EAP is Moving Forward

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INTRODUCTION

In many respects this issue of EAP marks a major milestone in the publication of the journal which has been in existence since 1970. In taking charge of EAP at the beginning of 2008 we promised to introduce new ideas whilst being mindful of the heritage of EAP. We also promised to keep up to date in order to prosper in a globalised and fast moving publication market (Dulleck, et al. 2008). We briefly highlight below the new changes we are making and the impact of some of the changes we have already made.

EAP MOVES FROM TWO TO THREE ISSUES

For the past 38 years EAP has been a bi annual journal. This year EAP moves from two to three issues per year. This has been done to increase the presence and profile of the journal. Hence, EAP will now have a March, September and a December issue.

AN IMPETUS FOR FUTURE ECONOMISTS

In order for students of economics to publish at an early age and thereby create a greater interest in the discipline, we decided at the beginning of 2009 to devote an issue to the publication of selected honours dissertation-based papers. This issue contains two of the best submitted papers. We will strive to give preference to honours papers in the July issue each year, subject to quality and availability. We believe that this is an incentive for students as well as their supervisors to showcase their honours research projects. For those readers not familiar with the Australian university system one should note that the best students finishing the three year undergraduate bachelor degree are allowed to continue for another year to receive an honours degree. The students are required to attend advanced coursework and write an honours thesis. In many occasions, the honours dissertations are quite innovative, but still “rough around the edges”. Unfortunately, these studies are never revised to a journal article due to the fact that many students start a PhD in another university within or outside Australia. The special EAP
section in July now offers the incentive and a platform for young postgraduate Australian students to develop an academic article out of their honours year.

**CHANGES MADE IN 2008 ARE SHOWING RESULTS**

Since taking over the editorship of the journal we made some significant changes to improve the visibility and the marketability of papers published in EAP. Three of them were: making EAP an open-access journal (see http://www.eap-journal.com/); creating a website and archiving all papers published by EAP since its inception; and making all papers accessible on RePEC (see http://ideas.repec.org/s/eap/articl.html). The outcome of these changes is very encouraging. Table 1 shows the RePEc statistics focusing on “page views” and “files downloaded”, and Figure 1 shows EAP website visits since January 2009. The statistics not only indicate a good EAP visibility, but also a global audience covering 140 countries/territories. Besides Australia, we also observe a large EAP interest in countries such as the US, UK, Germany, Canada and Asian countries.

**Table 1**: RePEc Statistics since 2008

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<th>RePEc</th>
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<tr>
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</table>

**Figure 1**: Map showing from where interest is being generated

In addition, we are in the process of registering EAP with Thompson Social Sciences Citation Index. EAP is already indexed in Econlit which can be accessed at http://www.aeaweb.org/econlit/journal_list.php.

**REFERENCES**