

e-Newsletter December 2012-January 2013

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FAREWELL EDITORIAL OF SORTS

As 2012 draws to a close, so does my time as AAIR newsletter editor after two years in the role. A big thank you to those who have supported and encouraged me during my time as editor. In particular, the previous editor Rob Sheehan, who early on provided some valuable pearls of wisdom in relation to the realities of this volunteer role, who somehow manages to consistently come through with contributions for nearly every edition I've done and, who I remain ever in awe of, for managing to do the editor's role for four years, AND on a monthly basis!!

A mega bumper issue for my last one. Plenty of 'Places to Go' in 2013 and deadlines looming. So get those abstracts in for a (better) chance of attending, perhaps in some 'exotic' location.

There's plenty of perspectives on the 2012 AAIR Forum - thanks to Dave, Martin, Anne, Jeff and Vic. And, of course where would we be without a photo montage of the Forum dinner, including a few from the dance floor.

During the AAIR Forum, I had a wonderful nostalgia trip down memory lane with the somewhat unexpected appearance of Dennis Ham and Roni McDowell. All three of us were at the inaugural AAIR Forum in 1990 and met up at many AAIR Forums, but not in recent years. That inaugural AAIR Forum was friendly and welcoming, and set the scene for the comradery and willingness to share that has remained with AAIR and I hope will continue into the future.



Wendy, Dennis and Roni

Best wishes for an enjoyable, safe and restful break.

So, now it's time to put your feet up, read on and sample the varied mix that follows.

Enjoy....

Wendy Marchment
 Editor
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PLACES TO GO – THINGS TO DO

For more events make sure you check out <http://aair.org.au/pages/events>

If you have relevant events you would like posted please email them to info@aair.org.au



16th International Conference on Thinking - ICOT2013

21 to 25 January 2013

Wellington, NZ

A fascinating 5 day conference to expand global thinking around the themes of 'future survival', 'personal futures' and 'future society'. ICOT13 is a remarkable opportunity to:

- connect with cross-discipline 'thinkers'
- experience world leading speakers
- excite the senses with insights, discussions and inspiration.

<http://icot2013.core-ed.org/>

Strategic differentiation and sameness in Australian higher education

7 February 2013

LH Martin Institute, Melbourne

The seminar aims to take the discussion on diversity in the Australian university sector to the next level by drawing on some new initiatives launched in Europe to highlight diversity amongst institutions by using transparency tools that can form the basis for strategic choice and profiling by institutions. U-Map and U-Multirank have been developed for exactly this purpose and are now in the process of being rolled out across Europe.

Details [here](#)



Young Statisticians Conference 2013

7 to 8 February 2013

Melbourne

Postgraduate students and early-career professionals in statistics and data analysis from all over Australia and beyond are particularly encouraged to attend, but all levels of experience and ages are welcome. This is a biennial event hosted by the Statistical Society of Australia Inc.

<http://www.ysc2013.com/>

Measuring Social Outcomes

13 to 14 February 2013

Sydney

The Centre for Social Impact, in partnership with Criterion Conferences, has developed a two day conference for senior executives, managers and practitioners responsible for reporting and measuring social outcomes.

<http://improving-social-outcomes.com/>



International Conference on Education and Management Innovation – ICEMI– 2013

24 to 25 February 2013

Rome, Italy

ICEMI 2013, is to bring together innovative academics and industrial experts in the field of Education and Management Innovation to a common forum.

The primary goal of the conference is to promote research and developmental activities in Education and Management Innovation. Another goal is to promote scientific information interchange between researchers, developers, engineers, students, and practitioners working all around the world. The conference will be held every year to make it an ideal platform for people to share views and experiences in Education and Management Innovation and related areas.

<http://www.icemi.org/>

Gartner Business Intelligence & Information Management Summit

25 to 26 February 2013

Sydney

AAIR and Gartner have renewed our strategic relationship and AAIR members will have access Discounted Registration to the Annual Gartner Summit. The discount will be \$400 and watch out on AAIR's website for full details of the Summit.

<http://www.gartner.com/technology/summits/apac/business-intelligence/>



Universities Australia Higher Education Conference 2013

27 February - 1 March 2013

National Convention Centre Canberra

Conference Highlights

- Keynote address by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations, Senator the Hon. Christopher Evans (tbc)
- Keynote address by Dr Diana Oblinger, Chief Executive Officer, EDUCAUSE and Professor Daphne Koller, Founder, Coursera
- Televised National Press Club of Australia address by Universities Australia Chair Professor Glyn Davis
- National Media Awards, sponsored by Universities Australia and hosted by the National Press Club
- Keynote address by Mr Colin Beckett, General Manager Greater Gorgon Area, Chevron Australia Pty Ltd and Ms Jennifer Westacott, Chief Executive, Business Council of Australia
- Keynote address by Professor Malcolm Gillies, Vice-Chancellor, London Metropolitan University and Professor Michael McRobbie, President Indiana University
- Closing keynote address by Dr Ken Henry AC, Executive Chair, ANU Crawford Institute of Public Policy

<http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/conference>

Learning and Teaching Outcomes

19 to 20 March 2013

Melbourne

Another offering from Criterion.

As the sector anticipates the first thematic TEQSA audit on English language standards, this conference will debate the development and validity of various assessments of learning and teaching outcomes.

<http://qualityhighered.com/>

Data Quality Asia Pacific Congress

27 to 29 March 2013

Sydney

Expert speakers in data quality and MDM from around the world, to bring you up to date information on managing unstructured and complex data, master data management, effective data governance, new innovations and technologies and communicating about data quality across your organisation.

<http://www.dqasiapacific.com/>



NatStats 2013

12 to 14 March 2013

Brisbane

The theme for NatStats 2013 is "A better informed Australia: the role of statistics in building the nation". The last one was in 2010.

The conference will explore what nation building means to Australia, and how statistics are critical in informing the decisions which shape our future. An exciting program is being designed with policy and decision makers in mind. Senior staff from policy departments, academia, community organisations and the private sector as well as key international speakers will be invited to provide their perspectives on the role of statistics in building Australia through informed decision making.

Plenary sessions on the first day of the program aim to highlight why big data is important and why data should be considered a strategic asset. It also aims to highlight what is currently being done in Australia with big data through specific case studies. The second day will highlight the importance of interpreting and communicating data as well as the issues and barriers (eg confidentiality, privacy and cultural issues) within the data revolution.

<http://www.nss.gov.au/blog/natstats.nsf>



AVETRA 16th Annual Conference 3 to 5 April 2013 Fremantle

The Australian Vocational Education and Training Research Association (AVETRA) Conference has the theme 'VET Research at the Edge – Training for Diversity and Change'.

In journeying to WA for the first time, AVETRA moves to the edge of our continent. It is an opportune time, as it is an edge where major shifts within industry and the labour market are rapidly challenging and changing the patterns of training and work across the country. Indeed, the future of VET is uncertain and edgy, as there are several potential pathways ahead for VET, with the emerging scenarios strongly influenced by global events outside our control. What does this mean for VET participants, VET facilitators, VET managers and VET researchers? How is our research illuminating the dilemmas, providing outcomes to influence change and preparing us for what may be diverse futures, and certainly different to what we have experienced in the past?

Deadline for abstracts is 17 December 2012
<http://avetra.org.au/>



THE EDGE
OF THE WORLD

THETA 2013 The Higher Education technology Agenda 7 to 10 April 2013 Hobart, Tasmania

THETA Australasia is an event held every two years with the aim of advancing higher education by promoting the intelligent use of information technology.

The conference is unique in that it attracts a comprehensive range of practitioners and senior decision makers across the whole spectrum of Information Technology, Teaching and Learning, Library and Knowledge Management in tertiary education.

<http://theta.edu.au/>

4th International Conference on Information Management and Evaluation – ICIME 2013 13 to 14 May 2013

RMIT International University Vietnam,
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

The focusing theme of the 4th ICIME is 'Challenges in Information Age'.

Details [here](#)

6th International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education 13 to 15 May 2013

The Conference will critically examine one of the most significant trends: the growth of the theory and practice of engagement as a key feature in the evolution of higher education.

Deadline for abstracts is 21 December 2012

Details [here](#)



IREG Forum on University Rankings Methodology Under Scrutiny 16 to 17 May 2013 Warsaw, Poland



This Forum will concentrate on discussion and analysis of various ranking methodologies. It will examine methodologies of the main international and national rankings, with particular attention to the ways of overcoming the limitations some methodologies are currently facing.

