CAUTHE
Council for Australasian Tourism and Hospitality Education

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NEWSLETTER

Issue 2





Chair's report

Professor Naomi Dale

October already and racing towards summer and end-of-year celebrations. We have all been very busy. I hope everyone has some restorative leave booked over the next few months.

Joint CAUTHE–SMAANZ–ANZALS HDR Workshop

It was wonderful to welcome attendees to the 2026 Joint CAUTHE–SMAANZ–ANZALS HDR Workshop, held on 26 June 2026. This year's workshop was hosted in a hybrid format, enabling strong participation from HDR candidates across Australia and New Zealand. Cont p2...

Pictured above: WA colleagues enjoying the Mid-year meeting

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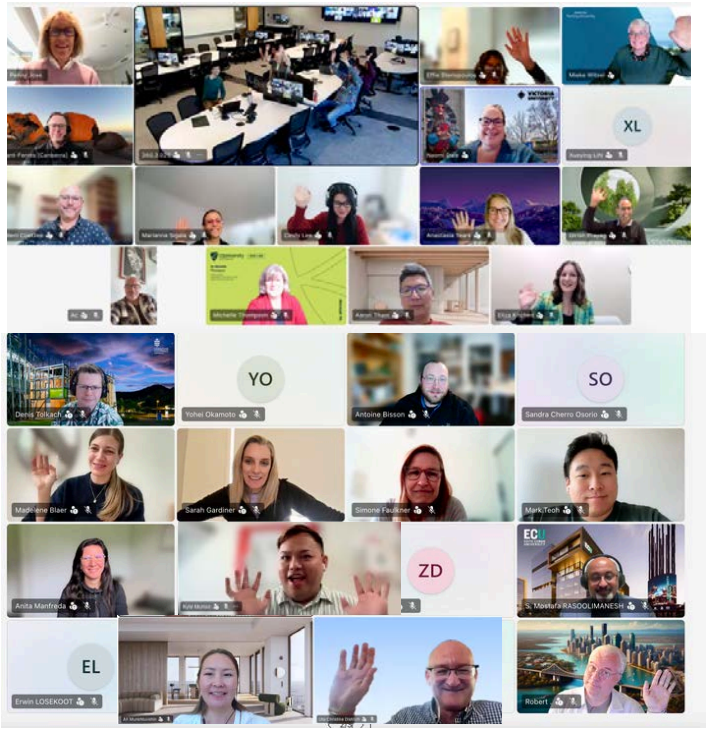
Chair's report, cont...

Thank you to Kyle Munoz for leading the organisation of the conference, supported by colleagues across CAUTHE, SMAANZ and ANZALS. The workshop continues to be a flagship collaboration between our three 'kindred' associations, showcasing the very best of higher degree research in tourism, sport and leisure.

PhD representatives

On behalf of CAUTHE, I would also like to formally thank Kyle as our outgoing PhD representative for his outstanding service over the past 12+ months. His passion and creativity in developing initiatives for our HDR students has been so wonderful. At the same time, we extend a warm welcome to Sochea Nhem (ECU) as CAUTHE's new PhD representative. There are some more good initiatives planned which extend the great work that Kyle got underway.

Mid-year meeting



CAUTHE held its Mid-Year Meeting (MYM) on Friday 21 August 2026, again in a fully online format. We were delighted to see the WA gathering to attend together, adding to the collegial atmosphere.

Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management

Journal news

JHTM reached major impact milestones in June 2026, following its A* ABDC ranking and strong citation performance. The journal has now shifted to Springer Nature as its publisher, marking an exciting new chapter for the journal.

Research Capability & Industry Engagement webinars

In September 2026, CAUTHE launched a new series of webinars and workshops designed to strengthen research competitiveness, deepen industry partnerships, and support impact translation across Australia and New Zealand.

CAUTHE 2027 Conference

I look forward to seeing you all at our Conference hosted by Western Sydney University in Parramatta, Sydney, from 8–11 February 2027. *Rethinking the Visitor Economy – Inclusive futures for people, place and planet*.

I hope you enjoy reading through this newsletter and taking in the breadth of activity across the association, our Chapters, and our Members. CAUTHE continues to thrive because of the generosity, collegiality, and commitment of our community. Thank you for everything you do to support tourism, hospitality, and events education and research across Australasia.

