



Australian  
National  
University



TAX AND TRANSFER POLICY INSTITUTE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

Crawford School of  
Public Policy  
ANU College of  
Asia and the Pacific

# TAX AND TRANSFER POLICY INSTITUTE

## ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023



### Certification by the Director of Crawford School

I hereby certify that the information provided to the Department of Treasury by ANU in:

- > the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute's Annual Report
- > the performance data and information
- > the financial tables

provides a true and fair view of the matters reported on therein.

I certify that the Commonwealth funding contributions were applied for the activities of the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute as specified in the Funding Agreement.

*Jainine O'Flynn*

Director, Crawford School of Public Policy

31 August 2023

# CONTENTS

<b>FROM THE DIRECTOR</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>About the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute</b>	<b>4</b>
Aims, priorities and strategy	4
Governance	4
Finances	5
<b>People</b>	<b>6</b>
Academic staff	6
Research fellows	7
Professional staff	7
Research assistants	8
Research secondees	8
Honorary research fellows	9
TTPI fellows	11
TTPI research affiliate program	12
PhD scholars	13
<b>Research</b>	<b>14</b>
External grants	14
<b>Events</b>	<b>18</b>
TTPI research seminar series	21
Outreach seminars	21
<b>Publications</b>	<b>22</b>
TTPI working papers	22
TTPI policy briefs	22
TTPI tax facts	22
TTPI transfer facts	22
Academic publications	23
Reports	24
International research engagement	24

# CONTENTS

<b>Engagement</b>	25
Selected speeches and presentations	25
Media and opinion	26
Services on government/other advisory bodies	28
Austaxpolicy.com blog and social media	28
<b>Education</b>	29
Master degree programs	29
Executive education and other teaching	30

# FROM THE DIRECTOR



TTPI was established to undertake independent policy research relevant to the Australian tax and transfer system, to foster informed public debate and to raise awareness of tax and transfer policy issues. We have made major contributions in all of these areas in 2022-2023. The intergenerational reports that have been released in the last 12 months by the government outline the productivity, debt and inter-generational inequality challenges that we face. Recent TTPI working papers discuss the structural problems in Australia's tax system which will make it difficult for us to solve these problems by simply scaling up the rates on our current system. A serious rethink is required, particularly when it comes to how we tax increased wealth.

Our report on the 'Taxation of Savings', released in August 2020, provides solutions by proposing a fairer and more sensible way to tax assets and the flow of income from assets. Such a reform would also capture some of the extra wealth accumulated by those who have benefited directly from government policies which have inflated asset prices. In 2022, another major report was released, 'Corporate income taxation in Australia: Theory, current practice and future policy directions'. The report documents the main problems with Australia's corporate tax system and proposes an Allowance for Corporate Equity (ACE). An ACE would reduce the tax burden on competitive sectors and stimulate investment while continuing to tax excess profits in industries such as mining and banking. Given soaring gas prices, this is particularly topical. The major report was accompanied by a companion piece, 'Design considerations for an Allowance for Corporate Equity (ACE) for Australia'.

TTPI produced policy briefs on taxation and its impacts on energy, environment and pollution. We also produce research on immigration. The TTPI working paper series produced a large number of high-quality papers including many papers that examined the impacts of COVID-19. Trevor Rose and I produced a paper on how best to pay off the COVID-19 debt. In our continuing work on taxpayer behaviour using the ALife tax data, Nathan Deutscher, Steve Hamilton and I produced a paper about bunching in refund amounts and Andrew Carter and I produced a paper about bunching at the Division 293 tax thresholds. Peter Abelson produced a paper about the principles and practice of local government. We also have research on school closures and test scores, the gender wage gap and domestic violence.

Our Austaxpolicy.com blog remains one of the most highly read blogs at the Australian National University and TTPI affiliates remain very active in the media, educating and informing the public about the tax system and priorities for reform. We also spent a great deal of time talking with parliamentarians and their advisors about tax and transfer policy and possibilities for reform.

We continue to expand our tax facts series which now encompasses 28 tax facts and 5 transfer facts. The series is an important element in our attempts to foster informed debate and raise awareness.

We ran a bunch of fantastic events in 2022-2023. The second Australian Workshop on Public Finance, run in August 2022, continued the tradition set in the first year of the workshop of bringing together academics and policymakers/public servants to discuss high-quality research with a strong emphasis on Australian administrative data collections. The workshop has become the premier event in Australia which brings together academics and public servants to discuss and evaluate quantitative policy research. We continue to hold regular updates with key international actors related to international attempts to reduce Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS). In March 2023, we ran an online seminar 'A Unified Global Tax System: Is it possible? Will it work?' with participation from Thomas Barthold, David Bradbury and Pascal Saint-Amans. We have extended and expanded our collaboration with the Australian Government. Seconded staff have joined TTPI from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Australian Taxation Office, the Australian Treasury, the Department of Social Services and the Productivity Commission. The Australian Treasury participated in our course on the 'Economics of Tax Policy' which was also delivered for the New South Wales State Treasury.

Let's work hard, stay optimistic and not abandon calls for comprehensive tax reform!

All of us at TTPI look forward to another good year in 2023-2024.

## **Professor Robert Breunig**

Director, Tax and Transfer Policy Institute  
Chair of Tax Policy and Public Finance

# ABOUT THE TAX AND TRANSFER POLICY INSTITUTE

The Tax and Transfer Policy Institute (TTPI) is an independent policy institute that was established in 2013 with seed funding from the federal government. It is supported by the Crawford School of Public Policy of The Australian National University.

At TTPI, we work to build the evidence base, encourage discussion and debate and improve understanding of the tax and transfer system. We do this by:

- Undertaking empirical analysis and evaluation of tax and transfer policies;
- Producing analysis of the Australian tax and transfer system;
- Educating Australians about the tax and transfer system;
- Bringing together researchers from across Australia working on tax and transfer policy issues;
- Engaging in public debate on tax and transfer policy; and
- Building public service capability in tax and transfer policy.

## Aims, priorities and strategy

To achieve our mission, TTPI is committed to working with governments, academics, business and the community. This includes partnering and sharing knowledge with:

- Australian federal, state and local governments to deliver the best evidence to support policymakers on taxes and transfers including intergovernmental fiscal challenges.
- National and international academic centres and scholars specialising in taxes and transfers to undertake and support excellent research that provides new knowledge and relevant policy initiatives on tax and transfers.
- Community, business and industry sectors, to learn of real-life challenges and to provide research support to best practice tax and transfer reform.
- The Australian public and media to inform and enhance public debate on tax and transfer reform.

## Governance

TTPI operates as an Organisational Research Unit in the Crawford School of Public Policy, College of Asia and the Pacific at The Australian National University. TTPI is therefore subject to formal governance and financial accounting arrangements of the Crawford School. The Director of TTPI reports to the Crawford School Director, Professor Janine O'Flynn and through the Director to the Dean of the College of Asia and the Pacific, Professor Helen Sullivan. Professor Renee McKibbin-Fry was the interim Director of the Crawford School until 8 January 2023.

## Advisory Committee

The TTPI Advisory Committee includes senior representatives from stakeholder government agencies. It is chaired by Professor John Hewson and met biannually in 2022 and 2023. The Advisory Committee provides high-level advice, guidance and recommendations to the TTPI Chair and Director on all matters relating to TTPI. The TTPI Committee Chair and the TTPI Director are grateful for the advice and insight on research and policy direction, business strategy and engagement from all members of the Committee.

The members of the Advisory Committee during the fiscal 2022-2023 period were:

- Professor John Hewson AM, Chair of Advisory Committee, ANU
- Professor Robert Breunig, Director of TTPI, ANU
- Ms Diane Brown, Deputy Secretary, Revenue Group, Treasury
- Mr Matt Flavel, Deputy Secretary, Social Security, Department of Social Services
- Mr Andrew Mills, Independent
- Ms Kirsten Fish, Second Commissioner, Law Design, Australian Taxation Office
- Dr Stein Helgeby, Parliamentary Budget Officer, Parliamentary Budget Office
- Ms Nadine Williams, Deputy Secretary, Economy, Industry and Resilience, Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Mr David Martine, Secretary, Department of Treasury and Finance, Victoria State Government
- Mr Cullen Smythe, Commissioner of State Revenue, NSW Revenue Office
- Professor Janine O'Flynn, Director Crawford School, ANU
- Professor Renee McKibbin, interim Director Crawford School, ANU
- Professor Peter Whiteford, ANU
- Associate Professor Mathias Sinning, ANU
- Ms Kristen Sobeck, Research Fellow, ANU



## Finances

TTPI was established with a grant from the Australian Treasury and with contributions from the College of Asia and the Pacific, the HC Coombs Policy Forum, the Australian National Institute of Public Policy and the Crawford School of Public Policy at The Australian National University. TTPI receives ongoing financial support from the Crawford School of Public Policy and The Australian National University. The establishment of TTPI implemented Recommendation 134 of the Review of Australia's Future Tax System (2009).

The annual Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 is attached at the end of this Annual Report.

In 2022-2023, TTPI continued to raise external funding for a variety of specific activities and research projects including through: Australian government research grants; ANU internal grants programs, executive education courses and commissioned work.



Image from ANU Image Library Flickr

# PEOPLE

## Academic staff



**John Hewson AM, Chair of the Advisory Committee**

John Hewson is a Professorial Fellow at TTPI and an economic and financial expert with experience in academia, business, government, media and the financial system.

John was Shadow Finance Minister, Shadow Treasurer and Shadow Minister for Industry and Commerce, then Leader of the Liberal Party and Federal Coalition in Opposition for four years. He has worked as an economist for the Australian Treasury, the Reserve Bank, the International Monetary Fund and as an advisor to two successive Federal Treasurers and the Prime Minister. Dr Hewson was the former leader of the federal opposition in Australia during 1990-1994. He also writes and comments widely across all media.



**Robert Breunig, Director**

Professor Robert Breunig is one of Australia's leading Public Policy Economists. His research is motivated by important social policy issues and debates, and his work is characterised by careful empirical study and appropriate

use of statistical technique. Professor Breunig's research agenda has led to many partnerships with government organisations in Australia and overseas. He works regularly with the Australian Treasury, the Department of Education, the Department of Industry, the Department of Infrastructure, the Productivity Commission, the Australian Bureau of Statistics as well as many other agencies. He has been a consultant to the private sector on marketing, mergers, bank competition and customer loyalty programs.



**Rod Sims AO, Professor in the Practice of Public Policy and Antitrust**

Rod Sims is a researcher in the Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU. He is also Chair of the Competition Research Policy Network, at the Centre for

Economic Policy Research, London. Rod is also the Chair of Opera Australia. Rod has extensive public policy and private sector experience. Early in his career he worked in many developing countries all over the world advising on economic policy and contract negotiation and taxation of resource projects. Rod was on the National Competition Council, was Chair of the NSW Independent Pricing and

Regulatory Tribunal, and has just completed nearly 11 years as Chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).



**Mathias Sinning**

Mathias Sinning is an Associate Professor of Economics at the ANU Crawford School of Public Policy and Deputy Director of TTPI. His research revolves around applied econometrics, with a particular focus on advancing and applying

innovative methods to analyse heterogeneous treatment effects. He has published extensively in various domains of economics, including public economics, labour economics, health economics, development economics, and behavioural economics. Mathias has held positions as a Visiting Fellow at Princeton University and Peking University. He is a Research Fellow of IZA Bonn and RWI Essen, and a Research Affiliate of MIT's Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL).



**Miranda Stewart**

Twitter @AusTaxProf  
(4289 followers)

Miranda Stewart is a Professor at Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne and an Honorary Professor at the Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU, affiliated

with the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute. Miranda is also an international Research Fellow at the Centre for Business Taxation, Said Business School, University of Oxford. Miranda researches, teaches and advises on tax, transfer and budget law and policy. Her latest book is *Tax and Government in the 21st Century* (2022, Cambridge University Press).



**Peter Whiteford**

Twitter @WhitefordPeter  
(5257 followers)

Professor Peter Whiteford is Director of the Social Policy Institute, Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU. He has previously

worked at the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, and the OECD in Paris. Peter is an Associate Investigator with the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR), and an Adjunct Professor with the Social Policy Research Centre at UNSW. In 2018 he was elected as a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia. In 2022, he was appointed to the Australian Government Interim Economic Inclusion Advisory Committee.