Deadline for abstracts is 31 December 2012

Details [here](#)



AIR Forum 2013 18 to 22 May 2013 Long Beach, California

The theme is 'Participate and Learn'

The AIR Forum is the world's largest gathering of higher education professionals working in institutional research, assessment, planning and related postsecondary education fields. This four-day conference includes more than 400 presentations by colleagues representing all sectors of higher education and an exhibit hall featuring the latest tools and resources to support data use for decision making.

<http://forum.airweb.org/2013/>



Canadian Evaluation Society Conference

9 to 12 June 2013

Toronto, Ontario

The theme is Evaluation Across Boundaries. CES TORONTO 2013 is dedicated to building evaluation capacity among individuals, communities, organizations and networks to enhance the use of knowledge and learning to inform and enhance the impact of interventions within and across organizations, networks and communities.

Deadline for Conference Abstract Submission Presentations is 15 February 2013.

Seventh World Environmental Education Congress

9 to 12 June 2013

Marrakech, Morocco

The congress theme is Environmental Education in Cities and Rural Areas: Seeking Greater Harmony.

Deadline for proposals 31 December 2012



HERDSA Conference

1 to 4 July 2013

AUT University, Auckland

The theme is 'The Place of Learning and Teaching'. Across the world, institutions are investing large sums of money in new learning spaces – both physical and virtual – in efforts to attract students, maintain relevance, and build distinctive institutional identities. But with all the focus on spaces, we may be losing sight of the importance of place in learning and teaching. After all, a campus is the quintessential place of learning – a place for contemplation, conversation, reflection, and creating and disseminating knowledge. What does it mean to be in this place?

Deadline for submissions is 22 February 2013
<http://conference.herdsa.org.au/2013>

6th Annual HEIR conference

10 to 12 July 2013

Birmingham City University, UK

The theme will be 'Productive Partnerships: Engaging stakeholders in IR'.

<http://www.heirnetwork.org.uk/>



Next Steps Conference

15 to 17 July 2013

Melbourne

The theme will be 'Co-producing Knowledge for Social Impact'.

Deadline for Proposals is 11 February 2013

<http://engagementaustralia.org.au/next-steps-conference/2013-conference/>



EAIR 35th Annual Forum

28 to 31 August 2013

Rotterdam, the Netherlands

The Erasmus University Rotterdam is hosting the Forum.

The theme is 'Impact of Higher Education with the subtitle Addressing the challenges of the 21st century'.

Deadline for Proposals is 4 February 2013

<http://www.eair.nl/forum/rotterdam/>



2013 AES International Conference

2 to 6 September 2013

Brisbane

The theme 'Evaluation shaping a better future: Priorities, pragmatics, promise and power'. challenges us to reflect critically on the work of evaluation today and what that means for tomorrow. The theme focuses on valuing, innovation & sustainability in the context of present day realities & challenges for the future.

Deadline for proposals for conference presentations and pre-conference workshops are now open and close 21 March 2013.

<http://conference2013.aes.asn.au/>

2013 TEM Conference
15 to 18 September 2013

Hobart

'Trends, Tradition and Technology'

The focus will be on how in an ever changing environment tertiary institutions ride, exploit and set the trends, challenge, transform and build new tradition, interface the technology with people as well as integrate and innovate for positive and effective outcomes in the local and wider community.

Deadline for abstract is 5 April 2012

<http://www.temc.org.au/>



SAIR 2013 Conference

5 to 8 October 2013

The Peabody in Memphis, TN

This the (US) Southern Association for Institutional Research (SAIR) Forum.

<http://www.sair.org/Conferences/Conferences.asp>



SEAIR 2013 Conference

7 to 9 October 2013

Jogjakarta, Indonesia

The conference theme is 'Entrepreneurship in Higher Education and Institutional Effectiveness'

<http://www.seairweb.info/>



American Evaluation Association Annual Conference

14 to 19 October 2013

Washington, DC, USA

<http://www.eval.org/training/eventsdir.asp>



22nd Annual CIRPA conference

27 to 29 October 2013

Regina, Saskatchewan

The annual conference of the Canadian Institutional Research and Planning Association

<https://cirpa-acpri.ca/?q=content/2013-conference>



MidAIR conference

6 to 8 November 2013

Kansas City, MO

This is the Mid American Association for Institutional Research Annual Forum.

<http://www.mid-air.org/>



NEAIR 40th Annual Forum

9 to 12 November 2013

Newport, Rhode Island

This is the (US) North East Association for Institutional Research Forum.

<http://www.near.org/>



2012 AAIR ANNUAL FORUM

Terrigal | 12-14 November
www.aaair.org.au



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

The AAIR Annual Forum continues to be the centrepiece of our annual cycle of events, bringing together the range of IR specialists from across Australasia and beyond. This year's conference at the Crowne Plaza Terrigal was no exception. It provided us again with plenty to think about, to dwell on, to challenge us and then gave us some useful ideas and tools to take back to our work places. And there was definitely plenty of opportunities to have some good fun, to catch up with old friends and to expand our networks.

I'd like to thank the universities represented on this year's Organising Committee: UTS (Martin Hanlon); University of Newcastle (Anne Young and Cathy Turner), and Macquarie University (Andrew Bradshaw). Kathie Rabel and Jeff Holmes from the AAIR Committee were also represented. It takes a good 12 months to organise these events so the commitment from the universities and the staff involved should not be underestimated. So many, many thanks from AAIR.

This year's AGM was the time for our biennial election of office bearers to the AAIR Committee. As many would know Josie Palermo has had to stand down as AAIR President after 4 years due to her move to a very different role within Telstra. I wish Josie all the best for her new career. Also standing down this year were Sally Nimon and Mark Bazzacco from the University of Canberra, having both served two years on the Committee. I'd like to say a big thanks to them for their great contribution to AAIR during that time. And we have a new face joining the team – Andrea Jeffreys from Deakin University. The other members of the Committee remain the same except that Kathie Rabel takes over as Vice-President. Congratulations to everyone! I look forward to working with you over the next term.

AAIR faces some real challenges over the next two years but I'm confident that the new Committee is well credentialed to ensure that AAIR continues to play a strong and meaningful role in the sector.

Lastly I'd like to thank Wendy Marchment again for her huge contribution to AAIR as Newsletter Editor for the past two years and welcome Emma Liversidge to the editor's desk for the next two years.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the AAIR Committee.

Dave Marr
AAIR President

NEW AAIR LIFE MEMBER

Congratulations to Veronica (Roni) McDowell who was voted to receive an AAIR Life Membership at the 2012 AAIR AGM.



Roni worked in the HE sector for many years, including as the Head of the Statistics and Reporting area at RMIT and was one of about 70 people at the inaugural AAIR Forum in 1990. She was Secretary on the AAIR Committee for 4 years, an integral part of the organising committees for AAIR Forums held in Melbourne in 1991 & 1998, and chaired the Government Reporting SIG at many AAIR Forums, including the difficult period of the Nelson Reforms.

Roni was known for keeping the Federal Government 'on their toes' in respect of the legislation, implications and associated student data issues. She was widely respected for her detailed knowledge and considered input. This was acknowledged in her inclusion as an expert advisor on various Departmental Reference Groups.

Roni was also a key driving force behind the Victorian Statistics Officers Group which met regularly up until she left RMIT in 2006.

She was/is a passionate supporter of AAIR in many guises. Well deserved Roni – Cheers!

AAIR FORUM CHAIR'S REPORT

The 2012 AAIR Forum was held in Terrigal NSW. The beachside view from the Crown Plaza created a relaxed setting for considering the various cross-currents that impact on institutional research (IR) across Australasia and beyond.

As usual we had a jam packed forum from the opening drinks on Sunday to the closing session on Wednesday. As the first of a number of innovations trialled (apart from starting on a Sunday), Jeff Holmes shared some tips with new AAIR presenters at the welcome drinks.



Lunch venue



Michael Beaton-Wells

Monday's official welcome incorporated an inspiring Welcome to Country from local elder Anita Selwyn from the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council who relayed her personal story of working through life's challenges to give herself a tertiary education. Commissioner Michael Beaton-Wells from Australia's new higher education regulator, TEQSA, then set the scene for the forum with an overview of the new regulatory landscape and an invitation for IR practitioners to use "teeth" at the institutional level for self-assurance. The panel session that followed explored the implications of TEQSA on the work conducted by Australian practitioners. We then commenced a solid day of parallel sessions covering four of the eight themes explored over the forum. One ongoing Special Interest Group or 'SIG', "Datawarehouse/Business Intelligence", and one new group, "Quality and Risk Management", also met.

