

Australian Government

Australian Accounting Standards Board

Project:	Research Centre	Meeting:	M184	
Topic:	Research update	Agenda Item:	12.1	
		Date:	25 October 2021	
		Project Priority:		
Contact(s):	Mark Shying	Project Priority:		
Contact(s):	Mark Shying mshying@aasb.gov.au	Project Priority: Decision-Making:		

### **Objective of this paper**

1 The objective of this agenda item is to report to the Board on significant AASB Research Centre related activities. No action is required from the Board on the matters tabled in this update.

#### AASB Research Forum 2021

- 2 The AASB Virtual Research Forum will be held on Monday 29 November. Registrations are now open.
- 3 Keynote speakers are Dr Keith Kendall and Professor Ann Tarca. As noted previously, three Research Teams will present at the Research Forum supplemented by facilitated panel discussions.

Research title	Research team	Facilitator	Panellists
An evaluation of the	Le Ma	Alison White	Sean Hughes
impacts of the	Sebastian Onie		Martin Lawrence
adoption of AASB	Helen Spiropoulos		Sanjay Khushu
15 Revenue from	Peter Wells		Tracey Driver
Contracts with	(All UTS)		
Customers			
Presentation	Troy Yao (QUT)	Toby Langley	David Wilson
prominence: Does it	Tyge Kummer (QUT)		Marc Smit
matter to non-	Majella Percy (Griffith)		Rob Sharma
professional	Jenny Stewart (Griffith)		
professional investors?			
The case of 'Other			
Comprehensive			
Income'			
Decision Usefulness: A	Craig Furneaux (QUT)	David Holland	Gary John
re-examination of the	David Gilchrist (UWA)		Caitriona Fay
information needs of	Andrew West (QUT)		Cameron Power
non-profit GPFR users	Yuyu Zhang (QUT)		Matthew Hall

#### AASB Research Forum 2022

4 The organisation of the AASB Research Forum 2022 is underway. Upon the conclusion of the Expressions of Interest for the research forum, the submissions were subjected to an extensive review process that included involvement of the Academic Advisory Panel (AAP). Following this, three teams were selected for the AASB Research Forum in 2022:

Research title	Research team
AASB Practice Statement 2 Making Material Judgements: Its impact on firms' reporting and assurance practice on climate-related risk within and beyond financial statements, and capital markets	Kevin Thai (UQ) Yang Xu (UQ) Kathleen Herbohn (UQ)
Exploring the Horizons of Financial Reporting	Michael Davern (UM) Dean Hanlon (Monash) Ram Subramanian (CPA Australia) Nikole Gyles (UM) Brad Potter (UM) Janice Gu (UM)
Improving the Visibility of Soil Health in Corporate Reporting	Nick Pawsey (CSU) Francisco Ascu (Federation) Ben Wills (Federation)

5 Meetings will be held with the three research teams in November and December to refine project scope and discuss administrative matters including the appointment of AAP members as consultants to each of the teams.

# Joint research with the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board (MASB) on transition requirements and practical expedients

- 6 As noted previously, the AASB and the MASB are working jointly on a project to examine the choices made by lessees when transitioning from IAS 17 *Leases* to IFRS 16 *Leases* and for the ongoing application of IFRS 16.
- 7 Using a two-stage research process a review of the transition-year financial reports of the 80 largest listed companies has been completed along with some interviews with preparers, auditors, and users to ascertain:
  - (a) which transition relief and practical expedients are applied;
  - (b) reasons for applying/not applying; and
  - (c) ideas for other practical expedients.

Additional interviews are targeted for December.

- 8 What we have found to date will be presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Asia Oceania Standard Setters Group (AOSSG) meeting in November. Findings include:
  - (a) most lessees applied the partial retrospective approach for cost-benefit reasons;
  - (b) when applying same option to all leases to measure RoU assets, the option most chosen is "equal to the lease liability adjusted for accruals". However, applying different options to different lease to measure RoU assets was more prevalent;
  - (c) the partial retrospective para 10 expedients were widely appreciated by preparers and selectively applied for cost-benefit reasons;

- (d) the short-term and low-value expedients were widely applied based on no substantive impact on P&L;
- (e) mixed use of non-separation of non-lease components; and
- (f) accounting for portfolios of leases not widely used.

## Question to the Board

1. Does the Board have any comments or suggestions regarding the research update?