



24th A-CSEAR Conference 2025
Monash Business School, Melbourne, Australia
3rd December 2025

EMERGING SCHOLARS' COLLOQUIUM

Monash Business School warmly invites you to the 24th Australasian Centre for Social and Environmental Accounting Research (A-CSEAR) Emerging Scholars' Colloquium to be held on 3rd December 2025, prior to the main conference.

The Colloquium will be held at Monash University's Caulfield Campus in Naarm (Melbourne) Australia. Prior Colloquiums have been well attended and have led to the creation of strong research relationships between new and emerging scholars in the discipline.

In keeping with a focus on creating informal, collaborative and productive research relationships, the A-CSEAR 2025 Emerging Scholars' Colloquium aims to:

- 1) Provide a platform for networking between emerging scholars and experienced researchers and introduce them into the Social and Environmental Accounting (SEA) research community ;
- 2) Create a forum for supporting the advancement of research projects including in-depth feedback from mentors and other research students on submitted research outlines;
- 3) Serve as a training ground for building important skills in SEA research; and
- 4) Reflect on current and global initiatives, such as the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are demanding more integrated ways of thinking, moving towards holistic systems design and decision-making, which are potentially of interest to emerging scholars.

Guided by leading scholars in the field of SEA research, the Colloquium will include plenary sessions and small group discussions, and will provide networking opportunities.

Selection criteria for applicants

The focus of the Colloquium will be on cultivating intensive research discussions. Therefore, a maximum of 16 places will be available for PhD students as well as Early Career Researchers (within the first 5 years of PhD completion). Applicants from Australia, New Zealand and other Pacific countries are particularly encouraged to apply.

Applicants should submit a two page (max) quantitative or qualitative pitch of their research study. Qualitative and quantitative pitching templates are provided in the Appendix below. Further details of pitching research templates can be found in the following papers:

- Faff, R.W (2015), A simple template for pitching research. *Accounting & Finance*, 55, 311-336. <https://doi.org/10.1111/acfi.12116>
- Lodhia, S (2017) What about your Qualitative cousins: Adapting the Pitching template to Qualitative Research. *Accounting & Finance*, 59(1), 309-329. <https://doi.org/10.1111/acfi.12266>

In addition, participants are required to submit a one-page (max) curriculum vitae, including their name, email, affiliation, years in the doctoral program to date or year of PhD completion, and PhD supervisor's name (if applicable).

Applications will be considered based on:

- 1) The quality of the research outline and fit into the discipline of Social and Environmental Accounting;
- 2) Theoretical and methodological diversity as well as contribution to the field;
- 3) Stage of research completion with preference given to candidates who have had their PhD proposal accepted or Early Career Researchers who are yet to publish from their PhD research.

The Colloquium committee will engender an inclusive and open-minded approach to assessing applications. As such, a wide variety of applications are encouraged.

The deadline for submissions is 25th August 2025. Please submit your applications to acsear2025@monash.edu. Notification about the decision will be made by 29th September 2025. All applications should be submitted via the conference online submission system.

For more information or if you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the conference organisers at: acsear2025@monash.edu

Conference Sponsors

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Quantitative Pitching Template with Cues [2-page limit]

Pitcher's Name	Your name here
(A) Working Title	
(B) Basic Research Question	IN one sentence, define the key features of the research question. ¹
(C) Key paper(s)	Identify the key paper(s) which most critically underpin the topic (just standard reference details). ²
(D) Motivation/Puzzle	IN one short paragraph (say a max of 100 words) capture the core motivation – which may include identifying a “puzzle” that you hope to resolve.
THREE	Three core aspects of any empirical research project i.e. the “IDioTs” guide
(E) Idea?	Identify the “core” idea that drives the intellectual content of this research topic. If possible, articulate the central hypothesis(es). Is there any theoretical “tension” that can be exploited?
(F) Data?	(1) What data do you propose to use? e.g. country/setting; Why? Unit of analysis? Individual firms, portfolios; industries; countries ...? sample period; sampling interval? Daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, annual, ... Type of data: firm specific vs. industry vs. macro vs. ...? (2) What sample size do you expect? Cross-sectionally? In Time-series? (3) Is it a panel dataset? (4) Data Sources? Are the data commercially available? Any hand-collecting required? Timeframe? Research assistance needed? Funding/grants? Are there novel new data? (5) Will there be any problem with missing data/observations? Database merge issues? Data manipulation/“cleansing” issues? (6) Will your “test” variables exhibit adequate (“meaningful”) variation to give good power? Quality/reliability of data? (7) Other data obstacles? E.g. external validity? construct validity?
(G) Tools?	Basic empirical framework and research design? Is it a regression model approach? Econometric software needed/appropriate for job? Accessible through normal channels? Knowledge of implementation of appropriate or best statistical/econometric tests? Compatibility of data with planned empirical framework? Is statistical validity an issue?
TWO	Two key questions
(H) What's New?	Is the novelty in the idea/data/tools? Which is the “driver”, and are the “passengers” likely to pull their weight? Is this “Mickey Mouse” [i.e. can you draw a simple Venn diagram to depict the novelty in your proposal?]
(I) So What?	Why is it important to know the answer? How will major decisions/behaviour/activity etc be influenced by the outcome of this research?

¹ The guidelines in red should be deleted and replaced by the best available “answers” in relation to the proposed research topic.

² Ideally **one** paper, but at most 3 papers. Ideally, by “gurus” in the field, either recently published in Tier 1 journal(s) or recent working paper on SSRN.

ONE	One bottom line
(J) Contribution?	What is the primary source of the contribution to the relevant research literature?
(K) Other Considerations	Is Collaboration needed/desirable? – idea/data/tools? (either internal or external) Target Journal(s)? Realistic? Sufficiently ambitious? “Risk” assessment [“low” vs. “moderate” vs. “high”: “no result” risk; “competitor” risk (ie being beaten by a competitor); risk of “obsolescence”; other risks? Are there any serious challenge(s) that you face in executing this plan? What are they? Are they related to the Idea? The Data? The Tools?

Qualitative Pitching Template (No more than 2 pages)

Pitcher's Name, FOR, Research Type	Your Name, Field of Research research here, Qualitative Research
(A) Working Title	Your Title here
(B) Basic Research Question	One sentence, will determine the method to be employed.
(C) Key paper(s)	Up to three quality papers, not necessarily in highly ranked journals.
(D) Motivation/Puzzle/Justification	100 words, motivate and justify the research to be undertaken.
THREE (TCM)	
(E) Theory?	Identify and Justify theory. Discuss approach to theorising – Metaphor, Differentiation, Conceptualisation, Context-Dependent theorising, Grand theorising (Llewelyn, 2003)
(F) Context?	Identify the Research Context/Field, Actors (Research Participants). Discuss Research Accessibility

(G) Methodology?	Specify methodology, data collection methods and data analysis approaches. Qualitative sampling details – Purposive, Theoretical (Parker and Northcott, 2015) Discuss Research Credibility and Trustworthiness Thick description approach
TWO	
(H) What's New?	What is new and innovative about this research? What does it tell us that we don't already know?
(I) So What?	Theoretical Generalisation (Parker and Northcott, 2016) Naturalistic Generalisation (Parker and Northcott, 2016)
ONE	
(A) Contribution?	Academic Practice Policy
(B) Other Considerations	Target Journal identified Is Collaboration necessary? Risk Assessment - Could include alternative research Plan should research accessibility be unsuccessful