

# On-demand Conference Attendance Award

## Post conference report

Application CAA000152019/20 From Mr Andrew Croxson

Form Submitted 21 Aug 2020, 2:56pm NZST

## Conference Report

### Conference attended

30th Australasian Conference on Information Systems

This question is read only.

### Location of the Conference

Curtin University, Perth

### Start Date

09/12/2019

Must be a date.

### Finish Date

11/12/2019

Must be a date.

### What were the highlights and main takeaways of this conference?

The main highlight of the conference was definitely the discussion following my presentation. It was insightful to get opinions and thoughts from people who deal with the day to day challenges of the food industry. My presentation seemed to spur discussion, perhaps due to the fact I focused on real-life applications and the q-methodology approach I took inherently requires an understanding of the current sentiment and feelings of the industry.

A main takeaway from the conference was that the understanding of blockchain technology is lower than I thought, even at a information systems conference. Another takeaway was that I found the majority of other presentations to be incredibly academia focused rather than providing real-life value and solving issues that are real and important. This gap seems to be caused by the need to work within an industry to gain a true understanding of the inner workings such as politics, hierarchy and anything else that can't really be gauged from outside. A lot of the research completed and presented at the conference seemed more aimed at meeting academic check points and getting a good mark rather than being of actual use. This might sound harsh, but it is just my opinion, and I feel my paper was still guilty of the same thing.

How to solve this is another question, if I had to do my project again, I would definitely spend more time having quality discussions with industry experts and be assertive and demanding of their time. Overall I definitely think there were plenty of interesting research projects being presented at the conference, however, my over-arching takeaway was I felt I was sitting through an academic presentation at university more so than a business environment focusing on improvements and advancements. This was my first conference like this so perhaps I was expecting the wrong thing and I could be totally wrong in my view of things, however, in the spirit of full honesty I've explained it as best I can.

What were the favorite sessions, any contacts you made, etc.

### What were the lowlights of the conference?

The lowlights were in line with what I have already mentioned, a lot of dry and data-based presentations with slides full of tables of data and graphs. It seems that most of these types of presentations were by younger presenters who have gone straight from undergrad to postgrad and are simply following directions given by their educational body. I think the true purpose and point of the research is therefore slightly lost as they are following a template

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given to them in order to get their qualification and grade. This was definitely how my experience was with my university and I actually had quite a lot of pushback from trying to go outside these parameters in order to try and add some more value and not just do another dry regurgitated project.

What would you do differently?

### How will you plan to share your learnings with the New Zealand Internet Community?

I've actually changed career paths quite drastically in 2020, the main reason for this being needing consistent income to support family and the crazy hand 2020 has thrown at us. However, I still maintain a strong passion within the blockchain field and am doing my own personal development work in the evenings from home and work part-time still in the IT field doing some data based work. I am keeping my options open moving forward and trying to stay as educated as I can in the case of work opportunities developing in the future.

**We'd love to see some visual and audio representations of your work. Please share below.**

#### Upload files:

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Filename: ACIS 19 paper.pdf

File size: 336.5 kB

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Filename: Making Sense of Blockchain in Food Supply-Chains FINAL.pptx

File size: 118.9 kB

and/or

#### Provide web link:

Must be a URL

and/or

#### Provide additional details:

Please include captions, if relevant

#### Can we use your media content in our own communications?

Yes  No  Please contact us first  
e.g. in our annual report, social media

## Financial Report

**\* indicates a required field**

### Project Income & Expenditure

Please provide details of any project income (funds received) and project expenditure (funds spent) to date.

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Use the 'Notes' column to provide any additional information you think we should be aware of.

Income Description	Income Amount (\$)	Notes
0	\$0.00	N/A
Can be grants, donations, personal funds etc.		

Expenditure Description	Expenditure Type	Expenditure Amount (\$)	Notes
1000	Flights *	\$1,000.00	Can't really remember what the flights/accomm cost, but the grant covered nearly most of it and I just paid rest out of pocket.
500	Accommodation	\$500.00	

## Income and Expenditure Totals

Total Income Amount	Total Expenditure Amount	Income - Expenditure
\$0.00 This number/amount is calculated.	\$1,500.00 This number/amount is calculated.	-\$1,500.00 This number/amount is calculated.

**Have you experienced any issues with your intended project budget to date? If so, please explain reasons for any major variances or for providing incomplete information:**

## Feedback

### Feedback

You are almost at the end of our application process. Before **submitting** your application, please take a few moments to provide some feedback.

**Please indicate how you found the acquittal process:**

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Very easy  Easy  Neutral  Difficult  Very Difficult

**How many minutes in total did it take you to complete this form?**

45

Estimate in minutes (i.e. 1 hour = 60 minutes)

**Please provide us with your suggestions about any improvements and/or additions to this form that you think we need to consider:**