🎉 *Hot off the press!*

New website. After 14 years, CAUTHE has a brand-new website! 🚀 Check it out and explore what's new! CAUTHE website

Mid-year HDR conference - Emerging Scholars in Action: The 2026 CAUTHE-SMAANZ-ANZALS Mid-Year HDR Conference

Kyle Munoz

The 2026 Joint Mid-Year HDR Conference brought fresh energy to the tourism, sport and leisure research community, with a strong turnout and a clear focus on connection, development and collaboration. Held last 26th June at Swinburne University of Technology and online, the hybrid event is the annual flagship project of CAUTHE, the Sport Management Association of Australia and New Zealand (SMAANZ), and the Australian and New Zealand Association for Leisure Studies (ANZALS) HDR representatives.

Under the theme Research, Teaching and Industry in Sport, Leisure and Tourism, the program moved beyond a traditional conference format. Interactive sessions explored qualitative research, fandom, ethical and emerging uses of AI, design thinking, communication, active learning, and industry perspectives on parks, participation, play and tourism legacy. These conversations encouraged HDRs to think not only about how we conduct research, but also how that research can travel into classrooms, industry and wider communities.

Attendance increased from 2025, with 31 participants joining across the in-person and online formats. Seven HDR researchers took the floor to share their work, test ideas and receive feedback from a supportive interdisciplinary audience.



CAUTHE was proudly represented by Ms Lexi Connors from The University of Queensland and Ms Ahalya Suresh from RMIT University, showcasing the depth and diversity of emerging tourism, hospitality and event research across our HDR community.

The conference also created space for the conversations that often matter most during a PhD: meeting peers, exchanging experiences, building confidence and finding new collaborators. The social gathering at the Hawthorn Hotel carried that momentum into the evening and gave participants another chance to connect beyond formal sessions.

The growth of the 2026 event reflects the value of dedicated HDR spaces within CAUTHE and our partner associations: spaces where emerging scholars can be visible, supported and connected across disciplinary boundaries. This success was made possible by the generosity and shared commitment of Dr Carleigh Yeomans and Dr Katie McDonald of ANZALS, SMAANZ PhD Representative Jen Pitson, ANZALS Representative Lynn Lin, and CAUTHE PhD Representative Sochea Nhem, and Swinburne University of Technology providing a welcoming home for the day.

'It brought fresh energy to the tourism, sport and leisure research community"

Article: Learn your craft and avoid research shortcuts

Professor Bob McKercher, CAUTHE Fellow



Many of us who are old (I definitely fit into that category) had the luxury of learning our craft gradually when we entered academia. Like any craftsperson, we developed our skills over time in all aspects of research from problem formation to conceptualisation, method development, data collection and analysis, discussion and coming up with the critical 'so what' finding. The beauty of it was that we often had many years to develop those skills.

Today's new and emerging scholars do not have that luxury. You are expected to enter the workplace as a fully-fledged scholar who is already expert in all areas in producing quality research. Part of the expectation, as well, is to have an impressive publications' record. Unfortunately, experience shows many have not yet learned their craft fully and, therefore, have to take short cuts by joining long lists of authors and performing specialist tasks. Yes, you can legitimately be listed as an author, but at what cost?

When I started in academia in 1990 (I told you I was old!), 90% of all journal papers published in our field had one or two authors. By 2026, that figure has fallen to 32%. In fact, now 40% of what is published has four or more authors and about 20% has five or more.

What does it mean? It means that most of the authors assume the role of technicians who perform specialist tasks. Other than the lead author who designed the project (and gets all the kudos), most other authors have limited input into the intellectual development of the paper. Take a look at your own multi-authored publications where you are not the lead author. What role did you really play in setting the research question, framing it conceptually and discovering the 'so what' impact. My guess is not a lot. Chances are you were asked to perform a task. Chances are too, that you learned little about leading research.

What happens when you are on your own and asked to perform all the tasks or lead a team to produce high end research? Well, discussions with many journal editors reveal far too few new and emerging scholars have the needed skillset required today. It is for these reasons that journal editors are now desk rejecting up to 90% of submissions.

There are no shortcuts. You need to learn all aspects of the craft to become a fully-fledged scholar. My advice? Steer clear of papers with more than three authors, especially if your role is that of a technician and not the originator of the study. Focus on quality of outputs where you take the lead and not on having your name associated with too many papers. Invest the time and energy to become the learn your craft by becoming the lead author. Doing so will help ensure you have a long and productive career.



