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Dr Jenny Rindfleish Acting Head of School

We have had two exciting May that have events in highlighted the importance and value of the School's alumni relationships and also School's the longstanding relationship with the Certified Practicing Accountants (CPA). The first event, which was shared with the School of Law, was a public lecture by Dr. Bruce Bonyhady AM on the topic of the National Disability Scheme. The event was a highly engaging, informative well attended event. It was a professional highlight for me to meet someone like Bruce and learn about his success in designing and implementing an important social

change program for people with a disability in Australia. Bruce's connection to UNE goes back to 1976 and he was supervised for his postgraduate studies by Adjunct Associate Professor George Battese. George and Bruce remain personal friends to this day and it is these personal connections between colleagues over so many years that, I believe, really show the true value of our alumni networks. Thank you to Michael Stuckey for giving the vote of thanks to Bruce and to all of our staff in the School for making this event a truly inspiring one in so many ways. I would particularly like to thank both George Battese and George Chen for liaising with Bruce about his visit to UNE and Sharon Styles and Kerry Towns for attending to the travel arrangements, catering and smooth running of the very successful event.

The second event in May was the CPA Merit Awards night, David Lee, the NSW General Manager, and Susanne Ainsworth represented the CPA and presented Merit Awards

to high performing students in courses that are accredited by the CPA. It was great to see the joy in the faces of the students and their friends and family at what feels like a 'mini' graduation ceremony. Chancellor, John Watkins, gave the vote thanks for David's address so I would like to extend a big thank you to both John and the Chief Financial Officer, Michelle Clarke, for supporting the event. Accounting firms from Armidale were also in attendance at the event to showcase their organisations. Thanks must go to Kerry who spent many hours organising the event and Sharon for coordinating the catering and event management. Thank you also to all of the academic staff who attended the event and the dinner sponsored by the CPA afterwards. Events such as these are critical in maintaining our School's connections between the urban and regional professional networks that can provide tangible benefits to our students in both their studies and their future careers.

# A Revolution in Our Time: The NDIS and Lessons for Change



Bruce Bonyhady AM Chairman, National Disability Insurance Agency

On Monday 12 May, the Chair of the National Disability Insurance Agency, Mr Bruce Bonyhady, presented a public lecture at UNE entitled "The transformational reform of our time: the NDIS and lessons for change."

Mr Bonyhady talked about the aim of the NDIS to improve the wellbeing of people with disability, their carers and their families in a financially sustainable way. Mr Bonyhady said that the significance of the NDIS cannot be overstated: he described the NDIS as 'a nation-building reform like the Hydroelectric scheme,' that has combined compassion with economic sense.

Mr Bonyhady explained that as an insurance scheme, the NDIS has the power to change society. It changes how services are delivered, how constructed environments are designed, and how workplaces operate. He said that the NDIS shifts power to individuals, including people living with disability, and that this control and choice will drive a new marketplace for how services are delivered. He said that the NDIS moves away from deficit-based approach to building the supports that people need to maintain loving relationships and productive lives.

Mr Bonyhady delivered a final summary of 'lessons learned':

- Language frames the debate the clever use of the slogan 'every Australian counts' highlighted the broken nature of the old disability system, and indicated that the NDIS would create an insurance scheme that is relevant to ALL Australians not just people with disability.
- The NDIS framed disability as an economic issue with the

- Productivity Commission, concluding that the benefits of the NDIS outweigh the costs.
- Unity is critical. The ways in which the NDIS campaign united people with disability, carers and service providers made the change possible.

This campaign used technology to tell stories, and made use of instant communication to lobby politicians as they entered meetings to allocate resources and lend support.

The seminar was well attended from UNE and the wider Armidale community. The seminar was live-streamed to Parramatta Future Campus and concluded with an interesting Q&A session.

If you missed the public seminar, a vodcast is available on http://www.une.edu.au/about-une/academic-schools/une-business-school.