Day 2, Tuesday, commenced with our international keynote speaker, Dr Victor Borden, Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies and Senior Advisor at Indiana University Bloomington, US. Victor brought a North American perspective to our discussions and encouraged us to use our unique perspectives on the performance of our institutions to foster linkages and alignment. The subsequent panel session explored the particular issue of student cohort tracking and retention before parallel sessions recommenced, covering seven of the eight forum themes by the end of the day. In the midst of the action two more SIGs met, again one new, "Surveys and Evaluations", and one ongoing, "Student Load Management". Just after 4pm we re-grouped for a presentation from our platinum sponsor, eXplorance, and a report back from the SIG chairs (even including Don Johnston whose SIG hadn't met yet!).



John, Explorance presentation

After powdering our noses, we gathered for the conference dinner at the Reef Restaurant overlooking Terrigal Haven, with stingrays meandering in the shallows. Following some fine dining, we were reminded that AAIR Forums are really all about the dancing.

Day 3, Wednesday, commenced with the handover of a cheque to Julie Penney, General Manager Enterprise Central at youthconnections.com.au as a gift in lieu of gifts to speakers. youthconnections.com.au is a NSW Central Coast organisation helping young people aged 13-19 access employment, education, training and recreational opportunities so they can reach their potential. Julie gave us an inspiring insight into the hope groups such as hers bring to young people.

Our final keynote speaker, Phil Aungles, Director of Performance Section in the Higher Education Division of the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (or "Innovation" for short), walked us through the Australian Government's busy reform agenda for higher education. The panel discussion that followed explored the collective impact of this reform. The AAIR AGM was chaired by Dave Marr as Acting President.



Phil Aungles



David Carroll, Best Paper

Unfortunately, Dr Josephine Palermo was unable to join us due to work commitments. In her absence, Dave acknowledged the contribution Josie has made to AAIR over many years including as President since 2008. Examples include development of the AAIR Secretariat and expansion of the relationship with the L.H. Martin Institute. Jeff Holmes presented the Treasurer's Report, indicating that AAIR is in a sound financial position. Election of office bearers for 2012-2014 was swift. The AGM concluded with Veronica (Roni) McDowell being voted in as a Life Member.

The home stretch of the forum included the final SIG (Government Reporting), and repeats of two popular presentations (Rob McCormack and Dick Audley).

The AAIR Forum award for Best New Presenter went to Naomi Doncaster from Southern Cross University; Best Presenter

was Bruce Guthrie from Graduate Careers Australia (GCA) and, for a third year in a row, the Best Paper went to David Carroll from GCA. After thanking Richard and the AV team from Alive LX, together with Victoria and Naomi from Leishman Associates, all three were presented with bags of genuine Terrigal sand and fridge magnets, Dave Marr officially closed the 2012 Forum and invited us to gather in Perth for the 2013 Forum.



Naomi Doncaster, Best New Presenter



Bruce Guthrie, Best Presenter

All that leaves me to say is a few thank yous. Most importantly, I would like to thank the forum delegates for making the time to attend the forum, especially those who flew long distances to join us. An extra thank you to those delegates who also presented and/or chaired a parallel session. As a forum run for practitioners by practitioners, it is a great sign for AAIR that the Organising Committee had little trouble filling the program with a diverse range of presentations and workshops. A big thank you to the forum sponsors eXplorance and Graduate Careers Australia, trade exhibitors Altis and Tableau, and partners The University of Newcastle, University of Western Sydney and Griffith University, whose generous support made the forum financially viable.

Finally I would like to thank my colleagues on the Forum Organising Committee, Anne Young, Cathy Turner, Andrew Bradshaw, Kathie Rabel, Dave Marr and Jeff Holmes, for their commitment to making the Forum the success that it was. See you next year!

Martin Hanlon, Chair, 2012 Forum Organising Committee

HAVING FUN AT THE CONFERENCE DINNER



AAIR IMPRESSIONS – VIC BORDEN

By most accounts, I suppose I would be considered a “road warrior” of institutional research conferences. My U.S. count is now up to 59, including, 24 of the last 25 national conferences as well as 4 regional- and 31 state-level conferences. This year’s Australasian AIR conference was my 13th international IR experience, the first 12 of which included: 8 of the last 10 European AIR Conferences; 2 of the last 3 (which were the first 3) Middle East-North African (MENA) IR conferences, one Southern African AIR conference, and one in the UK. I am continually amazed and encouraged by the passion, dedication and competence of IR practitioners and the quality of the programs and presentations. My experience this year at AAIR was no different. However, as with every IR conference I have attended, there were new things for me to learn and a new IR culture to explore.

Generally, the first issue to deal with at an international conference is language or, more specifically, the “version of English” that attendees speak. Although it was not especially hard for me to follow your Australian accents (or at least no harder than the variety of versions we speak across the U.S.).

It was comforting for me to observe that you face many of the same issues that we do in the U.S. (misery loves company). It appears that accountability to national/federal agencies may be dominating your professional lives for the foreseeable future. It was even more comforting for me to notice that despite the increased demands you face, you still devote considerable time and attention to supporting internal efforts to assess and improve your institutions’ academic and support programs and services in pursuit of our noble academic missions. I wish you all the best in working with your colleagues to ensure that accountability demands do not work across purposes to our mutual interests in serving the public quality higher education experiences.



As I already noted, I thought the quality of sessions was excellent. I found particularly useful to my own work Karen Blackmore’s session on fuzzy data mining approaches. I have since downloaded the Weka software and am plugging away at it (Karen: I may be in touch soon for some assistance!) I very much enjoyed the Terrigal setting (despite getting a little lost during a run around town) and, although I’m not much of a dancer, the forum

dinner was a great occasion to get to know some of you better (one suggestion for improvement: some local craft beers would have hit the spot).

AAIR is a relatively small group, which has both advantages and disadvantages. On the positive side, the venue is compact: everyone stays together and gets to know one another. There were enough concurrent sessions to allow some choice but not too many to be overwhelmed by the choices. On the other hand, a small conference results in a somewhat homogeneous program, which may not allow attendees to expand their horizons and push the IR envelop in new directions. I have seen some interesting ways that small groups have addressed this issue, such as collaborating with another professional group or identifying a niche of colleagues with which to confer. Yet another strategy is to accommodate faculty researchers who focus their scholarship on topics relevant to IR professionals.

Finally, I would like to emphasize the incredible richness of experience in attending IR conferences in other countries. With a common professional interest at the core, experiencing the similarities and differences of the topics and methods of approach is enlightening. Add to this the richness of experiencing diverse people and places make it a memorable and deeply impacting experience. I will encourage my colleagues in the U.S. to consider attending a future AAIR conference as I encourage you all to visit the expanding array of IR conferences across the globe. Thanks again for your hospitality, friendship and, most of all, for inviting me to share the AAIR experience with you.



2012 AAIR ANNUAL FORUM

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AAIR FORUM - REPORT ON THE QUALITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT SIG

ANNE YOUNG AND MARTIN HANLON



Anne Young

The discussion topics for the SIG were:

- Is there a gap left by AUQF that AAIR can fill?
- As practitioners how do we respond to TEQSA's regulatory risk framework?
- How can we strengthen information sharing between directors/managers of planning/reporting/IR/quality units across Australasia?
- Is the AAIR brand working for us?

The group spent some time discussing the origins of the AAIR and its links with the USA organisation. It was agreed that the term 'institutional research' was not well understood within the sector in Australia and New Zealand and that the annual forum is not currently attracting many of the staff from higher education institutions who would benefit from the discussions and presentations. Tightening budgets and the increasing number of other conferences and forums were noted as factors potentially impacting on the AAIR forum attendance. It may

be that the AAIR brand is not strong enough at the moment and different marketing strategies may be required.

Michael Beaton-Wells said that TEQSA is looking at holding an annual conference around September or October 2013 and this may provide an opportunity for further discussion of matters related to quality and risk.

It was agreed that institutional research staff have expertise that can be tapped for policy development and examining the practicalities of implementing new policies. IR staff could also offer advice and input to other network groups such as CFOs and CIOs to improve their understanding of the responsibilities of IR staff.

