THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

2026 PhD Conference

11–13 November 2026
The University of Sydney
Camperdown Campus

Program

School of Economics

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY · Australian Government The Treasury · ESA Economic Society of Australia · THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA · UNSW SYDNEY · THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

MONASH University · RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA · THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA · Australian National University · Australian Bureau of Statistics

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PROGRAM

General

Each paper in the parallel sessions is allocated 45 minutes: 25 minutes for the student's presentation, 10 minutes for the discussant, and the remaining time for questions from the floor. Each session has two papers.

Location

All events except dinners will be held in the Social Sciences building (Building A02) at the University of Sydney, or in the RD Watt building (A04) which is immediately next door across the courtyard.

See the last page of the program for directions to the venue.

Keynote Speaker

Professor Tim Moore, Monash University — Thursday 12 November, 2:00pm
Making policy: Opportunities for economists and economics research

Job Market Panel

Friday 13 November, 4pm —5pm

Social Program

Welcome BBQ Reception — Wednesday 11 November, 5:00pm · In the courtyard between the Social Sciences Building & RD Watt at the University of Sydney.
See conference map on the last page

Conference dinner on campus — Thursday 12 November, 6:00pm

Conference dinner in Sydney's CBD — Friday 13 November, 5:30pm bus departure for 6pm dinner
A Conference shuttle bus will take attendees direct to CBD dinner venue

Convenors

Dr. Alastair Fraser, Ana Cunha, and Dave Mc Manamon
econ.phdconference@sydney.edu.au

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2026

5:00 – 8:00pm Welcome BBQ Reception · On campus outside the Social Sciences Building (A02)

DAY 1 — THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2026

8:30 – 8:50am Registration and coffee/tea
Beside RD Watt Room 203

8:50 – 9:15am Welcome and conference info
RD Watt Room 203

SESSION 1 (9:15 – 10:45am)

Venture Capital and Political Risk
Room 203, RD Watt Building

9:15 Yiming Zhang
Political Alignment and the Realization of Venture Capital Investments: Evidence from the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election
DISCUSSANT Jason Zein

10:00 Ramzi Abuljadayel
The Effect of Geopolitical Risk on Venture Capital Investment Worldwide
DISCUSSANT Amir Arjomandi

Growth and Monetary Transmission
Room 105, Social Sciences Building

9:15 Rani Setyodewanti
Estimating the Long-Run Trend Growth Rate with Multivariate Information
DISCUSSANT Thanh Le

10:00 Truc Tran
Deposit and lending interest rate pass-through: Evidence from selected Euro Area economies
DISCUSSANT Mei Dong

Household Finance and Risk Attitudes
Room 210, Social Sciences Building

9:15 Kathleen Ren
Cognitive Origins of Extrinsic Sentiment: A Cued-Memory Account of Household Portfolio Choice
DISCUSSANT Rebecca McKibbin

10:00 Xinyang Li
Spousal Chronic Disease and Financial Risk Attitudes: A Dimension-Reduced Doubly Robust Difference-in-Differences Approach
DISCUSSANT Nathan Kettlewell

Morning tea (10:45 – 11:15am)

SESSION 2 (11:15am – 12:45pm)

Mutual Funds and Asset Pricing
Room 203, RD Watt Building

11:15 Zhibo Zhang
The Adverse Tail of Machine Forecast
DISCUSSANT Juan Yao

12:00 Qiliang Xiong
Cheap Talk, Costly Risk: Geopolitical Risk Disclosure in the Mutual Fund Industry
DISCUSSANT Joakim Westerholm

Shocks and the Macroeconomy
Room 105, Social Sciences Building

11:15 Muhammad Fawdy Wahyu
Upstream Origins, Downstream Prices: Inflation Propagation Through Production Networks
DISCUSSANT Oscar Pavlov

12:00 Tshering Dorji
Macroeconomic Impact of Weather Shocks in Australia
DISCUSSANT Denny Lie

Behavioural and Experimental Economics
Room 210, Social Sciences Building

11:15 Adithya Krishna
Reduction of Information Asymmetry and the Impact of Multiple Experts: A Credence Goods Experiment
DISCUSSANT Qin Wu

12:00 Rubayat Sarwar
Do People Gamble More if They Can Cash-out? Evidence from a Laboratory Experiment
DISCUSSANT Andrew Grant

Lunch (12:45 – 2:00pm)

2:00 – 3:15pm Keynote Address
RD Watt Room 203

Professor Tim Moore, Monash University
Making policy: Opportunities for economists and economics research

Afternoon tea (3:15 – 3:35pm)

SESSION 3 (3:35 – 5:05pm)

Peer Effects and Social Networks
Room 203, RD Watt Building

3:35 Yuzhi Zhou
When Ambitions Align: Parental and Peer Parental Aspiration
DISCUSSANT Nitin Bharti

4:20 Chunsheng Zhang
Estimating Peer Effects in Social Networks with Link Misclassification: Evidence from Add Health
DISCUSSANT Hanbat Jeong

