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## A Word from the President

One highlight of serving as AARES President is the opportunity to attend and present at the Chinese Agricultural Economics Review / International Food Policy Research Institute (CAER-IFPRI) Annual Research Conference. This year was the 17th meeting and I had the privilege to participate in a Roundtable on “Interdisciplinary solutions for sustainable agri-rural transformation” and provide a discussion and review in early career research presentation sessions. The visit provided a nice opportunity to gain perspective on fast changing technology, policy and research in China. As well, the visit presented an opportunity to serve AARES by deepening international networks in China including with the substantial agricultural economics capacity at Chinese universities including hosts China Agricultural University. The time in China also presented an opportunity for considerable discussions on how to develop long term initiatives that can strengthen AARES engagement and membership in China and other parts of Asia. One thing I look forward to in the last quarter of my period as president is developing some deeper AARES east Asian engagement with Yu Sheng and Moyu Gao, leaders in AARES East Asia branch who I had the privilege to get to know better on my CAER-IFPRI Beijing visit.

**Jeff Connor**  
AARES President



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**Upcoming Opportunities with AARES**

## **A Three-Part Online Writing Workshop Series for AARES Members**

AARES is providing a comprehensive three-session workshop series to its members. Delivered by Jason Downs from On The Reg, the workshop series is designed to enhance the writing skills of researchers across agricultural and resource economics.

While Session 1 (Writing Logically Connected Sentences) is complete, there's still time to register for Sessions 2 (Powerful Introductions and Conclusions (**19 Nov 9.30-11am AWST**) and 3 (AI-Enhanced Academic Writing (**27 Nov 9.30-11am AWST**)).

[Click here for more information and to register for Sessions 2 and 3.](#)

## **Call for Expressions of Interest: AJARE 2027-2029 Editorship**

The current editorial team of David Stern, Johannes Sauer and Yu Sheng will complete their term as editors for AJARE in 2027. AARES seeks Expressions of Interest from individuals or teams for the next three-year term of Editorship of AJARE.

Submissions must include the following:

- List of all members of proposed Editorial Team, including prefix, full name and email address.
- Approximately 150 word statement that briefly explains the motivation of the proposed team and a brief vision for AJARE over the 2027-2029 period.
- CVs for all members of the proposed Editorial Team.

Submissions are due **21 November 2025** and should be made [via email to the AARES Central Office Manager.](#)

## **Building an AARES Inventory of Internships**

Does your organisation offer internships, and are you looking to recruit in 2026? In alignment with the AARES Strategic Plan, we are looking to create an inventory of internship opportunities for AARES Early Career Researchers and Early Career Professionals, which will be promoted in upcoming issues of News & Views.

Please share any opportunities you may wish to have promoted via email to the AARES Central Office Manager.

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## AJARE Update

All AARES members should have recently received their second email alert with the contents of the most recent AJARE issue – 69:4 – which includes 14 regular articles, a book review, and the announcements of the 2022 and 2023 AARES awards. We have now completed publishing the backlog of announcements. In Volume 69, as a whole, we published 55 regular articles, 3 opinion pieces, 3 book reviews, 2 obituaries, and 17 announcements. This the largest number of articles published in a year since 2019. The lead article is: “Can Oil Windfalls Decrease Fiscal Accountability? Evidence From No-Term-Limit Regimes” by Ohad Raveh. We are now working on choosing articles for this year’s best paper awards to be announced at the 2026 AARES Conference in Adelaide.

**David Stern**  
AJARE Editor

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## AARES 2026 Conference Update

Registrations are now open for the 70th Annual AARES Conference in Adelaide! The conference will take place 11-13 February 2026 with Early Career Professionals Day 9 February 2026 and Pre-conference workshops 10 Feb 2026. Early Bird Rates will be available until 31 December 2025. Presenters of accepted papers must be registered by 31 December 2025.

The Local Organising Committee is pleased to announce the conference Keynote Speakers:

**Ken Henry**, Chair of the Nature Finance Council, the Australian Climate and Biodiversity Foundation and Wildlife Recovery Australia, and a non-executive director of Accounting for Nature Ltd and the Digital Finance CRC

**Moriah Bostian**, Endowed Prof. of Economics, Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR, USA

**Nazmun N Ratna**, Associate Professor, Lincoln University

**Salomón Salcedo**, Senior International Consultant in Agricultural and Food Economics

**Tim Nelson**, Associate Professor, Griffith University

**Danielle Wood**, Chair, Productivity Commission

**Rick Llewellyn**, Senior Principal Research Scientist, CSIRO Agriculture & Food, SA



The conference will feature a number of Special Sessions, social events, and pre-conference tours and workshops, including the **AARES 2026 Early Career Economics Research Workshop (ECREW)**.

Back by popular demand! The ECREW is an opportunity for early career agricultural, environmental and resource economics scholars to interact with highly experienced mid and senior career peers. An early career is defined as a student, or someone up to 5 or so years out of their degree.

