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CAUTHE NEWSLETTER



Welcome from the Chair

By: Prof Naomi Dale

Hello to you all as the incoming Chair for CAUTHE. I really feel I am walking the path of legends and want to say a huge thank you to Prof Erica Wilson for her accomplished and inclusive leadership of CAUTHE over the past few years. I hope I can continue this work and success

What a great start to the year, with a very successful CAUTHE 2025 Conference held in February in Meanjin (Brisbane). Our conference is such an important part of who we are as an Association, and one of the most impactful ways CAUTHE helps to unite our members and colleagues across the globe. Just over 320 delegates from academia, industry, community, and government gathered to attend this year's event in Queensland, with about a third of those attending being international participants! cont..

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L to R: Chair Prof Naomi Dale with past Chairs Professors Kirsten Holmes, Judith Mair and Erica Wilson







L-R: Walk to the Welcome Reception
Bottom: TH&E Standards Workshop

Welcome from the Chair, cont..

On behalf of CAUTHE, I would like to express my thanks to Prof Lisa Ruhanen, A/Prof Sheranne Fairley, and Dr Aaron Tkaczynski for leading such a professional, quality event. Hosting a CAUTHE conference is no small feat, and I am so appreciative of them for dedicating the better part of 18 months to planning the conference, with such collegiality and good humour. The team took time out of their busy academic and personal lives to showcase CAUTHE, the vibrant spirit of Brisbane, and of course the best of tourism, hospitality and events research and education. Thank you also to the stellar support team at The University of Queensland; Penny, Helene and Chatz from Leishman Associates (PCO); along with all of the UQ volunteers, students, and helpers, who made everything run so smoothly and seamlessly. I'd also like to offer my personal congratulations to all our very well-deserving CAUTHE Bursary recipients, Award winners and Fellows' Awards for 2025.

The CAUTHE conference always starts with the Bill Faulkner PhD/ECR Workshop. A sincere thank you to Wally Zhang (PhD Representative), Dr Anita Manfreda (PhD/ECR Liaison), Dr Mireia Guix , A/Profs Gabby Walters and Jie Wang and the UQ team who coordinated the successful 2025 Workshop, as well as the associated Mentoring session. I know they worked so hard to create a supportive, impactful and fun environment for our PhD and ECR members, providing vital advice for their chosen paths.

Also on the first day, over 20 participants enjoyed the TH&E Standards workshop *Activating and Collaborative Learning for Engaging Classrooms,* exploring strategies for designing engaging learning experiences. Many thanks to A/Prof Glen Croy and Dr Mieke Witsel for leading this work.

Everyone I spoke to during the week mentioned the welcoming atmosphere and the quality of the panels, speakers, and papers whilst maintaining the CAUTHE values of being kind and inclusive with wonderful initiatives like the Lightning presentations and the new *CAUTHE's Got Talent'*of course! Delegates also greatly enjoyed the opportunities to engage with others during the conference and in the social activities, and I particularly enjoyed the walk to the Welcome reception at Customs House.

I am pleased to advise that the final budget for the 2025 Conference is forecasting a reasonable profit, which will go into supporting CAUTHE's operations, member services, and future events. Speaking of which, I am looking forward to CAUTHE 2026 already. Don't forget to save the date for February 9-12, and join us in Adelaide (Tarndanya) on Kaurna Country, South Australia.

CAUTHE acknowledges the Indigenous peoples, Traditional Custodians, and First Nations of the countries in and on which we live, work and study, and their ongoing cultural connections to land, sea and community. In Australia, we pay our respect to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. In Aotearoa | New Zealand we acknowledge Tangata Whenua (People of the Land) and the rights and authority agreed within Te Tiriti o Waitangi. In the great Moana-nui | Pacific we acknowledge the many Indigenous peoples that are connected together by the ocean, culture and cosmology.

Introducing the 2025 Executive committee



CHAIR
Prof Naomi Dale



FIRST VICE-CHAIR
Dr Aaron Tham



SECOND VICE-CHAIR
A/Prof Denis Tolkach



SECRETARY
Dr Anita Manfreda

TREASURER
Currently vacant

Co-opted positions

















Secretariat - Penny Jose

- **Conference Convenor** - Dr Anita Manfreda (TOP L-R)
- **Immediate Past Chair** - Professor Erica Wilson
- **Immediate Past Conference Convenor** - Professor Lisa Ruhanen
- **PhD/ECR Liaison** - Dr Mireia Guix
- **PhD Student representative** - Mr Wei (Wally) Zhang
- **Journal and publications** - Professor Marianna Sigala
- **Special Interest Group co-ordinator** - Assoc Prof Tamara Young



Public Officer - Jennie Small

Other Co-opted members



Assoc Prof Glen Croy |



Dr Chelsea Gill |



Geetha Krishnapillai| |



Assoc Prof Tracy Harkison

Vale Wendy Hillman



By: A/Prof Kylie Radel, CQUniversity
Eulogy read at Wendy's memorial service in Rockhampton, Qld 11 January 2025

As we gather to honour the life of Dr Wendy Hillman, we know that words can never fully capture her essence. However I'll try to paint a picture of the remarkable person she was; caring, dedicated, and full of sharp humour that left a lasting mark on all who knew her.

