

THE VOICE

Monthly Newsletter for our Australian Alumni Community

ISSUE 54 | AUGUST 2025

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Partners,

We have reached the end of August. It's amazing how fast the year has whizzed by. The big event, our Gala Dinner is only 2 months away. We are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the AAS, our Platinum Jubilee and 60 years of bilateral relationships between Australia and Singapore, making it a diamond jubilee celebration.

Gala Dinner at the Ritz Carlton on 1st November 2025

As a reminder from last month's newsletter, this year theme for our Gala Dinner is **Platinum & Diamond: Legacy upheld**. We will be celebrating all that has been achieved between Singapore and Australia. As part of this year's event, we will pay homage to our Australian Alumni past and present, including a walk down memory lane.

To add a whole lot of sparkle to the event, I am announcing our major lucky draw first prize; a pair of return tickets to **MELBOURNE** courtesy of our airline sponsor **SINGAPORE AIRLINES**. Also, we have not 1 but 2 diamond jewelry prizes from our Jewelry Sponsor **DE ROCKS**. On top of that we, have secured hotel stays (Singapore and Australia), along with other great prizes.

Get your tables together, get yourself together and get your tickets quickly as the Early Birds Discount ends on **30th September 2025**.

Events

One of the big things to happen in August was a part of Singapore's 60th anniversary celebrations, we received a state visit from the Governor General of Australia, H.E. Samantha Mostyn. Highlights of her trip included visiting the Botanical Gardens, attending a state dinner with President Tharman Shanmugaratnam and meeting a number of our AAS Alumni members at the Australian High Commission. She is a strong supporter of both the Australian High Commission and AAS.

We held a nature walk with JCU Alumni which was a highly successful event. There were a lot of happy faces at the end of the hike.

Looking ahead, September is packed with opportunities. We have a range of upcoming events:

- **Digital Economy Summit Asia 2025**, where AAS members enjoy 50% off on the entry ticket,
- Sharing session on **The Future of Sustainable Aviation Fuel**,
- **Singapore Property Market Outlook 2025**,
- and plenty of Partner's events!

Please be sure to check the "Upcoming Events" section for full details on all activities.

Let's look to having a great September.

Yours Sincerely,

Andrew Er

Andrew Er

#forwardtogether



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28 July 2025

Dear AAS Member,

This year marks an extraordinary milestone as AAS turns 70, alongside 60 years of diplomatic relations between Australia and Singapore.

As we celebrate the long-standing friendship between Australia and Singapore, we write to express our heartfelt appreciation for your continued support of the Australian Alumni Singapore (AAS) community.

Your participation in AAS events and initiatives has played a vital role in strengthening the networks between our two nations. Through your engagement, AAS has been able to foster meaningful connections among graduates of Australian institutions and advance our shared mission of promoting Australian education, opportunities, and culture in Singapore. The Australian Government's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040 recognises the importance of international alumni networks providing ongoing and longstanding benefits for people-to-people links within the region.

You are part of a remarkable network of over 200,000 Australian alumni in Singapore. Your professional achievements and contributions have advanced Singapore's growth and elevated Australia's global reputation as a leading destination for quality education.

We warmly invite you to join us at the AAS 70th Anniversary Gala Dinner on 1 November 2025 at The Ritz-Carlton, Millenia Singapore. It will be an evening of celebration, connection, and reflection on the legacy we've built together.

Stay informed of the latest by following us on social media:

- 📌 LinkedIn: [@Australian Alumni Singapore](#)
- 📌 Instagram: [@australian_alumni_singapore](#)
- 📌 Facebook: [@Australian Alumni Singapore](#)

Thank you once again for being an essential part of the AAS story. We look forward to your continued involvement and to celebrating this special milestone with you.

Best regards,

H.E. Allaster Cox
Australian High Commissioner to Singapore
Patron of Australian Alumni Singapore

Andrew Er
President, Australian Alumni Singapore

Let's toast to the

75th

1ST NOVEMBER 2025

THE RITZ CARLTON MILLENIA,
SINGAPORE

GALA EARLY BIRD ACCESS - GET TICKETS HERE!

