



# 28th MELBOURNE MONEY & FINANCE CONFERENCE 2026 -

## “*The Digital Economy, Technology and the Finance Sector*”

### Event Sponsors:

APRA and RBA

### Date:

MONDAY 9th (1-9pm) and  
TUESDAY 10th (8am-5pm)

**FEBRUARY 2026**

### Event type:

28<sup>th</sup> MELBOURNE MONEY & FINANCE  
CONFERENCE

### Registration commences:

Monday from 1pm  
Tuesday from 8am

### Time:

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February = 1pm -9pm  
(includes Dinner)  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February = 8.30am – 5pm

### Location:

Lecture Theatre 3  
Melbourne Business School  
200 Leicester Street, Carlton,  
Victoria 3053, Australia

### Conference Registration Fee

**(incl gst):**

1+1/2 day Conference **\$770** per person

**Full Time** Academics – FREE of charge but  
limited tickets

(accommodation is an **additional cost**)

email [kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au) for availability  
first

**Accommodation Fee \$220.00** includes  
continental breakfast on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February  
2026

### Registration Closing Date:

**Friday 23rd January, 2026 or when booked out**

**Attire:** Neat casual

### Event enquiries:

Ms Frieda Kukulka  
0403 483 869  
[Frieda.kukulka@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:Frieda.kukulka@unimelb.edu.au)

### Program enquiries:

Kevin Davis AM,  
Emeritus Professor of Finance,  
University of Melbourne  
[kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au)

## About the Conference

We are pleased to advise that the 28<sup>th</sup> Melbourne Money and Finance conference will be held in February 2026. We are also pleased to announce that APRA and the RBA have agreed to continue their longstanding financial support for the conference, for which we are most grateful.

The Melbourne Money and Finance (MMF) Conference has been a longstanding “prac-ac” conference series initiated at the University of Melbourne, and organised from 2006-2019 by the Australian Centre for Financial Studies. It is now organised by the Department of Finance at the University of Melbourne. First held in 1987, it has provided a forum for Australia’s financial experts to discuss key issues facing the financial services industry.

Through the open exchange of views and opinions from delegates of various backgrounds, MMFC has been successful in identifying key developments in the Australian and global financial services sector relevant for public policy, academic research, and industry practices.

Twelve papers (limited in size to around 3,000 words) are selected for presentation and distributed to attendees to read prior to the conference. 45 minutes is allocated to each paper, with the presenter limited to 15 minutes, a discussant limited to 5 minutes and the remainder of the time (25 minutes) available for discussion and commentary by attendees.

Papers presented at some past conferences have been published in books and academic journals individually or together as a special conference edition.

The conference has a strong policy focus, aiming for papers drawing on empirical work, industry knowledge, and theoretical insights which are relevant for influencing policy and understanding current and likely future developments. Authors are expected to provide papers which are written in such a way as to be accessible and of interest to practitioners, regulators and academics.

The success of this conference series has also been attributable to the calibre of delegates attending and the quality of discussion under Chatham House rules.

The conference is by invitation only, and limited to between 70-80 individuals (one third from academia, one third from industry, one third from regulatory bodies). It provides an excellent forum for building relationships between academics, practitioners and regulators with common interests.

The theme of the conference is selected annually and is aligned with current issues affecting the financial services industry. In 2026, the theme will be based around “*The Digital Economy, Technology and the Finance Sector*”. (A list of papers presented at the 2025 conference on **Finance, Climate and the Environment** can be found [here](#)). It is planned that there will be an interesting mix of papers from academia, industry and regulatory agencies. A non-exhaustive “thought-starter” outline of possible areas is attached. Individuals interested in presenting a paper at the conference (or with suggestions for possible presenters) are invited to contact Professor Kevin Davis at [kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au), ideally by the end of August.



Please find attached, information regarding this year's Conference, a preliminary programme and registration details. If you wish to attend, please complete the registration process by **FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2026** (please note: to avoid disappointment book asap, as seats are **STRICTLY LIMITED** and by **invite only**). If unable to attend, please inform us as soon as possible.

The conference is generously sponsored by **APRA and the RBA**.

## **PROGRAM:** **MONDAY 9th February 2026**

- 1 – 1.45pm**            **REGISTRATION and SANDWICH LUNCH** (*on arrival*)
- 1.45-2pm**            **WELCOME and ADMIN ARRANGEMENTS**
- 2 - 2.45pm**            **D1P1 - The productivity potential in data and digital technology**  
Stephen King (Productivity Commission)  
*Discussant: TBA*
- 2.45 – 3.30pm**        **D1P2 - From Promise to Protocol: The Evolution of Financial Regulation in the Age of DeFi**  
Chris Adamek (Treasury)  
*Discussant: TBA*
- 3.30 – 4.00pm**        **AFTERNOON TEA**
- 4.00 – 4.45pm**        **D1P3 - The barriers to CDR Action Initiation: Why our convoluted regulatory structure in Australia prevents innovative access models in financial services**  
Heidi Richards (Better Regulation Advisory)  
*Discussant: TBA*
- 4.45 – 5.30pm**        **D1P4 - Policy and regulatory lessons from a digital pioneer**  
Lisa Schutz (Verifier)  
*Discussant: TBA*
- 5.30 – 6.15 pm**        **DRINKS**
- 6.15 - 7pm**            **DINNER SPEAKER – Brad Jones, Assistant Governor (Financial System)**

Dr Brad Jones is Assistant Governor (Financial System) at the Reserve Bank of Australia and Deputy Chair of the Payments System Board. He oversees the RBA's policy work in financial stability and payments, including the future of money and geopolitical risk.