Risk, Recovery & Resilience SIG feature: Tourism Resilience Starts with People

Yanan Fan

PhD candidate, Lincoln University
Student Co-lead for RRR SIG



Recovery of a tourist destination after a crisis or disaster is measured partly in reopened businesses and returning visitors; it needs also to be measured in the security, confidence and wellbeing of the people who sustain it. Connecting these dimensions gives tourism resilience research a clear purpose: identifying what enables people and places to prepare for disruption, navigate its consequences and adapt to changing conditions.

The meeting of the Risk, Recovery and Resilience (RRR) SIG at CAUTHE 2026 brought this challenge into focus for me. A panel discussion, featuring Dr Yawei Jiang, Dr Alexandra Law, Professor Girish Prayag and Emeritus Professor Bruce Prideaux, with contributions from the audience, highlighted climate change, extreme weather, alongside psychological resilience and wellbeing, as priorities for tourism researchers.

As a first-time CAUTHE attendee, I found the discussion particularly relevant to my PhD research, which examines how cultural worldviews and individual beliefs shape Chinese visitors' preparedness for natural hazards in Aoraki/Mount Cook National Park. It encouraged me to consider how these individual processes connect with destinations' wider capacity to prepare, respond and recover.

Tourism depends on people's capacity to make decisions, maintain relationships and support others through uncertainty. This requires organisational and community support as well as individual coping resources. Visitors' capacity to prepare and respond to risk is also a part of this conversation. Clear warnings matter, but so do accessible transport, trusted advice, language support and realistic alternative responses. Preparedness must be viewed as a shared responsibility among travellers, operators and destination authorities.

The RRR SIG's broad remit reflects the complex connections within the tourism system. Preparedness means recognising risk and building the capacity to act before disruption. Recovery concerns what is restored or rebuilt after a crisis or disaster; not only the built infrastructure, but also 'soft infrastructure' of community networks and social capital. This process of recovery also requires an adaptive capacity; the ability and willingness to alter practices as conditions and contexts evolve. Resilience connects all these processes through the capacity to cope, learn and reorganise within a changing environment.

The SIG discussion at the last CAUTHE conference led me to think about new ways to explore the interconnections in the tourism system over time: how does the wellbeing of tourism business owners, managers and employees affect business continuity? how might better visitor preparedness support emergency responses? and how do recovery decisions distribute benefits and burdens to destination communities? Answering these questions requires research embedded in local communities, respecting indigenous knowledge and priorities, and mindful of demands placed on people already managing recovery and wellbeing issues. Ensuring research findings are useful, accessible and used by the research communities is also part of the researcher's responsibility.

I am looking forward to attending my second CAUTHE conference in Paramatta in 2027, this time as Student Co-Lead of the RRR SIG. I invite interested tourism researchers, including research students and early-career researchers, to share research ideas, practical challenges and topics for future SIG discussions. Connect with is on LinkedIn Group to introduce your work and exchange ideas and watch this space for updates ahead of CAUTHE 2027.

Chapter feature: Bond University - Rejuvenating Hotel and Tourism Management on the Gold Coast

The Hotel and Tourism Management team, Bond Business School, Bond University

At Bond University, the hotel and tourism management team is heading into an exciting new chapter. Following industry consultation and market analysis, we have refreshed our hotel and tourism management programs at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. They now focus on wellbeing and experience management.

Why the shift?

Tourism worldwide has moved away from the mass tourism model. Travellers increasingly look for authenticity, quality, sustainability, personalised, transformational experiences. Closer to home, the timing could hardly be better. Tourism and hospitality are expected to grow across Queensland in the lead-up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and beyond. Tourism and Events Queensland's recently released Destination 2045 strategy projects that direct tourism employment will grow from 156,000 jobs in 2025 to 190,000 by 2045, and it makes experience development a core strategic priority. The repositioning also fits Bond's reputation as a premium, boutique university known for small classes and experiential learning.

What's new?

The refreshed Bachelor of International Hotel and Tourism Management program is high-touch and experiential, with a focus on wellbeing and personalised experiences. New and redesigned subjects include:

- Tourism: The Business of Happiness
- Visitor Experience Management
- Guest Service Experience Management
- Digital Innovation in Tourism

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Students learn to design and deliver exceptional, transformative visitor experiences. They practice service excellence, learning to anticipate and exceed guest expectations. They also build the commercial skills that underpin success, including revenue management, marketing and strategic planning. Sustainability runs throughout the program, with an emphasis on eco-conscious practices that protect natural and cultural heritage and on travel that is mindful, enriching.