Secure your seat *& join the Bling !*



LET'S HONOUR LEGACY

-One Memory At A Time -

#AASmemorylane

BE PART OF OUR STORY

As we celebrate 70 years of Australian Alumni Singapore, we're building a visual tribute to the memories, milestones, and moments that shaped our journey.

Have photos from past AAS events?
Old reunion snaps, Gala nights, university gatherings, or special alumni moments?

Share them with us!

✉ Email your photos to events@aas.org.sg

Post them on social media platforms (IG, FB, or LinkedIn) with #AASmemorylane to be featured in our upcoming Gala showcase.

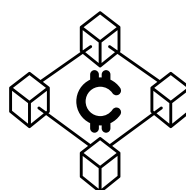
EDWARD TAN RMIT UNIVERSITY



EDWARD TAN GRADUATED WITH A BACHELOR OF BUSINESS (MANAGEMENT) DEGREE FROM RMIT UNIVERSITY IN 2016. HE CURRENTLY WORKS IN A FINTECH STARTUP HANDLING OPERATIONS AND CLIENT SUPPORT. THIS IS HIS STORY.



I STARTED MY CAREER JOURNEY IN 2017 UPON GRADUATION FROM UNIVERSITY IN SALES. AFTER 1.5 YEARS IN VARIOUS STINTS ACROSS B2C AND B2B SETTINGS, I REALIZED THAT THIS PATH WAS NOT THE RIGHT FIT FOR ME. IN 2020 JUST BEFORE THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC HIT, I MADE A PIVOTAL DECISION TO TRANSITION INTO AN OPERATIONS ROLE IN THE F&B INDUSTRY. IT WAS THEN THAT I REALIZED THAT OPERATIONS WAS WHERE MY CORE STRENGTH TRULY WAS. 2 YEARS LATER I TOOK ON A BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT INTERNSHIP WHILE PURSUING FURTHER STUDIES. NOT ONLY DID THIS INTERNSHIP ENABLE ME TO SHARPEN MY OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES, IT ALSO PROVIDED ME EXPOSURE INTO BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND OPENED UNEXPECTED DOORS WHICH EVENTUALLY LED ME TO MY CURRENT ROLE.



BEYOND WORK, I STAY CONNECTED TO MY UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM. I CURRENTLY SERVE AS AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER WITH RMIT ALUMNI SINGAPORE WHERE I ACTIVELY CURATE EVENTS AND INITIATIVES THAT BENEFIT OUR SINGAPORE-BASED ALUMNI. SERVING IN THIS CAPACITY HAS ENABLED ME TO MEET INDIVIDUALS FROM VARIOUS WALKS OF LIFE, EXPAND MY HORIZONS ALL WHILE ENABLING ME TO DEVELOP THE SOFT SKILLS NEEDED TO THRIVE IN LIFE.

TO THAT END, I HAVE GAINED 3 TAKEAWAYS FROM MY CAREER JOURNEY.

- 1) KNOW YOUR PURPOSE IN LIFE. IN DOING SO, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SET GOALS AND SUBSEQUENTLY THE PLANS TO ACHIEVE THEM.
- 2) YOUR NETWORK IS YOUR NET WORTH. THE SAYING COULDN'T BE MORE TRUE ESPECIALLY WITH REGARDS TO CAREER. THIS CAN BE CULTIVATED THROUGH SCHOOL, VOLUNTEERISM AND IN THE WORKPLACE.
- 3) CONSISTENTLY DELIVER RESULTS. IN THIS WAY YOU HAVE THE CARDS TO NEGOTIATE FOR WHATEVER YOU WANT IN LIFE.

TO ALL WHO FOUND MY STORY BENEFICIAL, I WISH YOU NOTHING BUT THE BEST IN ALL YOUR ENDEAVOURS.

14TH

WORLD
CHAMBERS
CONGRESS

Melbourne Australia 2025

2-4 September

Join us at 14WCC

Co-organised by the International Chamber of Commerce World Chambers Federation and the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the 14th World Chambers Congress (#14WCC) is a unique three-day forum uniting the global network of chambers and their respective

business communities under the theme: Business, chambers, government: Partners for prosperity.

The congress will explore how fostering collaboration among businesses, chambers of commerce, and governments can drive economic growth and prosperity.



In partnership with



Victorian
Chamber of Commerce
and Industry

Supported by



Local partners



Why attend?

