



AARES Federal Council Members

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A word from the President

Dear AARES members

This year continues to be a year of upheaval for us all, albeit we are doing our best for members to stay connected virtually as much as possible.

NZARES ran a successful national 2020 conference online at the end of August, and it was an honour for me to present the closing keynote speech.



Associate Professor Paul Burke (Australian National University) and **Dr Rohan Best** (Macquarie University) gave a Federal AARES webinar in October titled: The effect of carbon pricing on emissions: evidence from an international study, which is available to view on our website.

In addition, the annual AARES conference will go online in 2021. The Sydney Local Organising Committee (LOC) made this decision after much deliberation. To inform this decision, we ran a short survey of AARES members. Many thanks to the 137 AARES members who answered the survey and provided feedback so quickly. The responses to the survey are presented below.

The feedback from members was pivotal for the LOC and the AARES Federal Council in making decisions about the 2021 AARES Conference. Very broadly, the Sydney LOC decided to pursue the following for next year:

- The AARES 2021 conference will be held virtually, via an online platform over the period 8-12 February, 2021.
- All efforts will be made for the conference registration to be

free to financial members of AARES for 2021.

- All - or at least most - sessions be live streamed sessions for improved participation and interaction.
- An in-person event will be organised in Sydney for one afternoon session on 10th February that will include a keynote address and the awards ceremony. Local AARES branches are encouraged if they wish, and are able to, to organise their own branch-based events during this same time.
- Members are encouraged to propose mini-symposia / thematic sessions that may be suited for online delivery.

AARES Federal Council will seek to introduce a hardship program that will allow some complimentary memberships for 2021 for those members who have been hard hit by the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic. The exact extent of this will be determined by conference sponsorship and other cost factors, and various scenarios are being developed. The LOC and the Council are working hard to deliver a great conference to the benefit of members, despite the challenges posed by the pandemic.

All the best, Sarah Ann Wheeler

Results of the 2021 AARES Conference Survey of Members (n = 137)

1. Do you support moving AARES 2021 to an online format?

- Yes 83%
- No 11%
- Other 6%

2. If AARES 2021 goes online, will you attend?

- Yes 63%
- No 7%
- Unsure 26%
- Other 5%

3. If AARES 2021 goes online, will you submit a contributed paper?

- Yes 34%
- No 27%
- Unsure 34%
- Other 5%

4. If AARES 2021 is to be moved online, would you attend what type of sessions:

- Most sessions 31%
- Mostly only the invited speakers/ keynote sessions 15%
- Mostly only the contributed paper sessions 4%
- Only the sessions that are directly relevant or where you might be presenting 40%
- Other 11%

5. If AARES 2021 was to be moved online, what is your format preference?

- Standard conference over 3 full days online 15%
- Standard conference of 5 days part-time with morning/evening sessions to better facilitate attendance from US/Europe 43%
- Shortened conference over 3 days online and on one of those days have state based hubs and local presentations 29%
- Other 12%

6. If AARES 2021 goes online, what would your preference be for networking events?

- Attend networking events virtually 21%
- Not attend a networking event 38%
- Have a physical event at each state branch level 33%
- Other 8%

7. Do you support the temporary introduction of a 'hardship program' for AARES membership renewal, where - subject to a total cap and various conditions yet to be decided - AARES members can have their membership fee waived in 2021?

- Yes for anyone who needs it 54%
- Yes for ECRs and students only 24%
- No 12%
- Other 10%

AARES Western Australia (WA) Branch Conference

The AARES WA Branch held a mini-conference on September 30, 2020 on the University of Western Australia campus. We were fortunate that the current COVID-19 environment in Perth allowed for an



in-person gathering to reconnect after many months of online events.

For this year's conference, the AARES WA Council empowered Early Career Researchers (ECRs) to take on planning and hosting responsibilities. The result was a day for ECRs, run by ECRs, allowing for skills development and feedback on various stages of PhD research.

The day began with a keynote that was shared with all AARES members. **Dr. Patrick Lloyd-Smith**, Assistant

Professor of Water and Resource Economics in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Saskatchewan, presented on "Comprehensive Recreation Demand Modelling". The presentation highlighted recent innovations and future directions for travel cost and recreation demand models. He left ECRs with the following advice:

"The lines between academic and non-academic research are becoming increasingly blurred. Throughout the PhD experience, we develop skills that are applicable to both streams, which is a source of reassurance as we enter into the job market. Looking forward, it is important to reflect on how we work best, and develop systems to enable these environments so that we can be successful."

