Research Method Workshop – Organised by AIB Oceania
Wednesday, 25 November 2026 (Hosted at The University of Melbourne)

11:00 am – 12:30 pm	**Research Methods Workshop 1: Assessing Measurement Invariance in Cross-Cultural Studies: Introducing the MEI Package in R** (Cap 35) *Gordon Cheung, University of Auckland* Measurement equivalence/invariance (ME/I) is a prerequisite for cross-cultural comparisons when using survey data. Although popular structural equation modeling software programs, including Mplus and lavaan, enable tests of ME/I using simple commands, identifying non-invariant items when full ME/I is rejected is more challenging. This workshop is based on a recent paper published in Organizational Research Methods (https://doi.org/10.1177/10944281261449198) that introduced the MEI package in R for this task. With simple commands, MEI automatically conducts ME/I tests, identifies non-invariant items, and compares latent means with partial measurement invariance. This allows researchers to interpret cross-cultural comparison results more precisely.	**Education Workshop 1: Experiential IB Learning** (Cap 35) *Marina Iskhakova, Australian National University* *Bessie Zhang, University of Melbourne* This workshop showcases classroom innovations that deeply embed IB experiential learning into the classroom. These include in-country experiences (both physical and virtual), consulting engagements, industry speakers, field trips and TED talks. The workshop will include an evidence base on the effectiveness of various elements. We encourage participants to bring along their own examples to share of effective experiential educational elements.
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	**Research Methods Workshop 2: Qualitative analysis beyond coding: Interpreting Patterns, Constructing Meaning, and Theorizing** (Cap 35) *Jacqueline Mees-Buss, University of New South Wales* *Tine Köhler, University of Melbourne*	**Education Workshop 2: Authentic Assessment in IB** (Cap 35) *Swati Nagar, University of Sydney* *Farzan Fallahi, University of Melbourne* This workshop showcases classroom innovations that seek to address the

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	This workshop explores the rich and often under-discussed dimensions of qualitative analysis that go beyond the mechanics of coding. While coding is a foundational tool in much qualitative research, it is not the endpoint. Instead, the heart of qualitative analysis lies in the interpretive work that allows researchers to see patterns, build meaning, and ultimately contribute to theoretical insight. This workshop invites participants to consider how we move from organizing data to making sense of it—conceptually, contextually, and critically. The session will offer a blend of conceptual input, reflective discussion, and hands-on activities.	challenges of AI while also assessing the key competencies we expect of IB students. These innovations include interactive oral assessments and authentic, industry-engaged assessments that require students to apply IB concepts to real-world organisational challenges with the aim of developing evidence-based, practical strategic recommendations. The workshop will include an evidence base on the effectiveness of various tasks. We encourage participants to bring along their own examples to share of authentic assessment initiatives or problems they are seeking to resolve.
3:30 pm- 5:00 pm	**Research Methods Workshop 3: Making a Methodological Contribution in IB Publications** (Cap 35) *Gordon Cheung, University of Auckland* *Jacqueline Mees-Buss, University of New South Wales* *Tine Köhler, University of Melbourne* This panel will discuss how to find ideas for papers that make a methodological contribution and how to write methods papers. While methodological skills are a core requirement of the academic profession, only few academics engage in methodological scholarship. In this hands-on panel, frequent authors of methods papers, reviewers, and journal editors (including *Organizational*	**Education Workshop 3: Contemporary Global Issues in the IB Classroom** (Cap 35) *Led by Betina Szkudlarek, University of Sydney* This interactive panel session focuses on less typical, but highly topical, issues covered in IB classrooms. These include such topics as migrant and refugee employment and entrepreneurship, geopolitical tensions, indigenous experiences of IB in Oceania, neurodiversity, caste and modern slavery. We encourage participants to bring along their own examples to share of atypical but important IB content

	Research Methods, Academy of Management Journal) aim to talk about practical advice for attendees interested in expanding their methods scholarship. Further, the panel discussion will provide an opportunity for audience members to ask their burning questions about methods scholarship.	that has engaged and challenged their students.