A once-in-a-generation opportunity to connect, collaborate and chart the future of commerce on Australian soil.



Hear from world-renowned thought leaders and policymakers



Explore global partnerships, trade and investment opportunities



Gain exclusive insights into AI, energy and the future of work



Network with over 1,200 decision-makers from 100+ countries



Access Melbourne's thriving economy and innovation ecosystem



Special features:

- Three-day congress featuring over 30 sessions, hosted at Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
- Welcome reception at SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium
- Gala Dinner and World Chambers Competition Awards Ceremony at Crown Palladium
- Positioned in the heart of one of the world's most vibrant and multicultural cities, renowned for its dynamic food, fashion, arts and sports scenes and a welcoming energy that blends creativity, innovation and laid-back sophistication.



Key speakers:

- **Gary Litman**, Senior Vice President, Global Initiatives, U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- **Jacinta Allan**, Premier of Victoria
- **Mathias Cormann**, Secretary-General, OECD
- **Mohammad Ali Rashed Lootah**, President & CEO, Dubai Chambers
- **Gönül Serbest**, Commissioner for Victoria to Europe, Middle East, Türkiye and Africa, Global Victoria

... and many more thought leaders from business, government and chambers.



Book your place today!

Use the QR code to secure your ticket and explore all program details, speakers and travel information.

DESA

DIGITAL ECONOMY SUMMIT ASIA 2025

11th Sept | 9.30am to 5.00pm | Marina Bay Sands

Join us at the flagship Digital Economy Summit Asia 2025, bringing together business leaders, innovators, and digital experts to explore the future of the digital economy.

Ticket Price: \$120.00
50% OFF for AAS Members
Promo code: << AAS60 >>

REGISTER HERE

AIS & ANZA FAMILY FUN FEST!

Saturday 13 Sept 2025

3: 00 PM - 7:00 PM

*Free
Event*

Scan the QR
code to register



DID YOU KNOW ?

The same cooking oil that fries your favorite snacks can be turned into jet fuel!

From French Fries to Flight:



The Future of Sustainable Aviation Fuel



SPEAKER : GABRIEL HO
CHIEF SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER
ASIA SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL ASSOCIATION

DATE : 16 SEPTEMBER 2025 (TUESDAY)
TIME : 6 PM
VENUE : ART WORKS GROUP, 3 CHURCH ST
#24-04 SAMSUNG HUB, SINGAPORE 049483

REGISTER
NOW





SINGAPORE PROPERTY MARKET OUTLOOK 2025

NAVIGATE SINGAPORE'S PROPERTY HORIZON

GAIN INSIGHTS FROM LEADING INDUSTRY EXPERTS ON THE OUTLOOK OF SINGAPORE'S RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL MARKET. DEEP DIVE INTO THE URA 2025 MASTER PLAN TO UNDERSTAND SINGAPORE'S FUTURE TRANSFORMATION PLANS AND TO IDENTIFY NEW INVESTMENT HOTSPOTS.

HEAR FROM INDUSTRY EXPERTS INCLUDING ALAN CHEONG, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCY AT SAVILLS SINGAPORE.



25 Sept 2025



6:30PM - 8:30PM



The Hillshore Show Flat
Along Prince Charles
Crescent



REGISTER TODAY!

*Dinner & Registration will start from 6PM

*Parking is available



CUASC Professional Excellence Series III

“Dream Big, Start Lean: Building Businesses That Last”



Moderator
Dr Victor Tay
Subcom Mentorship, Chairman
Group CEO, RHT Consulting Asia

Synopsis:

In an era of lean startups and agile execution, big dreams need smart, sustainable starts. This panel explores how successful entrepreneurs began with small budgets, fast feedback, and relentless focus. Discover how to harness creativity and constraint to build something meaningful - and set yourself up for long-term success without burning out.

Guest Speakers



Ms Farhaty M S, Manager, Safarinspire LLP

“The Struggles of A Small Business: Overcome of Competitors & Juggling of Family Life”

- About Safarinspire LLP
- Why and how you start the business?
- How to stand out among BIG Players: Strategies to Stand Out in A Crowded Market.
- Wearing Many Hats: Balancing Business and Family.

