



14th Annual Australasian Business Ethics Network (ABEN) Hybrid Conference

Governance, People and Ethical Decision Making

27 November

Postgraduate & HDR Student Workshop & Conversation with the Journal of Business Ethics Editors

Santos Lecture Theatre, L1 Nexus, the University of Adelaide

28 - 29 November 2024

Annual Conference & Industry Round table with Governance Institute of Australia, The University of Adelaide, Nexus 10, Level 1, 10 Pulteney Street Adelaide SA 5005

CALL FOR PAPERS

From 28 -29 November 2024, the 14th Annual Australasian Business Ethics Network (ABEN) will be hosted by the School of Business of The University of Adelaide, in Adelaide. This will be a **hybrid event** offering face-to-face presentations and networking along with the option of online presentations.

As in all ABEN events, the main purpose is to bring together academics and practitioners to discuss ideas around the common theme of business ethics. We welcome broad interdisciplinary 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, allowing for the exploration of early ideas and the creation or strengthening of collaborations. The 2024 ABEN Conference aims to reflect on *governance, people and decision-making*, in ethical theory and practice (and the relationships between them).

The Mid-year Discussion, held on 13 June 2024, sparked the following thoughts around this theme:

- Understanding how governance supports the functionality of organisations, and its various forms and impacts on the decision-making process.

- The tension between governance that maintains the status quo and governance that embraces change. Can governance structures be designed to be adaptive and responsive, or must they be rigid?
- The quality of governance is crucial but often overlooked. It is not just about having mechanisms in place, but ensuring they lead to sound decision making.
- How governance is interpreted; governance by whom; and governance for whom.
- What are the tensions between decisions takers and decisions makers?
- Why do corporate decision-makers sometimes fail to consider a broader perspective in their decision-making process?
- What are the potential drawbacks of an expanded decision-making process in governance?
- What is the role of AI in the decision-making process?
- The dark side of governance: governance, when intertwined with AI, can become a form of surveillance, with extensive data collection leading to privacy concerns.
- How can organisations effectively balance formal and informal methods to broaden decision-making perspectives on ethical issues?
- Ethical obligations of people as individuals (e.g. as a whistleblower) within the context of a broader organisational context.

The three conference themes *governance, people and ethical decision making* 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, governance, ethical decision making, corporate social responsibility, and sustainability academics and practitioners, the conference invites colleagues and postgraduate students (Masters and PhD) from a variety of disciplinary areas. This includes, but is not limited to, Accounting, Business Education, Economics, Finance, Human Resource Management, Information Systems, International Business, Law, Management, Marketing, and Operations & Supply Chain Management.

Postgraduate and HDR Student Workshop

The Postgraduate and HDR Student Workshop will be held from 9.30 to 12.30pm (ACDT) on Wednesday 27 November, **Santos Lecture Theatre, L1 Nexus, the University of Adelaide**. There is no cost to attend the Postgraduate and HDR Student Workshop. This will also be offered in hybrid (i.e. face-to-face and online formats).

Expressions of interest, a short biography and/or research summaries should be sent to Chamila Perera at chamilaperera@swin.edu.au by 31 October 2023.

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.

Submission Requirements

Short abstract

ABEN Members wishing to present at the Annual Conference should submit extended abstracts up to 750 words by **1 September 2024**. Abstracts should be emailed to submissions@aben.org.au. Abstract authors will be notified of acceptance by 10 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 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 2024**.

Inquiries and further information

Inquiries concerning general information about the conference should be addressed to the conference convenor, Dr Tracey Dodd, Adelaide Business School (Email tracey.dodd@adelaide.edu.au).

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

Industry Lunch with Governance Institute of Australia

Join us at the Adelaide Business School for an industry lunch as part of the 2024 ABEN conference. We are delighted to have Andrew Reed, General Manager at Hender Consulting, who will discuss recent trends in board recruitment and executive performance, aligning with our conference theme, *governance, people, and ethical decision-making*. Additionally, we will have a representative from the Governance Institute of Australia presenting insights from the 2024 Ethics Index, which is scheduled for release that week.

We are also honored to welcome our international guests, Professors Gazi Islam and Charlotte Karam, who will contribute to the panel discussion.

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 2024** 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 2024.

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/>.

Accommodation Suggestions

The conference venue is in the heart of Adelaide city. Adelaide city offers several accommodation options, including the following:

- [Majestic Roof Garden](#)
- [Crowne Plaza](#)
- [The Pullman](#)
- [Ibis](#)
- [Mantra on Hindmarsh](#)

There are also hotel options on North Terrace, and it is easy to take a tram from there to the conference venue. Hotels on North Terrace include:

- [Stamford Intercontinental](#)
- [The Playford](#)
- [EOS](#)
- [The Grosvenor](#)
- [The Oaks Apartments](#)

Key Dates

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

Deadline for submission – 1 September 2024

Deadline for full paper – 1 September 2024

Deadline for submissions for Jan Schapper Scholarship – 1 October 2024

Deadline for submissions to Postgraduate and HDR Student Workshop – 31 October 2024

(email: chamilaperera@swin.edu.au)

Registration – Early Bird Registration by 31 October 2024

It is essential for all participants including delegates, speakers, and guests to register online with payment of the applicable registration fee.

Registration is now open and payment can be made [here](#).

Registration Fees

	Early Bird Before 31 October	After October 31	Conference Dinner 28 November	HDR Workshop Only
In person - full	\$250	\$300	\$70	
In person - student	\$180	\$220	\$70	Free
Virtual - full	\$100	\$120		
Virtual - student	\$80	\$100		Free

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

Contact Us

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

ABEN 2024 Conference Organising Committee

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