AARES WA President, **Dr. Fay Rola-Rubzen**, offered inspirational words about the energy and enthusiasm of ECRs, highlighting the value of having ECRs work together to contribute to the AARES community. The day proceeded with 13 presentations from ECRs on a diverse range of agricultural and environmental economics topics. These ranged from research proposals to preliminary results and polished 'job market' papers. Those with papers prepared also received detailed feedback from faculty reviewers. The sessions allowed for productive conversations and insightful feedback from other ECRs and senior academics in the field.



 New Zealand Agricultural &
NZARES Resource Economics Society (Inc.)

We look forward to continuing to grow the event in the future!

Report from Claire Doll AARES ECR Council member and PhD Student, Forrest Research Foundation Scholar

The NZARES 2020 Conference went ‘To 2050 and beyond’

The first ever New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (NZARES) virtual conference was held on August 26-28, 2020 and attracted a record number of participants and contributed papers.

The conference, sponsored by the Ministry for Primary Industries, was held virtually over Zoom due to the disruption of COVID-19. The online conference drew more interest than the committee anticipated, with close 140 registrations. All sessions were recorded (one advantage of an online conference) and can be viewed [here](#).

A panel on the economic impacts of COVID-19 opened the conference, covering the impacts on New Zealand’s primary sectors and supply chains during lockdown and presenting a case study of the impacts on Kaikōura, as a tourism dominated area.

The conference held five contributed paper sessions over the three days, with close to 40 paper presentations from across New Zealand, Australia and other overseas countries.

Cameron Birchall was awarded the NZARES First Time Presenter Award for his presentation on externalities, regulation and lobbying in a fishery. The Best Paper Award was awarded to **Tarek Soliman** for his paper on valuing the impact of soil erosion on productivity. **Lydia Farrell** received the NZARES Post-graduate Award.

Ramilan Thiagarajah began his term as President of NZARES and **Nazmun Ratna**

joined the committee as President-elect, with **Meike Guenther** also new to the committee this year.

On the final day of the conference, three regional hubs were held to facilitate in-person interaction among small groups of people while attending the online conference. The Agribusiness and Economic Research Unit at Lincoln University kindly covered the catering costs for the regional hub event held there.

The final day included a panel on water reform covering the Essential Freshwater Action for Healthy Waterways that was released by the New Zealand Government early this year.

Catherine Leining from the New Zealand Climate Change Commission provided her insight into New Zealand’s transition to a low-emissions economy and the challenges ahead.

Sarah Wheeler, President of the Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society closed the conference with her talk on water markets in Australia covering stakeholder participation, benefits and market failures.

The online conference was well received with positive feedback from participants, particularly on its successful digital delivery and regional hubs. It has opened up the option to hold online conferences in future, particularly if disruptions from COVID-19 continue.

Report from Rachael Davidson, NZARES Secretary

Introducing the NZARES committee for 2020-2021

Meet the President ...



President of NZARES this year is **Dr Ramilan Thiagarajah**, a senior lecturer in Agribusiness, programme leader for Agribusiness Value Chains courses at Massey University, New Zealand. Ramilan's areas of research include environmental policy, climate change and development agriculture. Besides New Zealand, he has worked in South Asia, East Asia, Africa and Australia. He was an international scientist at CGIAR, a global partnership that unites international organisations engaged in research about food security. He is currently a senior Honorary fellow at the University of Melbourne. Ramilan enjoys playing pickleball¹ and watching movies.

... and Office Bearers

President-Elect **Nazmun N Ratna** is a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Agribusiness and Commerce, Lincoln University. Nazmun is a Development Economist and has dedicated much of her recent time to research the food security-gender nexus in South Asia (Bangladesh, Nepal, and India), Southeast Asia (Vietnam), and Africa (Nigeria and Malawi).

Past-President **Dr Anita Wreford** is an Associate Professor in the Agribusiness and Economics Research Unit at Lincoln University. She was the NZARES president during 2019/2020. Anita works primarily on adaptation to climate change in the primary sector, particularly around approaches to decision-making under uncertainty.

Treasurer **Dr Yvonne Matthews** is an economist currently working for the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research or NIWA (Māori: Taihoro Nukurangi), a Crown Research Institute of New Zealand. Her research interests include choice analysis and modelling environmental policy impacts.

