

e-Newsletter April-May 2012

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EDITORIAL OF SORTS

The recent 30 April [CSHE seminar](#) on the Base Funding Review did not contain positive messages in terms of the outlook for increased funding to the sector. An increase in Government Funding is highly unlikely from a (shaky) Government that is aiming for a surplus and is already pouring more money into the sector than originally envisaged under the demand-driven system. The alternative option of increasing student contributions (HECS) would probably be unpalatable to younger voters. Bruce Chapman would argue that enrolments have been shown to be 'non-HECS price' sensitive in the past. At what point though does the level of HECS become unattractive or shift a student's vote? The former may be more to do a student's envisaged prospects of employment with a degree, which are still very attractive for the majority of graduates in terms of lifetime earnings compared to those with only Year 12.

Interestingly, HECS/HELP loans total \$15,551,142,000 in 2011, an increase of 13.4% over the previous year ([DEEWR Annual Report 2010-11](#) pg 238). What proportion of this will be written off as 'bad debts' eventually is ???

AAIR Special Interest Group (SIG) Forum 2012

"A New Beginning in Demanding Times"

AAIR is proud to present its 2012 SIG event, jointly hosted by RMIT and Victoria University, and supported by Altis Consulting. The SIG event will take place from 5 to 6 July 2012 in Melbourne.

As per last year, the SIG will focus on the areas of Load Planning, Data Warehousing/ Business intelligence, and Federal Government statistical reporting.

The call for abstracts is open, and the deadline for those magnificent abstracts is: 8 June 2012. Mark the dates in your diary and send those abstracts to RMIT. Details regarding submission of abstracts can be found in the flyer for the SIG available [here](#)

The report '[Global Changes in Tuition Fee Policies and Student Assistance](#)' by the Canadian consulting group Higher Education Strategy Associates, suggests that university affordability for students in 40 countries may have reached its peak. Certainly there are signs of a system under significant stress in other countries. Food for thought, or part of a risk management plan?

Feedback, comments, suggestions and contributions to the Newsletter are, as always, welcomed.

So, ...put your feet up, read on and sample the varied mix that follows.

Enjoy....

Wendy Marchment
 Editor
editor@air.org.au



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



The National Higher Education Information Management Strategy Forum 2012

22 to 23 May 2012

Sydney

Developing and Implementing Information Management Strategies that Succeed in the Unique Operating Environment of the Higher Education Sector.

http://liquidlearning.com.au/documents/HIMS0512/HIMS0512_W.pdf



Association for Institutional Research Forum 2 to 6 June 2012

New Orleans, Louisiana

Against the backdrop of one of America's most unique and colourful cities, the Association for Institutional Research presents the 2012 annual conference. Known as the AIR Forum, this event is the world's largest gathering of higher education professionals working in institutional research, assessment, planning, and related postsecondary education fields.

Details [here](#)

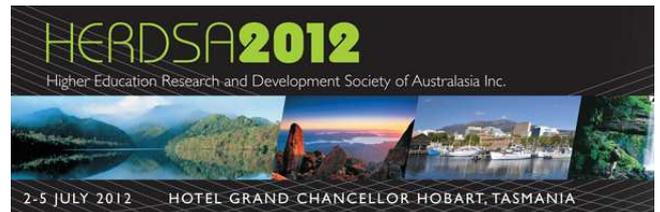


GCA Australian Graduate Survey (AGS) Survey Manager Information Forum 28 to 29 June 2012

Melbourne

The annual GCA AGS Survey Manager Information Forum (SMIF) will be held in Melbourne on June 28 and 29 at Rydges in Exhibition Street (the same venue as last year). Content for the forum is yet to be finalised, awaiting the outcomes of the AQHE review. It's currently envisaged that one day will be about the conduct of the AGS as currently stands and the other day about the review outcomes and the future development of the AGS.

For further information contact Darren Matthews Darren.Matthews@graduatecareers.edu.au or phone (03) 9605 3712.



