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Newsletter #43

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

Welcome to the final newsletter for 2017. We hope you have participated in and enjoyed the many events and activities brought to you by the NSW Branch this year, including the 2017 Conference of Economists, Women in Economics Network (WEN) events, the Emerging Economist Series, Policy in the Pub, the Young Economist Mentorship Program, and the Lunchtime Seminars.

Central Council has also had a productive year. A recent highlight was the launch of the [Women in Economics Register](#) and [Registers of Economists](#). The Registers will assist media organisations and conference conveners who are seeking comment by economists in different fields of expertise. All ESA members can make their details available on the Registers of Economists, while the Women in Economics Register showcases the expertise of our female members. Meanwhile, the [National Economic Panel](#) and Eminent Speaker Series continue to promote the informed public discussion of important policy issues, and the *Economic Record* and *Economic Papers* remain the key forums for the publication of high-quality research on the Australian Economy.

2018 is shaping up to be another exciting year, with the continuation of all of these initiatives and more. The first event for the year will be the Emerging Economist event with Helen Silver in February and in July we'll be heading to Canberra for the 2018 Australian Conference of Economics and WEN Retreat. We will also be announcing some other exciting initiatives that we have in the pipeline soon.

Of course these events and activities would not take place without the voluntary contributions of our members and the excellent work of our administrative staff. Thank you all for your efforts and the energy you bring to the Society. Special thanks should also be extended to Richard Tooth who stepped down as President in August after a number of years. We are grateful that Richard remains on Council.

I'm looking forward to a great year and hope to see you at one of our many events.

Best wishes,
Penelope Smith
 President, NSW Branch

Upcoming Events

WEN End of Year Drinks

Join us to catch up and celebrate the WEN's first year, and hear about our bigger and better events planned for 2018 including skill development sessions. Attendance is free - drinks can be purchased at the bar. WEN members and those who may be interested in joining WEN are encouraged to come along.

Latest News

Robots, artificial intelligence and the 'future of work'

The public policy debate about the economic and social impact of disruptive technologies, transitioning industries and the 'future work' is finally gaining momentum in Australia.

This month, we wanted to ask the ESA's National Economic Panel (NEP) for their views on two related propositions - the same propositions put to the eminent US and

European economists of the *IGM Economic Experts Panel* in September 2017. The only change we made was to focus our panellists on the impacts in Australia rather than in (all) 'advanced countries'.

Question A: "Holding labor market institutions and job training fixed, rising use of robots and artificial intelligence is likely to increase substantially the number of workers in Australia who are unemployed for long periods."

Question B: "Rising use of robots and artificial intelligence in Australia is likely to create benefits large enough that they could be used to compensate those workers who are substantially negatively affected for their lost wages."



[Overview by Professor Jeff Borland and Professor Jason Potts](#)

[View the Results of this Poll](#)

* Collaborator credits: we would like to thank Professor Jeff Borland and Professor Jason Potts for their expert overviews of the results.

** Question credits: this month's poll questions were adapted - from those put to the IGM Economic Experts Panel in September 2017. For the results of the US IGM poll, [click here](#). For the results of the European IGM poll click [here](#).

Got a poll question idea? If you have suggestions for future Polls - on any topic - please let us know by submitting your question ideas [here](#).

Partner Events

14th International Conference - WEAI

14th Annual International Conference of the Western Economic Association International (WEAI) which will be hosted by Newcastle Business School, University of Newcastle. Present a paper, organize a session, discuss a paper, chair a session. All fields in economics are welcome. Allied societies are also welcome to join in on this exciting opportunity for increased visibility within the discipline.

Keynote Addresses include:

- Daniel McFadden, University of California, Berkeley, recipient of the 2000 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, and WEAI 2017-18 President-Elect
- Orley Ashenfelter, Princeton University, and WEAI 2017-18 President
- David Card, University of California, Berkeley, recipient of the 1995 John Bates Clark Medal, and WEAI Past President

Further information is available at www.weai.org.

Future Events

ACE 2018



WORLD

10-13 JULY 2018

CANBERRA

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

ANNE KRUEGER

Professor of International Economics,
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced
International Studies in Washington DC, USA

JOHN ASKER

Professor of Economics, UCLA,
Los Angeles, USA

MARILYN WARING

Professor of Public Policy,
Institute of Public Policy, AUT,
Auckland, New Zealand

KATHRYN GRADY

Senior Associate Dean, Brandeis International
Business School & the Fred and Rita Richman
Distinguished Professor of Economics,
Brandeis University, Massachusetts, USA

Careers

Senior Economist

Job Title: Senior Economist

Job Grade / Classification: Environment Officer Class 9

Location: Sydney CBD (role may be relocating to Parramatta in 2019)

Employment Status: Ongoing, Full - Time

Salary: \$101,221 – 112,760

Agency overview

The Department of Planning & Environment is the lead NSW Government agency in planning for a growing NSW. The Department is going through an exciting period of organisational and operational change.

The Department's vision – Planning for growing NSW: inspiring strong communities, protecting our environment – provides the benchmark for our partnership and leadership approach to engaging and working collaboratively with key State and Local Government, community and industry stakeholders to deliver better outcomes in the areas of planning, local government and the environment.

