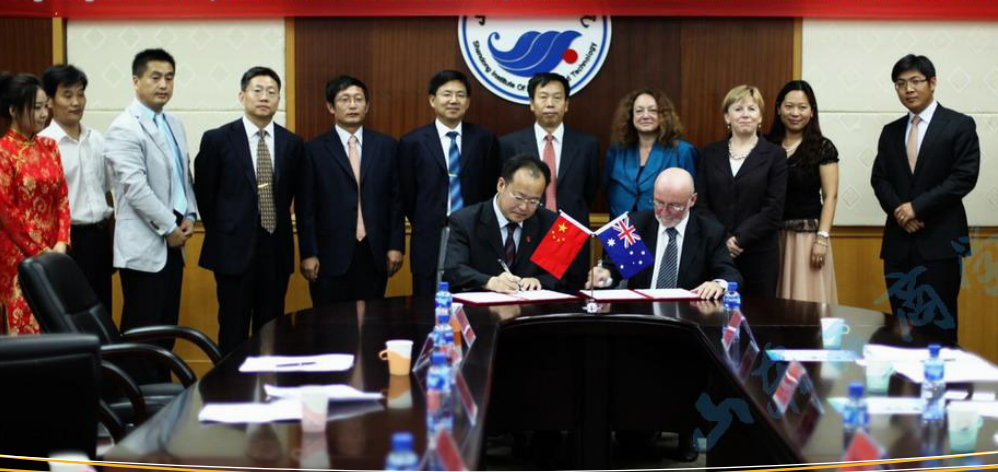


山东工商学院 澳洲新英格兰大学 教育合作签约仪式 Signing Ceremony of Education Joint-Program between SDIBT (China) and UNE (Aus)



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Pictured above: Signing ceremony taken at SDIBT.

Head of School Report

The banner photo for this month's newsletter is from the signing ceremony between Shandong Institute of Technology (SDIBT) and UNE I attended with the Vice Chancellor, Professor Jim Barber in Yantai, China recently. SDIBT is one of our newest partners, and we are looking forward to a growing relationship with them.

It was great to see so many colleagues attending Professor Oscar Cacho's Inaugural Lecture on 4 July 2012. Oscar's presentation highlighted, in a most accessible and engaging style, the significance of his ongoing research with colleagues on invasive species. The feedback from the audience was extremely positive. Congratulations Oscar.

The School's contribution to the UNE Research newsletter is due this week. Thanks to all those who have contributed, detailing the nature of their research. The importance of making our research visible to colleagues both within the University and in the wider community was a recommendation from the School review last year. Using this opportunity to collate the School-wide research activities and demonstrate the underlying themes and collaborations provides a good vehicle to respond to this recommendation.

We received advice last week that our application for funds to develop a joint program, the MBA International Social Entrepreneurship, from the EU-Australia joint cooperation through the European Commission and Australian Education International, Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education has been successful. This project, for which UNE Business School is the lead partner in Australia, is a collaboration between the University of Western Sydney (UWS), the Open University of Catalonia (UOC) and ESC Rennes, France. The funds to develop this project are \$348 000 for UNE and UWS and €305 000 for UOC and ESC Rennes. This represents an exciting opportunity for us to develop an innovative program with our partners.

Finally, congratulations to Brian Dollery on being awarded the 2011 Best paper prize for the journal Economic Papers, for his paper (co-authored with Lin Crase and Sue O'Keefe), 'Managing Environmental Water: Lessons in Crafting Efficient Government Arrangements', Vol 30 (2).
[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1759-3441](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1759-3441).



Professor
Alison Sheridan
Head of School

Research Outcomes

Journal Articles

Bayerlein, L. and Farooque, O. A. (2012) Evaluating the influence of a mandatory IFRS adoption on accounting practice: Evidence from Australia, Hong Kong and the United Kingdom, *Asian Review of Accounting*, 20 (2), 93 – 118.

Sandhu, K. (2012) E-Services system acceptance at an Australian university: A case study, *International Journal of Innovation in the Digital Economy* (IJIDE); 3 (1), 27 – 40.

