The transition from PhD to academic life can be sometimes daunting! The number of tasks that you are supposed to be on top of increases almost exponentially overnight. Coordinating and teaching responsibilities often takes a lot of time, but we all know that to really progress in our careers we have to publish. ‘Publish or perish’ everyone says!

So how can we, as individuals, maintain high-quality courses and publish in good journals, while at the same time trying to have the social life we almost entirely neglected during our doctoral studies?

In 2010, I spoke to Profs Lisa Farrell, Tim Fry, Tony Naughton and Imad Moosa about these issues. In the aftermath of our discussions, I realised that there is definitely a lot for us to learn! I realised that we will not only need to learn from them, but also from each other young academics in RMIT and other universities!

As a result, a group of us initiated an informal grassroots ECR group in our school. In the first meeting we discussed what we were all doing professionally and agreed upon a number of issues that we would like to talk about with people that ‘have been there before’.

Consequently, we have held a number of meetings about key issues such as grants, finding good co-authors, picking the right journal, life-work balance, teaching-research balance, etc.

The practicality of these discussions is mainly what is most valuable. For example, Prof Tim Fry was invited to talk about category 1 funding in our field. It became clear to us that the world is a lot bigger than the ARC, moreover that ECRs have a higher probability of getting funding from other sources, which limit the level of competition to more narrowly focused themes.

The overall outcomes of our group have been to dissipate practical knowledge and, perhaps more importantly, create a more collegial group of young academics willing to work with each other and encourage mutual success. We care about how we are going on both a professional and a personal level!

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Dr Alberto Posso is a Lecturer in Microeconomics at the School of Economics, Finance and Marketing. He completed his PhD in Economics at ANU in 2008. His research interests are on trade and labour market outcomes in developing countries.

Dr Posso has published in leading journals in the field of economic development, such as The Review of Income and Wealth, Journal of the Asia Pacific Economy, Asia-Pacific Perspectives and Contributions to Economics.

[Source: Dr Alberto Posso]
Funding Awards

The Transport and Logistics Industry Skills Council has awarded RMIT $118,487 for the research project titled “Employee Training and Workforce Productivity in the Transport and Logistics Industry: an assessment of the workplace productivity impact of the TLISC training packages”. People from the College of Business who are involved in the project are Dr Victor Gekara (Project Leader), A/Prof Prem Chhetri, Prof Peter Fairbrother and Dr Alan Montague.

Prof Peter Fairbrother and Dr Darryn Snell have joined with the National Centre for Sustainability (Swinburne University) to carry out a six-month scoping project on skilling in the Latrobe Valley (funded by DEEWR; $80K).

Dr Cathy Hall, Dr Ingo Karpen, Tass Katsouidis and Dr Marie-Anne Cam are awarded $20,000 for co-creating a Cohort Experience for First Year Students At RMIT Business, LTIF Learning and Teaching Implementation Project.

A/Prof Prem Yapa and his research team are granted $6,080 by CPA Australia on writing a study guide materials for Contemporary Business Issues (CBI) Module 4. CBI Module 4 is a CPA course, based on the findings of the College of Business funded research titled “IFRS and ASEAN: the socio-economic impacts of the adoption of the global accounting model”.

Success in 2011 RMIT Foundation and R&I sponsored Fellowships

The College of Business has four successful awards to support international visitors and collaborations from the recent RMIT Foundation and R&I Fellowships round.

Dr Stephen Vargo from Shidler College of Business, University of Hawaii and Prof Maria Marcuzzo from the University of Rome are awarded $7,700 and $4,800 respectively for the RMIT Foundation International Visiting Fellowships scheme. The host school for both of the awards is the School of Economics, Finance and Marketing.

Prof Martin Wood from the School of Management and Prof Stephen Linstead from the University of York, UK are granted $6,500 RMIT Research Exchange Fellowship sponsored by R&I Portfolio.

Dr Hossein Zadeh from the School of Business IT and Logistics and Dr Carolin Loeffler from the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany are awarded $8,000 RMIT Research Exchange Fellowship.

