

A Word from the President

These past couple of months have been full of activities that were organised by each of our branches. I hope you had a chance to attend some of them. I really enjoyed attending the activity organised by the ACT Branch on “Challenges and opportunities in wine: A tale of two price points” on 12 September at Symposium by University House at ANU. The event included talks by Sarah Smith, UC Davis Postdoctoral Scholar, John Walsh, ABARES wine analyst, and Dave Carpenter, Lark Hill Winery. It was great to listen to these interesting talks and catch up with fellow economists over a glass of wine.



We’re only a few months away from the AARES 2025 Conference. Congratulations to everyone who has had their paper accepted for presentation at the AARES 2025 Conference in Brisbane. Don’t forget that early bird registration closes on the 13th of December if you want to get discounted registrations rates. I’m looking forward to meeting you there during 11-14 February 2025. Thank you to our generous sponsors CSIRO, GRDC, Queensland Government, Brisbane Economic Development Agency, Central Queensland University, The Crawford Fund, ACIAR, RAID Network, and Truii Event Sponsors. And thanks to the AARES Queensland Branch for an excellent job putting this conference together. Please note that the AARES AGM is going to be held online this year, rather than at the conference. This will free up some valuable time during the conference for presentations. The AGM is scheduled for the 5th of February 2025. As for AARES 2026 Conference, I can confirm that the AARES 2026 Conference will be held in South Australia. Thank you to the South Australian Branch for agreeing to host this conference. Sarah Wheeler will be chairing the local organizing committee. I look forward to hearing more about plans for the AARES 2026 Conference during the closing session of AARES 2025.

On AARES operational news, the AARES Investment Committee recently had a refresh of committee members. The new AARES Investment Committee will be chaired by Todd Sanderson. The members of this Investment Committee will include Alexandra Peralta, Terence Farrell, and the AARES Treasurer. I’d like to thank John Rolfe for chairing this committee in recent years. In addition to the new Investment Committee, we are also recruiting several AARES Board positions. Please check out the announcement in this edition of News & Views. If you’re interested in nominating for any of the Board positions in the call, please get in touch with the AARES office (office@aares.org.au) if you have any questions.

Lastly, I'd like to congratulate Helena Clayton for running a successful online voting process for the AARES President-elect. This was the first time we ran an online election, and it looks like an online election will be the way we run elections going forward. Thank you to both candidates for nominating for this role, to everyone who participated in the voting process, and to our two scrutineers for ensuring the integrity of the election process on behalf of the candidates. Please continue reading this edition of News & Views to find out who will be President-elect in 2025.

Sorada Tapsuwan

AARES President

AARES 2025: Annual Conference

Annual Conference Update

Registrations are NOW OPEN for the 2025 AARES Annual Conference, which will be hosted in Brisbane, 11-14 February 2025. Early-Bird discounts apply to early registrations received by 13 December 2024.

[Click here to register.](#)



See you in Brisbane!

Members in the Media

A team of researchers, including Jeremy De Valk, Anthea Coggan, and Diane Jarvis, recently completed the SEABORNE project. This project explored the relationship between people and the Great Barrier Reef, highlighting the Reef's ecological importance and its role in socially and economically supporting communities.

[Read more about the project through the Central Queensland University media release.](#)

AJARE update

The final issue of the journal for 2024 (Volume 68, Issue 4) was published in October. This issue includes 13 articles, with six available as open access. The content is well-balanced, including seven articles focused on environmental and resource economics and six on agricultural economics.

We're pleased to introduce two new associate editors on the AJARE team:

- Alex Zuo, from Flinders University, who will be contributing his expertise in water economics.
- Daniele Asioli, from the University of Reading, specializing in food economics.

Also, Sorada Tapsuwan, AARES president, took over as book review editor. We'll be holding a meeting with all the associate editors on 6 November to discuss upcoming developments. We're also excited to again host a "Meet the Editors" session at the 2025 AARES conference, providing an opportunity for conference attendees to connect with the AJARE editorial team. The 2024 AARES Best Paper Awards will be announced at the conference.