Industry engagement remains central. Students take part in field visits and engage with senior industry guest speakers. They complete industry-embedded assessments and take internships with partners such as Marriott International and the Accor Group. Our aim is to graduate innovative leaders ready to shape the future of tourism through meaningful connections and responsible growth. Cont...p8



Chapter feature - Bond University: Rejuvenating Hotel and Tourism Management on the Gold Coast, cont..

Cont from p6

In April 2026 we were delighted to host Jimmy Pham AM, founder of KOTO (Know One, Teach One), Vietnam's first social enterprise, who met with our faculty and students. For 25 years KOTO has trained more than 1,700 at-risk young people through a free, hands-on hospitality program delivered in its restaurants and training kitchens. Jimmy's view of hospitality as a force for empathy, human connection and wellbeing, for guests and staff alike, closely reflects the experiential, wellbeing-focused direction of our refreshed programs.

Growing our research community

We are also delighted to welcome two new PhD candidates to the team, Jane Gentle and Hina Irshad. Both are researching at the intersection of tourism, wellbeing and sustainability. Their work strengthens the research base that informs our teaching and links to the core themes of the refreshed programs.

We look forward to sharing more as the programs roll out, and we welcome conversations with CAUTHE colleagues interested in collaborating on tourism, wellbeing and experience research.

PhD Scholar Feature

Sochea Nhem

PhD candidate, Lincoln University
Student Co-lead for RRR SIG



Sochea is currently pursuing his doctoral study in School of Business and Law, Edith Cowan University (ECU) under Vice Chancellor Professorial Research Fellowship. He earned Master of Tourism Management from Victoria University of Wellington and Development Studies from Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) in 2016 and 2013 respectively. In 2008, he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Tourism Management (RUPP), a program initially co-developed and supported by the University of Technology Sydney and the University of Bologna.

His doctoral study focuses on the governance of sustainable tourism destination, with methodologically grounded in participatory action research that leads him to examine governance ecosystem of tourism destination with insights from key stakeholders including government, peak bodies and tourism associations, local businesses, residents and visitors.

During his PhD studies, he has also worked as a research assistant on some projects, including research into senior residents' perceptions of tourism development, the development of a sustainable tourism destination index, and an edited book project, A Modern Guide to Sustainable Tourism. In addition, he served as Co-Chair of the ECU 2025 HDR Research Symposium and currently serve as a CAUTHE Student Representative.

He is a pracademic, driven by a strong passion for research that informs practical, hands-on solutions to real-world challenges. This perspective is shaped by more than 15 years of practical experience in tourism-related initiatives, including 3 years as tourism specialist with Ministry of Environment and World Bank and over 8 years of teaching tourism at RUPP. Prior to these roles, he worked on several sustainable tourism development and research consultancy projects for local and international non-governmental organisations and international development agencies. His areas of focus include bottom-up participatory development, ecotourism and sustainable tourism destination strategy and planning, especially in protected area destinations.

Press release: CAUTHE selects Springer Nature as publisher for its journal

New York | London | Berlin 13 October 2026



Springer Nature has been chosen as the new publisher for the Council for Australasian Tourism and Hospitality Education Inc (CAUTHE) flagship journal, the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management (JHTM). The journal will begin publishing with Springer Nature from January 2027.

This new collaboration builds on Springer Nature's and CAUTHE's commitment to high-quality evidence-based research. Publishing multi-disciplinary research in tourism, hospitality, events and other sectors of the visitor economy, the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management expands Springer Nature's offering in this research area and supports the commitment to meeting researchers' needs and expanding author choice.

Mireille Yanow, Director, Society & Partner Management, Springer Nature stated "Springer Nature offers a rich and varied portfolio of journals, and we are delighted to have been selected by CAUTHE to publish the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management. Our goal is to be a trusted publishing partner and to support authors with their research. We look forward to working together to expand access to the research."

The Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management joins the publisher's portfolio of around 3,000 titles and will offer an OA publication route, helping to expand access to high-quality research.