Conference Papers

Nooraisah, K. and Farooque, O.A. (2012) Disclosure Quality, Corporate Governance and Earnings Management, *3rd Global Accounting and Organisational Change Conference*, July 2012, Sunway, Malaysia.

Honorary Appointments

Mr Graydon Henning

Adjunct Senior Lecturer

28 August 2012 – 28 August 2015

(Economics)

Councils in Cooperation Book Launch

Our book *Councils in Cooperation* was launched by Minister Don Page – UNE alumnus – on June 29 in Lismore at the SCU campus.

The occasion was magnificently organized by Mike Podolf and Sam Kortt and the SCU team, held at the SCU Co-op Bookshop, very well attended both by the public, local mayors, TV and radio, and opened by Minister Don Page, who gave an excellent speech.



What we've been doing

- Over 200 delegates from councils across Tasmania attended the 100th Local Government Conference, themed *Treasuring the Past, Transforming the Future*, which was held at Wrest Point in Hobart, from July 11-13. **Professor Brian 'Efficiency' Dollery** of the UNE Centre for Local Government was a keynote speaker and he delivered an address entitled *Is Amalgamation the Silver Bullet in Local Government?* <http://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/page.aspx?u=209>.

Up & Coming Events

August

- 3 AARES Seminar
Dr Garry Griffith
LT5 @ 1pm
- 10 Trimester 2 lectures end (mid trimester break)
- 11 Intensive Schools start
- 14 AARES Seminar
Dr Saan Ecker (ABARES)
Lewis Seminar Room @ 1pm
- 15 Special School Meeting
- 21 Building Regional Prosperity Forum Series
- 22 R&RT Meeting
- 23 Official launch of the Master of Economic and Regional Development
- 26 Intensive Schools end
- 27 School Meeting
- 28 T&L Showcase
- 28 Trimester 2 lectures recommence
- 31 AARES Seminar
Professor Jeff Gow (USQ)
LT5 @ 1pm
- 31 Census Day

September

- 28 Trimester 2 lectures end
- 28 Graduation Day – The Professions Awards
- 28 Graduation Day – Arts & Sciences Awards

October

- 1 Labour Day
- 2 Trimester 2 examinations start
- 15 Trimester 2 examinations end
- 15 Trimester 2 ends
- 24 School Meeting
- 29 Trimester 3 lectures start



Professor Mahinda
Siriwardana

ARC Linkage Project Success

Professor Mahinda Siriwardana has received an ARC Linkage Grant in the recent round 2 (2012) funding for a project entitled "Adaptation to carbon-tax-induced changes in energy demand in rural and regional Australia". The Linkage partner is AGL Energy Ltd. and its support will form a new collaboration between AGL and UNE to deliver the project outcomes. There are three other researchers from UNE (Dr Judy McNeill, Dr Sam Meng and Dr Ian Reeve) and two from AGL (Professor Paul Simshauser and Tim Nelson) in his team to work on this nationally important project.

Due to the significant roles of energy supply and demand in the Australian economy, this project will assist to uncover the impact of the responses of the energy sector to changes in energy demand induced by the carbon tax. The grant will also enhance the research capacity of the UNE Business School by bringing in new PhD students, an APDI Fellow, and postgraduate supervision capacity through project investigators.



Associate Professor
Rene Villano

ACIAR Project

Associate Professor Rene Villano is involved in an ACIAR Project entitled "An integrated approach for systematic change and sustained development of the Papua New Guinea sweet potato value chain". Associate Professor Villano's main responsibility will be to conduct impact pathways analysis, design and implementation of farm/consumer surveys, econometric analysis of survey data and impact evaluation. The project, worth around \$1 million, is a 3-year collaborative project between UNE, the NSW Department of Primary Industries and three partner institutions in Papua New Guinea (National Agricultural Research Institute, Fresh Produce Development Agency and Rural Women Development Initiative). The main objectives of the project are to improve the uptake of postharvest technology through culturally appropriate communication channels and training programs and to improve value chain coordination through culturally appropriate group action and marketing. Dr Christie Chang, who is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Rural Futures and an Adjunct Associate Professor of the UNE Business School, is the Project Leader.