Submissions remain open for two upcoming special issues. [Visit the journal website for more information and to submit a paper.](#)

David Stern

AJARE Editor

The Australian Journal of
**Agricultural and
Resource Economics**



Upcoming Events

AARES Western Australia Branch: 2024 Environmental Policy Lecture

On 6 November 2024, the WA AARES Branch and the UWA Oceans Institute are jointly hosting a public lecture by Associate Professor Michelle Voyer titled: *Towards a Fair, Equitable, and Sustainable Offshore Wind Industry for Australia*. [Register for the online webinar here.](#)

The graphic features a dark blue background with a photograph of offshore wind turbines. At the top, logos for AARES (Association for Applied and Regional Economics), The University of Western Australia, and Oceans Institute are displayed. The text on the left side of the graphic reads: '2024 AARES WA Environmental Policy Lecture' followed by 'ONLINE WEBINAR' in a light blue box. Below this, the date and time are listed: 'Date: Wednesday 6 November, 2024' and 'Time: 4:00- 5:00 PM'. The registration link is provided as 'Register at: bit.ly/AARES-WA-Lecture24'. On the right side, the lecture title is repeated: 'Lecture: Towards a Fair, Equitable, and Sustainable Offshore Wind Industry for Australia'. A circular portrait of Associate Professor Michelle Voyer is shown, with a short bio: 'Associate Professor Michelle Voyer investigates the governance challenges associated with the 'Blue Economy', with a particular focus on exploring opportunities for community and Indigenous input, engagement and codesign in emerging and established maritime industries.'

AARES South Australia Branch: Presentation and Networking Event

The SA AARES Branch invites AARES members and non-members to the event titled: *Economic outcomes from the SA Marine Scalefish Fishery reforms: what we know so far*.

Date: 14 November 2024

Time: 5:00pm - 6:30pm ACDT

Location: BDO Centre, Level 7/420 King William Street, Adelaide, 5000

Cost: FREE for members and non-members

[Register here.](#) For any queries, please contact [Bethany Cooper](#).

AARES Queensland Branch: Symposium and Annual Branch Meeting

The AARES QLD Symposium and Annual Branch Meeting will take place on 21 November 2024, from 3:15pm at the University of Queensland (UQ/QBP), St Lucia, Brisbane. The event will also feature three presentations by members of the AARES QLD community, and will be followed by a social event.

Symposium presentations:

1. *Understanding the link between food system resilience and price volatility: Insights from Indonesia* - Wiji Tri Wilujeng and Risti Permani
2. *Natural hazard adaptation – Economic analysis review* - Steve Charlton-Henderson
3. *Assessing the Economic Viability of Sustainable Aviation Fuel Production in Australia*- Shabbir Ahmad

If you are planning to attend the event remotely, please dial in [via Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 827 1198 4274, Passcode: 978726

For in-person attendance, RSVP to [Jeremy De Valck](#) by **18 November 2024**.

AARES East Asian Branch: Networking Event in Beijing

The AARES East Asian Branch is hosting a networking event for early career researchers in Beijing. This event provides a casual setting for PhD candidates, postdocs and young scientists to network and socialize. The gathering will be held in late November or early December, with the exact venue to be determined. The first 15 attendees to RSVP will be accommodated.

RSVP **by 10 November** [by email](#) with your full name, current affiliation, and proof of AARES East Asian Branch membership. The event will feature complimentary drinks sponsored by the AARES East Asian Branch.

For more information about the AARES East Asian Branch or to get involved in our activities, please contact [Tong Zhang](#), Associate Professor at the Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research, Beijing Institute of Technology.

