Welcome

Dear AIB Oceania Members

Welcome to the Winter Edition of the AIB Oceania Newsletter. As we move into the second half of 2026, we look ahead to a key moment in the chapter's calendar: the 2026 ANZIBA and AIB-Oceania Collaborative Event, to be held in Melbourne from 24–27 November 2026. Co-hosted by The University of Melbourne and RMIT University, this year's event will bring together scholars, educators, doctoral students, and members of the wider international business community to engage with the timely theme "Global Business at a Crossroads: Geopolitics, Economic Nationalism, and Market Fragmentation." This edition shares a summary of the Call for Papers, with submissions due by 31 July 2026, and highlights opportunities for scholarly engagement across the four-day program, including the Doctoral Colloquium, Early Career Researchers Day, Mid-Career Researchers Day, Education Scholars Day, Research Methods Workshops, paper sessions, panels, and the Paper Development Workshop. We are grateful to our host institutions and organising colleagues for their work in shaping what promises to be a rich and engaging program. We encourage members to submit their work, share the Call for Papers with colleagues, and join us in Melbourne for what promises to be another engaging and collegial AIB Oceania gathering.

Alongside these activities, supporting scholars across the region, particularly those based in the Pacific, remains a key priority for the chapter. We are pleased to share that AIB Oceania has awarded fully sponsored AIB memberships to six PhD students and academics based in Oceania, excluding Australia and New Zealand. This initiative reflects our continued commitment to strengthening research capacity, supporting professional development, and fostering greater connection across the regional international business community.

The AIB Oceania Chapter would also like to thank Maureen Benson-Rea for her many years of service and contribution to the Chapter. Her dedication, generosity and support have been greatly valued, and we are grateful for the important role she has played in strengthening the AIB Oceania community. As Maureen transitions into retirement, we extend our sincere appreciation and very best wishes for this next chapter.

This edition also celebrates the achievements of members of our AIB Oceania community, including Professor Paul Khong, who has recently been conferred a Professorship by AIBI Higher Education, and Dr Swati Nagar, who was recently awarded the Senior Fellowship of Higher Education (SFHEA).

Warm regards
Prof. Hussain Rammal
President (Chair) - AIB Oceania Chapter
Adelaide University

Call for papers – 2026 ANZIBA and AIB–Oceania Collaborative Event

The AIB Oceania Chapter warmly invites submissions for the 2026 ANZIBA and AIB-Oceania Collaborative Event, to be held in Melbourne, Australia, from 24–27 November 2026.

Co-hosted by The University of Melbourne and RMIT University, this year's event will bring together international business scholars, educators, doctoral students, and emerging researchers to engage with some of the most pressing questions shaping global business today.

The theme, "Global Business at a Crossroads: Geopolitics, Economic Nationalism, and Market Fragmentation," invites contributions that examine how firms, institutions, governments, and communities are responding to an increasingly complex and uncertain global environment.

Submissions are invited in the form of 3,000-word short research papers. Papers may engage with a wide range of international business topics, including global value chains, internationalisation, cross-cultural management, sustainability, digitalisation, international entrepreneurship, international business education, and under-represented voices in IB scholarship. The complete call for papers is available at: https://oceania.aib.world/collaborative-event-2026/

Key Details
Dates: 24–27 November 2026
Location: Melbourne, Australia

Host Institutions: The University of Melbourne and RMIT University

Keynote Speaker: Professor Shige Makino, Kyoto University, Japan

Submission Deadline: 31 July 2026

Further submission details will be available through the AIB Oceania website. The submission system will open in early July.

Warm regards
The Editor
Dr Swati Nagar (The University of Sydney)

🌟 Thank you, Maureen 🌟

The AIB Oceania Chapter would like to express its sincere thanks to Maureen Benson-Rea for her outstanding service and contribution to the chapter.

During her time as Chapter Chair, Maureen provided thoughtful leadership and generous support to the AIB Oceania community. She played an important role in helping organise chapter events, supporting annual meetings and regional conference activities, and strengthening engagement among members across the Oceania region. Maureen's contribution extended well beyond formal leadership. She helped welcome and mentor newer members, encouraged collegial participation, and supported continuity and institutional memory within the chapter. Her commitment, generosity and collegiality have been greatly valued by colleagues and members alike.

Her service reflects the spirit of AIB Oceania: building an engaged, supportive and regionally connected international business community.

As Maureen transitions into retirement, we also take this opportunity to acknowledge the lasting contribution she has made to the chapter and to the wider AIB Oceania community. We hope this next stage brings her time to enjoy new opportunities, well-earned rest, and continued connection with the many colleagues and friends she has supported over the years.

On behalf of AIB Oceania, we warmly thank Maureen for her dedication and service, and wish her all the very best.

🌟Celebrating Leadership and Achievement in AIB Oceania 🌟

Congratulations Professor Khong! 🎓

AIB Oceania warmly congratulates Professor Paul Khong on the conferral of Professorship by AIBI Higher Education, in recognition of his leadership, academic contributions and industry impact.

Professor Khong is Dean of the Business Faculty at AIBI Higher Education, where he oversees undergraduate and postgraduate programs across campuses in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth. He also led the successful TEQSA accreditation of the MBA (Digital Transformation), supporting AIBI's commitment to future-focused and industry-relevant education.

With global experience across San Francisco, New York, Kuala Lumpur and Sydney, Professor Khong brings extensive expertise across higher education, investment, marketing and governance. He holds a PhD from The University of Sydney Business School, as well as an MBA and BBA from the United States. His research focuses on the digital internationalisation strategies of emerging market firms.

Professor Khong is also an active member of the AIB Oceania community and serves as Vice President of Communication for the chapter. We congratulate him warmly on this well-deserved recognition.

Recognising Excellence in Teaching and Learning 🎉

We are delighted to congratulate Dr Swati Nagar, VP/Secretary of AIB Oceania, on being awarded Senior Fellowship of Advance HE (SFHEA).

This prestigious recognition reflects her sustained leadership in teaching and learning, her commitment to enhancing the student experience, and her contribution to academic practice across the region.

A well-deserved achievement–congratulations!

Upcoming Events

AIB Oceania Chapter Social Events at AIB 2026

AIB Oceania members attending the AIB 2026 Annual Meeting are warmly invited to join the following events:

New Members Welcome Event
Session: #261601 – Continental Breakfast
Date: Wednesday, 1 July
Time: 08:00–09:15
Location: The Drum (UP)

AIB Oceania Chapter Social
Date: Wednesday, 1 July
Time: 16:45–17:30
Location: Hyatt Regency, Room 3.211

Members are welcome to drop in, say hello, and connect with colleagues before moving between other socials.

We hope you enjoy this winter edition of the AIB Oceania newsletter. Visit our website - https://oceania.aib.world
Contributions are welcome. Please contact - swati.nagar@sydney.edu.au