



EDITION 5: NOVEMBER 4, 2025

THE ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY ECONOMICS STUDENTS' SOCIETY PRESENTS:

WHAT'S (EC)ON?

SEEYA, 2025!

The teaching semester is done and exams are almost here! If you missed our AGM a few weeks back, 2025 President Shreya's report is included in this edition so you can catch up on everything she had to say. Plus, hear from Grace about her trip to Tuvalu to study the costs of climate change and learn about our final events for the year.



Connect with Us!



Adelaide University Economics Students' Society



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FROM YOUR PUBLICISTS...

2025 has come to an end, which means that we're retiring as Co-directors of Publication and handing over to our successors, Kevin Rath and Ally Nguyen. Thank you all for tuning in to our newsletters this year, we've had a blast!

Signing off,
Katherine and Jack :)



WHAT'S COMING UP?

**HERE ARE THE DETAILS FOR OUR FINAL EVENTS
THIS YEAR**

EXAM CRAM SESSION

**13th November, 3:10 - 8:00pm
Barr Smith South 2051**



Drop into our exam cram session for as long or as short a time as you need! We'll have free food and energy drinks to provide you with much needed sustenance, so bring your friends and lock in.

We're all here to help each other, too, so chances are there might be someone who's taken your course in the past ready to lend a helping hand...

MONEY TALKS, WE JOKE

**21st November, from 4:30 pm
USASA Club House + Fenn Place, UniSA**

With the UofA and UniSA merger ahead, we're thrilled to lend a hand to the UniSA Financial Planning Club for their Financial Comedy Night!

- ✓ Eat Street - Food trucks + delicious stalls by UniSA & Uni Adelaide clubs (including the AUCESS!)
- ✓ Bid for Brilliance - An auction-style networking activity...bid to win a dinner with industry professionals & build powerful connections
- ✓ Comedy Night - Students & finance pros share their funniest financial fails

Tickets are \$2.55 online and can be purchased [here](#).

Looking for more information?

Contact our Co-directors of Publications, or send us a message on our socials!



2025 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by SHREYA NIDUMOLU

2025 was a year of expansion for the Adelaide University Economics Students' Society. Building on the momentum of 2024's rebrand, this year saw our largest ever committee, an increased calendar of events, new partnerships, and the continuing other beloved events our society is known for. From educational panels, networking opportunities, and of course, our beloved Wine Tour, our committee has worked tirelessly to create opportunities for connection, career development, and community among Economics students.

Throughout 2025, the AU ESS hosted 13 major events spanning academic, professional, and social spheres, even venturing into sporting endeavours and a stronger connection to the school.



Budget Night



Careers Night

2025 EVENT LIST:

- O-week stall
- Bachelor of Economics Careers panel x start of semester UniBar drinks
- Budget Night Watch Party in collaboration with PIRA
- Morgan Stanley & UBS AmplifyME Finance Accelerator Simulation with SQUAD
- Movie Night (The Big Short) in collaboration with Film Society
- Information session for the UBS Investment Banking Development Challenge
- First Years' Exam Cram Study Session
- Mid-year O-week Stall
- Honours in Economics Information Session x start of semester Unibar drinks
- Participating in Inter-Society Soccer on the Law Society's team
- Careers Night 2025
- Wine Tour to the Adelaide Hills
- Annual General Meeting



Wine Tour



Careers Night

1. STRENGTHENED PARTNERSHIPS & SPONSORSHIPS

In 2025, we welcomed Mandala Partners as a new sponsor alongside our returning premium partners BDO and Deloitte. Their continued financial support has enabled us to host subsidised and free events and maintain our commitment to inclusivity for all Economics students at the University of Adelaide.

2. EXPANDING OUR COMMITTEE

This year, we filled all 15 committee positions, allowing for a stronger team dynamic. This expansion has been useful in our ability to manage a busier calendar and sustain collaborations. The interest in our society is demonstrated by a huge number of applicants for our 2026 committee, where I anticipate we will maintain 15 members.



Honours Information Session



AmplifyME Investment Challenge

3. NEW COLLABORATIONS

Some new partnerships and collaborations this year include the Film Society for our Big Short movie night. We also proudly joined the AMSS-organised Inter-Society Soccer Tournament, representing the Law Society's team, which acted as our first formal involvement in an inter-society sporting event.

4. GROWING OUR MEDIA PRESENCE

We significantly enhanced our social media engagement by commencing Instagram Reels and a stronger story presence, to keep members informed and entertained. These updates have helped to promote our events and initiatives more dynamically than ever before.

I can speak to the last 90 days (mid-July to mid-Oct), where our profile's posts, stories, and reels have amassed over 48k views. We have also had a 10.3% increase in followers in this time period.

5. ACADEMIC & OUTREACH INITIATIVES

Additionally, the AUSS was proud to participate alongside the School of Economics and Public Policy at the University's 2026 Open Day, contributing to the faculty's panel and information stall. Alongside our welcome week panel and continued Honours session collaborations, it has been a great year for connection with the school.



6. PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

Our newsletter, What's (Ec)on?, continued successfully under the Publications team, releasing four editions this year featuring society updates, industry opportunities, and student articles.

FINAL COMMENTS

As we enter 2026, our goal remains clear: to strengthen the connection between Economics students, academia, and industry. The transition will be interesting and likely challenging, as YouX retires and we welcome the new university. However, I know this society will adapt and continue to grow. I hope we can continue all the new initiatives launched this year, and prior, as well as creating new traditions, partnerships, and opportunities.

I wish the 2026 committee the best of luck!

THE COSTS OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION



What I Learned In Tuvalu

by GRACE HARKINS

Tuvalu is one of the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world, where climate adaptation is no longer just an idea, but a matter of survival. Launched in 2017, the Tuvalu Coastal Adaption Project (TCAP) is the first of its kind to protect the country's coastline from rising sea-levels, erosion, and saltwater intrusion. Despite negligible contributions to global emissions, small island states in the Pacific like Tuvalu face disproportionate impacts from negative externalities like climate change.

The voice of the state of Tuvalu is highly relevant to the conversation of climate adaptation as it expected to be one of the first, if not the first, countries in the world to become uninhabitable due to climate change induced sea-level rise. With an average land elevation of 1.9 metres above sea-level, at high tide, 40 percent of the capital of Tuvalu, Funafuti, is submerged and is forecasted to be entirely submerged by 2100.



With Tuvalu's highest point being barely two metres above sea level, small increases in sea level worsens their situation. To address this, Tuvalu launched TCAP in partnership with the UN Development Programme (UNDP), supported mainly by the Government of Tuvalu (US\$2.9 million, Green Climate Fund (US\$36 million), Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs (\$1.34 million) and the Republic of China -Taiwan (AUD\$3 million). Due to the relatively small economy with a forecasted budget of AUD\$114.1 million, Tuvalu's capacity to finance this project alone is limited. Therefore, the ability to finance future adaptation is constrained by dependence on international support in the form of grants rather than loans.

There are multiple sites that TCAP has been started on, with TCAP 1A due to be late 2025 costing around US\$19.5 million. Work has also begun on phase two of TCAP with Hall Pacific, a marine civil works company active in the Pacific, being tendered again to work on another TCAP site. With specialisation in dredging, land reclamation, coastal protection, and other marine-based engineering work they are an important component of implementing TCAP into reality.

The budget is allocated across various factors including labor and complex equipment and materials that need to be shipped from other countries like Fiji and Australia due to Tuvalu's remote location. While Hall Pacific employs foreign contractors from other countries like Australia and New Zealand, they also employ local Pacific Islanders, including a number of Tuvaluans, to work on TCAP generating employment and training. Due to the requirement of importing materials and foreign contractors, there are leaks overseas from capital and therefore, limits on the local multiplier effect in the domestic economy.



It is estimated that 62% of the population of Tuvalu will benefit from TCAP directly and indirectly. The economic analysis by UNDP also points to that TCAP may potentially reduce annual losses (including statistical value of life) worth up to up to \$667,000 over 40-year time period. However, this figure is modest in comparison to the amount of investment in the project. Despite this, it considers the non-market outcomes and the benefits of cultural preservation, national identity and preventing land loss which traditional economic models often fail to capture.

The project is only being implemented on just three of Tuvalu's nine islands (Funafuti, Nanumea and Nanumaga) leaving already vulnerable outer island communities unprotected.

Outside Tuvalu, it is estimated that projects to adapt or manage the effects of climate change induced sea level rise across atoll or small island nations in the Pacific could cost nearly USD\$10 billion in total.

Adaptation may buy time but cannot eliminate all risk. Even with TCAP, rising seas will continue to demand more spending over time and there is a concern that each additional metre of coastline protected becomes more expensive as risks increase. As the first of its kind, there are questions about the lifetime of the project materials, settlement of the TCAP land reclamation to safely build and long-term sustainability of these investments. TCAP, while important, is only a partial solution to protect all vulnerable coastlines and small island developing nations like Tuvalu.

TCAP highlights how adaptation in small island economies is not just an environmental challenge but an economic one.



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Money Talks, We Joke

FRIDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER

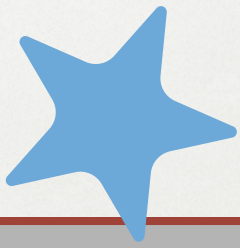
FROM 4:30 PM

USASA CLUB HOUSE
CITY WEST CAMPUS



TICKETS:
\$2.55 ONLINE
\$5 DOOR





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MANDALA

THANK YOU FOR READING!

Thank you for taking the time to read the fifth edition of *What's Ec(ON)?*. As always, we'd like to remind you that we are constantly on the lookout for new authors and contributions for our newsletter and website articles. If you're interested, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us via social media or email.

Signing off for 2025,
Your Co-Directors of Publication

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