

## #PRESIDENTS ADDRESS



Dear AARES members,  
It is a privilege to be elected as President of AARES this year. It is a wonderful opportunity to engage with so many friends in the Society, and to be able to help to grow our profession. I look forward to exploring new opportunities and improving our systems to work more smoothly..

First, a little bit about myself. My wife, Veronika, and I are empty nesters in Rockhampton, with three grown up children progressing through university and careers. I come from an established grazing family in central Queensland, and spent the early part of my life on a horse doing cattlework, which evolved over time to using a helicopter for mustering. I had 25 years on the cattle property after I left university,

only moving to Rockhampton and the full-time university job in 2005. There were many dangerous encounters with droughts, floods and bank managers over the years, and great experiences as well.

I've also really enjoyed my academic career. My PhD was done remotely with Jeff Bennett as supervisor, who has been a great friend and mentor. I worked part-time for CQUniversity since 1990 and full-time since 2005, and have had a variety of research and administrative roles in the Emerald, Rockhampton and Gladstone campuses.

My first experience with AARES was the 1991 conference in Armidale, which happened to coincide with two momentous policy events in the same week - in agricultural policy John Kerin announced the closure of the wool price reserve scheme,

### **NATIONAL WATER FORUM 2019- COUNTING AND ACCOUNTING FOR WATER: AUSTRALIAN WATER MEASUREMENT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS**

**THURSDAY 28TH MARCH  
ROCKFORD HOTEL,  
ADELAIDE**

The science of measuring stocks and flows of water has improved markedly, as has the capacity to account for the impacts of change over time. Still, many controversies persist related to how and why we measure water.

Guest speakers include:  
Dr Chris Perry, international water consultant and lead author of the United Nations report.  
Dr Lisa Blinco, SA Water.  
Peter Bridgeman, Murray-Darling Basin Authority.  
Dr Neville Crossman, Director of Social and Economic Integration, Murray-Darling Basin Authority.

Please register by Thursday, 28 February 2019  
Free for AARES members  
\$140 for non-AARES members  
[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

while in environmental policy the contingent valuation study on the environmental costs of mining Coronation Hill (Kakadu) were released. Both issues were hotly debated at the time. I have attended almost every AARES conference since then and have been the LOC Chair for the Cairns conference in 2009 and the Brisbane conference in 2017, as well as Editor-in-Chief for AJARE from 2014 to 2016.

AARES has been a wonderful organisation in my career – it has provided the conferences where I have met so many colleagues and heard new ideas, and supported various publishing outlets that have coalesced into the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Everyone I talk to wants the organisation to continue doing these great things, and the previous leadership teams have been working to achieve the same thing. I'd like to acknowledge the great efforts that our previous presidents and Council members have put in.

Much of the focus this year is going to be on making AARES work more smoothly and increasing engagement with members. There are two symposiums planned this year; one on water policy in Adelaide on the 29th of March, and another one on Agricultural Value Chains in Brisbane in September.

We also plan to introduce a new software system and website that will make our systems easier to operate, as well as being able to provide more information and services out to our members.

There are also a few changes in the AARES team to note this year. Gavan Dwyer is replacing Helen Scarborough as Treasurer, Sorada Tapsuwan is replacing Rod McInnes as Manager Promotions and Development, and Terence Farrell is replacing Malcolm Wegener as Chair of the Investment Committee. I'd like to thank Helen, Rod and Mal for their great service over the years, and welcome Gavan, Sorada and Terence to Council. We are also very fortunate to have Professor Sarah Wheeler as President Elect this year – she will make a great contribution.

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone for making the 2019 Melbourne conference such a success. It was wonderful to see so many people attend, and I hope that everyone is making plans to visit Perth for the conference in February 2020.

*Cheers,  
John Rolfe*

## HEADING NORTH AWARD

The Heading North Award Awarded to an Australian or New Zealand-based AARES member to attend the annual conference of the AAEA in Atlanta Georgia on July 21st -23rd with US \$3,000 (to cover airfares, conference registration and accommodation).

[CLICK TO APPLY](#)

## HEADING EAST AWARD

AARES-NZARES Travelling East Award  
AARES provides a grant of AUD \$1,000 to substantially meet the costs of a return economy class airfare to New Zealand, accommodation for the duration of the conference, and attendance at the Conference Dinner and other social events at the Conference. The conference registration fee for the winner of this award will be waived by NZARES.

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)



## CONGRATULATIONS DISTINGUISHED FELLOW - TOM KOMPAS

Tom Kompas is a Professor of Environmental Economics and Biosecurity in the School of Biosciences and the School of Ecosystem and Forest Sciences at the University of Melbourne. He is also one of three Chief Investigators in the Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (CEBRA), Group Director of the Centre for Environmental and Economic Risk (CEER) at the University of Melbourne, and the Foundation Director of the Australian Centre for Biosecurity and Environmental Economics (ACBEE) at the Australian National University.

Tom's research specialises in large-scale computational modelling and natural resource and environmental economics. Over the past fifteen years, he has published more than 120 academic papers and technical reports, with 3,844 Google Scholar citations and an h-index of 32.



Tom served as a co-Editor of the Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics from 2007-10 and as an Associate Editor from 2004-07. He was the Director of the Crawford School of Public Policy from 2009-15 and is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences Australia.



## CONGRATULATIONS DISTINGUISHED FELLOW TO EUAN FLEMING

Euan Fleming retired from his substantive position in the School of Economics at the University of New England in 2014, after a career spanning 33 years. He was immediately bestowed with the title of Emeritus Professor in the newly formed UNE Business School.

Professor Fleming has made a significant contribution in a number of policy areas as an applied agricultural economist. He initially focused on issues in the South Pacific, South East Asia and Africa. He then broadened his research areas included development planning processes, agricultural R&D systems, technology adoption, and marketing systems and policies.