## Research fellows



### Nathan Deutscher

Nathan Deutscher joined the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute as a Research Fellow in late 2019. He is also currently Assistant Secretary of Data and Structural Analysis Branch in the Australian Government Department of the

Treasury. Nathan's research interests centre on empirical topics in labour and public economics, making use of new and emerging Australian data sources. His research on intergenerational income mobility has been published in leading international journals.



### Kristen Sobeck

Kristen Sobeck is a Research Fellow at the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute. Kristen studied economics and French at Smith College and has a Master's degree in Economics from the University of Geneva. Prior to joining TTPI,

she worked as an economist at the International Labour Organization (ILO) from its headquarters in Geneva and country office in Argentina. She was also awarded a Fulbright Fellowship in 2007.



### Peter Varela

During the 2022-2023 period, Peter Varela worked as a TTPI Research Fellow with a primary focus on the economics of migration and household tax planning. Peter was also a Visiting Scholar at Columbia University, New York.



### Yinjunjie (Jacquelyn) Zhang

Yinjunjie Zhang (Jacquelyn) is a Research Fellow at the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute. Jacquelyn's research interest spans the areas of labour economics, public economics, and experimental economics. A

common thread in Jacquelyn's research is understanding the impact of public policy on people's behaviour, choice, and welfare. Her works published in peer-reviewed academic journals include examining the intended and unintended effects of policy interventions on crime, labour market preference as well as individual preferences on economic decision makings in both the lab and field setting. Jacquelyn's recent research projects include studying the

impact of Australian Bushfires on infants' health and early child development. Dr Zhang obtained her master's degree in Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China and PhD in Texas A&M University in the US.



### Ralf Steinhauser

Ralf Steinhauser is a Senior Research Fellow at the ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods. He previously held a position as Assistant Professor for Environmental and Resource Economics at Hamburg University.

He holds a Bachelor and Master's degree from Humboldt University Berlin and a PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. He has published research on carbon emissions forecasting, behavioural consumer response, corporate governance and taxation. He is an expert in behavioural and environmental economics, tax policy and has particular expertise in large data analysis and experimental design. He has undertaken extensive work on economic policy issues involving tax elasticities, GFC stimulus payments, property tax reform, fertility and road accidents.



### Matt Taylor

Matt Taylor joined the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute as a Research Fellow in June 2023. He will be working on intergenerational fiscal policy and intergenerational equity in Australia's tax and transfer system. Matt is also

the Director of the Centre for Independent Studies Intergenerational program.

## Professional staff

### Diane Paul

Diane Paul is the Institute Manager with TTPI. Diane has been employed with the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific since 2010. Diane manages the Institute's activities, including external-funded partnerships and grants. Diane works closely with academic staff and external stakeholders to ensure the Institute's programs achieve their aims and operational objectives.

## Research assistants

**Sophie Allister** joined TTPI as a research assistant in February 2021. Since joining she has been involved in the 'Tax Facts' series and projects on childcare and labour supply, as well as overseeing TTPI events. She is currently in her second year of a Bachelor of Economics at ANU.

**Chloe Heiniger** joined TTPI as a research assistant in February 2022. She has been involved with contributing to the GST report, conducting sustainable development research and administering the TTPI Facebook page. Chloe is currently in her third year at the ANU completing a Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Economics double degree.

**Ben Jefferson** joined TTPI as a research assistant in October 2021. He has recently graduated from a Bachelor of Economics and a Bachelor of Arts, ANU. Ben has contributed to a study on the 'Fringe Benefits Tax Concession' as well as other TTPI working papers and presentations.

**Trevor Rose** is an economic policy analyst who takes a data-driven approach to policy advice. He joined TTPI as a research assistant in 2019, where he has worked in areas such as company tax reform and post-pandemic fiscal sustainability. Trevor holds an Honours Degree in Statistics from the University of New South Wales and previously worked at the Australian Treasury.

**Saša Vanek** joined TTPI as a research assistant in February 2022. Since joining she has worked on the preliminary stages of TTPI's Trust and Taxing Women reports, as well as the Intergenerational Tax Report for the Business Council of Australia. Saša is studying a double degree in a Bachelor of Politics, Philosophy and Economics, and a Bachelor of Commerce

**Teck Chi Wong** is a research assistant with TTPI, working on the Austaxpolicy blog. Teck Chi is also a PhD candidate at the School of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Queensland, and holds a Master of Public Policy, specialising in Economic Policy, from the Australian National University and a Bachelor of Accounting from the University of Malaya.

## Research secondees

Through TTPI's partnership with government departments, mid-level executives and promising junior staff are selected through a competitive process to spend time at TTPI, under supervision of a senior academic. The secondees work on a research project designed in close collaboration with their sponsoring government agency. During the 2022-2023 period TTPI had secondments in place from the Australian Taxation Office, Treasury, Department of Social Services, and the Prime Minister and Cabinet's office. The program is on-going and will continue to expand and offer opportunities to government employees from a wide range of departments.

**Paul Ferlitsch** is an Assistant Director in the Study and Compliance Branch of the Commonwealth Department of Social Services. Since joining the department in 2018 he has assisted in reforms to income test settings within the welfare system and emergency policy responses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Paul's secondment period was from January 2022 to July 2022.

**Brendan Fugate** is a secondee from the Australian Tax Office. Since joining the ATO in 2017, he has worked in the Private Wealth and Public Groups and Internationals business-lines where he has assisted and conducted reviews, audits and advanced pricing arrangements. As part of his master's degree with the University of Queensland, his thesis used data from the ATO's ALife database, an anonymised tax return dataset. Brendan's secondment period was from December 2021 to December 2022.

**Chadd Gunton** is an Assistant Director in the Revenue, Small Business and Housing Group of the Commonwealth Treasury. Prior to joining the Treasury, he was an adviser in the Tax, Financial Sector and Employment branch of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and a law interpretation officer in the Review and Dispute Resolution area of the Australian Taxation Office. Chadd's secondment period was from April 2022 to August 2022.

**Navjeet Kaur** is an adviser in Women's Economic Policy Branch of the Office for Women at the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. Since joining the Department at the beginning of 2022, Navjeet has focused on childcare policy and taxation's impacts on women and women's workforce participation. Navjeet holds a Bachelor of Law (Hons 1) from Western Sydney University and a Bachelor of Business from the University of Technology Sydney. Navjeet's secondment period was from November 2022 to February 2023.

**Michael Wijnen** is an Assistant Director in the Business and Superannuation Tax Analysis Branch at the Commonwealth Treasury. Since joining the Department in 2019 he has worked on International Policy and Engagement, Budget Process and Policy, Indirect Taxation and Superannuation Taxation. Michael's secondment period was from June 2023 to December 2023.

## Honorary research fellows

TTPI welcomed honorary visiting fellows from academia and the public and private sectors to carry out research projects and actively contribute towards the activities and goals of TTPI, the Crawford School, and the university more broadly.

**Peter Abelson** is a former Professor of Economics at Macquarie University. He is the author of four editions of *Public Economics: Principles and Practice*, 2E and 3E (McGraw-Hill) and 4E. He has published widely on public economic issues including on well-being, cost-benefit analysis, transport, health, environmental economics and housing.

**Benoit Pierre (Ben) Freyens** is Associate Professor of Economics and Head of the Canberra School of Politics, Economics, and Society (SchoPES) at the University of Canberra. He is also a former Eurostat statistician. He has published extensively on the economic impacts of employment protection laws, measuring the judicial independence of labour courts, the efficient allocation of radio spectrum to wireless industries, and various other topics in behavioural, technology, education and labour market economics.

**Christian Gillitzer** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Economics at the University of Sydney. His research fields include public finance and macroeconomics. He has worked on topics including state fiscal capacity, optimal commodity taxation, the charitable tax deduction and consumer sentiment. Together with Joel Slemrod, he is co-author of the book *Tax Systems*.

**Xiaodong Gong** is an Associate Professor of Economics in Canberra School of Politics, Economics, and Society at the University of Canberra. As an applied econometrician, Xiaodong's research interests are in modelling a wide range of individual and household socio-economic behaviours that are policy relevant, including labour market, childcare, education, household consumption and addictive behaviour (e.g., gambling).

**Steven Hamilton** is an Assistant Professor of Economics at The George Washington University in Washington DC. Steven has used ALife data to uncover the critical role that work-related expense deductions play in tax avoidance in Australia. In another project using the data, he has uncovered a new fact about the impact of taxes: taxes continue to affect behaviour long after they have been removed, which radically raises existing estimates of the distortionary effects of taxes.

**Christopher Hoy** is a Young Professional in the Poverty and Equity Global Practice at the World Bank. His research has been featured in internationally renowned media outlets such as the New York Times, the Economist and the BBC, and published in leading academic journals, including the *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*. Prior to joining the World Bank, Chris worked for over a decade as an economist across five continents for a range of organisations.

**Jim Killaly** is a former Deputy Commissioner (Large Business and International) in the ATO and is carrying out systemic research into the corporate and international tax base, including current issues in transfer pricing and tax compliance. He received the Public Service Medal in 2005 for improvements to Australia's tax treaties and for developing and implementing a sustainable tax compliance framework for large business.

**Miguel Olivo-Villabrille** is a Lecturer at the University of Sydney. He is an Empirical Microeconomist with interests in labour, and family economics. Miguel is particularly interested in incorporating collective decision making and retirement into life cycle and general equilibrium models. Currently, Miguel is using ALife data to understand how the Australian tax and transfer system influences individuals' tax avoidance behaviour. In addition, he is modelling the retirement decisions of Australian couples using HILDA data.

**Alfredo R Paloyo** is an Associate Professor in Economics at the University of Wollongong. His research interest lie in the fields of labour, health, and education economics. Alfredo is currently working on how medical expenditures respond to changes in the tax system using ALife data from the Australian Taxation Office.

**Roland Rich** is a former Australian Ambassador and a former head of the United Nations Democracy Fund. Dr Rich is currently Director of the United Nations and Global Policy Studies Master's Program at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey. His two most recent books are *Democracy in Crisis: Why, Where, How to Respond* (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2017) and *Parties and Parliaments in Southeast Asia: Non-Partisan Chambers in Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand* (Routledge, 2013). His forthcoming publication is *The United Nations as Leviathan: Global Governance in the Post-American World* (Rowman and Littlefield).

**Paul Tilley** brings long-standing experience on tax and public finance from his 30-year public service career in Treasury, the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and the OECD. Paul has since published a book, *Changing Fortunes: A history of the Australian Treasury* (2019), teaches a tax policy course at Melbourne University and is currently writing a series of papers on the history of tax reform in Australia.

**Arezou Zaresani** is a Lecturer at The University of Sydney. Arezou is also a research affiliate at TTPI, the Institute for Labor Studies (IZA), and the Canadian Center for Health Economics (CCHE), University of Toronto. Arezou is an Applied Microeconomist with research interests in public, health, and labour economics. Arezou was awarded the Young Economist Award from the International Institute for Public Finance (IIPF) in 2020. Her work has been published in the *Journal of Public Economics*, *Labour Economics*, and the *American Journal of Health Economics*. Arezou is working on projects to deepen understanding of the economic and social impacts of Australia's tax system and social assistance programs.

## Campus visitors

**Joseph Chien** is currently the Director of the Data Access and Confidentiality Methodology Unit at the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Joseph's PhD research analysed administrative data to better understand the microdrivers of productivity. His research interests include productivity analysis, network modelling, semantic web and synthetic data. Joseph is interested in advancing a synthetic data approach at the ABS to make more administrative data more accessible for research.

**Mark Cully** is an Expert Panel Member of the Fair Work Commission and former senior Treasury official. He is writing a history of the contribution of immigration to Australia's economic and social development.

**Ric Curnow** continues to provide support and input to the research and public-facing endeavours of the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute. He has contributed directly to policy and public debate around the replacement of stamp duty with land tax and supported to completion many TTPI research endeavours and publications. He has applied statistical methodology to the development of competitive junior tennis pathways in Australia and around the globe. As the director of Anti-Bias Pty Ltd, he continues to engage with humanitarian projects in the Middle East.