Next UNEBS Seminar: 14 July 2014 Professor Karl Rich, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs.



Dr George Battese (Honorary Fellow), Dr Jennifer Rindfleish (Acting Head of School, UNE Business School), Bruce Bonyhady AM and Professor Michael Stuckey (Head of School, Law).



**Awards Night** 

The next generation of business and finance leaders wined and dined with the region's top businesses last week, as the UNE Business School hosted the annual Certified Practicing Accountants of Australia awards dinner.

Acting Head of the UNE Business School, Dr Jennifer Rindfleish said "the awards evening provides an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the students' hard work and their commitment to obtaining a degree".

"It also provides an opportunity for representatives of CPA and leading businesses in the region to meet some of our top-ranking students and perhaps develop a mentoring or cadetship arrangement for the future."

CPA NSW General Manager David Lee presented 27 merit certificates to UNE students finishing in the top 5 per cent of CPA accredited units, while a further 150 certificates were designated for students, external and internal, who were unable to attend the night.

Armidale-based first year student Dana McQuestin and Second Year student Melissa Carey, from Coffs Harbour were also presented major awards as most distinguished performers in their cohorts.

"The Certified Practising Accountant designation is a mark of high professional competence. It indicates a soundness in depth, breadth and quality of accountancy knowledge," Dr Rindfleish said.

"As the provider of one of the worlds most recognised post-graduate business qualifications, it is fitting that CPA Australia take such a keen interest in and recognition of accounting and business students who are showing dedication in their undergraduate studies.

"It is also a valuable relationship for the UNE Business School in helping to ensure that our own subject matter and course design is best suited to prepare our graduates to meet the needs of industry, not only in finance and accounting but across all of the business management spectrum."





UNE Business School News



Dr Peter Shanahan attended this EFMD Conference in Milan from 26-28 March. Over 30 countries were represented. Some of the presentations highlighted common issues that many business schools face around the world for example globalisation and Internationalisation (curriculum; inbound and outgoing students), quality of the experience for international students, the high proportion of international students to local students, the importance of activities to encourage cultural exchange/learning between local and international students before during and after enrolment, the need for Academic staff to promote mobility to local students, entrepreneurship in the curriculum, and the importance of international partnerships.

Peter also had a meeting with Professor Christian Delporte, EFMD Senior Advisor, Quality Services to progress our European accreditation.

Peter is pictured above with Christian Delporte and Isabel Ramos, EFMD Manager of Quality Services, in the Politecnico di Milano, the conference venue.

# **Enduring Community Value from Mining**



Dr Boyd Blackwell
Post Doc Research Fellow

Dr Boyd Blackwell visited the head quarters of NintiOne Limited, the managing company of the Cooperative Research Centre for Remote Economic Participation (CRC REP), on the 14-16 May. Boyd is undertaking a research fellowship on the Enduring Community Value from Mining: Tracking and Mapping Mine Expenditure for Remote Communities and is jointly funded by CRC REP and UNE. Boyd was asked to visit to the 'Red Centre' to help with NintiOne's business and to discuss the research outputs that meet his research

stream's annual milestones (refer to Figure 1). On his return trip he serendipitously met with Dr Bligh Grant who is now a Senior Lecturer with the Centre for Local Government at the University of Technology Sydney and they discussed opportunities for collaboration. Boyd is halfway through his 5 year fellowship. To learn more about the preliminary research findings from his project please visit http://www.une.edu.au/staff-profiles/bblackw2 or contact Boyd directly on 02 6773 3279.



# **China Study Tour**



Mr Allastair Hall Lecturer

The UNE Business School has launched the China Study Tour which will take 15 students to China from the 16-27 November this year. Students will be immersed in intercultural learning and studying business development opportunities during this action packed tour. In Beijing students will meet with economic advisors and Government officials before visiting a farm which produces 80000 cattle and 200000 sheep per annum. In Shandong Province students will be able to experience the enormity of scale at a 60000 hectare vegetable farm which exports vegetables worldwide. The tour will also incorporate visits to manufacturers as well as identifying the power of small business enterprise in China. In Hong Kong students will be involved in trade and business meetings in the financial industry.