A network group of university planners was formed during 2012 and that group will be looking at ways to share good practice and be a reference group for government and other stakeholders. Any issues or feedback from that group that is related to AAIR will be passed on to the AAIR Executive Committee.

The SIG will provide opportunities for targeted discussions as part of future AAIR forums. There were no plans for meetings ahead of next year's forum. A formal SIG chair was not elected as such at this stage and the group will watch the development of TEQSA activities and continue discussions through the university planners network group.



Martin Hanlon

AAIR FORUM - LOAD MANAGEMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

JEFF HOLMES, CO-ORDINATOR, AAIR LOAD MANAGEMENT SIG



Jeff Holmes

The Load Management SIG met on day two of the 2012 AAIR Forum. The discussion was robust and frank. It was encouraging to engage in conversations with peers from across the sector. The discussions reinforced the basic idea behind SIG - that while the challenges that are faced by our institutions may vary in scale and shade, there are lessons to be gained from the similarities and differences in the style, shape and nuances of our structures and our responses. This was particularly the case with the discussion on the Commonwealth Funding Agreement.

The range of experiences shared in relation to the funding agreement and the direction that load and revenue is going for designated courses was enlightening. Over an hour was spent discussing funding agreements: what's in, what's out, who gets what, and doesn't for postgraduate and sub-bachelor courses. This is part of the challenge that faces our colleagues in DIISRTE face when dealing with so many institutions with so many courses and so many exceptions.

We were fortunate to also have the view from across the ditch, with New Zealand members providing contrasting insights.

The SIG moved on to continue the Forum's discussions on:

- Retention and attrition;
- The change to the new AAIR SIG email list <http://aaair.org.au/pages/sigs> ;
- The relationship of AAIR SIGs and the annual AAIR Forum

Some other points of interest to load managers from the forum were the changes to HESA for the release of detailed data, and, building from that and from the LM SIG discussions, furthering the relationship between AAIR and DIISRTE.

I'd like to thank the participants for making the LM SIG a great forum to share experiences and I look forward to future collaborations and discussions.

To become a member of the LM SIG, go to the AAIR SIG page <http://aaair.org.au/pages/sigs> and subscribe.



AAIR 2012-14 COMMITTEE

Back Row (L to R):
Dave Marr (President),
Dean Ward (Secretary),
Jeff Holmes (Treasurer),
Kathie Rabel (Vice-President)
Don Johnston

Front Row (L to R):
Bruce Guthrie,
David de Bellis,
Andrea Jeffreys

NEWSLETTER NOTES



1. AAIR 2012 SIG Forum Presentations

Presentations from the July SIG Forum held in Melbourne are now available at:

<http://aaair.org.au/pages/aaair-sig-forum-2012>

2. Accessing Higher Education Data

After many steps backward there is one small step forward with the passage of new legislation. Access to Higher Education data is now very restrictive compared to a few years ago.

The bill allows the federal education department to disclose personal information for a range of regulatory, quality assurance and planning purposes to a limited number of bodies.

Bodies able to receive the information include the Tertiary Education and Quality Standards Authority, the Australian Skills Quality Authority, tertiary admission centres and peak bodies representing higher and vocational education and training providers.

The Higher Education Data Protocols document is [here](#).

Further details may be found [here](#)

3. National Advisory Group on Higher Education Data and Information

The National Advisory Group on Higher Education Data and Information (the Advisory Group) held its initial meeting in Canberra on 26 October 2012. Recently established by the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Science and Research, Senator Chris Evans, the Advisory Group aims to achieve consensus on approaches to data collection in the higher education sector. It includes representatives from higher education providers, the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Authority (TEQSA), the Australian Research Council, university students and staff, and Australian government departments. The Universities Australia representative is Professor Greg Craven, VC of Australian Catholic University. The Terms of Reference & Membership as well as a Communiqué on initial meeting are [here](#)

4. DIISRTE at AAIR Forum

Good to see DIISRTE staff at the AAIR Forum. A write-up about Maureen Wood's presence was in the latest HEIMS newsletter [here](#).

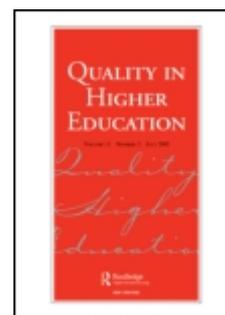
The HEIMS data collection eNews has had a bit of a revamp with the option to [subscribe](#) to various updates



5. Quality in Higher Education, Volume 18 Issue 3, 2012

A number of articles in the latest issue that may interest AAIRies, especially the first one. Excerpt from the abstract:

"Findings demonstrate that while student feedback is valued and used by all Australian universities, survey practices are idiosyncratic and in the majority of cases, questionnaires lack validity and reliability; data are used inadequately or inappropriately; and they offer limited potential for cross-sector benchmarking."



- Student feedback systems in higher education: a focused literature review and environmental scan, Lyn Alderman, Stephen Towers & Sylvia Bannah
- The social representations of students on the assessment of universities' quality: the influence of market- and managerialism-driven discourse, Sónia Cardoso, Rui Santiago & Cláudia S. Sarrico
- Student evaluation of teaching: keeping in touch with reality, Stuart Palmer
- Using a research instrument for developing quality at the university, Anna Parpala & Sari Lindblom-Ylänne
- Institutional research and improving the quality of student engagement, Nick Zepke, Philippa Butler & Linda Leach
- Academics' perceptions on the purposes of quality assessment, Maria J. Rosa, Cláudia S. Sarrico & Alberto Amaral
- Commissioning the University of Excellence: Swedish research policy and new public research funding programmes
Olof Hallonsten & Charlotte Silander

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/cqhe20/18/3>

6. Research in Higher Education (RIHE): AIR Forum Issue Volume 53, # 8, December 2012



RIHE is the official peer-reviewed academic journal of AIR. The latest issue is available.

<http://link.springer.com/journal/11162/53/8/page/1>

7. ERA 2012 results

As to be expected, the second round of ERA shows that universities are playing the game better and there is all round improvement. Various articles in the media and many universities quick to promote their ERA results. http://www.arc.gov.au/era/era_2012/outcomes_2012.htm



8. UniStats UK

Unistats is the official website for comparing UK higher education course data.

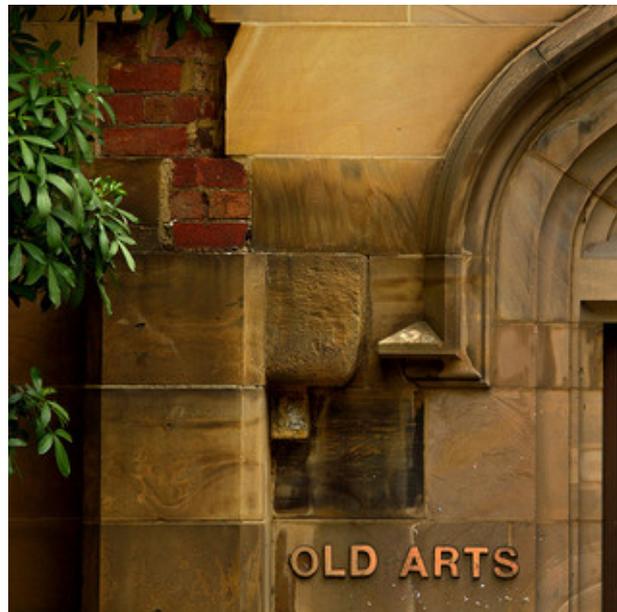
The site draws on the following official data on higher education courses:

- Student satisfaction from the National Student Survey
- Student destinations on finishing their course from the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey
- How the course is taught and study patterns
- How the course is assessed
- Course accreditation
- Course costs (such as tuition fees and accommodation)

These data have been provided by the Higher Education Statistics Agency, HESA, the Data Service, universities and colleges and Ipsos MORI (National Student Survey).

Don't know about you but I found it far more appealing and potentially useful than the myuniversity.gov.au website.

<http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>



9. Decline and fall?

Twenty-five years ago, John Dawkins dramatically reshaped higher education. His critics still fail to distinguish the good from the bad in his reforms, writes Dean Ashenden.

Read the Inside Story article [here](#)

10. Education and Work, 2012

This ABS publication contains results from the 2012 Survey of Education and Work (SEW) conducted throughout Australia in May 2012 as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS). Respondents to the LFS who were in scope of the supplementary survey were asked further questions

The SEW provides a range of key indicators of educational participation and attainment of persons aged 15–74 years, along with data on people's transition between education and work. The annual time series allows for ongoing monitoring of: people presently participating in education; level of highest non-school qualification; level of highest educational attainment; characteristics of people's transition between education and work; and data on apprentices.