Successes in the College of Business Research Schemes for Sem 2 2011

Congratulations to Dr Antony Young, Dr Chris White, Dr Ingo Karpen, Dr Kaleel Rahman and Dr Ferry Jie who are awarded the College of Business ECR Publication Scheme for Sem 2, 2011. This scheme provides funding of up to $ 5,000 to assist ECRs to publish from their thesis or from work in progress that emerged during the writing of their thesis.

Congratulations also extend to Md Saiful Azam and Kathy Douglas who are awarded the College Doctorate Completion Scheme grant. This scheme will support Md Saiful and Kathy in the final stages of their PhDs with a semester release from all teaching and administrative duties.

[Source: BRO]
Research News

» RMIT to implement Australia Food Composition Database

RMIT has won a competitive tender from the Department of Health and Ageing for the pilot implementation of a Food Composition Database (FCDB).

The $190,850 tender was secured by Prof Caroline Chan, Head of the School of Business IT and Logistics.

The pilot implementation of a FCDB is an initiative of the Industry Partnership Agreement under the Government’s Food and Health Dialogue.

It provides a framework for government, public health groups and industry to work collaboratively across all levels of the food supply chain to improve dietary intakes.

Prof Chan and her team will provide advice and guidance to the Federal Government on the development of the database.

Prof Chan will also work closely with the Food Standard Australia and New Zealand (FSANZ) and the food industry in Australia.

» Union breaks new ground

Dr Victor Gekara from the School of Business IT and Logistics has been researching international trade union, Nautilus International.

"The value of Nautilus to its members – as a cross-border union instead of individual national unions – is great," Dr Gekara said.

Nautilus International is currently one of the largest unions representing maritime professionals in Europe and is expected to gain prominence within the international shipping industry.

“While it is early days in the life of Nautilus International, it has shown great success so far and makes for an interesting case study," Dr Gekara said.

Dr Gekara's research was reported in the June issue of the Nautilus Telegraph in the UK.

» Best paper awards for RMIT academics

RMIT academics have won two out of the seven awards for best research papers at the 2011 Asian Finance Association Conference.

The first winning paper, entitled “Investor protection and corporate governance in family firms: evidence from China”, was written by Jing Zhou, a PhD student in the School of Economics, Finance and Marketing, and Prof On Kit Tam, Deputy Pro Vice-Chancellor, Business International.

The second paper, “Private placements, regulatory restrictions and firm value: theory and evidence from the Indian market”, was written by Dr Vijaya Marisetty et.al. Dr Marisetty is an Associate Professor of Finance in the School of Economics, Finance and Marketing.

The conference was held in Macau, China, and was themed “Frontiers in Finance: Asia-Pacific and Beyond”.

It was organised by the University of Macau, and sponsored by the Macau Special Administration Region, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, CFA Institute, Elsevier Pacific Basin Finance Journal, Singapore Management University, Indian School of Business and the Pacific Basin Capital Markets Research Centre.

More than 130 papers were accepted from over 400 submissions by academics around the world.

Papers were submitted by academics from institutions including University of Hong Kong, Australian National University, Cambridge University, George Mason University, National University of Singapore, and Harvard University.

[Source: RMIT News]
**Cleaning up our act**

Reliable estimates place the number of contaminated sites at more than 80,000 nationally. Given the potential implications for investment risk, public health and environmental sustainability, you’d think it would be relatively straightforward to find out whether and how a site is contaminated, and who’s responsible for remediation. Not so.

"Federally, there are general guidelines for assessing site contamination," says RMIT financial accounting specialist Prof Craig Deegan. "At the State and Territory level, 'polluter pays' and strict liability principles mean that the person or entity that contaminated the site is responsible for assessment and clean-up. There's no need to prove intent, negligence or fault."

In practice, the situation is murkier. If the polluter is no longer in business, or if they can't afford the clean-up costs, responsibility passes to the owner or occupier. If responsibility can't be established, the buck passes to the relevant State or Territory government.

What's more, although there are national contamination assessment guidelines, responsibility for management lies with State, Territory and, occasionally, local governments. "Some jurisdictions have contaminated site registers," says Deegan's colleague Sophia Ji, "but these registers are rarely comprehensive. Some jurisdictions don't have registers, while others don't require responsible parties to remediate contamination at all."

Company balance sheets aren't much help, either. "It's a breach of Australian Accounting Standards to include items in a balance sheet unless they can be measured reliably," says Deegan. "If the owner knows they have contaminated sites, but can't reliably estimate assessment and remediation costs, they're not required to disclose the sites in the balance sheet."

