



ANZSEENEWS

News from Ecological Economics in Australia and New Zealand

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ANZSEE Conference

Darwin, 27-30 October 2009

The 2009 ANZSEE Biennial Conference will be held at the Darwin Convention Centre from the 27th to the 30th of October. The overall theme of the conference this year will be *Green Mileage in the Global Meltdown: An Ecological Economics Way Forward*. This has been chosen to encourage discussion and ideas on how ecological economics can help provide both economic and sustainability solutions in the wake of the global financial crisis. A recent report released by the United Nations Environment Program concluded that 'The right mix of policy actions can stimulate recovery and at the same time improve the sustainability of the world economy. If these actions are adopted, over the next few years they will create millions of jobs, improve the livelihoods of the world's poor and channel investments into dynamic economic sectors.' (<http://www.ecoeco.org/pdf/GGND-ES.pdf>). In other words we need to build on the opportunities for recrafting economic policies so that the overall outcomes will enhance social and economic well-being as well as environmental sustainability. As part of the conference, we will be offering masterclasses on specific methods as well as a special day long workshop at the end looking at research related to indigenous issues and in particular, climate change. We look forward to seeing you all at ANZSEE09.

Wendy Proctor
ANZSEE President

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ANZSEE 2009 Conference

Green Mileage in the Global Meltdown: An Ecological Economics Way Forward

The 2009 ANZSEE conference is to be held in Darwin, Australia at the Darwin Convention Centre from the 27th-30th October.

The programme will include a plenary session presented by Prof. Robert Costanza, a Masterclass on Mediated Modelling by Assoc. Prof. Marjan van den Belt and a panel discussion and workshop on the 'Ecological Economics Way Forward', covering the ecological economics constructive alternatives in the global meltdown. A one day workshop will also be held on indigenous research and ecological economics.

Conference themes for delegate presentations:

- Green new deal – discussion/roundtable
- Renewable energy transformation
- Climate change and Copenhagen
- Indigenous perspectives and opportunities
- Climate adaptation
- Integrated assessment
- Environmental values
- Measuring progress in the 21st Century
- Sustainable production and consumption

Important dates:

Conference abstracts due: August 3rd
 Acceptance of abstracts: August 17th
 Full papers due: September 30th
 Early bird registration: September 15th
 Final registration: October 15th

Special features of the ANZSEE 2009 Conference:

- ANZSEE is offering 5 student travel scholarships up to AU\$1500 each.
- There is a cash prize for (1) best student paper from a PhD thesis and (2) student/first time presenter prizes.
- A special edition of a journal from the conference is planned so that best papers can be published.
- A field trip will be part of the conference.

For further updates and more information please visit the ANZSEE website: <http://www.anzsee.org/> which will be updated regularly as information becomes available.

Some other useful links:

Darwin Convention Centre: <http://www.darwinconvention.com.au/>
 Kakadu National Park: <http://www.environment.gov.au/parks/kakadu/>

ISEE 2010 Conference

ISEE has announced its 11th Biennial Conference: "Advancing Sustainability in a Time of Crises"

The 11th Biennial ISEE Conference, 2010 will take place from 22 - 25 August, 2010 with the theme: "Advancing Sustainability in a Time of Crises". The conference will take place in the two adjacent cities of Bremen and Oldenburg, Germany. This area is the economic, administrative and cultural centre of the Weser-Ems region in north-western Germany.

For more information see: www.ecoeco.org

Update from NZCEE

After a frenetic period of proposal-writing to secure long-term funding, the New Zealand Centre for Ecological Economics is now looking forward to finalising and publishing the results of its flagship research programmes – ‘Sustainable Pathways’, ‘Restoring Terrestrial Ecosystems for Iwi’, and ‘Ecological Footprint Plus’. Associate Professor Marjan van den Belt joined the team at NZCEE in January, 2009 as Deputy Director. Marjan is one of the world’s leading exponents of Mediated Modelling, and we are excited about the integration of this tool into the work we do at NZCEE. Further details about the happenings at NZCEE can be found in our November 2008 newsletter, which is available on our website: www.nzcee.org.nz.

