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Financial Services expert to lead new ACFS research project

The Australian Centre for Financial Studies (ACFS) today announced that global financial services and fintech expert David Link will Chair Stage Four of the **Funding Australia's Future** research project.

The project will develop a framework and explore evidence on the role of fintech in Australia's financial system as well as the broader Australian economy.

Mr Link brings a wealth of experience to the project. As well as being an advisor and board member to firms in the global fintech space, Mr Link is a retired Managing Director of Accenture, where he held global practice leadership roles in Asia Pacific, Australia, Korea, France, and Benelux, primarily focused on financial services.

Mr Link said the project will play an important role in building an evidence base to support the development of fintech policy and regulators. "Australian federal and state governments are interested in supporting financial service innovation and have announced a number of Committees, Advisory Groups and Inquiries into fintech, data and innovation. These groups need sound, evidenced-based research and analysis about Australia's fintech performance, fintech's capacity to drive growth outside the financial sector as well as to enhance the security and privacy of Australian consumers, and the barriers or enablers to this innovation. This project aims to provide that evidence."

The Funding Australia's Future project brings together a diverse group of stakeholders from across the financial services sector and leading academics, with the aim of better understand the changing dynamics of the financial system and its impact on future economic growth.

ACFS Executive Director, Amy Auster, said: "There is great excitement about fintech's potential to deliver greater competition, but in this fast-moving industry we are still building a framework for understanding where and how fintech relates to the entire financial sector ecosystem, and other sectors of the economy.

"This project seeks to build that framework, as well as providing evidence on what constitutes success for fintech innovation, what are the enabling or disabling factors for change, and how the impact of fintech may be measured over time."

The project will be officially launched at the [Melbourne Money and Finance Conference](#) in July 2016.

About Funding Australia's Future

Initiated in 2012, the Funding Australia's Future project aims to better understand the changing dynamics of the financial system and its impact on future economic growth.

The project is supported by stakeholders from across the financial services sector who provide valuable insights into the research, however the final outputs are the independent work of leading academics.

MEDIA RELEASE



Previous stages of the project have analysed the interaction between suppliers of funds, financial sector participants, and end users throughout the economy; assessed how well Australia's financial sector serves the economy, and how effectively it links the sources and uses of finance; and provided an evidence base on important issues challenging the future of the financial system and its role in serving the economy.

More details are available at fundingaustraliasfuture.com

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