**Graeme Davis** has worked on public policy issues in both New Zealand and Australia for over 35 years. He retired from the Treasury in 2022. Whilst working at the Australian Treasury Graeme worked in a number of roles including, being responsible for advice on macro policy and developing an understanding of productivity growth in Australia. More recently Graeme has spent a decade working on tax issues leading the Treasury work on the future direction of tax policy and an involvement across a wide range of tax issues.

**Cameron Gordon** is an economist with extensive experience in policy, economics, project and program evaluation and international business, both inside and outside of academia, and in research and teaching. He holds a PhD in Economics, with prior faculty appointments in Economics (Australian National University, Research School of Economics and the Faculty of Business, Government and Law, University of Canberra). Dr Gordon has been a member of program committees for the Transportation Research Board (TRB) (part of the US National Academy of Sciences – National Research Council) for over 25 years.

**Viva Hammer** formerly at the Joint Committee on Taxation at the United States Congress, is researching the interface of politics and policy in tax legislation. While policy proposals are often crafted by theoreticians, before implementation they go through a political sieve, with unpredictable results. Particular political systems have more impact on tax outcomes than policy goals. In a deeply divided society and political system, the proclivities of individual politicians can have outsized effects on legislative outcomes. Viva's research is particularly focused on the international provisions of the *2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act*.

**Josiah Hickson** is a campus visitor at the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute where he has continued his research as part of his Master of Economics. His research uses applied microeconomic techniques to study issues in Australia's labour markets and trends in inequality. He has published on the local labour market effects of natural disasters and most recently on the effects of gender norms on gender inequality.

**Manuel Hoffmann** is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Laboratory for Innovation Science at Harvard. His research focuses on labor, innovation, and health economics while leveraging experimental, quasi-experimental, and structural methods to answer exciting research questions that can improve individual and social welfare. Manuel is affiliated with the Center for Population Health Sciences at Stanford University, and the University of Heidelberg. He obtained his PhD in Economics from Texas A&M University. In Australia he is working on the intended and unintended consequences of supplementary health insurance.

**Andrew Sinstead-Reid** is a Data Analyst with the Department of Social Services. Most of Andrew's career has been spent working on incentives policy and the interaction of the tax and transfer systems. Apart from current and emerging incentives issues in Australia's tax-transfer system, Andrew's research interests include the early history of Australia's personal income taxation system and 'Knibbsian progressivity'.

**Chris Wokker** is currently consulting to the World Bank, and undertaking research at the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute into the economic implications of potential military conflict in East Asia.

**Joe Zabar** is the former Deputy CEO of Catholic Social Services Australia and is now an advisor to the not-for-profit sector on charity regulations. He is working on the TTPI 'Tax Fact' series, focusing on transfers, with a particular interest in income and assets tests.

**Hans Zhu** is a PhD candidate in the Department of Economics at Northwestern University. His research interests are on competition in regulated markets such as understanding the consequences of greater or lower for-profit provision in the nursing home industry in the US. In Australia he is working on understanding participant plan utilisation in the NDIS and differences in rental contracts offered by institutional landlords versus 'mum and dad' investors in rental markets.



## TTPI fellows

TTPI benefits from a network of ANU Fellows who research on public finance, tax and transfer theory, data and policy issues across The Australian National University and the public service.

**Dr Sasan Bakhtiari**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Associate Professor Nicholas Biddle**

ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

**Professor Alison Booth**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Professor John Braithwaite**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Mr Rob Bray**

ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

**Dr Paul Burke**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Professor Bruce Chapman**

ANU College of Business and Economics

**Professor Ashley Craig**

ANU College of Business and Economics

**Mr Ric Curnow**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Mr Graeme Davis**

Retired from Treasury

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Dr Nathan Deutscher**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Dr Sarah Dong**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Professor Matthew Gray**

ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

**Professor Bob Gregory**

ANU College of Business and Economics

**Dr Markus Hahn**

ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

**Ms Viva Hammer**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Mr Rob Heferen**

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Dr Timo Henckel**

ANU College of Business and Economics

**Mr Christopher Hoy**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Professor Michael Kobetsky**

ANU College of Law

**Professor Peter McDonald**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Mr Chris Murphy**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Ms Agnieszka Nelson**

Department of Social Services

**Associate Professor Benjamin Phillips**

ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences

**Associate Professor Maria Racionero**

ANU College of Business and Economics

**Ms Sue Regan**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Ms Kate Roff**

ANU College of Law

**Mr Andrew Sinstead-Reid**

Department of Social Services &

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Associate Professor Julie Smith**

ANU College of Medicine, Biology and Environment

**Professor David Stanton**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Mr Matthew Taylor**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Associate Professor Alfred Tran**

ANU College of Business and Economics

**Dr Chung Tran**

ANU College of Business and Economics

**Dr Rebecca Valenzuela**

Department of Treasury and Finance,

Victoria State Government

**Dr Peter Varela**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

**Dr Sonali Walpola**

ANU College of Business and Economics

**Ms Serena Wilson**

Retired from the Department of Social Services

**Dr Chris Wokker**

ANU College of Asia and the Pacific



## TTPI research affiliate program

To further TTPI's reputation as a focal point for high quality empirical research on the Australian tax system, in 2018, TTPI established a research affiliate program. The program, which explicitly targets researchers outside of the ANU, aims to bring together researchers conducting policy-oriented empirical research on the tax and transfer system with other researchers at the ANU and government policymakers. Appointments are for a three-year period and junior researchers are offered funding to present their research. A list of our current research affiliates is provided below:

**Associate Professor Shumi Akhtar**, University of Sydney

**Professor Patricia Apps**, University of Sydney

**Dr Kadir Atalay**, University of Sydney

**Professor Hazel Bateman**, UNSW

**Dr Tony Beatton**, Queensland University of Technology

**Professor Jeff Borland**, University of Melbourne

**Dr Michael Coelli**, University of Melbourne

**Dr Marc Chan**, University of Melbourne

**Assistant Professor Xiaoguang (Shawn) Chen**, University of Western Australia

**Assistant Professor Ashley Craig**, University of Michigan

**Professor Dhammika Dharmapala**, University of Chicago

**Associate Professor Begona Dominguez**, University of Queensland

**Professor Arindrajit Dube**, University of Massachusetts

**Professor Richard Eccleston**, University of Tasmania

**Dr Alexandra Evans**, UNSW

**Associate Professor Stefanie Fischer**, Monash University

**Professor John Freebairn**, University of Melbourne

**Dr Ben Freyens**, University of Canberra

**Dr Ana Gamarra Rondinel**, University of Melbourne

**Dr Christian Gillitzer**, University of Sydney

**Associate Professor Xiaodong Gong**, University of Canberra

**Assistant Professor Steven Hamilton**, George Washington University

**Dr Ross Hickey**, University of British Columbia

**Mr Manuel Hoffmann**, Harvard University

**Mr Matt Jacob**, Harvard University

**Associate Professor Ethan Kaplan**, University of Maryland

**Dr Ann Kayis-Kumar**, UNSW

**Dr Diane Kraal**, Monash University

**Mr Claudio Labanca**, Monash University

**Dr Leslie Martin**, University of Melbourne

**Dr Rigissa Megalokonomou**, University of Queensland

**Dr Solmaz Moslehi**, Monash University

**Dr Sian Mughan**, Arizona State University

**Mr Miguel Oliva-Villabrille**, University of Sydney

**Dr Alfredo R Paylojo**, University of Wollongong

**Dr Cain Polidano**, University of Melbourne

**Associate Professor Michelle Rendall**, Monash University

**Dr Miguel Ruiz**, University of Melbourne

**Professor Peter Siminski**, University of Technology Sydney

**Dr Peer Skov**, Auckland University of Technology

**Dr Ellen Stuart**, University of Sydney

**Dr Satoshi Tanaka**, University of Queensland

**Professor Benno Torgler**, Queensland University of Technology

**Dr Khuong Truong**, Curtin University

**Dr Ha Vu**, Deakin University

**Professor Roger Wilkins**, University of Melbourne

**Dr Haishan Yuan**, University of Queensland

**Dr Arezou Zaresani**, University of Sydney

**Professor Xueyan Zhao**, Monash University

**Dr Anna Zhu**, RMIT

**Mr Hans Zhu**, Northwestern University

**Dr Federico Zilio**, University of Melbourne

## PhD scholars

PhD scholars at Crawford and across ANU are researching diverse tax and transfer topics. Some have contributed substantially towards building the work and profile of TTPI as research students or fellows. Several scholars hold the prestigious Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Scholarship.

- > **Thomas Abhayaratna**, 'Essays in taxpayers' responsiveness' (Crawford, primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Paul Amores**, 'The role of mental health in transmission of intergenerational disadvantage in Australia' (Crawford, primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Andrew Carter**, 'Responses to the tax system' (Crawford, primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Kevin Chadwick**, 'Engaging households in the emerging energy market - lessons from behavioural science for policymakers' (College of Arts and Social Sciences, primary supervisor Nicholas Biddle)
- > **Jian Ding**, 'An evaluation of the labor contract law in China' (Crawford, primary supervisor Ligang Song)
- > **David Hansell**, 'Structural inequalities in the Australian labour market before and after COVID-19' (Crawford Primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Shane Johnson**, 'Examining taxpayers' understanding of, and responses to, the Australian personal income tax system' (Crawford, primary supervisor Robert Breunig, *Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Scholar*)
- > **Cecilia Karmel**, 'Migration, skill shortages and COVID-19' (Crawford, primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Sora Lee**, 'Governance pathway to health equity using public value analysis' (College of Asia and the Pacific, primary supervisor Sharon Friel)
- > **Beth Ma**, 'Dynamic scoring of taxation reforms in Australia' (Crawford Primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Tess McGirr**, 'Social services, tax, transfers and employment' (Crawford, primary supervisor Peter Whiteford, *Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Scholar*)
- > **Daniel Nethery**, 'Migrants and the welfare state' (Crawford, primary supervisor Peter Whiteford)
- > **Jyoti Rahman**, 'Title TBA' (Crawford Primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Maathu Ranjan**, 'The impact of government support schemes on prevalence of disability in Australia' (Crawford Primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Tristram Sainsbury**, 'The difference a lifetime makes: Australian taxes and transfers over the life cycle' (Crawford, primary supervisor Robert Breunig, *Sir Roland Wilson Foundation Scholar*)
- > **Kristen Sobeck**, 'Essays in public economics' (Crawford, primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Matthew Smith**, 'Distributional impacts of Australia's tax and transfer system over the lifetime: a more detailed approach drawing on richer administrative data' (Crawford Primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Matthew Taylor**, 'The impact of parental leave pay on parental leave and labour supply and its equity implications' (Crawford, primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Leana Ugrinovska-Ugrica**, 'Essays on financing R & D investments' (College of Business and Economics, primary supervisor Bruce Chapman)
- > **Nu Nu Win**, 'Business tax incentives and investment' (Crawford Primary supervisor Robert Breunig)
- > **Wanmeng Xu**, 'A study of cross-border profit shifting: Evidence from Australia' (College of Business and Economics, Primary supervisor Alfred Tran)



Image from ANU Image Library

# RESEARCH

TTPI focuses on the empirical and theoretical analysis and evaluation of tax and transfer policies. We aim to produce high-quality, policy-relevant research. Our research program aims to have a balance of projects with short-term and long-term time horizons and both academic and policy-oriented outputs.

Research is published in our working paper series and in leading refereed journals in Australia and internationally. We also publish research in the form of in-depth reports. Finally, we continue to publish short articles on our blog, [Austaxpolicy.com](http://Austaxpolicy.com), and in other media outlets, such as *The Conversation* and in op-eds in outlets such as *The Australian Financial Review* and *The Canberra Times*.

We have built targeted capacity by obtaining research and external funding for high priority projects that bring new research to bear on public policy, especially on topics of: fiscal sustainability; tax system behaviour; design of tax-transfer system interaction; and the future of savings and capital taxation; immigration; supply chain resilience; and inter-generational inequality. We hold a variety of academic workshops and conferences during the year. TTPI researchers have provided academic leadership in a range of forums in Australia and internationally. Robert Breunig is a member of the panel of expert advisors of the Parliamentary Budget Office and provides advice to the Australian Bureau of Statistics through several advisory roles, he is also a member of the Economic Inclusion Advisory Committee.