"We are excited by the enthusiasm for this cooperative relationship," said Professor Marianna Sigala, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management and from CAUTHE. "Through this partnership with Springer Nature, we will be able to build on the work we have been doing and bring additional benefits to the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management and CAUTHE community."

Established in 1992, CAUTHE represents the interests of higher education providers and individual members of tourism, hospitality and events education, and researchers across Australia and New Zealand. More information is available on the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management website.

Fellows' Footnote: Why Critical Scholarship Still Matters

Professor Candice Harris (Auckland University of Technology), Professor Erica Wilson (Southern Cross University) and Dr Jennie Small (University of Technology, Sydney)

When we first became involved in what would later become the Critical Approaches in Tourism and Hospitality Special Interest Group (SIG), critical scholarship occupied a relatively small space within tourism and hospitality research. A handful of us gathered at conferences seeking conversations that extended beyond markets, growth, and management to ask different questions: Who benefits from tourism and hospitality? Who is excluded? Whose voices are heard, and whose are missing?

These reflections were prompted recently while revisiting the history of the SIG in a paper presented at the 2026 CAUTHE Conference, *SIGnificant Strides: 18 Years on with the CAUTHE Critical Approaches SIG - Seasoned Scholars, Teen Spirits*. Looking back over nearly two decades of conferences, workshops, publications, and friendships was both nostalgic and illuminating. It reminded us how much the field has changed and how ideas once considered peripheral have increasingly become part of mainstream tourism and hospitality scholarship.

Critical scholarship is not new. Its roots stretch back many decades across the social sciences, drawing attention to questions of power, inequality, representation, and social change. Yet within tourism and hospitality, the past two decades have witnessed a particularly significant expansion of critical perspectives, with ideas once regarded as peripheral becoming increasingly visible in mainstream scholarship. Topics once considered niche now appear regularly in our journals, classrooms, and conference programmes. Discussions about gender, race, culture, disability, migration, wellbeing, colonial legacies, and environmental responsibility are no longer confined to a small group of scholars working at the margins.



This shift reflects broader changes in society. The challenges facing tourism and hospitality have become increasingly complex. Climate change, widening inequality, workforce precarity, geopolitical tensions, consumption tensions, and technological disruption all raise questions that cannot be answered through technical solutions and traditional methods alone. They require us to examine underlying assumptions, consider competing interests, and reflect on the consequences of our decisions. Critical scholarship provides tools and methodologies for doing exactly that.

Yet being a critical scholar has never been entirely comfortable. Those who challenge the underlying structures of society, and thus dominant assumptions, are sometimes viewed as negative, disruptive, or overly idealistic. However, criticality is not about criticism for its own sake. At its heart, it is an expression of care. It stems from a belief that tourism and hospitality can do better for workers, communities, visitors, and the natural environment. It invites us to imagine alternatives and to question practices that may have become normalised simply because they have existed for a long time.

At a time when expertise, universities, and evidence are increasingly questioned, critical scholarship remains essential. Our responsibility is not merely to explain tourism and hospitality as they are, but to ask how they might be more just, inclusive, and sustainable. The questions may evolve, but the need for thoughtful, courageous scholarship endures.

CAUTHE 2027 Conference PARRAMATTA TAKEOVER: CAUTHE 2027 is Taking Shape

Dr Willem Coetzee



CAUTHE 2027 is being hosted by Western Sydney University within our School of Social Sciences. We want that identity to come through during the conference and are using our theme, *Re-thinking the Visitor Economy: Inclusive Futures for People, Place and Planet*, to guide how we plan the conference.

A huge thank you to everyone who submitted their work to CAUTHE 2027, it has been wonderful to see so many new names, but also esteemed colleagues and old CAUTHE friends whom we haven't seen at recent conferences. We received 240 abstracts, far exceeding our expectations. Add five workshops and two industry panel discussions, and we have a very full program! We also have four fantastic keynote speakers. We invited Nancy, Bernadette, Donna and Mindy knowing they will challenge us, make us think differently and perhaps even make us a little uncomfortable in some of our assumptions.

Come hungry

We are working with four, potentially five, different catering companies, supporting local businesses and showcasing some of the flavours of Western Sydney. And a small request: "Please don't schedule meetings or workshops over lunch!"

We have deliberately kept lunch free of conference activities. Use the time to enjoy each other's company, catch up with an old CAUTHE friend, invite someone new to join you, or explore Parramatta and the river. There are plenty of restaurants nearby for impromptu CAUTHE gatherings, and our partner restaurant, Alex&Co, will provide discounted food and drink options for delegates.