Professor
Oscar Cacho

Fighting an "Invasion" of Alien Plants and Animals

Fighting an "alien invasion" that costs Australia \$7 billion each year was the topic of a recent lecture by **Professor Oscar Cacho**, an agricultural economist at the University of New England. A video of this lecture is now available online.

"Bio-security is everyone's business," says Professor Cacho. "The community has a role to play in protecting Australia's environment. This includes telling the truth to Customs when returning to Australia from overseas, and reporting noxious weeds."

Professor Cacho, who has worked at UNE for the last 18 years, gave his inaugural professorial lecture on June 4. Prof Cacho started his professional career as a marine biologist and later became an economist. His career has included being part of a Technical Advisory Group on Control of Invasive Species in the Galapagos Islands, and a visiting expert at the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations in Rome.



Dr Sujana Adapa

Innovation

Dr Sujana Adapa has been collaborating with colleagues from the Faculty's Ideas 2 Action (I2A) Centre (Dr Philip Thomas as chief investigator, and Ms Elizabeth Davies, and Penn State University - Dr Michael W. P. Fortunato and Professor Ted Alter) on a number of projects. For example, following a grant from the NSW Government, the team undertook a project 'Regional Innovation: Strategic Development Community Based Innovation in the Northern Inland Region of NSW'. The project assessed the potential of Intentional Innovation Communities (IICs) as a model for achieving community-based innovation. A series of workshops were conducted in Armidale, Tamworth, Moree, Narrabri and Bingara with the intention of exploring the possibility of intentional innovation communities (IICs) in the northern Inland Region of NSW.

AARES New England Branch

There have been two very interesting presentations made within the branch's seminar series over the past month.



On June 29 Dr Rosalind Bark (pictured left) dropped in to Armidale on her way to begin work at CSIRO in Brisbane (having transferred from their Adelaide office). Rosalind works for Ecosystem Services within CSIRO and is an environmental economist with interests in valuation of environmental goods, Aboriginal water access and Native American water rights.

Her presentation (entitled: Valuing the multiple benefits of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan using an ecosystem service framework) focused on work she has been involved in at CSIRO which was commissioned by the Murray Darling Basin Authority to research the expected benefits of the proposed Basin Plan using an ecosystem services approach. This interdisciplinary research closely coupled changes in river flow and inundation with ecological response models. Incremental changes in hydrologic thresholds and ecological outcomes were then linked with benefit estimates from the environmental economic literature and new research. The research forms the most comprehensive assessment of policy reform in the Basin. The methodology, results and lessons learned were discussed.

Dr Miriam East (picture below, far right) presented results of her research on July 20. Miriam is a former UNE PhD student who was supervised by Phil Simmons. After she finished her PhD in 2005 she has worked for the Queensland Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (formerly DPI), with 3 years in the economic policy group in Brisbane and 3 years as a regional economist based in Mackay (and also had 2 children during this time). She has now returned to Armidale with her family and still works for DAFF remotely.

Miriam's presentation, 'Economic implications of changing sugarcane management practices - Mackay Whitsunday region' described the results of Project Catalyst (see a short video on this project at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3Hqsg9FjRw>). Project Catalyst has been assisting growers to investigate the agronomic and economic potential of changing management practices in sugarcane production. The project aims to identify management practices that improve water quality in the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) while also improving farm profitability. This presentation investigated the economics of skip row planting and controlled traffic farming by two growers in the Mackay Whitsunday region. Investment analyses are conducted based on change in gross margin before and after each practice change, and the relevant capital costs. Based on current data, the skip row trial results in a gross margin equal to, or slightly lower than the gross margin for a conventional planting scenario. With consideration of capital costs, skip row planting does not appear to improve profitability, despite the expected improvement in water quality attributable to this practice. On the other hand, the controlled traffic farming case study indicates an improvement in cane gross margin of \$112 per hectare. Although the capital costs included for transition to controlled traffic farming are high, it is expected that investment in this new/modified equipment will be a positive investment for this grower.



