

Trade & Enterprise

In times of economic uncertainty, a source of sound understanding and astute advice in relation to financial issues, economic development and the role of government is critical.

The University of Adelaide has significant research strengths in the areas of economic development and business, spanning the full breadth of international and local issues. This strength is showcased in institutes and centres such as the Institute for International Trade (IIT), International Centre for Financial Services (ICFS), Centre for International Economic Studies (CIES) and the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies.

Our researchers and experts investigate how economics can play a key role in solving global economic problems, including analysing whether freeing up global trade and reducing restrictions on international labour migration are effective ways to help fight world poverty. In the current troubled environment, can we still press through to achieve meaningful change through multilateral negotiations?

Appropriate and balanced regulation is also of key importance, as well as sound economic data analysis to underpin those policy settings. We also help develop the next generation of entrepreneurs – including “social” entrepreneurs who can help develop and grow the essential “not for profit” businesses that make up our broader community and help some of the most disadvantaged.

Areas of Expertise

- Economic development
- Role of government
- Trade and economic policy
- Globalisation and international business
- Entrepreneurship
- Marketing and consumer behaviour
- International finance

New Strategic Focus

Getting down to business

The University of Adelaide Business School is committed to high quality research that makes an impact on local, national and international communities. The School is continuing to strengthen the impact of its research by further developing the links between our researchers, government, industry and the wider community. The School is home to the International Journal of Managerial Finance, and research undertaken by the School’s academic staff and postgraduate researchers covers a wide range of organisational types (publicly-listed firms, privately-owned firms, and the not-for-profit sector). Discipline areas include: accounting and information systems; business strategy; best practices for family businesses and small to medium sized enterprises; marketing; and organisational behaviour and sustainability.

Services & Facilities

International Centre for Financial Services (ICFS)

With an international focus, ICFS fosters an improved understanding of the financial services industry by providing research relating to marketing of financial services, superannuation and managed fund performance, property finance, venture capital, market conduct, impact of regulation and operations. The Centre draws on expertise in the Faculty of Professions, the Schools of Economics, Business, and Law and also on strengths inside the University’s Computing and Maths Disciplines. Its consultants have worked on projects for numerous departments within the state and federal governments, international organisations, including the Asian

Development Bank and the World Bank, and various large private sector banks and managed funds. Examples of some recent project work include: strategic planning facilitation for national credit unions; valuation of reserve funds required for industry; retail funds management; analysis of retail insurance demand; fund management design and optimisation; survey reports on perceptions of the financial planning industry.

The Institute for International Trade (IIT)

IIT is dedicated to the advancement of research and support of those who work in today's global economy, whether they are in business, government or academia. Executive Director, Andrew Stoler, Professor of International Trade, leads a team with substantial experience in the development and delivery of specialised trade-related capacity building training programs in developing countries. Its Board of Governors includes senior representatives from business and government, including the Right Hon. Mike Moore, and Mr Robert Champion de Crespigny. The Institute and its collaborators have undertaken a number of contract assignments researching issues in national economies and the international trade scene including areas such as: export; trade-related capacity building; trade facilitation; international trade policy and negotiations; free trade agreements and regional trade agreements; Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), AusAID and World Trade Organization issues.

Centre for International Economic Studies (CIES)

CIES was established in 1989 by the School of Economics to strengthen teaching, research and policy analysis in international economics and closely related disciplines with particular focus on developments of relevance to the Asia-Pacific Region and the global trading system. Research expertise on trade and policy applies to the agricultural, industrial and services sectors, to name a few. The Centre is actively involved in contract research and consultancies for a wide range of government and business organisations in Australia and overseas, as well as for numerous international agencies. In recent years CIES research associates have undertaken commissioned research for Australian groups such as AusAID and the Business Council of Australia. International agencies that have drawn on the Centre's expertise include the World Trade Organization, USAID, and the World Bank. Areas of work include agricultural biotechnology, China, Indonesia, innovation systems and industrial organization, international macroeconomics and finance, wine economics and the World Trade Organization.

South Australian Centre for Economic Studies

This Centre is a joint research unit of the University of Adelaide and Flinders University. Established in 1982, its principal role is to review, research and report on economic and public policy issues of relevance to the South Australian and Australian economies. In recent years the Centre has expanded its scope of operations to undertake studies outside Australia, including in New Zealand, China, Indonesia and other countries of the Asia Pacific region. Corporate membership is available - providing access to high quality economic debate in South Australia; helping in raising awareness and understanding of economic issues; and ensuring a higher standard of economic analysis and policy formulation in South Australia. The Centre also provides specialist economic research and advice on a fee-for-service basis to both private sector and government

Entrepreneurship, Commercialisation and Innovation Centre (ECIC)

This Centre supports entrepreneurship by developing capabilities through innovation and commercialisation. The ECIC is an educational leader in the provision of programs in entrepreneurship, commercialisation and project management, directed at the needs of the knowledge based economy. Experienced professionals and graduates are provided with a wide range of learning opportunities to acquire the critical knowledge and skills to pursue entrepreneurial activities. ECIC also provides corporate development programs specially designed to enhance, improve and change the innovation and project management capabilities and systems of organisations. ECIC specialises in working with customers to design in-house development programs that can meet organisation specific business needs. These programs provide solutions to business and management issues, by developing the skills and knowledge of a group of staff or an individual employee. They are uniquely relevant, because what the participants learn is based on the content of their own work.