

2019 AARES Distinguished Fellow

Professor Frank Scrimgeour



Frank Scrimgeour has made sustained contributions to research, teaching, research-based policy development, and academic leadership during his thirty years at the University of Waikato. His contributions range across all of the fields relevant to AARES, encompassing agricultural economics, environmental economics, food economics, resource economics and agribusiness.

After completing a BAgSc with first class honours at Lincoln College in 1978, Frank worked for the New Zealand Meat and Wool Board Economic Service and then the Christian Leaders Training College in Papua New Guinea. He completed a PhD in agricultural and resource economics at University of Hawaii.

He joined the University of Waikato in 1989, progressing to Professor of Environmental Economics in 2004, and Dean of the Waikato Management School in 2008 through to 2013. Currently he is Professor of Economics and Head of the School of Accounting, Finance, and Economics. Under Frank's leadership, in 2018 the economics staff at the University of Waikato achieved the highest average rating of any New Zealand university.

Frank has published one book, 62 journal articles, 17 book chapters, and numerous reports for the New Zealand government, local governments, industry and non-government organisations. He has supervised 27 Doctorate and MPhil students, and 38 research Masters students. Particularly notable are Frank's supervision of Maori and Pacific Island doctoral and Masters students, two of whom have gone on to have sustained research careers, and his work with local Maori Iwi.

Frank has made major contributions to AARES, including as a Federal Council member, symposium organiser, conference organiser, and Editor in Chief of the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics (2017-2019). In addition, he has contributed just as much to the New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society – for which he has served four terms as President – and the New Zealand Association of Economists.