Wendy joined CQUniversity Rockhampton in 2008 to develop, coordinate, and teach the Bachelor of Sociology. She came from Brisbane, having worked for three years as a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Queensland. Before that, she completed a BA (Honours) and a Master of Social Science in Sociology at James Cook University in Townsville. Her PhD, awarded in 2003, was supported by the Cooperative Research Centre for Sustainable Development of Tropical Savannas and the Australian Geographic. Coming from a background marked by domestic violence and psychological abuse, completing her doctorate was one of her proudest achievements. It was the realisation of a dream sparked in the second year of her undergraduate studies, when she first fell in love with sociology.

A 'dyed in the wool' sociologist, Wendy had a healthy scepticism of capitalism and a strong disdain for gender discrimination and the patriarchy. I once considered getting her a Christmas shirt that said, *Sleigh the Patriarchy*. But beyond the slogans, she had a deep understanding of how social structures impact individuals, and she devoted her life to changing them, especially for women facing poverty and oppression.

If earning her PhD was the dream, her dream job was using sociology to help women; and she found that in Nepal. Nepal became her second home. She brought overfilled suitcases packed with gifts; skipping ropes, toy cars, soccer balls, koalas, souvenirs, Tim Tams, and, of course, Vegemite.

Her favourite meal? Eggs on roti, drowned in Vegemite and washed down with gallons of Nepali milk tea, preferably in Mumma Utse's hotel dining room

Wendy embodied the kind of bravery that comes from thinking of others before herself. As Peter Pan said, *There are many different kinds of bravery...* and Wendy had this kind in spades.

After the sociology degree ended at CQU, she transitioned to the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Sciences, teaching sociology and research methods to nursing and health students. Over her career, she supervised more than 15 doctoral and master's students, published over 25 journal articles, 50+ conference papers, several book chapters, and co-edited a book; with another in progress. She also carried out significant work in Nepal under CQU's name, though her contributions often went unrecognised.

Wendy published widely on gender, tourism, and development. Her research covered everything from emotional labour in tour guides and the risks faced by female trekking guides in Nepal, to the mental health challenges of young families in remote areas, and women's entrepreneurship in rural Nepal. In 2020, she was made redundant during COVID-related downsizing. But she didn't slow down. By 2023, she was working in the Office of Indigenous Engagement, continuing her research and supporting Australian Indigenous communities in their pursuit of development and self-determination.

Vale Wendy Hillman, cont.

Her dedication to her students and colleagues at CQU was unwavering. Wendy was far more than a teacher; she was a mentor, a friend, and an inspiration. She led transformative study tours to Nepal, opening students' eyes to new cultures, beliefs, and possibilities. From Kathmandu's Palace of Dreams to Pokhara's peaceful lakeside, these journeys were life-changing, with Wendy at the centre of every meaningful moment; sometimes even teaching us the hard way about the importance of travel insurance!

As Peter Pan also said, *The moment you doubt whether you can fly, you cease forever to be able to do it.* Wendy never doubted for a second.

She also loved to give. While she took gifts to Nepal, she brought back just as many; ensuring Nepali women's craft groups thrived by supporting them with purchases for nearly everyone she knew. Her humour was another gift; especially after a couple glasses of her favourite prosecco. And no one loved ice cream quite like Wendy. Her laughter, love of Prosecco, and indulgent ice cream habits will echo in our memories, reminding us of how much she brightened our lives.

In closing, let's honour Wendy's memory by continuing her legacy of care, courage, generosity, and good humour. Though she may be gone in body, she lives on in spirit, in the many lives she touched. We are better for having known her; and for that, we are deeply grateful.



Call for EOI: 2025 PhD Student Representative



The CAUTHE Executive calls for expressions of interest for the co-opted PhD student representative role. Applicants must be a current CAUTHE student member and based at a Chapter Member institution. Interested applicants are invited to submit the following documents:

- A two-page CV
- A 500-word outline detailing your interest and vision for the role and ideas for how you will communicate with the membership
- A letter from your supervisor to support the application and provide evidence that you can accommodate the role in light of your PhD workload.

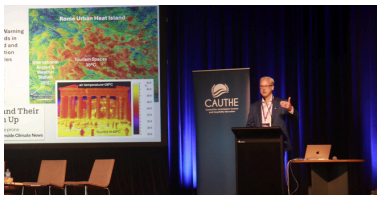
Download Position description

The closing date for applications is **Friday 16 May 2025.**

Please forward applications to the CAUTHE Secretariat Penny Jose.

If you have any queries related to the role, please contact:

- 2024 PhD Student representative Wei Zhang
- CAUTHE Chair Prof Naomi Dale



Day 1 Keynote: Prof Daniel Scott



Day 2 panel: Olympics and Paralymic games



CAUTHE's Got Talent

CAUTHE 2025 Conference highlights

By: A/Prof Monica Chen,
The University of Queensland

The CAUTHE 2025 Conference made its way to the vibrant city of Meanjin (Brisbane), bringing together 310 academics and practitioners from Australia, New Zealand, Asia, the UK, Europe and beyond. Hosted by the University of Queensland Business School's Tourism Discipline, the conference was held at the historic and architecturally stunning Brisbane City Hall. The Welcome Reception was held at Customs House and offered delegates stunning views of the Brisbane River and a perfect blend of history, culture, and quality Brisbane hospitality. These centralised locations were strategically selected to minimise the conference's carbon footprint.

