

BEPP Newsletter

DECEMBER 2011



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Head of School Report

As Christmas looms, it is fitting that we wrap up this final newsletter with some of the photos from the BEPP Christmas party (thanks to Pauline Fleming). The Christmas party was brightened by the creative efforts of the GSB to capture the year that was in their snappy adaptation of the Twelve Days of Christmas. The process of getting us all to sing along was a feat in itself and we must admire Cath Jukes' strong organizing skills (as well as her leading vocals) in making it happen.

Our School Advisory Board met on 2 December 2011 and we had another productive session with them. Thank you to all the course coordinators who participated and I look forward to the continued evolution of our degrees in light of the Advisory Board's feedback. Their feedback about our proposed School name and tagline was instructive. I will circulate the latest revision in the new year for your consideration.

I hope that you all have joyous Christmas and my best wishes for the coming year.



Alison Sheridan
Head of School



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Research Outcomes

Book Chapters

Smith, L. and Clayton, B. (2011) Student insights and perspectives on the validation of learning outcomes in Bohlender, S. and Munchhausen, G. (Eds.) *Validierung von Lernergebnissen - Recognition and validation of prior learning*, pp. 443 – 460.

Journal Articles

Dollery, B., Crase, L. and Grant, B. (2011) The Local Capacity, Local Community and Local Governance Dimensions of Sustainability in Australian Local Government, *Commonwealth Journal of Local Governance*, 8(9) pp. 162-183.

Kortt, M., Dollery, B. and Grant, B. (2011) Protestantism and work ethic: Evidence from Australia, *The Empirical Economics Letters*, (in print).

Mihret, D.G., Mula, J.M. and James, K. (2012) The Development of Internal Auditing in Ethiopia: The role of institutional norms, *Journal of Financial Reporting and Accounting*, 10(2), (Forthcoming).

Conference Papers

Adapa, S. and Rindfleish, J. (2011) The Concept of Corporate Social Responsibility in Small and Medium Sized Regional Accountancy Firms, ANZMAC Conference, Perth, Western Australia, Australia, 28-30 November.

Adapa, S. and Rindfleish, J. (2011) Corporate Social Responsibility Activities: Similarities and Differences between Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, ANZMAC Conference, Perth, Western Australia, Australia, 28-30 November.

Valenzuela, F.R. and Fisher, J. (2011) Poker Machine Wars: Social Responsibility and Marketing, *15th International Business Research Conference*, Sydney, 21-23 November 2011.

Valenzuela, F.R. and Fisher, J. (2011) Online Learning and Teaching: the perceptions of off-campus postgraduate management students, *International Conference on Business and Information 2011*, Bangkok, Thailand, 4-6 July 2011.

BEPP Working Papers Series

There have been seven contributions to the BEPP Working Paper Series during 2011. All papers have been under the Economics research theme. All papers can be viewed by clicking on the links below or from the Schools webpage: <http://www.une.edu.au/bepp/working-papers/>. Thank you to all who have contributed and please keep the submissions coming in 2012.

- 2011-1 *How efficient was the Australian share market between 2000 and 2008?* by Phil Simmons.
- 2011-2 *The Impact of a Carbon Tax on the Australian Economy: Results from a CGE Model** by Mahinda Siriwardana, Sam Meng and Judith McNeill.
- 2011-3 *Australian carbon tax - winners and losers** by Sam Meng, Mahinda Siriwardana and Judith McNeill.
- 2011-4 *The Determinants of Australian Household Debt: A Macro-level Study** by Sam Meng, Nam T. Hoang and Mahinda Siriwardana.
- 2011-5 *Foreign - Specific Agglomerations and the Location of Taiwanese Direct Investment in China* by George Chen.
- 2011-6 *Regional Distribution of Taiwanese Direct Investment in China: Recent Trends and Determinants* by George Chen.
- 2011-7 *Provincial Characteristics and the Determinants of Taiwanese Investment in China* by George Chen.

January

- 9 Intensive schools start
- 23 Special/ 2011-2012 Summer examinations start
- 26 Australia Day

February

- 3 Special/ 2011-2012 Summer examinations end
- 10 International students' orientations starts
- 13 New students' orientations starts
- 19 Intensive schools end
- 20 Lectures start for Trimester 1



Professor Ray Cooksey

Research Grant from the NCCARF

Professor Don Hine (BCSS and Lead Investigator), Professor Patrick Nunn (BCSS), **Professor Ray Cooksey** (BEPP), Professor Joseph Reser (Griffith University), Dr. Anthony Marks (BCSS) & Dr. Sue Watt (BCSS) have just been advised of that they were successful in being awarded \$79,822 from the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) for their project, *'Enhancing Climate Change Communication: Strategies for Profiling and Targeting Australian Interpretive Communities'*.

Project goals:

- (1) To identify climate change interpretive communities and
- (2) Evaluate the impact and effectiveness of different climate change communication messages within those communities.



Ian Tiley
Adjunct Research Fellow

Centre for Local Government

On 30 November 2011, Adjunct Research Fellow, **Ian Tiley** representing the UNE Centre for Local Government, accepted an invitation to attend the Annual Forum of the Wellington-Molong-Cabonne (WMC) Strategic Alliance of Councils in Molong.

Ian presented to the gathering of mayors, councillors and staff of the Alliance Councils. In the presentation he described how local government operated from the early 1960s until the introduction of the 1993 Local Government Act, and addressed the major matters of importance to local government over the last two decades including structural reform, financial sustainability, asset management, and constitutional recognition of local government.

The Alliance was informed of the findings of his doctoral thesis, which demonstrated that it was possible to achieve net economic benefits from council mergers. He encouraged the Alliance members to continue to cooperate for the vital purpose of being as efficient as effective as possible for their constituencies.