Against all this, approval standards for rezoning land from industrial to residential use are becoming increasingly high. "This can make remediation costs quite prohibitive," Ji says. "Investors need to weigh the risks against the benefits of eventual redevelopment."

Investors aren't completely powerless in this situation. They can make the contract of sale subject to an environmental assessment by an independent expert, or negotiate a cheaper purchase price in return for taking the responsibility for remediation.

However, Deegan and Ji believe several reforms would place investors in a stronger position. "First," says Deegan, "there should be mandatory disclosure of known contaminated sites, via a national register. Such a register would include information about each site's location, past and current ownership, the nature of contamination, responsible parties, and the extent of remediation.

Second, the Federal Government should amend the Corporations Act to require that companies disclose contaminated sites in their directors' report or notes to the financial statements, even if they can't put a figure on the clean-up cost. "Simply knowing these sites exist would help investors make better informed decisions," says Ji.

Finally, Deegan and Ji believe the accounting profession should develop guidelines for stricter disclosure of contingent (potential) liabilities, including contamination remediation costs. "In the end," says Deegan, "it's about risk assessment and right-to-know. The more information investors have, the better for them, potential residents and the local environment."

This story was first published in RMIT's *Making Cities Work* magazine.

[Source: RMIT News]

**PhDs win external scholarships**

Two PhD students from RMIT are awarded scholarships to participate in the 2011 ProSPER. Net Young Researchers’ School (YRS).

One of the winners was Md. Khalid Hossain, a PhD student from the School of Management. He will spend two weeks at Hosei University in Japan in August to experience how a developed country is tackling complex urban issues and will be challenged to reflect on how these approaches and knowledge may be incorporated or transferred to developing countries.

ProSPER.Net is a network of several leading higher education institutions in Asia and the Pacific that have committed to work together to integrate sustainable development into postgraduate courses and curricula.

[Source: Simon Liddle & Tania Tambiah]
Mothers don’t trust healthcare advertising

When it comes to their children’s health it seems that mothers prefer to seek endorsements from trusted sources rather than relying on advertising or recommendations from healthcare professionals.

Research undertaken by Dr Angela Dobele, from the School of Economics, Finance and Marketing, and Prof Adam Lindgreen, Cardiff Business School, found that mothers rely on other parents for information about healthcare providers and to feel more confident about their choices.

“Choosing healthcare for your child is a big responsibility. There is an information imbalance because, for most mothers, the healthcare provider has a lot more knowledge,” Dr Dobele said.

“This imbalance makes it difficult to decide on a course of action and to judge the quality of services received.

“Parents are reliant upon the medical professional to determine a suitable treatment. Trusted word-of-mouth recommendations can help them to finalise a decision or consider alternative possibilities.”

This study has significant implications for healthcare marketing, suggesting that the industry needs to concentrate less on selling strategies and more on reinforcing the value of service that a patient receives.

“For many organisations it is common practice to try to ‘add value’ to existing products by bundling offerings together,” Dr Dobele said.

“Our study shows that tactics like this are unlikely to work within the healthcare industry as mothers do not trust commercial marketing messages that try to sway their opinions.”

Dr Dobele explains that organisations need to focus on their commitment to patient care in order to win the recommendations of other parents.

“As long as people have a choice of medical practitioners they will exercise this choice and vote with their feet.” she said.

[Source: RMIT News]

Book buys into banks debate

Prof Imad Moosa, from the School of Economics, Finance and Marketing, said The Myth of Too Big to Fail argued strongly against the use of taxpayers’ money to bail out failing banks and suggested alternative solutions.

"I make three key points. We need regulation to separate commercial banking from other financial activities, thus containing the cancerous growth of banks.

"Second, there needs to be the kind of regulation that minimises the probability of bank failure, hence the need for taxpayers' money.

"And third, if a bank must fail, let it fail. There is no evidence in history to support the apocalyptic scenario typically drawn by banks to show that the failure of one or a group of banks causes a systemic failure and the collapse of the payment mechanism."

Prof Moosa has served in advisory positions with institutions including KPMG, AUSAID, the US Treasury, the Central Bank of Kuwait and the United Nations.