2024 Monash Environmental Economics Workshop

The Monash Environmental Economics workshop is a research-intensive event held from 21 to 22 November 2024. Now in its eighth year, this workshop will be hosted by the Department of Economics at Monash Business School, in collaboration with the Centre for Development Economics and Sustainability and

the Pacific Action for Climate Transitions research centre. [Click here for more information.](#)

Save the Date: WCERE 2026

[The World Council of Environmental and Resource Economists Associations \(WCEREA\)](#) is pleased to announce that the 7th World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists (WCERE 2026) will take place on 29 June - 03 July 2026. The Congress will be held in person in Carcavelos Campus in the city of Lisbon, Portugal, while including some hybrid events as part of the programme. The conference is hosted by the Nova School of Business and Economics (Nova SBE).

From the AARES Secretary

2025 Annual General Meeting & Board Nominations

The AARES Annual General Meeting will be held *online* on Wednesday 5th February, 2025. More information regarding the 2025 Annual General Meeting will be circulated via email in the coming weeks.

Our office bearers are appointed at each AGM for a 12-month period, including the positions for: 1) **Secretary**; 2) **Treasurer**; and 3) **Manager Promotion and Development**.

Nominations for any of these three positions are welcome. At this stage, we expect that the current incumbent for Secretary is prepared to continue in 2025. Please submit nominations [via email](#), using the [form available here](#) by 5:00pm AEDT on 15 January 2025.

If there are multiple nominations for a position, an electronic ballot of members who are financial on 15 January 2025 will be conducted prior to the AGM. Please consider nominating for any of these positions and support the efficient functioning of AARES.

[Click here to view the AARES Code of Conduct.](#)

Policy Change for Memorial Address

At the 2013 AARES AGM, it was agreed to rename the Distinguished Fellows Address at the annual conference to the 'Keith Campbell Address' for a period of three years. The Board has revisited this policy with the support of the Nominations Committee, chaired by Thilak Mallawaarachchi, and a proposal developed with input from Board members Tim Capon and Nikki Dumbrell. Moving forward, one invited speaker at the conference will be selected by the President-Elect to deliver the Keith Campbell Address as a permanent feature of the conference program. This policy received unanimous support from the Board to honour Keith Campbell as the Foundation President of the AARES Society (1957).

Additionally, a new Memorial Address has been approved. Commencing at the 2025 conference, the Local Organising Committee (LOC) may designate an additional Memorial Address to honour a deceased distinguished economist they would like to honour, ideally choosing someone whose past work aligns with that of the conference theme. The By-Laws (Policy File section 3.1.2 and Policy Appendix H) will be updated and published online in the coming weeks.

2025 President-elect Election

Following the call for nominations for the AARES 2025 President-Elect, two nominations were received: Professor Yu Sheng (ANU) and Dr. Emilio Morales (UNE). As more than one nomination was received, an online ballot was held, which has now concluded. We had 124 members participate.

It is my pleasure to announce that Dr. Emilio Morales received the majority of votes. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to both candidates for their willingness to stand for this role. AARES is fortunate to have had two such outstanding nominees.

Special thanks go to the scrutineers, Paul Burke (for Yu Sheng) and Renato Villano (for Emilio Morales), who ensured the integrity of the process and provided written confirmation of their agreement with the results.

I also extend my gratitude to Thilak Mallawaarachchi for his assistance in exploring online ballot options, to all AARES Board members for their support in pilot testing the ballot, and to Mersine Dandas for her outstanding administrative support for the election.

Helena Clayton
AARES Secretary

Call for Applications: AARES Academic Awards

Applications are now open for:

Quality of Research Discovery Award for EMCRs

Quality of Research Discovery Award

Quality of Research Communication Award for EMCRs

Quality of Research Communication Award

The research discovery awards recognise research that makes a significant contribution to the field of knowledge in agricultural and resource economics. The work should demonstrate excellence in research methodology and may deal with conceptualization of researchable problems as well as empirical findings.

