand was there a significant upward trend in productivity during the noughties. Argentina experienced a very high growth rate in transforming grapes into export value but this trend was offset by a significant decline in supply into its domestic market.

These productivity measures give only a broad indication of global competitiveness, so we also conduct a detailed qualitative analysis of the performance of each major SHNW wine-producing country during the noughties. This analysis led to the conclusion that events in specific market segments have been crucial in affecting the wine export performance of Australia and other SHNW countries. The ability of the Australian wine industry to establish strong price points in higher-quality export market segments was lacking compared with some other New World producers during the noughties. Remedying this shortcoming will be vital to its competitiveness in the future, as will be its nimbleness in responding to changing market situations and fashions.



The John Dickinson Memorial Award

Continuing their research engagement with the local business community, Stuart Mounter, Bligh Grant, Euan Fleming and Garry Griffith were awarded the John Dickinson Memorial Award for best article in the *Australasian Journal of Regional Science*, 2011 for the article: 'Latecomers: Charting a Course for the Australian Wine Industry', presented at the 35th Annual Conference of the Australia and New Zealand Wine, The Brassey, Canberra, 6-9 December.



Below (from right): Euan Fleming, Bligh Grant, local wine producer Darrel Carter of Why Worry Estate, Stuart Mounter and Garry Griffith.





Professor Amarjit Kaur

BEPP Conference Travel Grant Reports

Successful conference travel grant recipients report on their recent conference attendances.

Professor Amarjit Kaur presented a paper at the Southeast Asia and World History conference held earlier this month on 2-4 January, 2012, Siem Reap, Cambodia.

The conference organisation was excellent. The local host was Pannasastra University of Cambodia. The conference generated dialogue among scholars within and outside of the region regarding Southeast Asia's place in world history. It also stimulated discussion of world history methodology as well as pedagogy while identifying those world history processes that have application to Southeast Asia's past, present and future.

I have already been approached to submit my paper to an international journal.

Our host Uni also arranged tours to the Angkor Wat Temples etc. in the Angkor Archeological Zone.



BEPP Constitution

On the following pages is the final draft of the BEPP Constitution and we will be formally endorsing it at the first School meeting in 2012.

University of New England
School of Business, Economics and Public Policy

CONSTITUTION (as at January 2012)

1. Advisory Committees

- 1.1 Head of School Executive Committee
- 1.2 Research and Research Training Committee (R&RT)
- 1.3 Teaching and Learning Committee (T&L)
- 1.4 Marketing Sub-Committee
- 1.5 Equity Committee
- 1.6 Whole School Committee

2. Academic Administration Roles

- 2.1 Terms of Office
- 2.2 Deputy Head of School
- 2.3 Discipline Leaders
- 2.4 Course Coordinators
- 2.5 HDR Coordinator

PREAMBLE

The School strives to achieve excellence in teaching, research and our standing in the wider community. It aims to promote a lively collegial and entrepreneurial culture of staff committed to equity and social justice principles and respecting diversity and difference.

All Committees of the School will be constituted in accordance with the University's Gender Representation on Decision-Making and Advisory Committees Policy.

Minutes from all School Committees will be available to School members on the N-drive.

Where there are representatives from disciplines on the Committees, they will be expected to communicate key issues to their colleagues at regular discipline meetings, as well as channeling issues raised by their colleagues through the relevant committees.

1. COMMITTEES

1.1 Head of School Executive Committee

Functions

- 1.1.1 To provide advice to the Head of School on all policy matters and major decisions, including (but not limited to):
 - Staffing matters
 - Teaching and research

- Workloads
- Infrastructure and support
- Community and professional service
- Marketing and entrepreneurial activities
- Prioritization of funding requests as they arise

1.1.2 Provide a clearing house for information about decisions and procedures.

1.1.3 Discipline Leaders or their representatives report back to Discipline staff with issues and decisions.

1.1.4 Monitor and coordinate the other Committees of the School.

Membership

- (i) Head of School (Chair)
 - (ii) Deputy Head of School
 - (iii) Discipline Leader for Accounting and Finance
 - (iv) Discipline Leader for Economics
 - (v) Discipline Leader for Management
 - (vi) Chair, Teaching and Learning Committee
 - (vii) Chair, Research and Research Training Committee
 - (viii) Chair, Equity Committee
 - (ix) Program Director, Graduate School of Business
 - (x) Academic Manager
 - (xi) Faculty Resource Manager
- Secretary: Executive Officer (or delegate)

Other staff can be coopted onto the Committee at the decision of the Executive.

Meeting schedule

Normally monthly meetings, with flexibility to add or cancel meetings if there is/is not urgent business.

Agenda and minutes

- Agenda to be prepared and minutes taken by Executive Officer in consultation with the Head of School.
- Agenda circulated to all members at least two working days in advance, together with the draft minutes of the previous meeting.
- Items for inclusion in the agenda shall be notified in writing to the Executive Officer, together with supporting papers; in normal circumstances, this should be done at least one week before the meeting.

- Matters may be raised at the meeting without notice, but, if substantial, may be held over for the next meeting.

Procedure for the conduct of meetings

Meetings shall be conducted informally to allow maximum freedom of discussion. If necessary, standard meeting procedural rules will be adopted. On matters of importance, motions will be put to a vote.

Divergence of views between HoS and Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is a consultative not a legislative body. The Head of School shall have final authority, responsibility and accountability for the performance, functioning and finances of the School, but shall consult with the Executive Committee on all policy matters and major decisions.

