



13th Annual Australasian Business Ethics Network (ABEN) Hybrid Conference

Business Ethics: Stakeholders, Struggles and Solutions

30 November – 1 December 2023

Macquarie University – city campus (Level 24, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney)

29 November – Postgraduate & HDR student workshop

CALL FOR PAPERS

From 30 November to 1 December 2023, the 13th Annual Australasian Business Ethics Network (ABEN) will be hosted by Macquarie Business School, Macquarie University in the Sydney city campus. This will be a **hybrid event** offering face-to-face presentations and networking along with the option of online presentations.

We welcome broad inter-disciplinary and theoretical/conceptual and empirical contributions; the conference offers a forum through which various ethical and sustainability-oriented challenges in business and society can be discussed. The 2023 ABEN conference aims to reflect on stakeholders, struggles, and solutions in ethical theory and practice (and the relationships between them).

The theme of 'stakeholders' is well known and frequently used to understand both converging and competing interests among various individuals and collective actors and institutions. Embracing both primary and secondary stakeholders, we invite colleagues to focus on different local, regional, national, and international stakeholders in business and society and the ways they can either dis-able or enable meaningful analyses of problems.

The second theme of 'struggles' recognises that ethics is an inherently political process which often precipitates activism by stakeholders to achieve necessary change and innovation. For example, contestation emerges over different priorities, goals, and desired outcomes. Change isn't always accepted or welcome due to existing power relationships that benefit from maintenance of the status quo. In other words, ideas and practices are typically contested which generates strife in organisations and wider society.

The final theme of 'solutions' highlights that stakeholders and those seeking change often propose normative and prescriptive outcomes to meet contemporary ethical and sustainability challenges, along with a focus on process – how can solutions work, under what circumstances, and in what contexts/settings?

The three themes can be treated as independent as well as inter-dependent. This is deliberate to ensure sufficient scope and space for debate and dialogue.

In addition to business ethics, corporate social responsibility, and sustainability, the conference invites colleagues and postgraduate students (Masters and PhD) and their topics from a variety of disciplinary areas including, but not limited to, Accounting, Business Education, Economics, Finance, Human Resource Management, Information Systems, International Business, Law, Management, Marketing, and Operations & Supply Chain Management.

Sessions can be organised around topics such as but not limited to: Artificial Intelligence (AI); technology and business ethics; teaching and business ethics; ethics in the gig economy; corporate governance and systemic corruption; business and human rights; indigenous rights; gender equality; and a range of 'wicked' problems or grand challenges such as climate change, modern slavery, and poverty.

Postgraduate and HDR student workshop

The Postgraduate and HDR student workshop will be held from 1.30 to 4.30pm (AEDT) on Wednesday 29th November at the main campus of Macquarie University in North Ryde. There is no cost to attend the Postgraduate and HDR student workshop which will also be offered in hybrid (face-to-face and online formats).

EOIs, short bio and/or research summaries should be sent to Chamila Perera at chamilaperera@swin.edu.au by 31 October 2023. Registration is free of charge.

HDR Support for attending the Conference

To encourage HDR engagement in not only the Postgraduate & HDR Workshop, but also the main conference, ABEN will offer a 50% registration fee subsidy for those students who want to attend the main conference - either in-person or virtually.

If you are a postgraduate and/or HDR student, please have your supervisor (or relevant subject coordinator) email submissions@aben.org.au with a short statement of support for your attendance at the ABEN conference. Please ensure you are cc'd into this email. A code for your subsidy will then be emailed directly to you, which can be used on the Eventbrite page when booking your ticket.

Submission requirements

Short abstract

Conference authors are encouraged to submit extended abstracts up to 750 words by 15 August 2023. Abstracts should be emailed to submissions@aben.org.au Authors will be notified of acceptance by 4 September.

The extended abstract should include a title, author(s) name(s) and their institutional affiliation, contact information (email and telephone), main ideas of the paper, and selected bibliography (optional).

Full paper

It is optional if conference authors wish to submit a full paper for review by the ABEN committee. This possibility is available if institutional funding requires a full paper to be submitted for consideration. The deadline for a full paper is 1 September.