<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6227.0May%202012?OpenDocument>

11. TEMC Papers 2012

The refereed papers from the 2012 Tertiary Education Management Conference are available [here](#).

Presentations are at <http://temc.org.au/temc-2012>





12. Asian Century Report

The Federal Government released the report in late October 2012. The main objectives as per the report:

- GDP per capita to be in the world's top 10 nations, at about \$73,000
- The school system to be in the world's top five nations
- Ten Australian universities to be ranked in the top 100
- All school children to have the opportunity to study an Asian language and that Gonski funding should depend upon schools meeting the proposed Asian curriculum
- Innovation to be in the top 10 nations
- Australia to be in the top five nations for "ease of doing business"

Many media articles around and excerpts from this [one](#) caught my attention: "Indeed the words "opportunity" or "opportunities" appear 295 times in the 320-page report. But, more importantly, the report is a wake-up call that the easy days of Australians getting filthy rich shipping rocks to China are over."

Conversation articles include '[Asian Century White Paper is big on rhetoric, small on ideas](#)'; '[Asian century white paper sets tricky targets for universities](#)' and '[Asian Century White Paper: experts respond](#)' which has the somewhat scathing lines "A melange of bland rhetoric and generic management-speak, leavened with policy points as mantra. That pretty much sums up the Asia Century White Paper on the whole. Where are the grand initiatives of a specific nature that display radical novelty under this banner heading? "Culture" as a term is bandied about in the paper without offering any head-turning ideas worth debating." from Dr John Lenarcic, RMIT.

<http://asiancentury.dpmc.gov.au/>



13. NUS survey reveals student concerns about the "uni experience"

The 2012 NUS Undergraduate Student Perceptions of Education Quality Survey was conducted over May/June 2012. 6,755 students from 38 universities did the on-line survey.

However, responses came mainly from a few institutions if you look at the Appendix on page 49. Interestingly, Latrobe accounted for 1539 or 23% of responses. The report is [here](#).

14. Student Outcomes 2012

Information about the outcomes for students who completed their vocational education and training (VET) during 2011 is presented in this publication. The figures are derived from the Student Outcomes Survey, which focuses on students' employment outcomes and satisfaction with VET in Australia. Information about the level and type of training students undertake, further study patterns and reasons for not continuing with the training (where applicable) is also collected.

<http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2572.html>



15. Potential factors influencing Indigenous education participation and achievement

The focus of this paper is on the factors, other than access, that influence the decision for Indigenous Australians to participate in education. The authors use a number of datasets to investigate 11 research questions relating to early childhood and post-school education participation and achievement.

Overall, constraints on education participation and achievement appear at the time of pre-school education and have long-lasting effects. In order to improve the educational outcomes of Indigenous Australians, policy should focus on the earlier years of schooling. Find it [here](#).

2013 NCVER Community of Practice scholarships now open!

Are you a VET practitioner interested in learning about research? Do you have a workplace issue you'd like to investigate?

One of NCVER's Community of Practice research scholarships could be for you!

The Community of Practice scholarships are designed to encourage a culture of research in VET by supporting novice researchers to undertake their own research project.

Scholarship holders will receive \$4000 to conduct a small-scale research project over 12 months while learning about the research process with support and mentoring from experienced VET researchers.

Final papers will be published by NCVER on VOCEDplus. Applications are now open and close 8 February 2013. For more information go [here](#)



16. Vocational trajectories within the Australian labour market

This report explores the movements that workers make in the workforce and whether there are any commonalities. It also considers whether these movements can be characterised as vocational pathways.

Workers within the finance, primary, health and electrical trades/engineering industries were interviewed about their employment and study history, career progression and reasons for any movements. They found that, within medium- to high-skill roles, workers either move upwards into roles with greater responsibilities or they move laterally into related roles expanding their technical skills and knowledge. Within low-skill roles, movements are associated more with ensuring an ongoing livelihood rather than a career pathway.

<http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2557.html>

AAIR e-Newsletter – December 2012 -January 2013

17. Educating oneself out of social exclusion

Increasing education and training is considered one means by which to reduce the extent of social exclusion and as such has been a key focus in recent public policies.

This study investigates the impact of education and training on the extent of social exclusion using a measure of multidimensional social exclusion. A simulation of the effect of the COAG target relating to halving the proportion of 20-64 year olds without at least a certificate III qualification between 2009 and 2020 on the measure of multi-dimensional social exclusion is also undertaken.

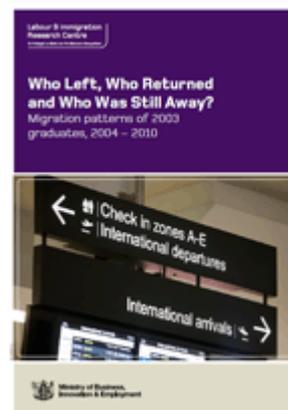
The study finds a clear dichotomy in the extent of social exclusion experienced between those with low levels of education (early school leavers or those with a certificate II qualification at the most) and the rest

<http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2528.html>

18. Who left, who returned and who was still away? Migration patterns of 2003 graduates, 2004 – 2010

This NZ Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment report presents new research on the extent that domestic graduates from tertiary education institutes leave, and then return to, New Zealand. It examines the migration patterns through to 2010, of New Zealand students who completed a tertiary qualification in 2003. We exclude international students and those domestic students who spent an extended period overseas using a non-New Zealand passport before study.

Download the report [here](#)



19. Summation of the ASCLITE Conference

Wonderful visual 'cartoons'

<http://www.monsta.co.nz/ascilite-conference.html>

20. What Students Want

A Campus Review [article](#) by Professor Sandra Harding which concludes "... university administrators, politicians and bureaucrats do not have a direct line of sight on what students want. We need each other, our respective views and the insight that we can jointly achieve to provide what students' and universities' want.

EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION

RESEARCH IMPACTING OUR NATION'S FUTURE
– assessing the benefits

"There are compelling stories that need to be told of research impact arising from research at Australian Universities."

21. Excellence in innovation: research impacting our nation's future – assessing the benefits

This report looks at the study undertaken to measure the innovation dividend of research generated by Australian universities.

These stories clearly articulate the value of taxpayers' investment in university research and provide direct evidence that research is bringing tangible benefits to the nation which is funding it – namely via our economy and the advancement of the society in which we live. Australia has one of the highest percentages of its researchers in universities amongst developed economies – nearly 60%. Australian universities also direct significant investment into research – over \$8.2bn by Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) figures for 2010, representing 0.59% of GDP and 69, 199 person years of effort.

As such, the impact for the nation of the research undertaken in our universities is extremely relevant to its future. This ATN/Go8 "Excellence in Innovation for Australia Research Impact Trial" was undertaken to measure the innovation dividend of research generated by Australian universities and as a precursor to a possible companion piece to the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA). The recent ERA exercise does not include the capability to measure the end-user benefits of research. Both excellence and innovation are crucial aspects of Australia's research efforts.

Download the report [here](#).

22. Student-friendly ranking alternatives

William Patrick Leonard describes websites that have sprung up in the United States based on alumni evaluations of universities. Could they be more valuable to some than the major rankings?

Read it [here](#)

23. Ranking's research impact indicator is skewed

A critique of the THE Research impact indicator by Richard Holmes.

"Times Higher Education's World University Rankings takes pride in its research impact indicator, but a look at the results shows unlikely candidates high up the list. The way research impact is calculated skews it in favour of multiple authored papers and rapid citations of articles."

<http://test.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20121109142209937>

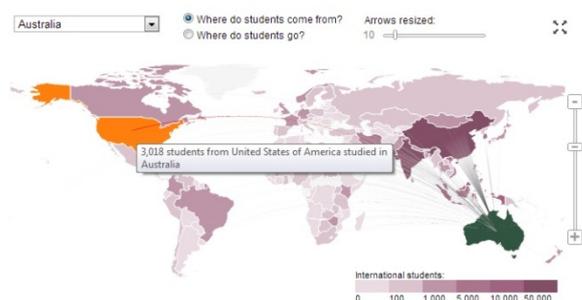
24. World University Rankings -- Time for a Name Change?

