

2017 AASB Research Forum

Effective communication of financial and narrative reporting Friday 24 November 2017



MORNING SESSION	
8.45 am	REGISTRATION
9.15 am	OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME Kris Peach – Chair, AASB
9.30 am (30 mins)	PRESENTATION 1: Is financial reporting still an effective tool for equity investors in Australia? ABSTRACT Financial reporting has been the subject of recent criticism, particularly regarding the usefulness of financial statements for users' decision making. In response, the aim of our study is to investigate the decision-usefulness of accounting information prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and what types of other information are considered to be decision-useful. Research team: Nikole Gyles – University of Melbourne; Dr Dean Hanlon – Monash University; Prof Matthew Pinnuck – University of Melbourne
10 am (30 mins)	PANEL DISCUSSION Panelists: Ian Curry – former Chair, ASA, Gillian Larkins – CFO, Perpetual; John Price – Commissioner, ASIC Moderator: Kris Peach – Chair, AASB
10.30 am (30 mins)	AUDIENCE DISCUSSION AND Q&A
11.00 am	BREAK (30 minutes)
11.30 am (30 mins)	PRESENTATION 2: Recognition, measurement and disclosure of intangibles ABSTRACT With the expansion of knowledge-based service economies, intangible assets have an important role in an increasingly digital world. Yet International Accounting Standard (IAS) 38 and Australian Accounting Standard AASB 138 prohibit the recognition of most internally generated intangible assets. We investigate the recognition and measurement of intangible assets by ASX-listed firms and public-sector reporting entities and also non-recognition and disclosure practices in relation to internally generated intangibles that do not qualify for recognition under AASB 138. Research team: Prof Reza Monem – Griffith University; Prof Asheq Rahman – Auckland University of Technology; Dr Humayun Kabir – Auckland University of Technology
12.00 pm (30 mins)	PANEL DISCUSSION Panelists: Tony Krizan – CFO, NHMRC; Lyndal York – Head of Group Finance, Cochlear; Toby Langley – Financials Research, Merrill Lynch Moderator: Regina Fikkers – Deputy Chair, AASB; Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers
12.30 pm (30 mins)	AUDIENCE DISCUSSION AND Q&A
1.00 pm	LUNCH (45 minutes)
AFTERNOON SESSION	
1.45 am	REGISTRATION (for those only attending afternoon session)
2.00 pm (30 mins)	KEYNOTE: Sue Lloyd – Vice Chair, International Accounting Standards Board
2.30 pm (15 mins)	AASB PRESENTATION: How to make your research impact the AASB's work program
2.45 pm (15 mins)	UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE PRESENTATION: Overcoming challenges in Australian research settings: Data availability and research impact by Professor Gow, Director, Melbourne Centre for Corporate Governance and Regulation
3.00 pm	BREAK (30 minutes)
3.30 pm (60 mins)	PRESENTATION 3: The communication of accounting information in summary financial reports ABSTRACT There has been increasing concern that financial reporting does not effectively communicate firm performance due to information overload or clutter. To provide evidence on how not-for-profit organisations summarise performance, we investigate the summary financial reports of Australian and New Zealand Local Governments (councils). We use this setting to provide information about what local governments include in their summary reports in terms of financial information, service performance information, and the quality of their discussions. We identify Australian local councils which are providing this information voluntarily. Using a case study approach, we describe reporting practices of Australian councils and compare them to their New Zealand counterparts. Research team: Thomas Scott – University of Auckland; Michael Bradbury – Massey University; Pei-Chi (Kelly) Hsiao – University of Auckland
4.00 pm (30 mins)	PANEL DISCUSSION Panelists: Andrew Greaves – Auditor General, VAGO; Danny Pearson MP – Victorian Public Accounts and Estimates Committee Chair Moderator: Prof Roger Simnett AO – Chair Auditing and Assurance Standards Board
4.30 pm (30 mins)	AUDIENCE DISCUSSION AND Q&A
5.00 pm	CLOSING REMARKS
5.15 pm	NETWORKING DRINKS