Australian Institute for Business & Economics
June 2016 Progress Report
AIBE IS A UNIQUE ORGANISATION IN AUSTRALIA

A one-stop-shop for business and government in a global top 50 university; bridging the gap between business needs and academic expertise in business, economics and law.
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THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE FOR BUSINESS & ECONOMICS (AIBE)

leverages world-class collaborative research across The University of Queensland’s Business School, School of Economics, TC Beirne School of Law, and the wider University. The focus for the institute is on Australian and worldwide innovation with new horizon research enhancing industry’s current needs and future challenges.

OUR PURPOSE

AIBE’s purpose is to develop engaging relationships between our world-class BEL researchers and government, industry and the community. We do this by having direct access to more than 238 world-renowned experts who can deliver collaborative applied research or consultancy.

We also pursue opportunities to publicise AIBE-supported research in Australia and internationally with a focus on the Asia-Pacific region.

We are uniquely positioned to bring the best researchers in business, economics and law into teams to work well with our clients.

OUR STRATEGY

Established in 2014, AIBE seeks to establish UQ’s Faculty of Business, Economics and Law (BEL) as a leading institute and intellectual hub of business, economics and law research in Australia. We:

• undertake, facilitate and promote innovative cutting edge applied research
• initiate and promote informed debate on timely economic, social and public policy issues
• facilitate world-class research and publications on business, economics and law that have direct relevance and application for businesses and government.
We help businesses, government and the community access highly-skilled researchers, develop workshops and plan strategies. We also publish articles about topical business and economic issues. Our operations include:

- consulting
- industry engagement
- student engagement
- workshops and forums
- research collaborations.

Our research priorities are:

- applied economics
- financial markets
- HR and strategic management
- inter-disciplinary studies in business, economics and law.

Our research services include:

- data analysis and forecasting
- strategy development
- independent expert opinion
- designing and conducting surveys
- conducting literature reviews
- developing best practice policies
- research project management.
Examples of AIBE research contracts since it was established in 2014 include:

- **$500,000** Port of Brisbane (over three years)
- **$50,000** Queensland Treasury Corporation
- **$60,000** Ernst & Young
- **$50,000** donation from Merchant Charitable Foundation

- **8** Research Partnerships
- **$55,000** in AIBE Scholarship top-ups
- **$130,766** in AIBE funded project initiatives
- **48** AIBE related publications
- **Access to 221 research and higher degree candidates**
- **19** AIBE Honorary Fellows
- **238** teaching and research academic staff
UQ Business School

UQ Business School’s MBA Program is ranked #16 in the world and #1 in the Asia-Pacific region by The Economist.

TC Beirne School of Law

UQ’s TC Beirne School of Law is ranked #49 in the world in the QS World University Rankings.

UQ School of Economics

UQ School of Economics is consistently ranked in the top 2% of research-intensive economic departments in the world and ranked #1 economics research institute in Australia by Research Papers in Economics.
RESEARCH CASE STUDIES

Australian Business Lawyers and Advisors
AIBE provided research into the organisational culture of microbusinesses, and the extent to which they are impacted by the Australian award system compared with their larger counterparts.

This was to support a New South Wales Business Chamber (NSWBC) claim to the Fair Work Commission for a Micro Business Schedule. The academic literature review report was titled ‘Organisational culture of Australian microbusiness and the impact of the award system’ and was presented to Australian Business Lawyers.

Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
AIBE delivered two reports to the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry: a content framework for effectively communicating business training opportunities and the regulatory environment to small businesses, and an in-depth issue report on flexible work.

AIBE first developed a best practice content framework for small business to engage with workplace productivity developments in the current regulatory environment.

Agile Organisations and Flexible Work: Adapting Australian Work to the Modern Economy outlined the benefits of an agile workforce and flexible, and adaptable labour engagement. The findings inform businesses on ways to structure work to best meet the challenges ahead in a sustainable way.

Port of Brisbane
In 2015, The University of Queensland, represented by AIBE, and the Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd (PBPL) established a venture to build capacity through research and teaching positions in the UQ School of Civil Engineering and the Faculty of Business, Economics and Law. The project, currently run through the School of Economics, is focused on channel deepening, reclamation and other port-related activity.

Queensland Treasury Corporation
A collaborative research partnership between AIBE and the Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) focused on QTC’s key research areas:
- social impact bonds, green bonds
- the business of health
- natural disaster relief and recovery arrangements insurance in Queensland
- disruptive technologies.