With the theme *Transforming Tomorrow: Leveraging Opportunities to Create Change in Tourism, Hospitality, and Events*, the conference committee curated a dynamic and inclusive program, underpinned by a strong commitment to sustainability, inclusivity, and First Nations perspectives. A total of 201 papers were presented across three days. Each day began with thought-provoking keynotes or inspirational panel discussions.

Prof. Daniel Scott was first up with a thought provoking and highly engaging keynote presentation on *Climate Change and the Future or Tourism*. Professor Scott's advice on adaptation strategies, and mitigation efforts resonated profoundly with attendees, offering both a sobering reflection on current realities and a hopeful vision for sustainable tourism.

On day two, a stellar line up of panellists discussed Brisbane's upcoming 2032 Olympic and Paralympic games. A particularly moving moment was the personal account shared by Paralympic Gold Medallist Rachael Watson, who highlighted critical issues and shared powerful insights into her world as a Paralympian.

See more Conference photos on Flickr

A new addition to this year's program, the lightning talks, proved to be a major hit. These fast-paced, interactive sessions covered a wide range of emerging topics, from *AI & Robots* to *Sustainable & Responsible Behaviour*, fostering meaningful dialogue and collaboration. Participants left these sessions energised and inspired to learn more.

Embracing the lively spirit of 'Bris-Vegas,' delegates had plenty of opportunities to connect and enjoy the outdoors, from morning jogs to a scenic CityCat ride and a UQ campus tour. Evening gatherings offered a relaxed space to unwind and continue the day's conversations. The conference ended with the bang with *CAUTHE's got Talent* a travel themed karaoke quest that showcased the singing talents (or not) of some of our delegates and by all reports, our delegates thought this was nothing short of spectacular!

The pinnacle of the social calendar was the 'Tropical Glamour' conference dinner at the Brisbane City Hall, embracing Brisbane's signature smart-casual vibe. A local three piece band led by a grand piano made for a very busy dance floor; the energy was electric!

The conference committee sincerely thanks the UQ Business School, CAUTHE and sponsors, including EVA Air, EarthCheck, and My Taiwan Escape, for their generous support. The moment when Claire Beach was surprised with her Best Paper Award and premium economy return tickets to a European city of her choice as the prize was priceless! Congratulations, Claire, and we hope you enjoy your well-deserved trip.

A special thank you also goes to the incredible volunteers whose dedication and hard work made CAUTHE 2025 a success, creating a seamless and memorable experience for all.



Concurrent paper session



Gala Dinner: Brisbane Town Hall

2025 Bill Faulkner PhD/ECR Workshop

By: Wei Wally Zhang (2024 PhD Student Representative)
A/Prof Gabby Walters (PhD/ECR Workshop chair)



Preparing for Your Future Careers

On 10 February 2025, the Bill Faulkner PhD and Early Career Researcher (ECR), Workshop launched the 2025 CAUTHE Conference at the University of Queensland's City Campus in Brisbane. The full-day event, designed to foster academic growth and community, brought together over 90 scholars at all career stages for a dynamic mix of learning, networking, and mentorship.

The day began with a welcome from Conference Convenor Prof. Lisa Ruhanen, followed by an engaging icebreaker activity led by A/Prof Gabby Walters and A/Prof Jie Wang, setting a collaborative tone for the day.

The morning featured a thought-provoking session, *Establishing Your Academic Identity*, chaired by Dr. Elizabeth Agyeiwaah. Panellists, including Professors Erica Wilson, Bob McKercher, Anne Hardy, and Scott McCabe. This session explored the balance between 'slow' research and publishing pressures, reflecting on meaningful impact in tourism, hospitality, and events research. Attendees were encouraged to reflect on pre-circulated readings, deepening the discussion.



Panel: Establishing Your Academic Identity

After morning refreshments, participants were given a choice of two breakout sessions tailored to their career stages. ECRs joined A/Prof Gabby Walters to explore the *VITAE Researcher Development Framework*, gaining tools for career planning and self-assessment. Meanwhile, PhD scholars participated in a panel, *Preparing for Your Future Careers,* chaired by Wei Wally Zhang, with insights from industry and academic leaders: Professors Brent Ritchie and Perry Hobson and Drs. Allison Anderson and Antje Martins.

Following lunch, Prof. Ashish Sinha led an interactive session on *Using AI Creatively and Responsibly in Teaching and Research*. Attendees explored hands-on applications of generative AI for research, teaching innovation, and ethical academic practices, making it a standout feature of the afternoon. The main take home from this session was use AI with caution.

The event's collaborative spirit continued through the Mentoring Session, where participants connected with experienced academics for personalised career advice and reflective discussions. The day concluded with closing remarks, a reflection on the day's highlights, and the presentation of awards and bursaries.

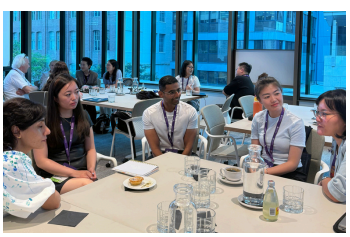
The 2025 workshop reaffirmed CAUTHE's dedication to cultivating an inclusive and supportive academic network, providing our next generation of researchers with tools for personal resilience and professional success. Special thanks go to the University of Queensland's organising committee for orchestrating a truly impactful event.