Dr David Hadley
President AARES,
New England Branch

Upcoming AARES seminars in August

Friday August 3

Dr Garry Griffith

How did we go? Looking back on the impact of the Beef CRC.

LT5 @ 1pm

Tuesday August 14

Dr Saan Ecker (ABARES)

Lewis Seminar Room @ 1pm

Friday August 31

Professor Jeff Gow (USQ)

Climate Change and Rice Production Impacts in Bangladesh

LT5 @ 1pm



AARES seminars are open to all & are not just about the price of cows, so please come along!



Master of Economic & Regional Development Launch

Thursday August 23

Featuring our guest speakers and staff from UNE

Professor Anis Chowdhury

Senior Economic Affairs Officer,
Office of the Under- Secretary-
General, United Nations
Department of Economic & Social
Affairs (UN-DESA), New York

*Is Austerity the solution to the
global economic crisis*

Dr Michael Kortt

Director of Research Training,
Senior Lecturer in Applied
Economics, Southern Cross
Business School & Adjunct Senior
Lecturer UNE Centre for Local
Government

*Economic and regional
development in Australia: Local
issues and challenges*

WHERE

John Dillon Lecture Theatre LT4,
W42 @ 2 pm to 4 pm

Followed by celebratory
refreshments from 4 pm to 5 pm

RSVP

Wednesday August 15
Email: hosbusiness@une.edu.au

Reducing the Environmental Impact of Our Everyday Activities

By James Hunter

Reducing the environmental impact of our everyday activities, building career networks to address the shortage of Agricultural graduates and ensuring that Aboriginal children are registered from birth are significant issues facing Australia today. The University of New England's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team has addressed these national issues through their projects in the local community. SIFE teams across 40 countries organise community outreach projects, which aim to improve the quality of life and standard of living of people in need. This allows SIFE students to practically apply the business concepts which they are learning at university.

In addition to the community based project work, the SIFE teams annually present their projects against all other universities with business CEO's and executives judging. The SIFE UNE team travelled to Melbourne on the July 10 – 14 to compete in the 2012 SIFE National Competition and Conference. 400 students from 24 universities around Australia were present, with SIFE UNE competing against and progressing to the final four. Whilst the team did not ultimately win the competition, we were placed in the top four teams and acknowledged by SIFE Australia for our outstanding projects.

SIFE UNE was awarded 3 out of the 5 certificates for the team which most effectively satisfied the following judging criterion:

- Most effectively targeting people in need
- Best considered the relevant economic, social and environmental factors in their projects
- Which most improved the quality of life and standard of living for its project beneficiaries

Jo Watson from UNE was awarded 'most outstanding faculty advisor' and will be travelling to the World Cup in October with the Australian team.

Our Business Advisory Board member Mr Frank Leayr was awarded 'Most Supportive BAB Member'.

These achievements make 2012 SIFE UNE's most successful year to date. We made an impression on the other teams and gave our local projects a voice on a national stage. SIFE UNE would like to thank Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean, Faculty of The Professions, Professor Victor Minichiello and UNE Business School Head of School, Professor Alison Sheridan for their generous support and for making this year's success possible.



Pictured above: SIFE UNE 2012 presenters Jo Newton, Jason Artuso, Maja Popovic and Vivian Crick

Educational Development & Communications

The Educational Development & Communications team was formed towards the end of the Trimester 1 development period, so Trimester 2 was the first full teaching period where this new team were responsible for the whole process of design/ development of units across the School. We spent some time, initially, developing guidelines and checklists for unit development, and we utilised these in preparing your units for Trimester 2 delivery. Some further information regarding the guidelines and why we see this as a positive aspect of the units is [available here](#).

We would like to thank you for working with us to ensure that units were finalised in time for the Trimester release date.