HERDSA 2012: Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia 2 to 5 July 2012

Hobart, Tasmania

The main theme is Connections in Higher Education. Conference delegates will explore the policies, research, leadership and student outcomes we should be pursuing in higher education world-wide to establish and sustain our connections with the entire sector. The focus will be on the following sub-themes:

- * Creating and sustaining peer connections
- * Establishing community connections
- * Enriching interdisciplinary connections
- * Connections for student success
- * Connecting with research

<http://conference.herdsa.org.au/2012/>

Australian Statistical Conference 9 to 13 July 2012

Adelaide

This is the annual conference of the Statistical Society of Australia.

<http://www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/asc2012/index.html>

**21st National VET Research Conference
'No Frills' 2012**

11 to 13 July 2012

Adelaide

Co-hosted with TAFE SA, and held for the first time in Adelaide, this 21st anniversary conference will be an opportunity to celebrate, collaborate and connect.

Practitioners and researchers, especially early career VET researchers or those new to the VET sector, are invited to share their research and knowledge in a range of ways.

<http://www.nofrills.ncver.edu.au/>

intelligence²

Intelligence Squared Australia (IQ2) - Live Debate

11 July 2012

Adelaide Town Hall

Having an education can change people's lives, but is a university degree the be all and end all? NCVER, in partnership with St James Ethics Centre, will present the popular Intelligence Squared Australia (IQ2) debate series, in Adelaide for the first time.

Six high-profile speakers will set out their arguments for and against the proposition Having a university degree is grossly overrated.

This event has been timed to coincide with the 21st celebration of NCVER's annual 'No Frills' conference.

<http://www.ncver.edu.au/newsevents/events/iq2.html>

Fifth Annual Conference of the Higher Education Institutional Research (HEIR) Network

12-13 July 2012

The University of Liverpool Management School, UK

The theme of the conference is 'Unlocking Institutional Research: Information and Knowledge for Enhanced Institutional Effectiveness.' Tracks included are: Track I: Improving Quality, Track II: The Student Experience, Track III: Research and Innovation, Track IV: Influencing Strategy and Track V: League Tables and Rankings.

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/heir2012/>

International Symposium in Statistics (ISS) on Longitudinal Data Analysis Subject to Outliers, Measurement Errors, and/or Missing Values

16 to 18 July 2012

St. John's, Canada

The purpose of this ISS 2012 is to bring together a set of speakers and discussants to describe the latest research such as inferences in longitudinal data analysis when data may be incomplete, imprecise, or contaminated.

<http://www.iss-2012-stjohns.ca/>



IADIS European Conference Data Mining 2012

21 to 23 July 2012

Lisbon, Portugal

The European Conference on Data Mining (ECDM'12) is aimed to gather researchers and application developers from a wide range of data mining related areas such as statistics, computational intelligence, pattern recognition, databases and visualization. ECDM'12 is aimed to advance the state of the art in data mining field and its various real world applications.

ECDM'12 will provide opportunities for technical collaboration among data mining and machine learning researchers around the globe.

<http://www.datamining-conf.org/>

The National Research and Evaluation Design Conference 2012

24 to 25 July 2012

Sydney

This conference is a unique platform for researchers, policy managers and evaluation specialists in a variety of fields. The adoption of a broader suite of new and innovative research and evaluation tools are central to driving effectiveness for researchers and policy makers into the future. The conference focuses on those methods, skills and requirements required in an evidence-based policy environment.

http://liquidlearning.com.au/documents/RED0712/RED0712_W.pdf



Measuring & Managing Research Performance

24 to 25 July 2012

Melbourne

From the promo, "By attending this conference you will learn:

- Strategies for assessing and benchmarking research excellence
- Methods for improving global collaboration endeavours
- Techniques for strengthening interdisciplinary research
- Tips for improving the quality of research training"

<http://uniresearchinnovation.com/>



The 18th ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining

12 to 16 August 2012

Beijing, China

The annual ACM SIGKDD conference is the premier international forum for data mining researchers and practitioners from academia, industry, and government to share their ideas, research results and experiences. KDD-2012 will feature keynote presentations, oral paper presentations, poster sessions, workshops, tutorials, panels, exhibits, demonstrations, and the KDD Cup competition.

<http://kdd2012.sigkdd.org/>



Australian Council for Educational Research

ACER Research Conference 2012

School Improvement: What does the research tell us about effective strategies?
26–28 August 2012

Sydney Convention Centre

School Improvement is a key objective of all educational systems and school leaders who share a common drive to deliver improved outcomes for students. Research Conference 2012 will highlight recent research and practice that identifies not only WHAT schools can do to improve outcomes for students but also HOW they can do it most effectively.

