

# AARES

AUSTRALASIAN AGRICULTURAL &  
RESOURCE ECONOMICS SOCIETY

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## News and Views - October 2017

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### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My first news is that the three special resolutions at the Special General Meeting on 5th October all passed unanimously. This means that, from this point forward, we are now the Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Limited, a company limited by guarantee. Detailed below is additional news on our new structure, the annual conference planned in Adelaide and the AARES budget.

#### AARES Limited

This change in registration will provide a number of benefits in terms of income tax exemption and our ability to operate outside of Australia. As part of this restructuring, to become a member of AARES Ltd you will need sign a membership application form when you pay your annual fees. For most of you, your annual membership fees are included in the cost of the annual conference. Your membership form should be available when you register for the conference.

To complete the registration process for AARES Ltd. as a Society we will need to complete our registration, (we are already registered with Australian Securities and Investments Commission), with the Australian Taxation office (ATO) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC). This should happen

in the next few weeks. This registration is being undertaken on our behalf by Neumann and Turnour Lawyers.

Following our registration with ATO and ACNC, and at the next AGM scheduled for AARES 2018 in Adelaide, we will formally wind up AARES Incorporated, the previous legal entity of our Society.

#### AARES 2018 in Adelaide

I am very pleased to share with you that registration for the 2018 AARES Annual Conference 6-9 February in Adelaide is now open online. You can access the full conference event site [here](#). Please be sure to have a look at the exciting program of invited and plenary speakers that President Elect Suzi Kerr has delivered for us, and also the mini-symposia and pre-conference workshops that have been organised by the hard-working Local Organising Committee (LOC).

I would also like to highlight that early career professionals who wish to be 'mentored' at the conference can tick a box on the registration form. Similarly, more experienced members who wish to mentor early career professionals can also tick a box upon registration so we can make a match. In addition this mentoring service, other activities are planned to support our early career professionals so please come to Adelaide and join us.

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Adelaide deservedly has a reputation for very good wine, delicious food and warm hospitality. The LOC has promised that we will have many opportunities to savour all of those things, as well as making new friends at the various social occasions. Highlights include the Conference Dinner at the Adelaide Stadium, and the Networking Evening at the Old Adelaide Gaol – with fun activities for those who are interested! I very much look forward to seeing you there, and welcoming you to AARES biggest annual event.

For those of planning to attend AARES 2018 with young children, I am glad to report that Federal Council has agreed to offer a cost share arrangement with members. This arrangement will involve a reimbursement (on receipt of invoice), up to a maximum amount, to help defray the costs of childcare.

### **Budget**

Our profit and loss statement for 2016-17 shows that we will have a loss for this financial year (that ends 30 September). We also incurred a loss in the financial year 2015-16. While the past two years have included extraordinary expenses, such as the legal costs in registering AARES as a company limited by guarantee and which was required for us to be compliant with Australian Laws and also to maintain our income tax exempt status, our projected income (based on existing membership fees) is not sufficient to cover our annual operating costs.

As a result, Federal Council decided on 5 October to raise our annual membership fees. This will be the first increase in three years and while not desired, is necessary. The new ordinary membership fees for 2017-18 are \$140 per year while the student and

emeritus membership fees have risen to \$60 per year.

In addition to changes in membership fees, Federal Council is exploring other options in how we operate (including an annual symposium) so as to secure our financial future.

### **NZARES**

I had the great pleasure of attending the NZARES annual conference and their annual general meeting in Rotorua on 19-20 October. I was very impressed with the welcome that was given to me as AARES President and also by the very high quality of the presentations at the conference. More collaboration between AARES and NZARES is planned at their 2018 Conference.

As your President I am very optimistic and indeed, most enthusiastic, about our future as a Society. We have a bright future together and many opportunities we can build on.