In a separate Forum segment concerning the current review of NSW local government code of conduct, Ian provided an elected councillor perspective on code of conduct matters and shared this session with Mr Ross Woodward, the Director-General of the NSW Division of Local Government.



Above: Ian Tiley and Bligh Grant at the Australian Centre for Excellence in Local Government Annual Researchers Forum, University of Technology Sydney with John Abbot from Queensland Planning.

BEPP Conference Travel Grant Reports

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

Dr Lan Sun attended the Macao International Symposium on Accounting and Finance on 23rd November 2011. She presented her research "The Effect of Firm Performance on Modeling Discretionary Accruals: an Evaluation of Accrual Models" and was the discussant for the paper of the delegate from the McMaster University. She has also visited colleagues in the Macao Polytechnic Institute and Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Latest from the Educational Development team

Click on the links below

Moodle upgrade to 2.1

Downloading grades from Moodle

Smartboards in BEPP

Development for Trimester 1

Learning Studio Progress

Asclite Proceedings

The New Educational Development Team

What we've been doing

- **Professor Ray Cooksey** was awarded Life Fellowship in the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management at the ANZAM conference in Wellington, NZ. I wasn't able to be there, but Alison accepted the award on my behalf.
- **Professor Alison Sheridan** was awarded Life Fellowship in the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management at the ANZAM conference in Wellington, New Zealand in early December. While there, she also hosted the Heads of Schools of Management meeting, the theme of which was 'Creating a research culture – what works and doesn't work', and was one of the four panel members of the 25th ANZAM Anniversary Presidents' Discussion panel – Reflections and Future Prospects for Management Education in Australia and New Zealand.
- **Professor Brian "Efficiency" Dollery** presented a seminar at U of Malaysia (Sabah) on shared services in local government at a conference for UMS research students.
- **Professor Brian Dollery** secured a grant from the PM'S Japan Fund to visit Iwate University in an earthquake-affected area of northern Japan to engage in research collaboration with Prof. Kinoshita and present a seminar.
- **Bligh Grant** and **Ian Tiley** presented papers at the Inaugural Local Government Researchers' Forum 2011, 'Local Governance in Transition', at the Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government, University of Technology, Sydney, December 14-15.
- **Professor Euan Fleming, Professor Gary Griffith, Dr Stuart Mounter** and **Bligh Grant** won the John Dickinson Memorial Prize for the best article in the AJRS in 2011 for their article on the New England Wine Industry.
- **Jonathan Moss** was in Canberra for a meeting with ABARES and met Crown Prince Frederik and crown Princess Mary of Denmark. Mary was the centre of attention so Jonathan introduced himself to Frederik and had a conversation with him in Danish.



Dr Lan Sun
Senior Lecturer



Above: Prince Frederik and Princess Mary, picture taken by Jonathan Moss.

Renewed Honorary Appointments

Associate Professor Christie Chang

Adjunct Associate Professor
1 September 2011 – 31 August 2014

Dr Michael Fortunato

Adjunct Lecturer
30 November 2011 – 30 November 2014

AARES/ ARE End of Year Celebration

The AARES New England Branch and colleagues in agricultural and resource economics (ARE) joined together on 14 December to celebrate the end of another wonderful year. The Branch conducted a very successful seminar series during 2011 in association with ARE and BEPP. Highlights included the Jack Makeham Memorial Lecture presented by Malcolm Wegener from The University of Queensland on 26 August, and the John Dillon Memorial Lecture presented by Allan Rae from Massey University on 21 October. Other international speakers were Dodo Thampapillai from the National University of Singapore on 6 May, and Ricardo Gonzalez from the University of La Frontera, Chile, on 5 August. The complete seminar program is below. The Branch and ARE met weekly for morning tea throughout the year and held a few informal pub gatherings. The Branch and BEPP co-hosted an afternoon tea on 14 October to celebrate the career of Jack Sinden who retired on 22 July after 44 years of service to UNE. Jack has made a wonderful contribution to teaching and research in ARE over a long and inspiring career and will continue as an Adjunct Associate Professor in the School. The Branch and ARE wish all our colleagues a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

2011 Seminar Program		
Date	Presenter	Topic
4 March	Rebecca Gowan, Central Queensland University	Carbonated cows: modelling tradeoffs and supply curves for carbon offsets in the grazing industry
18 March	Tim Coelli, Twisted Gum Vineyard	Vine change: a twisted tale of wine and economics
1 April	David Hadley, BEPP, UNE	Environmental efficiency in US and European agriculture
6 May	Dodo Thampapillai, National University of Singapore and Macquarie University	Macroeconomics vs. environmental-macroeconomics
20 May	Fiona Scott, NSW Department of Primary Industries	Enhancing production and marketing of maize and soybean in north-western Cambodia and production of summer crops in north-eastern Australia
3 June	Annette Cowie, National Centre for Rural Greenhouse Gas Research	Greenhouse accounting for emissions trading in agriculture - and more!
5 August	Ricardo Gonzalez, University of La Frontera, Chile	Econometric modeling of land use changes in southern Chile
19 August	Rene Villano, BEPP, UNE	Technology choices and decomposition of efficiency indices in Philippine rice farming
26 August	Malcolm Wegener, University of Queensland	Jack Makeham Memorial Lecture: Some reflections on 50 years of farm management in Australia
14 October	Susie Hester, BEPP, UNE	An overview of ACERA projects on post-border surveillance of pests and diseases
21 October	Allan Rae, Massey University, NZ	John Dillon Memorial Lecture: Livestock demand and supply developments: what's to worry about?
4 November	Oscar Cacho, BEPP, UNE	The value of community engagement in the management of invasive species

BEPP Staff Out & About

Farewell Dinner for Jack Sinden



BEPP Christmas Party



AARES/ ARE Christmas Party