## External grants

TTPI works actively to apply for external research funding. We are currently working on a variety of externally funded research projects.

### Korea-Australia Tax Symposium 2022/2023

In October 2021 TTPI was awarded a grant (AKF202144) from the Australia-Korea Foundation of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). These funds were used to hold a tax symposium organised and run by TTPI, and supported by the Korea Institute of Public Finance (KIPF). The event held on the 25-26 August 2022 at Crawford School, ANU was the fourth in-person meeting since 2017. Together with KIPF, TTPI has established a preeminent exchange between Australia and Korea on tax research, and focus on policy analysis matters of mutual interest to both countries. This collaboration continues to establish a strong network of tax researchers (and research partnerships) between Korea and Australia by inviting high-performing researchers in both countries to present at the symposiums, and to collaborate on priority and cutting-edge tax research. Relevant Australian agencies, including DFAT, Treasury, PM&C and the ATO, are invited to the symposium and receive regular updates on progress. The next symposium is set for 12-13 October 2023 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. A strong partnership between TTPI

and KIPF has emerged through these events and both organisations are committed to continuing the collaboration into the future.

### Department of Social Services

The 'Exits from Income Support' project is a Data Integration Partnership for Australia (DIPA) project. TTPI worked with the Department of Social Services to analyse the different pathways of income support recipients leaving the payment system using administrative data from the Multi-Agency Data Integration Project (MADIP). The project also aimed to evaluate the impact of changes to selected income support policies over time on the employment outcomes of income support recipients. Project team: Robert Breunig, and Kristen Sobeck.

### Improving tax compliance without increasing revenue: Evidence from population-wide randomised controlled trials in Papua New Guinea

This paper studies the impact of "nudges" on taxpayers with varying tax compliance histories in Papua New Guinea. We present the results from two population-wide randomized controlled trials in a setting that is characterized by low compliance rates and a lack of effective enforcement. We test the impact of text messages, flyers and emails that remind taxpayers of declaration due dates and provide information about the public benefits of paying tax. We find that the treatments increased the number of tax declarations filed without increasing the amount of tax paid because the taxpayers who responded to the nudges reported a tax liability of zero. This result is consistent across tax types, communication channels and time periods. We also find that the treatments had no impact on previously non-filing taxpayers. Collectively, our results illustrate that taxpayers who face the lowest cost from complying are the most likely to respond to a nudge. Project team: Christopher Hoy, Luke McKenzie, Mathias Sinning.

Forthcoming in: *Economic Development and Cultural Change*

### **Trying to make a good first impression: A natural field experiment to engage new entrants to the tax system**

Very little is known about the compliance behaviour of first time taxpayers although their tax paying habits may affect the long-run functioning of a tax system. This project studies the compliance behaviour of new entrants to the tax system using data from a large-scale natural field experiment that was implemented in collaboration with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). The authors examine the effectiveness of a welcome letter from the tax authority that aims to nudge first-time taxpayers to lodge their first income tax return. They compare this letter to a standard letter that emphasises the possibility of penalties and interest charges. The findings indicate that both letters have surprisingly similar effects on tax compliance, suggesting that the main channel through which the letters affect individual behaviour is by providing information. By contrast, the type of messaging and the way in which information is presented to first time taxpayers appear to be relatively unimportant. The analysis of heterogeneous treatment effects indicates that both letters are most effective for young entrants to the tax system and, within this group, more effective for Australian citizens than for visa holders. Project team: Sarah Dong, Mathias Sinning.

Published in: *Journal of Experimental and Behavioral Economics* 100, 1-12, 2022

### **Social norms or enforcement? A natural field experiment to improve traffic and parking fine compliance**

Very little is known about the efficient collection of fines despite their indispensable contribution to local government budgets. This paper fills an important gap in the literature by studying the effectiveness of deterrence (enforcement) and non-deterrence (social norms) letters that aim to improve the collection of traffic and parking fines. We present results from a natural field experiment implemented in collaboration with the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government. We find that both letters increase fine payments significantly. The effect of the enforcement letter is stronger than that of the social norms letter. Our analysis of heterogeneous treatment effects indicates that addressing social norms does not change the behaviour of young offenders, those who committed a speeding offence, those with a long outstanding debt and those with a debt above the median. In contrast, the enforcement letter is generally effective across subgroups. Project team: Mathias Sinning, Jacquelyn Zhang.

Published in: *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 210, 43-60, 2023

### **Longitudinal individuals file, Australian Taxation Office**

Robert Breunig continues to provide advice to the ATO on its longitudinal data file of tax and superannuation. Professor Breunig is a member of the Technical Advisory Group advising on the design of the Australian Longitudinal Individuals File (ALife). Researchers now have access to the base data. Work continues on the ALife Families File. This has been a very important element of achieving our mission to foster the production of independent research on Australia's tax and transfer system. Project team: Robert Breunig, Andrew Carter, Shane Johnson, Thomas Abhayaratna.

### **Elasticity of taxable income**

Researchers at TTPI led by Robert Breunig and Shane Johnson are conducting a project using administrative taxpayer panel record data to estimate behavioural response elasticities of taxpayers to differential marginal tax rates, thresholds and notches in the tax system, such as the personal income tax rate structure, and Higher Education Contribution levy phase-in. The project provides valuable evidence of taxpayer responses through labour supply and tax planning to elements of the income tax. Project team: Robert Breunig, Shane Johnson, Andrew Carter, Arezou Zaresani, Miguel Olivo-Villabrille.

### **Evaluating taxpayer responsiveness to the tax system**

Researchers at TTPI led by Robert Breunig have embarked on a wide range of projects looking at the responsiveness of tax payers to the tax system in a variety of different dimensions. Project team: Robert Breunig, Tristram Sainsbury, Andrew Carter, Shane Johnson, Peter Varela, Nathan Deutscher, Arezou Zaresani, Miguel Olivo-Villabrille.

### **Intergenerational taxation**

In collaboration with the Business Council of Australia, researchers at TTPI are analysing the intergenerational distribution of taxes. The project draws on historical taxation statistics and other data sources to better understand how contributions to tax revenue change over an individual's lifecycle, as well as how these lifecycle changes have evolved across different birth cohorts. Project Team: Robert Breunig, Kristen Sobeck, Peter Varela.

### **Wealth Inequality and the Tax System**

In collaboration with the Actuaries Institute, TTPI examined the relationship between the tax system and wealth accumulation. The objective of the report was to illustrate how aspects of the tax system's design – in particular, the inconsistent tax treatment of savings – disproportionately benefit some groups of individuals, relative to others. Project team: Robert Breunig, Kristen Sobeck



### **ARC Linkage Project in collaboration with the ACT Government (ARC grant: \$136,994): The use of nudges as a local government environmental policy instrument**

This project aims to design and rigorously test a range of behavioural nudges to improve the environmental behaviour of residents in the ACT, with a focus on adoption of low carbon technologies and the use of public transport. In partnership with the ACT Government, the proposal leverages recent research on cognitive biases to develop novel interventions and evaluate their effects via randomised controlled trials. Expected outcomes include new concepts for citizen-government interactions; advanced knowledge in public policy and behavioural economics; a new statistical programming tool; new methods to optimise policy and practice; and positive environmental and economic impacts for local governments and individuals. Project team: Mathias Sinning, Robert Breunig, Ralph Steinhauser, Jacquelyn Zhang.

### **Fairness preferences revisited**

This study revisits Engelmann and Strobel (2004), that tests theoretical models of fairness preferences with simple distribution games in a classroom environment with German students. We attempt to generalize the findings from ES (2004) to a digital context with US subjects by executing three experimental waves on Amazon Mechanical Turk. As in the original study, we find similar results for efficiency concerns and ERC. However, we find that selfishness motives have larger power for rationalizing allocation decisions while maximin preferences do not explain choices in our context. We draw on a plethora of replication criteria that lead up to 80 percent replication success with a large variation across criteria. We do not find meaningful preference changes during the pandemic using panel data from the first to the second wave. By leveraging a third wave, we show that lower maximin motives may be attributable to cultural differences in fairness considerations. While larger selfishness preferences may be driven by the high anonymity in an online relative to a classroom environment. Project team: Jacquelyn Zhang.

### **Migration research funded by the Department of Home Affairs and the Commonwealth Treasury**

In 2022, the TTPI entered into an agreement with the Department of Home Affairs and the Commonwealth Treasury to conduct two pieces of research into the Australian migration program. The first project utilises administrative tax and migration data through the Multi Agency Data Integration Project to investigate the factors that can predict the economic success of migrants arriving in Australia. The second project develops a microsimulation model to understand how migration impacts different parts of the Australian population. Project team: Peter Varela, Robert Breunig.

### **Female breadwinning and domestic abuse: Evidence from Australia**

We explore the relationship between heterosexual partners' relative income and the incidence of both domestic violence and emotional abuse. Using Australian data drawn from society-wide surveys, we find women who earn more than their male partners are subject to a 33 percent increase in partner violence and a 20 percent increase in emotional abuse compared to mean levels. We show the relationship between relative spouse income and female partner abuse is best modelled by a binary variable that captures "female breadwinning." This finding differs from those of some earlier studies that considered only serious abuse and found a continuous negative relationship between female partners' relative income and abuse. Instead, our findings suggest a mechanism related to gender norms generating domestic violence. We find no link between relative income and abuse of male partners. Project team: Jacquelyn Zhang, Robert Breunig

### **Policy implications of wealth accumulation and wealth transfers in Victoria**

Existing data sources only provide a partial account of wealth accumulation in Australia. Since 2002, HILDA has collected data on household wealth every four years. Prior to 2002, only one small-scale survey was conducted on household wealth in 1967 and another through the 1915 Census. While aggregate statistics do exist on wealth, through the ABS and historical taxation statistics, these statistics cannot shed light on the distribution of wealth across Australian individuals or households; as a result, information about this during the 20th century is largely unknown. This project will use grant funds as seed funding to digitize a selected number of probate records in Victoria in order to construct a historical time series dataset that details the value of wealth and bequests of deceased Victorians for analysis and proof of concept. Project team: Robert Breunig, Maria Racionero, Miranda Stewart, Kristen Soback, Peter Varela.

### **Better childcare data, for a better evidence base**

The ANU Gender Institute sponsors a variety of projects by ANU scholars and professional staff. In late 2021 the TTPI received a grant to support data integration activities aimed at improving the evidence base for Australian childcare policy. The project 'Better childcare data, for a better evidence-base' is joint with TTPI affiliates and scholars at Monash University and looks to expand and analyse integrated childcare administrative and survey data. Project team: Nathan Deutscher, Robert Breunig.



### **Hundreds and thousands: bunching at positive, salient tax balances and the cost of reducing tax liabilities**

Australian taxpayers display reference-dependent preferences when filing their tax returns - they bunch at positive and salient thresholds. We develop a model of taxpayer behaviour to show that bunching heterogeneity reflects both differences in preferences and the rate at which the marginal cost of reducing one's tax liability increases. Consistent with this model, bunching has grown alongside electronically prepared returns over recent decades and the subsequent responses of tax agents. Taxpayers receiving these balances are more likely to stay with their tax agent, but do not pay higher fees. Consistent with having flatter cost curves, 'high-bunching' agents deliver larger balances more generally and do so by lifting deductions and lowering reported income for return items where audits are costly. Project team: Robert Breunig, Nathan Deutscher, Steven Hamilton.

### **Too much of a good thing? Australian cash transfer replacement rates during the pandemic**

During the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 the Australian federal government temporarily expanded the level of cash relief available to the working-age population through supplemental benefit payments, a wage subsidy and allowing lump sum withdrawals from private pensions. We examine the scope and direct distributional consequences of these measures. Two in five working-age Australians received at least one of these three forms of transfer over a 12-month window. The median recipient had close to half their pre-COVID-19 income 'replaced' by transfers. The programs interacted to create a two-tier welfare safety net that put in place a poverty-alleviating income floor for workers in low-earning occupations and those on unemployment benefits, and provided job certainty and greater direct income support to those with higher incomes. Aggregate weekly incomes were higher during the initial period of COVID-19 than they were pre-COVID-19. Descriptive exercises, such as this, do not provide information about the 'impact' of pandemic policies and are limited to what they directly measure. That noted, we raise an important question for decision-makers facing future shocks: at what point is there 'too much of a good thing' with crisis cash transfers? Project team: Robert Breunig, Tristram Sainsbury.