Mr Edmund Seng, Managing Director, Calent3 Pte Ltd

“The Hard Truths Nobody Tells You about Being An ENTREPRENEUR”

- Are you MAD enough?
- Breaking Even - Even Before Starting Your Business
- Top reasons why most businesses do not survive beyond 3 years
- Do you really know why your customers buy from you?
- If you think you are there - Think Again!



WHERE & WHEN?

OTC Cafe @NLB
100 Victoria Street
#03-01 National Library Building
Singapore 188064

Thursday, 25th September 2025
7.00 pm to 9.00 pm

Registration start from 6.45pm
(Dinner will be provided - Halal)

REGISTRATION

Curtin / AAS Alumni Member - SGD 38.00
Guest / General Public - SGD 40.00

Payment To : CURTIN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI
SINGAPORE CHAPTER

Bank : Maybank Singapore Limited
Account No : 0401 - 113 - 331 - 1

Please take a screenshot of the bank slip to
Matthew Loo @ Mobile 81630610
once you have make the payment.

RESEARCH
SPOTLIGHT
SERIES #3

THIS IS NOT JUST AN AI LESSON – IT'S THE FUTURE OF LEARNING, WORKING AND BEING.

DR GHAZALNAZ
SHARIFONNASABI

Lecturer, Information Technology
James Cook University

REGISTER NOW



1 OCT 2025 | 4 – 5 PM SGT

📍 JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY
(SINGAPORE CAMPUS), C2-14

Facebook @jcu.singapore.fanpage | YouTube @jcusingaporevideo | X @jcu_singapore | Instagram @jcusingapore | LinkedIn @James Cook University (Singapore Campus) | Spotify @jcusingapore

CPA
CONGRESS
15-18
OCT 2024



45+ speakers



Cate Blanchett
Award Winning
Producer, Actress
and Advocate



**The Hon
Victor Dominello**
Co-Founder, ServiceGen



**Nor Yati binti
Ahmad FCPA**
Accountant General,
Malaysia



Karthik Ramanna
Public Policy Professor
Oxford University



Lori Greiner
Inventor and
Humanitarian



Rachel Grimes FCPA
Director, Accounting
Professional and
Ethical Standards Board



Ralph Khoury FCPA
Global Finance Leader



Erik Brynjolfsson
Professor at Stanford,
Co-chairman
of Workhelix



Morgan Hamel
Business Ethicist



Mitchell Weiss
Public Entrepreneurship
Professor, Harvard
Business School

9,600+ attendees

650+ In-person and 8950+ Virtual from 50+ countries

Join a global movement of impact leaders at CPA Congress 2025. Choose from two in-person locations – the Gold Coast, Australia and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – or participate virtually live and OnDemand. Prepare for impact in your career with the skills, insights and connections to confidently chart your professional path.

Learn how to align Purpose, Partnership and Impact to meet rising standards, embed ethical decision-making, and harness innovation for lasting, sustainable outcomes.

To find out more, currently refer to the following link.

<https://www.cpaaustralia.com.au/career-development/events/conferences-and-events/congress>



36 sessions OnDemand

9 live virtual | 9 in-person recordings | 17 pre-records

4.5 out of 5
Avg session rating

4.4 out of 5
Onsite experience

50k attendees in 5 years

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
8,300	12,001	11,636	10,218	9,600+



Every year, researchers step up to the challenge of making their work quick, clear and captivating at the Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition – with only one static slide and just three minutes to convey the essence of their research to a lay audience.

The Singapore campus of James Cook University (JCU in Singapore) held its annual 3MT Competition on 4 August 2025, bringing together Higher Degree Research (HDR) candidates, academic and research staff, as well as external partners and alumni. The event highlighted a wide spectrum of topics, from generative AI to allergies, caregiving, and food security – reflecting the vibrant and diverse research culture at the university.

