

ASIA PACIFIC INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED RESEARCH

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ABSTRACTS



ANZSAR 2019

KEYNOTE SPEAKER JANE FRANCIS

State Government of South Australia, Australia.

Jane has had a career in the Human Resources field for more than 25 years. She has worked in the SA public sector, local government and the private sector. Jane's experience includes operational and strategic human resources, including working in central government for the Commissioner for the Public Sector.

Jane holds a Masters degree in Public Administration (Management) from Flinders University. Some career highlights include taking employment legislation through Parliament which changed the conditions of 90,000 people, developing and implementing Jobs4Youth – a youth employment program for the SA public sector.

Jane has worked for the University of South Australia for 10 years with the subject Human Resource Management, and most recently for Flinders University's MBA program. Jane is currently a Director of Workforce Planning and Development at the Department for Correctional Services.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER PROFESSOR LINDSEY CONNER

Flinders University, Australia.

Lindsey is currently the Dean of People and Resources in the College of Education, Psychology and Social Work at Flinders University. Prior to this she was the Dean of the School of Education at Flinders. In New Zealand, Lindsey was a secondary science and biology teacher prior to becoming a teacher educator at the University of Canterbury. Her research has focused on students' learning in science and technology contexts as well as teacher education in the broadest sense – evidence-based practices in initial teacher education and what works for professional learning communities in schools.

Prof Conner has also led international project on implementing ICT in schools and the 7 country Pacific Circle Consortium project on Teacher Education for the Future. In 2013 she was as a consultant to NIER (Japan) working with the Ministry of Education Japan on infusing competencies across curriculum, as well as being fellow in residence at Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation Regional education centre for science and mathematics, Penang Malaysia. Prof Conner has developed courses for mentoring teacher educators from universities in Bangladesh, China, Malaysia and Korea.

Previously, Prof Conner was the New Zealand coordinator for the OECD Innovative Learning Environments Project and Commissioner for the New Zealand Olympic Education Committee.





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BUSINESS ABSTRACTS

ASIA PACIFIC INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED RESEARCH

BUSINESS

TRADE EFFECTS ON TOURISM: SOME EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE FROM NEW ZEALAND

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ABSTRACT:

This research investigates the effect of trade on international visitor arrivals into New Zealand. The analysis is based on a consumer choice model that uses time-series data for the period of 2004 to 2013 from New Zealand's main visitor origin countries. The results provide strong evidence that New Zealand's trade is statistically significantly correlated with international visitor arrivals. We conclude that the government ought to consider improved trading environments of its partner countries in order to evaluate their own and their trading partner's trade policies and the impacts they may have on the domestic tourism industry.

Keywords: Trade, Business visitors, Business infrastructure, New Zealand.

BUSINESS

MARKETING TOURISM IN REGIONAL AUSTRALIA – CHALLENGES

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Abstract

With as many as 9.1 million visitors entering the Australian shores in the year ending July 2018, international visitors have made a record spend of approx. \$42.3 billion in the year until March 2018. Tourism in Australia has shown a positive growth with international tourist arrivals to Australia increasing from 8.4 million in 2017 to 9 million in 2018 and the revenue from international visitor arrival increasing from 39.8 billion to 42.3 billion. With this increase in tourism, it is intriguing to know how many of these visitors actually visit our regional areas. This said, tourism 2020 is a whole-of-government and industry long-term strategy to build the resilience and competitiveness of Australia's tourism industry and increase the revenue for the country. Although literature points out that there are a few challenges already affecting Australian tourism industry, this paper aims to analyse some of the key challenges surrounding tourism in the regional areas in particular, namely,

1) A need for better infrastructure in the regional areas that could help market tourism there, including digital marketing

- 2) Better and improved customer service
- 3) Improved affordability.

Out of the 3 areas identified in this paper, one of the main challenges being focused on is to understand why touring overseas is better and more affordable for domestic residents than visiting the regional /rural areas of Australia.

Keywords: Marketing, Tourism in Regional Areas, Affordability, Tourism 2020, Overseas Travel.



FACTORS INFLUENCING GREEN ENERGY PURCHASE INTENTION FUTURE RESEARCH AGENDA

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Abstract

Green energy has attained important research attention among the academics and practitioners across the world due to its ability to reduce environmental devastation. However, the research related to green energy buying behavior in developed nations such as Australia is few and far between. Research on this topic has not given much attention in this region to examine the relationship between consumers' attitude and purchase intention toward green energy consumption. Considering this, researchers in the present study have attempted to investigate the consumer behaviour towards green energy in context of a developed nation; Australia. The paper shows the research gaps of green energy consumer behaviour in an Australian context through a review of literature and therefore; formulates seven critical research agenda that paves the way for future focused research. The study has used the theory of planned behavior (TPB) framework to understand the consumers' behavior towards green energy and further attempted to extend the model with three additional constructs (environmental concern, service quality and information). At the end, the implications and scope for further research have been discussed.

