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## Newsletter #55

Economic Society of Australia,  
New South Wales Branch,  
**February 2019**

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Dear friend,

Welcome to the February Newsletter which is the first newsletter for 2019.

We hope you have enjoyed some relaxation over the holiday period and we look forward to your continued involvement with ESA NSW during 2019.

## Upcoming Events

NSW Branch WEN Annual General Meeting

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the inaugural **Annual General Meeting** of the Women in Economics Network (ESA NSW Branch).

### Details

**Date** Monday, 4 February 2019

**Time** From 6.0pm till 7.00pm

**Location** Deloitte, Level 9, 225 George Street, Sydney

If you would like to attend, please register via our website by Friday 1 February. We will need to know that you're coming so that you can get into the building - REGISTER NOW.

### Nominations for WEN Council Positions

All positions on WEN Council will be declared vacant. To nominate you must be a financial member and so must your nominators. Nominations for Council positions are due Wednesday, 30 January 2019.

### To nominate:

[Click here](#) to download the Nomination Form.

Complete the nomination form and send to the [administrator](#).

**Alternatively**, you may nominate without a form by simply e-mailing the [administrator](#) with the following:

- State your name, contact details (address, email and contact number) and position you would like to be nominated for, and copy in at least one other WEN (ESA NSW Branch) financial member (the supporter of your nomination). The person(s) supporting your nomination will be required to follow up with a separate email endorsing your nomination. Please also disclose any possible conflicts of interest, including employer and role and

- other professional affiliation.
- Include the following text in your email:

*I would like to be nominated for a vacant position on the WEN (Economic Society of Australia, NSW Branch) Council for 2019 I am a financial member of the Society and I have read and agreed to the Council's Governance Statement (available on the 'Governance' section of the website).*

Lunchtime Seminar: The Deleveraging Conundrum – China's Financial Clean-Up and the Economic Slowdown

**Abstract:** After a decade in which they presided over the rapid accumulation of more and more debt, China's authorities have found religion. Today they are in the midst of what they've labelled a 'deleveraging' campaign, a broad-based effort to clean up the waste, excess, and risk that threatens the stability of the country's financial system. Just how Beijing is going about it, whether it can do so without triggering the risks they're trying to manage, and whether it's even politically sustainable in the face of the slowing economic growth, is one of the major uncertainties that hangs over the global economy. Dinny McMahon will look at how China's authorities are approaching the clean-up and its odds of success.

**Bio:** Dinny McMahon is a fellow at MacroPolo, the Paulson Institute's think tank, and is the author of *China's Great Wall of Debt – Shadow Banks, Ghost Cities, Massive Loans, and the End of the Chinese Miracle*, which was published in March 2018. Dinny spent a decade working as a financial journalist in China, including six years in Beijing with **The Wall Street Journal**, and four years with Dow Jones **Newswires** in Shanghai, where he also contributed to the **Far Eastern Economic Review**. In 2015, he left China and **The Wall Street Journal** to take up a fellowship at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, a think tank in Washington DC, where he wrote *China's Great Wall of Debt*.

### Australian Gender Economics Workshop (AGEW 2019)

The Women in Economics Network will host its next **Australian Gender Economics Workshop (AGEW2019)** in Melbourne on 13-15 February 2019, hosted at RMIT University.



The program will feature academic paper presentations and a policy symposium, providing the opportunity for researchers and policy analysts to come together to share their research insights across of spectrum of topics related to gender equality, and to converse with policymakers about how to translate this evidence base and knowledge into action. [Read more](#)

### Emerging Economist Series 2019

Details of the Emerging Economist Series 2019 are now finalised with the first lunch taking place on **18 March** with **Ms Lucy Turnbull AO**. [REGISTER NOW](#)

### ACE 2019 - Call for Submissions

Call for submissions is now open and you are invited to submit a paper or extended abstract for presentation at ACE 2019. Submissions close 27 March 2019. Guidelines for your submission are available on the website.



[SUBMIT A PAPER](#)

## Latest News

### Vale Professor Mardi Dungey



It is with great sadness that the Economic Society of Australia acknowledges the passing of Mardi Dungey.

Mardi was Professor of Economics and Finance at the University of Tasmania, Adjunct Professor at the Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis at ANU and Senior Research Associate at the Centre for Financial Analysis and Policy at Cambridge University. She was a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia.

Colleagues and friends will remember Mardi for her friendship, drive and vibrant enthusiasm, and her pursuit of excellence in her research. She was especially supportive

of her many research students and junior economists. Her dynamism and passion in mentoring of female economists generally, and more particularly in the Financial Research Network and the Women in Economics Network, has played an important role

in their success.