A little space to breathe or create

There will be the usual Quiet Zone when you need to escape the conference noise, recharge or simply sit quietly for a few minutes. But we know sitting quietly doesn't work for every academic! We will therefore also have a Creative Zone. Help complete our giant CAUTHE 2027 jigsaw puzzle or enter our postcard competition: *How do you see an Inclusive Future for People, Place and Planet?*

Parramatta is turning pink

We want CAUTHE 2027 to have an impact beyond our academic community. Our plan is to make the final day a Pink Day in support of the McGrath Foundation. We are still working through the details, but the idea is simple: bring something pink and wear it proudly.

🌈 DISCO!

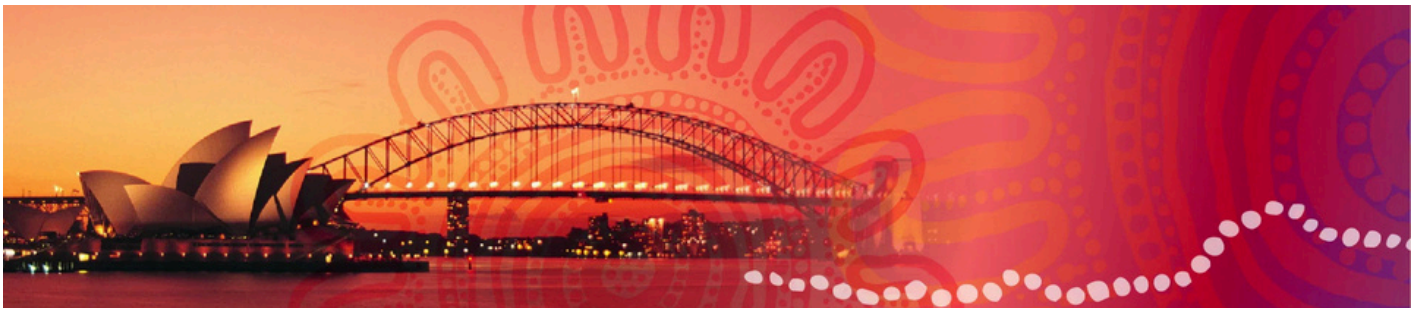
Our Gala Dinner will be held at the new Powerhouse Parramatta, giving everyone an opportunity to experience one of Western Sydney's most exciting new cultural spaces. You have been warned well in advance. Find the sequins. Find the feather boa. Start working on your Danceking Queen persona. By Thursday night, I expect to see all of you on the dance floor!

Some good news for your wallet

There will be no increase in registration fees from CAUTHE 2026. For our New Zealand colleagues, we have also negotiated discounted Air New Zealand airfares to make the trip across the Tasman a little easier. Please book your accommodation as soon as you can. It is going to be a very busy week in Parramatta, and we don't want anyone struggling to find somewhere convenient to stay.

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CAUTHE 2027 Conference, cont...



Thank you team!

I have to admit, CAUTHE 2027 is already giving me a few sleepless nights, but not because I am nervous! I am genuinely so excited about what we are creating and welcoming everyone to Parramatta. There are still crazy ideas running through my head at ridiculous hours about what else we can do to make the conference special.

None of this happens without a lot of people working behind the scenes. A huge thank you to our PCO team, Helene and Chatz, and everyone on our Organising Committee. A special thank you to Arianne and Felicity for leading the Scientific Committee; Joseph and Donna for our PhD Workshop; Hassan for leading the Special Issue and reviews; and Karina and Adrian for opening doors across the University and connecting CAUTHE with the wider community. I am incredibly grateful to have such a generous group of people helping to make this happen. Thank you, team!

Please visit the CAUTHE 2027 website for more information about the PhD/ECR Workshop, TH&E Standards Workshop, carer support, key dates and sponsorship packages.



Early bird registration closes on 30 November 2026.

PS *And as an Event Management scholar, I should probably add that our ideas around food, social connection, creative and quiet spaces, inclusion, social impact and the overall conference experience are informed by recent research and feedback. References available upon request — of course!* 😉

New CAUTHE website



cauthe.secretariat@gmail.com www.cauthe.org

Edited by Prof Lisa Ruhanen and Penny Jose

CAUTHE
Council for Australasian Tourism and Hospitality Education