The Myth of Too Big to Fail grew out of the increasingly widespread notion that failing big firms must be saved by government because their failure represents unacceptable systemic risk.

"I became interested in the topic as a result of the heated debate following the rescue, among others, of Citigroup and AIG in the US and Northern Rock and the Royal Bank of Scotland in the UK," he said.

"This book is highly (but fairly) critical of the too big to fail (TBTF) doctrine and related issues such as laissez faire finance, the trend towards massive deregulation, and the undeserved status of the financial sector in the economy.

"It is critical of not only the practice but also the ideas that drive the practice, some (or most) of which are the products of academic work."

The Myth of Too Big to Fail is published by Palgrave Macmillan, London.

[Source: RMIT News]
Researchers support future of higher education in Romania

Prof George Cairns, Head of the School of Management, and Dr Jennifer Gidley, Research Fellow in the Global Cities Research Institute, participated recently in a Mutual Learning Workshop (MLW) in Romania.

The event was held at the Delta Nature Resort at Lake Somova from 27 June to 1 July, 2011, and was part of the Bucharest Dialogues.

The Dialogues support the Romanian Government's program on building Quality and Leadership for Romanian Higher Education, designed around a series of MLWs aimed at creating a vision for Romanian higher education in 2025. The series is funded by the European Social Fund.

Prof Cairns and Dr Gidley joined six other international contributors, from the UK, Spain, Malaysia, California and Hawaii, to work with members of the Executive Agency of Higher Education and future Romanian educators.

Prof Cairns was co-organiser for this, his third round of participation in the series, having been invited to join the dialogue on the basis of his international reputation in the field of scenario thinking and futures studies.

Prof Cairns' co-organisers included Prof Ziauddin Sardar, editor of the journal Futures, for which he will guest edit a special issue from the MLW.

Dr Gidley was invited to join the dialogue because of her role as President of the World Futures Studies Federation, and her expertise in educational futures.

Prof Cairns said: “The dialogue indicated that the type of higher education environment that is most likely to promote and nurture positive values is one in which trans-disciplinary working is actively encouraged and rewarded.

"We do not need narrow disciplinary boundaries that constrain thinking on complex issues that need to be addressed within a futures-oriented academic environment."

[Source: RMIT News]

Making communities bushfire-ready

A team from the Centre for Sustainable Organisations and Work has visited Tasmania as part of their research into effective communications strategies for bushfire-prone areas.

The research is part of an ongoing project being funded by the Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) and led by Profs Peter Fairbrother and John Fien.

The aim of the project is to provide an understanding of the social, political and historical bases of community awareness and resilience in bushfire contexts.

The team, consisting of Drs Sue Chaplin, Richard Phillips and Keith Toh, was in Tasmania for a week conducting focus groups and interviews.

They have previously visited communities in Victoria and have plans to visit Western Australia and New South Wales.

Three community types were identified for this research which enables comparative studies across the states.

This also provides an opportunity to contribute to the literature on effective communication by considering how particular communities are organised and mobilised.

“The visit to Tasmania formed a critical part of the research by allowing the team to engage with members of the government, emergency agencies and the community,” Prof Peter Fairbrother said.

“Our interviews focused on communication as the process of establishing meaning.

“Communication takes on significance at all levels of the community: from organisational and operational communications such as bushfire warnings, to community education programs and the communication of messages and information via public campaigns.”

The visit to Tasmania was a positive experience which has increased the team’s enthusiasm for the research.

“We are extremely grateful to all participants for taking the time to speak to us and we hope the final results will assist their communities,” Dr Toh said.

[Source: RMIT News]
Professors named Chair at Epworth Hospital

Prof Nilmini Wickramasinghe from the School of Business IT and Logistics has been named Epworth Chair, Health Information Management, by Epworth HealthCare.

Prof Wickramasinghe has more than 15 years of research experience in the area of healthcare informatics and has been collaborating with Epworth HealthCare since she began at RMIT in December 2009.

Healthcare informatics is primarily focused on facilitating superior healthcare delivery by looking at resources, devices and methods to optimise the acquisition, storage, retrieval and security of information in health and biomedicine.

