

Report on the Visit to CAGS from Monday 28 November to Friday 16 December 2011 of Professor Richard Laughlin, Emeritus Professor of Accounting, King's College London, University of London

The primary purpose of the visit by Professor Richard Laughlin was to assist CAGS staff and PhD students with their research, draft publications and research funding proposals. In this regard meetings were held with 24 different individuals (including 2 visiting PhD students from Indonesia, Rosanna Spano (visiting PhD student from Italy) and Professor Stefan Schaltegger (Visiting Professor from Germany)). A total of 28 hourly meetings were held with these individuals – some of whom had more than one meeting. A number of meetings involved discussing research ideas and plans rather than specific pieces of writing. But many meetings focussed on particular written drafts. In this regard 17 different pieces of written work were read and commented upon – 12 draft papers, 3 abstracts of papers, 1 set of reviewers' comments and draft responses and 1 research funding proposal. The meetings proved very productive and, hopefully, have helped those involved to further their research, writing and research funding plans.

There were two further activities undertaken during the visit. First, a joint presentation, with Professor Jane Broadbent, was made on Thursday 1 December on the CAGS and School of Commerce Seminar Programme. This was entitled 'Performance Management of Higher Education: A Conceptual and Empirical Analysis'. This presentation was based on two papers that have come from a UK Economic and Social Science Research funded project into higher education in England. Second, Professor Laughlin, following an invitation by the organisers, was asked to be a speaker, mentor and faculty member on the doctoral colloquium and to present a joint plenary address (with Professor Robert Gray of University of St Andrews, Scotland) at the Australasian Centre for Social and Environmental Accounting Research (CSEAR) Conference in Launceston, Tasmania on Sunday 4 and Monday 5 December. The plenary address was entitled 'Confronting an Unsustainable Future: Are We Part of the Problem or Part of the Solution?' tying in closely with the concerns of CAGS. Both the doctoral colloquium and the plenary address provided significant opportunities to flag the work of CAGS to an important constituency of social and environmental accounting academics from across the Asia-Pacific region.

Professor Laughlin is delighted to have had the opportunity to visit CAGS for what is now the second time in less than a year. He would particularly like to thank Professors Roger Burritt and Lee Parker for making this visit possible and Natalie Stuckings for her care and careful management of the visit both before as well as during the time at CAGS. He looks forward to the proposed return visit in November/December 2012 and hopes to meet with members of CAGS again then and to keep in touch with their research and publication progress in the meantime.