ECR Workshop participants



Icebreaker activity



Small group mentoring



Prof. Ashish Sinha: Using AI Creatively

CAUTHE 2025 Awards

BEST PAPER AWARDS

Philip Pearce Award for Best Full Paper



Claire Beach, University of Auckland, *Mapping sustainable transitions in tourism*

Bill Faulkner Memorial Award for Best PhD Paper



Kyrie (Kyle) Eleison Munoz, The University of Queensland, *Solidarity in informality: conceptualising a practice-based meaning of work* with supervisors Assoc Prof Richard Robinson and Prof Greg Marston

Hospitality & Society Best Paper



Mr Samuel Vivas Imparato, Torrens University Australia, *Deconstructing job demands and resources: A systematic integrative review of job crafting in hospitality* with co-authors, , Dr Anita Manfreda and Dr Rajka Presbury

CAUTHE FELLOW AWARDS

- **ECR – Education**

  Dr Rawan Nimri, Griffith University
- **ECR – Research**

  Dr Effie Steriopoulos, William Angliss Institute
- **MCA – Education**

  Dr Ina Reichenberger, Victoria University of Wellington
- **MCA - Research**

  Dr Richard Buning, The University of Queensland

CAUTHE JHTM AWARDS

2024 JHTM Best PhD Paper Award

Chenggang Hua, Indiana University, *Travel participation as an outlet for social integration of people with spinal cord injury: An explanatory sequential mixed methods study*



2024 JHTM Highly Commended PhD Paper Award

Dr Li Xie Carson, The University of Melbourne, *Insta-fame or insta-flop? The pitfalls of using virtual influencers in tourism marketing*











JHTM 2024 Best paper and reviewer awards

BEST PAPER AWARDS

The Annual JHTM Awards serve as a platform to honour and celebrate exceptional contributions to our journal, both in terms of published papers and peer review. They play a pivotal role in enhancing the prestige and quality of JHTM as a premier publication in the fields of tourism and hospitality.

JHTM Best Paper Award

- Nao Li , Leyan Li, Xiaoming Chen and IpKin Anthony Wong Digital destination storytelling: Narrative persuasion effects induced by story satisfaction in a VR contex

JHTM Highly Commended Paper Awards

- Tatyana Bastrygina, Weng Marc Lim, Ryan Jopp and Marc Arul Weissmann, Unraveling the power of social media influencers: Qualitative insights into the role of Instagram influencers in the hospitality and tourism industry

- Ancy Gamage, Joanne Pyke, Terry de Lacy Building resilience and sustainable HRM in the visitor economy: An uneasy relationship

JHTM TOP REVIEWER AWARDS

- Dr Ashwin Baliga, IÉSEG School of Management, Paris, France
- Yedan Fan, Universiti Sains Malaysia
- Chin-Hsun (Ken) Tsai, Iowa State University
- Dr Prokopis A Christou, Cyprus University of Technology

Celebrating 30 Years of JHTM: Anniversary Special Issue Now Live!

The Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management, the official CAUTHE journal, proudly celebrates its 30th anniversary with a landmark Special Issue.

This edition brings together reflections from past and present editors, along with thought-provoking contributions from leading scholars who have helped shape the journal and the broader field.

Whether you are interested in research trends, editorial reflections, or the global growth of hospitality and tourism scholarship, this special issue offers a rich and celebratory retrospective.

Explore the Special Issue here: https://www.sciencedirect.com/special-issue/10QQL42JJTL

READ, GET INSPIRED, RESEARCH, PUBLISH and CITE.

Join us in celebrating three decades of impact, innovation, and scholarly leadership.

PhD ECR Bursary recipient testimonials

PHD BURSARY

By: Claire Beach, University of Auckland | Auckland University of Technology



As a first-time attendee at CAUTHE, I found the conference to be a welcoming and engaging experience. I loved the energy, excitement, and, best of all – the stellar karaoke performances!

Throughout the conference, it was clear that CAUTHE uses its platform to spotlight a range of members, perspectives, and research approaches which I believe is invaluable in building an inclusive and thriving research community. Many topics were entirely new to me, sparking fresh ideas and underscoring the interdisciplinary nature of tourism and hospitality research. Several standout presentations - Emily Lu's presentation on reflexivity and Vizak Gagrat's lightning round on transformative learning – left me thinking more critically about what perspectives we bring to our research and the role of creativity in engaging our students.

As someone who is really interested in creative methodologies, I found Shea Calvin's adaptation of photo elicitation, Alexandra Connors' long-term approach, and Sandra Goh's Ketso workshops to be an innovative take on qualitative research. I enjoyed being exposed to so many methodological styles, and I want to learn more about how different approaches facilitate knowledge sharing and shape research outcomes. These takeaways highlight the value of attending CAUTHE – conferences like CAUTHE challenge us to step out of our comfort zones and explore our peer's knowledge.

What really stood out to me was CAUTHE's deliberate efforts to integrate PhD students and ECRs into the broader academic community.

The program was designed not only to facilitate networking and knowledge sharing within our respective groups, but also across our collective experiences, fostering an environment of inclusivity and collaboration. Seeing CAUTHE translate the values that underpin academia into action was really something that felt great to be a part of.

