

2021 AARES Distinguished Fellow

Associate Professor Michael Burton



Michael is a celebrated author of high-impact scholarly articles covering non-market valuation (particularly choice modelling), consumer demand analysis, environmental economics, bioeconomic modelling, and agricultural economics. He currently holds the position of Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Western Australia.

Michael Burton has published 125 research articles in refereed journals. He has been awarded two important prizes by AARES: most outstanding paper published in AJARE (2003), and Quality of Research Communication for his co-authored work published in AJARE in 2014. Internationally, he was awarded Best Paper in the European Review of Agricultural Economics (2010), and he won the Prize Essay Competition of the Agricultural Economics Society (UK) in 1982. A particularly notable achievement was being selected in 2001 for inclusion in 100 seminal papers from 100 years of the Oxford University Press. The influence of his work is also evidenced by his 7000+ citations and a Google Scholar H-index of 41. He has led and holds multiple grants from a wide variety of sources, including the ARC and ACIAR. He has also undertaken multiple projects for state and national governments, especially relating to resource management. He continues to collaborate on the UK's Enigma project (circa \$100M+) that seeks to reduce the incidence of *Campylobacter*, the most common bacterial cause of diarrheal disease in the developed world. This work draws on multiple disciplines and engages directly with policy communities.

Michael has been an active member of AARES for more than 2 decades. He has been a very regular AARES conference attendee, a frequent author of AJARE papers, and a regular reviewer for AJARE. He has made exceptional contributions to the organisation of AARES national conferences in 2003, 2012 and 2020. In each case, although Michael was not the chair of the LOC, his contribution was at least as great as the chair's. In the 2020 conference, he took on great responsibility, effectively being the trouble shooter in the organisational phase and during the conference itself. For decades he has been part of the core team responsible for the AARES WA branch, one of the more active branches of the Society. He has been Treasurer of AARES WA for most years since 2002. Other office bearers who come and go rely on Michael for his depth and continuity of knowledge of the Society's activities in WA. In 2014 he initiated ARE at UWA, the YouTube channel that hosts recordings of the joint AARES WA/ARE seminar series, and he has co-managed it since then. The channel now holds 132 seminars. For several years he has been the co-organiser of the AARES WA annual conference, an initiative designed to give ECRs an additional opportunity to present and network

Michael is an exceptionally generous senior academic, who is always willing to provide advice and support to his junior colleagues and students, even those who he does not formally supervise. He has supervised or is supervising 21 PhD students and nine masters students at UWA and has informally mentored dozens more. A defining feature of his mentorship is his co-authorship with early career researchers. This has directly led to a sustained flow of early career participation in AARES conferences and other events. On more than one occasion, an entire session at the AARES conference has comprised co-authored works by Michael and an early career presenter. Many of the early career professionals mentored by Michael, have subsequently assumed active roles in AARES at state and national levels which is testament to his contribution to the development of AARES.