



ABN 49 978 071 714

3 December 2019

Dear Q-Group Members,

I would like to thank the Committee members for their efforts and contributions this year. This year has again been a very busy year for events, with 25 events held for our members. Whilst these events wouldn't happen without the great organisation, it is also you, the members, attending, contributing and sharing your thoughts that makes them so worthwhile.

I particularly want to acknowledge the hard work and contributions of Colin Bowers and Oscar Tian, who organise the Sydney and Melbourne events respectively.

The other person, who unfortunately is not here tonight, I want to acknowledge specifically is Rob Trevor. Rob has been an active member of our community and the Q Group and has decided to step down from the committee. Rob has been a huge help with advice, support, contacts, acting as Vice President and with running the website over many years and I want to express our appreciation for his contributions.

Events

As mentioned above, the Q Group held 25 events during 2019, including partner events with Monash Uni, Data 61 Risk Lab and RMIT in Melbourne and the Sydney Financial Mathematics Workshop (SFMW) and the CFA Society in Sydney. These events were:

Sydney

Monthly Lunch Series

February – The Future of LongTerm Risk Management in Australia

May - Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Portfolio Management

June – Are Active Multi-Managers still needed?

July - Q-Group / CFA Society joint event - Evaluating Global Equity Manager Performance

August – The active world of passive investing, or implications of the growth of ETF's

September – Application of automated machine learning to financial market problems

October – The Momentum Factor is just Factor Momentum

October - Maximizing RAROC: A risk-based approach to portfolio optimization

SFMW (Sydney Financial Mathematics Workshop)

May - Transition to New Benchmark – abandoning LIBOR

August - Oil Futures Volatility and the Economy

September - Robust finance: data-driven approach to pricing, hedging and risk management

December – AGM & Christmas Dinner

Melbourne

Seminars

January - Smart Beta Bond Portfolios

February - Issues in Market Liquidity

March - Machine Learning Applied in Finance: recovering latent connections between time-series data

March - Pairs Trading, Technical Analysis and Data Snooping: Mean Reversion vs Momentum

April - Issues in the modelling methodologies and techniques for IRRBB (Interest Rate Risk in the Banking Book)

May – Behavioural insights for financial decision making

June - Beyond Volatility: Detecting Risk-On/Risk-off Sentiment through the lens of a Multi-factor Risk Model

July – Quantitative Portfolio Management in a Wholesale Commercial Bank

September – Spending patterns in retirement and the impact on portfolio longevity

October - Portfolio Construction Under Economic Scenarios

Colloquiums

March - The 2019 Monash-Q Group Colloquium

September – 2019 RMIT – Q Group Finance Symposium

December – Christmas Lunch

Oscar Tian continued in the role of Melbourne Committee member and event coordinator this year. Many thanks to Oscar, and the Melbourne sub-committee team of Andrew Gruskin, Philip Gharghori, Dennis Sams, Mike Aked and Henry Zhang for all their work in organising so many interesting events in Melbourne. Many thanks also to Colin Bowers for organising the Monthly Lunch Series in Sydney.

Thank you to Erik Schlogl for his continued work with SFMW. I would also like to thank Risk Lab / Data 61, CFA Society, Monash University and RMIT for having joint functions with The Q Group.

Treasurer

We've placed copies of Colin Bower's Treasurer's Report on the table, but in summary our expenditure exceeds income by \$1,028. This was due to funding the large number of events held this year. Total funds in the bank are \$63,755.

Membership

We have 54 current paid members, a mix of Sydney (33), Melbourne (14), Other Cities (3) and Students (4). We also have 8 Overseas members registered.

Election

We have nominations from:

Stewart Wright	(President)
Oscar Tian	(Vice President)
Colin Bowers	(Treasurer)
Stewart Wright	(Public Officer)
Roy Shackley	(Secretary)
Dinusha Peiris	(Membership Officer)

Other committee members:

Erik Schlogl	(SFMW)
Jakub Tomczyk	

Melbourne representative:

Oscar Tian

Melbourne Sub Committee:

Andrew Gruskin
Dennis Sams
Philip Gharghori
Roger McIntosh
Petko Kalev

Stewart Wright
President