It is my pleasure to launch our Celebrating Industry Research Partnerships booklet.

The growth of knowledge is one of the core goals of all universities. At RMIT we aim not only to promote excellence in knowledge, but also grow its impact on society and economy. A major priority of the College of Business is to undertake research in collaboration with industry. To foster industry partnerships, the College of Business has established five Research Priority Areas that seek to integrate our interdisciplinary research expertise with the needs of industry. The five priority areas are:

» People, Organisation and Work
» Entrepreneurship and Innovation
» Global Supply Chain Management and Logistics
» Governance, Accountability and the Law
» Markets, Culture and Behaviour

The College also hosts three other major research units that have worked closely with industry:

» Centre for Innovative Justice
» Australian APEC Study Centre, and
» International Development and Trade Research Group

In this booklet we profile the directors of each group and highlight one of their key projects. These research groups, in different ways, contribute to achieving the aims of the larger, university-wide, Enabling Capability Platforms (ECPs). Further information about these innovative ECPs can be found on the RMIT website.

Over the years, our researchers have provided robust policy advice and other solutions to the challenges confronting business, government, and the community. Through this publication we seek to acknowledge the partners with whom they have collaborated. It must also be said that these activities also feed directly into high quality learning experiences for our students. Exposure to research informed teaching enables our graduates to be better prepared for the world of work.

With your support, I trust that we can build greater awareness of the College’s industry research partnerships and their potential to bring about beneficial outcomes for the wider community.

Professor Geoffrey Stokes
Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor: Research and Innovation

Acknowledgements
Leadership

Profiling Leadership

‘Entrepreneurship and Innovation’ Research Priority Area is led by professor Pia Arenius, and is one of the five strategic research groups of the College of Business at RMIT University. Ongoing research themes in the field of entrepreneurship and innovation include:

- Understanding the innovative behaviour of entrepreneurs through the dynamics of industries and regions,
- The emergence of new industries, most notably through entrepreneurial activities,
- Discovery of entrepreneurial opportunities through new technologies, such as 3D printing,
- Social innovation and entrepreneurial activity,
- Entrepreneurial activity among women, immigrants and refugees.

Our purpose is to be both rigorous and relevant: show academic excellence and impact on the practice and policy of entrepreneurship. To date no systematic study has been conducted on refugee entrepreneurship particularly in the context of the most vulnerable of refugees, i.e. women. Moreover, no study has been conducted in the Victorian context, although, according to Victorian Health, Victoria receives about one-third of all refugees and asylum seekers entering Australia, more than any other state or territory. In this study, researchers Vidhula Venugopal and Afreen Huq, will study the context under three main questions: factors that lead refugee women to move into entrepreneurship, role of social and family structures in this journey, and the existing social, political, and economic context.

Project Contact
Dr Vidhula Venugopal and Senior Lecturer Afreen Huq

Project Aim
The recent figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2009-10 show that refugees are the most entrepreneurial migrants in Australia. Refugees reported the highest proportion of their incomes from their own unincorporated businesses. Studies have also revealed that business start-up rates for women refugees are in fact higher than for Australia-born women. However little is known about how women refugees move into entrepreneurship. This project seeks to understand the implications of refugee entrepreneurship as a career choice for refugee women and also the challenges faced by them in this journey. This understanding will throw light on lacunae in current policy with respect to this cohort. Further, the insights on identity reconciliation will help these women understand these conflicts better.

For more information
Email pia.arenius@rmit.edu.au
Go to Pia’s RMIT profile »

Research Project with Impact
New Hopes on New Shores: Entrepreneurship among Women Refugees in Australia

Project Cost
This project is currently funded by a research grant.

Impact of Project
Refugee women are generally seen in light of their weaknesses rather than their capabilities. As such, program supporting refugee women tend to offer ‘one-size fits all’ training for business start-up predominantly in the areas of food and handicrafts. The project seeks to understand the implications of refugee entrepreneurship as a career choice for refugee women and also the challenges faced by them in this journey. This understanding will throw light on lacunae in current policy with respect to this cohort. Further, the insights on identity reconciliation will help these women understand these conflicts better.

Industry Partners
We have worked with multiple organisations as part of the study. These include Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC), Multicultural Education Services (AMES), SisterWorks, Brotherhood of St Laurence, and Fitzroy Learning Network.