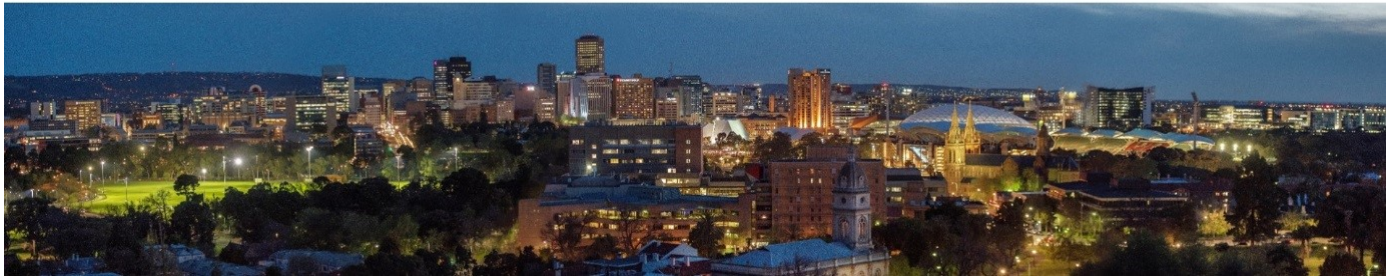
I very much look forward to seeing you all again at AARES 2018 in Adelaide. Until then, safe travels.  
*Quentin Grafton*



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**2018 Annual Conference**  
Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, South Australia  
6 – 9 February 2018

Conference Sponsors: THE UNIVERSITY of ADELAIDE  
Platinum Sponsor: Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy  
Premier Sponsor: Australian Government Department of Industry, Innovation and Science  
Principal Sponsors: MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AUTHORITY



## 2018 Annual Conference

The 2018 AARES conference will be in Adelaide. Put it in your diary for 6-9 February 2018!

*The theme is: Abundance in an Era of Scarcity? Challenges and Opportunities for Australasian Agriculture, Environment, Food, Resources and Agribusiness.*

The call for papers is open. To submit a paper/poster head to the [conference website](#). Contributed paper and poster submissions are due by 31 October 2017.

Registration for the conference is now open.

Proposed conference symposia and pre-conference workshops cover a range of topics including:

- wine
- energy
- auctions
- water
- grains
- food security

The organising committee are busy making the social program “SA” mazing!

Updates are posted on Twitter, follow [@AARESInc](#) to get the latest.

Early sponsors for the conference are:



THE UNIVERSITY  
of ADELAIDE



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment and Energy



Australian Government  
Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science







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## Changeover to Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Ltd

As AARES has ceased as an Incorporated Association and is now a Limited Company, all current/renewing members must sign [this form](#), requesting membership of the new entity. Please download the form and either print it out and sign it, or you can download it and fill and sign it electronically, assuming you have the current version of [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#). As a general rule you can't sign PDFs electronically directly within your web browser, so it is better to download it and open it in Acrobat or your PDF editor of choice. Please [email](#) or post the form to AARES Central Office, PO Box 1371, Mitcham North Vic 3132.

**Membership renewals/conference registrations are now open.**

### Quality of Communications Awards – Calls for Submissions

We are pleased to invite submissions for the 2017 **Quality of Research Discovery Award** which intends to recognise research that makes a significant contribution to the field of knowledge in agricultural and resource economics; and the **Quality of Research Communications Award**, which is intended to recognise superior communication of concepts or knowledge in any subject matter of professional specialization (i.e. teaching, research, policy analysis, or extension) in agricultural and resource economics to a specified audience. The submission deadline for both awards is **30 November 2017**. For more information, go to the [Quality of Research Discovery page](#).

### Donna Brennan Prize – Call for Submissions

The Donna Brennan Award was established by AARES to assist an overseas early career researcher to present a paper at the AARES 2018 Annual Conference in Adelaide, Australia from 6 - 9 February 2018 by providing AUD \$1,500 towards conference registration, a ticket to the awards dinner, travel and accommodation.

The award will be based on the quality of a Selected Paper submitted to the 2018 AARES Conference [here](#). The deadline for submissions is **18 September 2017**. Submissions of a paper under the “Selected Paper” category for consideration for the **prize can be made through the Submissions Page** of the AARES 2018 Conference website. For more information, go to the [Donna Brennan Page](#).