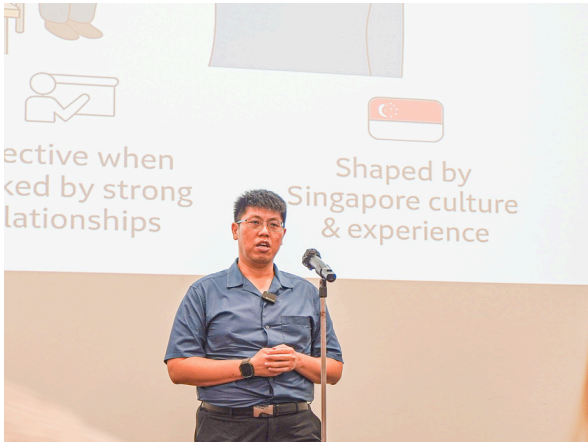
The judging panel, chaired by Associate Professor Jacob Wood, Associate Dean of Research and Associate Professor in Business at JCU in Singapore, comprised:

- Dr Anna Fogel (Research Scientist, Human Development, Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences, A*STAR)
- Ms Cindy Tan (Chief People Officer, JCU in Singapore)
- Dr Jeffrey Ling (2024 3MT HDR Category Winner)

“This year’s competition once again showed how research can inspire when communicated with clarity and passion. The researchers did a great job showcasing the depth of their expertise together with the ability to connect with people beyond their fields,” said Associate Professor Wood.

Winners of the 2025 JCU Singapore 3MT Competition

Higher Degree by Research: Ms Janitha Iddagoda	
	Screams of Allergy vs Whispers of Tolerance Ms Iddagoda’s research explored shellfish allergies, which affect millions worldwide. By studying patients who reacted differently to prawn species, she found that while IgE antibodies (the immune system’s “screams of allergy”) could not fully explain the reactions, IgG antibodies (the “whispers of tolerance”) revealed protective potential. Her research highlights the value of combining IgE and IgG profiling to improve diagnostic accuracy. This complementary approach may reduce reliance on risky food challenges and support safer, more precise allergy diagnosis. On top of her win, Ms Iddagoda also captured the audience’s vote, earning her the People’s Choice award. She went on to represent JCU in Singapore at the 3MT Final competition at JCU Townsville on 20 August 2025.

External Partners/Alumni: Mr Michael Zhengan Chen (Master of Guidance and Counselling, 2013)	
	Gesturing for Order: How Singapore Teachers Use Their Hands to Manage Classrooms Alumni Mr Chen's qualitative study explained how Singapore primary school teachers use gestures, such as raising a hand or folding arms, to manage classroom behaviour. His study showed that non-verbal cues are effective tools, especially when reinforced by strong teacher-student relationships. These findings could inform teacher training on non-verbal classroom strategies.
Academic/Research: Associate Professor Neil Hutchinson	
	The Same but Different? Community Structure on Heavily Modified Coastlines Associate Professor Hutchinson's research looks into how coastal modification impacts biodiversity, investigating the implications for marine organisms as human development transforms natural shorelines. Each category winner received a plaque, a certificate, and an SGD\$500 gift certificate. The People's Choice winner, a fan favourite voted by the audience, received a plaque and certificate.

Find out more about our [Higher Degrees by Research courses](#).

Discover further information on [areas of research and research strength at James Cook University in Singapore](#).

Find out more about the [Singapore campus of James Cook University](#).

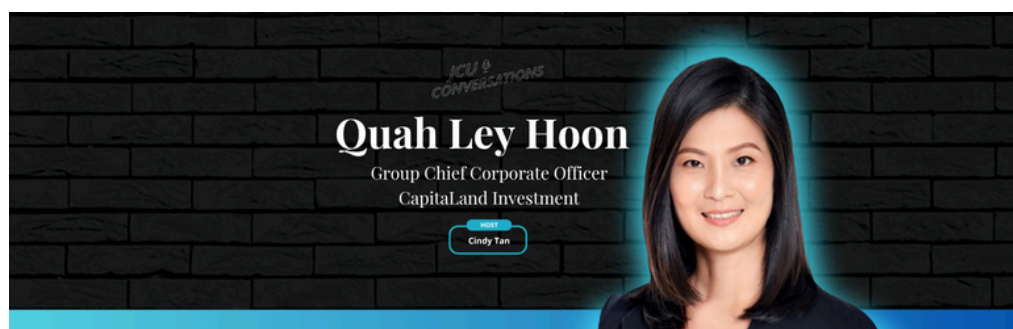
Contacts

Research: Associate Professor Denise Dillon denise.dillon@jcu.edu.au
Media: Ms Hoe Shu Rin shurin.hoe@jcu.edu.au / Ms Pinky Sibal pinky.sibal@jcu.edu.au



JCU Conversations is the premier podcast series of James Cook University, Singapore — bringing to you discussions with successful leaders in the industry (across fields such as business, education, sustainability, and more) while offering a deeper understanding of their personal lives, careers, inspirations, and approaches to success. Join our rotating chair of distinguished hosts as we find out: What makes these bright minds tick?