This InsideEd article by Kris Olds starts: "I've often wondered if the term 'World University Rankings' -- the one deployed by the firm QS in its QS World University Rankings®, or TSL Education Ltd along with Thomson Reuters, in their Times Higher Education World University Rankings, is an accurate and indeed ethical one to use." Read it [here](#)

GLOBAL FLOW OF TERTIARY-LEVEL STUDENTS

Where do students go to study? Where do they come from? UIS data on the mobility of students shed light on the shifting demand for higher education, particularly in the developing world.

To explore the data select a country from the menu, or click on the map.



25. UNESCO interactive map on global student mobility

East Asia and the Pacific is the largest source of international students, representing 28% of the world's 3.6 million mobile students in 2010. Central Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa have the most mobile students, and several countries have more students abroad than at home. These facts are highlighted in a new "Global Flow of Tertiary-level Students" interactive map published by the UNESCO institute of Statistics (UIS) in Canada. View the map [here](#)



26. Great teaching, inspired learning

This NSW Government [paper](#) looks at learning in the 21st century and the new challenges and opportunities it presents. New technologies are breaking down classroom walls and creating global virtual classrooms. As technology improves and new discoveries are made, our students will have unprecedented access to information and they will be judged by how they use what they know.

Students starting school this year will probably be working until the 2070s. We know that the rate of change in technology and in society is so fast that if we are going to prepare young people to live, work and be successful in the 21st century, they will need the ability to think both creatively and critically, problem solve and work collaboratively.

Thanks to Rob Sheehan for the following 6 items:

27. ERTOA membership list

You might be interested to check out the membership list of the Enterprise Registered Training Organisation Association – the professional organisation for RTOs that are housed within enterprises or industry sectors.

http://ertoa.org/?page_id=445

28. Strategic review of aged and community care training

The Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) has launched its strategic review of vocational education and training (VET) in the aged and community care sector. That's the first sentence of ASQA's 20 November media release. Why not read the rest of it? Click [here](#).

This is a follow up to a 2011 Productivity Commission recommendation. The review will be finalised by June next.

29. VET in Victoria – is it just a matter of perspective?

The tussle over VET reforms in Victoria continues. The assessments vary from catastrophe to boon. Without fear or favour, here's a spread of perspectives.

[ACPET's media release](#) of 12 November, 'ACPET congratulates the Victorian Government on the success of its skill reform agenda'.

A view from the Victorian Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Industry, reported in The Australian in October, under the headline '[Vic TAFE cuts too fast](#)'.

A feisty media release from the Victorian TAFE Association back in June, '[TAFE truth smothered in lies](#)'.

Victoria's Minister for Higher Education and Skills puts his perspective in a November 12 [media release](#), 'Training in Victoria increases by a third in 2012'.

Some data might help you make up your own mind. Here's the '[Victorian Training Market Quarterly Report Q3 2012](#)', from the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.



30. The Skillaroos are set for Leipzig

WorldSkills Australia has announced the Skillaroos team for the 42nd WorldSkills International Competition in Leipzig next year. Our team of 28 hails from all corners – Smithton, Ararat, Inverell and Mindarie. They'll compete alongside 1000 skills olympians from 63 countries. Australia came seventh in the medal count in London in 2011. The Skillaroos team is at the bottom of [this webpage](#).

If you're in Leipzig next July, you ought to drop in. You ought to drop in to the [WorldSkills Leipzig website](#) anyway.

An international team did some fascinating research on WorldSkills competitors at the London competition, and a second iteration is planned for Leipzig. The research team is from Finland, the UK and Australia. The research appears in various forms [here](#) on the WorldSkills Foundation website.

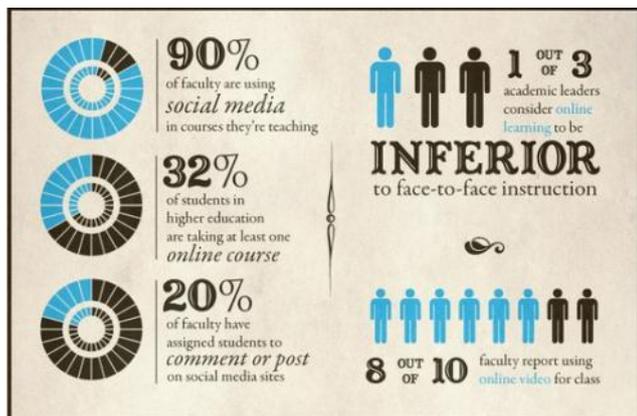
31. What's the use of adult learning?

Good NCVER research report released in October, titled 'Studying beyond age 25: who does it and what do they gain?'. It confirms some things we've known for a bit, like 'more educated individuals much [are] more likely to enrol than individuals with very little prior education.' Listen up, folks: that's a reminder that it pays to improve completion rates for first timers.

With your indulgence, let me quote at length from the bit of the report that I found most gladdening:

'Male adults who engaged in VET study did report higher levels of job satisfaction, higher use of skills in the job and a reduction in the number of weekly hours of work. They also were more likely to retain employment if they completed their study and gained a qualification. For females, the effects of mature-age education were mostly related to employment status. VET-level studies in particular led to higher levels of satisfaction with employment opportunities and a higher probability of employment among previously non-employed (unemployed or out of the labour force) women. By enrolling in VET, women can increase their probability of finding a job by around 33 percentage points. Enrolment in a bachelor degree or higher also increased the probability of females retaining a permanent job by almost ten percentage points.'

<http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2530.html>



32. Teenage research

This is a lovely bit of research from the PEW Research Centre, titled '[How teens do research in the digital world](#)'. I think it's probably essential reading for anyone designing learning programs for young adults – we probably need some research just like it for Oz and NZ.

While we're digital, Edudemic has produced an interesting infographic: [How has the internet changed education?](#)



33. The experience of education: the impacts of high stakes testing on school students and their families

From The Whitlam Institute, this study lays bare Australian educator's perspectives of NAPLAN testing and its unintended effects on schooling and student well-being.

The report draws on the experience of over 8,300 teachers and principals across the country, surveyed at the time of the NAPLAN testing in mid-May, 2012. It probes the impact of NAPLAN on testing, pedagogy and curriculum practice as well as the more difficult (and largely ignored) question of the impact on students' health and well-being.

A summary by one of the authors, Nicky Dulforn, can be found at The Conversation [here](#)

Download the full report [here](#)

34. Learning curve: how college graduates solve information problems once they join the workplace

This report looks at the qualitative findings about the information-seeking behaviour of today's college graduates as they transition from the campus to the workplace.

Included are findings from interviews with 23 US employers and focus groups with 33 recent graduates from four US colleges and universities, conducted as an exploratory study for Project Information Literacy's (PIL's) Passage Studies. Most graduates in our focus groups said they found it difficult to solve information problems in the workplace, where unlike college, a sense of urgency pervaded and where personal contacts often reaped more useful results than online searches.

Download the full report [here](#)

35. Twilight of the Lecture

The trend toward "active learning" may overthrow the style of teaching that has ruled universities for 600 years. (Some would say it's already well down this path.) The Harvard magazine article is [here](#)

36. No, you're not entitled to your opinion

From The Scan; "An article by Deakin University philosopher Patrick Stokes, published by The Conversation on 5 October, has been read by more than 124,000 people globally, making it The Conversation's most read item. Simply, he suggested not all opinions are created equal: that evidence matters and some of the shrill views we encounter in public debate aren't worth a jot – and should not be given credence – as long as they remain unsupported by facts or convincing argument. He tells his students:

I'm sure you've heard the expression 'everyone is entitled to their opinion.' Perhaps you've even said it yourself, maybe to head off an argument or bring one to a close. Well, as soon as you walk into this [lecture theatre], it's no longer true. You are not entitled to your opinion. You are only entitled to what you can argue for.

<https://theconversation.edu.au/no-youre-not-entitled-to-your-opinion-9978>

37. Death by administration

This article by Toby Miller starts "I'VE had difficulty adjusting to life in British academe after two decades in New York and Los Angeles. I'm unused to a seminar with 80 masters students for three hours.

I'm unused to 90 per cent of these graduate students working in a second, third or fourth language, with many never having written a university essay in any language.

I'm unused to the requirement to take a roll, whereby I engage in surveillance to ensure attendance.

I'm unused to a vast array of meetings...."

And it continues finishing as follows:

"I have a second set of proposals that might be more popular:

One, no meeting is ever convened other than to take decisions.

Two, nobody is required to go to a meeting unless its decisions affect them.