This exciting initiative of the Business School demonstrates UNE's commitment to educating students who are globally active' says Professor Alison Sheridan, the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic) at UNE. 'We are very grateful to the UNE Foundation for their significant financial support to students who take part in the program' said Professor Sheridan. Students are also able to access Federal Government support through OS-HELP. The value of this learning opportunity will be profound' said Lou Conway, one of the academics accompanying the Study Tour, 'students will see the relevance of what they learn in their degrees and often identify career opportunities that they may not have considered possible'. Planning is also underway to connect with Alumni in Shanghai and Hong Kong and to host a number of networking events as part of the tour.

Students are being encouraged to find out more about the China Study Tour by visiting our website http://www.une.edu.au/about-une/academic-schools/une-business-school/china-study-tour.

# CHINA STUDY TOUR We can help you get there

Have you always wanted to travel to China as part of your degree? Now you can...

16-27 November 2014

To find out more, visit our UNE Business School website:

http://www.une.edu.au/about-une/ academic-schools/une-business-school/ china-study-tour

Financial support available through OS-HELP and the UNE Foundation.

Contact: Mr Allastair Hall, Room 610 W42 P: 677732604 E: ahall4@une.edu.au

# Calendar

### June

- 17 Intensive schools start
- 23 R&RT Meeting
- 29 Intensive schools end
- 30 Trimester 2 lectures start

### July

- **14** Seminar: Professor Karl Rich, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs
- 22 School Meeting
- 28 R&RT Meeting

### August

- 15 Trimester 2 lecture break
- 16 Intensive Schools start
- 25 R&RT Meeting
- **26** School Meeting
- 31 Intensive Schools end

### September

- 1 Trimester 2 lectures recommence
- 23 School Meeting
- 29 R&RT Meeting

### October

- 4 Trimester 2 lectures end
- 21 School Meeting
- 27 R&RT Meeting

### November

- 18 School Meeting
- 24 R&RT Meeting

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

On Friday 28 March 2014, a seminar entitled "Agricultural Competitiveness in Australia: A look at the issues", was jointly sponsored by the UNE Business School and the New England Branch of the Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES). The seminar was designed in preparation for a submission to the White Paper process on Agricultural Competitiveness initiated by the Australian Government. Professors Euan Fleming, Oscar Cacho and Derek Baker presented an overview of past policies, trends in agricultural production and issues related to the supply chain. Dr Geoff Fox, UNE Deputy Vice-Chancellor chaired the seminar and led the discussion. The presentation is available at: http://www.une.edu.au/about-une/academic-schools/une-business-school/research/seminar-series.





On Friday 4 April, Professor Stephen Hosking from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University presented a seminar entitled "Setting Municipal Water Service Tariffs for Cost Recovery in South Africa" as part of the UNE Business School Seminar Series.

If you missed the public seminar, a vodcast is available on http://www.une.edu.au/about-une/academic-schools/une-business-school/research/seminar-series.





Dr Nam Hoang presented the supply-demand analysis for beef in Mekong region at the Midterm Review and Planning Workshop for the ACIAR project AH/46/2010, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, April 27-30.



On Thursday 15 May, Professor Euan Fleming presented a joint AARES UNE Business School seminar on work done with David Cottle from the School of Environmental and Rural Science. Their analysis focuses on measuring the overall efficiency with which wool is converted into value across ten different production processes in the Australian wool value chain and then decomposing it into its technical, scale and mix efficiency components. They found that wool price changes significantly with a change in fibre diameter, staple length and staple strength. By capturing the relations between these wool attributes and lot value, they showed that considerable scope exists to increase the value of most sale lots, and that the overall efficiency in extracting value is lower for wool supplied to processes that produce high-value wool garments. Various factors were mentioned related to wool production and product characteristics that were found significantly to influence the level of technical efficiency.