Mardi's research interests combined the empirical aspects of finance and economics. She is acknowledged as an international expert in the transmission of financial crises, systemic risk and the policy implications of these events. Less well known, but just as important for her, was her program teaching financial literacy to Tasmanian primary-school students.

Mardi's contribution to the Economic Society was significant. She has served on the ESA's Economic Panel and in 2014, while recovering from serious back surgery, she convened the first (and to this date the only) joint conference of the Economic and Econometric Societies in Hobart. As with all Mardi's endeavours, it was a huge success.

Typical of Mardi's concern for students, before she died, Mardi and her partner Ross asked that instead of flowers at her memorial, the Tasmanian branch of the Economic Society be invited to establish a perpetual prize for economics students at the University of Tasmania.

We are honoured to have this opportunity. Friends who wish to contribute may make a transfer to:

Economic Society of Australia - Tasmanian Branch Inc  
BSB: 067 002 , Acc No: 1030 9388

If you require a receipt please contact [admin@esatas.org.au](mailto:admin@esatas.org.au)

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## Other Events

Forecasting Conference - Outlook for markets, policy and politics  
Australian Business Economists (ABE) are pleased to present its **Forecasting Conference - Outlook for Markets, Policy and Politics**.  
Featuring: Alexandra Heath, Reserve Bank of Australia; Elysse Morgan, Australian Broadcasting Corporation; Jonathan Coppel, Commissioner, Productivity Commission; Peter Hartcher, The Sydney Morning Herald, Michael Willesee, Westpac; Besa Deda, St George Bank; Ben Jarman, J.P. Morgan; Stephen Halmarick; Commonwealth Bank; Tony Morriss, Bank of America Merrill Lynch

The conference is presented at no charge. The number of seats available is strictly limited.

Registration is essential. To book on-line, please click [here](#)

Please direct inquiries to [info@abe.org.au](mailto:info@abe.org.au)

### Program:

**07:15 Registration opens — light breakfast served**

**07:45 Welcome and introduction**

Mr Stephen Walters, Chair, Australian Business Economists & Chief Economist, New South Wales Government

**07:50 Statement on monetary policy - Observations**

Dr Alexandra Heath, Head of Economic Analysis, Reserve Bank of Australia

**08:20 Outlook for the economy and financial markets — Panel discussion**

Moderated by Ms Elysse Morgan, Business & Finance, Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Ms Besa Deda, Chief Economist, St George Bank

Mr Ben Jarman, Senior Economist & Executive Director, J.P. Morgan

Mr Stephen Halmarick, Managing Director & Head of Global Markets Research, Commonwealth Bank

Mr Tony Morriss, Head of AUD/NZ Economics & Rates Strategy, Bank of America Merrill Lynch

**08:50 Rising inequality? A stocktake of the evidence**

Mr Jonathan Coppel, Commissioner, Productivity Commission in conversation with Mr Michael Willesee, Senior Communications Manager Westpac & former journalist/presenter The Australian, Nine and Sky

**09:20 The outlook for politics and government**

Mr Peter Hartcher, Political & International Editor, The Sydney Morning Herald

**09:50 Summary**

Mr Stephen Walters, Chair, Australian Business Economists

**10:00 Close**

Symposium on Lessons from the Global Financial Crisis:

### Symposium on Lessons from the Global Financial Crisis

The 2008-09 global financial crisis is seen as the most cataclysmic macroeconomic event since The Great Depression. Although it affected economies worldwide, it most harmed advanced economies which subsequently endured sub-optimal economic growth, record low interest rates, weak private investment, poor productivity, reduced working hours, low wages growth and high public debt.

A decade has passed since central banks and governments through the G20 began deploying a range of co-ordinated monetary and fiscal measures in response to the crisis. It is timely to assess the policy lessons to be learned from this episode.

This Symposium, jointly organised by the Griffith Asia Institute and the Economic Society of Australia (Qld), brings together high profile economists to analyse the key issues.

The program for the Symposium is available here - [Symposium Program.pdf](#).

Registration is essential for this free event and closes Friday 28 February - [registration link](#)

For inquiries, please email: [events-gai@griffith.edu.au](mailto:events-gai@griffith.edu.au)

## KEY SPEAKERS



**Andrew Charlton**  
Director, Alphabeta



**Creina Day**  
A/Professor, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University



**Janine Dixon**  
Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Policy Studies, Victoria University



**Andrew Hughes Hallett**  
Professor of Economics, George Mason University and University of St Andrews



**Tony Makin**  
Director, APEC Study Centre, Griffith University



**John Simon**  
Head, Economic Research Department, Reserve Bank of Australia

The 2019 History of Economic Thought of Australia Conference

The 32nd HETSA Conference will be held at the University of Sydney.