First stage of the contracted projects (social impact bonds, green bonds, NDRAA insurance, and disruptive technologies) are progressing well.

The second phase is taking shape with two large projects:
1. QTC is contracting its internal education and training program to AIBE
2. a large research project will investigate strengthening the efficiency and productivity of the Queensland health system.

ANZ Banking Group
AIBE and the ANZ Chief Economist research team worked together to deliver an economic forecast for Australia in the year 2030.

Queensland Law Society
AIBE is working on a pro bono survey with the Queensland Law Society as part of the fourth annual Access to Justice Scorecard, an initiative of Queensland Law Society’s Access to Justice and Pro Bono Law Committee.

International Labour Organization
AIBE has a memorandum of understanding with the International Labour Organization (ILO) for collaborative research, internships, scholar visits and capacity building.

The first student intern was placed in the ILO Bangkok office in late 2015 and assisted the ILO Decent Work Team.

AIBE was retained to work with the ILO Fiji to produce a report to:
1. provide legal analysis of international laws, Fijian laws and laws in Pacific Island countries which promote workplace equality for women and people with disabilities
2. critically analyse primary research performed in Fiji in 2014 and 2015
3. provide recommendations to fill policy and other gaps that exist in creating a conducive environment for business including corporate social responsibility practices.
AIBE also worked on a legal research paper to assist the ILO implement its ‘In Business’ program. The paper examined franchise law, possible legal and regulatory frameworks, including in-country laws, potential barriers and challenges and provided recommendations to the ILO including an alternate means for operationalising the program to engage stakeholders who might otherwise be resistant.

**Merchant Charitable Foundation**
AIBE received a donation from the Merchant Charitable Foundation to investigate and quantify the impact of different methods of medical research funding. The research examined different funding models and their clinical and translational outcomes to identify best practice.

**Lingnan (University) College**
UQ’s Faculty of Business Economics and Law and Lingnan (University) College hold an annual two day workshop for early-career business and economics researchers to develop collaborative research projects, funded under AIBE-Lingnan Collaborative Research Grants. The workshops focus on four areas of research: organisational behaviour and HR; international business and strategy; marketing; and labour economics.

The first workshop was held in Brisbane in January 2015. AIBE matched 10 Lingnan staff with UQ researchers, and identified potential research collaborations. The second workshop was held in December in Guangzhou, China.

Outcomes from this partnership include several research projects where UQ-Lingnan are working together to investigate and identify solutions for challenges faced in both countries.
INTERNAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

AIBE has developed scholarships and grant initiatives to address major topics of interest to government and various industries.

Matthew McLennan and Richard Howes Outstanding Honours Collaboration Scholarship
This scholarship encourages collaboration and team work between top students from the Honours programs of the UQ Business School and/or the School of Economics. In 2015, under the guidance of AIBE, the students (Lucille Danks and Luke McKenzie) produced a collaborative research article: What can be done to significantly increase Australia’s workplace productivity in the light of challenging economic circumstances?

AIBE scholarship top-ups
2015 Dr Rand Low, UQ Postdoctoral Research Fellow, UQ Business School, received $5000 top-up to support his Endeavour Research Fellowship.

2015 Dr Shabbir Ahmad, AIBE Postdoctoral Research Fellow, UQ Business School, received $10,000 top-up to support the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) funded research project Farmer’s capabilities, productivity, and profitability: A case study of smallholders in selected agro zones in Pakistan. As a result of this research, ACIAR has extended the project for a further 12 months and $200,000.

2015 Dr Jerad Ford, Ernst & Young, AIBE Research Fellow and casual lecturer, UQ Business School, received $40,000 top-up to work with EY on research and thought leadership to advance the understanding of innovation and productivity in the mining industry.

AIBE funded project initiatives
2014 Professor Stephen Gray, Professor in Finance, UQ Business School. Project title: Financial and regulatory impacts of changes in the use of Australian electricity networks. Total: $15,000


2015 Professor Flavio Menezes, Professor of Economics, School of Economics. Project title: Spatial competition in the Australian retail banking industry: what have we learned from the GFC and the pursuit of the four pillars policy? Total: $36,830

2015 Dr David Adamson, Senior Research Officer, School of Economics. Project title: The role of uncertainty in one-health? Total: $39,336
AIBE-SPONSORED EVENTS

CEDA Events
AIBE was national sponsor of a series of eight CEDA (Committee for Economic Development of Australia) Economic Outlook events held in Brisbane, Adelaide, Hobart, Melbourne, Perth, Townsville, Sydney and Darwin. This profile generated valuable contacts, potential partnerships and research projects.