The Department's two related agencies - the Office of Environment & Heritage and the Office of Local Government - support the conservation and protection of the environment and an effective local government sector in NSW. Several other entities associated with the Department include the Environment Protection Authority, statutory trusts responsible for zoos, parks and gardens, independent assessment and planning bodies, and development corporations.

About the Role:

The main duties of the role will be to assess the quality and relevance of economic analyses of program and project evaluations produced by third parties, and drive improvements in the quality of economic analyses needed as part of continuing OEH program and project evaluations.

The role is part of a positive and collaborative team of experienced economists with varying skill sets.

Primary purpose of the role

Conduct research and analysis into the socio-economic aspects of environmental, natural resource and cultural heritage management to improve the economic and social basis of policy advice and government decision-making.

...of policy advice and government decision-making.

- Prepare and produce well-researched technical reports using established economic and other relevant assessment methodologies
- Prepare and produce economic briefings for non-economists and provide economic input into policy briefs produced by third parties
- Provide technical advice on economic evaluation, impact techniques and innovative economic instruments
- Develop and maintain professional working relationships to promote the application of robust and timely economic analysis of environmental management initiatives

Essential requirements:

- Demonstrated understanding of the principles and analytical techniques of environmental and natural resource economics and their application in a practical context.
- Demonstrated experience in the application of economic techniques to environmental issues, particularly through the use of cost-benefit analysis, and development of economic instruments, including quantitative analysis skills.

To be successful in the role, ideally you will have:

- A postgraduate qualification in Economics or a related economic discipline
- Experience in a similar role

Please read the following documents prior to preparing your application:

- Role description
- Application Guide
- Applying for a role in the NSW public Sector

Job Notes:

A Recruitment Pool may be established for future temporary and ongoing roles with similar focus capabilities. The Recruitment Pool may be available to hiring managers from DPE and other NSW Public Sector agencies over a 12-month period.

To Apply:

Click the APPLY button at the end of this advertisement

- Provide your personal information as prompted
- Attach your resume that sets out your education, work history and other facts about yourself that relate to the role (maximum of 4 pages);
- Attach a cover letter that is relevant to the role (maximum of 1 page).
- Complete all the questions in the online application. Two of the questions will require you to provide specific examples from your experience (4000-character limit per question). These questions are shown below. Do not address these in your cover letter

Q1. How have you applied your economic skills and experience to assess the quality and relevance of economic analyses of program/project evaluations produced by third parties, and to drive improvements in the quality of economic analyses needed as part of continuing OEH program/project evaluations.

Q2. Demonstrate how you have used your project management and organisational skills to help deliver economic evaluations of environmental management policies/programs to the required time, budget and quality requirements

The information provided in your application needs to show how you meet the focus capabilities and other essential requirements of the role. (Refer to the role description for details about the capabilities and the associated behavioural indicators. The role description also lists the essential role requirements.)

Our commitment to diversity:

The Department of Planning and Environment values diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We welcome and encourage applications from people of all ages and genders, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culturally and linguistically diverse groups and those with a disability.

Applications Close: Wednesday 13 December 2017 at 11:59PM

Should you require further information about the role please contact Mladen Kovac on (02) 9995 6031. If you have any enquiries regarding the recruitment process please contact Dragana Papak on (02) 9585 6817.

APPLY NOW

Fellow / Associate Professor

The Australian National University (ANU) is one of the world's foremost research universities. Distinguished by its relentless pursuit of excellence, the University attracts leading academics and outstanding students from Australia and around the world.

The ANU College of Asia and the Pacific (CAP) leads intellectual engagement with the Asia-Pacific region through research, teaching and contributions to public debate, and seeks to set the international standard for scholarship concerning the region.

The Crawford School of Public Policy is a school within the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, and is Australia's premier public policy school, with recognised world-class expertise and experience in economics, political science and public administration, environmental management and development, and on key Asia-Pacific countries.

Crawford houses the Amdt-Corden Department of Economics (ACDE), renowned for its work on theoretical and applied problems of international economics and development, with emphasis on the countries of Southeast, Northeast and South Asia, and the Southwest Pacific. It is also home to the ANU Indonesia Project, a long-standing, major international centre for research and graduate training on the economy and society of Indonesia. The Project monitors and analyses economic development in Indonesia, informs the Australian and Indonesian governments, businesses and the wider community of these developments, and stimulates research on the Indonesian economy and development.

Crawford School is seeking to appoint a high-performing mid to late career academic at either academic level C or level D to play a major role in the ANU Indonesia Project and make significant contributions in research, education and service.

For further information, please visit <http://jobs.anu.edu.au/cw/en/job/518670/fellow-associate-professor>

Applications close: 26 January 2018 11:55pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time

[Read the Position Description](#)

Contacting Us in December and January

ESA NSW Branch wishes you a happy and safe festive season. The office will be manned intermittently throughout December and January so response time to your enquiries may be a little slower than usual.

Your membership to ESA NSW Branch expires on

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