What are the long term gains from this project?
The study has larger societal implications. It is imperative to resettle refugees arriving in Australia. Not only will the social and financial inclusion of women empower them but also contribute to the family’s prosperity. This is significant in increasing social cohesion.

“For to date no systematic study has been conducted on refugee entrepreneurship particularly in the context of the most vulnerable of refugees, i.e. women.”

For more information
Email vidhula.venugopal@rmit.edu.au
Go to Vidhula’s RMIT profile »

Email afreen.huq@rmit.edu.au
Go to Afreen’s RMIT profile »

Project Time Duration
Ongoing

Go to Pia’s RMIT profile »

Go to Afreen’s RMIT profile »

Go to Vidhula’s RMIT profile »
Leadership

Profiling Leadership

How did you come to be a researcher in your field?
I became interested in cutting-edge technology from an early age and was always academically inclined, so, having worked as a Systems Engineer in the Financial Services and Insurance industries, I decided to combine my interests in technology, business and academia and undertake a PhD in Information Systems.

What do you see as your mission as a priority area director?
My mission as the Director of CPOW is to cultivate a research environment that is intellectually engaging and provides support for Centre members so they can undertake their research in the most effective way possible.

How do you see your Centre developing in the future?
The Centre has an interdisciplinary focus covering employment relations, organisational studies, industrial relations, gender studies, globalisation, digital technologies, business and labour history, political economy and sociology with particular attention given to the Asia-Pacific region. In the future I see that we will continue to develop our outstanding track record in these areas through undertaking research that addresses significant problems and which has positive economic, social and environmental impacts.

What do you see as the role of industry in regards to your Centre?
The role of industry in CPOW is key to the Centre’s success. It engages in a variety of forms. These include but are not limited to providing opportunities for outstanding researchers to investigate significant “real-world” problems, facilitating links between CPOW researchers and wider industry networks, participating in collaborative funding schemes (e.g. Australian Research Council Linkage Grant Scheme); and promotion of successful collaborative research outcomes and impact.

How can industry get more involved in research in your Research Priority Area/Centre?
There are many ways that industry can get involved with CPOW. These include being participants in and/or consumers of our research, sponsoring PhD students through scholarships, funding our research, being guest speakers at our events or simply coming along to listen and network. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Dr Jane Mullet.

Research Project with Impact

Quality Jobs Quality Care (QJQC) in Aged Care

Project contents
Chief investigators:
Professor Sara Charlesworth and Associate Professor Deb King, Flinders University

Research teams (University of South Australia):
Ms Jacque Smith, Dr Natalie Skinner, Dr Sue Jarrad

Industry partners (aged care sector):
» Brightwater Care Group (WA)
» HammondCare (Australia)
» Helping Hand Aged Care (SA)
» United Voice (National Office)

Chief investigators:
Professor Deb King, Flinders University
Professor Sara Charlesworth and Associate Professor Edb King, Flinders University

Industry partners (aged care sector):
» Brightwater Care Group (WA)
» HammondCare (Australia)
» Helping Hand Aged Care (SA)
» United Voice (National Office)

Project contacts
Ms Jacquie Smith, Dr Natalie Skinner, Dr Sue Jarrad

Project Aims
» Develop innovative evidence-based workplace tools and resources to support change across the aged care sector to improve the job quality of community and residential care workers and the quality of care services they provide to older Australians.

Impact of Project
The core of the project research was informed by an action research methodology, which provided support for workers and managers in the three industry partner aged care providers to identify, trial and evaluate six workplace interventions to improve job quality and care quality.

What are the long-term gains from this project?
What are the future developments for this project?

The QJQC project has put the issue of job quality on the Australian aged care agenda."

For more information
Website: For more information
Email: For more information
Website: For more information
Email: For more information
How did you come to be a researcher in your field? At the time I was deciding to undertake a PhD the UK had just launched its very first National Lottery game and there was naturally a renewed interest in understanding gambling-related behaviours. This research has subsequently led to an ongoing interest in addictive behaviours and lifestyle choices.

What do you see as your mission as a priority area director? Our mission is to foster an inclusive research environment where the highest quality research can be undertaken. The multi-disciplinary researchers within the MCB research group use a variety of methodologies to understand not only how markets evolve and work, but also the behaviour of participants within different markets across cultures and the economic importance of cultural capital and cultural goods within society.