Latest ▾



JCU Conversations 39: Quah Ley Hoon

In this episode of JCU Conversations, Ms Quah Ley Hoon – Group Chief Corporate Officer at CapitaLand Investment – shares her views on adapting to change, staying curious, and leading through uncertainty. From her transition out of public service to embracing innovation in the private sector, she talks about learning new ways of working, building and sustaining a strong organisational culture, and what AI means for the future of the workforce.

This episode's host: Cindy Tan, Chief People Officer at the James Cook University (Singapore Campus).





Mentorship Matters is a value-add program that connects student mentees with mentors who are industry professionals to provide guidance around professional and personal development to prepare them for the workforce and their future careers.

Mentorship Matters is a value-add program that connects student mentees with mentors who are industry professionals to provide guidance around professional and personal development to prepare them for the workforce and their future careers.

Mentors benefit in a range of areas such as:

- Shape the future generation of the industry workforce
- Guide individuals through learning beyond classrooms
- Develop and enhance personal leadership and coaching style
- Benefit from a sense of fulfilment and personal growth
- Positive impact and contribution to student's future career
- Enhance self-development by gaining new perspectives from mentees
- Gain insights by engaging with mentees from various background
- Eligibility
- At least 5 years of working experience
- If you have mentoring experience, please share more with us at point of application
- If you have no mentoring experience, please complete a foundational mentoring programme such as Mentoring 101 by [MentoringSG](#), and share with us at point of application
- Beyond your mentorship guidance, JCU students are also supported through Employability Support Services; Career Advisor; Career Talk; **Employability Workshops**; Resume; Interview Skills; Job Search Techniques; Industry Relevant Soft Skills; **Internships**; **Mentorship Matters**; Employment Support Services; Career Fairs; **Career Portal**; Recruitment Drives

AAS and JCU has formed a partnership to this esteemed value-added program. For Australian Alumni Singapore members, please register your interest through [Australian Alumni Singapore](#) via this [form](#). You can also scan the QR Code below to register



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TrustCapital



About Us

TrustCapital Advisors Investment Management Pte Ltd is a private equity real estate firm founded in Singapore in 2009 with a Capital Markets Services License from the Monetary Authority of Singapore. The firm has completed over AUD 3.5 billion in transactions and has investment entities established in Australia, Malaysia and Singapore.

TrustCapital's investments span across Australia, Europe, and Japan, with an investor base that includes leading Asian pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, and financial institutions.

>AUD 3.5 billion

Transactions Completed across AUS, SGP, JPN, ITA

RM500 million

Ongoing Investment Mandate from a Malaysian
GLIC

>130 Years

Experience Across Executives and Advisors



AUG 2025

SPOTLIGHT

FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE DESK : A Shared Journey Through MBP



Student
Brennan Tay

Lecturer
Shanu Rekha

Brennan Tay savours his mornings with a cup of Yuan Yang. He is also a true food lover who can't just pick a favourite dish. In contrast, Dr. Shanu Rekha prefers a quiet start to her day with no caffeine. When it comes to food, spice is the name of the game, and she loves it in every meal. Despite the differences, they have a few things in common. Both of them prefer mornings over nights and texting over calling—and have a similar drive for self-improvement.

Their commonalities don't end there. They share one more—the Master of Business Psychology (MBP) program. Dr. Shanu and Brennan walk the same halls of Newcastle Australia Institute of Higher Education. But where Dr. Shanu stands at the front of the classroom, Brennan sits across her desk as a student. They come together to reveal how they navigate their respective roles and how learning is founded upon self-reflection.



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A WHOLLY OWNED ENTITY OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

Transforming Lives in Southeast Asia: The Economic Benefits of Investing in Eye Health



At The Fred Hollows Foundation, we've always understood that investing in eye health transforms lives. Over the past 30 years, we've restored sight to more than 3 million people.

Now we have the data that demonstrates what we know.