Inquiries and further information

Inquiries concerning general information about the conference should be addressed to the conference convenor, Professor Grant Michelson, Macquarie Business School, Sydney (Email: grant.michelson@mq.edu.au).

Inquiries concerning registration and other issues please email submissions@aben.org.au

The conference venue in Sydney is a 5-minute walk from Wynyard train station. The Sydney CBD offers several accommodation options along with sightseeing opportunities including the Rocks, Botanical Gardens, Chinatown, different museums and art galleries, and ferry access to Taronga zoo or Manly – for delegates and/or their partners.

Jan Schapper scholarship in critical business ethics

As in previous years, the Jan Schapper Scholarship in Critical Business Ethics is being offered for a PhD student, early career researcher or other worthy recipient. It comprises a \$1,000 bursary and the waiving of the ABEN conference registration fee. The Scholarship was founded in 2015 to encourage critical approaches to business ethics at the ABEN annual meeting.

If you would like to be considered for the scholarship, please indicate this when registering for the ABEN conference. Eligible participants should submit a full paper to submissions@aben.org.au by 1 October 2023 with the email subject: Jan Schapper Scholarship. Papers are expected to be 8-10,000 words including references, tables, and figures. A decision on the award will be made by independent judges prior to the Annual conference 2023.

Jan Schapper was one of the founders of ABEN and worked at Monash's Department of Management for 15 years before returning to La Trobe in 2010. Deeply immersed in feminist, Marxist and psychoanalytic scholarship, Jan's research interests included higher education,

critical approaches to business ethics and CSR, and workplace equality and diversity. She was especially keen that as a scholarly community we pay attention to questions of critical pedagogy, teaching, and learning, and ensure that we provide supportive and friendly environments in which future scholars can develop their work. Jan died surrounded by her family and friends on 24 September 2014. Further information is available at <https://aben.org.au/jan-schapper-scholarships/>.

ABEN Grant for ethical decision making in financial markets, supported by the Ecstra Foundation

The Australian Business Ethics Network, supported by the Ecstra Foundation, is offering up to two \$5,000 research grants for research into ethical decision making in financial markets. The purpose of this scheme is to stimulate research in this area, particularly amongst scholars able to bring sound ethical perspectives to bear on issues of practical concern in finance.

Submissions for the grant scheme are open until 1 October 2023. The selection process will be conducted by independent judges, and the decision announced at the conference. Submissions will be evaluated on their relevance to ethical decision making in financial markets with preference to submissions that have practical relevance and application.

Grants are competitive and applicants are expected to present findings at the 2024 ABEN conference. Please send your submission to submissions@aben.org.au and include ABEN – ECSTRA Grant Proposal in the email subject.

Key Dates

Call for Papers - Now open submissions@aben.org.au

Registrations open via Eventbrite – 20 June 2023

Deadline for submission of extended abstract – 15 August 2023

Deadline for full paper – 1 September 2023

Notification of accepted extended abstract – 4 September 2023

Notification of accepted full paper – 30 September 2023

Deadline for Submissions for Jan Schapper Scholarship & Ecstra Grant – 1 October 2023

Deadline for Submissions to Postgraduate and HDR Student Workshop – 31 October 2023

Registration – Early Bird Registration by 31 October 2022

It is essential for all participants including delegates, speakers, and guests to register online with payment of the applicable registration fee. Registration details will be provided by 1 September 2023.

Registration Fees

	Early Bird Before 31 October	After October 31	Conference Dinner 30 November	HDR Workshop Only
In person - full	\$250	\$300	\$65	
In person - student	\$180	\$220	\$65	Free
Virtual - full	\$100	\$120		
Virtual - student	\$80	\$100		Free

In-person registration fees include catering (lunches and teas) but exclude the conference dinner.

Contact Us

For all enquiries, please email submissions@aben.org.au

ABEN 2023 Conference Organising Committee

Professor Grant Michelson, Conference convener – grant.michelson@mq.edu.au

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