How do you see your Research Priority Areas developing in the future? Understanding the links between our hearts and our minds in business decision making is of fundamental importance to individual wellbeing and economic stability. Exploring the balance between rational decision making and emotional stimuli is the focus of the Markets, Culture and Behaviour (MCB) Research Group. The MCB research group provides a unique umbrella under which the behaviour and business research at the College of Business can promote its expertise in the field of research.

What is the role of industry in regards to your Research Priority Area? Our industry partners are often government agencies or Not For Profit organisations which work with subsidised researchers to solve societal problems. Working closely with partners means the research team obtains a more applied understanding of the research questions and provide practical solutions, evaluations and recommendations.

How can industry get more involved in your Research Priority Area? Industry can get involved by joining the conversation and helping us to bridge the gap between university learning and the application of that learning in a business setting. Industry partnerships are more productive and meaningful when there is passion and commitment from all those involved, breaking down traditional boundaries and enhancing knowledge.

Research Project with Impact: Economic Impact Assessment of the City of Melbourne’s Arts Program

Project contact
Dr Meg Elkins and Dr Bronwyn Coates

Project Aim
The aim of the project was to develop a survey tool that would enable RMIT and the City of Melbourne to quantify the economic value of cultural investment by the municipality.

Time duration of project
March to December 2016

Impact of Project
In early 2016, the City of Melbourne engaged a group of RMIT University economists to investigate the economic value of the City’s investment in culture and the arts. The aim of the project was to develop relevant survey tools that would enable RMIT and the City to quantify the economic value of cultural investment by the municipality and report on the findings. It was important that the final deliverable would be sufficiently flexible to be implemented at regular intervals according to the City’s discretion. It is expected that the research will result in a number of journal publications and will provide the basis for us to work with the City in developing further research opportunities and potentially other municipal councils.

What are the long term gains from the project
We developed three survey tools that are sufficiently flexible to be implemented at regular intervals according to the City’s discretion. It is expected that the research will result in a number of journal publications and will provide the basis for us to work with the City in developing further research opportunities and potentially other municipal councils.

What are the future developments for this project
RMIT’s cultural economics group recently won the rights to host the Association for Cultural Economics International (ACEI) 20th conference in Winter 2018. The hosting of this Conference in Melbourne will be the first time it is held outside the northern hemisphere. We are looking forward to promoting the work we are doing with the City of Melbourne on a global stage.
Background

Professor Prem Chhetri is known internationally for research in spatially-integrated analytics and urban logistics. He has received a number of Australian Research Council and federal and state government grants to study quality of urban life, spatial labour markets, urban fire and emergency planning, logistics clusters, innovation and growth, climate change and port logistics. He has published over a hundred refereed papers and numerous research reports for the government and industry.

How did you come to be a researcher in your field?

As a Geographer, I am interested in understanding the mobility of people, goods or ideas across space and over time. Logistics and Supply Chain is intrinsically linked to location and time, thus working in this field allows me to model and visualise spatial and temporal organisation of logistics systems to help predict freight flows or examine logistics systems and supply chain management.

What do you see as your mission as a Research Priority Director?

To develop the Global Supply Chain and Logistics (GSCL) Priority Area as a self-sustained Centre of excellence that facilitates industry-led, policy-oriented applied research in the field of logistics, transport and supply chain management.

How do you see your Research Priority Area developing in the future?

The Global Supply Chain and Logistics Priority Area will provide thought leadership in conducting multi-disciplinary research, blending different yet complementary approaches to address complex industry and societal challenges. It will be founded on cross-school and cross-college institutional framework to help integrate crucially linked areas of transport, infrastructure, logistics and supply chain management.

How can industry get more involved in research if your Research Priority Area?

The research in the Global Supply Chain and Logistics Priority Area is driven by industry needs. The industry can be engaged through active participation in regular industry seminars and workshops and through the school's advisory board to help guide the strategic direction and key research areas of the priority area.

For more information

Email prem.chhetri@rmit.edu.au
Go to Prem’s RMIT profile »

Research Project with Impact

Improving the Blood Supply Chain in Australia

Project contact
Associate Professor Babak Abbasi

Project Aim
Provide a decision support model to evaluate the impact of operational policies on the blood supply chain in Australia.

Time duration of project
2014-2015

Impact of Project

This research project prevents any disruptions in supplying blood units to hospitals and saves the lives of the patients needing safe and quick transfusions.

Industry Partner
Australian Red Cross Blood Service

What are the long term gains from this project?