Three, university managers must begin meetings with discussion of a recent scholarly article or book on any topic -- apart from management.

The last one should really reduce meeting time."

I certainly agree with one and two and wouldn't actually have a problem with three.

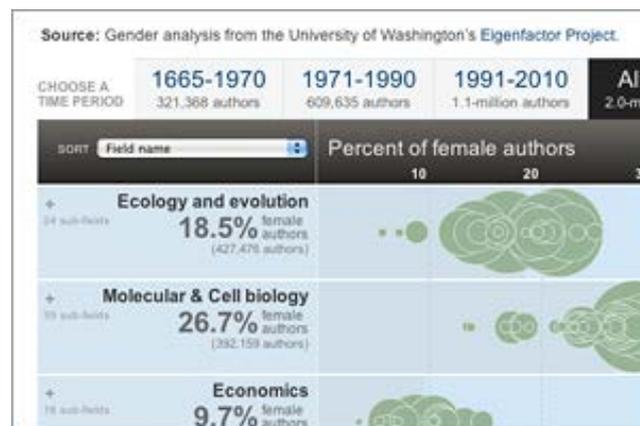
Read the full article [here](#)

38. Gartner: Top 10 Strategic Technology Trends For 2013

They are:

1. Mobile device battles
2. Mobile applications & HTML 5
3. Personal Cloud
4. Internet of Things
5. Hybrid IT and Cloud Computing
6. Strategic Big Data
7. Actionable Analytics
8. Mainstream In-Memory Computing
9. Integrated Ecosystems
10. Enterprise App Stores

Read the Forbes article [here](#)



39. Women as Academic Authors, 1665-2010

Women's presence in higher education has increased, but as authors of scholarly papers—keys to career success—their publishing patterns differ from those of men. Explore nearly 1,800 fields and subfields, across four centuries, to see which areas have the most female authors and which have the fewest, in this exclusive Chronicle report. See how overall percentages differ from the important first-author position and—in two major bioscience fields—from the prestigious last-author position. Interactive graphic in the report [here](#)

Thanks to Angel Calderon for the following items:

40. Australian higher education finance 2011

The annual report on the finances of Australian universities is always a gem and a challenge to find. This edition can be located [here](#).

Bookmark this page as it cannot be found through the usual searches from the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education.



41. Global Education Digest

This has to be one of the top sources of information for global statistics on all levels of education. The UNESCO Institute for Statistics has released the 2012 Global Education Digest. This edition has a particular focus on children repeating grades and early school leavers.

Available via:

<http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Pages/global-education-digest.aspx>

42. Australian universities international lists

Universities Australia enthusiastically released a report that focuses on the international links of Australian universities. The data for this report was supplied by Universities Australia member universities in response to a survey undertaken in late 2011- early 2012. The survey was aimed at identifying formal institution-to-institution agreements between Australian universities and overseas higher education institutions. Agreements include cooperation facilitating student exchanges, study abroad arrangements, staff exchanges and academic/research collaboration.

The report and dataset can be retrieved from:

<http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/page/policy---advocacy/international/international-links-data/>

43. Impact of COAG reforms: Business regulation and VET

In case some of you missed this report from the Australian Productivity Commission (PC), released last May about the same time the Victorian government announced changes to the way it funds TAFE institutes, this report is worthwhile perusing and ponder about wider implications about services sector such as education.

<http://www.pc.gov.au/projects/study/coag-reporting/report>

At a presentation I made to VISTA, I address implications of these reforms and possible scenarios for vocational education and training for Victoria:

<http://www.vista.org.au/documents/item/2152>



44. Connecting with Emigrants, A Global Profile of Diasporas

The OECD recently released this publication which gathers a broad range of statistical information on migrant populations and their children worldwide by origin country which can be of use for policy makers to tail policies to the population groups in question.

This publication contains 140 country notes summarising diaspora sizes, including the number of children of migrants born in the destination countries; the characteristics of emigrant populations (gender, age, education, labour market outcomes); the numbers and main destinations of international students; recent migrant flows to OECD countries; and information on the desire to emigrate among different population groups.

<http://www.oecd.org/migration/diasporas.htm>

POSITIONS VACANT

Check out the Opportunities page on the AAIR website <http://www.aair.org.au/pages/opportunities>

If you know of any relevant jobs and would like AAIR to advertise them, please email the text to info@aair.org.au



Senior Surveys Officer HEW8

Deakin University

This position will be advertised soon and is based at Geelong Waterfront campus.

Contact [Wendy Marchment](#) for further details and/or keep your eye out at [Deakin Jobs](#)

FOR THE PODDIES, VODDIES AND BLOGGIES

1. Universities, Challenged

What do we expect from a 21st-century university? Which ideals have survived the transition to our brave new education world? And what does it mean when students become customers? Moral philosopher Raimond Gaita, politics professor Robert Manne and University of Melbourne Vice-Chancellor Glyn Davis come together in the ultimate brains trust, to debate the meaning (and future) of new-millennium universities. Chaired by RMIT Vice-Chancellor Margaret Gardner.

<http://wheelercentre.com/videos/video/universities-challenged/>

2. Making your enrolment count

This 90 second clip aims to assist in creating awareness of the importance of quality data in the National VET Provider Collection.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rd8Cd4H6kNA>



45. What's the use of teacher professional learning?

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) has put together a neat animation on why professional learning for teachers and school leaders is a priority. The messages work for VET and higher ed teaching too. It's short – 3:21 – so you can afford to watch it just before you nick out for lunch.

View it [here](#)

3. 10 TED Talks Perfect For the eLearning Industry

Some of these talks I've linked to before but here is a 'complete' list. If you're at all interested in more of an idea of where Higher Education might /is heading. View them [here](#)

4. Report casts doubts on skills training

Julie Hare talks to John Ross about a Queensland government report that indicates the TAFE system will struggle to fill skills demand. This is a 12 minute interview on The Australian website [here](#).

5. Interview with Hielke Buddelmeyer on 'Educating oneself out of social exclusion'

In this 10min phone interview, Hielke Buddelmeyer, talks about the impact of education and training on social exclusion using a multidimensional measure that focuses on seven domains. Education, he says, is a 'sleeping factor' in that it operates on many different levels and has an impact on other six domains, such as health. Hielke also points out that the current focus on human capital, including social inclusion, follows previous market reforms that have been implemented to position Australia in changing economic times. <http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2577.html>

Education and Research Sector Scholarships for AAIR Women

Four scholarships of up to \$11,000 are being awarded to women in the Education/Research Sector to support their participation in the Advanced Leadership Program in 2013. The program aims to encourage more women to step up into executive positions and supports the rapid advancement of high potential women. Over a 12-month development journey, students accelerate their career progression and become part of an exclusive cohort of exceptional female leaders.

Information on the course and scholarship can be found at <http://www.wla.com.au/programs/alp/> further links to the course prospectus can also be found here.

To obtain an application form you will need to contact Workplace Training Advisory Australia on 1300 138 037 and ask to speak to a scholarship advisor. Advise them that you are a member of AAIR.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

For more opportunities make sure you check out <http://www.aair.org.au/pages/training-development>

DIISRTE Data Collections / Reporting Tools Training Sessions February 2013

These will be conducted sometime in February. Contact HEIMS.datacollections@DEEWR.gov.au for details.

Proposal Writing Workshop Thursday 24 January 2013

Engagement Australia is offering this in conjunction with their 'Next Steps' Conference. Are you writing your proposal for our upcoming conference? Want some advice as you are working on your proposal? Join us for an online workshop to evaluate your proposal before you submit it. For an 90mins we will work on the requirements for the proposal and gain insight into your strengths and ensure you submit a great proposal.

The workshop will be conducted via Blackboard Collaborate by A/Prof Diana Whitton (UWS) and Dr Valentine Mukuria (Macquarie). Participants will be required to have a semi-prepared abstract ready for discussion.

To register, please email Jan Strom (jan@engagementaustralia.org.au) by 13 January 2013.

Kimball University DW/BI Lifecycle In Depth 4 to 7 March 2013

Sydney

This Kimball University course prepares you for the successful implementation and management of your DW/BI environment.

<http://altis.com.au/kimball-university-dwbi-lifecycle-sydney/>

RESOURCES

Statistical Skills for Official Statisticians

Statistical Skills for Official Statisticians is a resource which forms an integral part of strengthening the ABS' overall statistical capability.