As one of the PhD Bursary recipients, I'm incredibly grateful for the chance to attend the Brisbane conference. It truly feels like I've found my 'tribe' in the tourism research community, and I'm already looking forward to CAUTHE 2026!

PHD BURSARY

Carolina Garcia, Curtin University, Perth



I am really grateful I was awarded a CAUTHE PhD bursary, which enabled me to attend the CAUTHE 2025 conference in Brisbane and present my paper *Scenarios of evidence-informed and evidence-deficient policymaking in tourism*. This paper is the result of my PhD research under the supervision of Prof Christof Pforr and Prof Michael Volgger at the Tourism Research Cluster at Curtin University.

As a PhD candidate based in Perth, Western Australia, having the opportunity to connect with colleagues from across Australia, New Zealand and beyond was highly valuable. In addition, with the last stretch of my PhD ahead, this award further encourages me to keep putting effort into my PhD writing and my overall research journey. Cont....

PhD ECR Bursary Recipient Testimonials

Carolina Garcia, cont...

cont... As I progress in my academic career, I increasingly recognise the importance of exchanging ideas with others, and the conference provides a rich environment for this, bringing together attendees from academia and industry. The PhD workshop, in particular, was a highlight for me, offering mentorship from senior academics and the chance to engage with peers at various stages of their PhD journeys.

Stepping away from my daily PhD routine to immerse myself in keynote presentations, thematic panels and paper sessions was refreshing and inspiring. The diversity of tourism-related research and methodological approaches showcased at the conference broadened my perspective. Indeed, hearing from senior academics and industry professionals challenged me to think creatively about my own research, sparking new ideas that I look forward to incorporating into my study. Beyond the conference program, the social agenda provided excellent opportunities to continue conversations, build connections and learn from others in a more informal setting, which is so important at these early career stages.

I returned to Perth feeling motivated, energised and deeply grateful for the opportunity to learn, connect and be part of such a vibrant community.

ECR BURSARY

Dr Madura Thivanka Pathirana, Edith Cowan University, Sri Lanka



The ECR bursary I received for the CAUTHE 2025 Conference was instrumental in enabling my participation, especially given the financial challenges that South Asian scholars often face when attending international conferences. As a tourism scholar from South Asia, raising issues related to the South Asian context, knowledge, and experience is crucial for contributing to global discourse. However, the financial differences between regions often make it difficult to represent these perspectives at international platforms. This bursary alleviated some of those financial barriers, providing me with the opportunity to attend CAUTHE, one of the most significant tourism conferences in Australia. I had the privilege of representing Edith Cowan University Sri Lanka Campus, raising important topics surrounding climate change adaptation and sustainable coastal tourism management, particularly relevant to the Sri Lankan context. This support not only facilitated my attendance but also enabled me to engage in meaningful academic exchanges, network with global experts, and share research findings that contribute to a more inclusive, global perspective on tourism issues.

I believe that CAUTHE 2025 successfully delivered a forward-thinking, solution-driven dialogue on how the tourism, hospitality, and events sectors can embrace transformation, drive sustainability, and adapt to the challenges of the future. The diverse mix of academic and industry contributions, combined with the vibrant engagement of delegates, ensured that the conference remained an essential platform for shaping the future of tourism and hospitality.

Chapter Feature: Auckland University of Technology

By: A/Prof Tracy Harkison, Auckland University of Technology, CAUTHE Chapter Director

Mā te kimi ka kite, Mā te kite ka mōhio, Mā te mōhio ka Mārama (Seek and discover. Discover and know. Know and become enlightened).

Tēnā koutou CAUTHE whānau.

It has been five years since Te Kura Taurimatanga me te Mahi Tāpoi, Te Wānanga Aronui o Tāmaki Makau Rau (School of Hospitality and Tourism, Auckland University of Technology) hosted *CAUTHE 2020 - 20:20 Vision: New Perspectives on the diversity of Hospitality, Tourism and Events* and in that five years hospitality/tourism/events education and industry have had to learn to pivot and adapt due to many disruptions and transformations that have and are still challenging our industry and our institutes. We are one of the largest universities in Aotearoa and the fastest-growing postgraduate study destination, with 250 programmes and more than 150,000 alumni all over the world. AUT is where talent meets opportunity, and we are proud of the success of our students, in Aotearoa and around the world – AUT is a place to *Find your greatness*.

In our school we run four undergraduate programmes (Bachelor of Arts (BA) Culinary Arts; BA Event Management; BA Global Tourism and Bachelor of International Hospitality Management) and post graduate programmes, including BA Honours in Global Tourism; BA Honours International Hospitality Management, Master of Gastronomy, Master of International Hospitality Management, Master of International Tourism Management and a PhD programme. Our hospitality, tourism and event management courses are world ranked and ecognised globally, they are ranked in the top 40 globally by the prestigious Shanghai Ranking and in the world's top 100 by rankings organisation QS, and our BA (Hons) Global Tourism programme has recently achieved renewal of its UNWTO TedQual Certification for another four years placing ethics and responsible tourism at the heart of the programme.