The process for submission of paper proposals, and a website for registration and the provision of conference-related information, will be advertised and accessible by **Friday 1 March 2019**. The deadline for submission of paper proposals will be **Tuesday 2 April 2019**, with notice of acceptance or otherwise provided by 30 April 2019. (The deadline for submission of full papers will be 4 September 2019).

The Conference gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in the University of Sydney and the School of Economics in the University of Sydney.

The Convenor of the Conference is Professor Tony Aspromourgos, School of Economics, University of Sydney, Sydney NSW 2006, Australia. E: [tony.aspromourgos@sydney.edu.au](mailto:tony.aspromourgos@sydney.edu.au)

Call for Papers - Gender Economics Conference

**October 23 to October 24, 2019**

The GGEC19 will bring inspirational industry and academic speakers from across the globe to bring Gender Economics to life. The conference includes both Industry and Professional Speakers and an opportunity for Academic presentations of papers.

Click [here](#) for more information.

GGEC19

## Careers and Graduate Opportunities

Advertising an economics position on the ESA website is a good way to get wide exposure for a role. If you would like to advertise a role on the website, please contact our [administrator](#) for more information. There is a small fee of \$110 inc GST.

Below are some recent opportunities:

Senior Statistician and Data Manager

The Australian Financial Security Authority (AFSA)

Job Title: **Senior Statistician and Data Manager**

**\*\*This opportunity will be based in either our Sydney, Canberra, Adelaide or Brisbane office\*\***

**About AFSA:**

The Australian Financial Security Authority (AFSA) is responsible for managing the application of bankruptcy and personal property securities laws through the delivery of personal insolvency and trustee, regulation and enforcement and personal property securities services.

**About the Role:**

The Senior Statistician and Data Manager will lead the delivery of AFSA's statistics and reporting to bring about financial outcomes and impact in the Australian economy. You will develop a forward looking statistics program to support AFSA's 'future state' to

further benefit the Australian community.

You will prepare briefings on a range of statistics and the broader economy, and provide expert advice on statistical governance. Your ability to engage with and build relationships with diverse stakeholders will see you achieve success in this dynamic opportunity.

#### About You:

To be successful in this role you will have:

- a tertiary qualification or demonstrated experience in economics, statistics or quantitative fields;
- demonstrated experience in producing published statistics, including developing and implementing statistical governance;
- demonstrated success applying your expertise in economic analysis and modelling to influence strategic goals;
- high level consultancy and advisory skills, with the ability to interpret and illustrate findings to diverse audiences.

#### Why AFSA?

You will enjoy excellent conditions including generous superannuation (15.4%), a modern work environment, flexibility to balance work and personal life, and professional growth.

We encourage applications from Indigenous Australians, peoples from culturally diverse backgrounds and people with disabilities. We value employee commitment and contribution and we provide a working environment that supports staff to reach their full potential.

#### Applications close Sunday 3 February, 2019

Click through link:

<https://www.afsa.gov.au/about/careers/current-vacancies>

Opportunity with the Utilities Commission of the Northern Territory

The Utilities Commission is an independent statutory authority, consisting of a Commissioner and Associate Commissioners. It is responsible for economic regulation of the electricity, water and sewerage industries, declared ports and other industries. The Commission also provides advice to the Government as required on such matters. An office, led by the Director Utilities Commission, supports the Commission, with staff seconded from the Department of Treasury and Finance.

A senior career role currently exists in the Utilities Commission.

As an Assistant Director Utilities Commission (SAO1) you will:

- manage, plan and complete major reviews and projects
- engage with stakeholders from the community, business, regulated industries and government, and represent the Commission in a variety of forums as necessary
- prepare briefings, licences, publications and regulatory codes, including developing recommendations for the Commission and assisting with secretariat services for Commission meetings
- develop staff and assist in creating and leading a high performing team
- undertake research and provide advice on issues that may have implications for the Commission and Territory
- procure and manage multiple consultancies and legal engagements
- assist the Director in managing the Utilities Commission's budget, resources and work plans, and stand in for the Director as required.

For detailed selection criteria please see the [job description](#). For further information please visit our [Careers website](#), or contact [Kimberlee McKay](#), Director Utilities Commission on [kimberlee.mckay@nt.gov.au](mailto:kimberlee.mckay@nt.gov.au) or 08 8999 7476.

Applications close on 12 February 2019 and should be submitted through the [Careers in Government website](#).

[APPLY NOW / SEARCH FOR POSITION](#)

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