Research Vacation Scholarships 2014
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Project title: Carbon disclosure by Australian public sector organisations
This research is to explore the practice and motivations of carbon emission disclosures by public sector organisations in Australia. In particular, the study will focus on the increasing number of public sector organisations registered in the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) under the NGER Act 2007.

If you are interested in this project please contact:
Dr Wei Qian
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Project title: The structure and content of sustainability accounting education
This research is to explore how accounting courses with a focus of sustainability are currently structured and delivered in Australia. The investigation will focus on two distinctive approaches:
(1) critical approach to sustainability where accounting is criticised as the centre of creating unsustainable business;
(2) management approach to sustainability where accounting is regarded as a useful tool for improving business sustainability.

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Project title: Does the use of environmental innovations lead to environmental performance within organizations: A study in the Australian Gas and Mining Industry

This study investigates the relationship between environmental innovations (product, process, and program innovations) of the Australian gas and mining industry and its environmental performance. This study is aimed to investigate the ability of an organization that operates in the gas and mining industry, in ensuring that the improvement of its environmental performance is in accordance with their environmental innovations that have been set up according to the resources they have. The project will address the topic through two research questions, and these are:

(1) does the use of environmental innovations (product, process, and program innovations) lead to environmental performance within the organizations?; and

(2) what is the role of environmental strategy in relation to Environmental Management Accounting (EMA) and the use of environmental innovations?.

The study will be conducted through secondary data observations and questionnaire survey of the Australian gas and mining companies as this type of industry involves and decides many environmental innovations related to product, process, and program innovations for their risk management related to environmental performance. Previous studies indicate that not all of the component of the environmental innovations (especially product innovations) could lift up the economic and environmental performance of the organization (see Clemens et al. 2010; Fereira 2010; and Klassen et al. 1999), therefore this study will elaborate and investigate more on types of environmental innovations, getting the insights whether innovations could improve environmental performance; and how could the company address innovation issues for a better environmental performance.

If you are interested in this project please contact:

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Haven’t found what you are looking for but still interested in the research conducted by the School of Commerce?
Please feel free to discuss your interest with the researchers below, who are keen to supervise a summer scholar.

Dr Elvia Shauki
Areas of interest:
- Financial accounting
- Social and environmental reporting
- Environmental management accounting
- Earnings management

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