

W. JAMES WHYTE

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Professor James Higham – Visiting Fellow 2019

Professor James Higham recently returned to The University of Queensland as part of the W. James Whyte Fellowship.

While James' time was brief, he found his third visit to the Business School just as valuable and rewarding as his first.

"I was only at UQ for a short time, but while I was here, I presented two seminars. The first was on 'Space Tourism and Sustainability', which provided the opportunity to offer 'thoughts in progress' on what will be one of the defining sustainability challenges of the 21st century."

"The second of my seminars was a PhD seminar for graduate students in the Business School. The PhD seminar offered the opportunity for sharing of thoughts and discussions of questions raised by the audience."

The primary focus of James' visit was on the early development of potentially productive and enduring collaborations. He re-connected with Dr Ya-Yen Sun on an exciting new research collaboration that is investigating the possibilities and potential of market-based carbon management in the tourism sector. Professor Higham also had the opportunity to work with Dr Gabby Walters and Associate Professor Lisa Ruhanen on further developing their ARC grant intentions.

"The impacts of my research collaborations will come to fruition in the weeks and months ahead and should include a series of publications with Dr Ya-Yen Sun, and an ARC grant with Dr Gabby Walters and Associate



Professor Lisa Ruhanen. We expect many more opportunities that will flow from that if successful," he said.

James also had the opportunity to meet with early career staff and PhD candidates, which he found an enriching experience.

"This fellowship has afforded me the opportunity to engage in cutting edge research projects that address timely and important challenges in tourism, in collaboration with internationally distinguished scholars," says James.

"I am incredibly grateful to be able to return through this fellowship and look forward to my future collaborations with UQ's tourism discipline."



Profile

James Higham (PhD - Geography, Otago University) is a professor at the University of Otago (Aotearoa/New Zealand), and visiting professor at the University of Stavanger (Norway). His research addresses questions relating to tourism and environmental change, with particular interests in climate change and aviation, behaviour change and low carbon mobility transitions.

James is Co-Editor of the Journal of Sustainable Tourism and serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Destination Marketing and Management and the Scandinavian Journal of Hospitality and Tourism.