Epworth HealthCare currently sponsors five other Chairs, which are occupied by professors at the University of Melbourne, Monash University and Deakin University. Prof Wickramasinghe’s appointment is a first for RMIT.

“This role will allow me to collaborate with leading medical specialists and to work together to implement various tools, techniques and technologies which are central to my research,” she said.

Epworth HealthCare and the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio, USA, have partnered on an initiative to provide innovative international training and research.

Prof Wickramasinghe’s appointment as Epworth Chair, Health Information Management, will help to further strengthen this clinical academic alliance, with RMIT now joined as the third partner in the initiative.

[Source: RMIT News]

Management and productivity in Australian firms

RMIT University academics attended a research seminar recently to discuss management performance within Australian firms.

Prof Roy Green, University of Technology Sydney, outlined the results of a recent study which found that Australian managers are far behind the global standard when it comes to people and talent management.

“This is particularly the case for small to medium enterprises,” Prof Green said.

“The results are also associated with a much lower proportion of tertiary qualifications among Australian managers, compared to those from other countries in the study.”

Prof Green is Dean of the Business School at the University of Technology Sydney. He has been published widely on innovation policy and management and has worked with universities, business and government in Australia and overseas.

Prof Green is the chair of the Australian Government’s Innovative Regions Centre, CSIRO Manufacturing Sector Advisory Council and NSW Manufacturing Council and a member of the Enterprise Connect Advisory Council.

The seminar was organised by the Centre for Sustainable Organisations and Work and the School of Management.

[Source: RMIT News]

PhD candidates leading in London

Two PhD candidates from the School of Management have had a panel proposal accepted for the International Leadership Association 13th Annual Global Conference in October, London.

Heather Davis’ presentation is titled “Complexity and risk in universities in Australia: Are there emerging leadership literacies for knowledge enterprises in times of flux?”

Ahmad Arham’s presentation is titled “Leadership behaviours and entrepreneurial orientation: A conceptual link to organisational performance of Malaysian SMEs”.

The panel session will be chaired by Prof Sandra Jones from the School of Management.

The International Leadership Association is the pre-eminent global association for leadership and leadership development. They publish the only A+ journal in the field of leadership and their conferences attract more than 1000 scholars and practitioners each year.

[Source: Business on Bourke]
» Conference awards for Management scholars

Congratulations to Bernadette Crompton, a PhD student, Prof Kosmas Smyrnios and Rui Bi, a PhD student from the School of Management, who were jointly awarded Best Paper Award at the 24th Small Enterprise Association Australia and New Zealand conference for the paper titled “Evaluating and Measuring the Effectiveness of Business Coaching on Firm Growth”.

Congratulations also extend to Ahmad Arham, a PhD student from the School of Management who was awarded the Best Student Presentation Award in the conference for the presentation on “The Role of Entrepreneurial Orientation in Leadership-Organizational Performance Relationship: Malaysian SMEs Perspectives”. Co-authors of the paper are Dr Nuttawuth Muenjohn and A/Prof Carlene Boucher.

[Source: Dr Warren Staples]

» PhD wins award at 2011 Amplify Festival

Vinita Godhin, a PhD student from the Graduate School of Business and Law was awarded the People’s Choice award at the Technology on Tap as part of the 2011 Amplify Festival for her take on Run DMC's 'Walk this Way'.

Technology on Tap gives PhD students and researchers two and a half minutes to use storytelling and performance art to communicate their research and how it will benefit society to the audience.

[Source: Marita Shelly]

» Sharing Research outcomes

The Graduate School of Business and Law hosted an Asia@RMIT seminar and a Business, Society and Law public seminar recently.

At the Asia@RMIT seminar, Dr Ling (Irene) Deng from the School of Management presented on 'Leadership and Management in a Changing World: Lessons from Ancient East and West Philosophy', and Dr Chengju Huang from the School of Media and Communication presented on 'The changing face of "Marxist journalism" in contemporary China'.

Richard Trudgen presented at Business, Society and Law public seminar series on 'Yolnu Once Were Traders: Successful Business Development for the Yolnu People of Arnhem Land'.

[Source: Marita Shelly]

» Research seminar series in GSBL

The Graduate School of Business and Law started a fortnightly research seminar series in July with A/Prof Don Feaver and Ben Sheehy presenting 'What is that Scribbled on the Wall? Regulation and the State'.