Rachael Davidson is the NZARES Secretary and is now in her third year on the committee. Rachael is a Senior Policy Analyst for Biosecurity at the Ministry for Primary Industries and also has experience in environmental economics from her previous role as a dairy industry economist.

AARES Branch Councillor **Zack Dörner** is a Lecturer in Environmental Economics at the University of Waikato. He works primarily on pro-environmental behaviours and environmental policy and is now in his second year on the committee.

¹ Note from the editor: Pickleball is apparently one of the fastest growing sports and is a cross between tennis, badminton and table tennis. See <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-10-06/pickleball-the-biggest-sport-youve-never-heard-of/10291784>

... and the other hard working Committee members

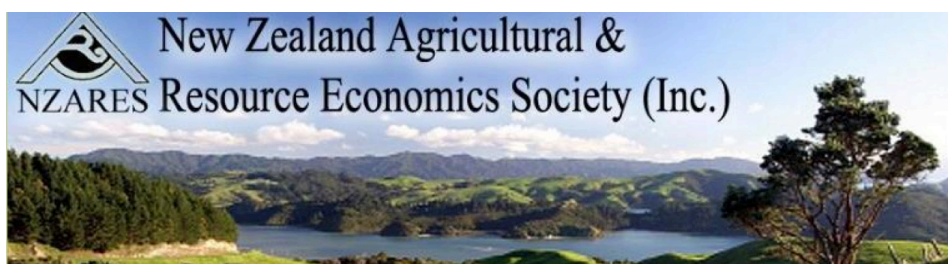
Committee Member **Femi Olubode-Awosola** is an Economist in the Science and Strategy Directorate of the Waikato Regional Council. He works on a number projects that support the regional plan and policy development and researching on freshwater ecosystem services in the region. He's now in his second year on the committee.

Darran Austin is a Principal Advisor at the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries. His work to date has focussed on environmental policy in agriculture, freshwater and climate change.

Tony Schischka is a Senior Policy Analyst at the Ministry for Primary Industries. Tony was President of NZARES in 2018-19.

Ivan Luketina was recently appointed Special Advisor in the New Zealand Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Prior to that he was a Principal Policy Advisor at the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries. He has worked on policy and economic analysis for freshwater reforms, climate change and Emissions Trading Scheme reform and forestry.

Meike Guenther is a Research Officer at the Agribusiness and Economics Research Unit at Lincoln University, New Zealand. Her primary interest is agricultural trade and on regional economic development, but she also has experience in consumer surveying and market watch. Meike is now in her first year on the committee.



Compiled by Zack Dorner, AARES Branch Councillor

PhD job market webinar

The American Economic Association (AEA) recently hosted a webinar on the job market for new Ph.D. economists. The webinar shared information about the structure and timeline of the US job market for new economics Ph.D.s, and was intended to help job market candidates in 2020-21 as well as their advisors and placement committees. The webinar included an interesting Q&A session with:

- Aditya Aladangady, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve
- John Cawley, Cornell University
- Matthew Gentzkow, Stanford University
- Brooke Helpie-McFall, University of Michigan
- Elisabeth "Bitsy" Perlman, U.S. Census Bureau
- Peter Rousseau, Vanderbilt University and Secretary-Treasurer of the AEA



- Max Schmeiser, Head of Data Science at Twitter
- Wendy Stock, Montana State University
- Omari Swinton, Chair of the Economics Department at Howard University.

The pre-recorded video and the link to the live webinar is available in two parts at

- Part I (Asynchronous): [Recorded video providing information on the job market timeline, institutions, etc.](#)
- Part II (Synchronous): [Recorded video of the Live Q&A held on Wednesday, September 2, 2020.](#)

Calls for travel awards

AARES-AAEA Heading South Award 2021

This award provides early career agricultural and resource economists with opportunities for professional and personal development and international professional and cultural exchange. Jointly offered by AARES and the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Trust, this award facilitates the attendance of one AAEA or AARES member normally resident in North America at the AARES Annual Conference in February the following year.

Amount of the award

AARES will provide a grant of US \$1,500 to substantially reimburse the winner for conference registration, attending the Conference Dinner and other social events at the Conference, and accommodation for the duration of the conference. The AAEA will provide a further grant of US \$1,500 to substantially meet the costs of a return economy class airfare to the conference. As AARES 2021 will be primarily online, AAEA and AARES have approved the award to be carried over to AARES 2022.