The research communication awards recognise superior communication of concepts or knowledge in any subject matter of professional specialisation (i.e. teaching, research, policy analysis, or extension) in agricultural and resource economics to a specified audience. The award is particularly aimed to recognise skilled communicators who are able to explain economic principles to an outside audience and encourage others such as farmers, resource managers and policy makers to adjust their management, activities or policies in response.

[Information about the eligibility and entry requirements for each award can be found on our website.](#)

Applications due: **15 November 2024**

Update from the AARES Crawford Fund Conference Scholar Program Award Winner

Attending the Crawford Fund's 2024 Annual Conference in Canberra was an incredibly enriching experience, both personally and professionally. Held from 12-14 August, the conference centred around the theme "Food and Nutrition Security: Transformative Partnerships, Local Leadership, and Co-Design," which falls under my research interests in agricultural economics and food security. I am very grateful to AARES for supporting me with a scholarship to attend the 2024 Crawford Fund Conference in Canberra.

The conference brought together experts, policymakers, and practitioners from

around the world, all focused on addressing the pressing challenges of food and nutrition security. The sessions were not just presentations but lively exchanges of ideas involving both speakers and participants. The conference covered a wide range of topics, but I was particularly attracted to discussions on local leadership and community engagement in developing effective and sustainable solutions. These conversations reinforced the idea that food security is best achieved not only through top-down initiatives but also through meaningful collaboration with those on the ground who understand the local context.

One of the highlights for me was the opportunity to engage with leading figures in the field through the scholar program. Designed specifically for young researchers and early-career professionals, the program included a series of tailored activities that enhanced my conference experience. These activities included pre- and post-conference workshops, where we delved into the complexities of global food systems, and mentoring sessions with seasoned professionals who generously shared their insights and advice.

During this period, I met my mentor, Dr. Neil Byron, who has a strong background in international agricultural development. Dr. Byron provided me with extremely useful advice for both my professional and personal development. Being part of the scholar program also allowed me to connect with other young professionals who, like me, are passionate about making a difference in the field of agricultural development. These connections have already proven invaluable, and we have built a new network of friends. I hope to continue sharing ideas, resources, and support with them in the future. The program's emphasis on networking was evident throughout the event, with numerous opportunities to interact with experts and peers alike.

The experience has left a lasting impact on me, both in terms of the knowledge I gained and the relationships I built. It has broadened my understanding of the multifaceted challenges of food security and provided me with new perspectives on how to approach these issues in my research. Overall, attending the Crawford Fund Annual Conference as a scholar was a transformative experience. It provided me with the opportunity to learn from the best in the field, contribute my own ideas, and engage in meaningful dialogue about the future of food and nutrition security. The insights and connections I gained during the conference will undoubtedly influence my work for years to come.

Finally, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the conference organising committee, the scholar program organising committee, my mentors, and AARES members. Your support and dedication made it possible for me to participate in this exceptional event and contributed to an experience I will always cherish.



Dasuni Dayananda
Griffith University

Job Opportunities

Peking University School of Advanced Agricultural Sciences (SAAS) and China Center for Agricultural Policy (CCAP) Faculty Recruitment

Peking University's SAAS, in conjunction with CCAP, is seeking full-time faculty in agricultural economics. SAAS aims to be a leading research center and educator of high-end talent in molecular agrobiolgy, food safety & health, and agricultural & development economics. CCAP is a collective of economists focused on advancing agricultural and rural economies. Applicants should have academic contributions in agricultural economics, teaching experience at the graduate and undergraduate levels in both Chinese and English, and a record of team and interdisciplinary research. The position is open to Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor levels, with the initial rank determined by the applicant's scholarly impact and reputation. Peking University offers a competitive salary and benefits package. Application materials include a cover letter, CV, vision statement, research publications, reference letters, teaching philosophy, diploma copy, and evidence of research and teaching experience.

Applications should be sent to: jxwang.ccap@pku.edu.cn.

