



UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

Management  
School



**BRITISH ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NORTHERN AREA GROUP**

**4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

**University of Liverpool Management School, University of Liverpool**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

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We are delighted to invite submissions to the Annual Conference of the British Accounting and Finance Association (BAFA) Northern Area Group. The conference will be hosted by the Accounting and Finance group at the University of Liverpool Management School, University of Liverpool, on the 4th and 5th of September 2023. The conference's overarching theme is **the role of accounting and finance in achieving sustainability**, and it aims to bring together leading scholars in accounting and finance to share their research and ideas.

We welcome the submission of original papers that explore this theme and related topics, including but not limited to:

- ESG reporting and disclosure requirements: challenges and opportunities for firms and investors
- The impact of ESG criteria on corporate financial performance and investment returns
- The role of shareholder activism in promoting ESG practices among corporations
- Sustainable finance and its implications for investment strategies
- The influence of ESG factors on credit ratings and bond pricing
- Gender diversity and its impact on corporate financial performance and investment returns
- ESG risks and opportunities in emerging markets
- The role of ESG in private equity and venture capital investment decisions
- Evaluating the financial risks and opportunities of climate change mitigation and adaptation
- The role of sustainable finance in supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy

## Conference organising committee

Professor Charlie Cai, University of Liverpool Management School ([x.cai7@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:x.cai7@liverpool.ac.uk))

Professor Jia Liu University of Portsmouth ( [jia.liu@port.ac.uk](mailto:jia.liu@port.ac.uk) )

Professor Chardin Wese, University of Liverpool Management School ([C.Wese-Simen@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:C.Wese-Simen@liverpool.ac.uk) )

Dr Sardar Ahmad, University of Liverpool Management School  
([sardar.ahmad@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:sardar.ahmad@liverpool.ac.uk))

For information regarding paper submission and the conference programme, please contact:  
Charlie Cai [x.cai7@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:x.cai7@liverpool.ac.uk)

## Keynote speakers

We are delighted to have two distinguished keynote speakers, **Professor Kerstin Lopatta** and **Jeremy Nicholls**.

[Professor Lopatta](#) is the Vice Chair of the EFRAG Sustainability Reporting Board and a renowned professor of Financial Accounting Auditing and Sustainability at the Faculty of Business, Economics, and Social Sciences, University of Hamburg. Her expertise in the field of sustainability reporting is widely recognized and respected.

[Jeremy Nicholls](#) is the assurance framework lead for the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Impact Standards and an ambassador to the Capitals Coalition. He is an accomplished professional who has made significant contributions to financial accounting. He was previously a director and co-founder of Social Value International. He will be delivering a talk on: "Financial Accounting - Why does the purpose of accounting need to change?"

## Editorial workshop

We are excited to announce that [Professor Edward Lee](#), from the Alliance Manchester Business School, University of Manchester, will deliver an editorial workshop on publishing academic research in accounting and finance. He is currently a Joint Editor-in-Chief of Accounting and Business Research, and also holds editorial positions or board membership in several other academic journals, including those affiliated with the American Accounting Association (AAA), the British Accounting and Finance Association (BAFA), or the European Accounting Association (EAA).

Professor Lee will share his experience and insights on the challenges related to publishing academic research. The session will also provide an opportunity to discuss the issues and perspectives of the editorial and review processes of high-quality international academic journals.

This workshop on **“Experiences and challenges of publishing accounting and finance research”** will be particularly beneficial for early career researchers and PhD students in the relevant area who are looking to publish their work in academic journals

## Discussants

To ensure that all accepted papers receive individual feedback, we will be assigning a

discussant to each paper. We believe that this feedback is an essential component of the conference experience, and we are committed to providing all authors with valuable insights that will help them advance their research.

## Best paper awards

One of the highlights of the conference will be the award of the Best Paper Prize and its runner-up, which will be announced at the conference dinner.

The Best Paper Award is a recognition of the highest-quality research presented at the conference. Our committee will carefully evaluate all papers based on criteria such as innovation, contribution to the field, and methodological rigor, among others. The runner-up will also be recognized for their exceptional work.

## Paper submission procedure

Submissions can range from an extended abstract, early working drafts to fully developed papers. Please submit your work via email to [x.cai7@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:x.cai7@liverpool.ac.uk) by **15<sup>th</sup> June 2023**.

Papers will be selected via a single-blind review process, undertaken by the conference committee.

## Key dates

- Deadline for submission: **15<sup>th</sup> June 2023**
- Notification of acceptance: **10<sup>th</sup> July 2023**
- Registration opens: **11<sup>th</sup> July 2023**
- Registration deadline **10<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

## Registration

### Registration fees

#### BAFA members

- Academic member and practitioners: £210
- Ph.D student: £150

**All fees cover conference registration, catering for the two days and conference dinner. The conference dinner will include one of the keynote speeches.**

#### Non BAFA members

To attend the conference, you need to be a registered BAFA member. You are able to register as a member via the link: <http://www.bafa.ac.uk/membership/>.

The BAFA membership fee is £30, or £15 for PhD students and retired academics.

### Registration link

Please register onto the conference through the conference portal: link to release in due course.

## Conference venue

University of Liverpool Management School, Chatham Street, Liverpool, L69 7ZH. The Management School is within walking distance from the Liverpool city centre and key attractions.

## Travel and Accommodation

All accommodation to be organised by the participants at their own cost.

To secure the **£85 B&B rate**, delegates must state their dates of stay and mention BAFA when booking.

To make a reservation, delegates can call 0151-245-6700 and select option 2 for meetings and events. The phone lines are open between 09:00-17:00 Monday to Friday.

Alternatively, delegates can email their request to hb737-re@accor.com with their contact details, and the hotel will call them back.

It's important to note that the BAFA room rate is only available until August 4th.

Further travel and joining instructions will be available in due course.

## Host City

The conference will be held in the historic city of Liverpool. Host to the Eurovision Song Contest 2023, Liverpool is well known for its art, music, sport and culture, and is home to more galleries and museums than any other UK city apart from London. The iconic Royal Liver Building, The Maritime Museum, Royal Albert Dock, and Liverpool Cathedral are just some of the attractions. More detailed information about Liverpool is available on the [Visit Liverpool Website](#).