### **Intergenerational account for Australia**

The Tax and Transfer Policy Institute and the Centre for Independent Studies will collaborate on the construction of Intergenerational Accounts for Australia. This project will examine the net fiscal contributions of different generations of Australians over the life course, and how the Australian tax and transfer system distributes the fiscal burden of policy within and between generations. Project team: Matthew Taylor, Robert Breunig.

### **Do monetary policy and economic conditions impact innovation? Evidence from Australian administrative data**

Recent papers have argued that monetary policy and economic conditions can influence the amount of innovative activity in the economy and therefore productivity and living standards. This paper examines whether this is the case for Australia, a small open economy that tends to import innovation from overseas. We find evidence that contractionary monetary policy leads to lower R&D spending and that lower R&D spending leads to slower productivity growth. However, using detailed microdata and focusing on broader measures of innovation that also capture adoption of innovation, we show heterogeneous responses across different firm types. Small firms decrease innovation in response to contractionary monetary policy shocks whereas large firms increase innovation. This heterogeneity appears to reflect differing exposure to the channels (demand or credit constraint) through which monetary policy affects innovation. We also provide evidence that it may be related to the role of management quality in producing and adopting innovation. Overall, our results suggest that policy and conditions have medium-run effects on productivity, though the passthrough is more complicated and heterogeneous than previously documented. Project team: Robert Breunig, Jonathan Hambur, Omer Majeed.

### **Determinants of innovation novelty: Evidence from Australian administrative data**

We examine the determinants of innovation novelty ranging from new-to-firm to new-to-world innovation. Higher levels of novelty help firms capture a larger share of the market, increase exports, and create positive spillovers. Using firm-level panel data for 2005-06 to 2015-16, from administrative and survey sources, this paper provides the first exploration of the determinants of innovation novelty among Australian firms. Firm-specific variables such as R&D, collaboration, foreign ownership, business focus on innovation, skills in IT and business management are associated with higher levels of innovation novelty. There are important differences in the results based on firm size and industry. Project team: Robert Breunig, Jonathan Hambur, Omer Majeed.

# EVENTS

TTPI holds a variety of events each year that bring together leading members of academia in Australia and across the globe, with representatives of government, business, and the community sector coming together to consider major tax and transfer issues. In addition, TTPI hosts a popular research seminar series, and collaborates with other partners to present research and policy workshops.

## Special presentation

### Taxation presentation to Office of the Government of Vietnam

14 July 2022

In Vietnam, the Office of the Government (OoG) is responsible for checking and advising on all draft laws initially prepared by the relevant ministries/agencies. The OoG and other ministries/agencies sent a high-level delegation to Australia from 11-15 July 2022 to study the Australian experience in company income taxation, fair competition and consumer protection. This study tour will help the delegation to contribute to Vietnam's Strategy of Tax Reform 2021-2030.

The delegation met with experts from TTPI at Crawford School on 14 July 2022 to discuss company taxation in Australia. In particular, the delegation was very interested in learning about Australia's recent experience in company tax reform (aims, approaches and outcomes).

The delegation also invited Professor Robert Breunig to attend and present the keynote address at the upcoming Contemporary Issues in Economics, Management and Business (CIEMB) conference in Vietnam in November 2022.



Special presentation to office of Government of Vietnam

## 2nd Australian Workshop on Public Finance

4 - 5 August 2022

The 2nd Australian Workshop on Public Finance is hosted by the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute, Australian National University (ANU) and is supported by The Australian Taxation office, Treasury, The Bureau of Statistics and the Department of Social Services. The workshop was held on Thursday 4 and Friday 5 August 2022 at the Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU.

Professor Greg Kaplan, of the Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics and the College at the University of Chicago, and an editor of the Journal of Political Economy, was the keynote speaker at the event.

The conference featured empirical research papers in many areas of public economics, with a particular focus on papers that made use of the ALife, DOMINO, MADIP, Single Touch Payroll or other Australian administrative datasets (making best use of the data; the representativeness of the data; tips and tricks for coding variables into useful variables for analysis, etc.) Each paper was assigned a discussant. The conference provides an opportunity to discuss the state of development of Australian administrative data, and for researchers who are making use of large administrative datasets to share their latest research and insights.

## The outlook for a new world order: A world with greater tax harmonization

18 August 2022

Viva Hammer, TTPI fellow, moderated a distinguished group of tax leaders debating the new world tax order. This webinar event included a variety of views from the panel.

- Dr Tom Barthold at the United States Congress
- Professor Michelle Hanlon at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Professor Jim Hines at the University of Michigan

Will the world actually come together to harmonize their tax rules? What happens if the goal fails? What happens if it succeeds? Will the new order be stable or unravel fast? What will the new tax regimes do to financial accounting? To fiscal stability? Who will be the winners and losers?

TTPI holds these popular international webinars biannually.

## Korea-Australia Tax Symposium

25-26 August 2022

This two-day event was held on 25 and 26 August 2022 at the Crawford School of Public Policy. The event was generously funded by the Australia-Korea Foundation of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, organised and run by the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute at the Australian National University and supported by the Korea Institute of Public Finance (KIPF).

This invite-only event brought together academics from Australia and South Korea, and policymakers from the Australian Taxation Office, the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet, the Australian Treasury, the Department of Finance and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The participants presented new research findings in the field of empirical public finance and discussed tax and transfer policy challenges in both countries. Attendees provided a very strong positive evaluation of the event. Participants remarked that the quality of the research and discussions was particularly high. The small setting, with each session having between 15 and 25 people, contributed to an environment of engagement and conversation. All participants felt that their participation was highly valuable and useful in their work. The next symposium will be held in Seoul in 2023.



Welcome remarks, from the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Australia Mr Jeong-sik Kang (centre), with Professor Robert Breunig ANU (right) and Dr Jae-Jin Kim, KIPF (left)



Symposium dinner



Korea-Australia Tax Symposium, Crawford School

### **A unified global tax system: is it possible? Will it work?**

7 March 2023

Global tax leaders from Europe, the U.S. and Australia offered their views on the emerging global tax consensus, with a lively Q&A session held afterwards.

#### **The panel**

- Dr Thomas Barthold, Chief of Staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation at the U.S. Congress
- David Bradbury, Deputy Director, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD
- Pascal Saint Amans, Former Director, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD

This exceptional panel was chaired by Viva Hammer, formerly of the Joint Committee on Taxation at the U.S. Congress and the Office of Tax Policy at the U.S. Treasury Department and now a TTPI fellow at the Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU.

### **Cash for COVID-19 vaccines in Africa: A financial incentives trial in rural Ghana**

17 March 2023

**Dr Raymond Duch, Nutfield College, University of Oxford**

This seminar is jointly hosted by the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute, ANU and the Department of Health Services Research and Policy, College of Health and Medicine, ANU.

In this seminar Dr Duch discusses how he implemented a clustered randomized controlled trial with 8,854 residents in six rural Ghana Districts to determine whether financial incentives produce substantial increases in COVID-19 vaccine uptake. Villages were randomly assigned to receive one of four video treatment arms: a placebo, a standard health message, a high cash incentive (\$10) and a low cash incentive (\$3). Non-vaccinated subjects, assigned to the Cash incentive treatments had an average COVID-19 vaccine intention rate of 81 percent compared to the 71 percent for those in the Placebo treatment arm. Two months after the initial intervention the average self-reported vaccination rates for subjects in the Cash treatment were about 3.6 percent higher than those for subjects in the Placebo treatment 40 percent versus 36.5 percent. The verified vaccination rates of subjects in the Cash treatment arms exhibited more modest treatment effects: 70.3 percent of verified subjects had at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine compared to the 67.3 percent for those in Placebo. The low cash incentive (\$3.00) had a larger positive effect on COVID-19 vaccine uptake than the high cash incentive (\$10.00). There is no evidence of spillover effects of the financial incentives to subjects in non-financial treatment arms nor to non-treated proximate residents.

### **PhD Seminars**

**Bunching evidence from Australia's income contingent loan scheme**, 1 August 2022, Mr Shane Johnson

**Do business tax incentives work? Evidence from Australia**, 30 September 2022, Ms Nu Nu Win

**Tax Bunching of very high earners. Evidence from Australia's Division 293 tax**, 10 February 2023, Mr Andrew Carter

**Withdrawing from, and contributing to, superannuation during COVID-19 for a tax saving**, 5 May 2023, Mr Tristram Sainsbury

**Family size and domestic violence in a high-fertility society**, 23 June 2023, Ms Dyah Pritadrajati



## TTPI research seminar series

The TTPI seminar series are held on Fridays at Crawford School. These seminars cover a broad range of topics and are attended by a mix of government employees, the public, academics and students.

**What is the future of individual tax residence under the proposed rules?** 11 November 2022, Dr John Minas, Curtin University

**Environmental regulation, local vulnerability and enforcement: Evidence from an emission limit policy in China,** 24 November 2022, Dr Shawn Xiaoguang Chen, University of Western Australia

**Hours constraints and wage differentials across firms,** 17 February 2023, Mr Claudio Labanca, Monash University

**The effect of school closures on standardised test scores,** 24 March 2023, Dr Christian Gillitzer, University of Sydney

**Monetary policy shocks and firm innovation,** 31 March 2023, Mr Omer Majeed, Reserve Bank of Australia

**Self-control and unhealthy body weight: The role of impulsivity and restraint,** 26 May 2023, Dr Sarah C. Dahmann

**Wage decoupling: a quick review of the evidence,** 9 June 2023, Mr Colin Burns, Australian Productivity Commission

**Uneven growth, redistribution and inequality: The Australian case,** 16 June 2023, Ms Nabeeh Zakariyya

**On non-robustness of income polarisation measures to housing cycles,** 30 June 2023, Dr Sergey Alexeev, University of Sydney

## Outreach seminars

In mid-2018 TTPI began a series of outreach seminars at various government departments to present research findings directly to policymakers. Whilst the program comprised a variety of speakers and topics, departments were encouraged to contact TTPI with any alternative topic requests. These topical seminars are well attended and will continue into 2024.

### Productivity Commission

‘Determinants of innovation novelty: Evidence from Australia’, Omer Majeed and Robert Breunig, 12 July 2022

‘Hours constraints and the gender wage gap’, Claudio Labanca, 12 August 2022

‘Social norms or enforcement? A natural field experiment to improve traffic and parking fine compliance’, Mathias Sinning and Yinjunjie Zhang, 12 October 2022

‘Corporate income taxation in Australia’, Kristen Sobeck, 1 June 2023

### Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

‘Greedy jobs, labour market institutions and the gender pay gap’, Kristen Sobeck, 24 February 2023

‘COVID-19 pension withdrawals’, Robert Breunig, 20 March 2023

### Australian Taxation Office

‘Does the early release of retirement savings prolong labour market participation for workers approaching retirement? Evidence from Australia’s ‘Transition to Retirement Income Streams’ program’, Andrew Carter, 29 September 2022

‘Corporate income tax in Australia’, Kristen Sobeck, 7 December 2022

‘Hundreds and thousands: bunching at positive, salient tax balances and the cost of reducing tax liabilities’, Robert Breunig and Nathan Deutscher and Steven Hamilton, 9 December 2022

### Treasury

‘Determinants of innovation novelty: Evidence from Australia’, Omer Majeed and Robert Breunig, 10 February 2023

‘Hours constraints and the gender wage gap’, Claudio Labanca, 17 February 2023

### Prime Minister and Cabinet

‘Gender norms and domestic abuse’, Robert Breunig and Yinjunjie Zhang, 16 September 2022

‘Greedy jobs, labour market institutions, and the gender pay gap’, Kristen Sobeck, 1 March 2023

### Australian Bureau of Statistics

‘COVID-19 pension withdrawals’, Robert Breunig, 27 October 2022

### Department of Social Services

‘Parenting payment single’, Kristen Sobeck, 5 December 2022



# PUBLICATIONS

TTPI researchers, fellows and visitors publish and present our research in a wide range of academic, policy and public forums.