We have an extensive list of Adjunct Professors who contribute international expertise to our programmes and research collaborations with staff, and international exchange partners that our students can partake in. Recently AUT has been welcomed into an exclusive alliance with 25 other leading hospitality and culinary schools around the globe. Institut Lyfe's international hospitality education network, known as the Alliance, since 2004 they have worked to identify and unite the best hospitality, restaurant and culinary arts management schools and universities around the world. It allows for student exchanges, professional development, and connection to global premier food suppliers. We are the only member of the Alliance in Australasia, AUT is now a premier choice for students seeking a career in hospitality and gastronomy. Work Integrated Learning opportunities for all our students forms an integral part of our programmes, supported by our extensive networks with key industry partners.

Our research informs the global academic community, but it is also focused on developing practical research outcomes: it aims to improve the hospitality and tourism industry. The *Sustainable workforces research cluster* carries out research to create a sustainable hospitality and tourism workforce in Aotearoa and beyond. The new *Centre for Critical Food Studies* aims to contribute to sustainable food systems in Aotearoa and the broader Pacific region, particularly in relation to the challenges that sustainable development presents. Cont...

Chapter Feature: Auckland University of Technology, cont...

The *Tourism For All NZ Research Group* champions accessible and inclusive tourism and hospitality in New Zealand and members of the Research Group include PhD students undertaking research on topics relating to disability and social inclusion, and staff carrying out commissioned research for government departments including MBIE, MSD, BRANZ and regional tourism organisations.

Our work recognises the citizenship rights of people with disabilities and those living with chronic or terminal illness to tourism as an inclusive leisure activity and seeks to prioritise their voice and agency through co-designed research. The *New Zealand Events Research Cluster* aims to generate research and foster collaborations with local and international event scholars, event practitioners and policymakers to address the knowledge gap and inform the policy and practices to (re)design, (co)develop and facilitate inclusive, hospitable, and sustainable events in contribution to positive impacts on community capitals. The overall goal of the *Pacific Tourism Data Initiative* is to increase evidence-based tourism decision-making in the Pacific to strengthen sustainable economic development.

We have also been publishing AUT's open-access online journal, Hospitality Insights, since 2017, which contains concise and accessible summaries of hospitality research. This publication is aimed at a practitioner/industry audience, with a focus on relevant issues to help build a more sustainable hospitality industry for the future.

Talking of the future, we feel that being part of the CAUTHE whānau gives us the opportunity to share and learn about what we are all facing. It's a chance to remind ourselves that the future is about working towards authentic assessments and experiences, better engagement with the local community and creating a more sustainable environment in all aspects for our future leaders in hospitality, tourism, events and culinary.



CAUTHE SIG Feature: Workforce and Employment

By: Dr Maria Golubovskya, Griffith University

After its grand debut in Hobart last year, the Workforce & Employment (W&E) Special Interest Group (SIG) reconvened in Brisbane; this time with even more energy, fresh perspectives, and a packed room of engaged attendees. Scholars from around the world, including the Netherlands, UK, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Vietnam, and China (and others), came together to exchange ideas, challenge perspectives, and drive meaningful discussions on workforce issues in tourism, hospitality, and events (TH&E). Cont...

Workforce and Employment SIG, cont..





cont....Tim Myatt from Austrade (Visitor Economy Capability, Workforce and EMDG Policy Branch) delivered a compelling presentation, while Chantelle Martin from Service and Creative Skills Australia (SaCSA) brought valuable insights on bridging research and industry needs. Their contributions reinforced the importance of research-informed policymaking and the need for stronger collaboration between academics and industry leaders to address workforce challenges effectively.

This year's meeting provided an opportunity to move beyond broad narratives and macro-level trends, offering fresh perspectives on key challenges in workforce research. Thought-provoking discussions explored:

- What does 'healthy' retention look like? How can we move beyond major aggregates to understand the realities of different types of work?
- How can regional perspectives and policy shifts shape workforce dynamics?
- How do we 'sell' the TH&E workforce as a viable career path to young professionals and their families?

Over dinner at the Plough Inn (Southbank), discussions continued to flow as freely as the ideas, with global perspectives enriching debates on workforce challenges and opportunities. A particularly exciting outcome was the early-stage proposal for a W&E SIG Special Issue! As we continue to build momentum, we aspire to develop the Special Issue. If you're interested in contributing or have fresh ideas, please reach out!

The current composition of this SIG committee is as follows:

- Founding Co-Chairs: David Solnet (UQ), Anna Kralj (Griffith), Richard Robinson (UQ/Northumbria), Shelagh Mooney (AUT)
- Social Media Coordinator: Olivier Oren (Griffith)
- Communication Co-ordinators: Kate Yoo (Torrens) and Ashokkumar Manoharan (Flinders)
- Master of Logistics: Maria Golubovskaya (Griffith)
- PhD Champion: Samuel Vivas Imparato (Torrens)
- European Correspondent: Anastasia Kulichyova (Queen's University Belfast, UK)
- Co-opted Members: Vacant

We are on the lookout for new SIG committee members. So if you're keen, please do get in touch (email David Solnet or Anna Kralj) so you can help with this important work!

Want to stay in the loop? Join our LinkedIn group and be part of the movement!

CAUTHE mobilities: CLAN edition

By: Dr Anita Manfreda, Torrens University Australia, CAUTHE Secretary

As CAUTHE continues to grow as a hub for critical dialogue, collaboration, and scholarly development, it is heartening to witness the richness of perspectives that shape our annual conference. While our roots lie in the Australasian academic community, CAUTHE has long opened its doors to a wide and growing network of international researchers and educators who share our commitment to advancing tourism, hospitality, and events scholarship.

