

Leading Insurer Supports Melbourne Centre for Financial Studies

The Chairman of the Melbourne Centre for Financial Studies Mr John Unkles today welcomed the announcement that AAMI had become the first corporate member of the Centre. AAMI is to provide generous financial support for the Centre's research activities as well as commissioning research on important social questions in the insurance area, where AAMI has already established a reputation for its contributions to improving awareness and public debate.

AAMI will also participate actively in setting the research directions and strategies of the Melbourne Centre, with its Chief Operating Officer, Mr Michael, Kay, joining the Centre's Management Board and Industry Advisory Committee.

Mr Unkles noted that AAMI's involvement recognizes the potential benefits from cooperation between 'town and gown', which is fundamental to the Melbourne Centre's activities. The Centre aims to enhance interaction between academic and industry researchers for their mutual benefit and that of Melbourne.

He also noted that AAMI's support gives strength to the vision outlined by the Victorian Government when it initiated the Melbourne Centre as a core part of its Financial Services Strategy. Recognizing that the State had much to gain from an enhanced international reputation as a leader in financial practice, education and research, the Melbourne Centre was launched in August this year with Melbourne, Monash and RMIT Universities joining with Finsia to build on this reputation through the activities of the Melbourne Centre.

The Director of the Melbourne Centre, Professor Kevin Davis, also welcomed the involvement of AAMI enthusiastically. "Insurance is a major part of the financial services sector, affecting the lives of all Australians. Unfortunately it has not received the attention it warrants from researchers, and there are many interesting and important questions which AAMI's initiative will help us address. I look forward to other Melbourne-based financial institutions following AAMI's lead, which will enable us to assist the Victorian Government in achieving its vision for the Melbourne financial services sector."

For further information:

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