Eligibility

This award is intended for agricultural and resource economists of all ages but in the early stages of their careers. Thus, stage of career, rather than age, is what defines an appropriate applicant. The Award is offered to members of AARES or AAEA who are resident in North America. Applications for the award should include:

- a paper for presentation at the AARES conference, for which applicants are sole or first author and which represent their original and unpublished work
- a one-page biographical statement
- a one-page statement in support of their application, indicating what they hope to accomplish through the award, why they would be deserving of the award, and whether they would be unable to attend the conference without this financial support.

Entries are to be submitted electronically to the AARES office (office@ares.org.au) and should include a short proposal addressing the selection criteria along with a copy of the entrant's CV which

includes a record of their publications. Applicants should identify how the award would facilitate interaction and cooperation between professionals in both countries.

Entries must be received by **15 November 2020**.

Selection criteria

- First consideration will be given to professionals early in their career and/or those for whom funding to attend the Conference would be difficult to obtain from other sources.
- Award recipients must present a paper at the Conference representing original work that has not been published in its current form. The paper will be judged on the quality of the research reported, its innovativeness, and the writing style.
- Preference will be given to papers that are on issues of relevance to both countries, and to those involving cross-jurisdictional comparisons, however, papers on any topic will be considered.
- Co-authored papers are acceptable although the award will normally be made to one, normally a more junior, author.

Other

The Travel Awards Committee is chaired by **Kate Fuller** (Montana State University) and also comprises:

- **Sarah Wheeler** (University of Adelaide)
- **Mariah Ehmke** (University of Wyoming)
- **Gavan Dwyer** (Marsden Jacobs).

Judging will be completed within two weeks of the closing date for entries and the winner will be advised as soon as possible by the chair of the selection committee. The award will be announced at the respective Conference Dinners and published in the AARES News and Views and other appropriate outlets. The level of the award will be reviewed by the AARES Council every second year.

AARES-NZARES Travelling West Award

AARES and NZARES offer travel awards to support the attendance of one New Zealand-based AARES member at the AARES conference in Australia in February each year to:

- facilitate contact and discussion among those studying the problems or extending knowledge of agricultural and resource economics in Australia and New Zealand
- stimulate comparative analysis and discussion of policies and programmes affecting primary industries, resources and the environment in both countries
- encourage co-operation with scientific and other organisations and institutions engaged in similar or related activities in Australia and New Zealand.

Award recipients must attend and present a paper at the conference.

Amount of Award

NZARES will provide a grant of NZ \$1,500 to substantially meet the costs of a return economy class airfare to Australia, accommodation for the duration of the conference, and attendance at other social events at the Conference. AARES will provide complimentary conference registration for the winner of this award and a complementary ticket to the conference dinner. As AARES 2021 will be primarily online, NZARES and AARES have approved the award to be carried over to AARES 2022.

Eligibility

Applicants must be members of AARES and normally resident in New Zealand.

Entries are to be submitted electronically to the AARES Central Office (office@aares.org.au) by **15 November 2020**. Applications should include:

- a paper for presentation at the relevant conference, representing their original and unpublished work
- a one-page biographical statement
- a one-page statement in support of their application, indicating what they would hope to accomplish through the award, and why they would be deserving of the award.

Selection criteria

- First consideration will be given to professionals early in their career and/or those for whom funding to attend the Conference would be difficult to obtain from other sources.
- Award recipients must present a paper at the Conference representing original work that has not been published in its current form. The paper will be judged on the quality of the research reported, its innovativeness, and the writing style.
- Preference will be given to papers that are on issues of relevance to both countries, and to those involving cross-jurisdictional comparisons, however, papers on any topic will be considered.
- Co-authored papers are acceptable although the award will normally be made to one, normally a more junior, author.

Other

The Travel Awards Committee is chaired by the President of NZARES, **Ramilan Thiagarajah** and also comprises:

- the President of AARES, **Sarah Wheeler**
- the AARES NZARES Branch Councillor, **Zack Dorner**
- the AARES regional representative on IAAE Council, **John Rolfe**.

Judging will be completed within two weeks of the closing date for entries and the winner will be advised as soon as possible by the chair of the selection committee. The award will be announced at the respective Conference Dinners and published in the AARES News and Views, NZARES News, and other appropriate outlets.