The TTPI Working Paper series is the only specialist tax and transfer working paper series in Australia and the region. The aim of the series is to promote excellent tax and transfer research work in progress from all disciplines relevant to taxes and transfers. Submissions are lightly peer reviewed. Working papers are open access and are distributed through the Social Science Research Network (SSRN) Series. Working papers may be published jointly with other working paper series or institutes.

TTPI has established an occasional policy brief series providing explanations and analysis of key tax and transfer issues of relevance to policymakers. The aim is to inform and explain issues for policy and public debate.

TTPI Tax Facts provide a brief non-technical overview of specific tax and transfer policy issues.

Major reports on tax and transfer issues were commenced in 2019, with the first report published and released in 2020. These comprehensive reports are a valuable outreach communication tool as TTPI builds its library of tax reports.

## TTPI working papers

**WP9/2022**, Sainsbury, T., Breunig, R., and Watson, T. 'COVID-19 private pension withdrawals and unemployment tenures', (July 2022)

**WP10/2022**, Rose, T., and Breunig, R. 'Paying back Australia's COVID-19 debt', (July 2022)

**WP11/2022**, Ferlitsch, P. 'Changes to Australian income support settings during the COVID-19 pandemic', (September 2022)

**WP12/2022**, Breunig, R., Deutscher, N., and Hamilton, S. 'Hundreds and thousands: Bunching at positive, salient tax balances and the cost of reducing tax liabilities', (October 2022)

**WP13/2022**, Zabar, J., and Jefferson, B. 'Improving the utilisation of the fringe benefits tax concession by Public Benevolent Institutions', (November 2022)

**WP14/2022**, Tran, C., and Tin, d. 'Lifecycle earnings risk and insurance: New evidence from Australia', (November 2022)

**WP 15/2022**, Sobeck, K. 'Greedy jobs, labour market institutions, and the gender pay gap', (December 2022)

**WP16/2022**, Burke, P. J. 'On the way out: Government revenues from fossil fuels in Australia', (December 2022)

**WP1/2023**, Abelson, P. 'The principles and practice of local government in the Australian three-tiered system of government: With special reference to the roles of state and local government in New South Wales', (January 2023)

**WP2/2023**, Bakhtiari, S. 'Changing nature of patents in Australia', (February 2023)

**WP 3/2023**, Hamilton, S., Liu, G., and Sainsbury, T. 'Early pension withdrawal as stimulus', (March 2023)

**WP 4/2023**, Carter, A., and Breunig, R. 'Tax bunching of very high earners. Evidence from Australia's Division 293 tax', (April 2023)

**WP 5/2023**, Pritadrajati, D. 'Family size and domestic violence in a high-fertility society', (May 2023)

**WP 6/2023**, Gillitzer, G., and Prasad, N. 'The effect of school closures on standardized test scores: Evidence from Australia', (June 2023)

**WP 7/2023**, Bayly, N., Breunig, R., and Wokker, C. 'Female board representation and corporate performance: A review and new estimates for Australia', (June 2023)

## TTPI policy briefs

**PB1/2023**, Tilley, P. '3-stage tax cuts versus bracket creep', (March 2023)

## TTPI tax facts

**Tax Fact #26**: 'Why do accounting and tax concepts differ?', (September 2022)

**Tax Fact #27**: 'What is the petroleum resource rent tax?', (May 2023)

**Tax Fact #28**: 'How does the petroleum resource rent tax work and how does it apply to gas?', (May 2023)

## TTPI transfer facts

**Transfer Fact #4**: 'What is an earned income tax credit (EITC)?', (February 2023)

**Transfer Fact #5**: 'What are the limitations and benefits of an earned income tax credit (EITC)?', (February 2023)

## Academic publications

**Breunig, R., and Sainsbury, T. (2023)**, 'Too much of a good thing? Australian cash transfer replacement rates during the pandemic', *Australian Economic Review*, Volume 56, Issue 1, pp. 70–90

**Breunig, R., Deutscher, N., and Hamilton, S. (2022)** 'Hundreds and thousands: bunching at positive, salient tax balances and the cost of reducing tax liabilities', Tax and Transfer Policy Institute Working Paper 12/2022, submitted to *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*

Carter, A., and **Breunig, B. (2023)** 'Tax bunching of very high earners: Evidence from Australia's Division 293 tax', Tax and Transfer Policy Institute Working Paper 4/2023, submitted to *National Tax Journal*

**Chapman, B., Dearden, L., and Dung, D. (2022)** 'How should governments finance student loans? Lessons from around the world', in: Mendolia, Silvia and O'Brien, Martin and Paloyo, Alfredo and Yerokhin, Oleg, (eds.), *Critical Perspectives on Economics of Education*, Routledge, London: 21-42

**Chapman, B., and Taylor, M. (2022)** 'Partner violence and the financial well-being of women: HILDA research results', CSRM Research notes series, Australian National University

**Chapman, B. (2023)**, 'Review of the debt trap', by Josh Mitchell, *Economic Record*, Volume 99 (325), June: 315-318

Chien, C.-H., **Breunig, R., and Welsh, A.H. (2022)** 'Firm-level dynamics and aggregate productivity: Australian evidence using linked employer-employee data', submitted to *Empirical Economics*

Fabian, M., **Breunig, R., and De Neve, J. (2022)** 'Explaining the return of racial voting: Economic anxiety, psychological wellbeing, and identity', *European Journal of Social Psychology*, forthcoming. Available at <https://doi.org/10.1002/ejsp.2894>

Hathorne, C. and **Breunig, R. (2022)** 'Occupational mobility in the ALife data: How reliable are occupational patterns from administrative Australian tax records?', *Economic Papers*, Volume 41, Issue 4, pp. 297–324. Available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/1759-3441.12369>

Lancsar, E, Huynh, E., Swait, J., **Breunig, R., Mitton, C., Kirk M., and Donaldson C. (2023)** 'Preparing for future pandemics: A multinational comparison of health and economic trade-offs', *Health Economics*, forthcoming. Available at <https://doi.org/10.1002/hec.4673>

Majeed, O. and **Breunig, R. (2022)** 'Determinants of innovation novelty: Evidence from Australian administrative data', *Innovation and New Technology*, forthcoming. Available at <https://doi.org/10.1080/10438599.2022.2132239>

**Murphy, C. (2023)** 'Fiscal policy in the COVID-19 era', *Economic Papers*, 42:2, June, 107–152

**Sinning, M., and Zhang, Y. (2023)** 'Traffic and parking fine collection: Are social norms more effective than enforcement?', *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 210, 43-60

**Sinning, M., Hoy, C., and McKenzie, L. (2022)** 'Improving tax compliance without increasing revenue: Evidence from population-wide randomized controlled trials in Papua New Guinea', *Economic Development and Cultural Change*

**Sinning, M., and Dong, S. (2022)** 'Trying to make a first good impression: A natural field experiment to engage new entrants to the tax system', *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, 100

Wang, T., and **Stewart, M. (2022)** 'The law and policy of VAT tourist tax refund schemes: A comparative analysis', 14(2) *World Tax Journal* 285-330

Zhang, J., and **Breunig, R. (2023)** 'Gender norms and domestic abuse: Evidence from Australia', *Journal of Population Economics*, forthcoming. Available at: IZA Working Paper No. 14225

## Other publications

Bastian, J., Ebrahim, A., Lustig, N., Redonda, A., and **Stewart, M. (2022)** 'Tax expenditures and female labour force participation', (T20 Indonesia Policy Brief, Task Force 5, Inequality, Human Capital and Wellbeing)

**Breunig, R., Johnson, S., Olivo-Villabril, M., and Zaresani, S. (2023)** 'Individuals' responsiveness to marginal tax rates: Evidence from bunching in Australian personal income tax', submitted to *Labour Economics*

Cooper, G., Dirkis, M., **Stewart M., and Vann, R. (2022)** 'Income taxation: Commentary and materials', (10th edition, Thomson Reuters: Sydney) & previous editions from 7th ed.

**Murphy, C. (2023)** 'Budget Forum 2023: Inflation forecast, fiscal policy and personal income tax rates', Austaxpolicy: Tax and Transfer Policy Blog, 23 May 2023, Available from: <https://www.austaxpolicy.com/budget-forum-2023-inflation-forecast-fiscal-policy-and-personal-income-tax-rates/>

Podger, A., **Breunig, R., and Piggott, J. (2023)** 'Retirement incomes: Increasing inequity, not costs, across generations is the intergenerational problem', in *More Than Fiscal: The Intergenerational Report, Sustainability and Public Policy in Australia*, edited by Podger, A., Hall, J., and Woods, M. Chapter 5, pages 77–97. Canberra, Australia: ANU Press

**Sims, R.** 'Understanding the benefits and costs of the digital economy', review of 'Digital economic policy', by Mario Marincello, OUP, *Economic Record*, 29 May, 2023

**Stewart, M. (2022)** 'Tax and Government in the Twenty-First Century', (Cambridge University Press: Cambridge)

**Stewart, M., and Nidumolu, P. (2023)** 'International tax law and development', Chapter 20 in Buchana, R, Eslava, L and Pahuja, S, *The Oxford Handbook of International Law and Development* (Oxford University Press), 407-430

**Tran, A., and Xu, W. (2023)** 'A study of profit shifting using the Hines and Rice approach', *Australian Tax Forum*, Volume 38, Number 1, 1-49. (Accepted in November 2022, published in April 2023)

## Reports

**Breunig, R., and Sobeck, K. (2023)** 'Wealth, inequality and the tax system', report prepared for the Actuaries Institute of Australia

**Whiteford, P. (2023)** Report to the Robodebt Royal Commission, <https://robodebt.royalcommission.gov.au/publications/professor-peter-whiteford-report-robodebt-royal-commission>

## International research engagement

TTPI faculty have numerous links and are engaged to develop research programs with a range of international academic and government organisations including:

- > Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand
- > Brazil Senate, Brazil
- > Carleton University, Canada
- > Columbia University, NY
- > George Washington University, US
- > Harvard University, US
- > Institute for the study of Labor (IZA) Bonn, Germany
- > Joint Committee of Taxation, US
- > Korea Institute of Public Finance, South Korea
- > London School of Economics, United Kingdom
- > National Institute for Public Finance and Policy, India
- > National University of Singapore
- > Northwestern University, US
- > Office of the Government of Vietnam
- > Oxford University Centre for Business Taxation and Law Faculty, United Kingdom
- > University of British Columbia
- > University of Chicago, US
- > University of Maryland, US
- > University of Massachusetts, US
- > University of Michigan, US
- > University of Seoul, Department of Science in Taxation, South Korea
- > University of Wellington, Public Finance, Business School, New Zealand

# ENGAGEMENT

TTPI engages with policy and service government agencies, political representatives, community and business stakeholders, the media and the broader public. On 31 March 2023, Robert Breunig and Kristen Sobeck from TTPI, were invited to participate in a tax roundtable held at Parliament House, organised by the independent teal MP Allegra Spender. TTPI aims through these activities to inform, enhance and influence public knowledge and debate about taxes and transfers.

The TTPI monthly newsletter has 847 contacts, and of these 712 are subscribers. The newsletter is distributed in Australia and around the world across government, business and community sectors, informing these stakeholders of new developments, visitors, events and publications.

TTPI has also conducted many of its activities in partnership with other research institutes at ANU and at other universities, government departments and entities. This collaboration is central to TTPI's ability to influence public policy. In 2023-2024, TTPI seeks to continue its excellent record in policy engagement with the federal government, and seeks to build engagement with state and territory governments, and with governments and institutions in the Asia-Pacific region and across the globe.