The reflections from members of the Chinese Leisure Academic Network (CLAN), featured in the below contribution, offer a powerful lens through which to view CAUTHE's values in action: generosity, intellectual curiosity, and a genuine commitment to fostering connection across cultures, disciplines, and career stages. Their voices add to a much broader mosaic of experiences, reminding us that CAUTHE is not one identity or background, but many.

As we move forward together, guided by the principles of the Be Kind campaign and the CAUTHE Pledge, we continue building a space where mutual respect, ethical scholarship, and shared purpose thrive. The story that follows is not only about one group's experience - it is a reminder of the kind of inclusive academic community we aspire to be.

Embracing Community and Growth at CAUTHE 2025

By: Juan (Leona) Zhan, Taylor's University, CLAN Page Co-Editor-in-Chief
Jiaqi Liang, Maastricht University, CLAN Page Social Media Editor

Chinese Leisure Academic Network (CLAN) is a language-based group, connecting Mandarin-speaking PhDs, ECRs, graduate and undergraduate students who have a research focus on tourism-related areas all over the world. In February 2025, 27 members of the CLAN group travelled to Brisbane to attend the CAUTHE conference. For many, this was more than just an academic event; it was a transformative experience, embodying CAUTHE's commitment to inclusivity, intellectual exchange, and personal growth.

A Platform for Connection and Discovery

CLAN attendees, from undergraduate students to early-career researchers, found themselves immersed in a vibrant scholarly community. Zhiren Zeng, an undergraduate student from Hainan University, described CAUTHE as a place where 'equality and inclusivity' are not just words but living principles. 'CAUTHE describes itself as a platform that firmly opposes all forms of bias and actively embraces diversity,' she reflected, Emphasising how the conference inspired her to see research as a tool for real-world change. Chang Li, an Assistant Professor at Qingdao University, found the experience transformative. 'I was deeply encouraged by the positive and constructive feedback,' she shared. 'The wisdom shared by senior scholars resonated profoundly — particularly their emphasis on cultivating patience, balancing work and life, and embracing imperfections as part of growth.' For Li, the conference offered both academic insights and valuable life lessons.

Breaking Barriers and Building Bridges

The CAUTHE Pledge, which champions ethical research practices and inclusivity, resonated deeply with CLAN attendees. Zhuxian (Zoey) Li, a PhD candidate at Griffith University, shared how the conference helped her break down perceived barriers in academic communication: ''At the core, what truly matters is not what we study, how we study it, or where we work — but rather, why we care.' Cont...

CAUTHE mobilities (CLAN edition), cont..

CAUTHE's ethos of shared purpose over disciplinary divides created an environment where scholars connected through common concerns and aspirations.

For many, this environment nurtured self-discovery. Zoey reflected on overcoming the 'student mindset,' learning to engage with senior scholars as peers rather than distant authorities. 'Before being a student, a scholar, or any professional title, I am a person,' they noted, emphasizing how genuine curiosity and human connection enriched their conference experience.

Empowerment Through Mentorship and Community

The PhD workshop was a highlight for many CLAN members, providing invaluable guidance on academic careers. Yanping (Sandra) Feng, a PhD candidate at Macao University of Tourism, appreciated the discussions on academic identity and meaningful research: 'The panel discussion, featuring esteemed scholars, provided valuable insights into building a researcher profile and adapting to the evolving research landscape.'

For Lili Ren, a PhD candidate at Guangxi University, attending CAUTHE 2025 was her first international conference experience. 'Through this experience, I not only gained insights into the latest research topics but was also deeply inspired and humbled by the depth of thought, logical rigor, and academic passion demonstrated by the keynote speakers and panellists,' she reflected. She appreciated CAUTHE's openness to sharing early-stage research ideas, contrasting this with more outcome-focused academic traditions.

Looking Ahead: A Lasting Impact

For CLAN members, CAUTHE 2025 was not just a conference but a pivotal moment in their academic journeys. Attendees returned home feeling re-energized, with renewed determination to pursue impactful research,



uphold ethical scholarship, and contribute to a global academic community. As Xinrui Fang from Sichuan University put it, 'The CAUTHE conference was not only a feast of ideas but also a catalyst for personal growth.'

With strengthened networks, fresh perspectives, and a deepened appreciation for CAUTHE's values, the CLAN group looks forward to carrying this experience into their future work — and to reuniting with the CAUTHE community in Adelaide next year.

As the reflections show, the CAUTHE conference is more than an event; it's a living embodiment of the values outlined in the CAUTHE Pledge. It's a space where researchers share their passions, learn from each other, and collectively shape the future of tourism and hospitality research. And for CLAN members, this is only the beginning of our journey.

To explore their reflections in more detail, follow the CLAN LinkedIn post below.