Research is revealing particular practices that have a powerful effect on school improvement endeavours. High-impact practices that will be discussed at this conference include:

- School leadership and its role in shaping effective teaching practices and building an expert teaching team,
- School-wide analysis and discussion of systematically collected data on student outcomes, including academic, attendance and behavioural outcomes,
- The creation of a culture that promotes a deep belief that every student is capable of successful learning and that gives a high priority to building and maintaining positive and caring relationships between staff, students and parents,
- The use of ICT as a resource to drive school improvement through curriculum delivery strategies,
- The targeted use of resources (staff time, expertise, funds, facilities, materials, community partnerships) to meet the learning needs of all students,
- Effective teaching practices that extend from school-wide policies, practices and programs to assist in identifying student learning needs to a range of teaching approaches and monitoring strategies to effectively address the diversity of student needs,
- The encouragement of a school-wide, shared responsibility for student learning and the development of a culture of continuous professional improvement that includes classroom-based learning, mentoring and coaching arrangements.

<http://www.acer.edu.au/research-conference>



**Australasian Evaluation Society (AES) 2012
International Conference
27 to 31 August 2012
Adelaide**

This year's theme, Evaluation in a Changing World, invites all those with an interest in evaluation to think about the ways our world is changing and therefore our work is – or could be –changing. What are the implications:

- of the changing balance of world power for work in international development, and therefore for its evaluation?
- of climate change for the evaluation of work in natural resource management and disaster management?
- of wicked social problems and their implications for the evaluation of the complex, fuzzy policies and programs that seek to address them?
- of changing social and community relationships within and across cultures, both in Australia and overseas?
- of new technology for the ways that societies work, that programs work, for what policy makers and program staff may need from evaluation; and for the ways in which we might collect, store, report and represent evaluation data and findings?
- for what evaluators need to know and to be able to do, in this complex and fast changing world?

This theme provides an invitation to highlight and examine new developments in evaluation methodology and technologies. It also invites the conference itself to trial some innovative sessions, approaches, and technologies.

<http://www.aes2012.com.au/>



**EAIR 34th Annual Forum 2012
5 to 8 September 2012**

Stavanger, Norway

The theme is 'The Social Contract of Higher Education'. Registrations are now open.

Tracks are:

- Education as a vehicle of social justice
- Policy development for knowledge enhancement
- Higher education in a competitive world
- Promoting higher education in decades of open access
- Student experience: Attractive learning and teaching
- Management and governance: Friend or foe?
- Institutional research: Measuring effectiveness in higher education

<http://www.eair.nl/forum/stavanger/welcome.asp>

**International Conference on Statistics in
Science, Business and Engineering 2012
(ICSSBE 2012)**

10 to 12 September 2012

Langkawi, Kedah, Malaysia

This conference aims to bring together world scientific community in providing optimal solutions to technical and managerial problems in Business, Science and Engineering with the theme Empowering Decision Making with Statistical Sciences.

<http://www.icssbe2012.com>

**International Conference on Business
Performance Measurement and Management
11 to 13 September 2012**

Lima, Peru

The CENTRUM Católica Graduate School of Business at The Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP) is pleased to announce the 11th year of completion of its management education services in the international education sector in conjunction with an International conference on Business Performance Measurement and Management to be held from 11 to 13 September 2012 at CENTRUM Católica, Lima, Perú. A set of selected papers will be reviewed for publishing in JCC: The Business and Economics Research Journal or conference proceedings.

Deadline for papers/abstracts 30 June 2012

<http://centrumwebs.pucp.edu.pe/icbpmm/index.php>



36th TEM Conference
16 to 19 September 2012
Adelaide

The theme is 'The Right Blend: Innovation and Transformation'. This conference offers professional administrators and managers within the tertiary sector, including members of both the Association for Tertiary Education Management (ATEM) and the Tertiary Education Facilities Management Association (TEFMA), an opportunity to explore innovative developments and new ideas around people, services, facilities and environment. Our focus will be ensuring positive outcomes for students as well as a productive working and learning environment for staff and our broader institution communities.
<http://temc.org.au/>

Australasian Higher Education Evaluation Forum (AHEEF)
8 to 10 October 2012
CQUniversity Rockhampton Campus

The forum theme for 2012 is " Embedding an internal evaluation culture ". Embedding the components of an effective evaluation system and developing the culture to support this provides the basis on which an institution can meet the challenge of external assessment and develop the internal capacity for undertaking internal self assessment. An internal evaluation culture cannot be embedded from above, and the participation of academics, administrators, managers and practitioners is integral in cultural change through sharing of good practice and experiences.

