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Newsletter #40

Economic Society of Australia,
New South Wales Branch,
September 2017
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Dear friend,

Welcome to ESA NSW's September newsletter.

Events

Lunchtime Seminar: Are robots taking our jobs?

What is the effect of computer-based technologies on employment in Australia? This talk will argue that: (1) The total amount of work available in Australia has not decreased following the introduction of computers and automation; and (2) The pace of structural change and job turnover in the Australian labour market has not accelerated with the increasing application of computer-based technologies. Furthermore, a review of recent studies that claim computer-based technologies may be about to cause widespread job destruction establishes several major flaws with these predictions. An historical perspective that reveals fear of the consequences of technology for the labour market has been a recurring phenomenon. One suggested explanation for why techno-phobia has such a grip on popular imagination is a human bias to believe that 'we live in special times'.

About the Speaker:

Jeff Borland is Truby Williams Professor of Economics at the University of Melbourne. His main research interests are analysis of the operation of labour markets in Australia, program and policy evaluation and design, and Australian economic history. Jeff is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, and in 2010 was the Visiting Professor of Australian Studies at Harvard University. Jeff is currently President of the Victorian branch of the Economic Society of Australia. Click [here](#) to read his monthly 'Snapshot' on the Australian labour market.

Emerging Economist Series 2017/18

View [lunch dates](#), [download the Program](#) or [REGISTER NOW](#)

Emerging Economist Series

2017/18

The Economic Society of Australia (NSW Branch) proudly sponsors the Emerging Economist Series. The series of six luncheons, held at the Reserve Bank of Australia in Sydney, gives young economists the opportunity to discuss critical issues with prominent Australian policymakers, as well as network with colleagues in business, academia and the public service. The luncheons include an interview-style discussion with the key-note speaker, exploring the issues they have faced during their careers and highlighting Australia's key economic challenges going forward.

The Series has been inspiring, educating and entertaining emerging economists for nine years. Join us for this, our special Ten Year Anniversary Series. We are delighted to announce our speaker line-up for 2017/18.



The Hon. Paul Keating
Prime Minister of Australia
1991 - 1996



Prof. Deborah Cobb-Clark
Professor of Economics
University of Sydney



Ross Gittins AM
Economics Editor
The Sydney Morning Herald



Helen Silver AO
Chief General Manager
Allianz Australia,



Tom Parry AM
Chairman & Adjunct
Professor, John Grill Centre
for Project Leadership,
Sydney University



Dr Matthew Butlin
Victorian Red Tape Commissioner
National President, ESA

Registration is a subscription for all six lunches
[Visit our website for lunch dates and to register](#)



Visit us at our website www.esansw.org.au
or call 0405 03 15 16

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New South Wales



Click [here](#) to view some of the Conference Photos.

Latest News

The Finkel Review
NEP Poll 21 (August) - The Finkel Review

Our latest NEP poll gathers economic expert opinions on the proposed Clean Energy Target scheme recommended by The Finkel Review as a key part of the blue-print for reform of the electricity industry.

The NEP were asked for their opinions on this proposition:

"The Finkel Review has recommended a mandatory certificate scheme that obliges electricity retailers to purchase a certain proportion of the electricity they sell from sources of electricity whose emission intensity is below a defined level. This is preferable to conventional approaches to the pricing of externalities, such as an emission tax or cap and trade scheme."



[Overview of poll results by Dr Bruce Mountain](#)

[See Results and NEP Comments](#)

Collaborator credits: we would like to thank Dr Bruce Mountain for his assistance in framing this poll question and for his expert overview of the results.

The Path to Gender Diversity in Economics

Diversity and inclusion were discussed at the Women in Economics' latest event hosted by PwC in August. Lisa Annese, Chief Executive Officer, Diversity Council Australia provided some insightful analysis on inclusion across the private sector and how business and government are tackling these challenges. Jeremy Thorpe, PwC Partner, and WEN member Taleen Shamlan, Sarah Close and Kaixin Owyong also brought their own engaging insights to the panel discussion with a lively audience discussion following.

Policy in the Pub



On Thursday 24 August the YEN NSW hosted the first Policy in the Pub on *the future of housing policy and urban planning*. Expert panellists Nicole Gurr and Hal Pawson had some great insights to share on housing affordability, and the Q&A session became a spirited debate. YEN would love to get a few more hands on deck to make this a regular event in 2018 and if you would like to get involved, please send us an [email](#).

Partner Events

The Current Global Expansion

Australian Business Economists in partnership with the Women in Economics Network invite you to a lunchtime briefing by Dr Luci Ellis on "The current global expansion".

