School of Economics and Finance  
2nd Annual Research Symposium  
Thursday - 24th February 2011

Location: Rutherford house, lecture theatre 2 (RHLT2)

Each presenter (except the keynote) will have 15 minutes plus 5 minutes for questions.

8.30 – 9.00am  Tea, coffee available
9.00 – 9.10am  Welcome  Professor Bob Buckle, Pro Vice-chancellor and Dean, Faculty of Commerce & Administration  
Professor Morris Altman, Head, School of Economics & Finance

9.10-10.30am  Session 1
Ricardo Enrico C Namay II  
(IRD)  
"Is it less costly and simpler now than five years ago for small businesses to comply with New Zealand’s tax laws?"

Natalie Labuschagne  
(Treasury)  
"Why are real interest rates in New Zealand so high? Evidence and drivers (with Polly Vowles)"

Stuart Birks (Massey)  
"Is it economics? The case for a broad approach to economics research"  
(Iris Claus (IRD)  
"The elasticity of taxable income in New Zealand"  
(with John Creedy and Josh Teng)

10.30-11.00am  Morning Tea and Poster Session
Morris Altman  
"Economic freedom, material wellbeing, and the good capitalist governance index"

John Haywood  
"Memoryless reigns of the ‘Sons of Heaven’ "

11.00-12.40pm  Session 2 and Keynote speaker address
Christie Smith (RBNZ)  
"Research challenges for a small central bank"

Ko Ko Naing  
(VUU – SEF Hons)  
"An efficiency assessment on the economic growth and economic performance of Burma in 1988 to 2008"

Gabriel Fiuza de Braganca  
(VUU)  
"Can market power in the electricity spot market translate into market power in the hedge market?"

Talosaga Talosaga  
(ISCR)  
"Analysis of continuous disclosure applying to SOE’s"  
(with Dave Heatley – ISCR)

12.40-1.40pm  Lunch
1.40-3.00pm  Session 3
Nicolas Groshenny  
(RBNZ)  
"Has the natural rate of unemployment increased during the Great Recession?"

David Cashin  
(Michigan Uni)  
"The intertemporal substitution and income effects of a VAT rate increase: evidence from Japan"

Ray Brownrigg  
(VUU)  
"Strange facts about the marginal distribution of processes based on the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process"

Paul Carlin  
(IUPUI)  
"International evidence on obesity: the interaction between legal heritage and motor vehicle dependence"

3.00-4.00pm  Closing, thanks and refreshments