Keywords: Green Energy, Green Purchase Behaviour, Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB).

BUSINESS

THE TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTANCE MODEL ON PEPPER SMALLHOLDERS IN BANGKA BELITUNG ARCHIPELAGO PROVINCE, INDONESIA

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Abstract

The pepper industry in Bangka Belitung Archipelago Province is seen as having a positive impact towards the economic growth in the agriculture sector. In the last three decades, this industry is able to maintain the position as the top producer in the world. However, the pepper industry recently shows the declined production. It leads to the reduction of the income of the pepper smallholders. To solve the issue, the use of technology in the marketing practices is one of the solutions. The study aims to examine the effect of the perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use of information technology towards the attitude of using information technology in pepper smallholders' marketing practices. It uses the technology acceptance model. The study used face-to-face data collection and structured questionnaire to obtain the primary data from 100 pepper smallholders in Bangka Tengah and Bangka Selatan. The finding of this study shows that perceived of usefulness and perceived ease of use affect the attitude of using information technology among the pepper smallholders. The results will be useful for the government and NGO to provide tools on how to disseminate the technology to the potential users.

Keywords: Perceived of Usefulness, Perceived Ease of Use, Attitude, Information Technology, Pepper Smallholders.



EDUCATION ABSTRACTS

ASIA PACIFIC INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED RESEARCH

EDUCATION

STUDENT PERSPECTIVES OF A PEER MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME AT A UNIVERSITY

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Abstract

Student peer mentorship programmes have been implemented at many higher education institutions to combat high attrition and failure rates amongst first year students. Despite the numerous researched benefits of mentorship, many first year students choose not to participate in the programmes. The purpose of this paper is to present students' perspectives on the benefits and challenges of a voluntary student peer mentorship programme. Three focus group interviews were conducted to obtain students' perspectives, until data saturation was achieved. Key results point to five perceived benefits of peer mentorship programmes to first year students. The perceived benefits include a better adaption to higher education, social support, an impact on learning and understanding, the acquisition of graduate attributes, and personal development. The students identified a few challenges, mainly the lack of support from senior students at the university. Recommendations were made to overcome the challenges and increase first year students' participation in mentorship programmes, which will ultimately have a positive impact on the pass and attrition rates.

Keywords: Peer Mentor, Higher Education, Student Perspectives.



SOCIAL SCIENCES ABSTRACTS

SOCIAL SCIENCES

SECURITISATION THROUGH THE LENS OF POSTSTRUCTURALIST FEMINISM: A CASE STUDY OF THE BALI PROCESS INITIATIVE

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Abstract

In the aftermath of the Cold War, the concept of security rapidly changes. Not only military, a range of new issues emerge and are presented as security threats, including migration. While the securitisation approach is widely adopted by states to deal with migration issues, this study finds that the approach does not effectively address the issue and even expose migrants to harmful situation. This study uses a discourse analysis method to examine how migration is securitised in the Bali Declaration on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime (The Bali Process)—a regional framework that was developed to address migration-related problems in the Asia Pacific. By employing a poststructuralist feminist lens, this study suggests that the Bali Process is a state-centric framework that contains highly gendered and 'racialised' discourses that marginalise and discriminate various categories of migrants concerned. This finding further implies the importance of deconstructing the apparently neutral character of securitisation. Security, as revealed in the study, remains under the authority of states and the priority of securing (state) borders—over human—remains evident.

Keywords: Securitisation, Migration, Poststructuralist Feminism, Bali Process.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

INTERPRETATION OF IDENTITY: AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL REPORT OF SEVENCOMMUNITIESIN SOUTH INDIA

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Abstract

The challenges and hurdles for a collective identity in pluralistic societies are numerous and humungous. The present day rampant changes under the guise of development and progress lead to different interpretations of the age-old culture South India. The various invasions in the past centuries contributed further to the complexity, creating a crisis of Identity. The agrarian culture of South India was manipulated and various social changes were imposed by the alien rulers, creating a community far removed from their origins. The colonial rule brought another complication through its interpretations of the then prevailing religion. The post independence period saw the bureaucracy following the footsteps of their colonial masters in framing policy frameworks which were totally disconnected from the ground reality. The various social move-ments in South India saw development from a political prism. Revival of the indigenous practices of the agrarian community to ensure an alternative income generation for community devel-opment is the aspiration of members of these seven communities. This paper is but a small at-tempt to document through ethnography the perceptions of the communities about identity and the impact through positive discrimination. The Governments of the state using the welfare tool of reservation have created a socialisation process called the 'quota or reservation system.'

Keywords: Collective Identity, Community Participation, Community Development, Cultural Pluralism, Revivalism.

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