

Message from the Principal

We are delighted to announce the acquisition of New Horizon College of English in Napier, Hawke's Bay. New Horizon is an excellent school, established 23 years ago, and is a member of English New Zealand.

The union of New Horizon and ICL has much development potential. New Horizon is strong in markets where ICL and AEA are not so strong, and vice versa. We hope to launch business programmes in Hawke's Bay using New Horizon's premises, and we are looking into importing New Horizon's Cambridge English programmes to Auckland.

We will look back on 2012 as the year of moderation. Our performance in 2010 and 2011 was not great, although we gained comfort in a national pass rate lower than ours! But during 2012 we have radically revised our approach to moderation, put in place a quality manager and paper teams producing paper banks, and have recently passed 11 out of 12 national moderation results.

The focus on moderation has temporarily diverted some of our energies from research, but now we are back on track we will return to a full research programme in 2013. But still in 2012 we have some notable achievements to celebrate, most significantly Dayal Talukder's PhD awarded by AUT University. And this month Dana Cumin presented her paper on collaborative innovation at the World Business Capability Congress at The University of Auckland Business School, and at the same congress Brent Hawkins presented our NZIM project findings on managerial skills and competencies: a cause for concern. And we are pleased to be able to support Alina Abraham's research in the application of the theory of music and acoustics to the ECE classroom.

Our research projects for 2013 include teams working on an analysis of our experiences in domestic ECE delivery as contrasted with international and a follow up to the managerial skills and competencies initial study, as well as supporting many individual efforts.

On behalf of everyone at ICL Business School I wish you a happy Christmas and a good New Year.
Ewen Mackenzie-Bowie

December Seminars

Date: Tuesday, 04 December

Time: 1:10 – 1:40pm

Venue: Room 2.4

Managerial skills and competencies in NZ organizations: a cause for concern

Speaker: Brent Hawkins

Is collaborative innovation a viable strategy for NZ firms?

Speaker: Dana Cumin

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year for 2013

There will be a break from 21st December until 7th January. Details of 2013 research seminars will be announced after the break.



ICL Business School

Tertiary Courses in Business, Computing, Early Childhood Education, and English Language
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Recent Research Achievements

Congratulations Dr Dayal Talukder

We congratulate Dayal Talukder on his successful PhD thesis. He was awarded the degree from AUT University for his thesis, *Impact of Agricultural Trade Liberalisation on the Welfare of Rural Communities in Bangladesh*. Below is the abstract:

The objective of this study was to analyse the impact of agricultural trade liberalisation on the welfare of rural households in Bangladesh. The study used both primary and secondary data and employed multiple models and estimation techniques including the Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA)-based Malmquist productivity index, Ordinary Least Square (OLS) regression methods, Two-stage Least Square regression technique, and index number approaches. It estimated changes in productivity and prices of rice, income distribution, inequality, and poverty as a result of agricultural trade liberalisation.

The study found that agricultural trade liberalisation positively influenced total factor productivity (TFP)-growth of rice, benefiting farm households directly. However, increased productivity led to a decrease in both producer and consumer prices of rice. The magnitude of the decrease in producer price was higher than that in consumer price, implying that farm households experienced loss from this price decrease. Non-farm households experienced greater growth in consumption and real income than farm households. Amongst farm households, large and medium farmers experienced higher growth in real income than small farmers.

Rural households experienced an increase in inequality – the rich captured a progressively larger

share of income but the poor subsequently received a lower share. Although all rural households experienced a moderate to high growth rate in real income and consumption, rich households gained more than poor households, suggesting that the growth was not pro-poor, thereby resulting in insignificant poverty reduction during 1985-86 to 2005. Non-farm households experienced greater reduction in poverty than farm households. Amongst all groups of rural households, small farmers experienced the lowest reduction in poverty over the same period. The main reason for the low rate of poverty reduction was attributed to an increase in inequality along with economic growth. If the inequality was held constant at the 1985-86 level, the poverty could have been reduced to zero in 2005 with the level of growth experienced by Bangladesh in the post-liberalisation era.

Agricultural trade liberalisation adversely affected the environment in the form of loss of soil fertility, destruction of bio-diversity, and environmental pollution. The study argues that agricultural trade reform policies were not adequate to confer benefits derived from agricultural trade liberalisation to the poor. The government should formulate and implement complementary policies to reduce inequality and translate the growth into poverty reduction as well as to protect the environment.

The full thesis is available online from <http://aut.researchgateway.ac.nz/handle/10292/4696>.