The model can be extended to evaluate any operational policies in Australian Red Cross Blood Service. It can reduce blood supply disruptions and offer a more sustainable blood supply chain to the nation.

What are the future developments for this project?

The next phase would be linking the model with other decision support systems in the blood service to provide an integrated decision support system.

“The outcome of this research project prevents any disruptions in supplying blood units to hospitals and saves the lives of the patients needing safe and quick transfusions.”

For more information

Email babak.abbasi@rmit.edu.au
Go to Babak’s RMIT profile »

Project contact
Associate Professor Babak Abbasi

Project Aim
Provide a decision support model to evaluate the impact of operational policies on the blood supply chain in Australia.

Time duration of project
2014-2015

Impact of Project

This research project prevents any disruptions in supplying blood units to hospitals and saves the lives of the patients needing safe and quick transfusions.

Industry Partner
Australian Red Cross Blood Service

What are the long term gains from this project?

The model can be extended to evaluate any operational policies in Australian Red Cross Blood Service. It can reduce blood supply disruptions and offer a more sustainable blood supply chain to the nation.

What are the future developments for this project?

The next phase would be linking the model with other decision support systems in the blood service to provide an integrated decision support system.
How did you come to be a researcher in your field?
My early career in management accounting and as an auditor instilled a curiosity in me as to how corporate governance and management control systems can be designed to work better.

What do you see as your mission as a priority area director?
To build multi-disciplinary research teams, and facilitate the development and testing of cross-sectoral governance and risk management models.

How do you see your Research Priority Areas developing in the future?
With the appropriate funding and development of a critical mass of researchers, as well as active engagement with external stakeholders, I see the GAL area as being well-placed to provide innovative and agile governance insights and solutions.

What do you see as the role of industry in regards to your Research Priority Area?
Working collaboratively with industry is going to be critical for GAL, both for funding and gaining access to relevant, timely data. As organisational structures and processes evolve dynamically, GAL researchers can work to assess these new frameworks and develop innovative solutions for mutual benefit.

How do you define success in your Research Priority Area?
Facilitating an active programme of research integrating both academic and industry, supporting early career researchers in innovative research methodologies, and secure funding and develop industry partnerships and collaborations.

How can industry get more involved in your Research Priority Area?
Engage in our thought leadership and professional forum and symposia. Industry is welcome to partner in research studies and keep asking GAL the ‘hard’ questions!

For more information
Email nava.subramaniam@rmit.edu.au
Go to Nava’s RMIT profile »

Research Project with Impact
All being well? Financial Wellbeing, Inclusion and Risk

Project contact
Professor Nava Subramaniam and Associate Professor Ashton de Silva

Project aim
The focus of policy and practice is shifting from financial inclusion to the broader notion of financial wellbeing. While this term is gaining currency among policy makers and service providers, there is no agreement on what is meant by financial wellbeing. It is a critical time to discuss its definition and relevance as well as measures are being developed to inform policy.

Time duration of project
Ongoing

Impact of Project
Our project delivers research on:
> Developing a deeper understanding of the concepts of financial wellbeing for key stakeholders including government and welfare policy makers
> Since the global financial crisis, low and moderate households have been exposed to greater risks to financial hardships including an increase in indebtedness. These hardships are in addition to a raft of factors that have gathered momentum including precarious work and income volatility. In addition over one million Australians are seeking additional hours of work.

In response to this, there is a range of newly emerging policy responses, however it is unclear which of these will most appropriately address the lived experience. Our project will aid researchers and policymakers in understanding the lived experience individuals have and therefore determine which policies are likely to be most effective.

Industry Partners
Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ Bank.

Sector involvement
The project is taking on a number of forms including seminars and manuscripts. RMIT is presenting at a seminar being hosted by ANZ Bank, which is one of several public seminars to be held with representatives from ASIC, local government, the community sector and industry will attend.

What are the long term gains from this project
A better understanding of Financial Wellbeing and therefore a more mature approach to policy formation and implementation.

What are the future developments for this project/area of research
Ongoing work into this area is needed particularly in among vulnerable groups in our community. Over the coming years, research into this area is necessary if as a society we aim to meet standards of living expectations.

For more information
Email ashton.desilva@rmit.edu.au
Go to Ashton’s RMIT profile »

All being well? Financial Wellbeing, Inclusion and Risk

“Our project will aid researchers and policymakers in understanding the lived experience individuals have and therefore determine which policies are likely to be most effective.”
How did you come to be a researcher in your field?

