

Statement of Interest
VIC/Tas Regional Representative

I am honoured to be nominated for the VIC/Tas Regional Representative position. Community-building is the part of academic life I enjoy most, and I believe this role is, at its heart, about connecting and supporting people. I would like to share what I have already done in this space and what I would bring to the role.

I currently serve as the Seminar Coordinator for the Management discipline at Deakin Business School, where I plan and host our research seminar series and work to create a connected, supportive community for the discipline. I coordinate with seminar coordinators at other local business schools to share speaker and seminar information across institutions. What started as a simple act of coordination has grown into a regional knowledge-exchange network that helps local researchers learn about each other's work and connect. This experience has sparked my interest in the Regional Representative role to build similar bridges across ANZAM's VIC/Tas membership base.

I also founded and coordinate COBEA (the Community for OB ECR Australia). I started COBEA because I experienced first-hand how much early-career researchers gain from feeling connected to a community, and I wanted to build a space where we can meet, exchange ideas and support one another. We run regular quarterly events that bring members together, and watching the network grow and seeing members connect has been one of the most rewarding parts of this endeavour.

Last year, I was part of the ANZAM conference organising team and really enjoyed the experience. This role allowed me to engage with the ANZAM community in a new capacity beyond attending and presenting. I valued working alongside others to contribute to the conference planning. Seeing the conference come together well, and knowing my small part helped make it a valuable experience for members, really motivated me to seek out further opportunities to contribute to the ANZAM community.

As VIC/Tas Regional Representative, I would like to bring this same energy and care to the regional membership: listening to members, connecting people across Victoria and Tasmania, making sure regional voices are heard, and supporting the community in the ways that matter to them. I would be genuinely pleased to have the chance to contribute to ANZAM in this way, and I thank you for considering my nomination.

Dr. Zitong Sheng
Associate Professor, Deakin Business School, Deakin University