



University of  
South Australia



Barbara Hardy  
Institute

Kym Fraser

## Research Profile

### Research Area Specialisation

Kym has researched and published in a number of management related areas: operations management; manufacturing management; maintenance management, service quality, disability management, facilities management, higher education; and the green economy. His research, with its strong empirical grounding, seeks to provide practical solutions to a number of stakeholders, which includes management practitioners, national governments, the research community and society in general.

### Contributing to a better and sustainable environment

Kym's research has focused on providing effective and sustainable management outcomes in a number of specific areas. These areas include: improving teamwork and labour flexibility within Cellular Manufacturing; reducing organisational disruptions through better maintenance management; improving service quality outcomes in new car dealerships; developing strategies to assist community reintegration for those members of society with a disability; and exploring green policies for developing economies.

Over the last few years Kym has spent a considerable amount of time in Indonesia working with a number of international Non-governmental organizations (NGO's), the National Government and research institutions on a range projects designed to build a better and sustainable future for Indonesia.



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*Great Research  
into Sustainability*

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## People

- Our researchers are scientists, engineers and social scientists
- We work collaboratively on real-world issues
- Over 100 researchers and 130 research students

## Projects

- Multidisciplinary projects focused on sustainability
- We work in partnership with government, industry and academia
- Extensive testing and evaluation services and consultancy expertise
- Our work is underpinned by community participation and education



## Research Abstract

Kym's current research project is exploring the perceived gap between academic research and its usefulness to society. Millions of dollars of private and publically funded money is spent on academic research each year and many questions surround the value of academic research to solve real world problems. The study is based on a large scale survey undertaken in Australia involving practitioners from three professions: accounting, engineering and medicine. It is hoped the research findings will provide a sustainable model to help governments, funding bodies, research institutions and academics to give greater focus to practically excepted outcomes.

## Research areas of interest

- Sustainable management in operations and manufacturing
- Sustainable business and educational development in Indonesia
- Sustainable academic research with an emphasis on practical outcomes

## Barbara Hardy Institute

My research endeavours have been greatly enhanced by being a member of the Barbara Hardy Institute. As an adjunct researcher the Institute has provided a strong support framework for me to undertake my research activities. The institute also provides me with an opportunity to interact with researchers from a broad range of research disciplines. I am very proud to be part of a Research Institute with a primary focus on sustainability.

## Keywords to describe Kym's research

- Management
- Operations management
- International business management

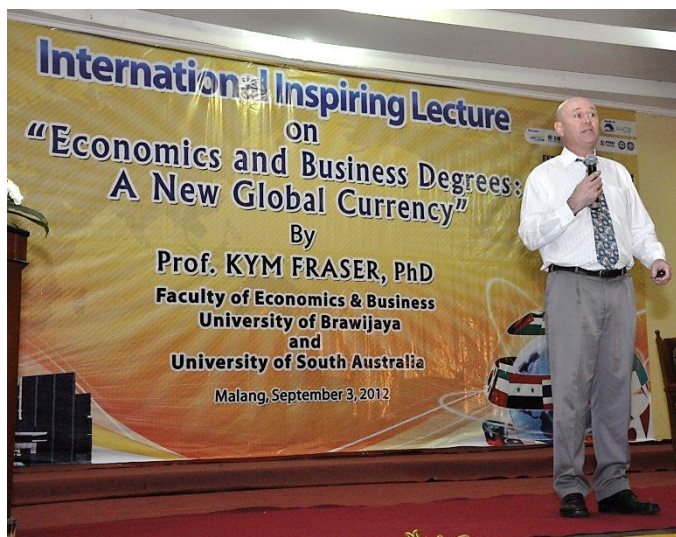


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*"Effective management outcomes will improve teamwork, labour flexibility and develop policies for a greener economy."*