Opportunities knocking

University of Western Australia PhD Scholarships

Up to two PhD scholarships available to work on a new Australian Research Council (ARC) project called “Benefits and costs of non-market valuation methods for environmental management”. This is a broad-ranging project that encompasses environmental valuation of all types, benefit transfer, decision science and environmental policy. Successful applicants will be part of UWA’s Centre for Environmental Economics and Policy. Depending on the research topic, the team of supervisors will be drawn from **David Pannell**, **Abbie Rogers**, **Michael Burton** from UWA, **Sayed Iftekhhar** (Griffith University) and **Robert Johnston** (Clark University). More information is available [here](#). Applications are requested by **6 November**, but the position will remain open until filled.



Idaho Wheat Commission Endowed Chair in Commodity Risk Management

The University of Idaho Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology (AERS) seeks an exceptional individual to fill the position of Endowed Chair in Commodity Risk Management to support research, teaching, and outreach in agricultural risk management from “farm to fork”. The position is an academic year tenured appointment at the level of Associate or Full Professor.



The individual filling this position will have a tenure home in AERS and will be an affiliate faculty in the College of Business and Economics (CBE). S/he will provide leadership for the Agricultural Commodity Risk Management program in AERS and the Barker Capital Trading and Management program in CBE. The Endowed Chair will teach in support of undergraduate and graduate programs. The Endowed Chair will conduct rigorous research related to risks that arise throughout the agricultural supply chain: including but not limited to risks stemming from factors related to production, environment, price fluctuations, logistics and transportation, variable policies, labor, biosecurity, and food safety. It is expected that the research program will be supported by nationally competitive grants and the research results will be published in high quality journals.

In addition, the Endowed Chair will provide important outreach to regional stakeholders, including commodity groups, agribusinesses, producers, financial institutions, market participants and policy makers on agricultural and supply chain risk management strategies. Relative position responsibilities in the areas of teaching, research, outreach and service are negotiable upon hire.

The activities of the Endowed Chair will be supported by proceeds from an endowment established by the Idaho Wheat Commission.

Required qualifications are a Ph.D. in agricultural economics, economics, finance or a related field; strong evidence of an outstanding record of scholarly research in the area of risk management and agricultural or financial markets; and academic record of excellence sufficient to merit appointment at the rank of Associate or Full Professor with tenure at the University of Idaho. Preferred qualifications

include evidence of success at securing nationally competitive grant funding and evidence of excellent communications skills, particularly in communicating research findings to non-academic audiences.

Salary will be commensurate with the market, experience and the distinction of an Endowed Chair position.

Applications received by **16 November 2020** will receive first consideration. Along with your online application the application materials should include:

- a letter addressing your qualifications relative to the required and preferred qualifications for this position
- an up-to-date CV
- names and contact information for at least 3 references
- a copy of a research paper pertinent to this Endowed Chair position.

To apply go to: <https://uidaho.peopleadmin.com/postings/29650>

For questions please contact **Cathy A. Roheim** – Search Chair, croheim@uidaho.edu; or **Christopher McIntosh**, Chair AERS, mcintosh@uidaho.edu

PhD scholarship at the University of South Australia

A PhD scholarship opportunity is available at the University of South Australia to support a project to advance understanding of multiple environmental benefits from carbon payments for land management change. This is an opportunity for state-of-the-art training in integrated socio-economic environment systems computer modelling and applied economics to address urgent climate and environment issues.



The candidate will be highly integrated into a multidisciplinary team of economists, geographers, climate and agricultural scientists from two universities, and the New South Wales Department for Primary Industries Climate Change Research Strategy. The position features extensive opportunity for mentoring/networking through the globally, nationally recognised experts and institutions who are project collaborators. An exciting feature will be the opportunity to work actively in encouraging business innovation from the knowledge that the project creates working with the team at NSW DPI.

For more information contact **Professor Jeff Connor** at jeff.connor@unisa.edu.au. Applications close **11:30pm on 31 October 2020**.

PhD Scholarships at the Australian National University

An exciting opportunity exists for up to two four-year PhD scholarships, beginning in 2021, to be part of a five-year Australian Research Council (ARC) Laureate Program led by **Professor Quentin Grafton**. An attractive stipend of a minimum of \$28,092/year (tax free) is payable for each PhD scholar. In addition, there is a full offset for tuition fees and full-cost support for field-related research.