The forum program will represent the breadth and depth of evaluation practices and offer participants the chance to engage in scholarly discourse, discussion and exchange of practical understandings.

[Deadline](#) for papers/abstracts 14 May 2012
Details [here](#)

Canadian Institutional Research and Planning Association (CIRPA) 21st annual Conference

21 to 23 October 2012
Montréal, Québec

The theme 'Assessment and Accountability: Back to the Future' reflects issues of interest to the public, governments, and institutions that have persisted across time, and that are very much in today's headlines. CIRPA encourages submissions that address conceptual, methodological, and practical challenges and opportunities in the way colleges and universities assess their performance and account for the fulfilment of their missions.

[Deadline](#) for papers/abstracts 31 May 2012
<http://www.cirpa-acpri.ca/>

North East Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR) 39th Annual Conference
3 to 6 November 2012
Bethesda, Maryland, USA

The theme for the 2012 NEAIR is 'Time for Decisions: Visualising the Future'

[Deadline](#) for papers/abstracts 14 June 2012
<http://www.neair.org/>

Data Management & Information Quality Conference Europe 2012 and Data Warehouse & Business Intelligence Conference Europe 2012
5 to 7 November 2012
London, UK

This is an independent event, offering its audience a diverse range of experienced speakers who will provide a broad, practical perspective on Data Management, Information Quality and Data Warehousing & Business Intelligence. It will offer unparalleled opportunities for networking and discussion of the latest issues.

<http://www.irmuk.co.uk/dm2012/>



SEAIR 2012 Conference
6 to 8 November 2012
Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

Theme: Culturalising Excellence in Higher Education.

[Deadline](#) for papers/abstracts 12 July 2012
<http://www.seairweb.info/>



**2012 AAIR
ANNUAL FORUM**
Terrigal | 12-14 November
www.aa.ir.org.au



The AAIR Forum Organising Committee invites you to participate in the 22nd Annual AAIR Forum
Crowne Plaza, Terrigal, NSW
12 – 14th November, 2012

Call for Abstracts and Registration Open!

Visit the [Website](#)

The 22nd Annual AAIR Forum, to be held at Crowne Plaza, Terrigal on the NSW Central Coast, will focus on the core business of AAIR, *Institutional Research*. Whether you work in data warehousing, surveys, forecasting, planning or any of the many roles undertaken by our members, the 2012 AAIR Forum will provide relevant discussion from your perspective. Leading practitioners across the IR fields will explore the policy landscape, outline the latest challenges and developments and help shape your ideas and responses, confirming the Forum as the event that puts institutional research front and centre. A key event for AAIR, the Forum is made possible by the continuing support from our ongoing and new institutional and corporate partners.

The Forum is a 'must' for professional development and networking for institutional researchers, don't miss the opportunity to attend!

Confirmed Keynote Speakers

Mr Michael Beaton-Wells

Full-time Commissioner, Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

Dr Victor Borden

Professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies and Senior Advisor,
Indiana University Bloomington, US

Key dates:

Call for Abstracts Open - 1 May 2012
Registration released - 1 May 2012
Call for Abstracts Deadline - 2 July 2012
Call for Abstract Review Date - 3 July – 16 July 2012
Acceptance to presenters - 19 July 2012
Early Bird Closes - 31 August 2012
Welcome Function: Sunday 11 November 2012 – Crowne Plaza
Forum Dinner: Tuesday 13 November 2012 – Reef Restaurant

For further information please contact the Forum Organisers



Email: victoria@leishman-associates.com.au
Telephone: 61 3 6234 7844





5. Research in Higher Education (RIHE): AIR Forum Issue Volume 53, # 2, March 2012

RIHE is the official peer-reviewed academic journal of AIR. Articles in this issue are:

- Exploring the Relationship between State Financial Aid Policy and Postsecondary Enrollment Choices: A Focus on Income and Race Differences, by Jiyun Kim*
- Student Swirl at a Single Institution: The Role of Timing and Student Characteristics, by Iryna Y. Johnson* and William B. Muse*
- Using the Theory of Satisficing to Evaluate the Quality of Survey Data, by Scott Barge and Hunter Gehlbach
- The Use of Learner-Centered Assessment in US Colleges and Universities, by Karen L. Webber*
- From Gatekeeping to Engagement: A Multicontextual, Mixed Method Study of Student Academic Engagement in Introductory STEM Courses, by Josephine A. Gasiewski*, M. Kevin Eagan*, Gina A. Garcia*, Sylvia Hurtado* and Mitchell J. Chang

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/0361-0365/53/2/>

6. Demand for higher education, by field

The Group of 8 has been active in releasing Policy Notes. This is the latest one which shows shifts in Commonwealth-supported load to the more expensive disciplines.

http://www.go8.edu.au/_documents/go8-policy-analysis/2012/go8policynote5_demandforhe_final.pdf

7. Student engagement at New Zealand institutes of technology and polytechnics

Another AUSSE report from ACER, this one focusing on the pilot that was conducted in New Zealand in 2010.

<http://research.acer.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1012&context=ausse>

8. Starting from scratch: teacher to researcher and back again

Berwyn Clayton is the Director of the Work-based Education Research Centre (WERC) at Victoria University and the 2011 Researcher of the Year. This paper presents her keynote speech from the 2011 National VET Research ('No Frills') Conference and provides an insight into Berwyn's journey from teacher to VET researcher. It highlights her interest in assessment and the capability of the VET workforce, and her dedication to supporting and mentoring new researchers.

<http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2472.html>

9. Beyond marks: new tools to visualise student engagement via social networks

From the Journal of the Association for Learning Technology:

Evidence shows that engaged students perform better academically than disinterested students. Measurement of engagement with education is difficult and imprecise, especially in large student cohorts.

Traditional measurements such as summary statistics derived from assessment are crude secondary measures of engagement at best and do not provide much support for educators to work with students and curate engagement during teaching periods.

We have used academic related student contributions to a public social network as a proxy for engagement. Statistical summaries and novel data visualisation tools provide subtle and powerful insights into online student peer networks. Analysis of data collected shows that network visualisation can be an important tool for educators interested in cultivating student engagement.

Download the article [here](#)



10. Memorandum of understanding between TEQSA and ASQA

TEQSA and the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) have signed a Memorandum of understanding detailing how the two regulators will work together towards a streamlined national regulatory approach for 'dual sector providers'—providers offering both vocational education and training and higher education. Read it [here](#)

11. Massive Courses, Massive Data

The article on Inside Higher Ed is about the announcement of Harvard joining MIT in platform to offer massive online courses. <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2012/05/02/harvard-joins-mit-platform-offer-massive-online-courses>

12. Rankings Articles

College & University (C&U) is The American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers' (AACRAO) educational policy and research journal focusing on emerging concerns, new techniques, and technology in higher education. This issue focused on rankings and featured the following articles:

- Rating (Not Ranking) the Undergraduate Experience: Principles from a National Discussion - Jason E. Lane
- Rehabbing the Rankings: Fool's Errand or the Lord's Work? - George D. Kuh
- Toward Devising Measures of Quality and Effectiveness Across All Institutions - Sylvia Hurtado and John H. Pryor
- In Search of a Better Mousetrap: A Look at Higher Education Ranking Systems - Watson Scott Swail

Download it [here](#)

13. 1 in 2 new graduates are jobless or underemployed

"You can make more money on average if you go to college, but it's not true for everybody," says Harvard economist Richard Freeman, noting the growing risk of a debt bubble with total U.S. student loan debt surpassing \$1 trillion.

Let's hope this isn't where Australia is heading. Read the article [here](#)

Thanks to Rob Sheehan for the following items:

14. A very professional outfit

The TAFE Development Centre (TDC) instigated a project late in 2011 which looked at the options for establishing a national association for VET professionals. Berwyn Clayton of VU and Hugh Guthrie of NCVET produced a scoping study in September last, and in February produced an interim report that picked up on the feedback from VET professionals, and tackled the question of what next. You can access both papers [here](#).