The workshop will take place on Monday 9 February (two days prior to AARES 2026). The day will include presentations by senior and emerging leaders in agricultural economics from Australia and internationally. In addition, early career

researchers who participate in this event will have an opportunity to share their research with an experienced mentor.

#### *Preliminary Program*

Thematic presentations by experienced researchers, including panels on the following: getting published; influencing policy with research; getting grants; collaborating with industry and government; communicating economics; and work / life balance. The workshop will also include catered lunch, mentor/mentee “Speed dating” sessions, and a drinks and canapes reception.



**Sarah Wheeler**

Chair, Local Organising Committee  
AARES2026

## Branch Updates

### **South Australia Branch**

The SA AARES Branch recently partnered with the Women in Economics Network SA to host the **WEN x AARES Doctoral Research Mixer**, sponsored by BDO Australia. The energy in the room was fantastic as doctoral researchers, academics, and professionals came together for an evening of lively discussion and connection.

Hosted by Abbie Dix and Jasmine Douglas, four female PhD candidates shared

their research, sparking curiosity and conversation. Siqi Huang shared insights into how farmers in North China are adapting to climate change through water conservation practices. Sophie Lountain introduced her work on developing a measurement scale for women's empowerment in developing settings. Elizabeth Damoah explored Indigenous perspectives on wellbeing, and Mimi Salminah challenged us to think about how information and social norms can drive support for biodiversity restoration.

It was inspiring to see the exchange of ideas and the genuine interest in supporting emerging researchers.





**Sophie Lountain**  
SA AARES

## **Western Australia Branch**

Our recent AARES WA Environmental Policy Lecture featuring Professor Hugh Possingham was a tremendous success! On Tuesday 16 September, 120 attendees joined us for an engaging discussion on achieving real impact in conservation and environmental research.

Professor Possingham, Co-Chief Councillor of the Biodiversity Council and former Chief Scientist at The Nature Conservancy, shared compelling stories of both successes and failures in striving for impact. Drawing from his extensive experience—including co-developing Marxan (used in over 5,000 conservation plans worldwide). Hugh provided invaluable insights on rigorous Theory of Change thinking for not-for-profits, universities, and NGOs.

Missed the lecture? [Watch the full recording on the WA AARES YouTube channel.](#)

**Matthew Navarro**  
WA AARES

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## An AARES Blast from the Past

Curious about AARES breaking news from 1997? Whilst spring cleaning his office, David Pannell came across AARES News & Views Vol 9.1. [Read it here!](#)

## Updates from AARES Travel Award Winners

### Reflections from the AARES Heading North Award Winner

Receiving the AARES Heading North Award and presenting my research at the Spanish Association of Agri-food Economics (AEEA) Conference in Granada, Spain, was a truly transformative experience in my early academic journey. As a PhD scholar, this opportunity allowed me to share my work on a global stage and engage with leading scholars in agricultural and resource economics. A particularly memorable moment was the opening address by a representative of the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, who spoke passionately about the urgent challenges facing agri-food systems today. He emphasised the need for collaborative, science-based solutions to address climate change, food insecurity, and sustainability. His remarks underscored the importance of international cooperation and innovation in shaping resilient food systems that serve both people and the planet.

In addition to the special session, I attended several thematic panels focused on agricultural economics, food marketing, value chain dynamics, and policy innovation. These sessions provided rich insights into how economic research and evidence-based policymaking can address the evolving challenges of agri-food systems. Discussions on digital transformation, sustainability assessment, and inclusive value chain development were particularly relevant to my research and offered new perspectives to integrate into my work.

One of the most enriching aspects of the conference was the opportunity to meet and interact with researchers, policymakers, and young researchers from across the

world. These exchanges helped me understand the diverse approaches being taken to strengthen agri-food systems globally. I gained valuable feedback on my research and learned about innovative policy frameworks and market strategies being implemented in different regions. These conversations have broadened my perspective and inspired new directions for my future work.

I'm deeply grateful to AARES for supporting my participation. This recognition has boosted my confidence and reaffirmed the importance of pursuing research that is both academically rigorous and socially impactful. It's a reminder of how international engagement can enrich our perspectives and strengthen our commitment to solving global challenges.



**Saima Rani**  
QLD Branch

**Federal Executive**

**Jeff Connor**

President

**Emilio Morales**

President Elect

**Sorada Tapsuwan**

Past President

**Helena Clayton**

Secretary

**Ram Pandit**

Treasurer

**Steele West**

Promotions & Development

**Tim Capon**

Investment Committee

**David Stern**

AJARE Editor

**Claire Doll**

News & Views Editor

**Branch Councillors**

ACT **Tim Capon**

East Asia **Yu Sheng**

NE **Oscar Cacho**

NSW **Michael Harris**

NZ **Peter Tozer**

NA **Daniel Scheitrum**

VIC **Nick Tsaktsiras**

SA **Bethany Cooper**

WA **Claire Doll**

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**Lyn Spiteri**

Central Office Manager

**Tara Cashman**

Conference Coordinator