



Australia Awards



Charles Sturt
University

Guest Lecture

'Beyond the Bottom Line: ESG Reporting and the Future of Sustainable Business'

By: Professor Jacqueline Birt

Friday, 6 February 2026

1:45pm to 4:00pm (Jakarta time)

Indonesian graduates and scholars of Australian tertiary institutions who are interested in attending this event, please RSVP by Wednesday, 4 February, via this link: <http://oz.link/rsvpGL6FEB>

**Due to the limited availability of places, early registration is recommended. A link to this event will be shared with you after registration.*

Lecture overview

In recent years, growing environmental, social and governance (ESG) challenges, alongside rising stakeholder expectations, have reshaped how organisations define success and accountability. Businesses are no longer assessed solely on financial performance but also on how they manage environmental impacts, contribute to society and uphold strong governance practices. This shift has positioned sustainability reporting as a critical component of modern corporate strategy.

This lecture introduces sustainability and ESG reporting, highlighting their increasing importance in organisational decision-making, transparency and long-term value creation. It explains why organisations are now expected to disclose how they identify and manage environmental and social risks and opportunities, and outlines the key principles underpinning effective sustainability reporting in contemporary business.

The lecture then examines widely adopted global sustainability accounting standards and reporting frameworks that promote consistency, comparability and credibility in ESG disclosures. These frameworks support the provision of clear and reliable information for investors, regulators and the wider community, enabling informed decision-making and alignment with stakeholder expectations.

Finally, the session explores the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their influence on corporate reporting. Drawing on examples from Qantas, CSL and JB Hi-Fi Ltd, the lecture illustrates how leading Australian companies integrate the SDGs into their strategies and disclosures. Overall, the lecture provides practical insights into how effective sustainability reporting supports ethical conduct, transparency and sustainable business growth.

Professor Jacqueline Birt is the Head of the School of Business and Professor of Accounting at Charles Sturt University. She currently serves as Vice President for Education of the International Association for Accounting Education and Research and has previously held senior academic leadership roles, including Deputy Dean and Head of the Department of Accounting and Finance at The University of Western Australia.

With more than 35 years of experience in higher education, Prof. Birt has held academic appointments at the University of Queensland, Monash University, The Australian National University and The University of Melbourne. She is a national award-winning educator and researcher, and has served as the Australian President of the Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand, as Chair of the Chairs in Accounting and Finance, and as a member of the International Accounting Education Standards Board Consultative Advisory Group.

Prof. Birt's research spans financial accounting and accounting education, with particular emphasis on international accounting standards, ESG and integrated reporting, embedded value, IFRS 17, accounting misconduct and management earnings forecasts. Her education-focused research explores digital transformation in the accounting profession, work-integrated learning in business schools and the development of professional scepticism and intellectual curiosity among accounting and auditing students.

Prof. Birt currently supervises PhD research on topics including AI and ESG integration in accounting education, gender and financial literacy, integrated reporting practices and informal borrowing behaviours in Vietnamese households.



★ / **Professor
Jacqueline Birt**
Head of the School of Business
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