AIBE networking events
AIBE organised a series of events in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra to showcase AIBE to potential partners, UQ Alumni and existing AIBE partners.

ANZ AIBE report launches
AIBE and ANZ Banking Group toured Brisbane, Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne with the jointly-produced Servicing Australia’s Future report.

Gender Equality Workshop
The two day ‘Women in Leadership’ conference, held in November 2015, was a landmark occasion to address the issue of gender equality and women in leadership. The AIBE-sponsored conference led to the formation of a national body to progress gender equality in the workplace in Australia. Organisations represented at the workshop included: Women in Super, Australian Women Lawyers, Women in Engineering, Chief Executive Women, Women in Mining and Resources.

Ideas at Work
AIBE sponsored keynote speaker – Professor Jacqueline Coyle-Shapiro, Professor in Organisational Behaviour in the Department of Management at the London School of Economics and Political Science – at the ‘Ideas at Work’ event.

Human Resources International Conference
AIBE sponsored the ‘Human Resources International Conference’ in Sydney, February 2016.

CEPA (Centre for Efficiency and Productivity Analysis)
UQ School of Economics and AIBE Joint Workshop on Advances in Economic Measurement
A two-day workshop on advances in economic measurement brought together leading economic scholars, professional economists, early career researchers and graduate students interested in learning new methods and techniques to economically measure efficiency and productivity.

Gender Equality Workshop

Ideas at Work
Professor Jacqueline Coyle-Shapiro, Professor in Organisational Behaviour in the Department of Management at the London School of Economics and Political Science was a keynote speaker at the ‘Ideas at Work’ event hosted by the NSW industrial Relations Commission and co-sponsored by AIBE in Sydney in November 2015. The event explored the topic: What is the future role of law in the Australian workplace?

Professor John Kelly, Professor of Industrial Relations, Department of Management at Birkbeck College, University of London, visited UQ in March 2015 and participated in the Employee Voice and Value Forum, sponsored by AIBE. The forum brought together academics and practitioners to discuss employee voice and its value to business.

Professor Kim Hoque, Professor of Human Resource Management at the Warwick Business School, visited UQ in June 2015. Professor Hoque was keynote speaker at the President’s Forum hosted by the NSW Industrial Relations Commission and co-sponsored by AIBE in Sydney.

AIBE SPONSORED VISITING SCHOLARS

AIBE HONORARY FELLOWS

- **Professor Vani K. Borooah** (2014)
  Vani is Emeritus Professor of Applied Economics at the University of Ulster, Northern Ireland, and an Adjunct Professor at the Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, India. He is a Member and Secretary of the Royal Irish Academy.

- **Peter Farrell** (2015)
  Peter is the Founder and Chairman of Biotech company ResMed, a global manufacturer of products for the treatment of sleep disorders. ResMed employs more than 4000 people, with facilities in Australia, France, Singapore and the US.

- **Professor Ian Harper** (2015)
  Ian is one of Australia’s best known economists. He is a member of the Australian Advisory Board of Bank of America and Merrill Lynch. He was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia in 2000 and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors in 2009.
AIBE Honorary Fellows are outstanding researchers, business leaders and public servants who have achieved national or international prominence. While not assigned to any specific research project, honorary fellows perform the role of AIBE ambassadors, and actively promote the interests of UQ and the institute.

**Stephen Cartwright (2015)**
Stephan is CEO of the NSW Business Chamber – the peak business organisation in NSW. He is also CEO of Australian Business Solutions Group, and Chairman of Australian Business Lawyers.

**Helen Conway (2015)**
Helen has 30 years’ experience in business and the public sector. She was a partner in a major Sydney law firm and has worked as a senior executive in the insurance, transport, energy, retail and construction industries for 18 years.

**Philip Noble (2014)**
Philip is CEO of the Queensland Treasury Corporation. He has 26 years’ experience in financial markets, treasury and risk management, government priorities and borrowing requirements.

**Professor Stephen Deery (2015)**
Stephen is a Professor of Human Resource Management. His principal research is in the areas of organisational performance and employee turnover. His research has been published in leading journals. He was also Editor-in-Chief of Human Relations.

**Joanne Gray (2015)**
Joanne is the Editor of the Australian Financial Review (AFR) BOSS magazine. She has extensive experience as an editor and was a Washington correspondent. Joanne holds an MBA from the Melbourne Business School and a BEc LLB from The University of Sydney.

