

W. JAMES WHYTE

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Professor Christian Laesser - visiting fellow 2018

Professor Christian Laesser recently completed his visit to The University of Queensland (UQ) Business School through the W. James Whyte Fellowship.

Visiting from The University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, Professor Laesser describes his time at UQ Business School as a worthwhile and highly valuable.

“My visit was very inspiring, getting insight into the work of the tourism group as well as having the opportunity to discuss my own work with them,” says Christian.

A standout from his trip was meeting with key academics and engaging in thought-provoking conversations about current tourism research.

“Discussing with Ya-Yen Sun about her study about the impacts of tourism on CO2 footprints was a highlight. In addition, I always enjoy and have enjoyed the straightforward discussions with Sara Dolnicar. Finally, I had a very nice and inspiring discussion with the Head of School, Julie Cogan,” said Christian.

These discussions had the greatest impact on his visit, with Christian enjoying helping academics with their research by providing feedback on their work so far.

He also had the opportunity to co-produce a media release with Sara Dolnicar on a study of China outbound tourism to Australia.



By the end of the visit, Christian felt it had allowed him time to engage with different viewpoints and to reflect on current leading research.

“The fellowship has afforded me the opportunity to get fresh perspectives and enjoy a week long bath of inspiration.”



Profile

Christian Laesser, has studied economics and business administration at the University of St. Gallen and at the ESCP Paris, and got his PhD in Business Administration from the University of St. Gallen in 1995.

Laesser teaches, conducts research and advises the business community in number of domains, including consumer behaviour, marketing, and management of tourism/ service companies and destinations. Currently, he holds a number of different positions, including Professor of Tourism and Service Management at the University of St. Gallen, Director of the Institute for Systemic Management and Public Governance at the University of St. Gallen, as well as Managing Director of a research lab sponsored by the Swiss Federal Railways. Apart from that, he acts as secretary general of a number of national and international organisations. He is further member of boards of different companies, including ski field operators, hotels, and other (non-tourism related).