1.2 Research and Research Training Committee

The Committee deals with matters pertaining to research and postgraduate students, including setting the funding for the School's research budget, developing appropriate policies for HDR matters within the School and engaging with Faculty and University matters relating to research. It reports to the Head of School Executive Committee. On major matters, it refers recommendations to the Head of School Executive Committee.

The minutes of the Research and Research Training Committee are to be routinely circulated to the whole School.

Membership

- (i) Head of School
- (ii) Deputy Head of School (Chair)
- (iii) Elected Representative for Accounting and Finance
- (iv) Elected Representative for Economics
- (v) Elected Representative for Management
- (vi) HDR Coordinator
- (vii) One early career researcher
- (viii) One Professor
- (ix) One HDR student

The Research and Research Training Committee terms are for 2 years and when positions become vacant, elections will be held where relevant.

1.3 Teaching and Learning Committee

The Committee deals with teaching and learning matters (excluding HDR). Matters covered include, but are not limited to, feedback on Academic Board policies, the handling of minor dissertation results, new and amended courses and units, credit agreements, issues raised by

staff about teaching and learning. On major matters, it refers recommendations to the Head of School Executive Committee.

The minutes of the Teaching and Learning Committee are to be routinely circulated to the whole School.

Membership

- (i) Head of School (Chair)
- (ii) Course Coordinators (Undergraduate and Postgraduate)
- (iii) Program Director, Graduate School of Business
- (iv) Academic Manager
- (v) Faculty Project Manager
- (vi) Representative from the Student Administration and Services
- (vii) Educational Development and Communications Team Leader
- (viii) Faculty Academic Director

1.4 Marketing Sub-Committee

This Committee deals with matters related to promoting the School's teaching, research, and consulting capabilities to potential students and other key stakeholders in the community. Through consultation with M&PA and the members of this committee, the School's annual marketing plan is developed and implemented. It is a sub-committee of, and reports to, the Teaching and Learning Committee. On major matters it refers its recommendations to the Head of School Executive Committee.

The minutes of the Marketing Sub-Committee will be routinely circulated to the whole School.

Membership

- (i) Academic Manager (Chair)
- (ii) Course Coordinators (Undergraduate and Postgraduate)
- (iii) Program Director, Graduate School of Business
- (iv) Marketing Academic
- (v) Faculty Marketing Officer
- (vi) MaPA Student Recruitment Manager
- (vii) MaPA Marketing Officer

All members of the School can volunteer for this Committee.

1.5 Equity Committee

This is an advisory committee on equity issues and EEO procedures and practices. It reports to the Head of School and to the School as necessary.

Membership

- (i) Chair
- (ii) Two academic staff elected by and from the academic staff of the School
- (iii) One general staff member elected by and from the general staff of the School
- (iv) One undergraduate student nominated by the School
- (v) One postgraduate student nominated by the School

1.6 Whole School Committee

The function of the Whole School Committee is to allow for regular broad and transparent consultation with the entire BEPP community on matters of policy importance and to consider and determine changes to the School Constitution.

Whole School meetings will be held monthly. Emergency meetings may be convened by the Head of School, if required. The agenda and business papers are to be circulated at least two days before the meeting. Items for inclusion in the agenda should normally be advised at least one week before the meeting.

Minutes of the Whole School Committee meetings are to be routinely circulated to all members of the School.

Membership

All staff (academic and general)

2. ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION ROLES

2.1 Terms of Office

Academic administration roles are generally appointed for a term of two-years.

As the roles of Discipline Leader, Course Coordinator and HDR Coordinator become vacant, expressions of interest are called for, and if more than one is received, the Head of School will make an appointment.

For the Deputy Head of School, expressions of interest are called for. A selection committee will be constituted, comprising the Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean, Head of School and one Level E member of the School to appoint the role.

2.2 The Deputy Head of School will

- Manage the allocation of workloads across the School.
- Lead agreed projects relating to the School's Strategic Plan.
- Be a member of the School's Executive Committee, Teaching and Learning Committee and Research and Research Training Committees.

- Assume the Acting Head of School role when the Head of School is on leave or absent from the University.

2.3 The Discipline Leaders will

- Consult with members of the discipline about School matters.
- Articulate concerns of their discipline members to the Head of School on a range of matters.
- Identify and manage opportunities for curriculum development relevant to their discipline.
- Provide a mentoring role for research activities related to the discipline.
- To provide disciplinary advice to the Deputy Head of School in the allocation of workloads.

The role of Discipline Leader is open to academic staff at any level.

2.4 The Course Coordinators will

- To develop high level knowledge of courses including rules, pathways and careers, marketing and recruitment, and provide advice to the Head of School and the Teaching and Learning Committee, as well as other staff and areas of UNE including Student Administration and Services, and Research Services, if applicable.
- To monitor the quality of courses, monitor changes in the external environment, and develop proposals to amend existing courses and add new courses.

The role of Course Coordinators is open to academic staff at Level C – E.

2.5 The HDR Coordinator will

- Represent the School on the UNE HDR Committee.
- In collaboration with Research Services, process applications and arrange supervisors, including the processing scholarships.
- Organise and Chair Confirmation Panels.
- Chair or be a member of ad hoc committees set up by Research Services to review HDR courses.

3. AMENDMENTS TO AND REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments to the Constitution will be given on notice of the motion at a School Committee for debate and decision at the next meeting of the School Committee. A two-thirds majority of those in attendance is required.

The Constitution is to be reviewed at the start of each academic year as a matter of course.