Euan's high standing in the discipline has seen much of his work funded by international institutions and by major Australian funding bodies. He has mentored the development of undergraduate and postgraduate students, as the principal or co-supervisor of over 80 postgraduate student completions and many Honours dissertations.

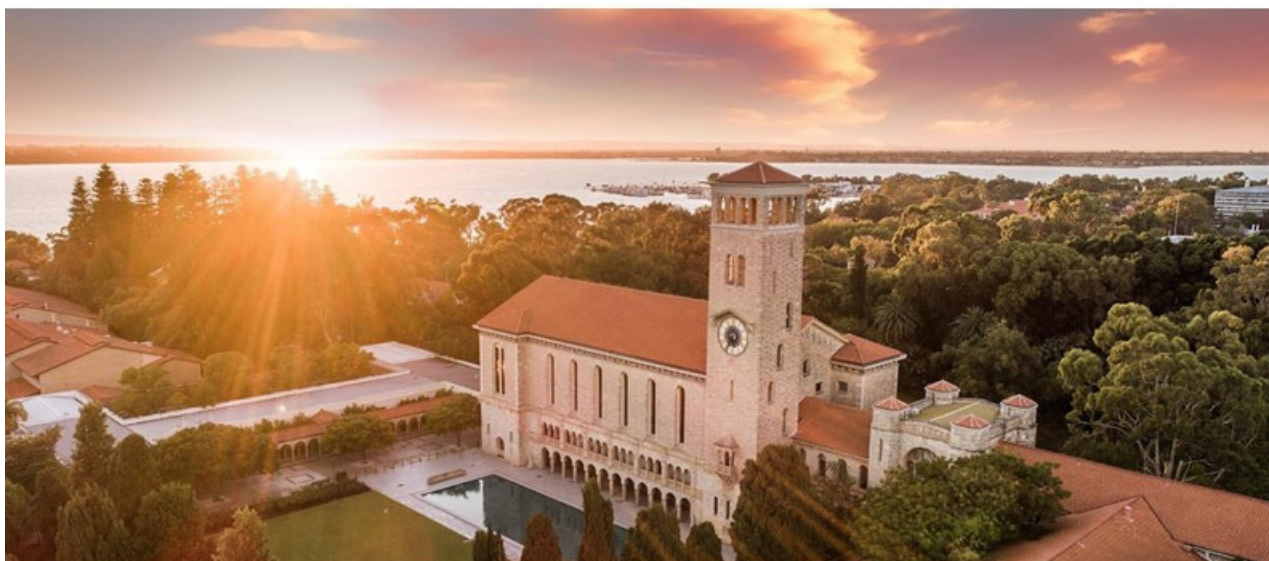
## CONGRATULATIONS DISTINGUISHED FELLOW TO WENDY UMBERGER



Wendy J. Umberger is a Professor of Agricultural and Food Economics and the Executive Director (Foundation) of the Centre for Global Food and Resources at the University of Adelaide.

Since approximately 2003, Wendy has been a continual and passionate supporter of AARES. After re-locating to Adelaide (2006) she became active in the SA Branch and on Federal Council. In particular, during her time in the roles of President-Elect (2015-2016), President (2016-2017) and Immediate Past President (2017-2018) she worked closely with other members of the AARES Executive and Federal Council to lead the Society through a significant strategic planning exercise.

Wendy's recent research addresses issues across Australasia including food security, consumer behaviour with respect to credence attributes and implications for food value chains; and producer behaviour related to drivers of adoption. She is an author or co-author of over 130 publications, including peer-reviewed articles.





Join us at the University Club on the beautiful University of Western Australia campus to share and discuss research on important issues of agricultural and resource economics. More information: [www.aares.org.au](http://www.aares.org.au)  @AARES\_Inc  YouTube [youtu.be/kDb1RZaGWRY](https://youtu.be/kDb1RZaGWRY)



## Applied Economics TEACHING RESOURCES



### CALL FOR PAPERS - APPLIED ECONOMICS TEACHING RESOURCES (AETR)

AETR is a new online open access publication sponsored by the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association for high end research and scholarship in the areas of teaching, education and extension in the fields of agricultural economics, agribusiness, applied economics and related disciplines. <https://www.aaea.org/publications/applied-economics-teaching-resources>.

AETR is inviting you to submit a paper in 2019 for one of their general issues or for a special issue on Case Studies in Applied Economics.

Special Issue on "Case Studies in Applied Economics": The AETR is accepting submissions for this special issue that are in all areas of applied economics, agricultural economics and agribusiness.

The special issue will be a highlighted section in the second issue of 2019 of AETR. Submissions will be accepted for the special issue until August 1, 2019. Guidelines for submission of a case study can be found at: <https://www.aaea.org/publications/applied-economics-teaching-resources/aetr-manuscript-submission-guidelines>. When submitting a manuscript, please follow the guidelines provided in the link above and indicate in your cover letter that the manuscript is for the special issue.

General Submissions: We are accepting general submissions to the publication, as well. AETR is seeking additional contributions of:

1. Teaching and Extension education scholarship and research

2. Classroom and field educational innovation (e.g. classroom games, online teaching tools, Extension applications, and experiential learning activities, and other interactive learning innovations)
3. Teaching and education commentaries (e.g. notes on pedagogy, evaluations of teaching effectiveness, and educational methodology).

All submissions will go through a blind peer-review process and there is no charge for submission or publication.

You can directly submit a manuscript at: <https://www.aaea.org/publications/applied-economics-teaching-resources> Please email me if you have any questions or inquiries to [aetr.editor@gmail.com](mailto:aetr.editor@gmail.com). We look forward to your submission!