Peking University Institute of New Structural Economics - Research Positions

The Institute of New Structural Economics at Peking University is recruiting researchers for multiple positions on a rolling basis:

- [Research Fellow](#)
- [Post-doctoral researcher in new structural economics](#)
- [Post-doctoral researcher in Life Economy](#)

These positions offer competitive compensation and the opportunity to contribute to the institute's mission of advancing new structural economic theory and practice.

Branch Updates

Western Australia Branch Update

On 6 September, the WA Branch held its annual mini conference at the University of Western Australia. The event had over 30 attendees and featured 13 ECR presenters. It was an excellent opportunity for students to get feedback on their work, and to be inspired by the MCR keynote speaker, Dr Bronwyn Claire.

[Read more about the event here.](#)



New England Branch Update

The 2024 John Dillon Memorial Lecture was delivered by Professor John Quiggin at the Armidale Town Hall on 15 October. The lecture entitled "Will irresistible force

overcome immovable object: solar photovoltaics and the energy transition” was an update of the keynote address he delivered at the AARES 2024 Conference in Canberra.

The event generated great interest in the community, with over 70 people attending in the Town Hall plus 40 who joined online. It was a great opportunity to raise awareness of AARES and the agricultural and resource economics discipline. The event was organised by the New England Branch, with partial funding from branch funds. The Armidale Regional Council and the UNE Business School provided additional funds to make the event possible. The collaboration worked very well and we envision future joint events.

[A recording of the presentation is available here.](#)

In Memoriam

Vale Emeritus Professor Stuart Harris 1931 - 2024

Stuart Harris, 2000 AARES Distinguished Fellow, passed away in Canberra in early October at the age of 93.

Stuart made distinct contributions not only to the developing Australian agricultural economics discipline, but to the profession itself. As Director of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics (now ABARES) during the late 1960s and early 1970s, he was deeply involved with turning it into a research-focused agency as opposed to simply being somewhere where data was gathered and published. One legacy of his time there is the annual Agricultural Outlook Conference, which he established and which continues to this day. During his time at the BAE he also spent a year as President of the Australian Agricultural Economics Society, as it was then.

After a spell as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Trade (where he led the group who authored the famous and influential green paper on rural policy), and anticipating the later prominence of resource economics, he was appointed Professor of Resource Economics at the ANU, and soon after, became Director of the Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies (now the Fenner School).

Later, and much to the surprise of his family, Stuart was offered the position of Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs in 1984, and he was soon charged

with bringing Trade onboard to create the now-familiar DFAT, with him as its inaugural Secretary. He eventually returned to the ANU as a Professor of International Relations, although he did work to chair several of the sector groups charged with exploring ecologically sustainable development. His particular research interest as an IR academic was China.

Stuart's unusual career path was characterised by making an impact, and not leaving anywhere he led unchanged. He was also able to move, perhaps in a distinctly Canberra 1970s-80s kind of way, between the ANU and the public service, whether in advisory roles, on committees and task forces, or through formal appointments. Others he worked with, like Sir John Crawford (his early mentor), Fred Gruen and Bob Gregory were examples of the close connection between academia and policy, as were Ross Garnaut and Bruce Chapman a bit later.

Being someone who makes change can also mean making enemies, but I can testify to the many people who have worked with Stuart who respected, admired and liked him. Former DFAT colleagues and even PhD students in IR came to his funeral to share with the family their fond memories of working with him, or just talking through their ideas with him over lunch on campus. And my own career in agricultural and resource economics has been filled with people who knew him, or of him, and would regularly ask after him.

An obituary is currently being prepared for publication in AJARE.

Michael Harris

Share your news with the AARES network

Contact the News and Views editor at claire.doll@uwa.edu.au, or tag AARES on social media @Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society on LinkedIn and @aares_inc on X with your news.

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Comments, suggestions? Would you like to make a contribution to the next News & Views issue? Please contact the News & Views Editor at: claire.doll@uwa.edu.au