PhD scholars do not need to be from a particular discipline, but it would be an advantage to have training, experience or expertise in any of the following: environmental sciences, resource and environmental management, health/wellbeing, restoration ecology, anthropology, hydrology, geography, law, and economics, particularly if the expertise was grounded in Indigenous knowledge(s). The appointed scholars must be willing to undertake substantial field research within Australia and be highly motivated to work in an interdisciplinary team that focuses on water justice (see [Water Justice Hub](#)).

The overarching aim of the Laureate project is to develop pioneering ways of understanding and supporting water justice. Possible research associated with the scholarships include valuing water and supporting resilient decision-making.

The project has a research focus on water justice issues relevant to Indigenous Peoples, especially Australia's First Peoples and is developing collaborative co-research partnerships with First Peoples' organisations. The proposed Australian field sites include the Barwon-Darling Catchment, New South Wales and the Martuwarra-Fitzroy Basin, Western Australia.

Eligibility and application process

All suitably qualified students are welcome to apply, including international students. We especially encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to apply. Prospective students are asked to submit:

- Curriculum Vitae
- Relevant academic transcripts and, where relevant, [English Language test scores](#)
- Maximum two-page description of their own water-related research or justice-related research, their own broader research interests and experience, and any field-work experience
- Maximum two-page description of their suitability for a Laureate PhD scholarship including possible research questions they might like to investigate as part of their PhD thesis.

Scholarships remain open until filled but prospective candidates are asked to submit their application before **15 November 2020** to nhatmai.nguyen@anu.edu.au. Further information about the scholarships and the ARC Laureate Program is available [here](#) and from Quentin Grafton who can be contacted at quentin.grafton@anu.edu.au (please cc to nhatmai.nguyen@anu.edu.au).

The application is a two-stage process. Successful candidates must also separately apply for entry into [one of four PhD programs at the ANU Crawford School of Public Policy](#) with Professor Grafton nominated as the Chair of the supervisory panel (closing application date for commencement semester 1, 2021 is **31 October 2020** and for semester 2, 2021 are **10 March** and **12 May 2021**). A minimum requirement for entry into a PhD program at the ANU is an Honours degree, a Masters degree (if without an Honours degree) with a significant research/thesis component, or a combination of qualifications, research publications and/or professional experience related to the field of study (see ANU guidelines [here](#)).

The award is conditional on the successful students being accepted by the ANU into a suitable PhD program beginning in 2021 and the students being able to commence their PhD studies in 2021.



AARES 2021

AUSTRALASIAN AGRICULTURAL &
RESOURCE ECONOMICS SOCIETY

Final call for submissions for the 65th annual conference

The Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) 65th annual conference will take place **9-12 February 2021** (see <https://www.aares2021.org/>). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the 2021 conference will be held via online platform. Most sessions will be 'live' to allow interaction between presenters and participants, and recordings of sessions will be available for later viewing.

Contributions are invited that highlight the latest research and policy applications in agricultural, environmental, resource, ecological, energy, fisheries, food, agribusiness and development economics.

Contributors are encouraged to propose sessions in the Mini-Symposia / Thematic Sessions (MS/TS) format to maximise online attendance and interaction. These sessions will typically consist of 3-5 presentations on papers that are addressing similar topics followed by a panel discussion, or a general open floor discussion.

The Organising Committee will also accommodate Contributed Papers that are submitted individually, i.e. not linked to a MS/TS and will arrange them in Contributed Paper Sessions along specific topics.

Mini-Symposia / Thematic Sessions

Submissions for Mini-Symposia / Thematic Sessions (MS/TS) should be made by an individual organiser of that session. The proposals for should include: A title of the session, a brief (100-200 words) description of the topic of the session and its significance, names and affiliations of authors of individual presentations within the session, and 100 word abstracts of individual presentations.

Organisers should use the proposal template provided on the "Template for Mini-Symposia / Thematic Sessions" link on the [conference website](#). Proposals for MS/TS are to be submitted through a web link available on the conference website.

Organisers are encouraged to:

- include colleagues from government, industry or other disciplines as speakers and participants

- if appropriate, develop a series of papers that can become a special section or special issue in the *Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*
- promote their event, to help raise the profile of the conference and the Society.

Contributed Papers

Titles and extended abstracts (300-500 words) will be used to select contributed papers for inclusion in the program. Contributors must use the template provided on the “Template for Contributed Papers” link on the [conference website](#). Extended abstracts are to be submitted through a web link that will be made available on the conference website.