Details:

- Time: 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
- Venue: The Studios, Four Seasons Sydney, 199 George Street, The Rocks
- Cost: \$155 members, \$185 non-members, \$1400 tables (of 8 guests each)
- Lunch includes two courses and beverages.

For More information and to book:

Enquiries: info@abe.org.au or call 0419 256 339

To book on-line, please click [here](#)

Registrations are transferable. Please advise us by phone or email as soon as you can. Cancellations advised five working days before the seminar will be reimbursed in full. For cancellations notified less than five working days before the event, no refund will be made.

About the Speaker:

Dr Luci Ellis

Luci Ellis is the Assistant Governor (Economic) at the Reserve Bank of Australia, a position she has held since December 2016. She is responsible for the Bank's Economic Analysis and Economic Research departments and is the chief economic advisor to the Governor and the Board. She also chairs the Bank committee responsible for its data strategy and is the executive sponsor of the Bank's Business Analysts Community, its Mathematica Users Community and its LGBTI+ allies employee resource group. Luci has been a member of the Australian Statistics Advisory Council since November 2015. Prior to holding this role, Luci was Head of Financial Stability Department for eight years. She has also served as a Deputy Head of Economic Analysis Department and spent almost two years on secondment at the Bank for International Settlements. Luci holds a PhD from the University of New South Wales, a Masters in Economics degree from the Australian National University and a first-class Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) degree from the University of Melbourne.

Australia, Japan & International Economic Outlook Seminar 2017

Sponsors: MUFG, SMBC KBA and Deloitte

Organiser: Manuel Panagiotopoulos, Australian & Japanese Economic Intelligence

Supporting Organisations:

- Australian Business Economists (ABE)
- Australia-Japan Society of New South Wales
- Australia-Japan Business Cooperation Committee (AJBCC)
- Consulate-General of Japan, Sydney
- Japan Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Sydney

Speakers:

- *Outlook for the Japanese Economy* - Mr Masatsugu Askawa, Vice Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Japan
- *International Economic Developments* - Mr Nigel Ray, Deputy Secretary, Macroeconomic Group, Australian Treasury
- *Australia: Economic and Financial Outlook* - Mr Brian Redican, Chief Economist, NSW Treasury Corporation
- *End of the Post-Cold War Era: East Asia's Emerging Geopolitics* - Dr Malcolm Cook, Senior Fellow, Institute for South East Asian Studies, Singapore

Tickets:

Single ticket: \$165. | Table of up to 10: \$1,400

Click [here](#) to book.

Call for Papers: AARES Annual Conference 2018

February 6-9, 2018

Abundance in an Era of Scarcity? Challenges and Opportunities for Australasian Agriculture, Environment, Food, Resource and Agribusiness Sectors - The call for papers/poster submission is now open until 23 October 2017.



Visit the [conference website](#) for more information on how to submit a paper/poster proposal.

Call for Papers: 59th Annual Conference Indian Society of Labour Economics

December 16-18 2017

The topics for discussion at this year's Conference are: Informality, Labour Market and Employment; Macro-Economic Policies and Employment; Technological Change and Employment. About 500 delegates, including a number of distinguished scholars, policy-makers, trade unionists and other professionals from India and abroad will participate in the Conference.



The deliberations and proceedings of the Conference are circulated widely in India and abroad. Please visit the [conference website](#) for more information. Last date for submission of papers is 15 September 2017.

Careers

Keep an eye on our jobs page as opportunities sometimes come up after the newsletter has been distributed.

Principal Planning Officer - Social Research

- Job title: Principal Planning Officer – Metro Water
- Job Grade / Classification: Planning Officer (Professional) 3
- Employment Status: Temporary, Full-Time
- Duration: Up to 3 years
- Number of Roles: 1
- Job Location: Sydney CBD or Parramatta

Package includes salary (\$123,127 p.a - \$143,388 p.a) base, plus employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

About the roles:

Do you have experience leading social research and community engagement in support of social policy strategies, reform or initiatives, or that drives innovative place-based infrastructure outcomes to help shape Sydney's future?

A new, multi-disciplinary team of highly motivated professionals is being created to deliver the WaterSmart Cities Program.

These roles present an exciting opportunity for an experienced social research, community engagement or stakeholder

engagement professional to improve the contribution water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure makes to the liveability, productivity and resilience of urban communities across Greater Sydney (for more on the program visit www.metrowater.nsw.gov.au).

Essential Requirements/Skills and Experience:

Degree in urban/town planning, urban design, economics, environmental management, engineering or other related field or relevant experience in social research, community engagement, stakeholder management for social policy development or in land use and water planning.

Click [here](#) for more information and to apply on line.