My mission as both a researcher and the leader of a research group is to conduct research with industry and contribute to topical policy debates surrounding international development and trade. The Development and Trade Research Group (IDTRG) seeks to undertake collaborative research with industry as well as formal engagement and discussion with practitioners and those in industry about some of the challenges they are facing can lead to ideas, discussions and research projects that identify solutions to these problems. In the area of international development and trade there are infinite issues and research projects that identify solutions to those in industry about some of the challenges they are facing can lead to ideas, discussions and research projects that identify solutions to these problems.

What do you see as your mission as a researcher?

How do you see your Group developing in the future?

The IDTRG is always seeking to undertake collaborative work with industry. Informal as well as formal engagement is very important. Hearing from practitioners and those in industry about some of the challenges they are facing can lead to ideas, discussions and research projects that identify solutions to those problems. In the area of international development and trade there are infinite issues that warrant investigation and research. The challenge is to identify the highest priorities and those that research can answer.

For more information

Website

mst.edu.au/research-research-institutes-centres-and-groups/development-and-trade-research

Email

simon.feeny@mst.edu.au

Go to Simon’s RMIT profile »

Ken Waller

Director, The Australian APEC Study Centre (AASC)

How do you see your Group in your Research Area?

The IDTRG seeks to address some of the most important challenges facing international policy makers. Group members will be working with United Nations bodies to assist countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. The group has been very successful recently in attracting research funds and working with a number of organisations.

How can industry get more involved in your Research Area?

The IDTRG is always seeking to undertake collaborative research with industry. Informal as well as formal engagement is very important. Hearing from practitioners and those in industry about some of the challenges they are facing can lead to ideas, discussions and research projects that identify solutions to these problems. In the area of international development and trade there are infinite issues that warrant investigation and research. The challenge is to identify the highest priorities and those that research can answer.

For more information

Website

apec.org.au

Email

wallerk@apec.org.au

Go to Ken’s RMIT profile »

The Australian APEC Study Centre (AASC) is a leading centre in the Asia Pacific region for the advocacy of APEC’s objectives. The Centre was established in 1994 and moved into the RMIT University of Business in 2009. AASC is led and guided by Director Ken Waller who has extensive experience in policy development and capacity building, promoting APEC’s goals and objectives and a deep familiarity with multilateral structures and processes. The Centre actively promotes Australian strategic and economic interests in the region and collaborates with partners from a wide network of industry, regional and international organisations, academia and think-tanks as well as official policy and regulatory agencies. The Centre engages in related research and issues papers on matters important to APEC and the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC) including cross border trade, investment, finance, global value chain, education and regional urbanisation.

AASC’s prime mandate is to contribute to building the capacity of public officials throughout the Asia-Pacific region. It has recently developed and delivered capacity building programs on Global Value Chains, Good Policy and Regulatory Principles in the Services Sector, Urban Infrastructure, Enhancing the Investment Environment, Public Private Partnerships, Connectivity and Financial Inclusion.

AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.

Supported by Australia and endorsed by ABAC and APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders, the AASC established the Regional Investment Analytical Group (RIAG) to provide analysis and relevant quantitative indicators as a means of improving sustained investment flows to economies in the region. The Centre acts as a Secretariat and draws on support from partnerships with the World Bank, OECD, UNESTAD, ADB, the APEC Policy Support Unit, ADB and the APEC Urban Infrastructure Network. AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.

Supported by Australia and endorsed by ABAC and APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders, the AASC established the Regional Investment Analytical Group (RIAG) to provide analysis and relevant quantitative indicators as a means of improving sustained investment flows to economies in the region. The Centre acts as a Secretariat and draws on support from partnerships with the World Bank, OECD, UNESTAD, ADB, the APEC Policy Support Unit, ASEAN and the APEC Urban Infrastructure Network. AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.

Supported by Australia and endorsed by ABAC and APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders, the AASC established the Regional Investment Analytical Group (RIAG) to provide analysis and relevant quantitative indicators as a means of improving sustained investment flows to economies in the region. The Centre acts as a Secretariat and draws on support from partnerships with the World Bank, OECD, UNESTAD, ADB, the APEC Policy Support Unit, ASEAN and the APEC Urban Infrastructure Network. AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.