The Fred Hollows Foundation has recently released a groundbreaking report in partnership with Victoria University's Institute of Strategic Economic Studies, that outlines the economic benefits of investing in eye health. The report, which used an investment case economic modeling technique, estimates the return on investment (ROI) in eye health to achieve the World Health Assembly (WHA) targets by 2030. The results show that investments in eye health are among the highest ROI of any disease intervention.

The report focuses on the two leading causes of blindness and vision impairment – cataract and refractive error – and models intervention costs and benefits across 19 countries in which The Foundation works. The benefits of restoring sight, which in this report focus solely on economic returns, include increased labour force participation and productivity, and improved education and learning.

Remarkably, cataract treatment, on average, returns US\$20.50 for every dollar spent, while refractive error treatments return on average US\$10.80 for myopia (nearsightedness) and US\$8 for presbyopia (age-related vision loss). Together, investment in the two leading causes of blindness and vision impairment will return on average US\$9.40 for each dollar spent.

This demonstrates what we all know – that investment in eye care has a great return.

Despite a dramatic economic upturn in recent years, the burden of blindness and vision impairment is still significantly high in the Southeast Asia region, accounting for 31% of the world's blind. That's why it is time to step up our investment in eye health in Southeast Asia. When we look at the findings from Southeast Asia, the estimated ROI for cataract treatment on average returns 22.4. Refractive error treatments return on average US\$11.8 for myopia (nearsightedness) and US\$8.4 for presbyopia (age-related vision loss). Together, investment in the two leading causes of blindness and vision impairment will return on average US\$10.4 for each dollar spent in Southeast Asia.

Transforming Lives in Southeast Asia: The Economic Benefits of Investing in Eye Health



In Cambodia, where The Foundation has been actively working in since 1998, over 90% of blindness cases are preventable and primarily caused by cataract. Unfortunately, many people either lack the financial means to undergo the necessary surgery or are unaware of the available options. There is an ongoing need to address the challenges surrounding eye health in Cambodia, and increased investments in this area can provide a viable solution. Notably, cataract surgery in Cambodia demonstrates an estimated ROI of US\$22.6, while the estimated ROIs for myopia treatment and presbyopia treatment are US\$4.5 and US\$3.0, respectively.

The findings provide a compelling case for impact and social investment networks to invest in eye health in Southeast Asia. Beyond the great economic return that investment in eye care yields, restored sight brings longer and healthier lives, reductions in extreme poverty, increased labor force participation and productivity, increased school attendance, gender equality and independence. Investing in eye health not only benefits individuals but also has a positive impact on communities and the region's economic development. Contact The Fred Hollows Foundation to get more information on the economic benefits of investing in eye health and explore how your organization can contribute to eye health development.



The Fred Hollows Foundation has been a key leader in advocating and promoting the need to prioritize eye health investments. The Foundation's transformative approach to eye health, which includes strengthening health systems and partnerships with governments, local partners and other stakeholders, has been a key driver of our success in restoring sight to millions of people worldwide. These partnerships have been critical in ensuring that eye health programs are sustainable and have a lasting impact.

The Fred Hollows Foundation is committed to ending avoidable blindness, but we can't do it alone. Urgent collective action is needed across government, non-government, philanthropy and the private sector to prioritise health system investments to meet the 2030 global eye care targets. If we don't act now, by 2050 it is estimated that more than 1.7 billion people will be living with avoidable vision impairment.

Eye health programs transform lives and now is the time to step up our investment in eye health.

We welcome corporate partners who are interested in investing in eye health to [get in touch with us](#). Visit our website at www.hollows.org if you are interested to find out more or contact lee@hollows.org



JCUSAA X AAS HIKE @ MACRITCHIE RESERVOIR

In August, our alumni community came together for a refreshing afternoon hike through the lush trails of MacRitchie Reservoir.

The highlight? The TreeTop Walk, where we enjoyed stunning views and even spotted some adorable wildlife along the way! 🐒



The day didn't just end with the hike, we continued the conversations over a hearty dinner at Thomson Plaza, making it a perfect mix of nature, fitness, and networking.

A big thank you to JCUSAA for co-hosting the event and also to everyone who joined us, it was a well-attended and well-loved event. We can't wait to see you at the next one!