Contact: Reid McNamara 02 9842 8265

Closing Date: 28 September 2017

Principal Planning Officer - WaterSmart Cities

- Job title: Principal Planning Officer – Metro Water
- Job Grade / Classification: Planning Officer (Professional) 3
- Employment Status: Temporary, Full-Time
- Duration: Up to 3 years
- Number of Roles: 3
- Job Location: Sydney CBD or Parramatta

Package includes salary (\$123,127 p.a - \$143,388 p.a) base, plus employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

About the roles:

Do you have experience leading collaboration that drives innovative place-based infrastructure outcomes or policy reforms to help shape Sydney's future?

A new, multi-disciplinary team of highly motivated professionals is being created to deliver the WaterSmart Cities Program.

These roles present an exciting opportunity for experienced planning, economics or policy professionals to improve the contribution water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure makes to the liveability, productivity and resilience of urban communities across Greater Sydney (for more on the program visit www.metrowater.nsw.gov.au).

Essential Requirements/Skills and Experience:

Degree in urban/town planning, urban design, economics, environmental management, engineering or other related field, or relevant experience in the water industry or with policies governing land use planning, environmental assessment or environmental regulation.

Click [here](#) for more information and to apply on line.

Contact: Reid McNamara - 02 9842 8265

Closing date: 28 September 2017

Senior Planning Officer - WaterSmart Cities

- Job Title: Senior Planning Officer – Metro Water
- Job Grade / Classification: Planning Officer (Professional) 2
- Employment Status: Temporary, Full-Time
- Duration: Up to 3 years
- Number of Roles: 1
- Job Location: Sydney CBD or Parramatta

Total Remuneration Package: Package includes salary (\$112,797 p.a - \$120,731 p.a) base, plus employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

About the Role:

Do you have experience with collaboration that drives innovative place-based infrastructure outcomes or policy reforms to help shape Sydney's future?

A new, multi-disciplinary team of highly motivated professionals is being created to deliver the WaterSmart Cities Program.

This role presents an exciting opportunity for experienced planning, economics or policy professionals to improve the contribution water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure makes to the liveability, productivity and resilience of urban communities across Greater Sydney (for more on the program visit www.metrowater.nsw.gov.au).

Essential Requirements/Skills and Experience:

Degree in urban/town planning, urban design, economics, environmental management, engineering or other related field, or relevant experience in the water industry and/or in policies governing land use planning, environmental assessment or environmental regulation.

Click [here](#) for more information and to apply on line.

Contact: Reid McNamara - 02 9842 8265

Closing Date: 28 September 2017

Data Analyst, Bureau of Crime Statistics & Research (BOCSAR)

- Organisation/Entity: Justice Strategy and Policy
- Job Category: Policy
- Job Location: Sydney Region / Sydney City
- Job Reference Number: 00005HO2
- Work Type: Full-Time
- Number of Positions: 1

Total Remuneration Package: Total remuneration package field and complete: \$120,121. Total Remuneration Package includes salary (\$99,204 - \$108,373), employer's contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

- Full Time Ongoing Role!
- Convenient Location!
- Great Opportunity!

About us

The Department of Justice provides an effective justice system by delivering programs and services which contribute to building safe communities and the protection of rights.

Established in 1969, the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research assists policy makers and administrators in the criminal justice system to develop and implement strategies which reduce crime, and provide a more efficient, effective and equitable justice system

About the role

Reporting directly to the Executive Director, the Data Analyst will be responsible for conducting timely, accurate and appropriate statistical analyses of crime and criminal justice data in order to identify and investigate emerging criminal justice issues through proactive data inquiry and interrogation. The responsibilities of this role will include (but not be limited to):

- Producing high quality, timely statistical advice and briefing documents
- Providing timely analyses of emerging patterns and trends in crime and criminal justice data using a variety of methods
- Applying statistical methods to measure risk, trends, underlying patterns and generate forecasts relating to criminal justice data

About you

To be successful in this position, the ideal candidate will hold an honours degree or equivalent in statistics, economics, epidemiology, psychology or another discipline with a strong statistical component as well as demonstrated experience in writing programs to extract data using statistical software such as SAS. Having to liaise with a wide range of staff involved in policy and program development, the successful candidate will possess exceptional written and verbal communication skills, strong time management and organisational skills, high attention to detail and an enthusiastic 'can-do' attitude.

For a more detailed description of the role, [click here to download the role description](#).

Applying for the role

To apply for this role please submit an application online via www.iworkfor.nsw.gov.au and attach an up to date resume along with a cover letter outlining how you meet the requirements and capabilities of this role.

Contact: - Dr Don Weatherburn Don.Weatherburn@justice.nsw.gov.au

Closing date: 3 September 2017

A talent pool may be created for future ongoing and temporary roles and is valid for a period of up to 12 months.

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.

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