Prof Supriya Singh and Dr Anuja Cabraal will be presenting 'Boomerang Remittances' and Circular Care Among Indian Transnational Families in Australia' at the next seminar in early August.

[Source: Marita Shelly]

» RMIT International HRM Conference in Vietnam

RMIT University hosted a conference in Ho Chi Minh City recently to discuss Human Resource Management (HRM) and sustainable business development in Vietnam.

More than 100 delegates attended the event including representatives from the Vietnam Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Can Tho University, L’Oreal and Garmex.

The conference addressed the HRM challenges and opportunities faced by Vietnam and provided a platform for future research and funding partnerships.

The event was coordinated by the School of Management, Management Research Cluster in association with staff from RMIT Vietnam.

Dr Ngan Collins, Management Research Cluster Coordinator, said: “the conference was a really positive experience for all participants and has laid the foundation for further activities and ongoing partnerships.”

More than 30 research papers were presented over six concurrent sessions. The six best refereed papers will be published in a special issue of the Asia Pacific Journal of Human Resource Management, the premier Australian HRM journal.

“Both organisations expressed considerable enthusiasm for such a venture so it looks like these discussions will be ongoing,” Dr Collins said.

[Source: Dr Ngan Collins]
**Funding Opportunities**

The following funding opportunities have internal RMIT closing dates in green through September to November.

01/09/2011 **Online Computer Library Center – Library and Information Science Research Grant Program**
The sponsor offers grant awards of up to $15,000 to faculty in schools of library and information science to promote independent research that helps librarians integrate new technologies into areas of traditional competence and to contribute to a better understanding of the library environment.

13/09/2011 **Economic and Social Research Council – Joint Scheme for Research on International Development**
The aim of the scheme is to enhance the quality and impact of social science research addressing the key international development goal of reducing poverty amongst the poorest countries and peoples of the world.

16/09/2011 **European University Institute – Fernand Braudel Senior Fellowships**
The fellowship provides established academics with an opportunity to carry out research in one of the four departments: Department of Economics; Department of History and Civilization; Department of Law; and Department of Political and Social Sciences.

16/09/2011 **Mercy Foundation – Grants to End Homelessness**
These grants are available for initiatives, services, projects and research that will contribute to the goal of ending homelessness.

16/09/2011 **National University of Singapore – Senior Research Fellowships**
The sponsor will provide positions that are intended for outstanding active researchers to work on an important research in the social sciences and humanities.

16/09/2011 **Dairy Australia – Research and Development Projects**
The sponsor accepts applications for R&D projects from individuals and organisations. Applications are judged on the perceived benefits to the Australian dairy industry and potential for success.

The sponsor's primary purpose is to promote the health and welfare of children in Australia. Support is for a period of 1-2 years.

19/09/2011 **United States Institute of Peace – Annual Grant Competition**
The program encourages the Institute's work by supporting peace building projects managed by non-profit organizations including educational institutions, research institutions, and civil society organizations.

19/09/2011 **Cornell University – Society for the Humanities Fellowships**
The program provides support for six to eight fellows to collaborate with Senior Scholars in residence.

28/09/2011 **Economic and Social Research Council – International Partnership and Networking Scheme**
The sponsor is inviting applications for the first round of its International Partnership and Networking Scheme, aimed at fostering the development of long-term relationships with overseas social scientists in areas of interest that are of direct relevance to its current strategic priorities in social sciences.

03/10/2011 **International Association for Accounting Education and Research – Informing the IASB Standard Setting Process Research Program**
The IAAER KPMG Research Program promotes and supports research directed at developing theory and evidence to inform the IASB decision process for any current agenda item.

07/10/2011 **United States Studies Centre – Research Grants**
The sponsor supports USA focused research activities of academic staff in the humanities, social sciences and related professional disciplines at Australian universities.

11/10/2011 **European University Institute – Jean Monnet Fellowships**
Through its Jean Monnet Fellowship Programme, the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (RSCAS) offers support for postdoctoral research by academics in the early stages of their academic career.

12/10/2011 **European University Institute – Max Weber Fellowship**
The Max Weber Programme is Europe’s largest postdoctoral programme in the social sciences and humanities.

