

Report on the Asia-Pacific Journal of Accounting and Economics Doctoral Consortium 2003

**Shanghai, China
3 – 5 January 2003**

For the first time, the APJAE Symposium was held outside of Hong Kong. In conjunction with the Symposium, a Doctoral Consortium was held to provide a setting for promising doctoral students to gain special insight and contact with top academics. The Symposium and Doctoral Consortium were both held at the Shanghai National Accounting Institute.

The Doctoral Consortium was attended by 41 registered doctoral students, and more than 50 others were able to participate in workshops held alongside the Consortium. In order to maximize the contact between registered doctoral students and the participating academics, registration was very limited. Other students who wished to attend the symposium could do so, but on a non-participating basis. The students came from universities in China, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, Malaysia, Taiwan and the United States. The facilities in Shanghai National Accounting Institute enabled the non-participating students to watch the Consortium sessions through closed circuit television, and have their own discussions facilitated by other invited academics.

The Consortium was opened on Friday evening with speeches from Prof. Ferdinand Gul and Prof. Judy Tsui from City University of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Polytechnic University respectively. The short opening ceremony was followed by a buffet dinner.

The first day of the Consortium had two sessions, with presentations by Prof. Katherine Schipper of the U.S. Financial Accounting Standards Board and Prof. Terrence Shevlin of the University of Washington. The topics of their presentations were “Accounting Research and Accounting Standards Setting” and “Research on Employee Stock Options (with Implications for Managerial Accounting Research)” respectively. Students groups were tasked with discussing several questions and after analysis and discussion, presented their responses.

In the evening, the Consortium dinner was held in a local Chinese restaurant. Prof. Ross Watts was the dinner speaker. His speech contained valuable advice on managing an academic career.

The second and final day of the consortium followed the format of the first day. The speakers were Prof. S.P. Kothari of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Prof. Dan Simunic of the University of British Columbia. The topics of their presentations were “Current Issues in Capital Markets Research” and “Research in Audit Production”. Again, the students were organized in groups and tasked with addressing questions related to the presentations.

In the afternoon of the second day, there was a special workshop held by Prof. Eli Bartov of New York University. He discussed some of his research concerning the efforts of managers to engage in earnings expectation management to influence forecasts made by financial analysts.

The Consortium concluded with a fun dinner and a bowling tournament among the registered students, hosted by the Shanghai National Accounting Institute.