Innovation and Productivity
Room 105, Social Sciences Building

3:35 Xuehua Shao
AI and Productivity: The Role of Innovation
DISCUSSANT DuckKi Cho

4:20 Xian Chen
The Time Profile of Innovation: TFP Dynamics and Risk Premia
DISCUSSANT Quan Gan

Game Theory: Conflict and Auctions
Room 210, Social Sciences Building

3:35 Joshua Greenwood
Ambition, uncertainty and learning in conflict
DISCUSSANT Vladimir Smirnov

4:20 Andriyanto
Bid Screening in First-Price Procurement Auctions
DISCUSSANT Murali Agastya

Break (5:05 – 6:00pm)

6:00 – 9:00pm Conference dinner on campus at The Grandstand
The Grandstand is a 10-minute walk from the Social Sciences Building

Day 2 — Friday, 13 November 2026

8:45 – 9:00am Coffee/tea
Beside RD Watt Room 203

Session 4 (9:00 – 10:30am)

Financial Econometrics
Room 203, RD Watt Building

9:00 John Bilsel
Time-varying relationship of Macroeconomics and Long-Term Stock–Bond Correlations: A DCC-MIDAS Approach
Discussant Changchen Ge

9:45 Zhengyang Chi
A Graph Signal Processing Enhanced Heterogeneous Autoregressive Framework
Discussant Adam Clements

Health Economics
Room 105, Social Sciences Building

9:00 Shulei Zhang
When Primary Care Collapses: Rural Economic Reform and Rising Mortality in China
Discussant Tushar Bharati

9:45 Martina Repetto
When Female Doctors Fly In: Access to Female Physicians and Gender-Sensitive Care
Discussant Nurina Merdikawati

Disasters and Risk
Room 210, Social Sciences Building

9:00 Yitian Wang
The Effect of Extreme Wildfire Exposure on Energy Poverty: Evidence from Australia's Black Saturday Bushfires
Discussant David Ubilava

9:45 Farzaneh Askari
Beyond measured exposure: Behavioural drivers of housing and home contents insurance uptake in Australia
Discussant Alicia Rambaldi

Morning tea (10:30 – 11:00am)

Session 5 (11:00am – 12:30pm)

Migration and Labour Markets
Room 203, RD Watt Building

11:00 Man Hin Chio
Disability Benefit Reform, Employment and Welfare: Evidence from Australia's Welfare-to-Work Reforms
Discussant Katrien Stevens

11:45 Lubna Uzair
Foreign-Born Human Capital and Skill Premium
Discussant Xiaodong Fan

Family Background and Human Capital
Room 105, Social Sciences Building

11:00 Siyu Ai
Demographic Pressure, the Parental Investment Portfolio, and Educational Attainment in China
Discussant Xin Meng

11:45 Maruf Ahmed
Intergenerational Health Mobility: Evidence from Australia
Discussant Gregor Pfeifer

Air Pollution: Damages and Adaptation
Room 210, Social Sciences Building

11:00 Pyan Muchtar
Hot and Hazy Choices: Digital Consumers' Adaptation to Environmental Shocks
Discussant Shuddha Rafiq

11:45 Meiling Li
Global versus Local Damages from Coal Power Plants: Evidence from China
Discussant Paul Burke

Lunch (12:30 – 2:00pm)
Beside RD Watt Room 203

SESSION 6 (2:00 – 3:30pm)

Difference-in-Differences: Methods and Applications
Room 203, RD Watt Building

2:00 Gayani Rathnayake
Difference-in-Differences with Sample Selection
DISCUSSANT Mohamad Khaled

2:45 Noel Del Castillo
Causal effects of extreme weather events on mental health service use among older adults
DISCUSSANT David Johnston

Institutions and Property Rights
Room 105, Social Sciences Building

2:00 Fatemeh Arjomandi-Behzad
It's Still the Institutions: New Evidence on Inclusive Development Beyond GDP
DISCUSSANT Vinod Mishra

2:45 Alex Pham
Classifying Digital Assets for Regulation: A Property Rights Taxonomy Using Cladistics
DISCUSSANT Mokhtarul Wadud

Energy Transition and Critical Minerals
Room 210, Social Sciences Building

2:00 Songze Qu
Strategic Storage Sizing in Energy-Only Markets: Equilibrium Evidence from Australia's National Electricity Market
DISCUSSANT Virginie Masson

2:45 Dorothea Ramizo
The midstream bottleneck in the critical mineral value chains: Should the government intervene?
DISCUSSANT Tiho Ancev

Afternoon tea (3:30 – 4:00pm)

4:00 – 5:00pm Job market panel
RD Watt Room 203

Break (5:00 – 5:30pm)

5:30pm Conference shuttle bus direct from campus to the CBD dinner venue
6:00pm Conference dinner in Sydney's CBD

End of Conference

GETTING THERE

The University of Sydney, Camperdown Campus, Camperdown NSW 2006

The Social Sciences Building (A02) is located here:

Google Map: https://maps.app.goo.gl/LnCBtUWUsaxozEj49

Campus Map: https://maps.sydney.edu.au/?room=A02
(You may need to enter the Social Sciences Building into the campus map)