1. **AARES President’s Column**

AARES President, Quentin Grafton, reports on the success of the recent 2017 Conference in Brisbane and flags some changes that were approved by the membership at the AGM, including the change of the Society’s name to the Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society as well as the expenditure of up to $60,000 on development and promotion of the Society over the coming year. Quentin’s full report can be read [here](#).

2. **2017 AARES Membership Renewals**

For those of you who have not yet renewed your AARES membership for 2017, you can go to the AARES website and pay online with Visa or Mastercard. Our membership fees have not changed since 2014!

We are also offering 3-year membership subscriptions for Ordinary and Emeritus members. If you wish to consider this option, please contact Annie Hurst to update your membership profile to enable you to pay online.

If you are over 60, not in full-time employment and have been a member of AARES for at least 10 years, you can qualify for Emeritus membership. If you would like to change your membership type to Emeritus, please contact Annie Hurst at the Central Office and she will make the necessary changes to your membership profile.

3. **AARES 2017 Annual Conference Report**

The AARES 2017 Conference at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre in Brisbane was a great success with over 280 delegates attending from over 20 countries. Further information on the AARES 2017 Conference is available [here](#).

**Conference Papers and Presentations**

AARES would like to make copies of the papers and presentations from the Conference available through the AgEcon Search website. If you presented a paper or poster at the AARES 2016 Conference and are willing to have this available to the general public, please email a copy of your submission(s) to Annie Hurst at office@aares.org.au before 31 March 2017.
If you do not wish to have your submissions made available, please advise Annie Hurst at office@aares.org.au. Unless we hear from you to the contrary, it will be assumed that all papers and presentations may be made available (in .pdf format) on the AgEcon Search website.

Media Report
The AARES Conference event attracted significant media attention due to the significant efforts of the Media Liaison Director, Cathy Reade who was sponsored by the Crawford Fund. A detailed account of the media activity is available here.

4. Minutes of 2017 Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 9 February 2017, business arising from the minutes of the last AGM, office bearer reports, awards, election of office bearers and other information can be found here.

Other reports tabled at the AGM include the following:

- President’s Report
- Manager Promotions & Development’s Report
- 2015-16 Audited Accounts
- Secretary’s Report
- AJARE Editors’ Report

5. AARES-AAEA Heading North award – Call for submissions

AARES and the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) are now inviting submissions for the 2017 Heading North Award to facilitate a member of AARES or the AAEA normally resident in Australia or New Zealand to participate in the 2017 Annual Meeting of AAEA to be held in Chicago, Illinois from 30 July - 1 August 2017. The total value of the award is US $3,000 and the deadline for the submission of entries is 31 March 2017. Download a copy of the Call here.

6. AARES-NZARES Heading East award – Call for submissions

Australian-based AARES members are invited to enter a submission for the 2017 Heading East Award to facilitate the attendance of one AARES member at the NZARES Conference to be held in New Zealand at a time and place to be advised (usually August). The value of the award is AUD $1,000, and applicants must be a member of AARES. The deadline for the submission of entries is 30 April 2017. Download a copy of the Call here.
7. **Professor Oscar Cacho – Awarded Distinguished Fellowship**

We would like to congratulate Professor Oscar Cacho from the University of New England who was awarded a Distinguished Fellowship to our Society at the 2017 AARES Annual Conference in Brisbane (see the details of his achievements [here](#)).

8. **ACE2017 – Economic Society of Australia (NSW) 46th Annual Conference**

The Economic Society of Australia (NSW Branch) invites you to ACE 2017 the 46th Australian Conference of Economists at the Sofitel Hotel in Sydney from 19-21 July 2017. Our theme this year is "Economics for Better Lives" with keynote speakers:

- **Carol Graham**, Leo Pasvolsky Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution speaking on wellbeing
- **Kip Viscusi**, Distinguished Professor of Law, Economics and Management at Vanderbilt University speaking on the economics of pricing human life.

For more information on ACE2017, [click here](#).

9. **NSW Department of Primary Industry – 2 job positions at Parramatta**

1. **Analyst Valuation**
2. **Senior Economist Valuation**

**Location:** Parramatta  
**Term:** 3 months with a view to full time employment  
**Closing Date:** 19 March 2017

**Analyst Valuation**

We are looking for an analyst to provide social and economic research and analysis within NSW DPI to support the development of the NSW natural resources and primary industry sectors. For the right person, this role has the potential to become an ongoing opportunity, initially this will be a 3-month placement. The role offers a great remuneration package starting from $90,000.
Within this role, you will be part of a greater team that undertakes assessment social and economic impacts, and contributes to triple bottom line assessment, to support the development of the NSW natural resource and primary industries sectors. Your social and economic analysis will contribute to advice provided to the NSW DPI Executive and a range of other clients in order to support the development of the NSW Primary Industry Sector.

This role will be responsible for researching and updating qualitative and quantitative data and information sources, ensuring data is accurate, current and relevant to the natural resource and primary industry sectors. Initial projects will focus on marine estate and fisheries management.

**About You**

You will possess the skills and capability to understand and interpret social and economic information; together with an appreciation of the key issues currently affecting resource and primary industries. You will have an understanding of non-market valuation processes and social impact assessment, and how they can be applied in triple bottom line assessment. You will have the ability to utilise networks to obtain information, interpret the information gathered and convert this into sound knowledge and advice. You have the confidence and aptitude for innovation in applying social and economic research methodologies.

Experience in marine estate or fisheries research and analysis will be favourably considered.

View the Role Description. For more information and details on how to apply for this position click here.

**Senior Economist Valuation**

NSW DPI are looking for a Senior Economist to manage social and economic research and analysis projects to support the development of the NSW natural resources and primary industry sectors. For the right person, this role has the potential to become an ongoing opportunity, initially this will be a 3-month placement. The role offers a great remuneration package starting from $102,000.

Within this role, you will lead and manage the provision of social and economic analysis and advice to support the NSW DPI Executive, as well as other internal and external clients, in development of the NSW natural resource and primary industry sectors. You will be responsible for evaluating and building multiple sources of statistical information by conducting quantitative and qualitative research.

This role will be responsible for gathering, maintaining and updating social and economic data, ensuring data is accurate, current and applicable to our Department. Initial projects will focus on marine estate and fisheries management.

**About You**
You are an economist with proven experience in non-market valuation, triple bottom line assessment and stakeholder survey. The person we are looking for will be abreast of current and future primary industry issues especially in relation to natural resources. You will possess the skills and capability to undertake qualitative and quantitative research, including social impact assessment and stakeholder survey. You will have the ability and expertise in managing complex data sets, and have the ability to interpret the information gathered and convert this into sound economic knowledge and advice.

You will be an excellent communicator with the ability to deliver practical solutions clearly and effectively to a wide range of non-technical audiences.

Experience in marine estate or fisheries research and analysis, and/or in social impact assessment (including social return on investment assessment), will be favourably considered.

View the Role Description. For more information and details on how to apply for this position click here.

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