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CLAN at CAUTHE 2025: Reflections from Our Members
The CAUTHE 2025 Conference CAUTHE Australasian Tourism and Hospitality Education was an inspiring and enriching experience for many of our CLAN members! From thought-provoking discussions to engaging networking sessions, our members actively participated, shared their research, and gained valuable insights from scholars, industry professionals, and journal editors from around the world.
This conference provided a platform to connect with leading experts, discuss emerging trends, and exchange insights across disciplines. A big thank you to the CAUTHE community for fostering an inclusive and inspiring academic space. We are excited to continue these conversations and collaborations beyond the conference!
Swipe through the images to read our members' personal reflections!
#CAUTHE2025 #TourismResearch #AcademicNetworking #CLAN #PhDLife #CLANCommunity

Footnote from the Fellows

By: Prof Leonie Lockstone-Binney, Griffith University

CAUTHE gearing up for the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games

Brisbane and South-East QLD (SEQ) are set to host the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games in just over seven years. As we know, this will be the third time Australia has hosted the global spectacle following Melbourne in 1956 and Sydney in 2000. Perhaps like never before in our history, Australians acknowledge the global importance of this mega-event for inspiring the next generation of Olympians and Paralympians and for catalysing long-term development plans for Brisbane and SEQ, one of Australia's fastest-growing regions. Of most interest perhaps to the CAUTHE community, we have a vital role to play in educating the next generation of workers for the Olympics and wider visitor economy and as researchers and thought leaders, we have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to conduct long-term research programs related to Olympic impacts and legacies, pre- and post-event.

Looking back on Sydney 2000, we can draw lessons from that successful Games in terms of education, training and research impacts that might allow us to capitalise upon the Green and Gold Decade to 2032. Showing my age, in the year 2000, I was about to commence my PhD on a topic I continue to research to this day, volunteering. Post-PhD, I interviewed in 2006 for a Lecturer in Event Management role at Victoria University, which prompted me to query, what does an Event Management lecturer teach?

I had little idea at the time, but I have no doubt that the interest generated in the 2000 Olympics spurred the first such educational offerings in Australia at UTS and Victoria University. Luckily for me, I got the job and have continued to teach and research in the events field ever since. So, will Brisbane 2032 renew interest in events, tourism and hospitality?



Or as a community, will we see new related fields emerge and grow timed to coincide with Brisbane 2032 (e.g., authentic experiences in the age of AI)?

Sydney 2000 was perfectly timed to coincide with increasing recognition of the emergent events field and the value of events as part of the visitor economy. In terms of research, the 2000 Games motivated interest in topics beyond the popular focus on the economic evaluation of events. The discourse widened to focus on social impacts such as sports participation, urban renewal and development and the environmental impacts of what has been widely recognised as the 'Green Games'. Reflecting this interest, one of the first dedicated academic conferences on events was hosted by UTS's Australian Centre for Event Management (ACEM) in 2000.

In the proceedings for that conference, Harris et al. (2000) noted that at the 1994 CAUTHE Conference there were no papers on special events. Having attended the most recent CAUTHE Conference successfully executed by UQ in Brisbane, it is difficult to imagine a CAUTHE program these days that is not underpinned by events papers. (I counted 16 across 3 dedicated concurrent sessions on Events) and supported by the CAUTHE Event Studies Special Interest Group. Cont...

Footnote from the Fellows, cont...

cont... As educators of the next generation of tourism, events and hospitality specialists, we can tailor curriculum to the Olympic agenda and in doing so, promote work-integrated and other authentic learning opportunities for our students. The Sydney 2000 Games recruited 6,000 students as volunteers from NSW universities and they were assigned roles that were mostly related to their study programs. For example, the volunteer recruitment interviews were conducted by Human Resource Management students from UTS, University of Western Sydney and TAFE NSW (Lynch, cited in Cashman & Toohey, 2002).

This is a relevant example and might suggest ways for our students to get involved as volunteers at Olympic test events, pre-training camps and the like, as well as the raft of other major events that Australia and New Zealand is hosting during the Green and Gold Decade. We can develop educational offerings tailored to specific AQF levels and target audiences. Again, revisiting Sydney, all volunteer training was conducted by TAFE NSW. They developed 1300 modules (SOCOG, 2001) and this knowledge base was exported to the 2004 Athens Olympic Games, the 2006 Asian Games in Doha, the 2008 Beijing Olympics and the 2010 Shanghai World Expo (Australian Trade Commission, n.d.). Given technologies have significantly evolved, there are significant opportunities to be had in rolling out micro-credentials that allow for digital badging, that might support the Olympic workforce drawn from Australia and beyond.

Ideally, I would like to see the CAUTHE community work to together to realise the opportunities that we have at our doorstep leading up to 2032 and beyond. In multi-institution teams, we can build large datasets and conduct longitudinal work that might robustly evidence some of the more intangible impacts and legacies of the Olympics and Paralympic Games.

Within our student cohorts, we can engender a culture of volunteering through promoting work-integrated learning and volunteering placements, that might normalise for students the expectation that volunteering is part of everyday life. By 2032, many of our graduates of today will be working in managerial and operational roles within the visitor economy across Australia, supporting a quality visitor experience for Olympic visitors, athletes, international media and sponsors alike in support of the Thrive 2030 agenda. We all have an exciting role to play in gearing up for the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games.

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

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SAVE THE DATE

Rooted in the theme of "Cultivating Cohesion and Connection through Tourism, Hospitality, and Events", the 2026 conference will delve into the transformative role of these industries in bridging societal divides, fostering inclusive growth, and championing sustainability on a local and global scale. With its deep-rooted community spirit, pioneering sustainability efforts, and dynamic tourism and hospitality sector, Adelaide and the broader South Australia provides an ideal setting for this dialogue.

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