Well done Dayal.

Accepted Publications

An overview of the recent papers accepted for publication is below and abstracts are on the next page.

Title: **Inequality and Poverty in Bangladesh: Evidence from Household Surveys**

Author(s): Dayal Talukder

Conference: 2012 International Development Conference

Title: **A Comparative Analysis of Poverty, Inequality and Income Distribution among South Asian Countries**

Author(s): Dayal Talukder

Conference: 2013 Business & Economics Society International Conference

Title: **Musical Creativity: Implications for New Zealand Aotearoa Early Childhood Pedagogy**

Author(s): Alina Abraham

Conference: 2012 International Conference on Knowledge Information and Creativity Support Systems

2012 Conference of the New Zealand Musicological Society;

2013 International Conference on Arts & Humanities

Inequality and Poverty in Bangladesh: Evidence from Household Surveys

Dayal Talukder

This study investigated poverty and inequality in Bangladesh during 1985-2010. By using secondary household survey data, this study applied the approaches of Haughton and Khandker (2009: 106), Datt and Ravallion (1992) and Ravallion and Huppi (1991) to the measurement of inequality and poverty, growth-inequality decomposition, and the sectoral decomposition of changes in poverty by rural and urban households. The study found that the income distribution across rural and urban households was uneven during 1985-2010. Although both rural and urban households experienced a significant economic growth, inequality also increased during this period. The rich gained more from this growth than the poor. Therefore, poverty reduction in this period was not as significant as the growth in the economy. Urban households experienced a higher poverty reduction than

that of rural households. This might be attributed to higher employment opportunities, more diversified income sources and greater flow of remittance in the urban areas. The findings of the study suggest that, holding inequality constant at the 1985-86 level, poverty in Bangladesh could be reduced to zero with the growth experienced during 1985-86 to 2005. However, the total reduction in poverty was insignificant during this period because of a gradually higher increase in inequality and the effects of high economic growth were not fully converted to reduction in poverty. This analysis suggests that a reduction in poverty at a substantial level is a big challenge for policy makers if inequality is not reduced or maintained constant. The findings of this study may be of interest to academics, researchers, development practitioners and policy makers.

A Comparative Analysis of Poverty, Inequality and Income Distribution among South Asian Countries

Dayal Talukder

This paper examined poverty, inequality, income distribution and economic growth among the South Asian countries with a view to presenting a comparative analysis. It used secondary data from the World Bank and considered a common standard of poverty line measurement – 1.25 dollar a day as used by the World Bank – for all countries in South Asia. It used the World Bank's PovcalNet tool to test the sensitivity of poverty measures and calculate the poverty rates, inequality and income distribution. The study found that the headcount index of poverty was the highest in Bangladesh followed by India, in 2005. On the other hand, Sri Lanka experienced the lowest poverty rate followed by Bhutan in the same year. Pakistan and Nepal showed a moderate poverty rate compared to Bangladesh and India. Although Sri Lanka and Bhutan had relatively a high per capita income in South Asia, they experienced

the greatest inequality in income distribution with the highest Gini coefficients. Both Pakistan and India showed the lowest inequality in income distribution. The study also measured the poverty gap, square poverty gap and Watts index to test the severity of poverty among South Asian countries. Considering these indexes, the severity of poverty in Bangladesh and India was relatively high compared to other South Asian countries. These two countries represented a very large share of the global poor population – almost 43 percent in 2005. This study argues that although all countries experienced a significant economic growth over last two decades, the reduction in poverty in South Asia was not significant due to an increase in inequality. Therefore, poverty reduction is a big challenge for South Asian economies in the future.

Musical Creativity: Implications for New Zealand Aotearoa Early Childhood Pedagogy

Alina Abraham

For any pitched sound in nature, there is an inner structure of that sound displaying a series of harmonics, or partials, that vibrate with different frequencies (Backus, 1977). Due to the mathematical underpinnings of those frequencies, the pitched sound may be visualized with a Cartesian (logarithmic) spiral design (Novac, Charalambides, 2003). Visualisation of a natural world products based on their mathematical underpinnings is a variable of human mind decoding the

language of nature (Seamon, 1998). In this paper we discuss how visualisation methods, i.e. pictorial representation, can be used in education in order to enhance student learning. Narrative enquiry is the framework for an envisaged qualitative study (Bryman, 2012; Van Manen, 1997) which engages creativity and visualization in the seven areas of the New Zealand Aotearoa Early Childhood Curriculum.