



## Message from the DEAN

IN THIS ISSUE of *E&B Connect*, our focus is on you: our alumni. We profile three graduates who have all gone on to forge exciting and successful careers and who also happen to share a commitment to community service. On page 9, you will find a list of alumni and current students who have been selected for the Beijing Olympics or who will be competing in the Olympic selection trials. We wish them all the best of luck!

Turning to news from the Faculty, I am delighted to inform you that the Faculty has been accredited by EQUIS for a further five years. EQUIS is the global accrediting agency of the European Foundation for Management Development. We are now looking forward to our accreditation maintenance Peer Review Team visit from the US-based global accrediting body for business schools, AACSB International, next October.

You may well ask: what is the significance of these accreditations? In essence, they require a deep and evidentially-based self-evaluation of the Faculty against each of the world's best practice standards for strategic development and resourcing, scholarship in teaching and research, assurance of learning, internationalisation, and corporate and professional engagement. The distinctive standards of both AACSB International and EQUIS demand evidence-based continuous quality improvement and external peer review. Far more important than the accreditation credentials themselves –

as vital as they are for a premier, globally-engaged business school like ours – is the impetus the accreditation processes give to aspirational and strategic thinking: an unceasing quest to be and do better, and a willingness, indeed a commitment, to be continuously evaluated against leading business schools around the world. Combined with our collaboration with the schools and corporations that comprise the Community of European Management Schools and International Companies, our international accreditations are very powerful drivers of competitive advantage in the increasingly globalised world of management education.

To gain a greater appreciation of the intellectual community that the Faculty of Economics and Business has become, I encourage you to visit our website, [www.econ.usyd.edu.au](http://www.econ.usyd.edu.au). What will become immediately apparent is the scope of our scholarship in teaching and research, the cultural diversity and intellectual strength and dynamism of our academic staff and students, and sheer span of our external engagement.

With best wishes,

Professor Peter Wolnizer  
(MEc '76 PhD Ec '86)

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