**VIETNAM & THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION:  
UNLOCKING THE BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS POTENTIAL**



The Ho Chi Minh City Open University, Vietnam invites you to the comprehensively refereed International Conference on Business and Economics to be held in November 2017 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The Conference offers a program that will facilitate dialogue between academics, public policy makers and private sector economists.

The program includes:

* International high profile invited speakers;
* Keynote speeches with the focus on the business tie between Vietnam and Australia;
* Policy panel discussions with the focus on Agriculture and Energy;
* High quality submitted papers;
* PhD Colloquium; and
* Professional development workshops including (i) “*Getting your papers published in high quality journals*”; and (ii) “*Big data analysis: A practitioner’s approach*”

The key theme of the Conference on **“Regional Integration in the Asia-Pacific region: Prospects, Challenges and Implications for Vietnam”** – is both timely and relevant. The Conference particularly focuses on the issues of Energy and Agriculture as these two key sectors are absolutely essential for the sustainability of economic development in Vietnam.

**Topics**

The key purpose of the Conference is to bring together academics, researchers, practitioners and policymakers to discuss ongoing research on a wide range of theoretical and empirical issues related to regional economic integration and sustainable economic growth in the region. Potential topics may include, but are not limited to, the following areas, with emphasis on their impact on agriculture and energy and associated infrastructure:

* Risk and Uncertainty (e.g. Credit Risk; Market Risk; VaR; CVaR; Distance to Default);
* Public Policy and Regulations (e.g. Agriculture, Energy, Water, Transport);
* Macroeconomics and Exchange Rate Policy;
* Labour Economics and Economics of Education;
* Regional Economics;
* Monetary and Financial Market Integration;
* Banking;
* Financial Analysis and Management; and
* Social Capital.

# Keynote Speeches

This Conference brings three experts from Australia to discuss fundamental economic/financial issues in Australia with the implications for the Australian and Vietnamese businesses. They are Professor Michael McLure (The University of Western Australia, Australia); Associate Professor Robert Powell (Edith Cowan University, Australia); and Professor Siobhan Austen (Curtin University, Australia).

In addition, the Conference welcomes Professor David Dickinson (University of Birmingham, UK) and Professor Tim Barmby (University of Aberdeen, UK) to present the findings from their recent research.

# ****Special Session – Policy Panel Discussions****

In response to the recent forum on Overseas Vietnamese contributing to the development of Ho Chi Minh City to be a modern, civilised and caring city, held by Ministry of Foreign Affairs and HCMC People’s Committee in November 2016, this Conference brings world experts to present and share new ideas/approaches in relation to public economics/policies with a particular focus on Energy (Electricity & Gas) policy and Agricultural policy.

The members of the panel include Dr Vien Nguyen Son, Partner & Senior Strategic Advisor (United First Partners, Switzerland); and Mr Ky Cao, Director (Finance International Pty Ltd) and formerly Managing Director (Perth Energy, Australia). In addition, senior executives from leading Vietnamese businesses will present the current state of play and challenges faced in the relevant sectors in Vietnam.

# ****Ph.D/**** ****Masters by Research Forum****

The forum will provide an opportunity for Ph.D. or Masters by Research students in the fields of Business and Economics to present their thesis/dissertation research (that was completed in the last year or will be completed during 2017) within the topics of interest for this Conference.  All accepted papers will be refereed and critical comments are provided by professors or associate professors with the same/similar area of research interest.

In addition, this forum is extended to welcome various professors to share their experience in publishing in high-ranked international journals.  Currently confirmed participants are Associate Professor Robert Powell (Edith Cowan University, Australia); Professor Michael McLure (The University of Western Australia, Australia); Professor Siobhan Austen (Curtin University, Australia); Associate Professor Liem Viet Ngo (University of New South Wales, Australia); Professor David Dickinson (University of Birmingham, UK); and Professor Tim Barmby (University of Aberdeen, UK).