For the last 3 months, NZCEE has hosted Professor Robert Costanza as a Distinguished Visiting Fellow with NZCEE. New Zealand, like other countries, is considering what kind of economic stimulus package, and other measures, can best respond to the global economic recession and soften its impact, espe-

cially on jobs. Such issues are the focus of Professor Robert Costanza's current work, and was the topic of well-attended presentations he gave in Wellington, Christchurch and Palmerston North. He also presented on the topic of Modelling and Valuing Ecosystem Services, which is very relevant to work being conducted at NZCEE. These presentations can be found on the NZCEE website:

www.nzcee.org.nz. NZCEE looks forward to ongoing collaboration with Prof Costanza and others from the Gund Institute in Vermont in research programmes, and potential postgraduate courses.

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Membership Interests

Information regarding ANZSEE members areas of interests and expertise is useful as it can foster collaboration and provide a ready access to references for work being in the ecological economics area in Australia and New Zealand. There is also some sponsorship available at Australian Universities for visiting lecturers to present seminars. With these objectives in mind we have sent out to all member a short spread sheet to fill in so we can list members contacts and interests (as a pdf to avoid spam) on line. If you would like to be included and have not been contacted please email forgiev@landcareresearch.co.nz.

Victoria University of Wellington stokes up climate change activity

The Victoria University of Wellington (VUW) is lifting its teaching and research on climate change. In 2008, Associate Prof Ralph Chapman launched a new graduate course in 'Climate Change and Energy.' In 2009, in response to increasing student interest, he split this course into two, one on **sustainable energy**, and one on **climate change**. Both courses are fully subscribed and emphasise policy aspects of climate change. Dr Eric Martinot, with the Institute for Sustainable Energy Policies in Tokyo, is teaching the Sustainable Energy course. These courses complement the VUW undergraduate courses available on climate change, such as Dr Nancy Bertler's 'Climate Change and NZ's Future.'

In terms of research, increasing numbers of students are focusing on masters research on climate change. Some of this is conducted in conjunction with the School of Psychology, focusing on issues such as powerlessness and the commons dilemma. VUW's flagship initiative is to set up a **Climate Change Research Institute (CCRI)** led by Prof Martin Manning, and with Dr Andy Reisinger and Prof Peter Barrett also on its staff. The CCRI works with VUW's Institute of Policy Studies to run workshops on a range of climate change issues, but its two main research foci currently are:

Research on community vulnerability and resilience to climate change in New Zealand. This government-funded research is a collaborative effort between the National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research, New Zealand, the University of Otago and the University of Auckland. It works from the basis that adaptation to climate change requires local governments to identify and address appropriate responses at community levels. The goal is to develop indicators and frameworks to assess relevant community vulnerabilities consistently and objectively by integrating information on socio-economic and physical hazard factors.

Research on policy frameworks for managing greenhouse gas emissions. VUW is working with stakeholders to address areas where New Zealand circumstances merit careful analysis and treatment in relation to agreements on post-2012 GHG reductions. Such areas include how methane is treated relative to carbon dioxide and how trade and agriculture intersect with climate policies.

For more information, see <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/climate-change/index.aspx>

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Māori perspectives on climate change adaptation

An upcoming conference in Wellington recognises the importance of including indigenous perspectives on the national debate of adaptation to climate change. The New Zealand Climate Change Centre (NZCCC) is organising a conference in May with the aim of stimulating collaborative research and facilitating communication between scientists, planners, councils, engineers, businesses, Māori, and organisations dealing with climate change issues. The themes are centred on New Zealand land-based primary industries (livestock farming, horticulture, forestry), energy and industry, Māori culture, health, governance and conservation of natural systems (including biodiversity and biosecurity). The Māori component of the conference will be led by Landcare Research's expert on collaborative scientific research with Māori, Garth Harmsworth. For more information on Landcare Research's work on Indigenous knowledge and values, see: www.landcareresearch.co.nz/research/research_details.asp?Research_Content_ID=117

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Contributions to the next issue

We hope that this newsletter contributes to knowledge sharing and understanding and enhances communication among members of the ecological economics community. If you would like to contribute to the newsletter with news from your organisation or an article of interest please contact Oscar Montes de Oca Munguia: MontesO@landcareresearch.co.nz



Opening of the Darwin Convention Centre, 2008

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