18/10/2011 **Canadian High Commission – Faculty Research Program**
The sponsor provides support to individual academics in universities and research institutes to undertake short-term research about Canada or aspects of Canada's bilateral relations with Australia and New Zealand, including interdisciplinary and comparative studies.

each year, the sponsor offers two grants for research into risk and insurance economics.

Research Alert: [www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=cmksiexvqpu4](http://www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=cmksiexvqpu4)

[Source: Dr Tseen Koo]
Recent Publications


Moosa, I A, Undermining the Case for a Trade War between the U.S. and China, Economia Internazionale (forthcoming).


[Source: Prof Imad Moosa & Bill Davey ]
**Upcoming Research Events**

- 11-12/08/2011 Thai Studies Conference
- 15/08/2011 ARC Applications: What Seems to Matter
- 16/08/2011 College Final, 3 Minute Thesis Competition 2011
- 23/08/2011 Confirmation of Candidature Seminar, School of Management
- 29/08/2011 Confirmation of Candidature Seminar, School of EF&M
- 31/08/2011 RMIT Final, 3 Minute Thesis Competition 2011
- 06/09/2011 Completion Seminar, School of EF&M
- 08/09/2011 Academics Workshop 1: Time for Research: It's a new ERA!, RCBT
- 08/09/2011 Academics Workshop 2: Turbo Charge Your Writing, RCBT
- 09/09/2011 HDR Students Workshop 1: 7 Secrets of Highly Successful Research Students, RCBT
- 09/09/2011 HDR Students Workshop 2: Turbo Charge Your Writing, RCBT.

**Research Support**

**Shut Up and Write**

Jonathan O’Donnell is setting up a "Shut Up and Write" session on every Monday morning at 9:30 am from 1 August 2011 in the Graduate School of Business and Law café.

"Shut Up and Write" is a really effective little process to get you to put words down on paper. People gather at a cafe, shut up, and write. How brilliant is that! It is a way of dedicating time to writing and using the support of other people to ensure that you do actually write.

The sessions usually work like this:
- People arrive, get a coffee, introduce themselves, catch up, etc.
- Once everybody is settled, we write for 25 minutes. What you write is up to you. I will be using the time to rework that draft that I have been promising Margaret for the last five weeks.
- After 25 minutes, we break and have a chat, get more coffee, etc.
- Then we write again for another 25 minutes.
- Rinse and repeat.

For more information about this initiative, please contact Jonathan O'Donnell jonathan.odonnell@rmit.edu.au

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**RMIT Supervision Training**

The course provides prospective and novice supervisors with practical knowledge regarding HDR supervision that can be used to inform and enhance supervisory practice. Completion of the course is one way to meet the requirements for supervisor's registration.

Information about the course is available here: http://www.rmit.edu.au/staff/research/profdevelopment

[Source: Dr Robyn Barnacle]

**Research Trainings**

- 09/08/2011 Building successful research collaborations
  www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=qa283cea2wq3
- 10/08/2011 Research funding opportunities: beyond the ARC and NHMRC
  www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=i5o482wohto0z
- 25/08/2011 Research Ready: how to prepare a grant budget
  www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=ae2fq8zdclu1
- 02/09/2011 ARC Linkage Projects Scheme: information seminar
  www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=gb0ou25l1ij2
- 08/09/2011 Planning an academic career
  www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=izv4upbi6ig
- 09/09/2011 ECR@RMIT workshop 4: publishing
  www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=plw3mwqd17u2
- 19/09/2011 Research Ready: applying for external research funding
  www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=c5r5cm1weag4

**Business Research Office (BRO)**

We welcome Allison Tatchell to the role of Ethics Coordinator. Allison is acting for Kristina Tsoulis-Reay who is on maternity leave until April 2012.

- Prof Brian Corbitt
  Deputy PVC Business (Research)
- Tania Tambiah
  Senior Manager, Research Development
- Kalpana Lalji
  Resource Coordinator
- Sandra Hart
  Research Coordinator
- Prue Lamont
  Administrative Officer - Research
- Allison Tatchell
  Ethics Coordinator (Acting)
- Jessica Sun
  Administrative Assistant - Research
- Dr Tseen Khoo
  Senior Advisor, Research Grant Development (R&I)

[Source: BRO]