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS & SPONSORED JOURNALS

All accepted papers will be included in the Conference Proceedings with an ISBN and indexed by Google Scholars; EconPapers; and RePEc. The Conference Proceedings including extended abstracts will be applied to be indexed by Scopus. Selected papers (subject to the standard reviewing process of the relevant journals) will be considered for publication in the Special Issues of Economic Papers: A Journal of Applied Economics and Policy.In addition, a Scopus-indexed journal will publish selected papers from the Conference.

# SUBMISSION

The VBER 2017 is a comprehensively refereed conference. All submitted papers will be refereed by experts working in the same/similar areas of research. Authors with papers being rejected will be provided with the written refereed reports at the time the notification is made.  Accepted papers for presenting at the Conference will be provided with the written refereed report(s) after the registration of attendance and presentation at VBER 2017 is completed by the authors. Authors with accepted papers will be given 1 week for registration unless otherwise advised after the notification of acceptance is delivered.

Authors are invited to submit full-length papers by the due dates, which are listed below. A selection of best papers will be made presented by the VBER 2017 committee upon recommendations from the Technical Committees.

Only online submissions will be considered. The abstract submission deadline is **31 March 2017** and the full papers must be submitted by **31 July 2017**.  Written referee’ reports will be provided. And if the papers are accepted, then the revised version of the papers must be submitted by **25 October 2017**for an inclusion in the Conference Proceedings unless otherwise advised.

At least one author of an accepted paper must register and attend the Conference to present the paper. Multiple submissions are welcome. However, each author may present only one paper in the Conference. If multiple submissions are accepted, then a different author will be required to register and present each paper.

All papers submitted will undergo the blind peer review process and therefore should conform to the following guidelines:

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| --- | --- |
| – Language: | English |
| – Paper length: | Abstract: max 100 words;  Full paper: within 25 pages, including references, tables/ charts and keywords |
| – Key words: | 3-5 words |
| – JEL Classification: | At least one code provided |
| – Font: | 12-point Times New Roman |
| – Paragraph: | Single-spaced |
| – Margin: | Normal (Top: 2.54cm, Bottom: 2.54cm, Left: 2.54cm, Right: 3.18cm) |
| – Page numbers: | Bottom-centered |
| – Layout: | One-column Portrait |
| – File type: | PDF |

# Parts of the paper

All papers submitted should be arranged in the following order: (i) Title page; (ii) Main text; (iii) References & Appendices.

## ****Title page****

The title page should contain (i) title of the paper, (iii) the full names of the authors, (iv) the author’s institutional affiliations at which the work was carried out, (v) the full postal and email address, plus telephone number, of the author to whom correspondence about the paper should be sent; and (vi) acknowledgments. The present address of any author, if different from that where the work was carried out, should be supplied in a footnote. Do not use abbreviations in the title.

*Acknowledgements.* The source of financial grants and other funding must be acknowledged, including a frank declaration of the authors’ industrial links and affiliations. The contribution of colleagues or institutions should also be acknowledged.

## ****Main text****

As papers are blind peer reviewed, the main text file should not include any information that might identify the authors and should contain (i) the abstract, (ii) keywords, (iii) JEL code(s), (iv) texts.

## ****References & Appendices****

***References.*** The Harvard (author, date) system of referencing is used (examples are given below). In the text give the author’s name followed by the year in parentheses: Smith (2000). If there are two authors use ‘and’: Smith and Jones (2001); but if cited within parentheses use ‘&’: (Smith & Jones 2001). When reference is made to a work by three or more authors, the first name followed by et al. should be used: MacDonald et al. (2002). In the reference list, references should be listed in alphabetical order and cite the names of all authors when there are six or fewer; when seven or more, list the first three followed by et al.

***Appendices.*** These should be placed at the end of the paper, numbered in Roman numerals and referred to in the text. If written by a person other than the author of the main text, the writer’s name should be included below the title.

# CONTACT

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