Scale efficiency scores, measured as returns to wool attributes, were clearly much lower than those for technical efficiency scores. This outcome was explained as a function of strongly increasing returns to wool lots as the levels of attributes increase. On the other hand, the mix of the three attributes in wool lots was found not to be a major factor influencing overall efficiency.

# **Educational Development & Communications**



Naomi McGrath
Educational Development
& Communications
Officer

This week we are less than one month from our deadline for Trimester 2 release. Trimester 2 coordinators may get reminders from EDC staff regarding provision of material, revisions and assessment details. The aim for our team is to get material ready by the end of the month ready for unit release by mid-June. This way we can ensure everything is quality checked prior to release.

The EDC team had fantastic news last week. We won the Gold award, second year running, for Best Talent - Learning Team in the 2014 LearnX Asia Pacific Impact Awards for exceptional work to organisational learning and development. This builds on our ongoing commitment to the creation and support of best practice online learning resources and activities within the School. Members of the EDC team were also recognised with Sue Whale winning a Finalist position in the Best Talent - Learning Manager category and Naomi McGrath also awarded a Finalist position in the Best Talent - Instructional Designer category.

Dr Sujana Adapa secured the Platinum award for Best Talent – Online Facilitator. Sujana's contribution to teaching in the discipline of Marketing has focused on the development of interactive multimedia resources and constructive alignment of these resources with various formative and summative assessment tasks. She embedded learner-centred approach in her online teaching that initiated subject-based dialogue between distance learners and between the learner and the unit coordinator. Sujana's commitment to distance learners and her approaches towards the development of quality assessment tasks, feedback and learning support fostered distance learners ongoing engagement, self-regulated learning and overall study experience in Marketing units.

Dr Leopold Bayerlein was also awarded a Finalist position for Best Talent – Online Facilitator and Best eLearning Design (Video) with Naomi McGrath, and Iain Mackay from LIH, for 'Balancing Life'. The project

created an immersive TV-show type video series that provides the backdrop for a virtual internship program. Additional video focusing resources, on the explanation of theoretical background information and the of application such in information the

generated scenario were also created (approximately 35 hours in total). This allows students a self-paced online learning experience while supporting UNE's strategy to create flexible and interactive online learning scenarios.

This is the second year that the UNE Business School has submitted applications and within these two years has been awarded 8 awards for their dedication to and work in organisational learning and development. Congratulations to

everyone!



As noted in our last Tip of the Week, as a member of the University community, we all have to comply with copyright requirements through the delivery of online unit material. This includes making sure the visual information in your units is permitted under the Copyright Act and attributed correctly.

See an example below (MM300) and helpful links to make sure you are not breaching copyright. If you do need help in finding particular images for your unit material please contact a member of the EDC team as we can help source, attribute and even create images/icons for your use.

**Topic 6: Strategy and Ethics** 



Read my 'where to focus' posting. In week six we focus on the ethical context in which strategy is played out

Topic 6 Notes
 Porter on Creating Shared Value
 Bill Gates on Capitalism
 Building a Strategy for Sustainability
 Topic 6 Forum

# Useful links for finding Creative Commons images

- http://www.gettyimages.com. au/
- http://imagecodr.org/

# Useful links for best practices and information on copyright

- http://wiki.creativecommons. org/Best\_practices\_for\_ attribution
- http://www.une.edu.au/ copyright
- Berenice Scott Copyright
   Officer (copyright@une.edu.au)

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# **IT Support**



Bernie Groen
Senior IT Officer

# Useful Microsoft Excel 2010 Keyboard Shortcuts

Control key (ctrl) Alternate key (Alt) Function and other shortcuts available for Excel 2010 that let you do everything from selecting and editing cells, to inserting items and formatting.

