Macquarie University and Meditari Accountancy Research Journal Conference 2024

Speaker Bios



SYDNEY-AUSTRALIA

Keynote Speakers

Dr James Cockayne | Anti-slavery Commissioner



Dr James Cockayne grew up in Sydney and now lives on Bundjalung country in the Northern Rivers. Trained in law, public policy and human rights, James spent two decades overseas promoting human rights and responsible business practices – from counter-terrorism work in Africa and the Middle East, to advising United Nations leaders in New York, Geneva and Tokyo. Over the last decade James' efforts have focused on the global fight to end modern slavery. He was appointed as NSW's inaugural independent Anti-slavery Commissioner on 1 August 2022, for a five year term.

Lorraine Finlay | Australian Human Rights Commissioner



Lorraine Finlay is the Human Rights Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission. In this role Lorraine leads the work of the Commission in areas including modern slavery, asylum seekers and refugees, business & human rights, and technology & human rights. Prior to joining the Commission, Lorraine has worked as a lawyer and academic specializing in human rights and public law. She holds a dual Masters in Law from New York University and the National University of Singapore, where she studied as a Singapura Scholar. Her past roles have included working as the Senior Human Trafficking Specialist with the Australian Mission to ASEAN, an academic at Murdoch University, and a State Prosecutor with the WA DPP.

Dr Katherine Christ | Senior Lecturer | UniSA Business



Dr Katherine Christ is a Senior Lecturer in Accounting at UniSA Business. She is an expert in accounting for modern slavery risk in business operations and supply chains and, in 2022, founded the South Australian Modern Slavery Research and Practitioner Network. Katherine has received funding from CPA Australia and AFAANZ and was a nominee for a 2021 Themis Financial Crime Prevention Award in the category of Combating Modern Slavery. Katherine serves on the Federal Government's Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Research Network and the Modern Slavery Academic Advisory Board for the AUPN. Katherine has published widely on modern slavery and sustainability accounting and regularly contributes to mainstream media.

Dr Stephanie Perkiss | Associate Professor | University of Wollongong



Dr Stephanie Perkiss is an Associate Professor at the University of Wollongong and a Certified Practising Accountant (CPA). Her research interests are sustainability and accountability, focusing on corporate social and environmental responsibility and disclosure, the SDGs, and sociological theory. Her publication record includes research in Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal, Critical Perspectives on Accounting, Social and Environmental Accountability Journal and more. Her current work on the Chocolate Scorecard with NGO and academic partners has been well received worldwide. It aims to develop a more sustainable industry free of modern slavery and environmental destruction.

Max Baker | Associate Professor | University of Sydney



Associate Professor Max Baker is an Associate Professor of Accounting at the University of Sydney. Before his academic career, Max worked for PwC and Macquarie Bank. Max's research focuses on corporate social responsibility, prison reform, data breaches and the data economy. Max has published extensively in top-tier academic journals and serves on the editorial board of Accounting, Auditing and Accountability Journal, Critical Perspectives on Accounting and Accounting and Business Research and is an Associate Editor of ABACUS. As an active commentator on prison policy reform, Max is often asked to provide expert testimony and submissions to relevant government inquiries. In 2022, Max won an ARC discovery grant to study the data breach disclosure rules and practices in Australian companies.