**Dr Peter Higgs (2015)**
Peter is an economist by training and has extensive international experience in funds management. He is the Executive Chairman of TGM and a non-Executive Director of Queensland European Investment Services Ltd.

**Michele Levine (2015)**
Michele is the CEO of Roy Morgan Research, and has more than 30 years’ experience as a researcher. She was instrumental in developing and refining Roy Morgan Single Source and the Roy Morgan Business Survey in global markets.

**Philip Forrest (2015)**
Philip is a non-executive director of seven companies in south-east Asia. He was previously Asia Head for ANZ Bank, with responsibility for activities in 11 countries. He also spent 15 years with Citibank in five countries.

**Ross Gittins (2015)**
Ross is an economics editor of the Sydney Morning Herald and an economic columnist for The Age. His books include Gittins’ Guide to Economics, Gittinomics and The Happy Economist. Ross was made a Member of the Order of Australia in 2008 for his service to journalism.

**Joanne Gray (2015)**
Joanne is the Editor of the Australian Financial Review (AFR) BOSS magazine. She has extensive experience as an editor and was a Washington correspondent. Joanne holds an MBA from the Melbourne Business School and a BEc LLB from The University of Sydney.

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Chris Roberts (2015)
Chris was previously CEO of global biotechnology company Cochlear Limited. He is also the Director of ResMed, and was the Chairman of Research Australia, working in the medical device industry for more than 35 years.

Michael Roche (2015)
Michael is Chief Executive of the Queensland Resources Council. He has held executive management roles with the Australian Stock Exchange in Sydney, including as Executive General Manager of ASX’s markets and market data businesses.

Paul Willman (2015)
Paul is a Professor of Management at the London School of Economics. He is also the Director of the Private Wealth Programme at Oxford University, a Council Member of the UK Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

Ian Jackson (2016)
Ian started his IT career with IBM in Brisbane. He has held senior industry positions including Managing Director of Logica Australia, Managing Director of Logica Finance (UK) and Managing Director of Cap Gemini Global Finance Sector. Most recently, he participated as both an investor and non-executive director in successful technology start-up companies servicing the finance sector.

Alec Bashinsky (2016)
Alec Bashinsky has more than 30 years’ experience in global talent transformation and innovation in professional services, technology and retail sectors. As CHRO Australia and Asia Pacific Regional Talent Leader for Deloitte, Alec is responsible for driving a high-performance culture, building leadership capability and embedding organisational culture and employee engagement.

Malcolm Snow (2016)
Malcolm Snow is a leading Australian urban designer acknowledged for the breadth of his place design and urban development experience as well as his advocacy for creating better cities. In 2014 he was appointed CEO of the National Capital Authority. Previous roles include: director of international consulting firm Urbis, CEO of South Bank Corporation in Brisbane and Head of Design for the City of Melbourne.

Barry Thomas (2016)
Barry is Cook Medical Vice President, Director of Cook Medical Asia Pacific and Managing Director of Cook Australia. He has more than 20 years’ international leadership and expertise in the medical device and pharmaceutical industries.
AIBE RESEARCH FELLOWS

Senior Research Fellows
Professor John Mangan
Professor Neal Ashkanasy
Professor Stephen Gray
Professor Flavio Menezes
Professor Robert Faff
Professor John Quiggin
Professor Karen Benson
Associate Professor John Steen
Associate Professor Martie-Louise Verreyne
Associate Professor Valentin Zelenyuk
Associate Professor Tim Kastelle

Research Fellows
Dr Paul Harpur
Dr Terrance Fitzsimmons
Dr Jacquelyn Humphrey
Dr Jerad Ford
Dr Mamiza Haq
Dr Richard Robinson

Postdoctoral Research Fellows
Dr Rand Low
Dr Shabbir Ahmad
Dr David Adamson
AIBE RELATED PUBLICATIONS

AIBE Director Publications

Books


Book Chapters


Refereed Articles


Guest editor - special issues and symposiums

Professional journal articles

‘Should HR give it away?’, HR Monthly, Australian Human Resources Institute, December, 2015, p.12.

Newspaper, Media Articles and Blogs

AIBE Publications

Brea, E., Chan, R., Harpur, P., Verreyne, M-L., Organisation culture of Australian microbusinesses and the impact of the award system: A Literature Review The University of Queensland, Faculty of Business, Economics and Law, Brisbane 2015.


Harpur, Paul, Multi-National Enterprises and Corporate Social Responsibility in Fiji and Pacific Island Countries: Disability and Gender Equality (September 15, 2015).


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