New workbook	CTRL+N
Save	CTRL+S
Undo	CTRL+Z
Redo	CTRL+Y
Cut	CTRL+X
Print	CTRL+P
Open files	CTRL+O
Find text	CTRL+F
Сору	CTRL+C
Paste all	CTRL+V
Close	CTRL+W
Fill right	CTRL+R
Fill down	CTRL+D
Fill current entry	CTRL+ENTER
Edit Formula	F2
Expand Formula Bar	CTRL+SHIFT+U
View formulas	CTRL`
Change reference type	F4
Cancel entry	ESC
Exit Excel	ALT+F4
Insert AutoSum	ALT=
Move one cell, up, down, left,	Arrow keys
right	
Move to edge of range	CTRL+Arrow
Move to last cell on worksheet	CTRL+End
that contains data	
Move to beginning of work-	CTRL+Home
sheet	

Page Down

Move one screen up	Page Up
Move one screen to the right	ALT+Page Down
Move one screen to the left	ALT+Page Up
Move to next worksheet	CTRL+Page Down
Move to previous worksheet	CTRL+Page Up
Extend selection by one cell	SHIFT+Arrow keys
Extend selection to end of row	CTRL+SHIFT+Ar-
or column	row keys
Extend selection to end of data	CTRL SHIFT+END
Select all	CTRL+A
Select row	SHIFT+Spacebar
Select column	CTRL+Spacebar
Insert cells, rows, or columns	CTRL+SHIFT+Plus
	sign
Delete cells, rows, or columns	CTRL+Minus sign
Insert new worksheet	SHIFT+F11

### Access the ribbon

- 1. Press Alt, the key tips are displayed over each feature that is available in the current view.
- 2. Press the letter shown in the key tip over the tab that you want to use.
- 3. Depending on which letter you press, you may be shown additional key tips. For example, if the **home** tab is active and you press N, the **insert** tab is displayed, along with the key tips for the groups on that tab.
- 4. Continue pressing letters until you press the letter of the command or control that you want to use.

**Note** To cancel the action that you are taking and hide the key tips, press Esc.

F6

Switches from the worksheet, to the

status bar, to the ribbon, back to worksheet	
Switch between panes in a split worksheet	F6, Shift+F6
Switch between open workbooks in the same instance of Excel	Ctrl+F6
Add filter buttons	Ctrl+Shift+L
Access filter menus	Alt+down arrow
Select or clear check boxes	Spacebar
Access the right-click menu	Shift+F10
In the Function Arguments dialog	F2
box, switch from the dialog box to the	
worksheet	

There are many more shortcuts available and can be found on the web, the ones most regularly used should be listed/highlighted for convenience.

Move one screen down

# Minimbah Project

## Why was the project created?

Many tens of thousands of Australian's have not had their births registered, and do not have a copy of their birth certificate. So found a team of volunteer students from University of New England in 2011, assisted by agencies such as Pathfinders. They also discovered that many people struggle to fully participate in Australian society without this simple but vital certification.

Pathfinders CEO Mr Alan Brennan observed that "Without this 'primary' form of identification, thousands cannot gain access to mainstream services, such as opening bank accounts, joining sporting clubs, enrolling in school, and voting. It's a privilege for us to work alongside talented and committed students from UNE, to help address what we have found to be a national issue" he said.

# What are the aims of the project?

Over the past two years, UNE students have raised more than \$300,000 to fund and organise birth certificate 'Sign Up Days' across the state. Donations have been gathered from individuals, regional businesses and government departments such as the Office of

enactu. enactus Prime Minister in Cabinet to fund 'free' birth certificates for regional Australians who don't have a birth certificate. Under the program, birth certificates (which usually cost \$51) can be issued without charge to children

and their families through schools and

other agencies providing they have

sufficient forms of identification.

The Minimbah Project team is also campaigning at a federal and state level to have birth registration of babies occur 'automatically', based on hospital admission records of mothers. They are also proposing that birth certificates be automatically debited through Centrelink allowances, in order to stop once and for all, more than 35,000 Australian children each year, who fail to obtain a birth certificate in the first year of life.