## Selected speeches and presentations

### Robert Breunig

'COVID-19 private pension withdrawals and unemployment tenures', Monash University, August 2022

'COVID-19 private pension withdrawals and unemployment tenures', Reserve Bank of Australia, Sydney, September 2022

'COVID-19 private pension withdrawals and unemployment tenures', University of Sydney, September 2022

'Virtual workshop on demographic trends and their implications for productivity', Asian Productivity Organization, September 2022

'COVID-19 private pension withdrawals and unemployment tenures', University of Melbourne, October 2022

'APS Movements model', Australian Public Service Commission, Old Parliament House, (co-presenters, Nu Nu Win, David Hansell) October 2022

'COVID-19 private pension withdrawals and unemployment tenures', University of Adelaide, November 2022

Keynote speaker, Contemporary Issues in Economics, Management and Business (CIEMB), Vietnam November 2022

'Mental health and duration off income support', Asian and Australasian Society of Labor Economics Conference, University of Tokyo, December 2022

'COVID-19 private pension withdrawals and unemployment tenures', Asian and Australasian Society of Labor Economics Conference, University of Tokyo, December 2022

'Resource cost of income sheltering behaviours and elasticity of taxable income', Asian and Australasian Society of Labor Economics Conference, University of Tokyo, December 2022

'COVID-19 private pension withdrawals and unemployment tenures', University of Indiana, December 2022

'Payments to single mothers in Australia: employment effects of benefit reduction and increased work requirements', Université de Rennes I, France, January 2023

'Determinants of innovation novelty: Evidence from Australia', Victoria Department of Treasury and Finance, May 2023

'Too much of a good thing? Australian cash transfer replacement rates during the pandemic', Economic Society of Australia, Policy Forum: Fiscal Policy for COVID-19, May 2023,

'Determinants of innovation novelty: Evidence from Australia', Productivity Commission, Canberra, May 2023

### Bruce Chapman

'Understanding HECS', ANU Conference, ANU contribution to income-contingent loan analysis and policy, Crawford School of Public Policy, July 2022

'Higher education financing', Institute for Fiscal Studies seminar series, London, November 2022

'The financial implications of domestic violence for female victims', University College London Social Sciences seminar series, London, November 2022

'The financial implications of domestic violence for female victims', College of Business and Economics Conference, Domestic Violence Research, ANU, Canberra, December 2022

'The story of HECS', Australian Labour Market Research Workshop, ANU, Canberra, February 2023

'Education policy in Latin America', ANU Latin American event, Ecuador Education Policy, ANU February 2023

'HECS reform issues for the University Accord Review', Department of Education, Canberra, March 2023

'HECS reform issues for the University Accord', Academy of the Humanities, Canberra, March 2023

'Lessons for US student loans policy from Australia', Brookings Institution/Urban Institute Conference, The Biden Student Loans Reform Package, Washington DC, April 2023

### Rod Sims

'Expenditure and revenue: you can't have one without the other', Revenue Summit, The Australia Institute, Parliament House Canberra, 6 October 2022

'Let's talk about corporations', Sydney University Law School, 2 February 2023



'Challengers facing competition enforcers', Keystone Strategy Conference, Brussels, 1 March 2023

'Anti-trust in the digital economy', Global Competition Review Conference, Washington, 28 March 2023

'Is anti-trust getting the right outcomes', Global Competition Review Award Night, Washington, 28 March 2023

'Platform regulation: overcoming the barriers', Panel discussion, Columbia Law School, New York, 31 March 2023

'Australia's economy will be a huge beneficiary from the transition to net zero emissions', South Australian Industry Climate Conference, Adelaide, 21 April 2023

'Promoting dynamism, competition and business formation', Testimony to Parliament House Committee, Parliament House, Canberra, 2 May 2023

#### **Mathias Sinning**

'A data driven journey in STATA-using STATA in reproducible evidence-based knowledge creation, Oceania State Conference, February 2023

'The distribution of treatment effects: New evidence from a welfare experiment', School of Politics and International Relations ANU, February 2023

'The distribution of treatment effects: New evidence from a welfare experiment', Arndt-Corden Department of Economics, ANU, Trade and Development Seminar, Canberra, February 2022

#### **Miranda Stewart**

'Tax reform', Melbourne Economic Forum, August 2022

'Women in super, gender-responsive budgeting', October 2022-23 Budget, November 2022

'Keynote address, Revenue summit', (Australia Institute), Parliament House, Canberra, October 2022

'Tax and Government Webinar', Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance, September 2022

'Tax and government', UCLouvain Faculty of Law, September 2022

'Comparative tax law methodology', PhD symposium, Uppsala University Faculty of Law, Sweden, September 2022

'Sat Pal Khattar lecture in international tax', Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, February 2023

## Media and opinion

The TTPI Director, Chair and senior faculty played a significant role in public debate and engagement on a wide range of budgetary, tax and transfer policy topics throughout the year. Selected contributions to media, public debate and opinion from TTPI and associated academics are listed below.

#### **Selected media**

Podcast: 'Back to basics - the economy and us', *Asia & the Pacific Policy Society* (APPS) Policy Forum, presenters, Kristen Sobek, Warwick McKibbin, Sharon Bessell, Arnagretta Hunter, 4 July 2022

'To achieve valid reform, we must know what works', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, by Steven Hamilton, 20 July 2022

'Market power, gas and inflation' *Sydney Morning Herald*, Rod Sims 25 July 2022

'Treasurer was all talk, no action on inflation', *Financial Review*, by Steven Hamilton, 28 July 2022

'Tax landowners to repay COVID-19 debt, ANU study says', *Financial Review*, by John Kehoe, (Robert Breunig comments) 29 July 2022

'The logic for and lessons from Australia's news media bargaining code', *The Conversation*, Rod Sims 12 August, 2022

'It's important not to overreact': Australia's top economists on how to fix inflation', *The Canberra Times*, by Peter Martin, (Robert Breunig comments) 15 August 2022

'Why the stage three tax cuts should be replaced', *Financial Review*, by Miranda Stewart, 15 August 2022

'Let's talk about bold tax reform worthy of a new Accord', *Financial Review*, by Steven Hamilton, 17 August 2022

'Gabfest with no economic plan is easy to be cynical about', *Financial Review*, by Steven Hamilton, 2 September 2022

'Redesign stage three tax cuts to better balance equity and efficiency', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, by Steven Hamilton, 4 September 2022

'What happened when we gave unemployed Australians early access to their super? We've just found out', *The Conversation*, by Tristram Sainsbury and Robert Breunig, 15 September 2022

'Millions who withdrew superannuation early spent longer unemployed, paid less: study', *ABC News*, by Henry Belot, (Robert Breunig comments) 15 September 2022

'Grattan on Friday: Can Jim Chalmers become a reforming treasurer?', *The Conversation*, by Michelle Grattan, (Robert Breunig comments) 22 September 2022

'Does Jim Chalmers have the political backbone to rollout major tax reform', *The Canberra Times*, by Michelle Grattan, (Robert Breunig comments) 23 September 2022

- 'Let the states specialise in services and leave tax to the feds', *Financial Review*, by Robert Breunig, 2 October 2022
- 'Rod Sims on why Australia is ready for higher taxes', *Financial Review*, by Tom McIlroy, 6 October 2022
- 'How much tax is enough?' ABC Radio National, presenter Richard Aedy, guests: Dr Richard Denniss, Professor Robert Breunig, James Woollam, Anna Burkey, 3 October 2022
- 'Income tax changes ruled out this budget but push for new review into revenue gathers steam', *ABC News*, by Michael Janda, (Kristen Sobeck and Robert Breunig comment) 17 October 2022
- 'Defence should pay price in Labor's first budget', *The Canberra Times*, by Nicholas Stuart, (Robert Breunig comments) 17 October 2022
- 'The growing push for more income tax reform', *The Business*, *ABC News*, video by Michael Janda, (Kristen Sobeck and Robert Breunig comment) 17 October 2022
- 'Chalmers delivers the weakest fiscal strategy of recent times', *Financial Review*, by Steven Hamilton, 26 October 2022
- 'Top economists urge government to rethink stage three tax cuts', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, by Shane Wright, (Miranda Stewart comments) 14 December 2022
- 'Is a recession inevitable?', *The Saturday Paper*, by John Hewson, January 2023
- 'OXFAM calls for more taxes on world's wealthiest', ABC News Radio, Mandy Presland speaks with Miranda Stewart, 17 January 2023
- 'Advisory council a boon for effective economic policy', *The Australian*, By Robert Breunig and Philip Clarke, 30 January 2023
- 'HECS indexation issues are of no consequence', *The Canberra Times*, (with Maddy Dunk) 8 February 2023
- 'Super definition puts withdrawal schemes in federal crosshairs', *Financial Review*, by Lucy Dean and Hannah Wootton, (Steven Hamilton comments) 21 February 2023
- 'Inside the battle brewing over retirement savings', *The Canberra Times*, by Poppy Johnston, (Robert Breunig comments) 25 February 2023
- 'Could superannuation tax changes spark other tax windbacks?', ABC News Radio, report by Nicole Hegarty, (Miranda Stewart comments) 1 March 2023
- 'Stop super tinkering, start asking how to tax all savings fairly', *Financial Review*, by Robert Breunig, 2 March 2023
- 'Inflation pushes workers into higher tax brackets', *Financial Review*, by Michael Read, (Robert Breunig comments) 3 March 2023
- 'Tax sting: Why Chalmers might not stop at super', *Financial Review*, by John Kehoe, (Robert Breunig comments) 3 March 2023
- 'Super and the case for tax reform', *The Saturday Paper*, by John Hewson, 4 March 2023
- 'Why sweeping tax reform is urgently needed', *The Saturday Paper*, by John Hewson, 11 March 2023
- 'Australians drained \$38 billion of their super in the pandemic. Here's what they spent it on', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, by Shane Wright ( Steven Hamilton and Tristram Sainsbury comment) 16 March 2023
- 'Why robodebt's use of 'income averaging' lacked basic common sense', *The Conversation*, by Peter Whiteford, 16 March 2023
- 'Mindy Herzfeld's structuring cross-border transactions: A model for future writers', *Tax Notes International*, book review by Viva Hammer (Reprinted from Tax Notes International p.73) 3 April 2023
- 'Tax shield on super gas profits leaves Australian's looking like 'chumps', economist says', *ABC News*, by Daniel Mercer, (Kristen Sobeck comments) 26 April 2023
- 'What's wrong with Australia's tax system and can we fix it?', ABC RN podcast with presenter Keri Phillips and Robert Breunig comments, 30 April 2023
- 'The cruel and unfair stage three tax cuts will only worsen inequality', *Crikey*, by Miranda Stewart and Kathryn James, 8 May 2023
- 'How removing parenting payments when children turned 8 harmed rather than helped single mothers', *The Conversation*, by Kristen Sobeck, 8 May 2023
- 'What is a fair share?', *The Guardian*, Rod Sims, 8 May 2023
- 'Labor proves its economic mettle', *The Saturday Paper*, by John Hewson - Edition 13, 19 May 2023
- 'Regulating generative AI', *Financial Review*, Rod Sims, 26 May 2023
- 'It's time to end Western Australia's \$4 billion-per-year GST bonus', *The Conversation*, by Robert Breunig, 31 May 2023
- 'The productivity collapse', *The Saturday Paper*, by John Hewson, 3 June 2023
- 'Chalmers can't keep passing the buck on inflation', *Financial Review*, by Steven Hamilton, 6 June 2023
- 'How to turn stamp duty into a land tax overnight', *Financial Review*, by Robert Breunig, 19 June 2023
- 'View from the brink of recession', *The Saturday Paper*, by John Hewson, 24 June 2023

## Services on government/other advisory bodies

### Robert Breunig

Economic Inclusion Advisory Committee

Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA)

Australian Statistical Advisory Council (ASAC)

First Nations Economic Development Steering Committee, ANU

BLADE Technical Advisory Group, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Data Methods Advisory Group, Commonwealth Department of Health

Parliamentary Budget Office, Panel of Expert Advisors

Critical Friends of the Central Analytics Hub, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government Tax Reform Advisory Group

Member, Economic Society of Australia (ESA), National Economic Panel

Australian Longitudinal Census Dataset Advisory Group

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Methodology Advisory Committee (MAC)

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Productivity Measurement Reference Group

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Statistics Advisory Group

### John Hewson

Member GAP, Taskforce on National Resilience

Member, National Standing Committee for Energy and the Environment

Member, Steering Committee (SteerCo) Australian Sustainable Finance Committee

Member, ACOSS Advisory Panel on Inequality and Poverty

Member, UNSW Grand Challenge on Inequality, Advisory Committee

Chair, Commission for the Human Future Chair, Business Council for Sustainable Development Australia

## Austaxpolicy.com blog and social media

In 2022-2023, Austaxpolicy continued to be a leading platform for insightful articles on tax and transfer policies, informed by cutting-edge academic research across various

fields. During this period, the blog published 70 articles written by 84 experts from Australia and overseas. There were also more than 170 news pieces posted.