Presenters of contributed papers are encouraged to produce a full paper to support their presentation. Full papers can be uploaded to the conference website at any time before the conference. Abstracts and papers (if uploaded) of successful submissions will be made available to conference delegates. Full papers will be uploaded to the AgEcon Search website after the conference, unless authors request otherwise.

Each conference participant is only entitled to make one verbal presentation in the Contributed Papers Sessions. Note that there are no restrictions on co-authorship for contributed papers.

It is intended that Contributed Paper Sessions are assigned a discussant in addition to the Session Chair in order to ensure good feedback is provided to presenters.

A cash prize is available for the best first-time presenter at the AARES conference.

Key dates and processes

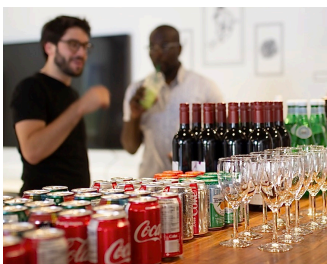
- The final date for submission of extended abstracts and proposals is **1 November**
- Authors will be advised of the success of their submission by **30 November**
- Online registrations open in **early December**
- All presenting authors must be registered for the Conference by **15 January 2021** or their paper will be removed from the program.





Missing conference networking?

Check our SpatialChat at Used at the 2020 European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE) conference, SpatialChat mimics natural social interactions far better than 'Zoom' style breakout rooms.



It's best to see a live demo, but here's the gist. You see a room with circles representing people in small groups, with each group talking

among themselves, and not audible to other groups - the volume heard from any other circle goes down with distance, just as in real life.

The circles contain video images of people for those who've turned their camera on, or just initials for those who haven't. A column on the right shows the names of all available rooms, the number of people currently in them, and the names of people in each room.

Rooms can be 'decorated' with furniture, plants, sponsor banners and logos, pink flamingos – it's totally up to the meeting organiser. Participants move (by dragging) their circle from



room to room, towards a group or individual that they want to talk to.

For more information, contact **Jack Pezzey** at jack.pezzey@anu.edu.au. Jack attended the EAERE meeting and experienced SpatialChat in action.

A new workspace

Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, Mixed Reality - technology is advancing rapidly. There is much work to do by developers, but the potential is immediately exciting. Will our internet connections stand up to it?



One example (among many) that facilitates collaborations with people from all over the world is by Spatial (not to be confused with SpatialChat). There is an easy to read users' review with a demo video [here](#).

A review of 10 VR meetings apps for small teams (10 or less) is at <https://immersive.ly/best-vr-apps-productive-remote-meetings/>.



Call for submissions for the 26th EAERE Annual Conference

The 26th Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE) is scheduled to be held in Berlin from 23 June to 26 June 2021.



EAERE | 30 YEARS
European Association
of Environmental and
Resource Economists

Conference organisers advise that due to the COVID-19 situation, a final decision has not been made on the format of the conference (face-to-face/digital/hybrid). The call for papers, submission, and referee process will be held as planned in any case.

IMPORTANT DATES

December 23, 2020

Submission deadline for proposals for policy sessions

January 15, 2021

Notification of acceptance for policy sessions

January 31, 2021

Submission deadlines for papers and thematic sessions

April 16, 2021

Notification of acceptance for papers and thematic sessions

May 10, 2021

Deadline by which authors must obtain the EAERE membership for inclusion in the programme

Proposals are now invited for the two types of pre-organised sessions at EAERE 2021:

1) Policy sessions aim to advance the use of environmental and resource economics to support policy-making and to provide a forum of exchange between policy-makers and academics. Sessions are expected to be of interest to a broad audience of research economists. They will typically be formatted as short presentations followed by panel/roundtable discussions. Papers are not required.

(2) Thematic sessions which aim to highlight current research on a subject in environmental and resource economics. Thematic sessions will consist of three to four papers connected by a unifying theme.

Two pre-conference workshops are planned:

- [Pre-conference Workshop: Beyond Coal - Designing Coal Phase-outs Across the Globe](#) (June 22-23, 2021)
- [Pre-conference Workshop: Validity of Stated Preference Environmental Valuation using Choice Modelling](#) (June 23, 2021).

More information about the conference is available on the conference website [here](#).

Comments, suggestions? Would you like to make a contribution to the next News and Views issue?

Please contact the News and Views Editor

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