How many births have been registered?

So far more than 1,600 children and adults have been issued with birth certificates through Minimbah signup days over the past three years. UNE project leader Mr Reece Trickey said that "In recent weeks we have helped to sign up 340 children and adults in

regional centres. A further 1,600 are targeted this year. We aim to provide as many certificates as possible to needy Australians, and are always on the lookout for further donations to help our cause" he said.



Pathfinders are proud to be supporting UNE Enactus by providing support in regional areas for sign up days including Narromine (29th April), Dubbo (30th April; Narrabri (1st May) and Dubbo (2nd May). Signups in Inverell and other centres are also planned before June 2014.

People interested in finding out more about the project should contact:

### The Minimbah Project

P: 02 6771 1527

E: enactus@une.edu.au

W: minimbahproject.org.au



# Postgraduate Lunch

On Thursday 22 May postgraduate students in the UNE Business School shared lunch from a variety of cultures, with students preparing food and drinks from their traditional backgrounds. It was great to meet other students and share delicious food.



# Research Outcomes

### **Journal Articles**

Arouri. H., Muttakin, M. B., Hossain, M. and Farooque, O.A. (2014) On the relation between internal corporate governance and bank risk-taking: Evidence from Gulf Cooperative Council Countries, *Academy of Taiwan Business Management Review*, 10 (1), pp. 91-100.

Asante, B.O., Villano, R.A. and Battese, G.E. (2014) The effect of the adoption of yam minisett technology on the technical efficiency of yam farmers in the forest-savanna transition zone of Ghana, *African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 9(2), pp. 75-90.

Chan, G., Valadkhani, A. and Grant, B. (2014) How Useful is the Yield Spread as a Predictor of Output Growth in Australia?, *Economic Modelling*, (in print).

De Souza, S., Dollery, B. E. and Kortt, M. (2014) De-amalgamation in action: The Queensland experience, *Public Management Review*, (in print).

Fleming, E., Mounter, S., Grant, B. and Griffith, G. (2014) Can we explain variations in winery ratings in Victoria?, *Australasian Agribusiness Review 22*, Paper 1.

Griffith, G., Mounter, S. and Villano, R. (2013) Muscle score premiums and discounts in wholesale beef carcases, *Australasian Agribusiness Perspectives*, Paper 97.

Kaur, A. (2014) Plantation Systems, Labour Regimes and the State in Malaysia, 1900–2012, *Journal of Agrarian Change*, 14(2), pp. 190–213.

Perera, S., Siriwardana, M. and Mounter, S. (2014) 'Reducing poverty and income inequality in Sri Lanka: Does trade liberalisation help? *Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy*, (in print).

Siriwardana, M., Meng, S. and McNeill, J. (2013) A CGE assessment of the Australian carbon tax policy, *Int. J. Global Energy Issues*, Vol. 36, pp.242–261.

Valadkhani, A., Kotey, B., and Chen, G. (2014) Asymmetric Changes in Australia's Small Business Loan Rate, *Small Business Economics*, (in print).

Valadkhani, A. and Chen, G. (2014) An Empirical Analysis of the US Stock Market and Output Growth Volatility Spillover Effects on Three Anglo-Saxon Countries, *International Review of Applied Economics*, (in print).

Valadkhani, A., Chen, G. and Anderson, J. (2014) A Cluster Analysis of Petrol Profit Margins across Various Regional and Urban Locations in Australia, *Australasian Journal of Regional Studies*, (in print).

# **Conference Papers**

Nooraisah K. and O. A. Farooque (2014) Co-Determination between Disclosure Quality, Earnings Management and Board Independence, *British Accounting and Finance Association Annual Conference*, April 2014, London, UK.

# **Honorary Appointments**

### Professor Abbas Valadkhani

Adjunct Professor 20 March 2014 – 19 March 2017

### Dr Ian Tilev

Adjunct Research Fellow 2 July 2014 – 1 July 2017