Supported by Australia and endorsed by ABAC and APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders, the AASC established the Regional Investment Analytical Group (RIAG) to provide analysis and relevant quantitative indicators as a means of improving sustained investment flows to economies in the region. The Centre acts as a Secretariat and draws on support from partnerships with the World Bank, OECD, UNESTAD, ADB, the APEC Policy Support Unit, ASEAN and the APEC Urban Infrastructure Network. AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.

Supported by Australia and endorsed by ABAC and APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders, the AASC established the Regional Investment Analytical Group (RIAG) to provide analysis and relevant quantitative indicators as a means of improving sustained investment flows to economies in the region. The Centre acts as a Secretariat and draws on support from partnerships with the World Bank, OECD, UNESTAD, ADB, the APEC Policy Support Unit, ASEAN and the APEC Urban Infrastructure Network. AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.

Supported by Australia and endorsed by ABAC and APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders, the AASC established the Regional Investment Analytical Group (RIAG) to provide analysis and relevant quantitative indicators as a means of improving sustained investment flows to economies in the region. The Centre acts as a Secretariat and draws on support from partnerships with the World Bank, OECD, UNESTAD, ADB, the APEC Policy Support Unit, ASEAN and the APEC Urban Infrastructure Network. AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.

Supported by Australia and endorsed by ABAC and APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders, the AASC established the Regional Investment Analytical Group (RIAG) to provide analysis and relevant quantitative indicators as a means of improving sustained investment flows to economies in the region. The Centre acts as a Secretariat and draws on support from partnerships with the World Bank, OECD, UNESTAD, ADB, the APEC Policy Support Unit, ASEAN and the APEC Urban Infrastructure Network. AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.

Supported by Australia and endorsed by ABAC and APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders, the AASC established the Regional Investment Analytical Group (RIAG) to provide analysis and relevant quantitative indicators as a means of improving sustained investment flows to economies in the region. The Centre acts as a Secretariat and draws on support from partnerships with the World Bank, OECD, UNESTAD, ADB, the APEC Policy Support Unit, ASEAN and the APEC Urban Infrastructure Network. AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.

Supported by Australia and endorsed by ABAC and APEC Finance Ministers and Leaders, the AASC established the Regional Investment Analytical Group (RIAG) to provide analysis and relevant quantitative indicators as a means of improving sustained investment flows to economies in the region. The Centre acts as a Secretariat and draws on support from partnerships with the World Bank, OECD, UNESTAD, ADB, the APEC Policy Support Unit, ASEAN and the APEC Urban Infrastructure Network. AASC’s research arm has grown over the past five years and developed industry, multilateral and governmental support to deliver research related programs and seminars that support the goals of APEC and other regional fora including The Urban Infrastructure Network (UIN) which was established by AASC in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The UIN has developed a best practice framework and action plans to provide a holistic guide for governments in the APEC region in order to assist them manage the varied and complex challenges of enhancing and building sustainable cities.
Background
Former Victorian Attorney-General, former Minister for Manufacturing Industry and Minister for Racing, Minister for WorkCover, Minister for Planning and Minister for Industrial Relations.

How did you come to be a researcher in your field?
After implementing a number of holistic justice reforms as Attorney General, I decided after leaving politics to continue practical research into therapeutic and restorative approaches to justice.

What do you see as your mission, as a researcher and as a priority area director?
My main mission as a researcher and as a Director is to produce practical, quality outcomes that can be easily understood and implemented by policy makers.

How do you see your Centre developing in the future?
It is crucial that governments and indeed the community understand that therapeutic and restorative approaches to justice can save money and live. We cannot continue to think that we can jail our way to safety.

What do you see as the role of industry in regards to your Centre?
Our industry stakeholders assist with and in many cases drive the work that we undertake. Many of our projects are undertaken in collaboration and cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders across the justice sector.

How do you define success in your Centre?
When policy makers take up our recommendations, as often happens, we believe our work is worthwhile. But this is not the only measure of success. Student involvement in much of our work helps shape the minds of leaders of the future.

How can industry get more involved in research in your Centre?
The reputation we have built up over the last three years sees stakeholders from across the sector knocking on our door. Clearly with more resources we could undertake even more collaboration with industry.

For more information
Website
rmit.edu.au/innovativejustice
Email
rob.hulls@rmit.edu.au
Go to Rob’s RMIT profile »