AAS Business Council Luncheon Series

13 August 2025 | Robert Half Singapore



15 August 2025 | Cushman & Wakefield



SOCIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Scan or click the link to join & connect with like minded AAS members



AAS-Tennis Group
WhatsApp group



[LINK](#)



AAS| Wine & Spirits Group
WhatsApp group



[LINK](#)



AAS-Cycling Group
WhatsApp group



[LINK](#)



AAS -Sustainability Group
WhatsApp group



[LINK](#)



AAS - Volunteer
WhatsApp group



[LINK](#)



AAS - Leverage SEO Group



[LINK](#)

If you would like to form and lead an interest group, please feel free to contact secretariat@aas.org.sg





Australian Alumni Singapore
since 1955



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UNIVERSITY
SINGAPORE**

Platinum

[Ordinary / Associate](#)



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THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE

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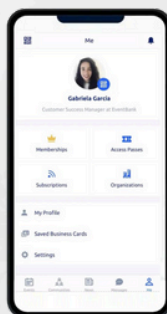
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Organisational Resilience in the New Normal

THE “NEW NORMAL”

As Governments, businesses and societies begin to adapt to the post-COVID 19 pandemic environment, organisations continue to evolve in a complex operating climate impacting daily operations, assurance to stakeholders and creating a sense of uncertainty. Left unchecked, these may materialise into potential undesirable consequences causing unnecessary disruption or leading to a crisis in their organisation.

Navigating through these complexities require trained and experienced professionals to ensure such threats do not become a reality and if they ever do, organisations must be ready to implement well tested contingency and response plans to recover from and resume critical operations.

It is a proven and well documented fact when organisations that are resilient and equipped to manage risks not only stand a higher chance of survival in their respective competitive fields but emerge stronger and ready to take on potential opportunities left behind by others who are not as well prepared.

Post-pandemic, more businesses, governments and key stakeholders will be requiring a greater adoption of business continuity and crisis management plans and procedures. Is your organisation ready?

WHY CLIENTS CHOOSE US

Clients want to partner with us because:

- We simplify resilience and continuity
- We “hand hold” you to develop your resilience plans (some say we do everything for them) at your pace
- We work with organisations of all sizes and maturity phases (i.e., regardless if it's a full programme or to review existing components)
- More importantly, our specialists are field-tested with actual planning, execution and response experience across multiple sectors (yet we don't charge sky high rates)

INFINITY CONTINUITY

We're an independent organisational resilience consultancy and training practice with a core focus in emergency preparedness, business continuity and crisis management. Established since 2013, our goal is to enable governments and businesses to achieve organisational resilience through customised solutions specific to our clients' needs, goals and strategy

Our services can be broadly categorised (but not limited to) as follows:

- Business Continuity and Crisis Management:
- Resilience and readiness assessment
- Programme and policy development
- Business impact analysis and risk assessment
- Business continuity, emergency response and crisis management plan(s) development
- Training and awareness workshops
- Readiness tests and exercises
- Programme maintenance
- BCM and crisis management audits

Talk to us today at (65) 66796231 or email us

Enquiries@infinitycontinuity.com, or simply visit our website at

<http://www.infinitycontinuity.com> to find out how we can partner with you!

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PURE BLONDE



DESCRIPTION

A refreshing, full-flavoured lager, brewed using the finest ingredients. Pure Blonde is brewed with no added preservatives to deliver an easy-drinking, ultra low carb beer. Hersbrucker hops add a floral and herbal aroma balancing the light style of the beer.

Ultra Low Carb - Pure Blonde is brewed longer to break down more natural sugars than usual, delivering a brew with 80% less carbohydrates than regular beer.

Lower Calorie - With 50% less calories than wine per ml* and 30% less calories than regular beer, Pure Blonde is loved for its pure, crisp taste.

*50% less calories than wine per ml, based on average calorie content of the leading 100 Wine SKUs in Australia. IRI-Aztec wine data, MAT 31/01/15

Low Gluten - Pure Blonde is low in gluten, even when made with malted barley. Our brewing process breaks down the gluten, containing just 10 parts per million (10 PPM)*.

*Seek professional advice if unsure about gluten amount.

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	Australia
STYLE	Lager
ABV	4.2%

TASTING NOTES	- Refreshing and full-flavoured
	- Floral and herbal aroma



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