This resource is important for all aspiring statisticians, new starters to the ABS and existing ABS employees who produce official statistics and wish to continually add value to the ABS, the wider National Statistical Service (NSS) and international statistical community.

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1125.0>

Impact Story

From their blurb 'ImpactStory is a website that makes it quick and easy to view the impact of a wide range of research output. It goes beyond traditional measurements of research output -- citations to papers -- to embrace a much broader evidence of use across a wide range of scholarly output types. The system aggregates impact data from many sources and displays it in a single report, which is given a permaurl for dissemination and can be updated any time.'

<http://impactstory.org/faq>

Mind Tools

Mind Tools is a website containing heaps of resources across a whole range of areas from time management to Leadership Skills to Creativity Techniques to Communication Skills to Stress Management etc etc.

<http://www.mindtools.com/index.html>

14 Things You Should Do at the Start of Every Work Day

The first few hours of the work day can have a significant effect on your level of productivity over the following eight—so it's important you have a morning routine that sets you up for success.

The Forbes article is available [here](#).

The 100 Best Video Sites For Educators

This listing from edudemic.com has been updated from their original 2010 list.

<http://edudemic.com/2012/08/best-video-sites-for-teachers/>

16 New iPad tips 2012

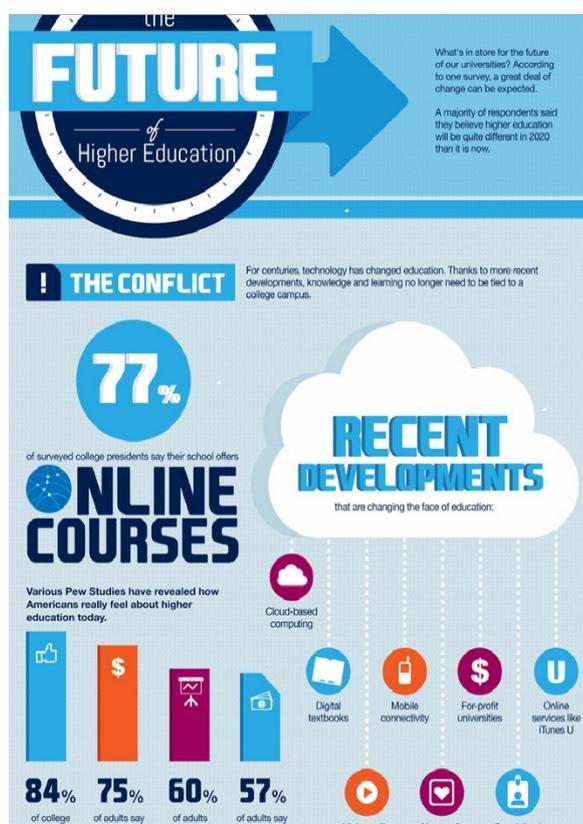
Wondering how to use that new iPad – [here](#) are some tips.

World's Simplest Management Secret

Very true!

<http://www.inc.com/geoffrey-james/worlds-simplest-management-secret.html>

DISTRACTIONS



Infographic: The Future of Higher Education

View it [here](#)

Summer reading list for the Prime Minister 2012 and....You?

The Grattan Institute compiles the annual Summer Reading List for the Prime Minister.

“Now in its fourth year, the List contains books and articles that we believe the Prime Minister – or indeed any Australian – will find stimulating over the break. They are all good reads that we think say something interesting about Australia and its future. And they make terrific Christmas gifts.”

The link to download the lists is [here](#)



Paul Keating – After Words

You don't have to be a true believer to recognise there are few in public life who make an idea sing the way Paul Keating does. And here, in this Sydney Writers Festival special event, he's in full stride speaking with the ABC's Kerry O'Brien.

Known as much for his acerbic tongue as for his economic reform, Paul Keating lives up to his reputation at this Sydney Writers' Festival Special Event. The anecdotes flow thick and fast, from reflections on an indignant childhood to the new domestic carbon tax, to the larger geopolitical stage and the opportunities missed by both Bill Clinton and Barack Obama.

According to Keating, Obama should have had the sword out from Day One. Instead, he's been too concerned with sending all the customers away satisfied. Keating quotes one of his mentors, Jack Lang: In political life, you need a decent stock of enemies.

In a wide-ranging conversation with the ABC's Kerry O'Brien, the loose focus is "After Words", Keating's new collection of post prime ministerial speeches. As you'll see, Keating is clearly enjoying being centre stage once again.

Plenty of laughs from Kerry and the audience to the extent this almost went into Light Relief.

Watch it [here](#)

The Story of Change

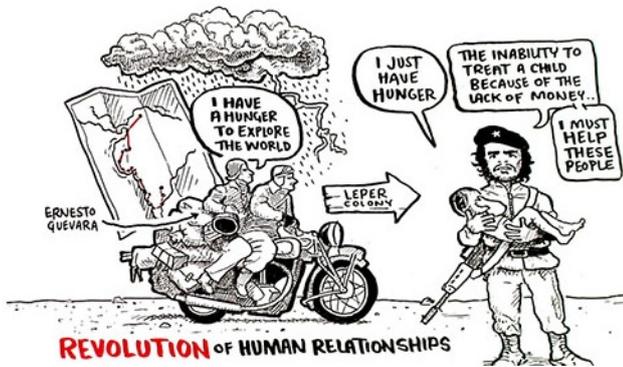
Another film from Annie Leonard. The Story of Change urges viewers to put down their credit cards and start exercising their citizen muscles to build a more sustainable, just and fulfilling world.

<http://www.storyofstuff.org/movies-all/story-of-change/>

9 Simple Steps to Improve Your Health (Without Joining a Gym)

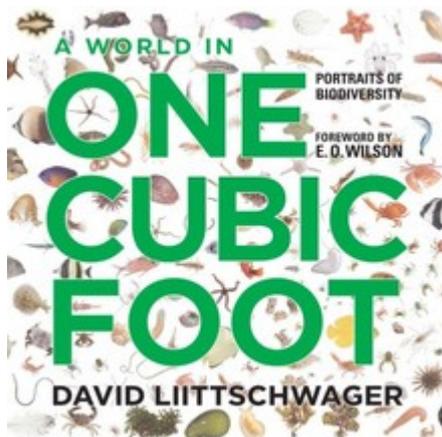
Laughter, the arts, touch, sleep. What you can do in your everyday life to get healthier.

The Yes! Article is [here](#)



RSA Animate - Outrospection

Introspection is out, and outrospection is in. Philosopher and author Roman Krznaric explains how we can help drive social change by stepping outside ourselves. Taken from a lecture given by Roman Krznaric as part of the RSA's free public events programme View it [here](#)



Cornstalks Everywhere But Nothing Else, Not Even A Bee

The article relates to a book called 'A world in One Cubit Foot' by David Liittschwager that you might want to add to your Christmas reading list. Read it [here](#)

LIGHT RELIEF

Ellen De Genres – Bic Female Pen

This was one of many links posted on the Facebook page [Keep Calm and Destroy the Joint](#) which was a social media reaction against Alan Jones sexist comments initially and has had substantial influence.

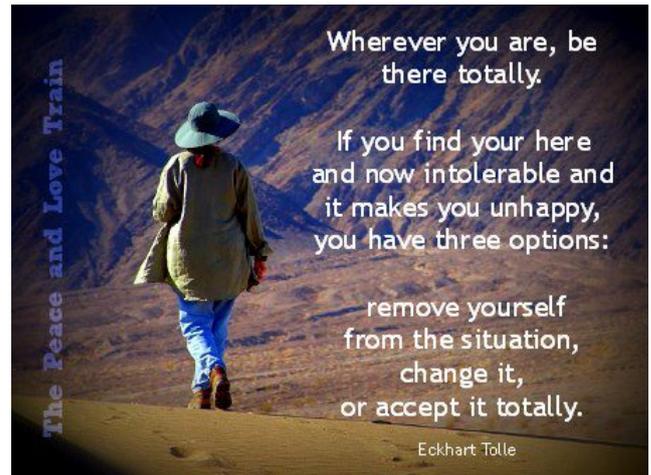
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eCyw3prlWhc&sns=fb>

MIT Gangnam Style (MIT 강남스타일)

Puts MIT in a very different light.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtHNEdnrY>

AND JUST REMEMBER...



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Deadline for submissions to the February – March 2013 AAIR e-Newsletter is Friday 25 January 2013. Send items to editor@air.org.au

If you're about to change your contact details and still want to receive the Newsletter, please advise info@air.org.au

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