1) Agreed objectives for the 2016 calendar year and how these objectives were achieved or progressed.

The main purpose of the Centre is to provide a focal point for research, consultancy and training in efficiency and productivity analysis in Australia and the Asia/Pacific Region, and thus advance and promote the research in the field of efficiency and productivity.

The revenues obtained through such activities are then typically used to fund the public good type activities for the local productivity and efficiency research community, through (co-) funding visits of external top scholars to visit CEPA, organizing and (co-)funding workshops and conferences, etc.

The principal aims and objectives of the Centre are to undertake theoretical and applied research, develop useful end-user-driven intensive courses and workshops and to develop computer software for use by private and public sector organizations. Specific goals are:

- to assess and develop methods for the measurement of productivity, efficiency and economic performance;
- to apply these methods to assess the performance of firms, industries and sectors within the domestic and international economies;
- to conduct research directed towards explaining and interpreting patterns of productivity and economic growth across nations;
- to conduct ex post assessments of the effects of microeconomic reform and deregulation on productivity and efficiency;
- to provide technical advice to private and public sector organizations on efficiency and productivity measurement; and
- to offer short courses and workshops to researchers, managers and policy analysts from various sectors of industry and government.

Agreed objectives for 2016:

- Continue to produce high quality journal publications.
- Continue to provide high quality supervision to our PhD students and encourage them to produce journal publications from their research.
- Continue to attract high profile visitors and good quality PhD students to work on projects undertaken by CEPA staff.
- Continue to seek external research funding through consultancies and grants.
- Run the CEPA International Workshop
- Deliver at least two short-courses on introductory and/or advanced productivity and efficiency analysis methods.

The Centre has very successfully reached its 2016 objectives, as is summarized below. In a nutshell, it might be also worth noting that due to the work of scholars united by the Centre, the RePEc now upgraded the rank of the School of Economics of UQ to the top-2 (from top-3) in the world in the field of Efficiency & Productivity—above Harvard, Stanford, Yale, etc. (These ranking facts are as of 30 June 2017, see: https://ideas.repec.org/top/top.eff.html).
2) Outputs (including publications, workshops, industry events)

From Valentin Zelenyuk (Director of CEPA, A/Professor UQ)

Journal Articles:


“Generalized nonparametric smoothing with mixed discrete and continuous data” (2016) with Degui Li and Leopold Simar, Computational Statistics and Data Analysis 100, pp.424-444, (10.1016/j.csda.2014.06.003).

Organization and delivery of Intensive Course
CEPA Intensive Course on Performance Analysis: Theory & Practice, by Associate Professor Zelenyuk (Australia): 20-22 July 2016 (by V. Zelenyuk)

Organization of Intensive Course

Organization of Workshop
( http://uq.edu.au/economics/cepa/docs/Program_for_International_Productivity_Workshop_2016.pdf )

From Chris O’Donnell (Professor, UQ)

Journal Articles:

Book Chapters
From Prasada D.S. Rao (Professor, UQ)

Journal Articles:


Book chapter:

From Knox Lovell (Honorary Professor, UQ/CEPA)

Co-Editor of a book:

Journal Articles:


Book chapter:
From Antonio Peyrache (Senior Lecturer, UQ)

Journal Articles:


From Alicia Rambaldi (Associate Professor, UQ)

Journal Articles:

Accepted in 2016 (DOI is 2016):

Organization of Workshop:
**Advances in Econometric Methods Workshop (14-15 July)**
Keynote: Prof. Rosa L. Matzkin

**Advances In Statistics And Econometrics Workshop**

From John Quiggin (Professor, UQ)

3) Research grants, consultancies and other contracts that were awarded.

From Valentin Zelenyuk (Director of CEPA, A/Professor UQ)

Grants Applied in 2016:
ARC Future Fellowship 2016 (nominated by BEL & DVCR, applied, not successful)
ARC Future Fellowship 2017 (nominated by BEL & DVCR, applied in 2016, awarded in 2017)

From Prasada D.S. Rao (Professor, UQ)

Grants Received in 2016:
How reliable are purchasing power parities from the World Bank? (2017–2019) ARC Discovery Projects
Inequality of Opportunity in Australia (2017–2019) ARC Discovery Projects

From Alicia Rambaldi (Associate Professor, UQ)

Grants Awarded in 2016
Website: http://www.uqicd.economics.uq.edu.au

Grants Applied in 2016 (awarded in 2017)
Predicting the Value and Use of Urban Land (July 2017- July 2020). Funding: Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grant. Investigators: A N. Rambaldi, Madeleine Tan. Partner Organisation: Department of Treasury and Finance Victoria

From Chris O’Donnell (Professor, UQ)
Grants Awarded in 2016

From Antonio Peyrache (Senior Lecturer, UQ)
Grants Awarded in 2016
4) Other relevant information

**From Valentin Zelenyuk (Director of CEPA)**

**Presentations**


Keynote Speech at the Annual Workshop of the Taiwan Efficiency and Productivity Association (TEPA), 12 July 2016: “Importance of Aggregation in Productivity and Efficiency Analysis”


Invited Speaker at Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, China: “Nonparametric Least Squares Methods for Stochastic Frontier Models” based on work with Leopold Simar and Ingrid Van Keilegom. February 2016,

Guest Lecture at the Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, China: “How to do your research: From A to Z”, February 2016

**Significant External Service**
Associate Editor for Journal of Productivity Analysis.
Guest Co-Editor for Special Issue (APPC2014) in Journal of Productivity Analysis.
An Editor for Data Envelopment Analysis Journal.

**From Chris O’Donnell**

**Conference and Workshop Presentations**


**Significant External Service**

Co-Editor, Journal of Productivity Analysis
Associate Editor, Empirical Economics

**From Kimberly Zieschang (Adjunct Professor at UQ, CEPA)**

Rethinking Insurance – Paper presented at the July 2016 Western Economic Association meetings in Portland, Oregon. Discussant comments are being taken into account before journal submission.

Producing Liquidity – Paper, which was presented at the 2015 Society of Economic Measurement meetings in Paris, was revised and updated for presentation at University of Birmingham Conference on Financial Services Indices, Liquidity and Economic Activity, London, May 24-25, 2017; to be submitted for publication in a special issue of the *Journal of Financial Stability*.


Chapter 6 of the Oxford Handbook of Productivity Measurement, on “Hard to Measure Sectors” completed and included with the manuscript editors have submitted to Oxford University Press.

“Held the pen” on the response that was sent to the Productivity Commission from the UQ School of Economics/CEPA.
5) Agreed objectives for the 2017(*upcoming*) calendar year.

Agreed objectives for 2017 are similar to those that were in 2016, namely:

- Continue to produce high quality journal publications.
- Continue to provide high quality supervision to our PhD students and encourage them to produce journal publications from their research.
- Continue to attract high profile visitors and good quality PhD students to work on projects undertaken by CEPA staff.
- Continue to seek external research funding through consultancies and grants.
- Deliver one or more intensive short-courses on productivity and efficiency analysis methods.
- Run one or more 2-3 day workshops on productivity and efficiency topics.

Valentin Zelenyuk    Rodney Strachan
Research Centre Director     Date 30/06/2017       Head of School      Date 05/07/2017