The numbers of our readership remained robust throughout the year, with more than 50,000 readers and almost 75,000 page views. Impressively, more than half of our readers were from overseas, including countries such as the United States (13.07%), China (4.70%) and the United Kingdom (3.05%). Within Australia, we found strong readership bases in Sydney (13.37%), Melbourne (10.61%) and Brisbane (5.61%). More than 1,200 people chose to receive Austaxpolicy articles and news pieces through our fortnightly newsletters.

Complementing our blog, TTPI managed the @Austaxpolicy account on X (formerly Twitter) with more than 1,800 followers.

During the period from July to December 2022, the blog was edited by Miranda Stewart, Mathias Sinning and Sonali Walpolo, with editorial support by Teck Chi Wong. Starting in January 2023, we saw a change in editorial leadership as Miranda Stewart stepped down from her role as co-editor after seven years, and we welcomed Helen Ping from the ANU Research School of Accounting to the team.

### Top ten Austaxpolicy articles in 2022-2023

**Elizabeth Ng**, 'An evaluation of the proposed changes to the individual tax residency rules – impact on Australian expatriates', 2,748 page views (22 July 2022)

**Andrew Ainsworth and Adrian Lee**, 'Gaming the dividend imputation system: How are franking credits "shared" with ineligible investors?', 825 page views (16 December 2022)

**Peter Whiteford**, 'How generous is the British welfare state?', 660 page views (15 November 2022)

**Barbara Trad, Brett Freudenberg and John Minas**, 'Small business restructure roll-over: In need of its own restructure?', 594 page views (27 July 2022)

**Mark Brabazon**, '[October Budget 2022] Proposed changes to Australia's thin capitalisation rules', 495 page views (4 November 2022)

**Terese Fiedler and John Minas**, 'Supporting a circular economy through taxation', 442 page views (5 July 2022)

**Ben Spies-Butcher, Troy Henderson and Elise Klein**, '[October Budget 2022] Australia's first wellbeing budget leaves people behind', 416 page views (8 November 2022)

**Miranda Stewart**, 'Why the stage three tax cuts should be replaced', 396 page views (22 August 2022)

**Anna Mortimore**, 'Business fleets and electric vehicles: Taxation changes to support home charging from the grid and affordability', 340 page views (1 September 2022)

**Peter Whiteford**, 'Do Australians pay too much income tax? 6 charts on how we rank against the rest of the world', 337 page views (13 July 2022)

# EDUCATION

Staff, fellows and visitors associated with TTPI teach in a range of graduate and executive education courses. In addition, TTPI staff and fellows build advanced research capacity in the field through supervision of PhD students in diverse disciplines, researching topics on public finance, tax and transfers. Our PhD students are listed in our “People” section (p.6).

## Master degree programs

The Crawford School of Public Policy delivers world-class graduate degree programs in public policy, founded in research led teaching, and combined with a focus on integrating best-practice, innovative teaching methods to continually deliver a challenging and cohesive curriculum. The programs adapt to changing demands from public policy concerns and student needs.

ANU staff lead and participate in national, regional and international public policy debate, with many active on government committees and in advisory roles across government, business and civil society.

### Second semester 2022

#### Empirical Public Finance

IDEC8025

Mathias Sinning

This course is an introduction to the economic analysis of incentives generated by tax systems and income transfer programs. The emphasis is on understanding how, and the extent to which, individuals and firms react to those policies – the central question addressed in the growing field of empirical public finance. The discussion on key design elements of those policies are expected to foster students’ understanding of important trade-offs involved in implementing government policies.

The course will cover the following topics: tax incidence, efficiency and optimal taxation, income taxation and labour supply, taxes on consumption, taxes on savings, taxes on investment and corporate taxation. Examples will be drawn from taxes and income transfer programs implemented in Australia and internationally. Particular attention will be paid to the application of quasi-experimental methods to public finance. By reading articles that apply quasi-experiments for each topic, students are expected to develop a practical understanding of issues involved in taking econometric models to the real world. Students will be exposed to a variety of estimation techniques.

### Winter program

#### Graduate Preparatory Econometrics

IDEC7904

Robert Breunig

The aim of this course is to prepare students for the Econometric Techniques subject (IDEC8017) and other econometric related study or research in the IDEC Master of International and Development Economics Program. The course is designed to provide fundamental knowledge in probability theory, statistics and econometric techniques. There will also be two computer sessions on using the STATA software package. As a preparatory course, the class environment will be structured to help students become familiar with the ANU teaching environment, resources available to students, and requirements of formal coursework. In-class exercises are an important component of teaching in the course.

#### Environmental Economics

IDEC8053

Paul Burke

This course provides a broad coverage of environmental economics for Master-level students. The course covers market failure, the economics of pollution control, market-based instruments, environmental cost-benefit analysis, environmental valuation, the environment and the economy, global environmental problems, and other topics. Students will apply economic approaches to analyse policy options to better manage the environment at both the local and global levels.

#### Economics for Government

POGO8081

Professor Robert Breunig

This course presents a systematic way of thinking about economic principles and the role of government. The course will ensure participants understand the nature and role of markets. Governments interact with the economy and markets at all levels, ranging from market design to hybrid public-private programs, from policies designed to provide incentives or disincentives to market and other behaviours, to incorporating behavioural and economic principles in government itself. The course will identify the economy and how we measure it. It will frame public budgeting for the financing of government through taxation, borrowing and other means and will introduce concepts of deficit and government debt, fiscal austerity, economic stimulus and other fiscal policy approaches. The course will provide a framework for understanding the strengths and limits of markets as a form of social organization and for identifying the precise nature of market failure, the objectives of public policy and forms of government intervention.,



## Social Policy Analysis

### Winter session

POGO8025

Professor Peter Whiteford

This course aims to provide both a macro view of welfare state debates in Australia and internationally – including Asia and the Pacific, as well as Europe and North America – and also develop skills in undertaking quantitative analysis of selected major policy issues such as the causes of the growth of public spending, measures to control expenditure growth, and how to analyse the effectiveness of welfare state spending, particularly in relation to impacts on income distribution (inequality and income poverty), as well as unintended consequences. The emphasis is on a comparative approach.

### First semester 2023

#### Issues in Applied Microeconomics

IDEC8029

Paul Burke

This course will explore decision-making by individuals and firms in the context of real-world situations in which behaviour is often strategic in nature and information is imperfect. The course covers a set of key topics in microeconomics, including game theory, decision making under uncertainty, monopoly, imperfect competition, situations of asymmetric information, and an introduction to behavioural economics. A range of policy options available to governments will be analysed.

## Social Policy Analysis

POGO8025

Professor Peter Whiteford

This course aims to provide both a macro view of welfare state debates in Australia and internationally – including Asia and the Pacific, as well as Europe and North America – and also develop skills in undertaking quantitative analysis of selected major policy issues such as the causes of the growth of public spending, measures to control expenditure growth, and how to analyse the effectiveness of welfare state spending, particularly in relation to impacts on income distribution (inequality and income poverty), as well as unintended consequences. The emphasis is on a comparative approach.

## Executive education and other teaching

Staff and fellows of TTPI have contributed to popular one and two-day Executive Education courses delivered in-house to government departments and agencies and in the leading Executive Education program at Crawford School, as well as presentations and lectures in various forums.

### Robert Breunig

‘Getting started: Analysing HILDA with STATA’, Australian Institute for Health and Welfare, Canberra (October 2022)

‘Budget insights - Introduction to tax design’, course delivered to new parliamentarians at Parliament House (November 2022)

‘Introduction to Panel Data Analysis’, with the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, Canberra (February 2023)

‘Getting started: Analysing HILDA with STATA’, with the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, Canberra (February 2023)

‘Getting started: Analysing HILDA with STATA’, Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance, Melbourne (May 2023)

‘Introduction to the Economics of Tax Policy’ program, course delivered for the Treasury (November 2022)

‘Introduction to the Economics of Tax Policy’ program, course delivered for NSW Treasury (May 2023)

### Mathias Sinning

‘Introduction to the Economics of Tax Policy’ program, course delivered for the Treasury (November 2022)

‘Introduction to the Economics of Tax Policy’ program, course delivered for the Department of Social Services (March 2022)

### Kristen Sobeck

‘Introduction to the Economics of Tax Policy’ program, course delivered for the NSW Treasury (May 2023)

‘Budget insights - Introduction to tax design’, course delivered to new parliamentarians at Parliament House (November 2022)

**Fund No:** S5335501 & 53550101  
**Project:** DoT - Establishment of the Tax and Transfer Policy Institute

**Donor Ref:**  
**Chief Investigator:** Robert Breunig

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE  
For the Period 01 July, 2022 to 30 June, 2023**

	<b>Operational Account S53355.01 S53355.0101</b>	
		<b>\$</b>
<b>Unspent Balance as at 01 July, 2022</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>177,837.14</b>
<b>Add</b>		
Sundry income	\$	40,737.78
Cont Education & Conf Fees	\$	9,761.27
Other Aust Govt Instrumental	\$	26,500.00
<b>Other Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>76,999.05</b>
Anu Cash Contribution	\$	815,434.00
<b>ANU Cash Contribution</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>815,434.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>892,433.05</b>
<b>Total Available Funds Before Expenditure</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,070,270.19</b>
<b>Less</b>		
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,088,256.80</b>
<b>Overspent Balance as at 30 June, 2023</b>	<b>-\$</b>	<b>17,986.61</b>
Investment at cost	\$	3,000,000.00
LTIP Opening balance as of 1July 2022	\$	227,370.31
Investment income	\$	143,842.33
Total funds available	\$	371,212.64
Additional investment made to investment pool during July22-June2023	\$	370,201.82
LTIP closing balance as of 30 June 2023	\$	1,010.82
Revaluation of Investment	\$	189,606.60
Investment - LTIP @Market Value	\$	3,559,808.42
<b>Revised Closing Balance as at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,542,832.63</b>
ANU Cash Contribution	\$	655,117.00
ANU In-kind and Salary Contribution (3)	\$	313,904.67
<b>Total Recognition of ANU Contribution</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>969,021.67</b>

The Statement has been prepared to meet reporting requirements for invested fund. Significant accounting  
Income  
Income includes investment income, contributions from ANU, fees and charges, operating grant income and sales of goods and services.

- (a) Operating grants have been recognised as income in the year of receipt as per AASB 1004 Contributions Standard.  
(b) Fees and charges are recognised as income in the year of receipt, except to the extent that fees and charges relate to courses to be held in future periods. Such income is treated as income in advance. Fees and charges relating to debtors are recognised as revenue in the year to which the prescribed course relates.  
(c) Interest income is recognised as it accrues, using the effective interest method.  
(d) Dividend income is recognised when a dividend is declared.  
(e) Other investment revenue is recognised as it is received, with the exception of unrealised gains and losses on investments, which is determined as the difference between the carrying amount of available-for-sale financial investments and market value at 31 December.  
(f) Revenue from sales of goods and services is recognised when the service is delivered or the goods are delivered.

**Expenditure**

Expenditure has been determined on an accrual basis and represents expenditure that has been incurred to achieve the objectives of the grant, as defined in the funding agreement.

1 Transfer from Endowment was receipted into the S-Operating Accounts		
2 Represent the Net Movement in market revaluations as administered by ANU Treasury		
3 ANU Inkind Contribution as base on Unfunded direct Salaries and Indirect Cost as per ANU Policy set down		
<b>Indirect cost of School Funded Salary for TTPI staff Funded by Crawford</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>313,904.67</b>
<b>Salaries for TTPI staff funded by Crawford budget</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>ANU In-kind and Salary Contribution (3)</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>313,904.67</b>

*Robert Breunig*

Robert Breunig  
Director  
Tax Transfer Policy Institute  
Crawford School of Public Policy  
Date: 20.09.2023



Denise Castle  
Finance Manager  
ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

Date: 20.09.2023

# CONTACT US

Tax and Transfer Policy Institute  
JG Crawford Building #132  
The Australian National University Canberra ACT  
2601  
Australia  
T +61 2 61259318  
E [tax.policy@anu.edu.au](mailto:tax.policy@anu.edu.au)  
W [taxpolicy.crawford.anu.edu.au](http://taxpolicy.crawford.anu.edu.au)

CRICOS Provider #00120C