The Educational Development & Communications team is also responsible for providing hands-on technical support to you in using the LMS and teaching and learning tools and applications, and for researching and developing innovations in your units. The School Strategic Plan reflects this in the goal to become: *'Australia's leading school in providing high quality business education online using innovative delivery methods'*.

We are all located in W39 and with Terry starting at 8 am and Kerry finishing at 5 pm our hours of work span 8 am – 5 pm.

Trimester 3 unit development has commenced. These units need to be ready for release to students on October 15, 2012.

Save the Date – T&L Showcase –August 28

On August 28 we will be hosting a T&L Showcase from 12.15 – 2pm (lunch included). More details will be circulated shortly via email.

UNE Moodle Link for Mobile Devices

Would you like to have a direct link to UNE Moodle on your mobile device? These guides will step you through the process. Choose the appropriate one for your device:

[Moodle Quick Access Guide - iPad](#)

[Moodle Quick Access Guide - iPhone](#)

[Moodle Quick Access Guide - Android](#)



Team Members & Contact Details:

Sue Whale		swhale2		3043	
Naomi Blackburn		nblackb2		2276	
Terry Barnett		tbarnett		3609	
Kerry Towns		ktowns3		3453	(Monday to Thursday)
Debbie Bridge		dbridge2		3453	(Friday)



Sue Whale
Educational Development
& Communications
Team Leader

T&L Showcase
Tuesday August 28

12.15 to 2.00 pm (lunch included)

More information coming to you
soon, check your inbox!

The logo for the University of New England (UNE) features the letters 'une' in a stylized, lowercase, green font.

University of
New England

the
community **mutual**
group



Hunter Mutual . New England Mutual . Orana Mutual

Building Regional Prosperity Forum Series

UNE Business School and the Community Mutual Group invite you to attend in person or Watch live via ustream: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/edu-events>

“Banking on the Future: How to Make Sustainability Profitable”

Rowan Dowland, General Manager, Development
bankmecu

Tuesday 21 August 2-3pm
John Dillon Lecture Theatre (LT4), W42
UNE Business School

All Welcome

RSVP: Will Winter, wwinter@communitymutual.com.au



In 2010 Ethical Investor recognised **bankmecu** as Australia's most sustainable small company. With assets approaching \$3 billion and significant business growth through collaboration with like-minded individuals and organisations, **bankmecu** has proven the business case for being a successful co-operative enterprise and conducting its business of banking in a sustainable and responsible way.

Rowan Dowland has greatly influenced **bankmecu**'s approach to responsible banking and works to align the way the bank conducts its business with the expectations of its customers located throughout Australia.

bankmecu has achieved strong recognition both here in Australia and internationally for its approach to sustainable development and responsible business practice. It is regarded as a leader in Sustainability Reporting, product innovation and responsible investment.

As the General Manager Development, Rowan Dowland is accustomed to the challenges of bringing about organisational change, and building staff and stakeholder support for sustainability goals which makes excellent economic and environmental sense.

About the Building Regional Prosperity Forum Series:

In May 2012 the Community Mutual Group in conjunction with the UNE Business School hosted the first 'Building Regional Prosperity Forum' examining co-operative business models. In the International Year of the Co-operatives, this Forum creates another important opportunity to have a 'conversation' about the power of collaboration to transform regional economies.

The UNE Business School and the Community Mutual Group are delighted to invite you to attend this inspiring presentation focusing on sustainability as a driver of economic advantage.

Parking: There is a car park adjacent to W42. LT4 is located in the southern end of the Business Economics and Law Building on Trevenna Road. If you turn into The Short Run (St Marks Chapel on the corner) there is ample parking in the carpark on your right. Please note: that UNE has paid parking and you will need to obtain a parking ticket from the parking metre on Elm Drive.

Ustreaming: If you are not able to attend in person, and yet would like to be part of the forum you will be able to view the forum live through ustream at this address <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/edu-events>. If you have a twitter account you can send through your comments or questions on @communitymutual.