From time to time the TDC produces a handy e-newsletter. You can subscribe to it here: <http://tdc.vic.edu.au/subscribe/>

15. VET practitioners Capability Framework

Innovation and Business Skills Australia commissioned Precision Consultancy to develop a draft Vocational Education and Training Capability Framework. Feedback on the draft closed in late March, but you can have a look at the draft with comments on IBSA's Feedback Hub. You'll find a bit of background, and links to the Hub, right [here](#).

16. Today's skills: Tomorrow's leaders

This the title of an annual career and leadership development program for top flight group training apprentices run by Group Training Australia (GTA). Details about the 2012 program are available on various websites, including the Group Training Association of NSW:

<http://www.nswgrouptraining.com.au/group-training/current-news/todays-skills-tomorrows-leaders---2012-nominations-now-open>

On the GTA website you can check out details about previous programs. Visit: http://www.grouptesting.com.au/Events_and_media/today_skills.html

17. Right before your eyes

Skills Australia is about to morph into the Australian Workforce and Productivity Agency. The Agency will have a very big pot of money to manage – a shade over half a billion dollars is earmarked for the National Workforce Development Fund. The legislation that makes the morph possible is already in the Parliamentary works. The bush lawyers might like to have a look at it and the accompanying Explanatory Memorandum:

<http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2012B00055/Explanatory%20Memorandum/Text>

Skills Australia has a five paragraph statement about the change into its new finery at the bottom of this web page:

<http://www.skillsaustralia.gov.au/about-skills-australia/about-skills-australia.html>



POSITIONS VACANT

Also 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



Institutional Research Officer HEW6

**One year Contract @ 0.8 FTE
Deakin University, Geelong campus**

Closes 17 May 2012

Details [here](#)

General Manager Research Senior Management role

NCVER

Closes 21 May 2012

Details [here](#)

FOR THE PODDIES, VODDIES AND BLOGGIES

1. Data Mining: The Tool of the Information Age Revolution

One of the free webinars available on the Stanford University website. Intro as follows:

The Web and improved computing technologies have enabled organizations to collect data on their users like never before and with unprecedented speed. With huge implications for e-commerce, healthcare, and many other sectors of the economy, this wealth of information necessitates more sophisticated tools for parsing meaning and drawing conclusions. Learn how to explore, analyze, and leverage data sets of any scale in this 60-minute webinar with Google's Search Scientist and Stanford Instructor Rajan Patel.

View it [here](#)

2. Educational technologies and the changing role of universities

From Radio National's Ockham's Razor, Professor Jim Barber, Vice Chancellor of the University of New England in Armidale, New South Wales, talks about how teaching at universities is changing, using the internet. Listen or download the audio [here](#)

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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

Executive Leadership & Management in Research

Module 1: 21-23 May 2012, Canberra

Module 2: 16-18 July 2012, Brisbane

Module 3: 10-12 September 2012, Melbourne

This program is designed for leaders and senior managers in research institutions to gain insight, share experience and learn more about the current and likely future environment for research. It will include interactive sessions with current political, institutional and industry leaders and those responsible for implementing and managing major initiatives in research and innovation, including Leanne Harvey (Executive General Manager of the Australian Research Council), Dr Bob Frater (VP Innovation of ResMed Ltd) and Dr Geoff Garrett (Chief Scientist of Queensland and former head of CSIRO). Full list of topics and speakers are available on our website. More information: <http://www.lhmartininstitute.edu.au/executive-education-programs/leadership-programs/64-executive-leadership-management-in-research> or by contacting Anita on +61 3 8344 0906.

Statistics Studies On-line

The Institute for Statistics Education is based in the US and specialises in statistical studies on-line. If you're looking at brushing up on your stats skills or gaining some new skills this may be for you. Plenty of info about their Faculty on their website plus there's an article about them on Inside Higher Ed [here](#).

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

Introduction to Statistics

Here's a free on-line Intro to Statistics course on the ABS website that may be useful for staff new to statistics.