Brad is a member of the Council of Financial Regulators, the Financial Stability Board and the Basel Committee for Banking Supervision, and Chair of the RBA's Financial Market Infrastructure Review Committee. He is a graduate member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, a member of the Advisory Board of the Institute of Global Finance and a signatory to The Banking and Finance Oath.

Brad joined the RBA in 2018, serving as Head of International Department and then as Head of Economic Analysis Department. In the fifteen years prior to joining the RBA, Brad was a senior advisor at the International Monetary Fund in Washington D.C., held global macro research and investment responsibilities at Deutsche Bank in London and Hong Kong, and was a Fellow at the Cambridge University Judge Business School.

- 7 - 9pm**            **DINNER**  
*7pm – Entrée*  
*7.30pm – Main*  
*8.15pm – Dessert*
- 9pm**                **DAY 1 ENDS**



**PROGRAM:**  
**TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

8 – 8.30am	<b>MORNING COFFEE</b> (on arrival)
8.30 – 9.15am	D2P1 – <b>Digital Assets: Vulnerabilities and their Classification</b> Anurag Soin (ANZ Banking Group) <i>Discussant: TBA</i>
9.15 – 10.00am	D2P2 – <b>The Emerging Three – Tier System: Unpacking Australia’s Financial Future</b> Lucy Stan and Eugene Zaid (Westpac) <i>Discussant: TBA</i>
10 – 10.30am	<b>MORNING TEA</b>
10.30 – 11.15am	D2P3 – <b>History rhymes: regulation of digital assets</b> Rhys Bollen (ASIC) <i>Discussant: TBA</i>
11.15 – 12noon	D2P4 - <b>Third-Party Ecosystem Resilience &amp; Market Incentives</b> Joe Dalessandro (APRA) <i>Discussant: TBA</i>
12 – 1pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
1pm – 1.45pm	D2P5 - <b>Digital Technology and Financial Guidance</b> Don Russell (AustralianSuper) <i>Discussant: TBA</i>
1.45 – 2.30pm	D2P6 - <b>Developing a Digital Governance Reporting Framework</b> Gordon Noble (Monash University) <i>Discussant: TBA</i>
2.30 – 3.00pm	<b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>
3.00 – 3.45pm	D2P7 - <b>StableCoins? The Coming Contest in Digital Currency between StableCoins and CBDCs: Who will likely win, and why?</b> Ross Buckley (UNSW) <i>Discussant: TBA</i>
3.45 – 4.30 pm	D2P8 - <b>Estimating Household Valuations for Offline Digital Money</b> Adam Gorajek (RBA) <i>Discussant: TBA</i>
4.30 – 4.45pm	<b>CLOSING REMARKS – KEVIN DAVIS AM,</b> <b>Emeritus Professor of Finance, The University of Melbourne</b>

*(Program updated 8/11/25 and subject to change.)*

The Conference Organisers gratefully acknowledge the financial support of:





**REGISTRATION OPTIONS:** (incl GST)

**Conference ONLY:** (Monday 9<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026, incl Dinner Monday night excl Accommodation) **\$770 per person**

**Accommodation:** (Monday night and includes continental breakfast on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February) **\$220.00 per room**

**Speakers:** Conference is free of charge (unless company dictates otherwise), accommodation incurs an additional fee

**Academics:** there are a limited number of free registrations available for academics. If interested, please contact Kevin Davis [kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au)

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:**

[https://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/conferences/melbourne-money-and-finance/\\_recache#registration](https://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/conferences/melbourne-money-and-finance/_recache#registration)

**ACCOMMODATION REGISTRATION:**

[https://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/conferences/melbourne-money-and-finance/\\_recache#registration](https://fbe.unimelb.edu.au/conferences/melbourne-money-and-finance/_recache#registration)

**PARKING** - <https://about.unimelb.edu.au/news-resources/campus-services-and-facilities/transport-and-parking/parking-on-campus>

**DIETARY REQUIREMENTS:** Please notify at time of registration

**ENQUIRIES:**

**Program:**

Kevin Davis at [kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:kevin.davis@unimelb.edu.au)  
0409 970 559

**Event:**

Frieda Kukulka, S.E.E.M.S Consulting - [frieda.kukulka@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:frieda.kukulka@unimelb.edu.au)  
0403 483 869 (leave a message)