You can find it [here](#)

The Third Methodological Movement

28 May 2012

CQU, Brisbane

This workshop is part of the EIDOS Institute PAXIS Series and is presented by Dr Roslyn Cameron. Researchers will be introduced to an emerging third methodological movement which offers a conceptual framework for innovative research design that incorporates both qualitative and quantitative research.

Workshop participants will be given an overview of mixed methods, its historical and philosophical roots, mixed methods terminology, mixed methods typologies & research designs, key issues and contentions and uses across a variety of fields of research (i.e. education, management, business, health and medical sciences, social and behavioural sciences and evaluation). Participants will be introduced to the Five P's framework for consideration when deciding to conduct mixed methods research as developed by the Workshop presenter. A comprehensive bibliography of seminal mixed methods literature and glossary of terms will be supplied to workshop participants. Case studies will be discussed along with interactive workshop activities that allow participants to explore mixed methods research designs within contemporary research themes and contexts.

Register [here](#)

RESOURCES

AIR Resources

Various publications are available from AIR. You can download an order form [here](#)



Ethics, consent and data sharing

Sharing of research data that relates to people can often be achieved using a combination of obtaining consent, anonymising data and regulating data access.

This guide from the Australian National Data Service (ANDS) is intended for those engaged in research involving human subjects which is subject to ethics approval, and for those with a role to play in the Human Research Ethics Committees which oversee the research.

Download it [here](#)

There's plenty of other guides on the ANDS website [here](#)

DISTRACTIONS

The Conflicted Data Analyst

Well, I can certainly relate to this...

<http://www.juiceanalytics.com/writing/the-conflicted-data-analyst/>



Universities Week

No, not in Oz, in the UK!

Universities Week aims to increase public awareness of the wide and varied role of the UK's universities.

Maybe we should have one too?

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

Harvard: journal subscription fees are prohibitive

If the world's richest university says it can no longer afford the vast cost of academic journal subscriptions, and has advised staff at the university to support open access publishing instead, what next?

The times they are a changing...

Read the Conversation article [here](#)



6 Reasons We're In Another 'Book-Burning' Period in History

Scary for those of us who still like the old paper bound book.

Read the article [here](#)

Critical Thinking Part 1: A valuable argument

A short animated 2 minute video on Critical Thinking. If you like it, there's more:

Part 2: Broken Logic

Part 3: The Man Who Was Made of Straw

Part 4: Getting Personal

Part 5: Gambier's Fallacy

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSZ3BUru59A&feature=player_embedded

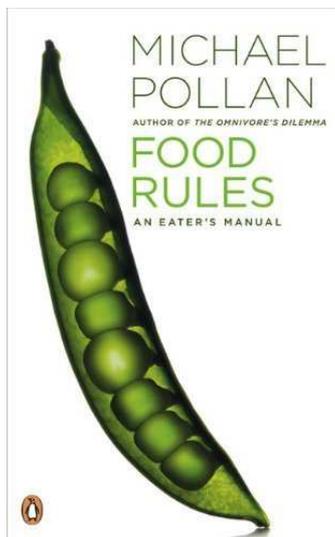
Food Rules

Based on Michael Pollan's talk "Food Rules" given at the RSA, this 2 minute animation was created in the context of the RSA/Nominet Trust film competition.

<http://vimeo.com/35444471>

the full talk is at <http://www.thersa.org/events/audio-and-past-events/2010/food-rules-for-healthy-people-and-planet>

You can also read the book!



LIGHT RELIEF

Slow Jam The News with Barack Obama: Late Night with Jimmy Fallon

What if our Prime Minister....?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vAFQlciWsF4>

AND JUST REMEMBER...

An unsophisticated forecaster uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts - for support rather than for illumination.

Andrew Lang

AAIR Committee – 2012

President:

Josie Palermo, Lecturer, School of Psychology, Deakin University

Vice President:

Dave Marr, Special Projects Officer, Statistical Services, ANU

Treasurer:

Jeff Holmes, Manager, Load Forecasting, QUT

Secretary:

Dean Ward, Manager, Strategic Information Services, ECU

General Committee members:

Mark Bazzacco, Director, Planning and Quality, University of Canberra

Bruce Guthrie – Research Manager, Graduate Careers Australia

Don Johnston – Institutional Research Officer, Southern Cross University

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